

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

ACC

10000/109/196

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

109/196

INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT, SICILY
MAY 1944 - DEC. 1945

9 agree. No reply for

approval sent
11/5/51

attaches is submitted for your signature
and approval

Letter will be passed through the Bureau

F.C. 11/30
Have signed - Under taking is
and reply necessary? We will only provide it
DEC 8 1951
DEC 9 1951

CA Section for OS

Please see 106. Can Public Safety draft a reply?

88 19/11

- 108 -

P.S

Herewith proposed draft for EX Com's reply to Agide. If you approve please send it direct.

hoped S/C

24 Nov 45

G. J. Hammond
Here

109.

CA Section:

See previous minute and draft letter for approval and signature

TRCSC
17 Nov. 1945

W. J. A. P. H.
L. A. P. H.

110.

Ex Com

Reply for sign of CC if not in reply to 106

225 28/11

CRS
23 Nov 1945
x 125

(111)

CA Section:

109.

See previous minute and draft letter for approval and signature

TRB
17 Nov. 1945

Thompson
Capt. A. P. P.

no. 1

Ex CC-S. En Comme

Reply for sign of CC of "H" in reply to 106

ERB 28/11

Thompson

cas
C. S. S.
x 535

(110)

111

As amended. 111/25/21

5054

To be sent to Quetzona

(112)

Chief Clerk.

Note min. 111: Letter if signed is to be transmitted to R. Quetzona de Roma. I will draft covering letter.

6.11.45

(113)

C.S.O.

Letter submitted for signature in accordance with min 111

ERB 1/12

114

1/12/45

C. A. Section

See MC 1319.

Please see file 80.

6 Sep 40

A. R. S. See End

86

C.S.O. Ex. Com.

85 for info for ~~Ex. Com.~~

File 1/10 85 1/10

Ex. Com.

84

850

Ref conversation of this morning and files
87 & 85. I submit draft of letter to ACCO at p 88.
C.S.O. 2/10

File 2/10.

85

Do letter to advise as completed

(90)

85 2/10

C.S.O.

Agreed. If they can't better is right it is in
demand 3 in 10 is better to do anything for
7/10

95 unsigned from a "Secret Committee" is,

Ex. Com.

84

280

Ref conversation of this morning and files
87 & 88. I submit draft of letter to ACO at p. 88.

CLS 2/10

FW 2/10

45

(90)

Do letter to review and disapproved

88/3/11

(96)

Agreed. If they can't bother to sign it, I'm
damned I'm going to bother to do and sign it. 7/10

280

(95) Unsigned from a "Secret Committee" is,
I think, not worthy of attention. 5053

CLS 2/10

98

Ex. Com.

P 97 - ? No further action?

FW 12/10

None. 87/10/11

64
91 511
P.D. Sec

Please see 63 for information.

Office of COS
14 Feb 45

J. H. Harker
Capt

COS.

Thank you.

The Separatist Movement may be anti-Communist
but its activities are not out of chaos which the
Communist Party knows so well how to exploit for its
own ends.

14/2/45

A. S. Halford

(A. S. HALFORD)
Asst. Political Adviser
Political Section

C.O.S. in
76 74

See.

wounding

77 75

For Com^{rs}

Letter submitted for your signature replies to 69.
Please see also 71 & Mr Dowling's minute above.

but its activities indicate that not all of these are
Communist Party known so will have to explain for it.
are end a.

14/2/48

Handwritten signature

(A. S. HALFORD)
Asst. Political Adviser
Political Section

C.O.S. 1

76774

Seen

Handwritten: in working

7775

For Com "

Letter submitted for your signature replies to 69.
Please see also 71 & her Dowling's minute above.

1/3/45

7876

Handwritten: May, Monday

Handwritten: The 5052

Decides list to answer by
since we don't want to do
with print on April's edition.
Handwritten: No action

Handwritten: 22.1/5

48.

COS

1. Please see 37 and 38. A/CC has to approve the proclamation at 37 and I am then submit reply to P.H's letter.
2. Please also see 46, 45, 44 & 43. as well as the action. I have taken at 47. I propose holding over the Submission of a reply to 46 until I have spoken with Political Sect.

29. 10/10.

1. Draft reply 6 PM

2. - after discussion with P.H. Sec

Mr. Cook

52.

Still O'Brien to Alice

5551

well in the action. There were
 at 47. I propose holding on the
 Submission of a reply to 46 until
 I have spoken with Political Sect.

10/10.

W Draft 26/6 PM

2. - after discussion with PA Sec
 17/10/10

52.

Staff Officer to R/CC

5551

1. An interim reply to 46 is submitted
 for signature opposite. My letter to Political
 Sect. is at 47.

2. There referred 37 & 38 to Political
 and Mr Schott has made a comment
 in pencil on 37. 38 has not been answered

Edw Mark

Ref: 515/20

5 December 1945

My Dear Mr. Aprile,

I have received the letter of 16 October 1945 written on behalf of your colleagues and yourself requesting Allied intervention against your confinement.

I must stress at once that it is neither the function nor the desire of the Allied Authorities to interfere with the internal policy of Italy.

I am further informed that the action taken by the Italian Government against your colleagues and yourself is legitimate under existing Italian legislation.

Yours very truly,

18/ EMERY W. STORM

HILARY W. STORM
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

Mr. Andrea Pinocchiaro Aprile
Ponza Island
Italy

not sent, see him 114.

see him 106-114

PA
6/12
2

785017

Exemption

to : General Stone
Chief Executive - Allied Administration

NOV 19 1945

The undersigned Vincenzo-Adolfo Andreu, Ramon Alvarado and Anastasio Prater, members of the National Committee of the Government for the Independence of Sicily (N.C.S.) bring the following facts to your attention:

On the morning of September 1st, we were arrested and deported to the island of Ponza, where we are at present. On our arrival, on October 2nd, a police inspector showed us a copy of the agreement which the above mentioned Committee had signed with the Government of the Kingdom of Italy on March 1st, 1945, and in the Foreign Ministers Conference in London (signed by all the members of the above mentioned Committee) on September 1st, asking us to acknowledge their content.

On that day - and a fortnight ago - we were told that we were under strict watch, without being notified by any authority why such proceedings had been taken, though they seem to be connected with the above mentioned agreement, the legitimacy of which we consider to be indisputable.

You certainly are aware of the existence of such agreements, in which the N.C.S. drew the attention of the United Nations to the fact that the Sicilians want a constitutional life different from the one they had for the last 40 years, with its injustices, humiliations and exploitations, made possible by a centralizing system which entirely failed to create political unity in the country. We consider that, like every other nation, the Sicilian nation is entitled to appeal to the United Nations, and solemnly promised to all ill-used nations a regime of greater justice based on the right of self-determination, as well as on the four freedoms: of speech, of religion, from fear and from want.

However, we have been deprived of our personal freedom, kept away from our families (these are being ruined), our wife and our political activity is being inhibited for a freedom ideal, and this without any order being issued by a magistrate, and without any legal action having been taken against us.

Under a regime of freedom and democracy, such an arbitrary act offends the sacred principles for which we have been and shall be fighting. Even a belated compensation cannot remove our arbitrary proceedings and mistakes.

The blow that strikes us was meant to strike the Sicilians, terrify them and stifle their ancient aspiration for a better and more dignified future.

From the orders which appeared in the papers, we heard that the Italian Government attempted to justify such proceedings by stating that in the memorandum of September 1st, we asked the Allies to occupy Sicily again; leaving aside the legitimacy of such a request in consideration of the constant violation of our freedom by the organs of the government, this is entirely false, as can be ascertained by reading the memorandum.

more or less officious

The other statements made by various agencies, regarding our subversive activity are also false, for it is well known that the N.C.S. was carrying on

(CART COPY/DOCK) 228

na 7/116

na 107/115

105

political propaganda, peacefully and openly, with perfectly lawful means and purposes.

Such truthful statements hide the brutal violence of the statements of the six parties, and first among them, the High Commissioner Salvatore Aldisio, who, because of the upcoming administrative and political elections, saw with terror that an ever increasing number of people joined the D.S., and that had that if the people were allowed to vote in an atmosphere of liberty, they would not support the six parties, worthily represented by the present government, disliked by the nation, because, among other things, it carried on the worst fascist methods. The infamous proceedings taken against us only intend to make possible the electoral victory of the worst possible men, and are thought only by blinding mind and foot the unfortunate Sicilians. It is to carry out such actions that the Italian Government in no way to shake off the authority of the allied nations,

such being the conditions, we can do nothing but to send to you, the representative of the United Nations in Italy, and ask for your intervention to re-establish freedom and law. We trust you won't deny us help to free men.

Forma Island, 16 October 1942

A. Address: Giacobbe A. File Antonio Ferrara Francesco Castucci

WPA. #/2

EE DIST - 19 Nov.

ACTION - EX WORK
INFO - CHIEF COMM
- POLAD(A)
POLAD(C)
CA Sec.

5688

1 Spare copy

Ministero P. S.



Min. P.
Servizio anagrafico

104

REGIA QUESTURA DI ROMA

N° 025775/U. P. = A. G. G.
Dic. Categ.

Add. 15/11 1945

Risposta a nota N.

Id. 194

OGGETTO: FINEGGHIARO Apri-
le Andrea- internato politico.
a Ponza.-

A mano

Al COMMISSARIO DI P. S.
-Dr. Rodri guez-
Ufficiale di collegamento
con il Comando Algeria

S E D E

Per competenza, si trasmette l'acclusa let-
tera diretta dal sopra-critto internato all'Am-
miraglio Stone, Capo della Commissione Allata
in Roma.-

IL DIRIGENTE L'UFFICIO POLITICO

Algeria

103

Al signor Ammiraglio Stone
 Capo della Commissione Alleata
 ROMA

Nei settesceritti Pinocchiaro-Aprile-Andrea, Vervaro Am-
 tonine e Restuccia Francesco, membri del comitato nazionale del
 Movimento per l'Indipendenza della Sicilia (M. I. S.) ci pregia-
 mo significarle quanto segue:

Le sare del 1 ottobre corrente fummo tratti in arresto
 e deportati all'Isola di Ponza, dove attualmente ci troviamo.

Appena fummo qui giunti, il 2 ottobre, un ispettore di po-
 lizia ci mostrò copie di due memoriali che il comitato nazionale
 le suddette inviò, il primo a firma Pinocchiaro Aprile, alla com-
 ferenza di San Francisco il 31 marzo 1945 e il secondo a firma di
 tutti i componenti del comitato stesso, alla conferenza dei Mini-
 stri degli esteri alleati a Londra il 1° settembre u. s., invitan-
 doci a riconoscerne il contenuto.

Da allora, - e sono trascorsi 15 giorni - noi siamo qui
 relegati, sotto stretta vigilanza, senza che alcuna autorità ci a-
 bbia notificati i motivi di un così grave provvedimento che, tut-
 tavvia, data le circostanze sopradette, sembra doverci connettere
 ai due memoriali citati sopra, dei quali noi, riteniamo indiscutti-
 bile la legittimità.

Tali documenti le sono certamente noti. Con essi il M.
 I. S. richiama l'attenzione delle Nazioni Alleate sulle espi-
 razioni del popolo siciliano, una via costituzionale diversa da
 quella che ha vissuto durante i trascorsi 84 anni, intesa di
 ingiustizie, di umiliazioni e di sfruttamento, resi possibili da
 un sistema unitario accentratore che non ha creato affatto l'uni-
 one spirituale del paese. E riteniamo fermamente che il popolo si-
 ciliano, a maggioranza di quel che ha fatto tanti altri popo-
 li, abbia ben il diritto di rivolgere tale appello alle Nazioni
 Unite le quali hanno solennemente promesso a tutti i sofferenti
 del mondo un regime di migliore giustizia fondata sul diritto di
 autodeterminazione sulle quattro libertà: di parola, di religio-
 ne, del timore e del bisogno.

Tuttavia noi siamo privati della nostra materiale libe-

Movimento per l'Indipendenza della Sicilia (M. I. S.) ci pregia-
mo significarle quanto segue:

La sera del 1 ottobre corrente furono tratti in arresto
e deportati all'isola di Ponza, dove attualmente ci troviamo.

Appena fummo qui giunti, il 2 ottobre, un ispettore di p-
polizia ci mostrò copie di due memorie, una di cui il comitato nazionale
le suddette inviò, il primo e fante Minocchiaro Aprile, alla con-
ferenza di San Francisco il 31 marzo 1945 e il secondo e firma di
tutti i componenti del comitato stesso, alla conferenza dei Mini-
stri degli esteri alleati a Londra il 1° settembre u. s., invite-
ndoci a riconoscerne il contenuto.

Da allora, - e sono trascorsi 15 giorni - noi siamo qui
relegati, sotto stretta vigilanza, senza che alcuna autorità ci a-
bbia notificati i motivi di un così grave provvedimento che, tut-
tavia, data le circostanze sopradette, sembra doverci connettere
ai due memoriali citati sopra, dei quali noi, riteniamo indiscuti-
bile la legittimità.

Tali documenti le sono certamente noti. Con essi il M.
I. S. richiama l'attenzione delle Nazioni alleate sulle aspi-
razioni del popolo siciliano, una via costituzionale diversa da
quella che ha vissuto durante i trascorsi 24 anni, intesa di
ingiustizia, di umiliazione e di sfruttamento, resi possibili da
un sistema unitario concentratore che non ha creato affatto l'uni-
one spirituale del paese. E riteniamo fermamente che il popolo s-
siciliano, e simiglianza di quel che ha fatto tanti altri popo-
li, abbia ben il diritto di rivolgere tale appello alle Nazioni
 Unite le quali hanno solennemente promesso a tutti i sofferenti
del mondo un regime di migliore giustizia fondato sul diritto di
autodeterminazione che sulle quattro libertà: di parola, di religio-
ne, del timore e del bisogno.

Tuttavia noi siamo privati della nostra materiale libe-
rtà personale, allontanati con la deportazione dalle nostre
famiglie (dalle quali si sta provocando la rovina), dal nostro
lavoro e dalla nostra attività politica di propagandisti di una
idea di libertà, e ciò senza alcun provvedimento di magistrato
senza che esista alcun regolare procedimento penale.

Si è, pertanto consumato il nostro danno, in clima di libertà e di democrazia, un inaudito atto di arbitrio che offende i sacri principi per i quali tanto sangue è stato versato. Arbitrio ed errore che non possono trovare riparo nemmeno sotto l'eventuale peracchute di una tardiva denuncia.

Si è voluto colpire, in noi, il popolo siciliano;

si è voluto terrorizzarlo e soffocare l'antica aspirazione ad un migliore e più degno avvenire.

Abbiamo appreso, dalle scorse notizie di stampe che quì sono giunte, che il Governo Italiano ha tentato di creare una giustificazione del provvedimento dichiarando che con il Memorale del 1° Settembre diretto alla Conferenza di Londra noi avevamo invocato la rioccupazione delle Si e l'ille da parte degli alleati; cosa che, prescindere da ogni considerazione sulla legittimità di una tale richiesta di fronte alla sistematica violazione della libertà da parte degli organi governativi, è assolutamente falsa ed inventata come si può constatare dalla lettura del Memorale.

Non sono meno false altre dichiarazioni da genzie, più o meno ufficiose, circa una nostra presunta attività perturbatrice dell'ordine pubblico-giama esaltate, mentre è noto che il M.I.S. svolgeva propaganda politica pacifica ed aperta; con mezzi, modi e finalità perfettamente leciti.

Sotto tali equivoci dichiarazioni si nasconde la brutale vendetta degli uomini politici dell'esercito, e, primo fra tutti, l'alto Commissario Salvatore Aldisio, i quali hanno visto con terrore, nella imminenza delle elezioni amministrative e politiche, il travolgente accrescersi delle adesioni al M.I.S. del popolo siciliano che, se chiamato a votare in atmosfera di libertà, avrebbe negato i suffragi ai sei partiti del quale è degna espressione l'attuale governo, in viso al popolo, tra l'altro, perché continuatore dei peggiori metodi fascisti. E l'infame provvedimento che ci ha colpiti, non ha altro scopo all'infuori di quello di rendere possibile la vittoria elettorale dei peggiori uomini, i quali, potranno trionfare solo con l'imposizione del bavaglio e delle manette allo sventurato popolo di Sicilia. E' dunque, per commettere simili azioni che il Governo Italiano desidera tanto ardentemente di sottrarsi alla tutela delle Nazioni Alleate?...

In tali condizioni di cose e noi non resta che rivol

sono giunte, che il Governo Italiano ha tentato di creare una giustificazione del provvedimento dichiarando che con il Memorale del 1° Settembre diretto alle Conferenze di Londra noi avevamo invocato la ricoccupazione della Sicilia da parte degli Alleati; cose che, prescindere da ogni considerazione sulla legittimità di una tale richiesta di fronte alle sistematiche violazioni della libertà da parte degli organi governativi, è assolutamente falsa ed inventata come si può constatare dalle letture del Memorale.

Ma sono meno false altre dichiarazioni di agenzie, più o meno ufficiose, circa una nostra pretesa attività perturbatrice dell'ordine pubblico-giuridico esistente, mentre è noto che il M.I.S. svolgeva propaganda politica profifica ed operante; con mezzi, modi e finalità perfettamente leciti.

Sotto tali equivoci dichiarazioni si nasconde la brutale vendetta degli uomini politici dell'eschoria, e, primo fra tutti, l'alto Commissario Salvatore Adisio, i quali hanno visto con terrore, nelli, imminenza delle elezioni amministrative e politiche, il travolgente accrescersi della adesioni al M.I.S. del popolo siciliano che, se chiamato a votare in atmosfera di libertà, avrebbe negato i suffragi ai sei partiti dei quali è degna espressione l'attuale governo, invaso al popolo, tra l'altro, per un continuatore dei peggiori metodi fascisti. E l'infame provvedimento che ci ha colpiti, non ha altro scopo all'infuori di quello di rendere possibile la vittoria elettorale dei peggiori uomini, i quali, potranno trionfare solo con l'imposizione del beveglio e delle manette allo sventurato popolo di Sicilia. E' dunque, per commettere simili azioni che il Governo Italiano desidera tanto ardentemente di sottrarsi alla tutela delle Nazioni alleate?...

In tali condizioni di cose noi non resta che rivolgerci a Lei, rappresentante in Italia delle Nazioni Unite, e chiedere il suo intervento per il ripristino della libertà e della Legge. E confidiamo che Ella non vorrà negare ad uomini liberi il suo alto ed autorevole ausilio.

Isola di Ponza, 16 Ottobre 1945.

Andrea Finocchiaro, aprile-antonino Varvaro-Francesco Mastuocia

Quinciani *Anton Vararo* *Francesco Mastuocia*

5508

TO ADMIRAL COMODORE STONE

DEMOGRAPHY IN ITALY

7 NOV 1945

NOV 1 RECD

The Italian Government is trying its best to show (only with words to the Allied) that it and the Italians are on the road of real democracy and that they have succeeded completely to obtain those principles for which the Allied fought and are still fighting.

