

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/693
(VOL. III)

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785017

10000/109/693
(VOL. III)

CIVILIAN DISTURBANCES, SICILY
JAN. 1945 - APR. 1946

254.

V.P. C.A.S. (for T. S.C.)

Please note Ex Comm's comment on 4 251
at in 253. H.S. 3/4

255Ex. Comm.

The report at 251 and similar reports are compiled from
info obtained through Carabiniere sources.
The report think was by the long distance telephone company
by the C.L.O. Sicily, ^{which is} ~~which is~~ ^{which is} an attack on the
Police forces in Sicily. Even then the info. would be late
as, except for any thing which took place at PALERMO,
the C.L.O. would have to await the info. from outlying
Carabiniere stations.

A | C.L.O. Sicily has understood instructions to report
anything of an exceptional nature or questioned for its
means.

B | If you feel these Carabiniere reports are too static
P. Value will instruct P.S. S/C to cease compilation.

McLary C.A.S.

3/4/46 H.S. 4/4

V.P. C.A.S.

256.

A added, B No, let them continue to

complete them for the present. Please

up. I named through Carabiniere trucks
 I do not think we of the long distance telephone ready
 by the T.L.O. facility, ^{which is not} here is an attack on the
 place facts in Sicily. Even then the wife would be late
 as, except for any they which took place at PALERMO,
 the T.L.O. would have to avoid the wife from entering
 Carabiniere stations.

A | C.L.O. facility has understood instructions to report
 anything of an exceptional nature by question for which
 means.

B | If you feel there Carabiniere reports due to state to be
 P. Value will instruct P.S. S/C to cease compilation.

McLary: C.A.S.

3/14/46. H. H. H.

V.P. C.A.S.

26.

A. H. H.

B. H. H., let them continue to

W. G.

complete them for the present please

C. C. H. 514

257

38/44 5115

books. File returned

please keep in
C.A. H. H.

5 April 46.

263

C.S.O. H. 19/4.

Folio 262 for acc'r info, please ack 194

H. H. 30/4

267

C.S.O. Folio 266 and report at 264 for info please ack 194

233

Land Power. Mc Conn (aka aka suspended)

My. see pp 227 and 231

for information:

15/12
Kiddington to lot.

234

230 about, aka land Power. 2/6. City 227/2000 10/2
120000

236

~~236~~
alone

I do not think 235 requires any action.

5 Mar 45

89. 6/3.

237

237-

CSO. /
H. of the trouble - about these reports has been the
retention of them in P.S. & to Com with the result that
they are marked N.R. by my office. Let this report
be returned - and as Ring Case has returned to the

231 about, at last time 5/6. City 1278 sent 10/2.

236

Ex Comr

I do not think 235 requires any action.

Sh

5 Mar 45

8/14/3

237

Ex Comr

He of the trouble about these reports has been the
retaining of them in P.S. & Co. with the result that
they are marked N.R. by my office. Let this report
be produced - and as Big Carr has returned to the
charge I will make comment thereon.
No action DV 7/3 5114

242

Ex Comr

Report at 248 for info, please Adv 2/13

252

Ex Comr

Original of Report at 251 for LCC and
copy for the info of Ex Comr, please Adv 1/4
253.

Pinkerton but very ancient news. Contact can get
this by telephone? DV 1/14

218
 217
 C60. Refs from a secret source in Sicily
 have shown to CDS for comment.
 18/1/4

219
 V.P. CDS
 1st see 214 - 217 and above
 CDS minute.
 5/2. 1/4 CDS

CDS 220
 Entirely a matter for Italian war Ag
 Gen Castellano appears to have put Bonhaine
 fully in the picture I see was object in
 making of better communication to the Galt.
 7 Feb 44
 17/1/42
 5113 -

128

C50/ 227 which applies to 213 on Vol II

COS

220

Entirely a matter for Italian use. As
Gen Castellano appears to have put Bonhomie
fully in the picture I see no object in
making any further communication to the G.M.

7 Feb 44

WGC/2

WGC

5113 -

225

C50

Please see 227 which replies to 213 on Vol II
Ref para 3 (h) Jatis 225 I presume PSSC
will consent with Land Forces on question
of tanks as otherwise I do not see how
PSSC can be expected to advise on tank types.
Do you wish me to follow up PSSC action
where indicated?

13/3

232

C50

231 replies to yours at 223

14/3.

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HQ. SICILY LIAISON GROUP
APO 394

3618

266

File: AC/S/O 01.

26 April, 46

SUBJECT:- Disturbances.

APR 28 1946

TO :- Headquarters Allied Commission, APO 394,
(attn. Executive Commissioner).

1. Enclosed herewith for information is a newspaper account of a disturbance which occurred at Catania and Lentini on 23 April, 1946.

John Lund
JOHN LUND, Major, A.U.S.,
A.C. Chief Liaison Officer, Sicily.

M267

5112

PA 30/10/46

LL
(LAPTK)

GRAVI DISORDINI A CATANIA E LENTINI

LA FOLLA TUMULTUANTE INVADE e saccheggia alcuni depositi di viveri

Tentati assalti ai magazzini del Consorzio Agrario e alla Prefettura di Catania - Forni e depositi di grano devastati a Lentini. Carri armati caricano i dimostranti - Un morto e alcuni feriti

CATANIA, 23

Stamane la preoccupazione per la scarsità dei generi alimentari di prima necessità e l'agitazione per l'elevatissimo costo raggiunto negli ultimi giorni del pane e della pasta in Borsa nera si è fatta più viva degenerando presto in una incontenibile manifestazione di persone che, per puro numero, non ha raggiunto maggiore novità.

A piazza S. Spirito, sin dalle prime ore di stamane, sette donne attorniate da un gruppo di ragazzi si erano lamentate pubblicamente ed alla voce per il costo del pane che si veniva venduto a 140-150 lire l'etichettatura e per la mancanza assoluta della pasta. Quel piccolo gruppo di persone che protestava andava via via ingrossandosi fino a che un corteo di quasi un centinaio di persone, in massima parte donne, si avviava verso la prefettura. In una delegazione di cinque donne veniva di volta in volta nominato il padre fu richiesta la diminuzione del prezzo del pane in Borsa nera ed una più larga tolleranza nel commercio di indumenti usati in piazza Carlo Alberto. Cominciò dal quale numero

popolari tragorono i mezzi di sostentamento.

Aveute le più ampie assicurazioni da parte del funzionario le donne ammonivano la Prefettura non perfettamente soddisfatta e decise ritirarsi a vivere ad ogni costo pane e pasta. Ma a quell'ora (le 10 circa) la Borsa nera aveva subito totalmente il proprio valore.

Un grosso assenteismo si formò in piazza Università e alla folla tumultuante ed armata di bastoni tentava inutilmente di parlare per una prima volta (sic) Giuseppe Scimenza, socialista. Questi contemporaneamente era già occupato, un'altra folla di sfammati aveva tentato l'assalto ai magazzini di farina del Consorzio Agrario in via Messina. Il pronto intervento di agenti di P. S. in Jeep riuscì a trattenere la pressione dei dimostranti ed a salvare i magazzini dalla sacca.

La circolazione in via Etnea era completamente paralizzata ed alle 12.40 i dimostranti in numero di quasi diecimila bloccavano il loro ingresso in piazza Duomo e si dividevano in due colonne verso la Prefettura con l'evidente intento di assaltarla. All'arrivo della

folla sulla quale è l'ingresso della Prefettura un robusto schieramento di carabinieri ed agenti in autocarri stavano per sbarrare la strada. Alla popolazione per la seconda volta fu chiesto di parlare l'avv. Scimenza. L'avvocato Scimenza insieme ad una delegazione di sua volta inviato dal Prefetto per chiedere una distribuzione straordinaria di pasta. Il Prefetto ha assicurato il suo interessamento in tal senso ed ha disposto che da domani venga distribuita ai cittadini abbondante carne in scatola e di polvere di piselli.

In questo frattempo la folla che aveva assaltato i magazzini del consorzio agrario aspramente da un noto pregiudicato catanese, si è sporcata verso via Ventimiglia dove hanno sede i depositi di farina della ditta Leonardo. Rinfacciando le accuse che la folla ha fatto irruzione dando inizio al saccheggio. Sono intervenuti sul posto reparti di carabinieri e un carro armato e sono riusciti a domare i rivoltosi dopo aver sparato numerose cariche di mitra in aria.

Tutta la farina che era stata sparata è stata recuperata. Una ventina di individui sono stati fermati e condotti in

gli agenti e GAI. Sono stati sparati di sangue e senza serie conseguenze.

Ma di sangue, neppure intenzionalmente prodotto, non è stato. Poco prima delle 17, nel cortile del Palazzo di Giustizia sfuggiva il mitra carico dalle mani del capabondere ventiduenne Michele Gargiulo Gragnano (Napoli) che veniva colpito all'inguine da un colpo esplosivo dall'arma nel furto contro il suolo. Il proiettile attraversava in pieno il corpo del disgraziato carabiniere e andava ad uscire dalla nuca.

Trasportato agonizzante all'ospedale di S. Maria si è spento alle 17.10 munito dei conforti religiosi.

Anche a Lentini si deplorano altri gravi disordini.

Stamane nelle prime ore del mattino un forte numero di lavoratori circa 200 si è riunito nella piazza dimostrando tumultuosamente per la scarsità dei generi di prima necessità. Eserciti da alcuni fautori, i dimostranti hanno assaltato i forni e le panetterie del paese saccheggiandoli. L'intervento dei carabinieri non è valso ad impedire il saccheggio e ricorre a contenere i tumultuanti ed impedire più gravi incidenti.

