

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

ACC

10000/109/319

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

10000/109/319

CROATS IN ITALY
JULY - APR. 1946

CSO - folio 8 for information. 2nd ready within 15 A.F.H.Q. on this subject.
at 10:00 7/20/48

9.
10.

Major Kennedy.

Mr. Shaw Marchant Citterini.

Done. 20/48

2/5

16.

CSO - Please see folio 15 for information.
20/48

17.

Ref A

Ref from 3 please. See 15.

2/25/48

18.

CSO - Thank you. Please let me know when the
"subjects have been apprehended" so that
the Ambassador can ~~report~~ ^{report} to the Ministry of
Foreign Affairs.

J. W. Kelly Jones
Ref. Ad (Am) Sept 29/48

16.

C.S.O. Please see folio 15 for information.
 20K 2419.

17.

Page A

Ref from 3 please see 15.

25/3.

18.

C.S.O. Thank you. Please let me know when the "subjects have been apprehended" so that the Ambassador can ~~report~~ report to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. J. W. E. Jones
 P.O. Ad (Am) Sept. 29/45

5797

785017

26
VLO/r

Ref. 802/26/20

15 April 1946

Dear Mr. Tittmann,

22
In reply to the Vatican note no. 116898/SA of 27 March 1946 which you duly forwarded this office it is requested that the Vatican be informed of the following facts:

1. The German subjects held in 215 PW Camp are NOT being held there prior to transportation to JUGOSLAVIA unless they themselves are desirous of repatriation to JUGOSLAVIA.

2. It is against the existing policy of H.M. Government and the US Government to repatriate any subject against his or her wishes except in the case of War Criminals when a prima facie case has to be submitted and approved by H.M. Government and the US Government.

3. Lest there be any suspicion due to their recent transfer that these subjects are being repatriated we would like to inform you that because of the closing down of 215 PW Camp they have been transferred to 209 PW Camp AFRAGOLA near NAPLES.

VICTOR L. ODDI

Brigadier
Acting Chief Commissioner

5791

PA. 16
2007

785017

SUBJECT:- Extradition or repatriation of Croatians.TO:- HQ Allied Commission
ROME

G2 CMF

3371/1/A2

15 Apr 46

APR 15 1946

Reference your letter 602/24/EC dated 5 Apr 46.

Please inform the Personal Representative of the President of the US to His Holiness the Pope of the following information:-

1. The Croatian subjects held in 215 PW Camp are NOT being held there prior to transportation to JUGOSLAVIA unless they themselves are desirous of repatriation to JUGOSLAVIA.
2. It is against the existing policy of H.M. Government and the US Government to repatriate any subject against his or her wishes except in the case of War Criminals when a prima facie case has to be submitted and approved by H.M. Government and the US Government.
3. Lest there be any suspicion due to their recent transfer that these subjects are being repatriated we would like to inform you that because of the closing down of 215 PW Camp they have been transferred to 209 PW Camp APRAGOLA near NAPLES.

MC/ER.

JIC NAPIER,
Brigadier,
DAG.Copy to:- Br Poland
US Poland

3 ACTION

5796

VLO/rb

24

Ref. 608/24/20

5 April 1946

SUBJECT: Extradition or repatriation
of Croatians.

TO : AFHQ for G-5.

23

The attached letter of 29 March 1946 from the office of
the Personal Representative of the President of the United States
of America to His Holiness the Pope is forwarded for any action
deemed necessary.

VICTOR L. CODD

Brigadier
Acting Chief Commissioner

Encls. 1tr fr. Pers. Rep. of U.S. Pres. to Vatican dated 29 Mar 46
copy of Vatican note no. 116393/BA of 27 March 1946 to
Pers. Rep. of U.S. to Vatican.

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See 7-25

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- COPY -

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE

2, Via Boncompagni, Rome.