Nothing more false! The Italian Government and the Liberation Committee, these have origin from the Government, follow unchanged dictatorial methods refusing liberty: Conclusion: Government and the different parties in the mind and spirit are still for a total Government.

I will report a few examples in different cases.

1° In the discussion for the election of the President of a Commission in the Consulta, the Liberation Committee refused to vote before interrogating the Committee. Honorable Ettore Lombardo whose principles are those of LIBERTY protested but his remark was not considered. The election did not take place, postponed waiting orders from the Committee.

2° TOULIATTI, Minister of Grace & Justice gives orders to all the State Procures not to proceed against the farmers accused of unjust appropriation for the division of their products so introducing the system of political pressure and interference in judiciary problems contrasting with the laws in force.

3° In proceeding to the election of the members of the Constitution the Government instead of summoning the population to make known their will regarding the method to adopt for the election appoints a Commission to present a project to be studied by the Council of Ministers and then submitted to the CONSULTA, Consulta that does not represent the will of the population as the CONSULTORI are appointed by the Government.

4° In the same way President FARUK asks the Sicilian Consulta (this also formed by the Government) to form an autonomous Administration, instead of applying directly to a Sicilian Constitution elected by the Sicilian population.

with words to the Allied) that it and the Italians are on the road of real democracy and that they have succeeded completely to obtain these principles for which the Allied fought and are still fighting.

Nothing more false! The Italian Government and the Liberation Committee, these have origin from the Government, follow unchanged dictatorial methods refusing liberty: Conclusion: Government and the different parties in the mind and spirit are still for a total Government.

I will report a few examples in different cases.

1° In the discussion for the election of the President of a Commission in the Consulta, the liberation Committees refused to vote before interrogating the Committee. Honorble Ettore Lombardo whose principles are those of LENINISTY protested but his remark was not considered, the election did not take place, postponed waiting orders from the Committee.

2° Togliatti, Minister of Grace & Justice gives orders to all the State Procures not to proceed against the farmers accused of unjust appropriation for the division of their products so introducing the system of political pressure and interference in judiciary problems contrasting with the law in force.

3° In proceeding to the election of the members of the Constitution the Government instead of summoning the population to make known their will regarding the method to adopt for the election appoints a Commission to present a project to be studied by the Council of Ministers and then submitted to the CONSULTA, Consulta that does not represent the will of the population as the CONSULTORI are appointed by the Government.

4° In the same way President FARINI asks the Sicilian Consulta (this also formed by the Government) to form an autonomous Administration, instead of applying directly to a Sicilian Constitution elected by the Sicilian population.

5° The same system of FASCIST. The government imposes also to the free Agricultural Association, Merchants etc., not to name Separatists for posts of administration or experts in the Chamber of Commerce or in other Economical Sicilian Organizations.

No action

1947 December 28 9/11

Handwritten signature/initials

(2)

56 The arrest of the heads of the Sicilian independence with notice made to all Separatists to stop any sort of activity or separatist propaganda, notice to the young separatists prohibiting them wearing a separatist pin, prohibiting them walking in groups, the invasion of the Seats of the movement operated by the Police, bursting open the doors in the early morning without waiting for them to be opened appears clearly that the government suffocates Sicilian independence, setting up a complicated invented case to justify their illegal procedure.

All these facts, selected amongst hundreds, show clearly that ITALY IS NOT DEMOCRATIC. Its conceptions are not at least democratic and that the men that govern at the present moment are full of overpowering ideas to be real Democrats.

In examining the last particular example it is shown that the intolerance of the Government and Liberation Parties have come to the conclusion of using harassing measures which are nothing in comparison to Fascist manifestations and those used by oppressors.

Liberty of speeches, meetings, newspapers have been refused to Separatists. Their clubs closed and destroyed, their heads arrested, wounded, badly treated and even whipped.

Why?

Because this movement menaces the political situation conquered by dictatorial virtue by some Sicilians of the liberation party which being in coincidence with the will of Italian Government to protect with all means the interests of Northern Italy inconsiderate of those of Sicily.

An example to convince: we report a phrase of NITTI'S speech: IT WOULD BE A DISASTER IF ITALY WERE TO LOOSE IT'S INTRINSEC VALUE. For this interest Sicily has been continually afflicted. This is why Sicily has been also been considered a colony for Italy. The greatest part of Italy's products (industrial) are placed in Sicily, it being rather difficult to place them abroad.

After 85 years of Economic slavery, Sicily, Sicilians, intend to be independent, have their own finance and more so their own money and Custom-Houses consequently their political independence which guarantees them liberty.

operated by the Police, bursting open the doors in the early morning without waiting for them to be opened appears clearly that the Government suffocates Sicilian independence, setting up a complicated invented case to justify their illegal procedure.

All these facts, selected amongst hundreds, show clearly that ITALY IS NOT DEMOCRATIC, its conceptions are not at least democratic and that the men that govern at the present moment are full of overpowering ideas to be real Democrats.

In examining the last particular example it is shown that the intolerance of the Government and Liberation Parties have come to the conclusion of using harassing measures which are nothing in comparison to Fascist manifestations and those used by oppressors.

Liberty of speeches, meetings, newspapers have been refused to Separatists. Their clubs closed and destroyed, their heads arrested, wounded, badly treated and even whipped.

Why?

Because this government menaces the political situation conquered by dictatorial virtue by some Sicilians of the Liberation party which being in coincidence with the will of Italian Governors to protect with all means the interests of Northern Italy inconceivable of those of Sicily.

An example to convince: We report a phrase of VITTO's speech: IT WOULD BE A DISASTER IF ITALY WERE TO LOSE ITS INTERIOR MARCHES. For this interest Sicily has been continually afflicted. This is why Sicily has been also been considered a colony for Italy. The great part of Italy's products (industrial) are placed in Sicily, it being rather difficult to place them abroad.

After 65 years of Economic slavery, Sicily, Sicilians, intend to be independent, have their own Finance and across their own money and Customs-Houses consequently their political independence which guarantees them liberty.

To obtain their aspiration they have followed the most democratic method and the more legal consented to civil population: Referendum

1861 Sicily was annexed to Italy not conquered. To this day's enterprise made with Northern gold paid to Neapolitan Generals was effected with Sicilian cooperation who believed to be freed of the Borbons to return independent as they had been. Sicily was annexed to Italy with an election which was a deception as Sicily thought a Federal State was to be formed instead of an annexation

(3)

and a intened with arms.

This connection to be considered like an association. A society founded originally with members threatening each other. Why shouldn't this member have the right to have his case reexamined?

Sicilians have asked to nullify their will in an election guaranteed by the Allied, following the indications of the Atlantic map and have asked the Allied to protect them on the basis of justice of the Allied given to every oppressed Region.

If Italy was of democratic spirit, which it says it has, the Sicilian problem should of been discussed, giving them liberty of press, meetings. They should of been convinced of their error, if there is an error, but in the end Italy should of permitted an honest election so as to know the will of the Sicilians

Italy, in this political effort, with its powers adopts intolerable systems, imposition, arbitration againsts our person which are in open contradiction with democratic ideas which they and making propaganda to deceive those who are in good faith.

We ask justice, consider our position, your illuminated intelligence will give us victory!

Yours faithfully,

Edoardo M. Lio (Angeli)

Viale Liberta 3

Messina

57540
OFFICE OF A.C. LIAISON OFFICER
c/o N.O.B. - NAVY 137
PALERMO-SICILY

Ex Comm R
97
9 October 1945.

Ref: AG/S/G 04

Subject: Separatist Activity.

To: 1- H.Q. Allied Commission, APC 194,
(attention Executive Commissioner).

1. Reference your letter 515/20 dated 3 October 1945.

2. I regret the embarrassment which has been caused to H.Q. A.C. through me or my office, but I do not quite understand it. The telegrams arrived while I was in the American Naval Hospital suffering from food poisoning. Mr Lopez of the American Embassy in Rome, sent here to investigate COCHENA, was in my office when the wires arrived and he and my Corporal came down with them to the Hospital. Within half an hour the American Consul came in on the same subject. I asked him to make discreet enquiries and let me know the answer. He was unable to find any truth in the reports. My telegram of 26 September said "High Commissioner and Police know nothing", but I referred to the uprising and capture of barracks and not to the probable arrest of the leaders.

3. H.Q. Alcom message 6135 dated 26 September, addressed to me for action said "Advise all Allied Military and Naval Authorities". This was done from my office over the phone, warning them of possible trouble, and it is just possible a slip might have occurred there, when phoning Messina. But the G.I. British Troops was definitely told only the first part of the message.

4. The arrest took place on the evening of the 1st October 45. There had been no trouble before the arrest as suggested in the telegram nor has there been any trouble since.

5562
Wm MacCallum
W.J. MacCALLUM, 3D, Lt-Col.,
A.C. L.O. SICILY: 98

13 OCT 1945

(150)

Resolution

The Secretariat of the movement for the independence of Sicily

considering that:

OCT - 7 1949

1) the National Committee never expressed any feeling of hostility toward the Italian people and that its behavior was inspired by the wish to fight the centralizing state, cause of all the evil and violence of which the Sicilian people have been suffering ever since 1860;

2) the National Committee and its president, on. Andrea Finocchiaro Aprile several times expressed to the various Italian governments in power ever since February 1946 (date when the power was handed over to the democratic ministry in Sicily) the wishes of the Sicilian people, suggesting a federalist solution to the complicated problem, without ever receiving an answer;

3) after the fascist action carried out in Palermo, on April 21st, 1949, by the government of the parties, by means of the carabinieri and P.S. agents who occupied and destroyed the central seat of the movement, the Secretary General, adv. Antonino Vercore several times appealed to the high Commissioner in Sicily and to the various Presidents of the Council of Ministers, asking for an aid to be put to the misdeeds and persecutions, unbearable in a regime which claims to be democratic, and for liberty to be reestablished.

4) lacking in comprehension, the Italian government slandered the N.C.S. and prevented it from making its point of view known to the Italian people; the Sicilian people has therefore been more and more discouraged from a federalist solution which cannot be carried out without the consent of the political classes which govern Europe in Italy.

5) on the other hand, the N.C.S. always acted in a strictly lawful way and stated to the Italian Government, in a letter dated September 1st, 1949, that the closing of its seats made it impossible for the N.C.S. to control extremist tendencies and the provocative agents of the parties in favour of unity, which bear the full responsibility for the riots which took place in Sicily, the Italian Government didn't answer.

6) again, in a fascist way, the Italian Government arrested and deported the leaders of the Sicilian movement, without charging them with any offence (as from the clumsy government communiqué saying that a denunciation will be sent to the legal authority if some offence was ascertained).

7) such action is obviously unlawful and arbitrary and violates the right to individual freedom and offends the most sacred principles of a democracy which is being shown off in such a parasitic way.

wake the Italian Government that:

a) all the partisans of independence who have been unjustly deprived of freedom be released at once.

b) democratic freedom be given back to the Sicilians, putting an end to the police regime in Sicily.

(Copy forwarded)

(Insert On Sheet 2)

See pg 96
5681
The
9/10

- 2 -

c) a statement be issued, without any possible misinterpretation, as to whether the Government intends to reject the principle, several times asserted by the legal authorities as well as by the Allied authorities, of the legitimacy of the M.I.G. as a free manifestation of democratic thought.

Aggravate

before the world's public opinion that the responsibility for rejecting the federalist solution lies entirely with the Italian Government which is thus enforcing the fascist solution with its possible cruel manifestations.

Does the Government of the United Nations and the Allied Commission to intervene in defense of the freedoms for which their armies, received with a sincere enthusiasm by the Sicilian people as liberators and protectors of its freedom, fought and won the war.

Palermo, 3 October 1945

THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF F.I.M.I.G.

trans. e/c

cc Dir - 3 Oct 45

Info - Action: Gen. Ciano

Info: Chief Clerk

Pol. Ad. (A)

Pol. Ad. (B)

C.A. Sec.

5580

IL COMITATO SEGRETO DEL MOVIMENTO PER L'INDI-
PENDENZA DELLA SICILIA

P R E M E S S O

1°) che il Comitato Nazionale non ha mai manifesta-
te alcun sentimento di ostilità verso il popolo italiano ed
ha ispirato la sua condotta all'unica scopo di con-
battere lo stato centralista unitario, causa di tut-
ti i mali e di tutte le sopraffazioni subite dal
popolo siciliano dal 1860 in poi;

2°) che lo stesso Comitato Nazionale ed il suo pre-
sidente On. Andrea Finocchiaro Aprile più volte han-
no fatto conoscere ai vari Governi italiani, succedu-
tisi dall'11 febbraio 1944 (data del passaggio dei
poteri in Sicilia al Ministero Badoglio) in poi, le
aspirazioni del popolo siciliano, prospettando ap-
punto la soluzione del tormentato problema in senso
federalistico, senza mai ricevere alcuna risposta;

3°) che il Segretario Generale del Movimento avv.
Antonino Varvaro, dopo l'impresa squadristica consue-
mata in Palermo il 21 aprile 1945 dal Governo del-

battere lo stato centralista unitario, causa di tutti i mali e di tutte le sopraffazioni subite dal popolo siciliano dal 1860 in poi;

2°) che lo stesso Comitato Nazionale ed il suo presidente On. Andrea Finocchiaro Aprile più volte hanno fatto conoscere ai vari Governi italiani, succeduti dall'11 febbraio 1944 (data del passaggio dei poteri in Sicilia al Ministero Badoglio) in poi, le aspirazioni del popolo siciliano, prospettando appunto la soluzione del tormentato problema in senso federalistico, senza mai ricevere alcuna risposta;

3°) che il Segretario Generale del Movimento avv. Antonino Varvaro, dopo l'impresa squadristica consumata in Palermo il 21 aprile 1945 dal Governo dell'esarchia a mezzo dei carabinieri ed agenti di P.S., con l'occupazione e distruzione della sede centrale del Movimento, più volte si è rivolto all'Alto Commissario in Sicilia ed ai vari Presidenti del Consiglio dei Ministri, chiedendo: la cessazione delle illega-

599

ESORTA

I Governi delle Nazioni Unite e la Commissione Alleata ad intervenire per il rispetto di quelle libertà per le quali hanno combattuto e vinto i loro eserciti, accolti con sincero entusiasmo dal popolo siciliano come liberatori e garanti delle sue libertà conculcate.

Palermo, 3 ottobre 1945

IL COMITATO SEGRETO DEL M.I.S.

IL COMITATO SEGRETO DEL MOVIMENTO PER L'INDI-

PENDENZA DELLA SICILIA

P R E M E S S O

1°) che il Comitato Nazionale non ha mai manifesta-
te alcun sentimento di ostilità verso il popolo italiano ed
ha ispirato la sua condotta all'unica scopo di con-
battere lo stato centralista unitario, causa di tut-
ti i mali e di tutte le sopraffazioni subite dal
popolo siciliano dal 1860 in poi;

2°) che lo stesso Comitato Nazionale ed il suo pre-
sidente On. Andrea Finocchiaro Aprile più volte han-
no fatto conoscere ai vari Governi italiani, succedu-
tisi dall'11 febbraio 1944 (data del passaggio dei
poteri in Sicilia al Ministero Badoglio) in poi, le
aspirazioni del popolo siciliano, prospettando ap-
punto la soluzione del tormentato problema in senso
federalistico, senza mai ricevere alcuna risposta;

3°) che il Segretario Generale del Movimento avv.
Antonino Varvaro, dopo l'impresa squadristica coneu-
mata in Palermo il 21 aprile 1945 dal Governo del-

ha ispirate la sua condotta all'unica scopo di combattere lo stato centralista unitario, causa di tutti i mali e di tutte le sopraffazioni subite dal popolo siciliano dal 1860 in poi;

2°) che lo stesso Comitato Nazionale ed il suo presidente On. Andrea Pinocchiaro Aprile più volte hanno fatto conoscere ai vari Governi Italiani, succedutisi dall'11 febbraio 1944 (data del passaggio dei poteri in Sicilia al Ministero Badoglio) in poi, le aspirazioni del popolo siciliano, prospettando appunto la soluzione del tormentato problema in senso federalistico, senza mai ricevere alcuna risposta;

3°) che il Segretario Generale del Movimento avv. Antonino Varvaro, dopo l'impresa squadristica consumata in Palermo il 21 aprile 1945 dal Governo dell'esarchia a mezzo dei carabinieri ed agenti di P.S., con l'occupazione e distruzione della sede centrale del Movimento, più volte si è rivolto all'Alto Commissario in Sicilia ed ai vari Presidenti del Consiglio dei Ministri, chiedendo: la cessazione delle illega-

5979

lità e delle persecuzioni, intollerabili in un regime che si autoproclama democratico ed il ripristino delle libertà;

4°) che per l'incomprensione del Governo italiano, che si è limitato a diffamare il M.I.S., impedendogli di fare conoscere al popolo italiano il proprio genuino pensiero, il popolo siciliano è stato spinto ad allontanarsi sempre più dalla soluzione federalistica, inattuabile senza il consenso dei ceti politici che dominano in Italia;

5°) che, pur avendo sempre il M.I.S. agito entro i più stretti limiti della legalità ed avendo dichiarato al Governo d'Italia, con lettera 1° settembre 1945, di essere stato messo - con la chiusura delle sedi - nella impossibilità di controllare gli orientamenti estremisti e di vigilare sugli agenti provocatori dei partiti unitari, questi ultimi unici responsabili dei disordini verificatesi in Sicilia, nessuna risposta è stata data dal Governo italiano;

6°) che - proditoriamente - con altra impresa squa-

conoscere al popolo italiano il proprio genuino pensiero, il popolo siciliano è stato spinto ad allontanarsi sempre più dalla soluzione federalistica, inattuabile senza il consenso dei ceti politici che dominano in Italia;

5°) che, pur avendo sempre il M.I.S. agito entro i più stretti limiti della legalità ed avendo dichiarato al governo d'Italia, con lettera 1° settembre 1945, di essere stato messo - con la chiusura delle sedi - nella impossibilità di controllare gli orientamenti estremisti e di vigilare sugli agenti provocatori dei partiti unitari, questi ultimi unici responsabili dei disordini verificatesi in Sicilia, nessuna risposta è stata data dal Governo italiano;

6°) che -proditoriamente- con altra impresa squadristica, il Governo italiano ha fatto arrestare e deportare senza contestare alcun reato (come si rileva dallo stesso maldestro comunicato governativo che pone solo una riserva di denuncia all'autorità giudiziaria, qualora i reati venissero accertati) i diri-

genti del Movimento siciliano;

7°) che tale agire è manifestamente illegale ed arbitrario e viola il sacro diritto alla libertà individuale e violando i più elementari principi di quella democrazia di cui si fa tanta farsa ostentazione;

I N V I T A

il Governo d'Italia:

- a) a rilasciare immediatamente tutti gli indipendentisti che sono stati indebitamente privati delle libertà individuali;
- b) a far cessare il regime poliziesco in Sicilia, restando ai Siciliani le libertà democratiche;
- c) a dichiarare, rimuovendo ogni equivoco, se intendono distaccarsi dal principio, più volte affermato dagli organi giudiziari e dalle autorità alleate, della legittimità del M.I.S. in quanto libera manifestazione di pensiero democratico;

R I A P P E R M A

di fronte all'opinione pubblica mondiale che la re-

zione;

I N V I T A

il Governo d'Italia:

- a) a rilasciare immediatamente tutti gli indipenden-
tisti che sono stati indebitamente privati delle li-
bertà individuali;
- b) a far cessare il regime poliziesco in Sicilia, re-
stituendo ai Siciliani le libertà democratiche;
- c) a dichiarare, rimuovendo ogni equivoco, se inten-
de distaccarsi dal principio, più volte affermato da
gli organi giudiziari e dalle autorità alleate, del-
la legittimità del M.I.S. in quanto libera manife-
stazione di pensiero democratico;

R I A P P E R M A

di fronte all'opinione pubblica mondiale che la re-
sponsabilità di respingere la soluzione federalisti-
ca ricade esclusivamente sul Governo italiano, il qua-
le così impone come unica soluzione possibile quella
separatista con le sue eventuali cruenti manifesta-
zioni

5678

B S O R T A

I Governi delle Nazioni Unite e la Commissione Alleata ad intervenire per il rispetto di quelle libertà per le quali hanno combattuto e vinto i loro eserciti, accolti con sincero entusiasmo dal popolo siciliano come liberatori e garanti delle sue libertà conculcate.