Poco dopo gli stessi dimostranti in piccoli gruppi hanno dato l'assalto alle fattorie ed alle case di alcuni grossi proprietari saccheggiandole depositi di grano. Sono state assaltate le case del barone Baccarelli, del barone Montagna, del proprietario Signorile e del sig. Bonnici. Il grano sottratto è stato ammucchiato nei locali della Camera del Lavoro ed alcuni dei più accesi dimostranti hanno espresso la volontà di farlo distribuire gratuitamente ai lavoratori. Il grano ammucchiato alla Camera del Lavoro è pianificato dai carabinieri. Non si è avuto alcun incidente, si è solo riscontrato qualche contesa nei vari affari accapiti qui e là per il paese.

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Quindici per essere interrotti.

In piazza Stesicoro intanto dalle 12.50 fino alle 13 è stata una sparatoria continua di colpi e di carabiniere nel tentativo di fare allontanare i rivoltosi. I colpi avevano preso di mira la Prefettura. Verso le 13 hanno dovuto intervenire due carri armati che seguiti da una trentina di carabinieri in motocicletta armati di mitra hanno caricato la folla sparando in aria e riuscivano a contenere temporaneamente la smania.

Alcuni minuti dopo una pattuglia di carabinieri ha dovuto fare uso delle armi nuovamente per salvare un mezzo scialuppa di cui si era impadronita la folla nel pressi del palazzo di Giustizia. La folla è ritornata indietro e passando per via S. Gaetano si è ammucchiata davanti la Camera del lavoro sventando una tumultuosa dimostrazione. Altri colpi sono stati sparati per scongiurare l'assembramento della folla la quale rifugiata verso piazza Stesicoro ed assaliva un tranvai della linea n. 5 con l'intento intenzionale di sovvertire per attraversare il cordone di agenti che sbarrava la strada per la Prefettura.

In piazza Stesicoro l'avv. Sestini salito sul monumento a Bellerofonte ha atteso per la terza volta la folla invitandola alla calma. Ma le sue parole sono cadute tra le urla della folla. Un'imboscata che ha fatto subito piglio a grossi pezzi lanciando una fitta sassaiola contro i carabinieri e gli agenti che si trovarono schiacciati dall'altra parte della piazza nei pressi del palazzo di Giustizia. Una violenta sparatoria seguì da un luogo fuori e verso questa volta a liberare per sempre piazza dai dimostranti. E' così in poi la situazione è rimasta ad avviarsi alla normalità.

La situazione di ordine si è chiusa nel per morio del sangue freddo e dell'abnegazione dimostrati dai carabinieri, dagli agenti e dai soldati senza spargimento di sangue e senza serie conseguenze.

Ma di sangue seppure in quantità prodotta, non è stato poco prima delle 13. I carabinieri del Palazzo di Giustizia sfuggiti il mitra caricato dalle mani dei carabinieri vennero Michele Carlucci da Cragno (Napoli) che veniva colpito all'inguine da un colpo esplosivo dall'arma nel tutto centro il suo. Il proiettile attraversava in pieno il corpo del disgraziato carabinieri e andava ad uccidere dalla nuca.

Trasportato agonizzante all'ospedale di S. Maria si è spento alle 13.10 munito di confetti religiosi.

Anche a Lentini si deplorano altri gravi disordini. Rimanere nelle prime ore del mattino un forte numero di

GRAVI DISORDINI A CATANIA E LENTINI

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Tentati assalti ai magazzini del Consorzio Agrario e alla Prefettura di Catania - Forni e depositi di grano devastati a Lentini. Carri armati caricano i dimostranti - Un morto e alcuni feriti

CATANIA, 23. I popolani traggono i mezzi di vita sulla quale è l'ingresso. Si stanno preoccupando per la situazione. Anche a Lentini, dove si è verificato un grave disordine.

GRAVI DISORDINI A CATANIA E LENTINI

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CATANIA, 29

Stamane la preoccupazione per la scarsità dei viveri alimentari di prima necessità e l'agitazione per le notizie secondo cui i dimostranti negli ultimi giorni del mese e dalle bande di mazzette si sono riuniti in massa, provocando panico in tutta la città, ha portato alla manifestazione di protesta che per puro caso si è svolta in viale della Repubblica.

A piazza S. Spirito, sin dalle prime ore di mattinata, sotto il portico di un palazzo, si sono radunati alcuni dimostranti, per lo più giovani, che hanno cominciato a distribuire volantini e a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura. Ivi una delegazione di cinque donne, vestite di bianco, ha cominciato a distribuire volantini e a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura.

Un primo gruppo di dimostranti, che proveniva anche da un corteo di quasi un centinaio di persone, in numero di circa duecento, si era radunato in piazza S. Spirito, dove si era cominciato a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura. Ivi una delegazione di cinque donne, vestite di bianco, ha cominciato a distribuire volantini e a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura.

Un terzo, proveniente da viale della Repubblica, si era radunato in piazza S. Spirito, dove si era cominciato a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura.

Un quarto, proveniente da viale della Repubblica, si era radunato in piazza S. Spirito, dove si era cominciato a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura. Ivi una delegazione di cinque donne, vestite di bianco, ha cominciato a distribuire volantini e a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura.

Un quinto, proveniente da viale della Repubblica, si era radunato in piazza S. Spirito, dove si era cominciato a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura. Ivi una delegazione di cinque donne, vestite di bianco, ha cominciato a distribuire volantini e a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura.

Un sesto, proveniente da viale della Repubblica, si era radunato in piazza S. Spirito, dove si era cominciato a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura. Ivi una delegazione di cinque donne, vestite di bianco, ha cominciato a distribuire volantini e a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura.

La Prefettura di Catania, che ha ricevuto notizie di tentativi di assalto ai magazzini del Consorzio Agrario e alla Prefettura di Catania, ha disposto che da domani venga distribuita ai cittadini abbondante carne in scatola e polverino di pasta.

In questo frattempo la folla che aveva assediato i magazzini del Consorzio Agrario, si era dispersa, ma alcuni dimostranti, che avevano tentato di assaltare i magazzini, sono rimasti in piazza S. Spirito, dove si era cominciato a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura.

La Guardia di finanza si è mossa per il controllo dei magazzini del Consorzio Agrario e della Prefettura di Catania, dove si era cominciato a fare il corteo verso la Prefettura.

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TRANSLATION - from "GIORNALE DI SICILIA" dated 24 April 1946.

SERIOUS DISORDERS AT CATANIA AND LENTINI.

A tumultuous crowd enters and sacks deposits of foodstuffs and attempt to assault the warehouses of Consorzio Agrario and the Prefettura at Catania. Bakeries and Deposits of grain devastated at Lentini. Tanks used against the demonstrators - one person killed and others wounded.

Today the preoccupation for lack of first grade foodstuffs and the agitation against the recent high cost of bread and pasta on the black market has become intensified and led to a riot which only by a miracle did not reach graver proportions. At Piazza S. Spirito, from the early hours of the morning, seven women accompanied by many boys were publicly complaining in loud voice against the high cost of bread, which was selling at 140-150 lire per kilo, and against the lack of maccaroni. This little crowd soon became a procession of about 100 persons, chiefly women, and their complaints were directed against the Prefettura. At the Prefettura a delegation of 5 women was received by an Official who was requested to lower the price of bread in the black market and allow a greater tolerance in the sale of old clothes in Piazza Carlo Alberto, from which sales many poor men obtained the means to live. Having obtained assurances the women left the Prefettura but not at all satisfied, they decided to find bread and maccaroni at all costs, but at this time (approx 10 am) the black market had already closed. A great crowd had assembled in Piazza Univeraita and Avv Giuseppe Sapienza, armed with a cudgel, attempted to address them. About the same time another assembly of rioters had attempted to assault the flour warehouses of the Consorzio Agrario in Via Messina. The prompt intervention of the P.S. Agents who arrived in "Jeeps" succeeded in restraining the rioters and preventing the warehouses being destroyed.

Circulation in Via Etnea was made totally impossible and at about 12.40 hours about 2,000 rioters entered Piazza Stesicoro and moved towards the Prefettura with intention to assault it. At the approaches to the Prefettura a strong number of CC. RR. and P.S. Agents with trucks barred the approach. For the second time Avv Sapienza attempted to address the rioters and he with a delegation were sent to the Prefect to demand an extraordinary allotment of maccaroni. The Prefect gave assurance of his interest in this matter and has given orders for the distribution of a ration of corned beef and powdered green peas to the citizens. At the same time the crowd that assaulted the warehouses of Consorzio Agrario led by a well-known gangster of Catania, started towards via Ventimiglia, where the flour warehouses of firm Leonardo are located. The crowd broke into the warehouse, and began stealing the flour. The Carabinieri intervened with a tank and succeeded in taming the rioters. The flour that was taken was given back, and twenty people have been taken into custody by the Questura, for questioning. At same time, in Piazza Stesicoro, Police and Carabinieri fired continuously into the air in order to keep the crowd away from Prefettura. Two tanks followed by thirty Carabinieri, on motor-cycles, armed with Tommy-guns charged the crowd firing upwards and succeeding temporary to calm it. A few minutes later a patrol of Carabinieri rescued a Maresciallo that the crowd had

caught in the vicinity of Palazzo of Giustizia. The crowd returned, crossing ^{through} via S. Gastano, and assembled before Casera del Lavoro. Many shots had been fired to disperse the crowd, marching to Piazza Stesicoro, that was assaulting a tramcar in order to cross the barrage of Carabinieri in it. Avv. Sapienza climbed the Bellini's Monument and spoke to the crowd for the third time trying to calm it. His words were lost among the shouting of the crowd that began to stone both the Police and Carabinieri at the opposite side of the square. A violent shooting, followed by a ~~panic~~ escape by the people, succeeded in breaking the crowd and situation once again became normal. This tumultuous day ended without shedding of ^{civilian} blood, thanks to the courage and abnegation of Carabinieri, Police and troops.