March 29, 1946

Dear Captain Oddi,

I am enclosing a copy of Note No. 116898/SA of March 27, 1946 which I have received from the Secretariat of State of the Holy See, concerning an appeal from the Croatian Confraternity of St. Jerome at Rome on behalf of certain Croats, and particularly a group in Prisoner of War Camp no. 215, Grottaglie, Taranto, who are stated to be threatened with extradition or repatriation.

It would be appreciated if you would kindly indicate the nature of the reply which may be made to the Holy See.

Sincerely yours

/S/ HAROLD H. TITTMANN
/T/ HAROLD H. TITTMANN

Assistant to the Honorable Myron C. Taylor

Enclosure:

Copy of Vatican Note.

Captain Victor L. Oddi,
Liaison Division
Headquarters Allied Commission
Rome

original sent on

see 24

5794

- Copy -

SEGRETERIA DI STATO
DI SUA SANTITA'

Dal Vaticano, 11' March 27, 1946

No. 116898/SA

In the pursuance of the charitable and humanitarian mission of the Holy See the Secretariat of State of His Holiness takes the liberty to recommend to the kind attention and consideration of the Assistant to the Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness an urgent appeal which it has received from the Croatian Confraternity of St. Jerome at Rome on behalf of those Croatians, particularly the group at P.O.W. Camp 215, Grottaglie, Taranto, who are threatened with extradition or repatriation.

The Confraternity has appealed to His Holiness asking Him to recommend this matter, which is so grave and urgent to many hundred Croatian families, to the Allied Authorities with a view to obtaining an impartial inquiry in each individual case into the charges made against the Croatian military and civilian personnel now detained in camps in Italy or held in transit camps awaiting transport to Yugoslavia.

The Confraternity would also most earnestly ask that, lest irreparable measures be taken at this time when political passions and partisan hatreds so often prevail over moral and juridical values, the Croatians living in Italy might not be obliged to return to their home country at the present time.

The Hon. Harold H. Tittmann
Assistant to the Personal Representative
of the President of the United States
to His Holiness

24 - 26

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The Secretariat of State in recommending this appeal to the attention of the competent Allied Authorities avails itself of the occasion to renew to the Assistant to the Personal Representative of the President of the United States its sentiments of distinguished consideration.

A similar communication is being sent to His Britannic Majesty's Minister to the Holy See.

785017

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6024
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Exp. Comm.
MJH/J