Palermo, 3 ottobre 1945

IL COMITATO SEGRETO DEL M.I.S.

C80 ^{22B} for info 22B 4/10
I saw it in the
Heron papers yesterday 1-10

7/60

Ex 26

~~DATE~~ 12/12/2012

123.

Information
structure
applicable
to the
subject of the
document

Arrest of Separatists in Sicily.

4155

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

EX COMM
INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference:

Date/Time of Origin: OCT 021148A

Message Centre No. F 9768

Date Time Rec'd: OCT 021840A

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: ALCOM DO PALERMO FROM MACCALLUM

OCT - 3 1945

TO: HQ ALCOM

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

1. Ref signal 6115 dated 26 September.
2. Anticipated action took place evening of 1 October.
3. All calm up to present.

Dist

Action - Exec Commr 2
Info - Chief Commissioner
File 2 Float

ACTION

RESTRICTED

SEE 92A
5616

11/10/45

(Chief Commissioner) 625
4/10

515/501

3rd October, 1945

On September 26th we sent you for information report of a secret signal referred to as 'X' warning them (and you) of certain action which the Italian Government proposed to take in connection with Separatist movement. We followed this with a signal to you last night asking you to report earliest.

We next received a signal from you indicating that you had mentioned the proposal to Italian authorities. This was followed by the Prime Minister informing the Chief Commissioner that his carefully laid secret plans had been divulged by someone in Allied Organisation.

You clearly misunderstood our second signal to you. We did not require you to consult with anyone least of all with Italians. That clearly and inevitably meant leakage. The advice to the Naval Military and Air Force was I hope properly passed on by AFM.

We required of you, knowing the Italian Government's plans to watch events and report on the arrest when made and the results thereof.

This is an important step taken by the Italian Government and we await results with interest. Please let us have a report and another time I would ask you to be very careful what you pass on to the Italian Authorities when matters of security, at a high level, are involved. No hint, I hope, has come of your action this time as I understand the three men are now under arrest.

Lt Col R. J. MacCallum
Liaison Officer, Palermo.

15/14.5/14.5

On September 25th we sent you the information report of a secret signal and request to AFM, warning them (and you) of certain action which the Italian Government proposed to take in connection with Socialist movement. We followed this with a signal to you last asking you to report earliest.

We next received a signal from you informing that you had mentioned the proposal to Italian authorities. This was followed by the Prime Minister informing the Chief Commissioner that his carefully laid secret plans had been divulged by someone in Allied Commission.

You clearly misunderstood our second signal to you. We did not require you to consult with anyone least of all with Italians. That clearly and inevitably meant leakage. The advice to the Naval Military and Air Force was I hope properly passed on by AFM.

We required of you, knowing the Italian Government plans to watch events and report on the arrest when made and the results thereof.

This is an important step taken by the Italian Government and we await results with interest. Please let us have a report and another time I would ask you to be very careful what you pass on to the Italian Authorities when matters of security, at a high level, are involved. No harm, I hope, has come of your action this time as I understand the three men are now under arrest.

Lt Col R.J. MacCallum
Liaison Officer Palermo.

15/11/54
5675
11/11/54

3/
The Chief Commissioner is
therefore at loss to understand
why we approached the Italian
ambassador when from the very
subject matter of the signal it was
the fact that it was marked
secret & shd. have been clear
that this was the last course
to pursue.

DRAFT

~~SECRET~~

88

SUBJECT: Separatist Activities

TO : AC Liaison Officer, Palermo

Reference ALCON signals 6115, 6122, 6135 of 26 Sept 45 and your unnumbered reply of 28 Sept 45.

1. ~~It is felt that you have not behaved in this matter with the~~
~~comprehension that is to be expected.~~

2. In a matter as delicate as the subject it should ^{have been} ~~be~~ evident that a
^(such as those in all the cases)
series of enquiries would have only a deleterious effect and might even lead
to the escape of the wanted men.

3. The original signal was merely sent to you for information and in the
subsequent ones you were requested to advise the naval and military authorities
and to forward a report to this headquarters.

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

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

785017

87

ACIO PALMBO

6588

1 October 45

PRIORITY

RECEIVED REPEATED PD

REPEATED YOUR UNRECORDED SIGNAL OF TWO EIGHT SEPTENBER PD

PAUSE TO ACIO PALMBO FROM HQ ALCON CITY ACING PAUSE

CEASE ALL ENQUIRIES IMMEDIATELY PD BATTER BEST YOU FOR INTELLIGENCE

Office of Exec. Comm.

300

Lt. Col.
G. S. D.

10/2/10

785017

515-81 Ex-Comm.

INCCMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

(95)

Originator's Reference:

Date/Time of Origin: SEP 281706A

Message Centre No: F 9420

Date Time Rec'd: SEP 291100A

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: MACCALLUM ACLO PALERMO

TO: HQ ALCOM

OCT - 1 1945

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

1. Ref your messages 6115, 6122, and 6135, dated 26 September.
2. Have made enquiries in Island but to date no information available.
3. High Commissioner knows nothing, police know nothing, American and British consuls know nothing.
4. Am continuing enquiries.
5. Have advised all Naval, Military, and Airforce.

Dist

Action - Exec Commr 2

Info - Chief Commissioner

File 2

Float

RESTRICTED

ACTION



+87

See M 86
5671

(One Commission) 40

5.5

ft Comm

(S)

ADOL PALMER

6135

24 SEPTEMBER

OF PRIORITY

SEE 97

~~SECRET~~ IT
SUBJECT IS SPANISH ACTIVITIES REFERRED TO IN MY MSG ONE ONE ONE OF TODAY TO
AND ONLY TO YOU TO

PLEASE TO ALSO VALUED FROM IN ALL IN EXTENSIVE RANGE

ADVISE ALLIED MILITARY AND NAVAL AUTHORITIES

See 97
Aug 83

27/9

ORIGINAL FILE
OR coordinator

See 97
(For noted July 83)
28/9

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

ALCOM LO PALERMO

61232

26 SE PT 45

PRIORITY

~~SECRET~~ PD

SUBJECT IS SEPARATE ACTIVITIES REFERRED TO IN MY SIX ONE ONE SIX OF
TODAY TO ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS REPEATED TO YOU PD
PAREN TO ALCOM LO PALERMO FROM HQ ALCOM CITE AGEXO PAREN PD

FORWARD REPORT THIS HEADQUARTERS EARLIEST

cc C.A.S.C.

EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

289

P. R. RUSSELL

5669

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

0-5 AFHQ REPEAT ACLO PALERMO, CATANIA, FOR INFO

6116

26 SEPTEMBER 45

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

SECRET PD

PRIME MINISTER NOTIFIED MM THIS MORNING THAT HE HAD RECEIVED REPORTS INDICATIVE
DEFINITE RECRUITING OF SEPARATIST ACTIVITY IN SICILY INCLUDING PROVOKING
OF DISORDER AND SEIZURE BY FORCE OF CERTAIN BARRACKS PD HE HAS GIVEN ORDERS FOR
THE ARREST OF THREE OF THE LEADERS NAMELY VINCIGLIARO APRILE CMA VARVARO CMA AND
RETOCCIA WHO IS HEAD OF SEPARATIST MILITARY MOVEMENT KNOWN AS EVIS PD
PARER TO AFHQ FOR GEORGE DASH FIVE RPTD FOR INFO ACLO PALERMO CMA CATANIA CMA
FROM HQ ALCON CITE ACHXC PARER

THEY WILL BE CHARGED UNDER ITALIAN PENAL CODE SECTION TWO FOUR ONE FOR ATTEMPTED
ACTION AGAINST INTEGRITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF THE STATE AND SECTION TWO EIGHT FOUR
FOR ARMED INSURRECTION AND THREATS AGAINST THE STATE

cc - C.A. Sec

Exec Commr

27/9

SEE F920
SEP 85

ARTICLE 41

(Attempts against the integrity, independence or unity of the state.)

Whoever commits an act directed to subject the territory of the state or a part thereof to the sovereignty of a foreign state, or to diminish the independence of the state, shall be punished with death.

Whoever commits an act directed to dissolve the unity of the state, or to separate from the mother country a colony or other territory subject, even temporarily, to its sovereignty, shall be liable to the same punishment.

ARTICLE 44

(Armed insurrection against the powers of the state.)

Whoever promotes an armed insurrection against the powers of the state shall be punished with penal servitude for life, and, if the insurrection takes place, with death.

Persons who participate in the insurrection shall be punished with penal servitude from 3 to 15 years, and those who direct it with death.

An insurrection shall be considered an armed one even though the arms are merely kept in a place of deposit.

Attachment to Telegram in Berlin Division

18/10/19

ARTICLE 24

(Armed insurrection against the Powers of the State.)

Whoever promotes an armed insurrection against the powers of the State shall be punished with penal servitude for life, and, if the insurrection takes place, with death.

Persons who participate in the insurrection shall be punished with penal servitude from 3 to 15 years, and those who direct it with death.

An insurrection shall be considered an armed one even though the arms are merely kept in a place of deposit.

Attache to Telegram re - British Zouaves

W/210

1007

F.L.
TO see 5-

515
9

SEP 5 RECD
CC 1510

80

UNITED STATES NAVAL FORCES
NORTHWEST AFRICAN WATERS

File No.
AB-2/KP36(SIC)

Serial: 01013

CONFIDENTIAL

29 AUG 1945

SEP 10 1945

From: Commander U. S. Naval Forces, Northwest
African Waters.
To : Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission
ITALY.
Subject: Newspaper Articles Relative to Separatist Rumors.
Enclosure: (A) COMNAV PALERMO conf. ltr. serial 0993 dated
21 August 1945.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith for your in-
formation. A copy has also been sent to the American Ambassador.

William Glassford
WILLIAM GLASSFORD.

V.P. CAS to see MC. B/G.

This should have gone to CC through channel
and should be kept in ~~prop~~ relevant file.

15/6/5

RETURN TO
Chief Commissioner

2566

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735017

C-O-P-Y

U. S. NAVAL OPERATING BASE
PALERMO, SICILYFile No. NH/AS
Serial: 0993

21 August 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

From: The Commandant.
To: Commander U. S. Naval Forces, Northwest African Waters.
Subject: Newspaper Articles Relative to Separatist Rumors.
Reference: (a) Commodore Pickhardt's Memo of 16 August 1945.

1. Various Sicilian papers on 14 August carried articles quoting the American Consul General Nester and Commodore McCandlish as saying that the United States did not have plans to alienate Sicilian territory from the remainder of Italy. On 12 August, Consul General Nester informed Commodore McCandlish that the rumor was going around Palermo that the latter had been sent here and that Admiral Glassford was coming here for the purpose of splitting Sicily from the remainder of Italy. The Consul General stated the rumor was ridiculous and was started because the Separatists had friction within their ranks and wished to get a new issue to bring their factions together. On 13 August, Commodore McCandlish made an official call upon the High Commissioner. While there, Commodore McCandlish told the High Commissioner that Admiral Glassford was coming here as an Administrative measure to conserve personnel and for better economy of administration. The High Commissioner mentioned the Separatist talk that Admiral Glassford was coming here to take over the administration of the Island. Both the former and Commodore McCandlish laughed at the rumor and Commodore McCandlish stated that the American policy had been given by President Truman at Potsdam when he stated that the U. S. did not wish either territory in Europe or pecuniary gain from any of the people of Europe but that he felt it was our duty to stay over here long enough to assist the people of Europe to recover from the ravages of war. The High Commissioner replied that the European people were glad that the President had made such a statement and that everyone knew well that Europe needed the United States for some time to come.

2. On the afternoon of 13 August, Consul General Nester called on Commodore McCandlish and was given the foregoing details concerning the visit to the High Commissioner. Consul General Nester stated that he had received an official denial by the State Department of the rumor to the effect that Sicilian independence had been discussed at the San Francisco Conference and had been approved by a large majority vote and that he would call on the High Commissioner on the afternoon of 13 August to officially deny the aims attributed to the U. S. by the current rumors. Consul General Nester made such a visit and the next morning, local papers carried

C-O-P-Y

NB/AB
Serial: 0993

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: Newspaper Articles Relative to Separatist Rumors.

articles stating that both Consul General Nester and Commodore McCandlish had discredited the rumors that the U. S. had territorial aims in Sicily. The Consul General is of the opinion that while the Separatist Movement is relatively small it is of great potential importance and at present active.

/s/ B. V. McCandlish.

Copy to:

American Consul General.

Translation

Movement for the Independence of Sicily
National Committee

Palermo, 7 June 1945

JUN 20 1945

To R.A. the High Commissioner for Sicily - Palermo

and

for the attention of Admiral Stone, Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission - Rome

Referring to the note of May 9th of this National Committee, about the occupation of our premises of Palermo, Catania, Caltanissetta and Agrigento, in the name of the leading Committee of the Movement for the Independence of Sicily, I take the liberty of pointing out the following facts:

We are greatly surprised that Y.E. did not yet provide to the restitution of the premises which were arbitrarily taken from us and remained militarily occupied without any plausible reason..

In various circumstances and in various official acts, we maintained that the movement for the Independence of Sicily is perfectly lawful on the ground of democratic freedom. Its method is lawful for it despises any violence, promotes the ideas of its program through a free propaganda, and means to reach success through the most democratic of rights, i.e. the right of the nations to make their own decisions through a plebiscite.

Its aims are lawful, for it means among other things, to constitute a State which will enable Sicily to exercise her ancient privileges, defend her rights and her interests, though within the frame of a confederation of Italian States.

To repress our sacred rights of meeting, press and speech, some statesmen protested that by wanting the Independence of our land we were acting against the State, in spite of what I said before. I point out that the President of our National Committee, On.le Andrea Finocchiaro-Agrile wrote to the President of the Council On.le Bonomi, that an agreement between the Movement and our Movement was possible on a confederative ground. This will of course depend on what the peace conference may decide about the definitive settlement of the European countries.

There was no answer to this letter.

I wanted to emphasize all this to say that the action of the Movement

...the liberty of pointing out the following facts;

We are greatly surprised that Y.E.R. did not yet provide to the restitution of the premises which were arbitrarily taken from us and remained militarily occupied without any plausible reason..

In various circumstances and in various official acts, we maintained that the movement for the Independence of Sicily is perfectly lawful on the ground of democratic freedom. Its method is lawful for it despises any violence, promotes the ideas of its program through a free propaganda, and means to reach success through the most democratic of rights, i.e. the right of the nations to make their own decisions through a plebiscite.

Its aims are lawful, for it means among other things, to constitute a state which will enable Sicily to exercise her ancient privileges, defend her rights and her interests, though within the frame of a confederation of Italian States.

To repress our sacred rights of meeting, press and speech, some statesmen protested that by wanting the Independence of our land we were acting against the state, in spite of what I said before. I point out that the President of our National Committee, On.le Andrea Finocchiaro-Aprile wrote to the President of the Council On.le Romiti, that an agreement between the Government and our Movement was possible on a confederative ground. This will of course depend on what the peace conference may decide about the definitive settlement of the European countries.

There was no answer to this letter.

I wanted to emphasize all this to say that the action of the Government tending up to now to repress our liberties, might determine a dangerous stiffening of the positions taken by the Sicilian people.

On this subject, I want to tell you that the duration of the arbitrary occupation of our seats has been bringing about the detachment of extremist elements.

In our note of May 3th, the National Committee had already warned that the occupation of our premises would make it difficult to control the single adherents of the Movement. This was easy to foresee, and unfortunately proved true in various towns where discontented young men, opposed to the 'pacifism' and 'quietism' of the leaders, made themselves independent and formed groups, intending to start an entirely autonomous activity.

The responsibility of all that may happen from such a phenomenon will be of the Government only, for the occupation of our seats caused the masses to shake off the leadership of their chiefs.

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials]

- 2 -

It might still be possible to avoid very serious consequences by handing back the premises at once, this being understood not only as a simple restitution but also as the acknowledgement of our right to enjoy the democratic liberties which must be the right of all in a civilized nation, and not only a disguise for political speeches and empty newspaper demagoguery.

For the same reasons that we are asking for our premises to be handed back, we insist on being finally allowed to publish some newspapers, as from the request made through the competent organs over a year ago.

If the people in reality to be pacified and Sicilian policy to be brought back to the respect of civilized life, the Government must treat us as it is treating all the other parties which, from the point of view of mass, mean very little in comparison with the Movement for the Independence of Sicily.

The Committee still hopes that the organs of the Government will re-establish a normal situation after receiving this note.

Yours very sincerely,

S. The Secretary General

e.c.

1042

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

0002 .

Yours very sincerely,

s. The Secretary General

o.c.

MOVIMENTO PER L'INDIPENDENZA DELLA SICILIA

Comitato Nazionale

Palermo, li 7 Giugno 1945.

A S. E. L'ALTO COMMISSARIO PER LA SICILIA
e per conoscenza al Signor Ammiraglio Stone
Capo della Commissione Alleata
ROMA

= P A L E R M O =

Con riferimento alla nota 9 maggio u.s. di questo Comitato Nazionale relativa alla occupazione dei nostri locali di Palermo, Catania, Acireale e Riposto, a nome del Comitato direttivo del Movimento per l'Indipendenza della Sicilia mi prego significarlo quanto segue:

Ci sorprende moltissimo che la E.V. non abbia ancora provveduto alla restituzione dei locali che arbitrariamente ci vennero tolti e rimasero occupati militarmente senza alcuna plausibile ragione.