One Carabiniere was killed by an accidental shot when he dropped his own Tommy-gun, in the court yard of the Palazzo of Giustizia.

There have been other serious riots at Lentini too. In the early hours of this morning about two hundred workmen assembled in the Square protesting about the shortage of food. They were provoked by some criminals and stormed the bakeries and shops. The Carabinieri intervened and although they could not prevent the looting they did succeed in tempering the rioters and thus avoiding further serious incidents. Small groups of rioters later stormed the farms and houses of many large owners and also attacked the grain warehouse. The looted corn was stored in the premises of the Casera del Lavoro and some of the more desperate rioters demanded the corn be distributed to the workers, but a Carabinieri guard was placed on the corn. No further incidents have been reported.

3618 80
ALLIED COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM 262

SUBJECT: Transmission of Information.

TO: Executive Commissioner.

18th April, 1946

The attached is old history. It seems to me quite useless for the Liaison Officer to send us translations of newspaper cuttings which normally also appear in the Home Press.

If the Liaison Officer is unable to obtain first hand information, he should arrange with the Headquarters, Questore Palermo to be supplied with the relevant information, but even then with only one Liaison Officer covering the whole of Sicily the information will be out of date when it arrives.

If, however, Liaison Officers are to be abolished shortly, no action may be necessary.

MC
M. CARR, Brigadier.
VP. CA. Section.

PIA.
8/18/4.
(CPT K)

See memo 243

PA
7/4

785017

HQ SICILY LIAISON GROUP, A.U.S.
APO 394

CA Fee
261

SUBJECT:- Disturbance - Messina.

26 March, 46

TO :- HQ. Allied Commission APO 394,
Executive Commissioner.

MAR 30 1946

30 MAR 1946

1. Attached herewith for your information is a press clipping, reporting a disturbance which occurred at Messina on Saturday, 22nd March, 1946.

2. As this report is our only source of information on this disturbance, it is submitted in place of a personal report by the undersigned.

John Lund
JOHN LUND, Major, A.U.S.,
Chief Liaison Officer, Sicily.



SANGUINOSE DIMOSTRAZIONI A MESSINA

Un morto, ventaquattro feriti devastazioni e saccheggi di uffici

Incendi nei locali dell'Intendenza di Finanza, dell'Esattoria delle imposte e dell'Assistenza postbellica - I magazzini del Consorzio agrario e dell'U. N. R. R. A. svaligiati - Blocchi e perquisizioni

Messina, 22. Una dolorosa, fittissima giornata ha visto ieri la città di Messina per i fatti di eccezionale gravità cui hanno dato luogo alcuni disordini fra quali, come in circostanze simili, non mancano di intrufarsi una violenta tempesta e una chiovra di ragazzi tagali accomunati da elementi irrispettabili.

La cronaca registra un morto e ventaquattro feriti, nonché l'incendio della Intendenza delle imposte e di alcuni fra i più importanti uffici della Intendenza di Finanza e di quelli dell'Assistenza postbellica, nonché il saccheggio di due fra i più gravi e importanti magazzini di deposito del Consorzio Agrario e dell'UNRRA.

Questa mattina dopo le ore nove circa un centinaio di disoccupati che avevano appena la firma dell'Ufficio di presidenza sociale, legati forse da alcuni elementi irrispettabili, facevano una dimostrazione. I dimostranti, che scopo di raccogliere un maggior numero di aderenti, si recavano al tribunale dove reclamavano la chiusura degli uffici, decretò l'uscita di tutti gli impiegati. Ovvero le loro si recarono in vari istituti, si presentarono per ricevere la sospensione delle lezioni e lo scioglimento degli studenti. Gli impiegati i cui uffici erano già stati chiusi si astenevano però dal partecipare alla manifestazione, ma ai dimostranti si aprì una grande querelle di giornalisti, di proprietari e di ragazzi che, armati di pezzi di legno e procedendo in maniera disordinata, percuotevano diverse vetrine, mentre i negozi ripetutamente abbandonati le loro finestre.

Dopo di avere fatto chiudere gli uffici e fatto inferire per i servizi pubblici, i dimostranti si dividevano in vari gruppi, uno dei quali percorreva la via del Boorginesse e del Mile e il Viale San

nel recinto della villa, dove si trovavano gli uffici e si davano a battere a terra e per le aule tutto il mobilio e i documenti, appiccandosi il fuoco che si propagava a tutto l'edificio. L'intervento dei vigili del fuoco è stato in un primo tempo ostacolato dai dimostranti, più successivamente i vigili poterono iniziare l'opera di spegnimento.

I dimostranti, facevano ritorno in città per il Viale San Martino, battendo sulla strada mobili e carte custodite negli uffici dell'Assistenza postbellica in cui si trovavano anche degli indumenti che dovevano essere distribuiti a reduci, appiccandosi il fuoco. Procedendo nel ritorno in città, essi saccheggiavano una piccola rivendita di generi di mercanzia sia in una bottega della Piazza Dante, gestita dal milite di guerra Casaparra.

Giunti in Piazza Carroli, la colonna si divideva ancora in vari gruppi. Uno di essi faceva prigionieri nel Coesma Teatro Carroli interrogando questi che erano e obbligando gli spettatori ad abbandonare il locale. Altri dimostranti saccheggiavano il postificio Comunale, altri ancora si dirigevano ai magazzini dell'U. N. R. R. A. e al Consorzio Agrario dove trovarono qualche fuorilegge fra cui il direttore dell'U. N. R. R. A. e il rag. Battaglia, i quali insieme ad altri oppositori resistevano. Ma la mas-

sa aveva ragione di loro e riuscì a penetrare nei magazzini dando luogo a un saccheggio ed appiccando una gran parte delle derrate fra cui micchero, sappa, in polvere legumi e scatole.

Nel frattempo un altro gruppo di dimostranti si dirigeva verso il Palazzo della prefettura davanti al quale era schierata numerosa forza pubblica che conteneva la pressione della folla. Nello stesso tempo altri dimostranti dirigeva verso l'Intendenza di Finanza, dopo di avere disarmato due agenti, riuscirono a penetrare negli uffici e, si dice, usando una bottiglia di benzina procurata dai dimostranti, in un pubblico rifiuto, appiccavano il fuoco ai mobili e alle carte contenute in alcuni reparti.

Mentre i militi cercavano di catturare i dimostranti, uno di essi, in possesso di un micchietto, esplose senza un milite del 46 Pantera un colpo di fucile ferendolo gravemente. Tutti i militi, a segno di intimidazione, esplosero in aria numerosi colpi di micchietto e raffiche di mitra, mentre da parte dei dimostranti venivano fatte esplodere diverse bombe a mano. Quindi sul posto intanto i vigili del fuoco iniziavano l'opera di spegnimento che è continuata fino alle ore 19.15.

Contemporaneamente un altro gruppo di dimostranti riuscì a sfondare le porte dei magazzini del Consorzio A-

grario, sita in Via Garibaldi, e l'Intendenza di Finanza ex Istituto asportando derrate in quantità considerevoli. Il saccheggio è durato indisturbato per circa due ore, senza che alcun agente si fosse mosso.

All'Intendenza di Finanza sono andati distrutti gli uffici delle pervenute, dei rimborsamenti dei danni bellici del demanio, delle imposte. Danneggiato è rimasto anche l'ufficio del catasto e delle tasse. I danni all'Esattoria sono anche rilevanti e quelli al Consorzio Agrario e all'UNRRA rilevanti.

La forza pubblica è stata insufficiente anche perché numerose città questa mattina erano state avvisate di provincia in servizio d'ordine pubblico in sette Comuni. In questi domini la ventura, da grande avere, fuori le difese amministrative.

Il milite del 46 Pantera contro il quale fu esploso il colpo di micchietto è deceduto, questa sera all'ospedale. La povera vittima del dovere è il soldato Salvatore Cristofanelli della classe 1925 da Palermo, attualmente in via di San Salvatore.

In serata la calma è ritornata in città, dove pattuglie e forze dell'ordine pattugliano le vie. Sono stati arrestati pochi di blocco e vengono effettuate numerose perquisizioni, allo scopo di recuperare parte delle merci saccheggiate.

Il Prefetto ha emesso un decreto col quale sono proibiti gli assembramenti di oltre due persone.

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regolato e tenuto sotto l'occhio del catasto e delle tasse. I darsi all'Estimoria sono andati rilevanti e quelli al Consorzio Agrario e all'UNERA.

La forza pubblica è stata insufficiente anche perché non aveva nella questa mattina un solo stato civile a preventivo in servizio d'ordine pubblico in sette Comuni, tra cui domaniale, ventura, do- vevano avere luogo le elezioni amministrative.