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 383.7-2

15 November 1945

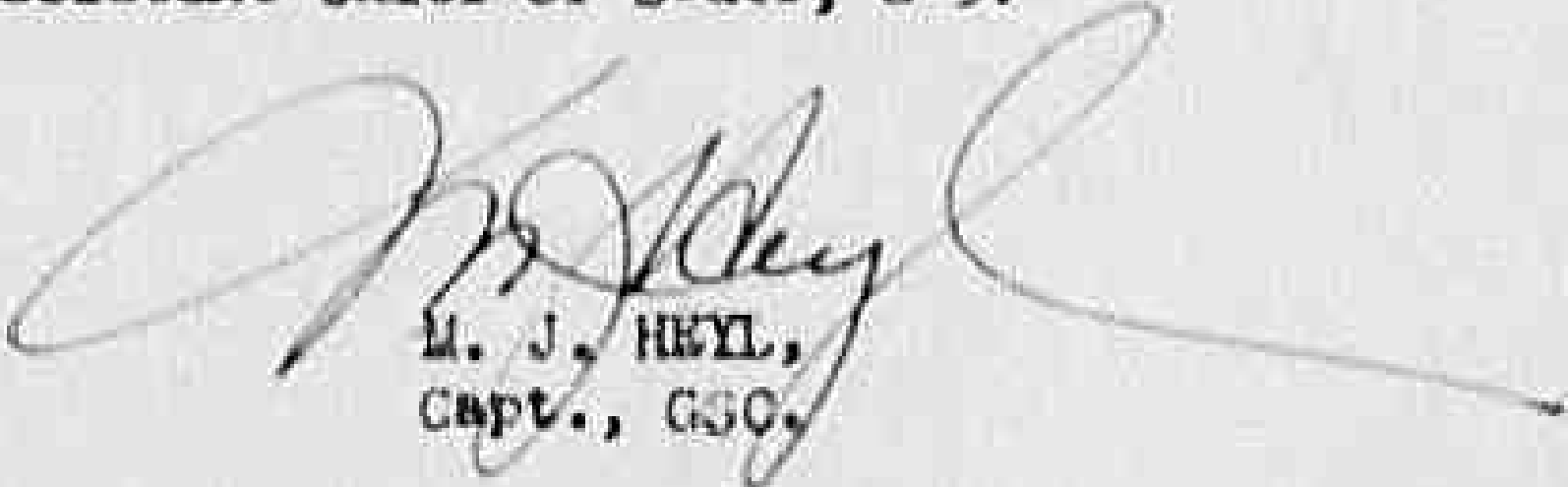
NOV 19 1945

SUBJECT: Croat Undesirables, in Italy.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference is made to our G-5: 383.7-2 of 2 August, 21 September and 3 October, subject as above.
2. Up to this date, personnel in question have not been apprehended.
- 20 3. On receipt, available information will be forwarded.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:


M. J. HEYL,
Capt., GSC.

MA told they wrote
again.
AB

8
(CAPT. HEYL)

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19/11
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Ex Comm (20)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

MJE/JJJr

G-5: 383.7-2

3 October 1945

SUBJECT: Croat Undesirables in Italy.

Oct - 3 1945

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394

19

1. Reference your 602/19/EC of 1 October 1945, subject as above.

2. On subjects' apprehension you will be notified in compliance with request contained in para 2, above reference.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

4 OCT 1945

M. J. HEYL
Captain, A.U.S.

PA bill news comes in

EB 5/10

5.9.1 PA 5/10

785017

(19)

Ref: 602/19/50.

1 October 45.

SUBJECT: Great Undesirables in Italy.

TO : G-5 Section,
A.P.H.Q.

(15)

1. Reference your letter G-5: 383.7-2 dated 21 September 45 on the above subject.

2. Your para 3 has been noted, and I shall be glad if you will please let me know when the subjects have been apprehended. This information is required by the United States Ambassador to enable him to reply to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

For the Chief Commissioner:

F. H. M. Cleave

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

11/10
SEE FILE 20
B/V
11/10
NOTED
5790 2/10
PA

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8 6029 Ex Commission ER
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

4706 (15)
LWH/3

G-5: 383.7-2

21 September 1945

SEP 24 1945

SUBJECT: Croat Undesirables in Italy.

TO : Headquarters Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference is made to your 602/7/EC of 17 July and our G-5: 383.7-2 of 2 August 1945.

2. You are advised that steps are being taken to intern subject Croat personnel pending final decision on governmental level as to their ultimate disposition.

3. It is requested that this information be withheld from the Italian Government until the subjects have been apprehended.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

W. J. Heyl
W. J. HEYL,
Capt., AUS.



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Commissioner

14

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

JB/jrc

G-5: 393.7-2

5 September 1945

SEP - 6 1945

SUBJECT: Croat Undesirables in Italy

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
A.P.O. 394

13

This Headquarters will forward information regarding the matter raised in your 602/13/EC of 3 September as soon as possible.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

Julius Byles
JULIUS BYLES
Major, G.S.C.

(S) (C) (R) PA MP

BU 11/7

5488

785017

13

Tel : 478603

3 September 45

Ref: 602/13/83.

SUBJECT: Great undesirables in Italy.

TO : G-3 A.F.H.Q.

Reference your letter 383.7-2 of 2 August 45 I should be grateful if you would let me know what action you have been able to take in this matter.

For the Chief Commissioners

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

SEEF 14

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PA
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

12

Ref: 602/12/70.