In varie contingenze e in diversi nostri atti ufficiali, abbiamo avuto occasione di sostenere che il Movimento per l'Indipendenza della Sicilia è perfettamente legale nel clima e sul terreno delle libertà democratiche. E' legale per il metodo, in quanto sdegnoso di qualsiasi violenza, agita le idee del suo programma con libera propaganda e si propone di pervenire al successo attraverso il più democratico dei diritti, cioè il diritto di autodeterminazione dei popoli esercitato col pieno bisceito.

E' legale nelle sue finalità, in quanto esso mira, tra l'altro, alla costituzione di uno Stato che consenta alla Sicilia con l'esercizio dei suoi antichi privilegi, la difesa dei suoi diritti e la tutela dei suoi interessi, pur nell'ambito di una confederazione di Stati italiani.

Che se per esercitare violenza contro i nostri sacrosanti diritti di riunione, di stampa, di parola ecc., si è ricorso da taluni uomini politici allo specioso protesto che, volendo noi l'Indipendenza della nostra terra svolgiamo azione antistatale, a prescindere da quanto sopra ho detto, osservo che l'altra volta il Presidente del nostro Comitato Nazionale On.le Andrea Finocchiaro Aprile ebbe a scrivere al Presidente del Consiglio On.le Bonomi, che sul terreno confederativo era possibile un'intesa fra il Governo ed il nostro Movimento. Salvo, naturalmente, quello che la conferenza della pace potrà deliberare circa il definitivo assetto dei Paesi europei.

Tale lettera non ebbe mai alcuna risposta.

Ho voluto annotare tutto ciò per dire che l'azione del Governo diretta sino ad oggi a conculcare le nostre libertà, può determinare un pericoloso irrigidimento delle posizioni assunte dal popolo siciliano.

In proposito desidero significarle che proprio il movimento

Palermo, li 7 Giugno 1945.

A S. E. L'ALTO COMMISSARIO PER LA SICILIA
e per conoscenza al Signor Ammiraglio Stone
Capo della Commissione Alleata

= P A L E R M O =

Con riferimento alla nota 9 maggio u.s. di questo Comitato Nazionale relativa alla occupazione dei nostri locali di Palermo, Catania, Acireale e Riposto, a nome del Comitato direttivo del Movimento per l'Indipendenza della Sicilia mi prego significarle quanto segue:

Ci sorprende moltissimo che la E.V. non abbia ancora provveduto alla restituzione dei locali che arbitrariamente ci vennero tolti e rimasero occupati militarmente senza alcuna plausibile ragione.

In varie contingenze e in diversi nostri atti ufficiali, abbiamo avuto occasione di sostenere che il Movimento per l'Indipendenza della Sicilia è perfettamente legale nel clima e sul terreno delle libertà democratiche. E' legale per il metodo, in quanto sdegnoso di qualsiasi violenza, agita le idee del suo programma con libera propaganda e si propone di pervenire al successo attraverso il più democratico dei mezzi, cioè il diritto di autodeterminazione dei popoli esercitato col pieno bisceito.

E' legale nelle sue finalità, in quanto esso mira, tra l'altro, alla costituzione di uno Stato che consenta alla Sicilia con l'esercizio dei suoi antichi privilegi, la difesa dei suoi diritti e la tutela dei suoi interessi, pur nell'ambito di una confederazione di Stati italiani.

Che se per esercitare violenza contro i nostri sacrosanti diritti di riunione, di stampa, di parola ecc., si è ricorso da taluni uomini politici allo specioso pretesto che, volendo noi l'indipendenza della nostra terra svolgiamo azione antistatale, a prescindere da quanto sopra ho detto, osservo che l'altra volta il Presidente del nostro Comitato Nazionale On.le Andrea Finocchiaro Aprile ebbe a scrivere al Presidente del Consiglio On.le Bonomi, che sul terreno confederativo era possibile un'intesa fra il Governo ed il nostro Movimento. Salvo, naturalmente, quello che la conferenza della pace potrà deliberare circa il definitivo assetto dei Paesi europei.

Tale lettera non ebbe mai alcuna risposta.

Ho voluto annotare tutto ciò per dire che l'azione del Governo diretta sino ad oggi a conculcare le nostre libertà, può determinare un pericoloso irrigidimento delle posizioni assunte dal popolo siciliano.

In proposito desidero significarle che proprio il permanere della arbitraria occupazione delle nostre sedi, va determinando da qualche tempo il distacco di elementi estremisti.

Già con la nostra nota del 9 maggio il Comitato Nazionale avvertiva che l'occupazione dei nostri locali avrebbe reso difficile il controllo dei singoli aderenti al Movimento; facile previsione che purtroppo si è andata avverando in diverse città dove taluni giovani scontenti, ribelli al "pacifismo" o "quietismo" dei dirigenti, si

./.

MOVIMENTO PER L'INDIPENDENZA DELLA SICILIA

Comitato Nazionale

102

Palermo, 11

sono resi indipendenti e costituendosi in gruppi sembra che abbiano deciso di dare alla loro azione un contenuto attivista assolutamente autonomo.

La responsabilità di tutto quello che può derivare da un tale fenomeno spetta unicamente al Governo il quale, con la occupazione delle nostre sedi, ha determinato il sottrarsi delle masse dalla guida dei dirigenti.

Ancora oggi si potrebbe evitare conseguenze assai inescusabili con la immediata restituzione dei locali intesa non solo come atto materiale di ripristino del possesso, ma anche come riconoscimento del nostro diritto ad usufruire di quelle libertà democratiche che presso un popolo civile devono essere diritto di tutti e non orpello di discorsi politici o di vuote demagogie giornalistiche.

Per le stesse considerazioni in virtù delle quali noi chiediamo la restituzione dei nostri locali, torniamo ad insistere perché ci sia finalmente consentita la pubblicazione dei giornali richiesta, attraverso gli organi competenti, da più di un anno.

Se si vuole veramente pacificare gli animi e restituire la politica siciliana ad un regime di rispetto della civile convivenza, bisogna che il Governo usi per noi un trattamento uguale a quello che viene usato a tutti gli altri partiti i quali, dal punto di vista della massa aderenti, costituiscono ben poca cosa in confronto col Movimento per l'Indipendenza della Sicilia.

Il Comitato direttivo vuole ancora esprimere la sua fiducia che un ritorno alla normalità da parte degli organi governativi abbia a costituire l'esito della presente nota.

Con tutta osservanza.

Il Segretario Generale

sono resi indipendenti e costituendosi in gruppi senza che abbiano deciso di dare alla loro azione un contenuto attivista assolutamente autonomo.

La responsabilità di tutto quello che può derivare da un tale fenomeno spetta unicamente al Governo il quale, con la occupazione delle nostre sedi, ha determinato il sottrarsi delle masse dalla guida dei dirigenti.

Ancora oggi si potrebbe evitare conseguenze assai incresciose con la immediata restituzione dei locali intesa non solo come atto materiale di ripristino del possesso, ma anche come riconoscimento del nostro diritto ad usufruire di quelle libertà democratiche che per esso un popolo civile devono essere diritto di tutti e non orpello di ~~una~~ discorsi politici o di vuote demagogie giornalistiche.

Per le stesse considerazioni in virtù delle quali noi chiediamo la restituzione dei nostri locali, torniamo ad insistere perchè ci sia finalmente consentita la pubblicazione dei giornali richiesta, attraverso gli organi competenti, da più di un anno.

Se si vuole veramente pacificare gli animi e restituire la politica siciliana ad un regime di rispetto della civile convivenza, bisogna che il Governo noi per noi un trattamento uguale a quello che viene usato a tutti gli altri partiti i quali, dal punto di vista delle masse aderenti, costituiscono ben poca cosa in confronto col Movimento per l'Indipendenza della Sicilia.

Il Comitato direttivo vuole ancora esprimere la sua fiducia che un ritorno alla normalità da parte degli organi governativi abbia a costituire l'esito della presente nota.

Con tutta osservanza.

Il Segretario Generale

Autore

5880

1943

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

13

Maj Inayle.

I sent to you yesterday a letter from Aprile concerning a disorder in Sicily.

Now see the attached version on the same subject.

27/4

Shorden maj

Thatcher

5659
(see 1476)
H.A. 1/2

CONFIDENTIAL
Civil Censorship Group

FROM : CORPO D'ARMATA
Palermo Sicily, Italy.
(Caller : NIEDU)

To: MINISTERO GUERRA
Rome, Italy.
(Callee: GRANDU)

C.C.G. Allocation

G-2 (OO) AFHQ
AC HQ
Files
EWS AFHQ
IRB LONDON
DIR INT ASF WASH

POLITICAL MANIFESTATIONS IN SICILY

Caller : Hello, the Ministry ?

Callee : Yes, "Corpo d'Armata" of PALERMO speaking. A phonogram from Military Territorial Hqs. PALERMO - to - Ministry of War - Cabinet - ROME - also for "Segreteria Generale addetto Stato Maggiore M.E.". - ROME. For M.E. General BERARDI - ROME

No. 3389/01. This morning, 21 inst., 10:30 hours, in PALERMO 3,000 young men (mostly students) traversed all the principle streets of the city shouting "TRIESTE for ITALY" and hoisting national flags on public buildings. As the procession passed before the office of the "Movimento Separatista" (Separatist Movement) gestures by members of said movement started a flow of offensive language and a shower of wood and stones. In consequence, the pro-Italy section invaded Separatist Movement places, devastating them and hoisting national flags up outside. Few wounded on both sides caused by stones.

Separatist Movement places are under Police control. Police authorities are holding 500 Separatist youths. Order has been reestablished. Manifestation for the same reason was suddenly attempted in CATANIA but was checked by the Police this morning. Successively slight incidents, which were immediately appeased by the Police took place. Few arrests. Normal situation reestablished.

Signed : General VANDENHEUVEL
Posta Militare 72
21 April 1945
23:00 hours.

Ministero delle Corporazioni

DIREZIONE GENERALE DEL SEGRETARIATO
DEL CONSIGLIO NAZIONALE DELLE CORPORAZIONI
DELLI STATI GENERALI E DEL PERSONALE

Majin Norden

A letter should be sent to
M^{re} Aprile pointing out that Smith
has been handed back to the
Italian Govt: & is no longer
the concern of the A.C.
(Letter to be subject to approval of the
Pol. Advisors).

[Signature]
28.12

① Maj Inayle,

Will you kindly say if you
have any special instructions
on the disposal of this letter?
No distribution has yet been
made.

26/4

G. Shorden
Maj

②. Admiral

I imagine you will ignore
this letter. Public Safety might
be interested, however, to have a copy.

Q5656

17-10

785017

APR 26 RECD
CC 1825

Translation

Movement for the Independence of Sicily
National Committee

Palermo, April 22nd 1943

Minister of War
Chief of the Allied Commission
Rome

At knowing whether the Italian Government has transmitted the letter which I sent you this morning, I take the liberty of sending you a copy of it.

This morning, that is to say at a little importance took place in Palermo; they are an outrage to liberty and civilization.

To diminish the considerable importance of the 22 Congress of our Movement and to influence the decisions of the San Francisco Conference, by having appear as greatly opposed the agitation for the independence of Sicily which included on the contrary the large majority of the Sicilian people, the Italian Government organized a gang of a thousand criminals and students for a demonstration against our movement and had carabinieri and police guards destroy our Palermo seat, in which were only about twenty unarmed young men, who brutally attacked, wounded and arrested.

This revolting act, which is opposed to the interest of the Allies has made the population of the town indignant, and many efforts were necessary to maintain a calm which the national committee, in spite of the numerous daily provocations, never ceased to recommend.

Conscious of the gravity of our situation, and to avoid making trouble for the Allies, we refrained from any action which might have troubled public order, but this last mistake of the Italian Government is now obviously too much, and the incidents of today which have excited and irritated the population might have a very serious reaction, of which the government will be responsible.

The situation is very serious and requires the immediate intervention of the population on which you are providing.

I take the liberty of renewing the request for still to be again occupied by the Allies, which is the only way to avoid damages and dangers which might be irreparable.

I remain,

Yours truly,

E. Andrea Finocchiaro Aprile

e.g.

5655

75X
22028

Transmitted

Admiral Wright
Air Force Commission

10/1/54

Italian Government did today an act of violence organizing a kind of official protest the Government for Italy's independence and having our land destroyed by public force. The Government believed it could thus influence at last the decisions of the United Nations which have the will of the Italian people which is decidedly opposed to maintaining military status unity. I indignantly protest in the name of every Italian and demand partition of independence against an unqualified act and I renew my request for the re-occupation of the island by the Allies to avoid grave and dangerous conditions.

Simochi-ay-ile

W.D.

5654

MOVIMENTO PER L'INDIPENDENZA DELL' SICILIA
COMITATO NAZIONALE

Palermo, 22 rile 1945

Signor Ammiraglio Stone

Capo della Commissione Alleata

R o m a

Nel dubbio che il governo italiano non abbia fatto trasmettere il telegramma da me inviato lo stamane, mi pregio di rimmetterle una copia.

Stamane sono avvenuti a Palermo fatti di non poca gravità che sono stati un vero oltraggio alla libertà ed alla civiltà.

Allo scopo di sminuire l'importanza eccezionale del II congresso del nostro movimento e per influire sulle decisioni della Conferenza di San Francisco, facendole apparire come fortemente contrastata l'agitazione per l'indipendenza della Sicilia che abbraccia, invece, l'enorme maggioranza del popolo siciliano, il governo italiano ha organizzato una banda di un migliaio di criminali e di studentelli per una dimostrazione contro il nostro movimento e ha fatto distruggere da carabinieri e guardie di polizia la nostra sede di Palermo. In essa si trovavano solo una ventina di giovani inermi, i quali sono stati brutalmente aggrediti, feriti ed arrestati.

L'atte ignobile e contrario agli stessi interessi alleati ha profondamente indignato questa cittadinanza e sono stati necessari molti sforzi perchè essa conservasse quella calma che il Comitato Nazionale, nonostante le molte e quotidiane provocazioni, non ha mai tralasciato di raccomandare.

Consci della gravità della situazione e per non procurare fastidi di sorta agli Alleati, ci siamo astenuti da ogni azione che potesse tur-

Nel dubbio che il governo italiano non abbia fatto trasmettere il telegramma da me inviato lo stamane, mi prego di rimettervene una copia.

Stamane sono avvenuti a Palermo fatti di non poca gravità che sono stati un vero oltraggio alla libertà ed alla civiltà.

Allo scopo di sminuire l'importanza eccezionale del II congresso del nostro movimento e per influire sulle decisioni della Conferenza di San Francisco, facendole apparire come fortemente contrastata l'agitazione per l'indipendenza della Sicilia che abbraccia, invece, l'enorme maggioranza del popolo siciliano, il governo italiano ha organizzato una banda di un migliaio di criminali e di studentelli per una dimostrazione contro il nostro movimento e ha fatto distruggere da carabinieri e guardie di polizia la nostra sede di Palermo. In essa si trovavano solo una ventina di giovani inermi, i quali sono stati brutalmente aggrediti, feriti ed arrestati.

L'atto ignobile e contrario agli stessi interessi alleati ha profondamente indignato questa cittadinanza e sono stati necessari molti sforzi perchè esse conservasse quella calma che il Comitato Nazionale, nonostante le molte e quotidiane provocazioni, non ha mai tralasciato di raccomandare.

Consci della gravità della situazione e per non procurare fastidi di sorta agli Alleati, ci siamo astenuti da ogni azione che potesse turbare l'ordine pubblico, ma è chiaro che l'insipienza del governo italiano ha ormai colmata la misura e che potranno, specie dopo i fatti odierni che hanno molto irritato ed eccitato gli animi, verificarsi non lievi reazioni delle quali tutta la responsabilità spetterà al governo.

La situazione è molto grave e richiede l'immediato intervento della On. Commissione da Lei presieduta.

Io, pertanto, mi permetto di rinnovare la domanda che la Sicilia sia

nuovamente occupata dagli Alleati, unico modo per evitare danni
e pericoli che potrebbero essere irreparabili.

Voglia gradire i sensi della mia particolare considerazione.

IL PRESIDENTE

(Andrea Finocchiaro-Aprile)



Ammiraglio Stone

Capo Commissione leata

--B-Q-M-A--

Governo italiano ha compiuto oggi inaudito atto violenza fascista
organizzando bande criminali contro movimento indipendenza Sici-
lia ef facendo distruggere da forza pubblica nostra sede stop Go-
verno ha creduto così potere influenzare nostro danno decisioni
Nazioni Unite che conoscono volontà popolo siciliano decisamente
contrario mantenimento infausta unità italiana stop Protesto/^{indignato} nome
settecentomila indipendentisti contro atto inqualificabile et rim-
novo domanda rioccupazione Isola da parte alleati ondf evitare gra-
vi pericolose reazioni

Finochiaro-Aprile

515
0 0 63
Extract from Colonel Spicer's Report on Visit to Sicily
dated 2 February 1945-----Original in C.A. Section File
AG/1/1/8/10.

FEB 13 1945

In conclusion I would state that having heard and having read of all the disturbances that have taken place in Sicily, it struck me as a much more tranquil place than I could possibly have imagined, although of course, I did not visit Ragusa and the centres in which I know that the more serious of the disturbances took place. The Separatist Movement was discussed in social contacts which I had and apart from a few leading hotheads it is my considered opinion that there is a tendency to overstate the position in Sicily, but I will again guard myself by saying that my experience on this occasion on the island was only ephemeral. I further gathered, again from social contacts, that the Separatist Movement, apart from any public or pretended basis, undoubtedly has a further strong motive, in that it is a barrier to the Communist Movement.

5651

rethink 64965
PA

1954

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

~~SECRET~~

122/112 62

A/C 1010

3 November 1944
4 NOV Recd

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

The following extract of a confidential report emanating from the office of PWS in Sicily is forwarded for your information.

This office is in possession of a confidential report from JICA about a meeting of Separatist leaders last week in the home of Antonio Varvaro, one of the leaders, in Palermo, at which Finocchiaro-Aprile is reported to have given the "go ahead" to the Separatist elements to mobilize and, possibly, act toward seizing government buildings and, perhaps, even setting up an independent Sicilian government. It remains to be seen whether the Separatists will carry through these plans. The leaders reportedly took this decision following a conference with the Mayor of Palermo who is said to have told them that he was authorized to arrest them at any time for treasonable activities against the Italian state. They are reported to have decided that, since their arrest might be imminent, it would be well to take the bull by the horns and try to establish de facto independence before the unitarian forces could bring in additional armed forces. The Separatists are also said to be banking on the fact that there are virtually no Allied troops left in Sicily, and that the Allies are reported to be in no position to send troops to Sicily at present to keep order.

"It must be kept in mind that the Separatists sometimes deliberately spread false reports of their planned actions, in order to stir up public agitation and confuse the law enforcement agencies. Whether the foregoing is merely another example of those tactics or whether they really mean business this time remains to be seen."

(Foregoing report dated 30 October 1944)

Very truly yours,
/s/ Ellery R. Stone

ELLERY R. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

cc: C of S, ACC
'A' Files
G-5, AFHQ

~~SECRET~~



515/c63 61
The War Office. (D.A.2),
Hotel Victoria,
Northumberland Ave. E.,
London, W.C.2.