Il mille del 46 Parteria contro il quale fu esposto il caso di moneta è deceduto questa sera all'ospedale. La povera vittima del dolore è il soldato Salvatore Carmona della classe 1925 da Palermo albanese in via E. Salvatore.

In serata la calma è tornata in città dove pattuglie di forze dell'ordine percorrono le vie. Sono stati assenti prati di bianco e vengono effettuate le numerose perquisizioni, allo scopo di recuperare parte delle merci saccheggiate.

Il Prefetto ha emesso un decreto col quale sono proibiti gli assembramenti di oltre due persone.

La parata che costituisce la premessa della festa. Nelle stesse ore altri dimostranti diretti verso l'incendio di piazza, dopo di avere dimostrato due agiti, l'incendio è penetrato negli uffici e si è di- versata procurata dal dimo- strante in un pubblico rifor- tore, applicando il fuoco ai mobili e alle carte con- nate ai alcuni reparti.

Mentre i milili cercavano di calcolare i dimostranti, uno di essi, in possesso di un ma- schetto, esprimeva contro un milite del 46 Parteria un co- po di fucile ferendolo grave- mente. Tutti i miliziani si se- gno di intimidazione, esplo- sivo in aria numerosi colpi di moschetto e raffiche di mi- tra, mentre da parte dei di- mostranti venivano fatte le esplosioni diverse bombe a ma- schetta sul posto intanto i ragli del fuoco innalzavano la zona di sgombramento che è sottratta fino alle ore 19.15.

Contemporaneamente un al- tro gruppo di dimostranti rib- belle a sfondare le porte dei negozi del Consorzio A-

grario, facendosi in- torno in città per il Viale San Martino, bullavano nella stra- da mobili e parte mobili in- telletti dell'Assimilazione pos- sibile a cui si trovarono ac- cidenti emersi distribuiti ai re- sidi, appiccandoli. I fuochi, bruciando nel ritorno in ca- pitale, essi saccheggiavano una piccola rivendita di generi di minipolizia in una barac- chetta della Piazza Dante, gestita dal fratello di guerra Casaparra.

Ostenta a Piazza Carità, in solenne a divi deve sorreggere in vari gruppi. Uno di essi fa- cista irruzione nel Consorzio Agrario, Carità infrangendo qual- che vetro e obbligando gli spietati ad abbandonare il locale. Altri dimostranti ac- cingevano il possidente Car- mona, altri ancora si dirigge- vano ai magazzini dell'U.N.R.A. e al Consorzio Agrario a- lo in Via Indipendente, dove trovavano qualche funzione- ria fra cui il direttore dell'U.N.R.A. e il rag. Battaglia, i quali insieme ad agenti oppo- nevano resistenza. Ma la massa

è l'incendio fatto, non- che l'arrivo della Estimoria delle imposte e di alcuni fra i più importanti uffici della Consorzio Agrario e dell'UNERA.

Questa mattina dopo le ore nove circa un centinaio di di- mostranti che avevano tipo- le le firme all'ufficio di pre- sidenza sociale, belga, forse da alcuni elementi irrequieti, bloccavano una d'imo- strazione, i dimostranti, allo scopo di raccogliere un mag- gior numero di aderenti, si re- clamavano al municipio, dove ro- dano, con la chiazza degli uffici, con la facciata di tutti gli impiegati. Osservando lo as- so, si recavano in vari lanu- si a manifestare per chiedere la sospensione delle lezioni e lo intervento degli studenti. Gli agenti erano di numero, erano già stati chiusi al servizio, cer- cando di partecipare alla ma- nifestazione, ma si dimostro- ri, si saliva una grande quan- tità di giovani, di presen- tazioni e di ragazzi che armati di pezzi di legno e provvisti di in maniera disordinata, penetravano diverse vie di- versità, mentre i forze rap- damente abbassavano le loro, sinistre.

Dopo di avere fatto chiu- dere gli uffici e fatto introm- bere i servizi cittadini, i de- mostranti si dividevano in ve- ci gruppi, uno dei quali pe- netrava le vie del Riberghino- lo e del Mile e il Viale San Martino, mentre un altro gruppo si recava sotto gli el- li del Consorzio Agrario. Un altro gruppo restava per i mi- nistri rivenditori clandestini che si trovavano con le loro orecchie nella Piazza D-4. Ve- nivano dei accompagnati davvan- ti al Consorzio Agrario a- lo in Piazza Palazzo di Ca- stello.

Intanto tutti i servizi del Consorzio Agrario ed estrau- ranti venivano fatti sospen- dere; i dimostranti rompone- ro vetro di una vettura il cui conduttore non voleva abbe- roni alle agenzioni di auto- bari del luogo.

Ritornati in gruppo, i mani- festanti percorrevano quindi le diverse dell'Estimoria co- mune che ha ancora la sua sede nel nome Ozzu, alle pe- riferie a sud della città. Ozzu è sul posto i dimostranti, che trovavano l'Estimoria presen- ta dalla forza pubblica, in- sistenti contro le imposte de- gli uffici una città nazionale.

Ritornato poi a pettinare

Il Consorzio Agrario e dell'UNERA.

Il Consorzio Agrario e dell'UNERA.

TRANSLATION from "GIORNALE DI SICILIA" 23rd. March 46. 159

A BLOODY RIOT AT MESSINA - One person killed and thirty four wounded, devastation and sacking of offices. Burning of quarters belonging to the Intendenza di Finanza, to "Esattoria delle Imposte" and "Assistenza Post-bellica". Warehouses of UNRRA and "Consorzio Agrario" sacked.

This has been a mournfull and painful day for Messina due to the exceptional and serious circumstances caused by some unemployed persons, among whom a number of violent dads and many boys - surely instigated by irresponsible persons. One person killed and thirty four men wounded are to be registered, besides, the burning of "Esattoria delle Imposte", and some among the most important offices of the "Intendenza di Finanza" and of the "Assistenza Postbellica; also the sacking of two of the most important warehouses belonging to "Consorzio Agrario" and UNRRA.

This morning at about nine o'clock, one hundred unemployed persons, who had signed the register of "Previdenza Sociale", perhaps instigated by irresponsible individuals, prepared a riot. The rioters, in order to assemble a greater number of adherents, went to the town-hall requesting the closing of the offices and the departure of the whole staff. Then they went to several schools asking for the interruption of lessons and requesting the students' intervention. The employees, forced to leave their offices, abstained themselves from the riot, but a great number of dissolute fellows, of rogues and boys armed with cudgels, had joined the rioters, going all over several streets disorderly; meanwhile shops put down their lift-gates. The rioters, after they had obtained the closing of the offices, and the interruption of the town services, divided themselves in groups: one of which went all over Via del Risorgimento and Via dei Mille, and Viale San Martino; another one went to the Genio Civile Offices. Another group made inroad on many black-market bread retailers who were stationed in Piazza due Vie, while some inconsiderates attacked a sale-shop of the Consorzio Agrario at Piazza Palazzo di Giustizia. At the same time all the town carriages were stopped, the rioters broke down a glass on a carriage, as the driver did not obey at their injunction to stop his work. After assembling themselves, the rioters proceeded against the Esattoria Comunale, which is still in the Rione Gazzi, in the south of the periphery of the town. At their arrival they found the Esattoria Comunale garrisoned by the Public Safety Police, and begun a violent shower of stones against the Office defenders. They succeeded to penetrate in the villa, where the offices are situated, throwing all furniture and documents down and setting fire, which propagated itself to the whole building. Intervention by the firemen was at first stopped, but at last they ~~xxxx~~ could start to extinguish the fire. The rioters then came back to town through Viale San Martino, threw to the street documents and furniture of the "Assistenza Post-bellica Offices" where garments which had been distributed to the returning prisoners of war were kept, setting fire. During their return they sacked a little shop situated in a barrack in Piazza Dante, property of a mutilated soldier called Caccopardo. The rioters reached Piazza Cairoli, ~~xxxxx~~ divided themselves in several

groups. One of them rushed in the Theater "Cairolì" ~~xxx~~ breaking down some glasses and requesting the spectators to leave. Other rioters sacked the "vermicelli" factory Curcuruto; some others went to UNRRA warehouse and to Consorzio Agrario at Via Industriale; they found some Officials, among them the Director Dott. Tucci, and Rag. Battaglia, who opposed resistance together with some agents. But the people got rid of them and penetrated in the warehouses sacking and carrying away a great part of the goods, such as sugar, dried soup, vegetables and canned stuffs. On the same time, another group of rioters went to the Prefettura where many agents stopped the presson of the crowd. Meantime other rioters went to the Intendenza di Finanza and penetrated the offices after having disarmed the agents; it is stated that by using a bottle of petrol they set the fire to the furniture and documents in various parts. Soldiers were trying to drive back the crowd; a rioter, who had a musket, fired against a soldier wounding him badly. All the soldiers fired in the air several intimidating shots with muskets and tommyguns, while the rioters cast several hand-granades. When the firemen arrived the extinguishment of the fire begun. Another group of rioters burst the doors of the Consorzio Agrario warehouses in Via Garibaldi and Piazza ex-Littorio, carrying away a lot of foodstuffs. The sacking was held for about two hours and undisturbed; no police noticed.

The following sections were destroyed at the Intendenza di Finanza: pensions, damages of war, demesne, tax offices. The taxes and Cadastre Office were damaged. Damages at the Esattoria Comunale are considerable and those at the Consorzio Agrario and UNRRA, very considerable.

The Police was insufficient because several units had been sent to seven Communes in the province, where administrative elections will be held on the next Sunday.