21 August 1945.

MEMORANDUM TO the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Italian Government.

SUBJECT: Former Croat Officials in Italy.

The Allied Commission acknowledges receipt of memorandum No. 6/2415/1108 dated 29 July 1945 from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs on the subject of former Croat officials in Italy. AMHQ state that the policy to be followed with regard to such individuals has not yet been defined; but the Ministry for Foreign Affairs will be informed as soon as the position has been clarified. Meanwhile the information contained in the above mentioned memorandum has been noted by AMHQ.

MP.

BO 1/9
Noted

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PA
22/8

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Ex Comm.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TBJ/www

G-5: 383.7-2

2 August 1945

AUG 4 1945

SUBJECT: Croat Undesirables in Italy.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

7

1. Reference is made to your 602/7/EC of 30 July.

2. G-2 this HQ have reported as follows:

"1. We have information in our records to the effect that Dr. Dragutin TOTH was a Cabinet Minister in the former Croat Quisling Government.

2. We are seeking political guidance from RESMEN and US. POLAD as to the action which should be taken in connection with all Yugoslav Quisling ministers.

3. If they agree we shall take steps to have TOTH arrested and the other two persons mentioned in your attached letter, of whom we have no trace, closely interrogated."

3. The above is transmitted for your information.

For Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

T. B. JACKMAN,
Lt. Colonel.

3 AUG 1945

Sec 13

1/2
(S/Comm Sec)

BU 11/8
MP

5783
(1 from copy)

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

UFFICIO COLLEGAMENTI A.A.

6/2415/1106

MAY 2 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

Subject: Former Croat officials in Italy.

1. It has been reported to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that a certain number of Croat officials of the former regime of Pavelic are now living in Italy in perfect freedom.

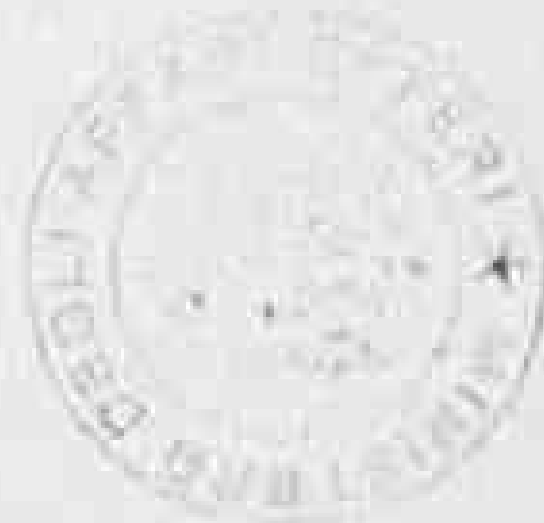
Dr. Dragutin Tich, former Finance Minister in the Ustascia Government with his private secretary, and Dr. Lelas, former official of the Croat Ministry of Foreign Affairs and once charged with the supervision of the Italian diplomatic and consular officials interned at Zagreb, are now at Venice.

The presence has also been reported of another former official of the Croat Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Signor Onofriani.

2. This privileged situation which the aforesaid ex-officials enjoy in Italy contrasts with the treatment received in Croatia by the Italian officials and employees after September 8th, 1943.

3. As these persons could be subjected to police measures on the part of the Italian Authorities, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs warmly request the Allied Commission to confidentially acquaint them with those informations they may have on the matter.

Rome, July 29th 1945



MAY 2 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

Subject: Former Croat officials in Italy.

1. It has been reported to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that a certain number of Croat officials of the former regime of Pavelic are now living in Italy in perfect freedom.