G.A. 2/36/1/2/3

20th August, 1944.

29 60
Dear Brigadier,

The attached letter from the President of the Sicilian Independence Movement has been passed to us by the Foreign Office.

I am forwarding the letter, with translation, to you in case you may think it worth investigating.

Yours Sincerely

L. S. Lush

WA.

U 24/10

Brigadier H. S. Lush, C.B.E., M.C.,
Executive Commissioner,
Regional Control & Military Government Section,
Main H.Q.,
Allied Control Commission for Italy,
A.P.O. 394.

56.43
24/10
4

Sicilian Independence
Movement.
National Committee.

COPY
015

Palermo
10th July, 1944.

To
The Prime Minister of Great Britain
WINSTON CHURCHILL,
London.

It is my duty to denounce the action of the Italian Government in connection with the Sicilian Independence Movement. Whereas all the numerous parties existing here, even the most insignificant, have been granted freedom of the press and permission to hold meetings, which they abuse by behaving in the most unworthy manner, we separatists have been granted nothing, and are exposed to all manner of persecutions, and even to attempts on our lives.

The Allied Control Commission is doing nothing to prevent such injustices from occurring.

In the name of the National Committee, therefore, I strongly protest against the behaviour of the Italian Government, which is now re-establishing the fascist regime in Sicily, and decline all responsibility for the serious state of affairs which may arise as a result of reaction. At the same time, I ask for your authoritative intervention, in order to bring about the cessation of so deplorable a state of affairs, contrary to all civilized practice. I ask that our right to liberty may be safeguarded.

(Signed) Andrea Finocchiaro-Aprile

(President)

(DECLASSIFIED BY M.I.1.P. WAR OFFICE)
12103

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

Atto di Indipendenza della Sicilia

COMITATO NAZIONALE

Al Primo Ministro d'Inghilterra
WINSTON CHURCHILL
Londra

10 luglio 1944

2° mio dovere di denunziarvi l'azione del governo italiano nei riguardi del Movimento per l'Indipendenza della Sicilia. Mentre a tutti i molti partiti qui esistenti, anche ai più insignificanti, si è concessa la libertà di stampa e di riunione e mentre essi ne abusano per aggredirci nei modi più indegni e invivili, a noi separatisti nulla è concesso e noi siamo esposti ad ogni genere di sopraffazioni e di soprusi e perfino di attentati alla nostra vita.

Nulla fa la Commissione Alleata di Controllo per impedire che si verifichino simili enormità.

Mentre, a nome del Comitato Nazionale, io protesto energicamente contro il contegno del governo italiano, che sta riabilitando in Sicilia il regime fascista, e declino ogni responsabilità per i gravi fatti che potrebbero accadere come legittima ritorsione, invoco il vostro autorevole intervento perché cessi un deplorevole stato di cose contrario alla libertà e siano tutelati i nostri diritti alla libertà.

Con perfetta considerazione.

IL PRESIDENTE
(Andrea Finocchiaro)

Finocchiaro

riguardi del Movimento per l'Indipendenza della Sicilia. Mentre a tutti i molti partiti qui esistenti, anche ai più insignificanti, si è concessa la libertà di stampa e di riunione e mentre essi ne abusano per aggredirci nei modi più indegni e invivibili, a noi separatisti nulla è concesso e noi siamo esposti ad ogni genere di sopraffazioni e di soprusi e perfino di attentati alla nostra vita.

Nulla fa la Commissione Alleata di Controllo per impedire che si verifichino simili enormità.

Mentre, a nome del Comitato Nazionale, io protesto energicamente contro il contegno del governo italiano, che sta riabilitando in Sicilia il regime fascista, e declino ogni responsabilità per i gravi fatti che potrebbero accadere come legittima ritorsione, invoco il vostro autorevole intervento perché cessi un deplorabile stato di cose contrario alla civiltà e siano tutelati i nostri diritti alla libertà.

Con perfetta considerazione.

IL PRESIDENTE

(Andrea Vinocchiero-4p)



5018

515 14
0 CWS 58
OLING CONTROL COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 894

FILE:RC/303.7

14 Oct 1944

18 OCT Recd

SUBJECT: Refugees - separatist leaflet

TO : H.Q. A.C.C. ROME
Chief of Staff

COPY TO: Displaced Persons Sub-commission

1. Enclosed copy of a separatist leaflet which was being distributed in PALERMO on 13 OCT is forwarded as it may be of interest to you.

2. As regards the opening paragraph of the leaflet, the conditions under which refugees are living here are considered to be far from satisfactory.

McCan Bryader

L. CAN
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

1 Encl-

separatist leaflet on treatment of Sicilian refugees in Italy.

PA 26

5647
HEADQUARTERS
18 OCT 44
A C C

TRANSLATION

Whilst in Sicily Italian refugees were received with every kindness and were generously provided with food supplies and clothes, here is how Sicilian Refugees are treated in Italy:-

On the 4th of October 44, the paper "la voce di Napoli" published:

"A small ship landed here in the last days loaded with Sicilian refugees gathered in the Civitavecchia area, to be transferred to their homes.

"Leaving they had been given food supplies only for one day, and naturally arriving in Naples they were hungry.

"They turned to the Municipal Authorities for food, but they were rebuffed. A few rations were then gathered among the longshoremen in order to satisfy those poor creatures, who already had suffered so severely from the war.

"Is this the right attitude suggested by a feeling of solidarity and humanity?"

How can one reproach the Sicilians to want to separate from Italy?

COPIA

54

Mentre in Sicilia i profughi italiani sono stati accolti
con ogni attenzione e largamente forniti di viveri e di in-
dumenti, ecco come vengono trattati in Italia i profughi
siciliani!

La Voce di Napoli del 4 ottobre 1944 pubblica:

"Mai come adesso è arrivata una nave di piccolo
dimensione carica di profughi siciliani raccolti nella
zona di Civitavecchia per essere trasportati alle loro
case".

"Avevano visto viveri per un solo giorno e, natural-
mente giunti a Napoli, non avevano da mangiare".

"Si rivolsero alle autorità municipali per avere dei
viveri, ma la loro risposta fu: 'Mediante una colletta
fra i commercianti si potettero racimolare delle razioni
per sfamare questi poveri Siciliani che tanti danni hanno
ricevuto dalla guerra'".

"E' questa la maniera di fare che suggeriscono la
solidarietà e l'umanità".

E poi si ha il coraggio di rimproverare ai siciliani
di volersi separare dall'Italia!

1963

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

515 2
CIS

MS/cfe

3/02 003.1-2

16 October 1944

17 OCT Recd

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Referring to my recent letter on the subject of repudiation of the claim that the Sicilian separation movement has Allied support, I have just been advised that, at the suggestion of the Department of State at Washington, the Office of War Information broadcast during the early part of October in one of its transmissions to Italy, the following statement in Italian on the position of the United States regarding Sicilian separation:

"The Voice of America is authorized to declare that the Government of the United States neither recognizes nor supports any group that seeks to obtain the separation of a part of Italy from the rest of the nation. Our Government gives its support to the present Italian Government of national unity. The Voice of America is therefore authorized to declare that the Government of the United States desires that its position be made known to all Italians and particularly to the Sicilians."

Since the broadcast was of course public, there is no objection to your making use of it.

Very truly yours,

HARRY W. STONE
Commodore, USN
Acting Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

cc: Political Section
C of S Section
'A' Files

Sh SI

5644

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Ref 515/53/009.

12th October, 1944

My dear Prime Minister,

I have received your letter of the 7th of October and I have considered the proclamation that you proposed publishing with a view to dispelling the stories that England and America are backing the Sicilian Separatist Movement.

I have made one or two alterations in the draft and inclose a copy of the proclamation as amended.

Signed
MILTON W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of Council of Ministers
Italian Government.

TRANSLATION

53

The leaders of the Sicilian separatist movement are everywhere spreading the rumour that England and America are backing up their cause and encouraging their attempt to separate Sicily from Italy.

This rumour is entirely false.

The President of the Council, Gn. Bonomi who has the closest official relations with the representatives of the United Nations, is in a position categorically to deny these allegations which were obviously spread to deceive the good faith of many Sicilians, who, though wishing for a regional autonomy, which is not incompatible with the unity of the Country, feel nevertheless in their conscience that it would be criminal to destroy the work of our national Revival.

42

Chief of Staff Section

Sicilian Separatists-Pinochiaro Aprile

Civil Affairs Section.

12 Oct 4

1. Reference your 14/1.1/CA of 9 October 44.
2. I quite agree that you should continue to handle the Pinochiaro affairs. Our 515/32/OOS of 6 Oct should have passed the report to you for your action. Please therefore take action as suggested in your para. 3.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

5641

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

14/1.1/CA

9 Oct 44

SUBJECT : Sicilian Separatists-Finocchiero Aprile.

10 OCT Recd

TO : COS. ✓

Reference your 515/32 COS, dated 6 Oct 44.

- 1 As the activities of Finocchiero for some months past have been handled by the CA Section or its SUB-Comans it is considered that this Section should continue to do so.
- 2 I feel very strongly that the prosecution of Aprile is a matter domestic to the Italian Government with which we should not interfere. Our intervention some months ago is possibly the cause of Finocchiero's attitude.
- 3 ^{I suggest} SIC Sicilia should be asked whether the report is accurate and what action if any the Italian Government is proposing to take. ^{present}

Ext : 525
SHW/go

G. R. Upjohn
G.R. UPJOHN Brig.
V.P. CA Section

5640

8925

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Ref 515/59/028.

11th October, 1944

My dear Prime Minister,

I have received your letter dated the 9th of October and have instructed my Political Section to take up the matter of the alleged broadcast by Mayor La Guardia with Ambassador Kirk.

I will write you again when the matter has been investigated.

EWS
ELBERT W. STONE
Commodore, USN
Acting Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of Council of Ministers
Italian Government.

5639

47
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
OCC
Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref 513/12/008.

10th October, 1944.

SUBJECT: Sicilian Separatist Movement.

TO : Political Section
Mr. Rohott.

1. I enclose a copy of a translation of a letter from Prime Minister to the A/CC.

2. In regard to the alleged broadcast message by Mayor La Guardia it is not clear where the quotation ends nor is it stated from what American newspaper the quotation is made.

3. I am telling the Chief of Staff who will tell the A/CC that I am asking you to take the matter up with Ambassador Kirk with a view to putting a stop to such comments in the American press. It may be of course that the whole thing is an invention or at any rate a gross distortion of something La Guardia said.

[Signature]
Major,
Office of the Chief of Staff.

TRANSLATION

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL
OF MINISTERS

Rome, 9 October 1944

9 OCT Recd

Dear Admiral,

Following my letter of the 7th, I send you two original signals of the Comando Generale of the CC. RR. Corps, from which it can be seen that the Sicilian separatist movement pretends to be backed up by the United States of America, to reinforce its propaganda,

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

/s/ I. Bonomi

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Control Commission
R o m e

Trans. E.C.

37

515
45
COMANDO GENERALE DELL'ARMA
DEI CARABINIERI REALI

Ufficio Servizio - Situazione - Collegamenti

n. 76/49 R.F.

Rome, 5 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Separatist propaganda

TO	: H. M. The Minister of the Interior	ROME
TO	: H. M. The Undersecretary of State to the Interior and for communication:	ROME
TO	: H. M. The President of the Council of Ministers	ROME
TO	: The Presidency of the Council of Ministers	ROME

In the first hours of September 2nd, in Agrigento, there appeared on the walls of via Atene about ten propagandist manifests, of separatist tendencies, posted up by unknown people.

to enclose a copy of the manifest.

IL COLONNELLO CAPO DI S.M.
Romano dalla Chiesa

5836

Broadcast message of Fiorello La Guardia, Mayor of New York, fully acknowledging Sicily's right to a Plebiscite, has written thus in the comments of the American newspapers:

"While battle is raging on the various fronts and the Allies are studying the means of giving a new structure to the world, the people of the most beautiful island in the Mediterranean ask the Allies to acknowledge one of its rights: INDEPENDENCE.

The movement for Sicilian Independence is historical and has a national character, and for these reasons, it is deeply felt by all Sicilians who ask the Allies to acknowledge a right admitted by the Atlantic Charter.

No people will be denied the right of choosing its own destiny.

Long live America

Long live Sicilian Independence

P.O.C.
IL CAPO UFFICIO
MIS. Ruggero Ruggeri

COMANDO GENERALE DELL'ARMA
DEI CARABINIERI REALI
UFFICIO SITUAZIONE

N. 76/74 R.P.

Rome, 3 October 1944

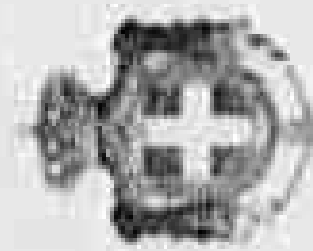
SUBJECT: Wall inscriptions in the streets of Syracuse, extolling separatism, liberty and the Allies.

TO :	M.Ex. The Minister of the Interior	ROME
TO :	M.Ex. The Undersecretary of State to the Interior and for communication	ROME
TO :	M.Ex. The President of the Council of Ministers	ROME
TO :	The Presidency of the Council of Ministers	ROME

On September 6 the following wall inscriptions, written in chalk, appeared in Syracuse:

"Long live Separatism" - "We want ^{the} Freedom of Speech, of Press and of Meeting that the Allies have brought us" - "Long live the Allies" - "Long live Independence" - "Down with the Fascist Mayor" - "We want Independence" - "Long live America". -

Il Generale di Corpo d'Armata
Comandante Generale
Taddeo Orlando



*Al Presidente
del Consiglio dei Ministri*

Roma, 11 9 ottobre 1944.

Caro Ammiraglio,

a seguito della mia lettera del 7 c.m. le rimetto in originale due segnalazioni del Comando Generale dell'Arma dei CC.RR. dalle quali si rileva che il movimento separatista Siciliano fa leva, per la sua propaganda, sul preteso aiuto degli Stati Uniti d'America.

Con molti cordiali saluti

Al Signor Ammiraglio

ELLERY W. STONE

FF. Capo della Commissione

Alleata di Controllo

ROMA

5633

Caro Ammiraglio,

a seguito della mia lettera del 7 c.m. le rimetto
in originale due segnalazioni del Comando Generale dell'
l'Arma dei CC.RR. dalle quali si rileva che il movimen-
to separatista Siciliano fa leva, per la sua propaganda,
sul preteso aiuto degli Stati Uniti d'America.

Con molti cordiali saluti



Al Signor Ammiraglio

ELLERY W. STONE

FF. Capo della Commissione

Alleata di Controllo

ROMA

5033

785017



RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 76/49 di prot. R.F.

Roma, 5 ottobre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Propaganda separatista.

A S.E. IL MINISTRO DELL'INTERNO - ROMA

A S.E. IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO ALL'INTERNO - ROMA

e, per conoscenza:

A S.E. IL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI - ROMA

ALLA PRESIDENZA DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI - ROMA

Nelle prime ore del 2 settembre u.s., in Agrigento, apparvero sui muri di via Atnea circa dieci manifestini propagandistici a sfondo separatista affissi da ignoti. Si unisce copia del manifestino.

5632

d'ordine
IL COLONNELLO CAPO DI S.M.
- Romano dalla Chiesa -

C O P I A

40

Radio messaggio di FIORALLO La Guardia Sindaco di New York in cui riconosce in pieno il diritto della Sicilia a Plebiscito, nei commenti dei giornali americani ha così scritto:

"Mentre la battaglia divampa sui fronti e gli Alleati studiano di dare al mondo una nuova struttura il popolo della più bella Isola del Mediterraneo chiede agli Alleati il riconoscimento di un suo diritto: L'INDIPENDENZA.

Il movimento per l'Indipendenza siciliana è una cosa storica di carattere Nazionale e per tali ragioni è profondamente sentito da tutti i siciliani i quali chiedono agli Alleati il riconoscimento di un diritto sancito dalla carta atlantica.

Noi non negheremo a nessun popolo il diritto di decidere il proprio destino.

Viva l'America

Viva l'Indipendenza siciliana



P. O. C.

II CAPO UFFICIO

-Magg. Ruggero Ruggieri-

Ruggieri

5631

785017



RISERVA PERSONALE

COMANDO GENERALE DELL'ARMA DEI CARABINIERI REALI

UFFICIO SITUAZIONE

N 76/47 di prot. R.P.

Roma, 3 ottobre

1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Scritte murarie in Siracusa inneggianti il separatismo, la libertà e gli Alleati.

A S.E. IL MINISTRO DELL'INTERNO

- ROMA

A S.E. IL SOTTOSGREGARIO DI STATO ALL'INTERNO

- ROMA

e, per conoscenza:

A S.E. IL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI

- ROMA

ALLA PRESIDENZA DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI

- ROMA

Il 6 settembre u/s., apparvero in Siracusa le seguenti scritte murali con calce:

"W IL SEPARATISMO" - "VOGLIAMO LA LIBERTA' DI PAROLA, DI STAMPA E DI RIUNIONE CHE GLI ALLEATI CI HANNO PORTATO" - "W GLI ALLEATI" - "W L'INDIPENDENZA" - "ABBASSO IL SINDACO FASCISTA" - "VOGLIAMO L'INDIPENDENZA" - "W L'AMERICA".-

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
- Taddeo Orlando -

5630

Taddeo Orlando

TRANSLATION

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL
OF MINISTERS

Rome, 7 October 1944

9 OCT Recd

Dear Admiral,

Before it is published, I should like you to see the following
proclamation which I made about the Sicilian question, according to
our agreements.

I shall wait for your answer and, meanwhile, I remain,

Yours very truly,

/s/ I. Bonomi

Admiral Ellery A. Stone
Chief Commissioner of the
Allied Control Commission
R C M C

Trans. E.C.

50-8

TRANSLATION

37

The leaders of the Sicilian separatist movement are everywhere spreading the rumour that England and America are backing up their cause and encouraging their attempt to separate Sicily from Italy.

This rumour is entirely false.

relations with
The President of the Council, *has the direct official* *intentionally* *use allusions* *ambiguous* *deliberately* *to* *deceive* *the good faith of* *many Sicilians, who, though wishing for a regional autonomy, which is not incompatible with the unity of the country, feel nevertheless in their conscience that it would be criminal to destroy the work of our national revival.*

I feel that the last part should be made stronger as concerns Benoni's relations with the Allies, to indicate absolutely his intimate political relationship with them and to refute most positively the idea that the Allies support the separatist movement.

WPS

11.2.44

5628



*Al Presidente
del Consiglio dei Ministri*

Roma 7 ottobre 1944

Prot. N. _____

Caro Ammiraglio,

Le trasmetto in visione, prima di consegnarla alla stampa, l'unita dichiarazione, che ho predisposta sulla questione Siciliana, in base ai nostri accordi verbali.

La attesa di un cortese cenno di riscontro, La saluto cordialmente.