The soldier of the 46° Infantry Command, wounded, died in the Hospital this evening. At night the calm returned in the city, where police and troops patrolled the streets. Blockade-posts have been established and many search have been made in order to trace the sacked goods.

The Prefect has issued an order with which the mob of more than five persons is forbidden.



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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

APR 1 1946

Tel: 489081-365

AJ/14602/5/PB

29 March 1946

SUBJECT : Public Order Sicily.

TO : Chief Commissioner.

1. On the evening of the 20th March 1946 a Brigadier of carabinieri at Partinico, Palermo Province, was shot and killed by an unknown person. He was about to enter his home at 8.30 pm. when he was shot down from behind. No arrests have been made.

2. On the 22nd March 1946 at Centuripe in the Province of Enna a Vice Brigadier together with three CC.RR. were ambushed by two persons, who without warning opened fire with automatic weapons. The Vice Brigadier and one CC.RR. were killed. A second CC.RR. was seriously wounded and the third slightly wounded. No arrests have been made but information has been given of the identity of the assailants, search for whom is being made.

3. On the 2nd March 1946 at Messina a series of serious demonstrations were held. They commenced in the morning with a demonstration of unemployed. The demonstrators were reinforced and split up into different sections. These forcibly entered various public offices and forced the employees to cease work. Shops closed and all public transport stopped. The records of the Intendenza di Finanza, the tax office and the Afterwar Assistance Office were burned. The stores of the Consorzio Agrario and of UNRRA were entered, and large quantities of goods stolen including sugar, soup powder and tinned goods. The rioters would not let the Fire Brigade function for some time. The situation got out the control of the Police,

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see M 252-254
24.3.46

(LNTK)

large numbers of whom had been sent out into the country in preparation for the elections on Sunday. Units of the Italian Army were called to assist in restoring order. An armed demonstrator opened fire and seriously wounded a soldier, who afterwards died. As a result the soldiers fired and grenades were thrown by demonstrators. It is reported that thirty four were wounded. Order was restored and road blocks were established to search persons to recover the stolen goods and to arrest participants.

4. Forwarded for your information.

E. J. Dyke Col
JOHN E. DYKE
Colonel, SAGD
Director.

EDW/tm

Copy to: - Executive Commissioner ✓
- ~~VP 3A Section~~

3618 41
248
H.Q. SICILY LIAISON GROUP, A.C.
APO 394

File: AC/S/G 01

22 March 1946.

Subject:- Disturbance - Palermo.

MAR 27 1946

To :- Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394,
(Attn Executive Commissioner).

245
1. Reference signal 1830 dated 14 March 46 not received, copy given verbally by phone from Adjutant's Office this A.M.

2. Incident referred to was a purely local affair growing out of a two day demonstration against low rations, low pay and high prices. Everything orderly on March 11. On March 12 irresponsible elements in the demonstrating groups got out of hand and burned some furnishings and records from the Tax Office. Later an attempted raid on the rationing headquarters on Via Liberta led to the firing of some shots and the death of two mobsters and one policeman. Some nineteen persons were injured. The appearance of squads of Alpini with tanks and trucks soon restored order. The whole episode began and ended quickly. Everything normal within an hour of the shooting. No demonstrations of any kind since.

John Lund
JOHN LUND, Major, A.U.S.
A.C. Chief Liaison Officer Sicily.

Copy to - C.A. Sec
R.S.S/c

Send to R.S.S/c

for 9/11/46 249

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23/3/46

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

B/v 2439

247

HQ ALCON CITS ACXIC

21 MARCH 46

ALCON LO PALMBO

1991

UNCLASSIFIED

245

REPERITION OUR ONE RIGHT TRASH LERO OF ONE FOUR MARCH PD

REPORT NOT YET RECEIVED PD SEND BY RETURN

Copy to:

CA Sec (For Pub Saf S/C)

PRIORITY

Executive Commissioner

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PA 3/3
118

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

785017

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DRAFT FOR APPROVAL.

OUTGOING SIGNAL

21 MARCH 46

FROM HQ ALCON CITE ACXEC

TO ALCON LO PALMBO

No. 1991

UNCLASSIFIED

245

REFERENCE OUR ONE EIGHT THREE SEED OF ONE FOUR MARCH FD
REPORT NOT YET RECEIVED PD SEED BY RETURN

Copy to: VA Sec (For Public Safety 3/G)

see 247

O.K.

PRIORITY

Exec. Comm.

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

File
245

NO ALON

14 MAR 46

ALON LO PALERMO

1830

UNCLASSIFIED
EXCLUDED

NO REPORT RECEIVED FROM YOU REGARDING CIVIL DISTURBANCES REPORTED TO HAVE
TAKEN PLACE IN PALERMO TWELVE MARCH SO ESSENTIAL THAT REPORT BE FORWARDED
IMMEDIATELY BY FASTEST MEANS SO REPORTS ON INCIDENTS OF THIS NATURE MUST
ALWAYS BE REPORTED TO THIS HEADQUARTERS AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT SO

Copy sent C. A. 100
P. A. 100

and to me

See F-248

PRIORITY

Office of the Executive Council

510 *PA 13*
R. A.

365

~~SECRET~~

Dist 4

SUBJECT: SICILY Disturbances - Report on Rebellion
in Province of RAGUSA, 11 January 1945

APR - 7 1945

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. G/92
6 April 45

DL
114

TO

: AFHQ

1. In answer to para 3 of your AG 370.61/OSI OCT-0 of 3 April 1945, the following copies of correspondence are forwarded:-

- (i) Public Safety Sub-Commission letter AG/14602/9/PS of 23 March 45, subject, SICILY Disturbances
- (ii) MMIA letter G/92 of 19 March 45, subject, SICILY Disturbances. (to Civil Affairs Section, A.C.)
- (iii) MMIA letter G/92 of 19 March 45, subject, SICILY Disturbances. (to AFHQ)
- (iv) Civil Affairs Section letter AG/14602/9/PS of 13 Feb 45, subject, SICILY Disturbances. (to AFHQ, G-5)
- (v) MMIA letter G/92 of 19 March 45, subject, Radio Communication - SICILY. (to AFHQ)
- (vi) MMIA letter S/O/33 of 15 March 45, subject, SICILY. (to Ministry of War - copy to AFHQ)

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[Signature]

Major General
M. M. I. A.

Copy to: Executive Commissioner, A.C.

WA

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(Has Holown)

COPY

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

243

Tel: 489081 - 365

AC/14602/9/PS

23 March 1945

SUBJECT: RIOTLY Disturbances

TO : H.E. Director General Public Security
Ministry of Interior

1. With reference to the disorders in RAGUSA and surroundings on 5th - 11th January, 1945, this Sub-Commission has been asked to supply the following information:-

- (a) The names of the instigators and the leaders of the disorders;
- (b) The action taken against them;
- (c) The cause and the objects of the disorders;
- (d) Whether any evidence has been disclosed that the disorders were inspired by the enemy or by a subversive organization.

2. It will be appreciated if this information can be sent to this Sub-Commission.

/s/ John W. Chapman
/t/ JOHN W. CHAPMAN
Colonel, J.A.G.D.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission

Copy to: AFHQ (Ref. AG 370.61/081 OCT-0)
NMIA

AFH/wg

ws

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COPY 8

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~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: SICILY Disturbances

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. G/92
19 March 45

TO : CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION, A.C.

1. Para 4e of AFHQ letter, file AG 370.51/031 OCT-C, subject SICILY Disturbances - Report on Rebellion in Province of RAGUSA 5 - 11 Jan 45, dated 20 Feb 45 is quoted.

"Information is also required as to the action taken by the Italian Authorities against the ring leaders of the rebellion. The names of these men and the results of their interrogation should therefore be obtained together with the opinion of the investigation officers on the apparent cause of the rebellion and the objects of its leaders. Attention is especially directed toward the importance of any evidence indicating whether the rebellion was inspired by the enemy or by any known subversive organization."

2. It is requested you comply with the above paragraph and send a copy of your answer to this HQ.

/s/ S.M. INGLEDEN, Lt. Col.
for Major General
M. M. I. A.

ws

COPY

241

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: SICILY Disturbances

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. G/92
19 March 45

TO : AFHQ

1. In answer to your AG 370.61/OSI OCT-O dated 13 March, received today, and further to MMIA letter S/G/33 of 24 Feb 45, attached is copy of letter Civil Affairs Section, A.C. to AFHQ for O-O. The specific answer to para 4e of your AG 370.61/OSI OCT-O of 20 Feb 45 is being prepared by the Civil Affairs Section, A.C.
2. Please see MMIA letter S/G/33 of 18 March 45 which answers para 2 of your AG 370.61/OSI OCT-O of 9 March 45.
3. Please see MMIA letter G/92 of 19 March 45 for present answer to para 3 of your AG 370.61/OSI OCT-O of 9 March 45.

/s/ S.M. INGLETON, Lt. Col.
for Major General
M. M. I. A.

WB

C O P Y

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~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 394

Tel. 489081 - 580

AC/14602/9/PS

13 February 1945

SUBJECT: SICILY Disturbances

TO : AFHQ, G-5

1. Reference is made to your G-5,005 dated 31st January 1945.
2. As a result of an investigation by the Commanding General of CARA-BINIEMI into the ineffective action taken by the Group in SICILY, the following action has been taken:-
 - (a) The Group Commander, who was temporarily absent, will be subject to disciplinary measures.
 - (b) CC RH Captain has been punished and transferred.
 - (c) 1 Sergeant and 3 CC RH are being dealt with by a disciplinary commission.
3. The Prefect and Questore have been replaced and transferred to other posts.