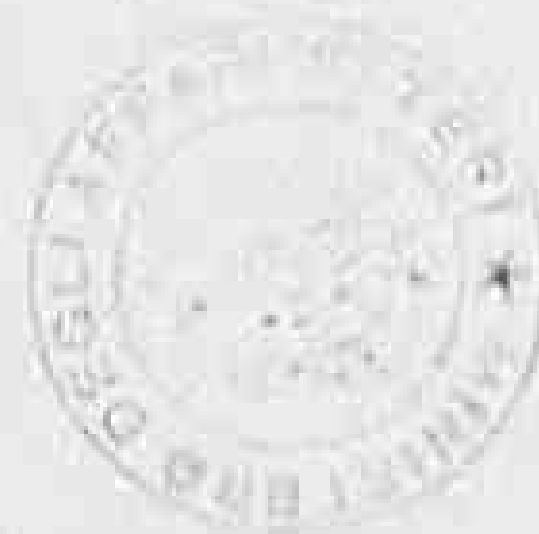
Dr. Dragutin Tota, former Finance Minister in the Ustascia Government with his private secretary, and Dr. Iles, former official of the Croat Ministry of Foreign Affairs and once charged with the supervision of the Italian diplomatic and consular officials interned at Zagreb, are now at Venice.

The presence has also been reported of another former official of the Croat Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Stefan Ordicianin.

2. This privileged situation which the aforesaid ex-officials enjoy in Italy contrasts with the treatment received in Croatia by the Italian officials and employees after September 8th, 1943.

3. As these persons could be subjected to police measures on the part of the Italian Authorities, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs warmly request the Allied Commission to confidentially acquaint them with those informations they may have on the matter.

Rome, July 29th 1945



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1

Ref: 602/7/30.

Tel: 473201

30 July 1945

SUBJECT: Great Undesirables in ITALY.

TO: Allied Force Headquarters,
Attn: G-5 Section.

With reference to our letter 602/6/30 dated 17 July 1945,
we should be glad to have an early reply in order that the Italian
Government may be informed.

For the Chief Commissioner:

R.H. Tansley

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

see Folio 5
see 11 + 15

BU
9/8

Notes
6/4

5183

PA
3/17

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6

Tel: 478201

17 July 1945.

Ref: 602/6/HC.

SUBJECT: Great Undesirables in ITALY.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters,
Attn: G-5 Section.

4

1. Attached hereto is copy of letter dated 7 July 1945 from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs which has been addressed to both the American and British Ambassadors.

2. We have no information of the individuals mentioned and it is thought that you may have knowledge of them. You may also be able to say if there is any substance in the allegations.

For the Chief Commissioner:

see Folio 8

JH
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Incl:
as above

Copy To:

POLAD (A)
POLAD (B)

See 7

B/V
29/7
11/8/45
8/8/45

785017

602

(5)

JUL 17 1945

Chief Commissioner

Subject: Croat undesirable in Italy

I attach a translation of a letter dated 7th July from Signor Prunas to Sir Noel Charles about the alleged presence in Rome and Venice of certain undesirable Croats.

2. For my part, I know nothing of the individuals Signor Prunas mentions, but it would be as well, I think, to endeavour to obtain some information, confirmatory or otherwise, and probably Allied Force Headquarters are best able to provide it. Might I suggest that you ask Allied Force Headquarters whether there is any substance in Signor Prunas' allegations?

(Sd) H.L.D.A. JORDEN

13.vii.45

Political Advisor (DS)

Copied to: British Embassy,
U.S. Political Advisor,
Executive Commissioner, AS. ✓

See 612
(As: HORDEN)

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785017

Translation

15/12119/46

DATE 7th July 1945

From Italian MFA
To Sir Noel Charles.

Mr. Ambassador,

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that it has been ascertained from certain Italian officials formerly interned in Croatia by the Ustashi authorities that there are in Rome and in Venice certain members of the former Pavelic régime living in absolute freedom. They are said to be living undisturbed in the above-mentioned cities and to be provided with considerable means brought with them at the time of their flight from Croatia.

According to present information, Dr. Dragutin Toti who was Minister of Finance in the Ustashi Government, accompanied by his Private Secretary, and Dr. Lelac, ex-official of the Great Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who was for a time in charge of Italian diplomatic and consular officials interned at Zagreb, are said to be actually in Venice.