W. Curi

Al Sig. Ammiraglio
Ellery W Stone

5927

Caro Ammiraglio,

Le trasmetto in visione, prima di consegnarla alla stampa, l'unita dichiarazione, che ho predisposta sulla questione Siciliana, in base ai nostri accordi di vertice.

In attesa di un cortese cenno di riscontro, la saluto cordialmente.

W. Churchill

Al Sig. Ammiraglio

Ellery W Stone

C.F. Capo dell'A.C.C.

R O M A

5827

35
I capi del movimento separatista siciliano vanno diffondendo la voce che l'Inghilterra e l'America sostengono la loro causa e incoraggiano il loro tentativo di separare la Sicilia dall'Italia.

Tale voce è del tutto falsa e menzognera.

Il Presidente del Consiglio Gn. Bonomi, che ha per il suo ufficio frequenti contatti con i rappresentanti delle Nazioni Unite, può smentire nel modo più preciso queste notizie diffuse ad arte e intese a sorprendere la buona fede di molti siciliani i quali, pur desiderando una autonomia regionale non incompatibile con l'unità della Patria, sentono nella loro coscienza che sarebbe delittuoso distruggere l'opera del nostro Risorgimento nazionale.

785017

515/100
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref: 515/32/008.

6 October 44.

SUBJECT: Marquess Giovanni Finocchiaro Aprile.

TO : Civil Affairs Section.
Political Section.
Public Relations.

1. Reference is made to the attached report published in "Unità" 3 Oct 44.
2. Aprile has been a trouble maker for some time and it is believed that an effort should be made to verify whether he made the statement that has been credited to him.
3. Would you please comment on lines of action to be taken and put forward your recommendations.

32 copies
Capt Gordon

Chief Staff Officer
Chief Staff Officer,
to the Chief of Staff.

I thought the statement very peculiar at his time. As it was apparently made in court, but it is better for legal S/C to take up with the competent Italian authorities to check whether the report is correct. *S. Gordon*

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

785017

"UNITA" 3 Oct 44Straw's Declaration of PIEROCHIARO ARTESE

Monza, 30 - On September 19th, a trial court at Monza, a separatist who had written and distributed a clandestine pamphlet against the Italian government, was absolved for he had not committed this act.

Without comments we publish this piece of news, as well as some words of the advocate PIEROCHIARO ARTESE who acted as the lawyer for the defence in the trial.

"We shall print this pamphlet again without asking anybody's permission, for in Italy we do not acknowledge the powers of any constituted Italian authority." And in spite of the hints of the magistrate, he went on "I want it publicly known that when Bonomi wanted to have me arrested the Allied Authorities laughed. And if I am here today, it is because the Allies want me to".

5024

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref: 515/32/COS.

6 October 44.

SUBJECT: Marques Giovanni Pinocchio Aprile.

TO : Civil Affairs Section.
Political Section.
Public Relations.

1. Reference is made to the attached report published in "Unita" 5 Oct 44.
2. Aprile has been a trouble maker for some time and it is believed that an effort should be made to verify whether he made the statement that has been credited to him.
3. Would you please comment on lines of action to be taken and put forward your recommendations.

515/32/3
Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

PIA

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CMF
Office of the Chief of Staff

5th October, 1944

TO: Major Fielden,
Public Relations Branch.

Capt Oden

1. Reference attached correspondence if this statement is true it seems that there should be material for asking the Italian Government to arrest APRILE at once.

2. Brigadier Upjohn knows all the details about previous attempts to get APRILE locked up and I expect that Political Section would also have some comments on this "curious declaration".

3. Would you please take this up with Civil Affairs Section and Political Section and let me know what you recommend.

And PR Branch.

W. J. Shipp

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

*ent
6/10*



Ministero della Cooperazione

DIREZIONE GENERALE DEL SEGRETARIATO
DEL COMANDO NAZIONALE DELLE CORONAZIONI
DEGLI AFFARI GENERALI E DEL PERSONALE

Col. Shipp for C.O.S.

Would it be worth checking
whether Mr. ARDRE did in fact make
the statement he is alleged to have
made?

If he did, it would seem to
be the kind of thing we are doing our
utmost to suppress, & Mr. A should
have his ears pinned back.

5021
J A Quayle

5-10-44

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRR/R10

4 October 1944

Trans of copy filed by correspondents.

Copy filed by correspondents stresses the appalling conditions of mud and rain which are holding up operations on the 8th Army Adriatic sector. One or two see in this a general slowing down of the Italian campaign and the possibility of the enemy benefiting from the bad conditions, even when the fighting gets out on to the open country of the Po Valley, thus organizing the fight on into the winter.

Some preliminary interest is being shown in the forthcoming Accoloni trial, and the alleged attempt to kidnap the body of Caruso has been widely reported.

PACKARD (UP)
SPIN (AP)
HAMMOND (Hampshire Press)
MATTHEWS (N.Y. Times)
MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

Report the attempted removal of the remains of Caruso from the Verano cemetery, together with the fact that the police are said to have found clues in finger prints on the shovels used in the attempt.

CHINIGO (INS) has the following explanation of the Caruso story.

"Extremists" who engineered the lynching of Rome's jail warden Carvatta as a "warning" on Caruso's trial opening day are demanding Accoloni's "head". Investigation by Rome's Police Prefecture allegedly revealed them as "planners" of an attempt to steal Caruso's body from the grave as part of a plot to hang it in one of the city's squares with placards reading "We want more Caruso's". Timely police intervention thwarted this. It was planned to coincide with the opening of Accoloni's trial. But there is no telling what these well organized elements will do to exact their kind of justice....."

Some preliminary interest is being shown in the forthcoming
Azzolini trial, and the alleged attempt to identify the body of
Caruso has been widely reported.

PACIFIC (HM)

SRIL (AF)

HAMMOND (Xenology Press)

MATTHEW (N.Y. Times)

MOORE ("Daily Telegraph")

Report the attempted removal of the remains of Caruso from
the Verano cemetery, together with the fact that the police are
said to have found clues in finger prints on the shroud used in
the attempt.

CHURCH (INS): Has the following explanation of the Caruso story.

"Extremists" who engineered the lynching of Rose's jail
warden Carverette as a "warning" on Caruso's trial opening day are
demanding Azzolini's "head". Investigation by Rome's police
Prefecture allegedly reveal them as "planners" of an attempt to
steal Caruso's body from its grave as part of a plot to hang it in
one of the city's squares with placards reading "We want more
Caruso's". Timely police intervention thwarted this. It was
planned to coincide with the opening of Azzolini's trial. But
there is no telling what these well organized elements will do to
exact their kind of justice....."

T. PACKARD (U.S.)

Rome woke this morning to find the walls placarded with
thousands of type-written leaflets put up by an anonymous secret
society signing itself "P.S.A.I." threatening a widespread
campaign of hair cutting of Italian girls who indulge in immoral
activities with American soldiers. The society, which is composed
of Roman young men particularly promises punishment to young women
who are caught in compromising position in public places such as
doorways, parked cars etc.

WINSTON BURGESS (CBS)

"..... Back here in Rome with the winter coming on to
cold weather the Allied authorities are facing other problems....."

...at Hyde Park declaration, and our officials are intensely pleased by this statement. They do not know what it means. The pledge of greater responsibility for the Italian Government might mean a greater degree of self government and it might merely mean that the Italian ought to do more to help themselves. The pledge of Italian representation in Washington and London might indicate the resumption of full diplomatic relations between Italy and the Allies, ... or it might just mean that Italy will be allowed to send provisional representatives to each capital. ... Some technical experts are promised to help Italian reconstruction; officials have said that we have a great many economic and industrial experts here already. ... What Italy needs is not more experts but 2,000 trucks to help distribute food. The questions which Allied officials as well as Italians are asking here are these: How much aid will be liberated to bring to what is needed to meet Italy's minimum food requirements? What transportation will be made available to the country? What change will be made in the inter-regional sales which so far have badly hampered the free distribution of supplies from one part of the country to another? Allied officials here on the spot feel that the Hyde Park declaration will be a beginning if it is not followed by concrete acts.

207 (Blue Network) : In recent broadcasts this correspondent has dealt with the "sequencer" being aired by American troops and officers regarding the relation Italy owes; the re-opening of a local night club at Anzio (which is mainly patronized by members of the Armed Regulation services who are still digging up bodies at the rate of about 40 per week in the old bridgehead area, the wretched conditions on the 8th Army Anzio front; and the activities of P.M.B. Speaking of the latter he says that their efforts providing food to the inhabitants of Naples when the Allies took the city caused much difficulty when the provisions were not implemented. Mentions that the Italian press can only get its news through the United Nations News Service run by P.M.B. that P.M.B. controls all movies for civilians and decided what Italian midweekers are to be allowed to see and what not to see. Even films provided by the U.S. Office of War Information, or the British Ministry of Information, says the correspondent, are sometimes turned down. The film "Banking in Italy" for instance, was not shown because it pictured Americans eating from well-laden tables at a time when some Italians were not getting enough food.

29

Some of the staff employed by P. M. have even been flown to Italy at a cost of \$500 per person. There is one young lady, for instance, who contributed a weekly review of the cinema. . . . Just know this contributed to the winning of the war I cannot quite say, particularly when the reviewer is concerned with pictures issued from Hollywood some mention ago which have previously been reviewed in all the newspapers from New York to San Francisco. . . . This young lady is connected with the Hollywood film industry. . . . But will someone please tell us over here how that has anything to do with the winning of the war, and why a high priced government employee must be sent over here to review the movies. . . .

F. PACCHARD (UP) : The head of the Italian Government movement, Margherita Giovanni Farnese, in the course of a recent trial in which he acted as the lawyer for the defense, publicly declared that he was being supported by the Allies. (The correspondent quoted the Unità for this statement.) He was attending a newspaper being tried for distributing pamphlets denouncing the Italian Government. The trial took place in the special court at Messina. Without adding any comment, the Unità publishes the following statement which it alleges is the basis. "We will republish this pamphlet without using anyone's permission because in Sicily we don't recognize governmental powers of any Italian authority. I want to publicize the fact that when Benito wanted to arrest me, the Allied authorities laughed. The reason I am here today is because the Allies wish it."

PACCHARD (UP) : The Pope has greeted audiences in two Yugoslav ex-principates of war in Italy, i.e., General Alexander Petrovic and Mark Mihalovich (not the Catholic leader). Audiences have been given to many officers of Tito's army recently. Is the Pope so thoroughly familiarizing himself with the Yugoslav situation with a view to determining which attitude for post-war relations with that country.

Cardinal Teveschiri has accepted the post of Vatican Secretary of State in succession to the late Cardinal Magliana. He had first declined the post, but will now have it up to him from October 10th.

CHIRICO (INS) : The anti-accused press group found balloons in 5019

S. PACHARD (UP) : The basis of the Sicilian Separatist Movement, Marquesse Giovenetti Pignatelli is April 19, in the course of a secret trial in which he acted as the lawyer for the defense, publicly declared that he was being supported by the allies. (The correspondent quoted the "Unità" for this statement.) He was defending a separatist being tried for distributing pamphlets denouncing the Italian Government. The trial took place in the first court at Messina. Without doing any comment, the "Unità" publishes the following statement which it alleged April 19, 1949. We will republish this pamphlet without taking anyone's permission because in Sicily we don't recognize Government, powers of any Italian authority. I want to publish the fact that when someone wanted to arrest me, the Allied authorities intervened. The reason I am here today is because the allies said it."

PACHARD (UP) : The Pope has granted indulgence to two Yugoslav ex-prisoners of war in Italy, i.e., General Alexander Markovic and Mark Nikolic (not the Chetnik leader). Indulgences have been given to many officers of Tito's army recently, as the Pope is thoroughly familiarizing himself with the Yugoslav situation with a view to determining Vatican attitude for post war relations with that country.

Cardinal Tedeschini has accepted the post of Vatican Secretary of State in succession to the late Cardinal Magliana. He had first declined the post, but will now take it up as from October 10th.

CHINISQ (INS) : The anti-fascist press group has a billon in 5819 surprisingly deflected by the pin pricking of the counsel for the defense. Bacaglio is said to be implicated in this reference.

Giorgio admits that no foreseen complications for the State's case should the death sentence be demanded.

Article from Unità & translation

attached below.

28

UNITA' 3 October 1944

Strange declarations of FINOCHIARO APRILE

MESSINA, 30 - On September 19th, in the Penal Court at Messina, a separatist who had written and distributed a clandestine pamphlet against the Italian Government, was absolved for he had not committed this act.

Without comments, we publish this piece of news, as well as some words of the advocate FINOCHIARO APRILE, who acted as the lawyer for the defence in the trial.

"We shall print this pamphlet again, without asking anybody's permission, for in Sicily we do not acknowledge the powers of any constituted Italian authority". And in spite of the hints of the magistrate, he went on "I want to make it publicly known that when Bonomi wanted to have me arrested, the Allied Authorities laughed. And if I am here today, it is because the allies want me too."

30th September, 1944

TO ; Lt. Col. Shipp.

Separation Movement in SICILY

EXTRACT

4. You will wish to read the report on folios 27-28. At the same time I should like to draw your attention to folio 25 which is a document received at this HQ from the Committee (presumably of liberation) in the Province of Messina. This was forwarded to Political Section whose answer was that no action was necessary.

J.S. REAKES,
Major.

5017

PA

1988

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Folios 27-29 transferred
to chief of 1476 file
4206/105

11A

785017

769
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

To 76
Phone 4788

Ref/769/26/CA.

27 Sept. 1944.

28 SEP Recd

SUBJECT: Separatism Movement in Sicily.

TO : Political Section.

1. There is forwarded to you letter undated signed for the Committee for the Province of Messina.
2. This letter (a) draws attention to the fact that propaganda for separatist purposes has been stopped, and (b) asks permission to publish a weekly newspaper.
3. Please let us have your comments.

John H. May
MORGAN B. FIERKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

5646

U 1/10

Protestation

To the Allied Commission of Rome and Catania

Sirs of the Commission,

25 SEP Recd

As you are aware there is in Sicily a movement for freedom. Movement that daily increases and gets new adheres amongst the best class of the people that does not want to do politics and does not aim to have jobs of Command granted by the rulers of Italy.

In every Province committees have been established to do propaganda and prepare the most of the population for the Plebiscite that cannot be denied to us by the Allies.

But the Italian Government that deludes himself to represent the will of the majority is doing his best to cut down the propaganda and the manifestations of us separatists.

Trampling down every right of liberty given us by the Allies and confirmed by Col. Foletti's Proclamation, the Italian Authorities forbid us whatever activity of propaganda, forbidding us to stick manifests and to distribute loose small sheets of paper.

On the 1st of this month the Provincial Committee of Messina had decided to stick the following manifest :

Sicilians of all Political Classes

The Russian Armies are going to cross the German borders, the Anglo-Americans are chasing on two fronts the German armies and the war is close to its fatal epilogue.

The hour of freedom is arriving for all oppressed nations. Roosevelt and Churchill have solemnly confirmed this and Sicily, that has always been independent and is no more for a mistake, is waiting impatiently.

More than two hundred and fifty thousand adheres are waiting the day of the Plebiscite to manifest their independent will to become an independent republic.

Sicilians,
we must not delude ourselves of the proposal of autonomy that all

- 2 -

24

political parties have put in their programs, we must delude ourselves of the affirmation made by S.E. Orlando that to Sicily will be given economic and political autonomy; we must not delude ourselves of the words of S.E. Gallo declaring that Italy will not be more stepmother for Sicily, but we must only accept these declarations as an official recognition of the injuries and the exploitation that have been done to us, acknowledgment that must give us the strength to be independent.

Messina 10th August 1944.7

The Committee for the Province of Messina

(Signatures follow) [REDACTED]

We have asked, as we were obliged to do, the authorisation for this affixion to the Chief-Police of Messina. Being a political case the Chief Police applied to the Prefect, then applied to the King Commissary Hon. Aldisio.

This permit was refused to us.

Therefore you Gentlemen of The Allied Commission of Control, can it be possible that the fulfillment of a sacred right must depend from the will of a single man, when your proclamations and promises agree to this?

The noble people of the Allied Nations must consider that these systems of Chiefs of Provinces to impose their own will are methods extremely of fascist behaviour.

It is not necessary to ask to the High Commissary to know if the manifest is agreeable to him or not; it is only necessary to examine the manifest and look if it contains phrases against the law and to the good customs. Being nothing of all this the manifest cannot be forbidden.

Forbidding it, crime against freedom is done and the responsible must be punished and changed with others who have more knowledge of democracy and understand what freedom is.

We separatists ask to the Allied Commission of Control to not permit any more these troubles, and forbid that the will of a few men

5814

- 3 -

to withstand the will of the most part of Sicilians, and in the meantime the Prefect of Messina and the High Commissary to be substituted by more able men.

We further beg to ask :

to be consented to us to publish our weakly newspaper as we have already asked time ago.

We kindly to the Allies, that looking over on the points fixed on the SS Potomac with the Atlantic Paper, declare that the Sicilian separatist have the right to manifest their own ideas in the same way that other political classes do, and that the Sicilian population will have the right to manifest through the Plebiscite, guaranteed by the same Allies, what will be their propoter future.

The The Committee for The Province of Messina

Giuseppe Maria Cingari

5613

PROTESTA

Alla Commissione Alleata di Roma o di Catania

Signori della Commissione,
come saprete esiste in Sicilia un forte movimento per l'Indipendenza. Movimento che di giorno in giorno acquista nuovi aderenti fra la parte sana della popolazione che non vuole fare politica e che non aspira a posti di comando elargiti dai governanti d'Italia.

In ogni Provincia sono stati costituiti dei Comitati per svolgere un'attiva propaganda e preparare la massa della popolazione per il Plebiscito che non potrà venirci negato dagli Alleati.

Ma il Governo d'Italia che s'illude di rappresentare la volontà della maggioranza fa di tutto per stroncare la propaganda e le manifestazioni di noi Separatisti.

Calpestando ogni diritto alla libertà elargitaci dagli Alleati e sanzionato col bando del Col. Poletti, le autorità italiane ci impongono di svolgere qualunque attività propagandistica, proibendoci di pubblicare il nostro giornale e vietandoci di affiggere manifesti o di distribuire foglietti volanti.

Il 10 c.m. il Comitato Provinciale di Messina aveva deciso di affiggere il seguente manifesto:

.....SICILIANI DI TUTTI I PARTITI,

Le armate Russe stanno per varcare la frontiera tedesca, gli Anglo-Americani incalzano su due fronti gli eserciti tedeschi e la guerra volge al suo fatale epilogo.

Sta per giungere l'ora della liberazione per tutte le nazioni oppresse. Roosevelt e Churchill l'hanno solennemente affermato e la Sicilia, che era stata sempre indipendente e che non lo è più per un errore, attende pur essa impaziente.

Oltre duecentocinquantomila iscritti attendono il giorno del

- 2 -

Plebiscito per manifestare la propria indefettibile volontà di costituirsi in repubblica indipendente.

