Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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S1INT/1064

Opened May
May. 1984

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(1 of 2 folders)

S1INT/1061.

MONTHLY REPORTS - SECURITY. 1st Jacket 1 of 2

Opened May 10, 1944. Closed Mar 1, 1965

MAY 1944 - MAR 1965

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad
1 March 1945

Subject: Security Intelligence Report - Italian Troops with Fifth Army.

To : Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. (MMIA)
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. Reference your File No. S/1/106/1 of 7 December 1944.

2. General Security:

a. Morale: Absences without leave and desertions by Italian soldiers continue but these are caused by a lack of discipline inherent in the Italian Army, and is not so much a question of morale. Much is being done to improve morale. Good food and clothes helps build up morale more than anything else. The distribution of reading matter, newspapers, and the establishment of recreation rooms also help. In addition to the "La Patria" which is being distributed, 210 Division has a newspaper of its own which gives more local news and pertains just to 210 Division units.

b. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: None that I know of among the troops.

c. Illegal Storage of Arms or Ammunition: None

d. Political Activity: The Italian officers with whom I come in contact, apparently fear a communistic Italy and probably favor continuing the monarchy. No officer within my knowledge has been spreading any propaganda or taking any part in any political activity.

e. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops: Very satisfactory as far as officers and soldiers are concerned.

5903

f. Discipline: Improving.

g. Rumors, Indiscreet Talk and Breaches of Security: Very satisfactory.

h. Summary of Military Security: Conditions here are very satisfactory.

3. Personalities:

a. Information on higher leaders:

(1) General Officer, Commanding Delegation T, CERICA Angelo; appointment, General Staff, Lieutenant General; age 60. Reasonably cooperative, not obstructive, his political views are likewise no doubt as indicated above for other Italian officers, but he is not engaging in any political activity to my knowledge.

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uted, 210 Division has a newspaper of its own which gives more local news and pertains just to 210 Division units.

b. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: None that I know of among the troops.

c. Illegal Storage of Arms or Ammunition: None

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5503

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g. Rumors, Indiscreet Talk and Breaches of Security: Very satisfactory.

h. Summary of Military Security: Conditions here are very satisfactory.

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(1) General Officer, Commanding Delegation T, CERICA Angelo; appointment, General Staff, Lieutenant General; age 60. Reasonably cooperative, not obstructive, his political views are likewise no doubt as indicated above for other Italian officers, but he is not engaging in any political activity to my knowledge.

(2) General Officer, Commanding 210 Division, CORTESE Guiseppe; appointment, General Staff, Brigadier General; age 56. Reasonably cooperative; not obstructive, his political views are no doubt as indicated above for other Italian officers, but he is not engaging in any political activity to my knowledge. I consider him an efficient officer and possessing considerable energy.

(3) General Officer, Commanding 231 Division, HANNEI Mario; appointment, General Staff, Brigadier General; age 53. No contact with him yet.

b. Dossier of Italian Officers: Reference your TS/1/123 of 1 January 1945. Still not completed.

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4. Conclusion: The above opinions and views are my own and based upon my own observations, which of course, are limited in scope. So far as I can determine, generally speaking, no serious disaffection, lack of loyalty or any other willful disloyal activity exists among the Italian officers and men assigned or attached to Fifth Army, which would be inimical to the interests of the Allied cause.

R.C.VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,
5th Army

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To G-2 C
2 i/c
G-1

LIAISON OFFICE
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION AC (MMIA)
% AC SICILY REGION HQ
APO 394

No. 1451

23 February 1945

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Report - Italian Army

TO : G.O.C., Land Forces Sub Comm. AC (MMIA), ROME

Copy to: M.G.B., Palermo
Hq. 204 Sub Area, C.M.F.

Out-Station - Sicily

Area Covered - Sicily

Report No. 10

Period from 21 January to 28 February 1945

In compliance with your S/I/106/1 dated 7 December 1944, subject report is submitted.

A. GENERAL SECURITY.

1. Morale. The morale of the Italian Troops remains good. Situation remains about the same as in my last report. No complaints have ever been made in Sicily about the bread ration, but if any exist they should be quelched by the increase of flour to 15 ounces. From time to time complaints were made as to an inadequate Olive Oil ration but the present increase of that item is admitted by the authorities to be in excess of that issued troops even before the invasion; so we should not have any more dissension from that score.

General Berardi informs me that he is commencing a program of intensive training for all Italian Troops in Sicily. This is exactly what is needed by all the troops and a noticeable increase should be noted.