For the Chief Commissioner:

(Sgd) J.S. HEARNES,
Major,

for G.R. UPJOHN, Brig.
VP CA Sec.
DCOS, AC.

Copy to: Chief of Staff

785017

COPY

231

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: Radio Communication - SICILY

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

File No. G/92

19 March 45

TO : AFHQ

1. Ref para 3 of your AG 370.61/031 OCT-0 of 9 March 45. The matter of Radio Communication in SICILY has been referred to Italian Ministry of War, who have been asked to submit a comprehensive plan showing:-

(a) Number of stations required

(b) Where they are required.

2. This plan will be submitted to conform to the instructions regarding out-put as issued by GSC AFHQ.

3. You will be notified when the network is complete.

/s/ R.E. FINKLEY, Major
for Major General
M. M. I. A.

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C O P Y

SECRET

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SUBJECT: SICILY

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. S/G/33
15 March 45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

1. Further to MMIA letter S/G/33 of 14 Feb 45.
2. To increase the efficiency of the Internal Security Divisions in SICILY, it is desired that you make the necessary arrangements for the delegation by the High Commissioner for SICILY and the Comando Territoriale della SICILIA of full powers to the military commander on the spot in case of a grave emergency.
3. It is also desired that you review the motor transportation situation throughout the Island and form a plan for the most economical employment of what transport is available, bearing in mind the desirability of retaining in areas where civil disturbances are likely to occur, sufficient transport to ensure the rapid movement of troops.

/s/ R.E. PINKLEY, Major
for Major General
M. M. I. A.

178

Copy to: AFHQ (your 370.61/031 OCT-0 of 9 March refers)

Internal: MA to GOC

Q
ST

WE

3618
ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

OFFICE: REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
PHONE: 10533 EXT 1

STAS: RC/311.6

2 Mar 1945

My dear Lush,

245
In order to clear this matter in my records, I am writing you with reference to your SS18/212/COB dated 1 FEB 45 which we discussed during my last visit to your Headquarters. As I pointed out during our discussion on this matter, I did send an over-all report on the disturbances in question. It was forwarded under this Headquarters reference RC/000.6 of 20 JAN and was addressed to your Headquarters with copies to Public Safety Sub-Commission and Land Forces Sub-Commission. My report naturally was not as full as that compiled by Lt. Col. Howard and Major Manley. By a coincidence they happened to be touring that part of the island at the time and had nothing else to do except to watch the whole proceedings.

As regards the second paragraph of your letter, the evening meetings you refer to were held not at Area Headquarters but at Giracusa where there are no Allied Commission personnel. The provincial commissioner at Catania was in constant touch with Area Headquarters and also, as far as was possible, with Lt. Col. Howard and Major Manley. I trust, therefore, that you will agree that your letter was based on incorrect information.

Yours sincerely
M. E. Carr

M. E. Carr
Brigadier

Brigadier M. E. Carr CB, CBE, MC
Chief of Staff
Allied Commission Headquarters

RC/311.6

RC/311.6
See M. E. Carr
8/3

T.61.32.63

FEB 14 1945

SUBJECT: Sicily Disturbances

TO: Chief Staff Officer ✓

Reference your 3618/223/603 dated 9th Feb. 45.

1. It is considered that the communication facilities in Sicily are adequate, qualified by the condition that facilities in this poorly developed island never were on a lavish scale. This does not mean that communications are properly organized to deal efficiently with such disturbances as took place, as this general requirement needs standards of civil official and police staff organizations which may not be sufficiently high.

2. The latest figures available on the restoration of pre-war services in Sicily are at the end of November 1944. These are as follows:

Province	Telegraph Stations		Telephone Exchanges	
	Pre-war	Now in Service	Pre-war	Now in Service
Agrigento	47	45	31	17
Caltanissetta	22	22	13	6
Catania	82	59	60	18
Enna	23	21	17	8
Messina	159	150	43	9
Palermo	93	89	45	14
Ragusa	18	18	9	5
Siracusa	24	17	15	5
Trapani	46	41	20	5
	514 (90%)	562	253 (34%)	87

Matters have improved since that time, the telephone exchanges now in service being approximately 50% of pre-war. The situation is also really considerably better than that given by the percentage figure as the stations restored to service include all the more important localities.

3. Of course the Italian authorities are labouring under the well-known difficulties of shortages of transport and stores and low wages and bad living conditions of the personnel, and no doubt circuits are out of action for one reason or another for periods that would not be tolerable in normal times and circumstances.

see M 232,

9234

509%

4. I do not think much good can result from simply telling the Posts and Telegraphs Dept. that there is a generally unsatisfactory state of communications in Sicily as, firstly, they aren't had all things considered and, secondly, they will only produce the usual good excuses for short-comings. Of course any particular case of a definite shortage of facilities will be willingly investigated.

5. I understand that one of the chief causes of communication difficulties was that all circuits out of Ragusa were cut. This is hardly the fault of the Posts and Telegraphs Ministry. Actually I feel that the fault probably lies more in the efficiency of the use made of the existing facilities i.e. the organization and competence of local police and civil official bodies.

Tel: 489081
Ext: 400

13th February, 1945

J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director,
Communications Sub-Commission

Copy to *Gen. J. L. Henderson*

785017

Ref: 5618/-/COS.

13 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Recent Disturbances at RAKUSA.

TO : DODS, Civil Affairs Section.

1. I think you will remember that at the time of the RAKUSA incident and afterwards I told you of my concern at the absence of reports on the incident from the Regional Commissioner. This was mentioned once or twice at COS meetings and at other times, particularly after the extremely good report from Lt. Col. Howard and Major Hanley. I taxed Brigadier Carr with the matter and he at once referred me to his report dated 20 January which covered a full report from Major Samuel, his Regional Public Safety Officer.

2. I sent for the report and I found it in the attached file, the first page of which contains a copy of my minute to the Chief Commissioner expressing my regret that such a report has not emanated from the Regional Commissioner.

3. Have you seen the Regional Commissioner's report before and has it been circulated?

M B 134

5092
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

MBL/JL.

368/19
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 394.

AC/14602/9/73.

Tel. 489031 - 580.

13th February, 1945.

SUBJECT : Sicily Disturbances.

FEB 13 1945

TO : AFHQ., G-5.

213

1. Reference is made to your G-5.005, dated 31st January, 1945.

2. As a result of an investigation by the Commanding General of Carabinieri into the ineffective action taken by the Group in Sicily, the following action has been taken:-

- a) The Group Commander, who was temporarily absent, will be subject to disciplinary measures.
- b) CC.RR Captain has been punished and transferred.
- c) 1 Sergeant and 3 CC.RR are being dealt with by a disciplinary commission.

3. The Prefect and Quastore have been replaced and transferred to other posts.

For the Chief Commissioner:

W. R. R. R. R. R.

C.R. UPJOHN, Brig.
VF CA Sec.

112-215

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SUBJECT: MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT HQ MCLIA
ON 9 FEB 45 ON SICILIAN DISTURBANCES

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, AG, (MCLIA)

8/2/53

Feb 45

FEB 12 1945

OBJECT

1. The object of the conference was to discuss, from A.O. point of view, the problems confronting the authorities in the maintenance of law and order in SICILY and to recommend such measures as considered necessary.

PRESENT

Lt-Col Ingleside
Brig Carr
Col Chapman
Col Simmons
Lt-Col Doherty
Lt-Col Parks
Lt-Col Howard
Lt-Col White
Major Talbot
Major Gray
Major Manley
Major Pinkley

MCLIA
Regional Commissioner, Sicily
Public Safety Sub-Commission
MCLIA Cardina
Public Safety Sub-Commission
HQ 3 District
MCLIA
Civil Affairs Sec
Chief of Staff Sec
HQ 3 District
P.W.N.
MCLIA - Secretary

AGREED ACTION

3. It was agreed that:-
 - (a) There are now sufficient troops and CC RA in SICILY if they are properly employed and equipped.
 - (b) The organization of the Internal Security Divisions is satisfactory. However, Divs do NOT have full scale of arms.
ACTION: MCLIA to have War Ministry equip divs to norm.
 - (c) Present distribution of Italian troops is NOT satisfactory. Distribution of troops is an Italian responsibility.
ACTION: MCLIA to suggest to Ministry of War that their plan of

PURSENT

2.

Lt-Col Ingledew
Brig Carr
Col Chapman
Col Atkins
Lt-Col Dehorty
Lt-Col Parson
Lt-Col Howard
Lt-Col White
Major Talbot
Major Sykes
Major Manley
Major Pinkley

MMIA
Regional Commissioner, Sicily
Public Safety Sub-Commission
MMIA, Sardinia
Public Safety Sub-Commission
HQ 3 District
MMIA
Civil Affairs Sec
Chief of Staff Sec
HQ 3 District
P.W.V.
MMIA - Secretary

AGREED ACTION

3. It was agreed that:-

(a) There are now sufficient troops and OD MR in SICILY if they are properly employed and equipped.

(b) The organization of the Internal Security Divisions is satisfactory. However, OD MR have full scale of arms.

ACTION: MMIA to have War Ministry equip divs to arms.

(c) Present distribution of Italian troops is NOT satisfactory. Distribution of troops is an Italian responsibility.

ACTION: MMIA to suggest to Ministry of War that their plan of troop distribution should be studied.