Siciliani,
non lasciamoci illudere dalle proposte di autonomia che quasi tutti i partiti hanno posto nei loro programmi, non lasciamoci illudere dall'affermazione di S.E. Orlando che alla Sicilia spetta l'autonomia economica e politica, non lasciamoci luddere dalle parole di S.E. Gullone che ha dichiarato che l'Italia non sarà più matrigna per la Sicilia, ma accettiamo queste dichiarazioni solo come riconoscimento ufficiale dei soprusi e dello sfruttamento che ci sono stati fatti, riconoscimento che deve rinsaldare la nostra volontà di essere indipendenti.

Messina 10 agosto 1944.

Il Comitato per la Provincia di Messina

(Seguono le firme) " " " " " "

Abbiamo chiesto, come di obbligo, l'autorizzazione per questa affiliazione al Questore di Messina. Trattandosi di fatto politico il Questore si rivolse al Prefetto e questi all'Alto Commissario, On. Aldisio.

Il permesso fu negato.

Ebbene, signori della Commissione Alleata di Controllo, è inammissibile che l'attuazione di un nostro sacrosanto diritto debba dipendere dall'arbitrio di un uomo, quando i vostri bandi e le vostre promesse, lo consentono?

I nobili popoli delle nazioni alleate devono considerare che questi sistemi dei Capi di Regioni d'imporre la propria volontà sono metodi prettamente fascisti. Non si deve interpellare l'Alto Commissario per sapere se il manifesto gli è gradito oppure no; occorre solo esaminare se il manifesto contiene frasi contrarie alla legge e al buon costume. Non essendoci nulla di ciò il manifesto non può essere proibito.

Proibendolo si commette un delitto contro la libertà ed i responsabili devono essere puniti e sostituiti con altri che abbiano maggiore coscienza democratica e che capiscano che cosa significhi libertà.

5611

- 3 -

Noi separatisti chiediamo che la Commissione Alleata di Controllo non consenta più queste vessazioni e che impedisca che l'abito di pochi uomini contrasti la volontà della maggioranza dei Siciliani e che pertanto il Prefetto di Messina e l'Alto Commissario siano sostituiti con uomini più idonei.

CHIEDIAMO ancora :

che anche a noi sia consentita la pubblicazione del nostro giornale settimanale come dimostra domanda avanzata già da gran tempo;

chiediamo che gli Alleati, ribadendo i concetti fissati sul Potomac con la carta Atlantica, dichiarino che i Separatisti Siciliani hanno diritto a manifestare le proprie idee nello stesso modo di qualunque altro partito e che il popolo Siciliano avrà il diritto di manifestare a mezzo PLURISCITO, garantito dagli Alleati stessi, quale dovrà essere il proprio avvenire.

IL IL COMITATO PER LA PROVINCIA DI MESSINA

Ugo Milio Pagnani

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

19

Ref: 769/19/GA.

14 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Sicily and Separatism.

TO : Sir Noel Charles,
British High Commissioner,
Allied Advisory Council for Italy.

12/16

I forward for your information copy of document, and translation thereof, addressed by Pinochiaro Aprile to the Chancelleries of the United Nations, together with a letter from Colonel Hancock Regional Commissioner of Sicily which deals with the points contained in Pinochiaro's letter.

14
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,

5669

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
E.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

18

Ref/769/18/OA.

14 August 1944.

SUBJECT: Sicily and Separatism.

TO : Mr. Ambassador Kirk,
United States Representative,
Allied Advisory Council for Italy.

12/16

I forward for your information copy of document, and translation thereof, addressed by Pinocchiaro Aprile to the Chancelleries of the United Nations, together with a letter from Colonel Hancock Regional Commissioner of Sicily which deals with the points contained in Pinocchiaro's letter.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,

5608

Col Shipp

17

Folios 14-16

Col Hancock forwards a translation of a letter sent out in the name of the so called "National Committee for the Independence of Sicily". Col Hancock answers the charges in the letter. The Executive Commissioner might like to see.

12/8

J. K. H. H. H.

Ex. Comm.

You know the position about FINOCCHIARO. As a matter of fact I thought he was going to be locked up. I don't think this is important, but you might like to see in case Admin Section may open up.

12 8 44

W. J. Shipp 1867

I trust that the Census blocked extensive distribution of the TRSC.

Send copy of Hancock letter to
Bligh Comm. & the Ambassador. Keep
with the translation.

5607 ..

178 10/8

All 17 & 18

1. The report is dated 11-11-61 and is classified as CONFIDENTIAL.

2. The report is dated 11-11-61 and is classified as CONFIDENTIAL.

3. The report is dated 11-11-61 and is classified as CONFIDENTIAL.

4. The report is dated 11-11-61 and is classified as CONFIDENTIAL.

5. The report is dated 11-11-61 and is classified as CONFIDENTIAL.

6. The report is dated 11-11-61 and is classified as CONFIDENTIAL.

7. The report is dated 11-11-61 and is classified as CONFIDENTIAL.

Dr. Hancock, Col

Dr. Hancock
Colonel
Regional Commissioner

1. The report is dated 11-11-61 and is classified as CONFIDENTIAL.

15
CONFIDENTIAL
SECRET

The following information is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency. It is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency.

It has been found that a large number of persons are being recruited for the purpose of carrying out the activities of the organization. It is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency.

The following information is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency. It is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency.

It has been found that a large number of persons are being recruited for the purpose of carrying out the activities of the organization. It is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency.

The following information is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency. It is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency.

It has been found that a large number of persons are being recruited for the purpose of carrying out the activities of the organization. It is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency.

The following information is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency. It is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency.

It has been found that a large number of persons are being recruited for the purpose of carrying out the activities of the organization. It is being furnished to you for your information and is not to be distributed outside your agency.

785017

14

attention should be called to the fact that the Italian people have in the past been a people of great freedom and independence. It is the duty of the Italian government to maintain this tradition and to ensure that the Italian people are free to express their views and opinions on all matters of public interest.

It is the duty of the Italian government to ensure that the Italian people are free to express their views and opinions on all matters of public interest. This includes the right to freedom of speech, the right to assembly, and the right to participate in the political process.

The Italian government is committed to the principles of democracy and human rights. It will continue to work to ensure that the Italian people are free to express their views and opinions on all matters of public interest. This includes the right to freedom of speech, the right to assembly, and the right to participate in the political process.

Our intention is to ensure that the Italian people are free to express their views and opinions on all matters of public interest. This includes the right to freedom of speech, the right to assembly, and the right to participate in the political process.

The Italian government is committed to the principles of democracy and human rights. It will continue to work to ensure that the Italian people are free to express their views and opinions on all matters of public interest. This includes the right to freedom of speech, the right to assembly, and the right to participate in the political process.

Please accept the assurances of our highest regards.

The General Secretary: Antonio Di Pietro
The President: Antonio Di Pietro

tion and community. The center should also be responsible for liaison with the various agencies of state and federal government and to provide a liaison with the various agencies of state and federal government and to provide a liaison with the various agencies of state and federal government.

Our organization has received a number of requests, and we are in the process of responding to them. We are also in the process of responding to the various agencies of state and federal government and to provide a liaison with the various agencies of state and federal government.

Our organization has received a number of requests, and we are in the process of responding to them. We are also in the process of responding to the various agencies of state and federal government and to provide a liaison with the various agencies of state and federal government.

Please accept the assurance of our deepest interest.

The General Secretary: Antonio Vazquez

The President: Antonio Vazquez

5904

APPENDIX "15"

MOVIMENTO PER L'INDIPENDENZA DELLA SICILIA
COMITATO NAZIONALE

- AL SIGNORE SEGRETARIO DI STATO PER GLI AFFARI ESTERI DEGLI STATI U. M.
- AL SIGNORE MINISTRO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI D'INGHILTERRA.
- AL SIGNORE COMMISSARIO PER GLI AFFARI ESTERI DI RUSSIA.
- AL SIGNORE GENERALE DE CAULLE.
- AL SIGNORE CIANG KAI SHEK.
- AL SIGNORE CARDINALE SEGRETARIO DI STATO DI SUA SANTITA'.
- AI SIGNORE MINISTRI DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI DEL BELGIO, DI CECOSLOVACCHIA, DI DANIMARCA, DI GRECIA, DI JUGOSLAVIA, DI NORVEGIA, DI OLANDA, DI POLONIA, DI SVEVIA.

Palermo, 29 Luglio 1944.

L'eccezionale situazione nella quale il governo italiano ha posto la grande maggioranza del popolo siciliano, anelante alla propria libertà ed indipendenza, impone a questo Comitato Nazionale l'obbligo di rivolgere un fervido appello a tutte le Cancellerie.

Noi viviamo qui sotto il regime della più abominevole oppressione.

Noi non solo ci vediamo negate le libertà, ma siamo esposti a violenze di ogni genere.

Mentre la libertà di stampa è concessa a tutti i partiti, anche a quelli che hanno poche decine di iscritti, è negato a noi di pubblicare anche un solo giornale, nonostante che il movimento per la indipendenza abbracci ormai parecchie centinaia di migliaia di aderenti. Così noi siamo oggetto di tutte le critiche e di tutte le contumelie da parte di una masnada di approfittatori delle politiche, senza potere neppure rispondere.

Così a noi, e a noi soltanto, è vietato di pubblicare anche il più piccolo ed insignificante manifesto perché tutte le tipografie sono quotidianamente perquisite dalla polizia, la quale non consente che stampino quel che sia stato ordinato da noi.

Così, sotto futili pretesti o inventando ragioni inesistenti, come il timore che noi si possa fare propaganda perché non sia consegnato il grano agli ammassi - cosa completamente falsa - ci si interdice il diritto di riunione, largamente concesso a tutti i partiti, e ciò per evitare che il popolo continui a manifestare, come sempre ha fatto, la sua grande favore per l'indipendenza della

L'eccezionale situazione nella quale il governo italiano ha posto la grande maggioranza del popolo siciliano, anelante alla propria libertà ed indipendenza, impone a questo Comitato Nazionale l'obbligo di rivolgere un fervido appello a tutte le Cancellerie. Noi viviamo qui sotto il regime della più sdominevole oppressione.

Noi non solo ci vediamo negate le libertà, ma siamo esposti a violenze di ogni genere.

Mentre la libertà di stampa è concessa a tutti i partiti, anche a quelli che hanno poche decine di iscritti, è negato a noi di pubblicare anche un solo giornale, nonostante che il movimento per la indipendenza abbracci ormai parecchie centinaia di migliaia di aderenti. Così noi siamo oggetto di tutte le critiche e di tutte le contumacie da parte di una massana di approfittatori delle politiche, senza potere neppure rispondere.

Così a noi, e a noi soltanto, è vietato di pubblicare anche il più piccolo ed insignificante manifesto perché tutte le tipografie sono quotidianamente perquisite dalla polizia, la quale non consente che stampino quel che sia stato ordinato da noi.

Così, sotto futili pretesti o inventando ragioni inesistenti, come il timore che noi ci possa fare propaganda perché non sia consegnato il grano agli ammassi - cosa completamente falsa - ci si interdice il diritto di riunione, largamente concesso a tutti i partiti, e ciò per evitare che il popolo continui a manifestare, come sempre ha fatto, il suo grande favore per l'indipendenza della Sicilia.

Così gli aderenti al movimento per l'indipendenza non solo sono iscritti come reprobri in speciali elenchi, ma sono sottoposti a continue minacce e rappresaglie e si considera come titolo di demerito l'adesione al movimento stesso per effetto del quale nulla possono i nostri adepti ottenere.

Così quei nostri amici che, al tempo della liberazione, furono chiamati dagli Alleati a coprire cariche pubbliche sono invitati a dimettersi, pur avendo adempiuto in modo encomiabile il dover loro, e minacciati, in caso contrario, di destituzione.

Come se ciò non bastasse, le nostre persone sono sottoposte ai più villi attentati. A Regalbuto, dove ci eravamo recati in pochi, con intenzioni del tutto pacifiche, per spiegare le ragioni che militano a favore dell'indipendenza, noi fummo aggrediti da una banda di comunisti e di monarchici, fra i quali erano anche ufficiali della **divisione "Sabauda"** tutti armati di fucili mitragliatori o di rivoltelle o di bombe a mano, e fu un miracolo se non avven-

ne un eccidio. La banda era stata organizzata dal prefetto di Enna, un certo Bruno. C) le autorità governative non solo non deploano il contegno di costui e degli altri metodi, ma esprimero la loro implicita approvazione dell'aggressione.

Il governo italiano ha avuto la tracotanza di chiedere agli Alleati l'autorizzazione di procedere all'arresto del presidente del nostro Comitato Nazionale, di null'altro reo che di amare ardentemente la nostra patria siciliana e di volerla svincolata dall'oppressione, dalla servitù e dallo sfruttamento in cui è stata tenuta per circa un secolo dall'Italia.

Aggiungiamo che le nostre città sono come in istato di assedio. Non solo vi è un enorme numero di carabinieri e di agenti di pubblica sicurezza, ma le vie rigurgitano di ufficiali e militari dell'esercito italiano con atteggiamento provocatorio, mentre si farebbe molto meglio a dare loro un compito sul fronti di battaglia. La loro presenza in Sicilia per una funzione d'intimidazione, di sopraffazione e di violenza non è affatto gradita e gli incidenti sono frequenti e si potrebbero da un momento all'altro avere pericolose reazioni.

Z) si tenga presente che il governo italiano sta svuotando la Sicilia di ogni cosa, quasi a punirla del suo atteggiamento ostile. Carri ferroviari, autobus, automobili, turbine elettriche, impianti industriali, materiali e merci di ogni genere ci vengono tolti per essere portati in Italia, rendendo impossibile la nostra vita, nulla importando al governo italiano che la Sicilia rimanga priva di tutto.

Noi, pertanto, rivolgiamo la nostra più vibrante protesta contro questa incivile e barbara condotta del governo italiano che si rende ogni giorno più indegno della sopportazione delle Nazioni Unite ed immeritevole di vedere trasutata la cobelligeranza in alleanza, come va pietosamente ed insistentemente chiedendo.

Questo Comitato Nazionale invoca per l'oppresso popolo siciliano che la intollerabile condizione di cose creata dal governo italiano venga meno come esigono le supreme leggi delle civiltà e della umanità, e si rivolge fiducioso a tutte le cancellerie perchè facciano giungere al governo stesso la loro deplorazione e l'invito a desistere da metodi che neppure il regime fascista aveva mai usato in Sicilia.

Le nostre sifferenze, l'assoluta privazione della libertà, l'odio del governo italiano verso di noi ci fanno vivamente desiderare che gli Stati Uniti e l'Inghilterra rioccupino militarmente l'isola per porre fine ai nostri mali.

Il Comitato Nazionale, con questa occasione, di fronte all'abisso che il governo ha creato fra la Sicilia e l'Italia, conferma

2 si tenga presente che il governo italiano sta svuotando la Sicilia di ogni cosa, quasi a punirla del suo atteggiamento ostile. Carri ferroviari, autobus, automobili, turbine elettriche, impianti industriali, materiali e merci di ogni genere ci vengono tolti per essere portati in Italia, rendendo impossibile la nostra vita, nulla importando al governo italiano che la Sicilia rimanga priva di tutto.

Noi, pertanto, rivolgiamo le nostre più vibranti proteste contro questa incivile e barbara condotta del governo italiano che si rende ogni giorno più indegno della sopportazione delle Nazioni Unite ed immeritevole di vedere trasmutata la cobelligeranza in alleanza, come va pietosamente ed insistentemente chiedendo.

Questo Comitato Nazionale invoca per l'oppresso popolo siciliano che le intollerabili condizioni di cose creati dal governo italiano venga meno come esigono le supreme leggi della civiltà e della umanità, e si rivolge fiducioso a tutte le cancellerie perchè facciano giungere al governo stesso la loro deplorazione e l'invito a desistere da metodi che neppure il regime fascista aveva mai usato in Sicilia?

Le nostre differenze, l'assoluta privazione della libertà, l'odio del governo italiano verso di noi ci fanno vivamente desiderare che gli Stati Uniti e l'Inghilterra rioccupino militarmente l'isola per porre fine ai nostri mali.

Il Comitato Nazionale, con questa occasione, di fronte all'esigenza che il governo ha creato fra la Sicilia e l'Italia, conferma il proprio indefettibile proposito di continuare la sua lotta per il distacco delle due nazioni, conformemente alle supreme necessità morali, politiche ed economiche del popolo siciliano e rinnova l'esortazione che questo sia chiamato CON UN PLEBISCITO SOTTO IL CONTROLLO INTERNAZIONALE, non avendo noi alcuna fiducia nel governo italiano, a dichiarare di volersi governare da sé, in uno stato sovrano indipendente.

Vogliamo esprimere i sentimenti della nostra alta considerazione.

IL SEGRETARIO GENERALE: Antonino Varvaro
IL PRESIDENTE: Andrea Finocchiaro Aprile

Copiato: Palermo 4 agosto 1944
1 originale, 7 copie.

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

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY COMMISSION
R.C. - M.C. Section
APO 394

Ref/769/11/BA.

12 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Sicilian Separation.

TO : R.C. Region I.

I attach hereto copy of a signal received here today.
I should be glad to have your comments before taking any
action.

WESLEY E. FISKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Incl
as above.

handed to
Copy to: Admin Section (Col Cripps) 12/7/44

[Handwritten signature]

769 12 JUL Recd

533

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

CA Lr 2

TO: NAPLES

SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No:

FROM: MESSINA

CLASSIFICATION:

PRECEDENCE:

REFERENCE No: 686151

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: 8 JULY OFFICE OF ORIGIN:

THIS PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE SICILIAN INDEPENDENCE RAISING VIVID PROTEST BECAUSE OF TRANSFER OF ARTILLERY COMMAND FROM MESSINA TO PALERMO DENOUNCES TO THIS COMMISSION AND PUBLIC OPINION EVIDENT MANOEUVRE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT DIRECTED TO CREATE SECESSION AMONG SICILIAN SISTER CITIES. IN FACT GOVERNMENT PROVISION CONFLICTS WITH SPECIFIC SEPARATIST MOVEMENT PROGRAM TENDING TOWARD DECENTRALIZATION OF PUBLIC OFFICES AMONG VARIOUS ISLAND CITIES. / PRESIDENT GALASSO PROP. RENATO CALAPAI.

ACC ADV DIST.

ACTION--C.A. BR. 2

INFO--D.C.C. 5010

FILE 2

FLOAT 2

(Group 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

PRECEDENCE:

REFERENCE No: 085151

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: 8 JULY OFFICE OF ORIGIN:

THIS PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE SICILIAN INDEPENDENCE RAISING VIVID PROTEST BECAUSE OF TRANSFER OF ARTILLERY COMMAND FROM MESSINA TO PALERMO DENOUNCES TO THIS COMMISSION AND PUBLIC OPINION EVIDENT MANOEUVRE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT DIRECTED TO CREATE SECESSION AMONG SICILIAN SISTER CITIES. IN FACT GOVERNMENT PROVIDING CONFLICTS WITH SPECIFIC SEPARATIST MOVEMENT PROGRAM TENDING TOWARD DECENTRALIZATION OF PUBLIC OFFICES AMONG VARIOUS ISLAND CITIES. / PRESIDENT CALASSO PROP. RENATO CALABAI.