5806

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends.

(a) Captain Capasso, Domenico, recently called up into the Italian Artillery Sicily has been arrested on suspicion of carrying out Fascist activity. Captain Capasso has been detailed by Military Headquarters to instruct the Montegranaro Alpini Battalion in Artillery, during the forming of that Unit into a Mobile Field Organization. The home of this man is in Naples where his mother and family now lives. He first came to attention as a "great friend of similar ideals" to one Vetri Leonardo, now interned as a Fascist. On the occassion of the explosion of a bomb in a cinema in Palermo, the name of Capasso was mentioned. Recently Fascist handbills have been scattered in the Biondo Cinema. Persons arrested by the CC.RR have named Capasso as being a major power in this activity. Capasso is not Sicilian, keeps a small flat in Palermo, has no relatives here. He claims to earn his livelihood by "intralazzo" (black market activities). On the occassion of his recent visit to Naples, Fascist handbills appeared in that City. He is very intelligent and

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28 February 1945

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(b) Various other Fascist activities and demonstrations continue throughout the Island, but all reports show these to be of civilian instigation and not connected with the Army.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition.

(a) It is reported by Capt Parker, C.A.C., Pantelleria, that the arms dump on the Island is being pilferred and the stolen material evacuated in motor vessels by night. A search is being carried out on all movements arriving at Marsala and Trapani. Undoubtedly some if not all of this contraband is finding its way into Sicily as is evidenced by the continued boldness of armed gangs roaming the Island, holding up trains and road transport. The Military detail for Pantelleria, to clean and store all Italian arms, has not as yet departed and I have asked Military Headquarters to expedite their departure, in an effort to halt this possible influx of contraband arms.

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(b) Near Montechiaro, a train was held up by an armed gang. Passengers were robbed and the fireman together with two passengers were wounded. Seventy three persons were arrested by CC.RR. Many similar cases occur quite often throughout the Island. Travel by rail or road in the Western Section of the Island is dangerous and all Allied Personnel have been warned accordingly. The Military is in no way connected with these incidents, but mention of them is made here in order to show the serious situation which has arisen in Sicily due to illegal firearms and ammunition.

4. Political Activity - Propaganda - Monarchism.

Nothing to report from the Army.

5. Relations with and Attitude toward Allied troops.

(a) Same as last report.

(b) A letter was received from the Commanding Officer of 204 Sub-Area Catania, complaining that Italian Soldiers employed on guard duty at Allied Installations fail to pay compliments to Allied Officers who are on tour of inspection. Nothing came of this as I received a phone call from that headquarters asking me to disregard the letter.

6. Discipline.

(a) The following extract from 21 PSS Report dated 14 Feb 45, and forwarded to me by HQ., 204 Sub-Area, reflects a low standard of discipline amongst the Troops of the HQ II Inf Bde and 145 Inf Regt.

"During a football match on 11 Feb 45 between the Sabauda Divn and SYRACUSE town, some 200 Italian Soldiers turned on the civilian spectators and beat up all those they could lay their hands on, continuing their rioting in the streets. The Italian General present at the match made no attempt to interfere and drove away in his car as soon as the match was over, although the rioting was still in progress. He was heard by one informant expressing approval of the action of his soldiers.

5805

Some Officers tried to restrain their men, but there efforts were of no avail. Other Officers, it is reported, led the soldiers in shouting "Viva Il RE". There were several civilians and Italian Military injured.

The trouble started when a number of soldiers yelled at a group of civilians: "You Sicilians betrayed the country and the King: you welcomed the English and had them as guests in your houses. Now you wish to betray the King again by having him removed: Similar statements were frequently repeated by the Military in the disturbances which followed; also such statements as "Now the English have gone, we of the Sabauda are in command, and it will be better if you keep in agreement with us; we have come to dominate you and if you cause trouble, we shall drink your blood".

Amongst the spectators were some 50 soldiers [illegible]

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Amongst the spectators were some 50 sailors from the Italian cruiser "DORIA" who joined in on the side of the civilians, constantly shouting "Abasso Il RE".

Questioned by an informant on their motives, a few soldiers said that their Officers were always trying to instill them with hate for the Sicilians and told them that if they got into trouble with civilians they must assert themselves as strong and not soften their blows.

The incident caused very strong reactions in the town, and has given much good propaganda for the Separatists and for the Republicans".

---I have forwarded this matter to the Commanding General, Territorial Headquarters, Palermo, requesting a full and complete report.