The presence in Rome has also been reported of another ex-official of the Great Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Curcic.

This privileged position enjoyed by the above-mentioned Great ex-officials in Italy is in sharp contrast with the treatment received in Croatia after the 8th September 1943 by Italians and officials and employees of the Representative of the Italian Government.

I am, etc.,

(Sgd) R. FRONZAS.

See F5

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Ex. Com.

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602

JUL 18 1945
CC 1022

ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS

Office of the Political Adviser (A)

JUL 14 1945

To : Chief Commissioner

Subject: Italian protest against amount of freedom enjoyed by former members of Pavelic regime (Croatia)

① ②

The American Ambassador submits herewith, for the information and consideration of the Chief Commissioner, a copy and translation of a note which he has received from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs protesting against the freedom of movement granted in Italy to the members of the former Pavelich regime in Croatia. The Ambassador will be grateful for any available information in the possession of the Allied Commission in the premises.

Enclosures.

John H. H. Jones

Rome, July 11, 1945

Bu. 16/7

Re (Per. H. H. Jones)

✓

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Translation

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
12120/79

2
No. July 7, 1945

Mr. Ambassador:

I have the honor to communicate to Your Excellency for your timely information that certain Italian officials formerly interned in Croatia by Yugoslav authorities have ascertained the presence in Rome and in Venice, in a state of absolute liberty, of certain exponents of the demised Pavelic regime. Allegedly they are living undisturbed in the abovementioned cities and are provided with large means taken along with them at the moment of their flight from Croatia.

In Venice are to be found, according to recent information, Dr. Dragutin Toth, former Finance Minister of the demised Yugoslav government, accompanied by his personal secretary, and Dr. Lelas, a former official in the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and at one time charged with guarding the Italian diplomatic and consular officials interned at Zagreb.

In Rome has been noted the presence of another former official of the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Omroianin.

This privileged situation which the above-mentioned former Croatian officials are now enjoying in Italy is in complete contrast with the treatment received in Croatia after September 8, 1943, by the Italians and by the officials and employees representing the Italian Government.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, my cordial salutations.

R. Prunas

H.E.
Alexander Kirk
Ambassador of the U.S.A.,
R O M E

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COPY

Ministero degli Affari Esteri
12120/79

Ror 11 7 Lug. 1945

Signor Ambasciatore,

ho l'onore di comunicare a V.E., per Sua opportuna informazione, che da alcuni funzionari italiani già internati in Croazia dalle autorità ustascia è stata constatata la presenza a Roma e a Venezia, in stato di assoluta libertà, di alcuni esponenti del cessato regime di Pavelic. Essi vivrebbero indisturbati nelle predette città e sarebbero provvisti di larghi mezzi recati seco al momento della loro fuga dalla Croazia.

Si troverebbero precisamente a Venezia, secondo quanto risulta finora, il Dr. Dragutin Toth, già Ministro delle Finanze del cessato governo ustascia, accompagnato dal suo segretario particolare, ed il Dr. Lelas, ex-funziionario del Ministero degli Affari Esteri croato e a suo tempo incaricato di sorvegliare i funzionari diplomatici e consolari italiani internati a Zagabria.

A Roma è stata invece notata la presenza di un altro ex-funziionario del Ministero degli Affari Esteri croato, il Sig. Omrcianin.

Questa privilegiata situazione di cui godono in Italia i predetti ex-funzionari croati è in netto contrasto col trattamento ricevuto in Croazia dopo l'8 Settembre 1943 dagli italiani e dai funzionari ed impiegati delle Rappresentanze del Governo italiano.

Voglia gradire, signor Ambasciatore, i miei cordiali saluti.

R. Prunas

S.E. il Signor
Alexander K I R K
Ambasciatore degli S.U.A.
R O M A

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