7/8/51

ACC ADV DIST.
ACTION--C.A. BR. 2
INFO--D.O.C. 5000
FILE 2
PLOCAT 2

(Calassio's position in the
movement is being studied)

See 115 Bell

DATE and TIME of RECEIPT

Distribution:

MOVEMENT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE OF SICILY
National Committee.

7 JUL 1944

Palermo, 24 June 1944.

To: Allied Control Commission - Naples

and for information to Col. Hensack, Commissioner for Sicily
Palermo.

I am accomplishing the duty of acquainting the Allied Control Commission that these Public Safety authorities have today given verbal warning to all printing-shops in Palermo and province (they refused to do so in writing) not to print anything which may have reference to the movement for the independence of Sicily..

The information comes from many printers inscribed to our movement.

I am reporting this new arbitrary act evidently perpetrated by order of the Prefect of Palermo, to this A.C.C. it being the only Organ to which we can address our protests against the violations to which we are subjected, adding that we cannot assume responsibility for the consequences of legitimate reprisals.

The President of the National Committee
sgd. Andrea Rinochiano-Aprile

PA

29/7

5539

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Movimento per l'Indipendenza della Sicilia

COMITATO NAZIONALE

PALERMO 26 giugno 1944.

On.

Commissione Alleata di Controllo - NAPOLI

e per conoscenza al Signor Colonnello Hancock, Commissario per la Sicilia - PALERMO

Compio il dovere di portare a conoscenza della On. Commissione che queste autorità di pubblica sicurezza hanno fatto oggi a tutte le tipografie della città e provincia di Palermo diffida verbale (rifiutandosi di farla per iscritto) di non stampare alcunchè possa riferirsi al movimento per l'indipendenza della Sicilia.

La notizia proviene da molti tipografi, iscritti al nostro movimento.

Denunzio questo nuovo atto di arbitrio, evidentemente dovuto ad ordine del Prefetto di Palermo, all'On. Commissione, unico organo al quale possiamo rivolgere le nostre proteste contro le violenze alle quali noi siamo sottoposti, aggiungendo che non potremo assumere responsabilità delle conseguenze delle legittime ritorsioni.

Con osservanza.

IL PRESIDENTE DEL COMITATO NAZIONALE
(Andrea Finocchiaro-Aprile)

C A R
11458

5500

2083

8

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Compio il dovere di portare a conoscenza della On. Commissione che queste autorità di pubblica sicurezza hanno fatto oggi a tutte le tipografie della città e provincia di Palermo diffida verbale (rifiutandosi di farla per iscritto) di non stampare alcunchè possa riferirsi al movimento per l'indipendenza della Sicilia.

La notizia proviene da molti tipografi, iscritti al nostro movimento.

Denuncio questo nuovo atto di arbitrio, evidentemente dovuto ad ordine del Prefetto di Palermo, all'On. Commissione, unico organo al quale possiamo rivolgere le nostre proteste contro le violenze alle quali noi siamo sottoposti, aggiungendo che non potremo assumere responsabilità delle conseguenze delle legittime ritorsioni.

Con osservanza.

IL PRESIDENTE DEL COMITATO NAZIONALE
(Andrea Finocchiaro-Aprile)

5558

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 394.

Regional Control and Military Government Section.
+++++

Ref: 15/103/CA.

6th July 1944.

SUBJECT: Sicilian Separatism.

TO : Vice President,
Administrative Section.

1. I refer to RC/602.1 of 1. July. 1944 from Regional Commissioner, Region 1, copy of which was sent to your Interior Sub-Commission.

2. Colonel Hancock has produced the following stenographic notes (of which I enclose a copy) of a speech made by FERRUCCIO ARUFFA on 25th May in which he is reported to have said:-

"We solemnly declare that no one will bring to the masses a grain of wheat. Those in particular who are near us and desire the rebirth of our land should absolutely keep their word in regards to doing so."

3. The above statement, if correctly reported, appears to be a definite incitement to disobedience and in my opinion the men should be arrested by the Italian authorities and charged with the offence.

4. Regional Commissioner, as you will see from the memorandum on Grain enforcement, also recommends the removal of AVOLATO DE MARTINO and BIANCHI (names of the men) from the island. He has no definite case against these two men except that they are close adherents of FERRUCCIO ARUFFA and in view of the latter's definite incitement against grain collection, I think it would be wise if the Italian Government would remove them from the island. It would certainly help the task of the Regional Commissioner and the High Commissioner in enforcing the Italian Government decrees.

5567

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735017

1. I refer to SC/COO.1 of 1 July 1944 from Regional Commissioner, Region I, copy of which was sent to your Interior Sub-Commission.

2. Colonel Hancock has produced the following stenographic notes (of which I enclose a copy) of a speech made by FIDUCIARIO APOLLIN on 29th May in which he is reported to have said:-

"We solemnly declare that no one will bring to the sown seed grain of wheat. Those in particular who are near us and desire the rebirth of our land should absolutely keep their word in regard to doing so."

3. The above statement, if correctly reported, appears to be a definite incitement to disobedience and in my opinion the man should be arrested by the Italian authorities and charged with the offence.

4. Regional Commissioner, as you will see from the memorandum on grain enforcement, also recommends the removal of LIVIGNO DE MARTINO and NAME (NAME) BRINO DI BENEVENTO. He has no definite case against these two men except that they are close adherents of FIDUCIARIO APOLLIN and in view of the latter's definite incitement against grain collection, I think it would be wise if the Italian Government would remove them from the Island. It would certainly help the task of the Regional Commissioner and the High Commissioner in enforcing the Italian Government decrees.

5557

MIL/JC.

(Sgd) A. S. L. B. S.
Brigadier,
Executive Commission R.

11/74

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

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
APO 394

Ref/15/92/CA

23 June 1944

SUBJECT: Disturbances.

TO : R.C. Region I

Attached documents are forwarded for comments and
action you think necessary.

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner

GRIS/JR

2
✓
Where are they?
H/276

5596

NOTES ON THE SPEECH MADE BY ANTONIO FIDONARDO
APRIL 25/5/44. AT RECALCUTO.

We ask a sovereign State for the dependents of Sicily. We have to liberate ourselves from the oppression suffered for 84 years, years in which no one has remembered us. They (those of the mainland) have oppressed our agricultural development, hindered our industry, and all our efforts for the rebirth of our land have remained sterile in ~~affirming~~ front of the super-capitalism of the North, that continually pulverize all our projects at their birth. Today this system of oppression still continues. The government of those beyond the Strait of Messina has established in 19 and 210 the price of grain for the masses. We solemnly declare that no one will bring to the masses a grain of wheat. Those in particular who are near us and desire the rebirth of our land should absolutely keep their word in regards to doing so. This constitutes a first and necessary duty.

During 84 years all has been done for the Northern regions, nothing for the Southern regions. If we think of the great industries of the North in comparison to the misery reserved for Sicily, we find the complete justification for our conception of independence.

We are not a party, but we represent a movement that receives men of all parties. I add that of all parties, including the Communist Party, those who are with us are the best, the most intelligent.

The Italian Government of Badoglio (shouts "down with Badoglio") has gathered representatives of the Italian Communist Party - Nothing against them - We only express the certainty that from such a hybrid union an organism capable of guiding the country towards a better future, cannot arise.

We have been the first Sicilians to ask administrative elections. The other parties have been afraid of such elections, and making their fright by saying that they were not ready for the elections, have hindered our proposal by affirming that before the elections it would be better to await the return of our soldiers. We agree to the fact that during the war period it is impossible to call a meeting for the purpose of political elections. But I think that it is possible to arrive at administrative elections, first sign of the Sovereign Popular Will.

When these elections ~~are~~ made, the population, we are certain, will vote for the independence of Sicily.

Let those who are in military service vote also: but we deplore those Sicilians who are still fighting, because the war for us is over.

We are the apostles of a new State, not a bourgeois State, ~~enacted~~ ⁵⁵⁵⁵ Sovietic or governed by a few ~~bourgeois~~ ^{bourgeois} State that does not exist on

...in regards to doing so.
...constitutes a first and necessary duty.

During 84 years all has been done for the Northern regions, nothing for the Southern regions. If we think of the great industries of the North in comparison to the misery reserved for Sicily, we find the complete justification for our conception of independence.

We are not a party, but we represent a movement that receives men of all parties. I add that of all parties, including the Communist Party, those who are with us are the best, the most intelligent.

The Italian Government of Badoglio (shouts "down with Badoglio") has gathered representatives of the Italian Communist Party - Nothing against them - We only express the certainty that from such a hybrid union an organization capable of guiding the country towards a better future, cannot arise.

We have been the first Sicilians to ask administrative elections. The other parties have been afraid of such elections, and making their fright by saying that they were not ready for the elections, have hindered our proposal by affirming that before the elections it would be better to await the return of our soldiers. We agree to the fact that during the war period it is impossible to call a meeting for the purpose of political elections. But I think that it is possible to arrive at administrative elections, first sign of the Sovereign Popular Will.

When these elections ^{are} made, the population, we are certain, will vote for the independence of Sicily.

Let those who are in military service vote also: but we deplore those Sicilians who are still fighting, because the war for us is over.

We are the apostles of a new State, not a bourgeois State, and ⁵⁵⁵⁵ Sovietic or governed by a few. We dream a State that does not exist on earth, in which the population is really ruler and where all those cities, from Palermo to Catania, from Trapani to Messina, will have equal rights and duties.

We do not want to associate ourselves to any State, especially Communist.

Appunti stenografici di discorso tenuto da add. a Pioschiaro
aprile il giorno 25/1944 in agelbato.

Noi chiediamo uno stato sovrano per i dipendenti della Sicilia. Dobbiamo liberarci dall'oppressione di 84 anni, durante i quali mai si sono ricordati di noi. Essi (del Settentrione) hanno oppresso il nostro sviluppo agricolo, ostacolato la nostra industria, e tutte le nostre lotte per rinascere sono rimaste sterili di fronte al supercapitalismo del Nord che, programmaticamente, polverizzava ogni nostra iniziativa al suo nascere. Questo sistema di oppressione continua ancora oggi. Il Governo di quelli al di là del mare di Messina ha stabilito in 1.9 e 1.10 il prezzo del grano per il conferimento agli ammassi. Noi dichiariamo solennemente che nessuno porterà agli ammassi un chicco di grano. Particolarmente quelli che ci stanno vicini e che hanno a cuore la rinascita di questa nostra terra di Sicilia dovranno assolutamente attenersi del farlo.

Ciò costituisce come un primo ed inderogabile dovere.

-Durante 84 anni tutto è stato fatto per la Regioni Settentrionali; nulla per quelli del Meridione. Se pensiamo alle grandi magnifiche industrie del Nord in confronto alla inerarrabile miseria riservata alla Sicilia, noi troviamo la più completa giustificazione per la nostra concezione di indipendenza.

-Noi non siamo un partito, ma rappresentiamo un movimento che accoglie gli uomini di tutti i partiti. Aggiungo che di tutti i partiti, compreso il comunista, quelli che sono con noi sono i più illuminati, i migliori.

-Il Governo Italiano di Badoglio (grida di abbasso Badoglio) ha accolto nel suo seno rappresentanti del Partito Comunista Italiano. Mulla di avverso per i rappresentanti del P.C.I. - Solo esprimiamo la certezza che da tale ibrido connubio non può nascere l'orgasmo più idoneo ad avviare il paese verso un migliore avvenire.

-Noi siamo stati i primi Siciliani a chiedere le elezioni amministrative. Gli altri partiti hanno avuto paura di tali elezioni, e mascherando questo loro timore col dire che non erano ancora pronti alle elezioni, hanno ostacolato la nostra proposta, con l'affermare che prima delle elezioni ebbene attendere che tornino nelle loro case i nostri combattenti. Noi siamo d'accordo che non si possano durante il periodo bellico adire comizi ai fini delle elezioni politiche. Ma penso che si possa senz'altro addiventare alle elezioni amministrative, primo indice della Sovrana Volontà Popolare.

-E allora, quando tali elezioni saranno fatte, tutto il popolo, ne siamo certi, propenderà sicuramente per l'indipendenza della Sicilia.

-Ebbene che anche quelli che sono alle armi esprimono il loro voto: noi deploriamo però che ci siano ancora dei Siciliani alle armi, per-

iniziativa al suo nascere. Questo sistema di oppressione continua ancora oggi. Il Governo di quelli al di là del mare di Messina ha stabilito in L.9 e L.10 il prezzo del grano per il conferimento agli ammassi. Noi diciamo solennemente che nessuno porterà agli ammassi un chicco di grano. Particolarmente quelli che ci stanno vicini e che hanno a cuore la riscossa di questa nostra terra di Sicilia dovranno assolutamente astenersi dal farlo.

Ciò costituisce come un primo ed inderogabile dovere.

-Durante 84 anni tutto è stato fatto per le Regioni Settentrionali; nulla per quelli del Meridione. Se pensiamo alle grandi magnifiche industrie del Nord in confronto alla inenarrabile miseria riservata alla Sicilia, noi troviamo la più completa giustificazione per la nostra concezione di indipendenza.

-Noi non siamo un partito, ma rappresentiamo un movimento che accoglie gli uomini di tutti i partiti. Aggiungo che di tutti i partiti, compreso il comunista, quelli che sono con noi sono i più illuminati, i migliori.

-Il Governo Italiano di Badoglio (grinta di abbasso Badoglio) ha accolto nel suo seno rappresentanti del Partito Comunista Italiano. Mulla di avverso per i rappresentanti del P.C.I. - Solo esprimiamo la certezza che da tale ibrido connubio non può nascere l'organismo più idoneo ad avviare il paese verso un migliore avvenire.

-Noi siamo stati i primi Siciliani a chiedere le elezioni amministrative. Gli altri partiti hanno avuto paura di tali elezioni, e mascherando questo loro timore col dire che non erano ancora pronti alle elezioni, hanno ostacolato la nostra proposta, con l'affermare che prima delle elezioni ebbene attendere che tornino nelle loro case i nostri combattenti. Noi siamo d'accordo che non si possano durante il periodo bellico adire comizi ai fini delle elezioni politiche. Ma penso che si possa senz'altro addiventare alle elezioni amministrative, primo indice della Sovrana Volontà Popolare.

-E allora, quando tali elezioni saranno fatte, tutto il popolo, ne siamo certi, propenderà sicuramente per l'indipendenza della Sicilia.

-Ebbene che anche quelli che sono alle armi esprimano il voto: noi deploriamo però che ci siano ancora dei Siciliani alle armi, perché la guerra per noi è finita.

-Noi siamo gli antesignani di un nuovo Stato, Stato non borghese, mai sovietizzante o accentratore. Noi sogniamo uno Stato come ancora non ce ne è sulla terra, in cui Sovrano sia veramente il popolo, e dove tutte le Città da Palermo a Catania, da Trapani a Messina abbiano una assoluta parità di diritti e di doveri.

-Non siamo nemico alieni dal federarci: ciò non avverrà mai comunque con uno stato comunista.

Adia 1944

(A questo punto avviene il noto incidente. Quando si rientra nella sala Pinocchio Aprile ha nelle mani i manifestini propagandistici che sono volati sulla folla. - allegati)

Egli coglie l'occasione per dimostrare come mai non sia un traditore e come traditori e rinnegati siano invece tutti coloro che come lui non la pensano. Aggiunge di sapere benissimo da parte di chi viene l'accusa: "sono i fascisti, perché solo fascisti possono essere e dirigere un movimento anti-separatista".

-Poi così continua:

Per noi quello della Sicilia è un problema essenzialmente industriale. Noi avremmo potuto annullare l'industria continentale con la potenza delle nostre materie prime.

Noi siamo un paese ricco: il paese più ricco di lingua Italiana. Ai 5 milioni di Siciliani residenti in Sicilia ne vanno aggiunti altri 6 milioni sparsi in tutto il mondo. Noi possiamo essere veramente un grande popolo.

-E su questi Siciliani il continente ha succhiato 84 anni di amore e di sangue.

-Le nostre industrie potrebbero essere:

- 1°)-industrie citriche;
- 2°)-industrie colfifere;
- 3°)-industrie vinarie.

-Solo, la Sicilia ha una bilancia commerciale veramente attiva. In nessuna altra Regione tale bilancia è così attiva come da noi.

-Segue ipistolotto finale di nessuna importanza.

piccolo bene

Pepp. Colajanni, 4

ENNA

2034

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

4 JUL 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

2

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SICILY REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

FILE:RG/000.1

1 July 1944

SUBJECT: SICILIAN SEPARATISM.

TO : Executive Commissioner
A.C. A.I.C. Section
A.C. A.C.C. Naples

PC for NPs

Heckler

15/4/7

92

Reference letters 3/CA of 13 JUN 44 and 15/62/CA of 20 JUN 44, with attached documents addressed to the Chief Commissioner and the Allied Control Commission.

1. The Sicilian Separatist movement in the person of PINOCCHIARO APRILE, a Watch List suspect, having inevitably clashed with the Communists at a Separatist Meeting held at MESSINA (MESSINA Province) on 26 MAY 44, protests in the name of free speech and liberty, and enlisted A.C.C. support and sympathy against the relations which Separatist doctrine provokes in the minds of Sicilians who are loyal to Italy.
2. The late Saloglio Government, and the former Minister of the Interior ARDISIO in particular, embarked on a policy to suppress Separatism in SICILY and difficulties were put in the way of holding meetings on the grounds of public security.
3. An application to A.P.E. Naples to publish a weekly newspaper was rejected on the grounds that the movement does not represent a recognized Italian political party.
4. Recent speeches by Pinocchiaro Aprile have contained passages inciting farmers not to deliver wheat to the people's granaries and also against the Italian army and military service. I am informed that the Italian Government has been so acquainted.

5. I have informed Pinocchiaro Aprile as follows:

(Translation)

"With reference to the papers sent me on 19 and 20 JUN regarding the distressing incidents at MESSINA, it is contrary to Allied control commission policy to intervene in or interfere with the Italian Administration."

The sole concern of the Allied Control

(2)

see 143

5582

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

Commission is that SICILY, as co-belligerent, make the greatest possible contribution to the successful prosecution of the war and that it does not hinder the war effort, which imposes obligations upon all, with inopportune demonstrations, and that the consequences of the war be considered in their ultimate effect on every country.

6. The question is essentially one for the Italian government to decide upon and in my opinion there is sufficient evidence to take action under the law.

7. If I were asked for a recommendation I should say that in the best interests of the war effort and public security in SICILY, Pinocciaro Aprile's removal to an internment camp, with other members of his group for company, is to be advocated.

Arthur H. K. Cole

A.H. K. COLE
Colonel
Regional Commissioner

Copies to: Interior Sub-Commission
Public Safety Sub-Commission
Public Safety Region I

5551 .

2034