(d) Not all officers of the Internal Security Divisions are efficient. However, Ministry of War has recently changed the senior officials and it is hoped that, as a result, further inefficient officers will be weeded out.

(e) It is desirable that the Italian troops should receive more training.

ACTION: MMIA to suggest this to Ministry of War.

(f) Communications within the Island are NOT satisfactory.

ACTION: Chief of Staff Sec to take up with Communications Sub-Commission who will discuss with the Italian civil communications Ministry.

..... / (E)

(g) Sub-area commanders are not fully aware of their limitations as to the commanding of Italian troops.

ACTION: HQ 3 District to inform 20th Sub-area of the differences in function and responsibility of the Italian Corps Commander and Allied Sub-area Commander.

(h) Present organization and equipment of the CC RR is not entirely satisfactory. Type of tanks furnished the mobile CC RR Div is not satisfactory. Twenty four (24) civilian trucks should be requisitioned locally for the mobile CC RR Div, for the Italian Army trucks now on loan are due to be returned.

ACTION: Public Safety Sub-Commission to improve the officer standard of the CC RR. Public Safety to submit recommendation to MMIA as to which six (6) tanks surplus to the twenty four (24) tanks authorized should be returned to MMIES and also which type of tank is best suited for mobile CC RR work. Public Safety will have CC RR requisition civilian trucks in SICILY and, if possible, return Italian Army trucks to the Army within a fortnight.

(i) The MMIES personnel (now incorporated into CC RR) should retain their identity as a unit.

ACTION: Public Safety Sub-Commission to supervise, through CC RR, their future employment.

(j) The present regulations for the carrying of weapons and ammunition for the control of civil disturbances are not satisfactory. Regulations should make a distinction between a civil disturbance as against armed rioters.

ACTION: MMIA to draft proposal for Chief of Staff to submit to MMIA.

(k) The efficiency of the mobile CC RR Div is not known because they have not yet been used.

ACTION: Public Safety Sub-Commission, through CC RR, to supervise employment.

(l) A large-scale propaganda program should not be used for the SICILY Phase III call-up, in case it incited further disturbances. However, a moderate amount of propaganda will be needed.

ACTION: MMIA to inform Ministry of War.

Fortnight.

(1) The ~~MEMORANDUM~~ personnel (now incorporated into CC RB) should retain their identity as a unit.

ACTION: Public Safety Sub-Commission to supervise, through CC RB, their future employment.

(d) The present regulations for the carrying of weapons and ammunition for the control of civil disturbances are not satisfactory. Regulations should make a distinction between a civil disturbance as against armed rioters.

ACTION: MEMA to draft proposal for Chief of Staff to submit to AFHQ.

(e) The efficiency of the mobile CC RB has ~~is~~ NOT known because they have not yet been used.

ACTION: Public Safety Sub-Commission, through CC RB, to supervise employment.

(1) A large-scale propaganda program should NOT be used for the SICILY Phase III call-up, in case it invited further disturbances. However, a moderate amount of propaganda will be needed.

ACTION: MEMA to inform Ministry of War.

RE

Rev. E. J. [unclear] 84
for Lt. Col.
G. S.

DISTRIBUTION:

HQ 3 District (3) ~~MEMA~~ **SICILY**
Regional Commissioner,
Chief of Staff Sec, A.C.
Civil Affairs Sec, A.C.
Public Safety Sub-Commission, A.C.
M.A. to G.O.C.
2 1/2
A/Q
Lt-Col Howard.
File
War Diary (2)

36/8

224

Ref : 171/-/COS.

9 February 1945

SUBJECT : Sicilian Disturbances.

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission (LMIA)
(Attention Lt. Col. Ingledew.)

1. As agreed at the conference today, will you please prepare a draft letter to AFHQ asking them to consider amending their order No. 370.6/COS GGT-C of 6 January on the subject of Local Defence Plans, with particular reference to para 9 regarding the handling of arms when quelling civil disturbances.
2. Will you please coordinate with Civil Affairs Section on this matter.

E. ALBERT
Colonel,
Chief Staff Officer.

Copy to : Civil Affairs Section.

Copy to 2606/COS

BU

15/2

100.

100
15/2

223

301/214/100
Ref: 203/214/100

2 February 1946

Subject: Malta Interference

Re: Col. J. L. McElroy,
Communications Unit (continued)

At our conference today attended by Lord Vernon and Commander (MIA) on the subject of the Maltese Interference, he was agreed to ask your High Commission to approach the Italian Government to see how the communications in the island could be improved, since it was thought that one of the reasons for the bad working of the Interference was the inadequacy of the communications.

The writer will come and see you on this matter if you so desire.

(Sgd) E. TALENT
Colonel,
Chief Staff of Gen.

Copy to: Lord Vernon C/O (MIA).

301 file 231

100
12/2
308.3

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

3618

8-2-A

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 6 February 1945.

Sicily Disturbances. Land Forces Sub-Commission had called a meeting for to-morrow afternoon, and suggested that the decisions reached should be passed on to Sardinia. JCS agreed and said the main object of the meeting was to give advice to the C.E. and the Italian Army.

5086

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

785017

3618 8 File 2238
Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 2nd February 1945.
+++++

Disorders in Ragusa. C.A. Sec asked if there was any objection to the conclusions on the behaviour of C.S.M. found in the Howard Menley report being made known to the Italian Government. Land Forces Sub-Commission saw no objection and C.A. Sec agreed. It was ruled that the report be reclassified "Secret". C.A. Sec asked Land Forces Sub-Commission to arrange a day for a conference between No. 3 District, Brig. Carr, C.A. Sec and themselves on the points made in this excellent report. Land Forces Sub-Commission suggested 7 February.

085

G.O.C.

221

the

Please see ~~221~~ ²²¹ ~~minutes~~. This is meeting to discuss the
NOTED / ~~minutes~~ report, filed for Wednesday 7 February at 1500 hours.
Do you wish to attend yourself?

SS.
G.O.C.

5 February 45.

No - please represent me. Dr. [unclear]

Speculate about Temporary Jacket
refer to file 221

Meeting postponed All Friday 9/2

3 pin. SS 7/2

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

Separate Sheet - Temporary Label
refer to file 221

Meeting postponed till Friday 9/2

3 pm. 8:30/2

5081

Handwritten signature/initials

3618

221

MEMO

05 1945 A

HQ 3 DIST
 REGIONAL COMMISSIONER MICHIGAN
 CIVIL AFFAIRS SEC. A.C.
 PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COM. A.C.
 CHIEF OF STAFF SEC. A.C.

FEB 4 1945

O-584

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

MEETING BEING HELD IN G(6) OFFICES HQ LAND FORCES SUB-COM
 (M M I A) AT 1500 HRS MON 7 FEB TO DISCUSS RECOMMENDATIONS
 TO BE MADE AS RESULT LT COL. HOWARD'S REPORT ON S I S I L Y
 DISTURBANCES ISSUED UNDER REF G/33 OF 16 JAN (.) REQUEST
 YOU BE PRESENT OR REPRESENTED ON FIRST GRADE STAFF OFFICER
 LEVEL OR ABOVE

Internal: A/C

S/Sec

File: G/2

B/ 3/33

Float

B/ B (2)

211 *Vol 2*
 PRECEDENCE *Excluded.*AUTHENTICATED *W. J. Hughes*
St-Cl
N

WS

see file 222

3618

27

~~SECRET~~

FEB 7 1945

The Sicilian situation is very grave. There may be expected at any moment sporadic disorders such as the Ragusa incident and given either or both of the following conditions an island-wide revolution is a possibility:

(a) Organization of an effective nature which does not seem to exist with the possible exception among the Separatists who have carried on a pro-Allied policy so far.

(b) A popular pretext, together with success in the first disorders.

Only in the last extremity should resumption of Allied military control be effected.

It appears that the main reasons for unrest are a government that is not able to control delinquency, economic distress and political agitation.

Although the following might be given consideration, detailed recommendations for solution are not possible as the problem is so complex:

- (1) In accordance with promises made by the Allies, the establishment of 300 gram bread ration.
- (2) The Rome government should be alive to the problem in Sicily.
- (3) As suggested by Castellano, examine the possibility and advisability of a round-table conference.
- (4) The reinforcement and equipping of troops so as to meet with any situation. Mobility is of first importance.

~~SECRET~~

3082

1. General Giuseppe Castellano revealed he had been attempting to bring together members of the Committee of Liberation and the Separatist leaders for an accord on the Sicilian problem for some time.

2. He added that the crisis, which embraces the political and economic question, could be controlled by the leaders of the masses, which are predominantly Separatist and not followers of the Committee of Liberation parties.

3. To this end, he stated that for the past four or five days he has held discussions with various members of the CNL, parties and 'friends', the term used in referring to members of the old, cavalieresque Mafia, which is predominantly Separatist.

4. General Castellano did not admit he had failed in bringing about a 100 per cent accord on what will eventually be a round table conference of some forty political leaders in and out of the CNL, but did state he could count on the backing of at least 60 per cent so far, and that he still has hope of bringing the round table conference into being with 100 per cent representation.

5. The object of the conference would be to select a spokesman for the Sicilian people, one really representative of the thought and ideals of the Sicilians - not necessarily a Separatist - who would be received by ROMMI and who would press for the needs and desires of the Sicilian masses in the form of an ultimatum.

6. The General stated that it might be too late now, in view of the revolts which have broken out, but reckoned that with the active intervention of the leaders of the parties and the masses, a little time (one or two months) might be earned, during which a situation much more similar to the Greek revolt might be averted.

7. The General stressed that the Sicilian has a peculiar trait: He will follow a leader, but not a political party. In bringing together the leaders of the masses, Sicilians will without doubt, with the proper handling, remain pacified and not become stirred up to the point where they naturally turn to violence, he is convinced.

8. General Castellano was vitriolic in his criticism of the manner in which the Italian government handled the military recall, the cause of the revolts of the past fortnight.

9. He pointed out the failure of the Italian government to inform the Sicilians that the military recall would be put into effect, merely issuing the order in the middle of the Christmas-New Year season with the fatal result.

10. Had the government, instead, prepared the way with efficacious propaganda, which includes treating the Sicilian in brotherly fashion and with confidence, there is no doubt that the response would have been wholeheartedly unanimous, the General stated.

11. Referring to the outbreaks of demonstrations and revolts, the General admitted the cause to be so general as to include economic misery, Separatist, Fascist and Communist-Socialist agitation. The military recall was merely the spark which ignited the revolt.

12. Besides being inadequate, the military and police forces cannot hope to control the situation with forces due to the fact that the masses are well-armed with hand-grenades which can be purchased at ten to twenty lire a piece and with automatic weapons abandoned during the campaign in Sicily.

13. Therefore, he said, much diplomacy is required and if enough time is won and an accord reached between respective leaders of the political parties and the masses, the latter which at present have no official representation, the impending, wide-spread revolt may be averted.

14. The General revealed that he had taken up the plan with President Bonomi during his visit to Rome two weeks ago and that Bonomi indicated he would be inclined to lend an audience to representative Sicilian thought.

15. According to the discussion, the General is of the opinion that the government is badly informed on Sicilian problems and further revealed that the question of the removal of Salvatore Aldisio as high commissioner was being considered. He recommended to Bonomi that Aldisio be kept on for the present and predicted that the incumbent would remain for the time being.

On Sunday, January 14, 1945, the price of meat in Palermo reached 400 lire a kilo and cheap grades of fish, which is largely consumed by the poorer classes, went up to 250 lire a kilo. No actual demonstrations occurred, but murmuring and resentment among the masses was noticeable. The government has now set ceiling prices as follows, effective January 15:

Beef, best quality without bone	Lire 250 per kilo
Pork, " " " " "	260 " "
Horse, " " " " "	120 " "
Goat, " " " " "	150 " "

Fish

First quality fish	Lire 160 per kilo
Second " " " "	110 " "
Third " " " "	90 " "
Fourth " " " "	50 " "

As was to be expected, the meat shops throughout the city closed and no meat is available except in the black market where the price, at this writing, has reached 420 lire and is going up. Only that fish which is not subject to a ceiling price may be purchased at very high prices.

Agitation in the Chamber of Labor in Palermo is gaining momentum, and an O.S.S. report in this connection is quoted below.

"A certain agitation is visible in the classes of laborers and employees due to the constant increase in prices of food and clothing.

"Insistent complaints are submitted to the directors of the Palermo Chamber of Labor, which, it is reported, intends to promote a strong demonstration which would degenerate into a mass insurrection.

"In the meantime many food items are hoarded away and despite the High Commissioner's decree prohibiting the exportation of salt fish in order to have an abundance at a low price, anchovies and sardines are not only salted but export permits are obtained as well.

"The general warehouses of the Bank of Sicily overflow with merchandise purchased and deposited by the agrarian consorzio of Palermo.

"The merchandise referred to includes several tons of cheese, salt fish, tinned food, and cereals purchased at relatively low prices, which are hoarded in said warehouses in the hope of being put on the market when prices skyrocket."

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

Chief Commissioner.

Attached is submitted for your information/signature/approval. JH/12

The H.C. for Sicily appears to absent himself from his Island with great regularity

JH/12

Just attach
JH/12

I think that he genuinely is trying to get more help or backing from home. Sure

785017

05

650

7/24/2 2/23/3

The report 2-5 comes from the Health, Lazio, Umbria Region + is passed to us by Col Amos. It deals broadly with several subjects but to me its main interest is its comment on the disturbances in Sicily. I suggest, therefore it should be read in conjunction with the MHA report you now have.

31 Jan 45

Perla 8 has a new

Ample on the Callings

What a fruit! how to use

8. 2/2

21

Open the
Compassing Pocket
refer to plate
2nd B - 2nd E

Open the
Compassing Pocket
refer to plate
2nd B - 2nd E

the disturbances in Sicily. I suggest, therefore,
it shd be read in conjunction with the MMIA
report you now have.

31 Jan 65

Para 8 has a new

sample on the Callings

which is quite new to me

Li 2/2

Spk

5077

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

~~SECRET~~

1st Ind. 3618

70530
21113

R/3130

HQ, AMG, LAZIO UMBRIA REGION, APD-324, 29 January 1945.

TO : Chief of Staff Section, Hq AG.

1. Endorsed and forwarded for information.

John D. Ames
JOHN D. AMES
Lt Colonel, AGD
Acting Regional Commissioner

See 21113

HEADQUARTERS 3070
29 JAN 1945

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION

APC 394

Regional Security Officer

Ref. S/1352

27 January 1945

Subject : Unofficial exchange of views on the Sicilian situation with H.E. ALDISIO, Alto Commissario, and H.E. STANGONI, Capo Gabinetto.

To : Acting Regional Commissioner
Attention Col. AMES

1. Following repeated invitations by H.E. STANGONI to meet H.E. ALDISIO, the High Commissioner for Sicily, this officer had tea at the former's apartment, Via Catone 15, int. 3, on 26 January, after reference to and the consent of the Executive Officer, these HQ.
2. ALDISIO gave the impression of being unable to cope with the situation and stated at intervals during the two hours discussion that he "was alone and had no one to back him up".
3. Whilst, superficially at any rate, the general political situation throughout the island was better, he felt that a recurrence of the recent incidents might take place at any

the natural

Subject : Unofficial exchange of views on the Sicilian situation with H.E. ALDISIO, Alto Commissario, and H.E. SPANICONI, Capo Gabinetto.

To : Acting Regional Commissioner
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2. ALDISIO gave the impression of being unable to cope with the situation and stated at intervals during the two hours discussion that he "was alone and had no one to back him up".

3. Whilst, superficially at any rate, the general political situation throughout the island was better, he felt that a recurrence of the recent incidents might take place at any time and probably would be even more wide-spread. He naturally blamed the Separatist movement, but emphasized that the unrest was mainly due to the economic situation. He said that, with regard to wheat supplies, the reserves were already very small and were not enough to secure the present bread ration without fresh importation beyond the end of this month.

4. Whilst he said he was fairly satisfied with his prefects, he described his quarters as being quite inadequate

507

of dealing with the increase in crime generally and the black market in particular.

5. ALDISIO stated that very large quantities of arms and ammunitions of all types were in the hands of a fairly large percentage of the population. On the other hand, neither the Italian troops nor the Police were adequately equipped or sufficiently mobile. He added that despite the reinforcements of Carabinieri (a total of 300), the number of police was quite inadequate, should an emergency arise.

He was of the opinion that a wholesale transfer of the personnel of the various police stations was necessary, but felt that this was physically impossible owing to the poor communications and to the fact that such transfers would inevitably entail hardships to underpaid and invariably corrupt police officials.

6. ALDISIO deplored the economic situation as a whole and specifically with regard to the export of local produces to the continent without any return. He stressed the predicament of the citrus-fruit producers and gave as an example the fact that inexperienced traders were springing up like mushrooms overnight and competing with legitimate and old established firms, with methods reminiscent of the "mafiosi" and "camorristi".

7. Turning to shipping, ALDISIO said that he was certain that if this vitally important question could be resolved on

10 thousand tons could

Carabinieri (a total of 300), the number of police was quite inadequate, should an emergency arise.

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7. Turning to shipping, ALDISIO said that he was certain that if this vitally important question could be resolved on more realistic lines, an additional 9 or 10 thousand tons could be made available from the vessels which are mainly motor- or sailing-schooners. He added that a memorandum regarding this subject had been forwarded to the competent authorities, but he had not been informed if the plan were acceptable or not. He strongly criticised the COGENA and said that if it were a question of deciding on free shipping as opposed to the present system of control, he felt that the former would produce far

better results in the long run.

8. ALDISIO pointed out that there had been a grave psychological error over the call-up, which, it will be remembered, coincided with the Christmas festivities and despite an assurance given only a short time before when a census was taken in the various military districts that a call-up was not premeditated.

9. Despite opportunities given him throughout the entire conversation, ALDISIO did not criticise, either directly or by inference, the activities of the Allies, but hinted rather strongly that he had not received the full understanding and support of his Government. He alluded on more than one occasion to the insurmountable difficulties with which he had to contend and it was apparent that he was extremely tired and if anything anxious to be relieved from office.

A. E. Heath
A. E. HEATH

Major I.C.

Regional Security and
Intelligence Officer

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Heath
A. E. HEATH

Major I.C.

Regional Security and
Intelligence Officer

Copy to Executive Officer Provinces

Att. Col. BOWHAM Carter

1st Ind.

R/3120

HQ, AMG, LAZIO UMBRIA REGION, APO 394, 29 January 1945.

TO : Chief of Staff Section, Hq AC.

1. Endorsed and forwarded for information.

John D. Ames
JOHN D. AMES

Lt Colonel, AGD

Acting Regional Commissioner

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

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