(b) Other than above nothing to report.

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No. 1451 - Security Intelligence - Monthly Report - Italian Army (Continued)

7. Rumors and Indiscreet Talk: Breaches of Security.

(a) Nothing to report on the Italian Military.

(b) Civilian rumors continue as thick and asinine as ever.

8. Summary of Military Security.

Same as last report, but with the Alpini being put to work with the CC.RR and a new Commanding General who seems to mean business; the superiority of the civilians over the Military should soon come to an end.

NOTE:—All information in this report comes from the 51st Field Security Section, 21st Post Security Section, Hdqrs., 204 Sub-Area and my own observation.

/s/ Homer E. Long
HOMER E. LONG
Major QMC
L O Sicily

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observation.

HOMER E. LONG
Major QMC
L O Sicily

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SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

Subject: Security Intelligence - Monthly Reports - Italian Army

M.M.I.A. IO.
att 53 BIU.
A/2
24 Feb 45.

To: Land Forces Sub-Commission. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

Attached is the Monthly Security Intelligence report on the FOLGORE Combat Group for the period ending 25 Feb 45.

S.R. Morico Magg
M.M.I.A. IO.

BIU

A

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army.

Outstation FOLGORE Combat Group.

Period ending 25 Feb 45

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. Morale: Generally very high. Has increased with the approach of the day when they will be in the line and with the completion of their equipping.

2. Left wing elements of Ascoli accuse the Group of being Fascists but there has been no concrete evidence that soldiers of the Group have openly declared sympathy with Fascism. On the whole they are anti comunist and this may have lead to the accusation.

3. Nothing to report.

4. The great majority of the Group are anti comunist, anti republican and pro monarchy. Sympathy for the present members of the House of Savoy is very divided but some form of monarchy is the wish of the majority. There is a feeling in the Group that they will have an active and vital part to play in the rebirth of Italy inasmuch as they are convinced that the Allies, especially Great Britain, will do little to help them after the War. In what form this part will be played is doubtful but the impression gained is that as a disciplined body of patriots they must make their opinions and influence felt in post war Italy.

5. Good on the whole except for isolated instances mostly due to inebriated misunderstandings.

6. There is a slight improvement in general disipline but the lack of man management on the part of many officers leaves a lot to be desired.

7. Security is not known or even understood in the Italian Army. The value of security is repeatedly stressed to them and although they value our conception of it, it is applied very half heartedly. This Group is careless in matters of general security.

8. Nothing to report.

B. Nothing to report.

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B. Nothing to report.

/s/ R. Morris Maj.
M.M.I.A. IO

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SECRET

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence Report -
ITALIAN Army - for month of Jan 45

Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/T/106/1
28 Feb 45

TO : G-2 Section, A.F.H.Q. (2)

1. Two outstanding events occurred during January. The first was the unanimous resolution by all the Political Parties to give their full support to voluntary enlistment into the Italian Army and to the call-ups of certain classes of young men. The second was the news that Italian troops were in the line and had given a good account of themselves in their initial baptism of fire.

2. In addition to these two events the Italian Government passed certain decrees, which increased the family allowances of men serving with the colours and increased the assistance to be given to the families and dependents of Patriots.

3. These main events, coupled with a Press campaign in favour of the Italian Army have already made themselves felt on the morale of the Italian people and, consequently on that of the Army itself. The Italians are gradually beginning to realise that the contribution given by their Army to the Allied war effort is anything but small and that the achievements of the soldiers, already appreciated and praised by many high ranking Allied officers, will do more for the future of Italy than any political campaign based on talk and "hot air".

4. Reports from many sources indicate that voluntary enlistment and results of the call-ups have been more favourable than during previous months. Patriots have come forward voluntarily to enlist in numbers which exceed the immediate possibilities with regard to feeding, housing and equipment. More Patriots were accepted into the Army during January than during any previous month. The majority of these volunteers have been absorbed into the Italian Combat Cps through the Combat Force Training Centre at CESANO. It cannot be said that the Italian Army is not representative of the people.

5. Italian Army Welfare Services with the help and cooperation of the British Army Welfare Services are engaged in setting in motion a great welfare drive and organizing canteens, rest camps and other welfare facilities for the Italian soldiers. The Army newspaper "PATRIA", issued free in the form

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6. Seditious or subversive influences likely to undermine morale were not reported by any source during January. Propaganda by some political parties against the Army and in particular against its leaders, has been very scarce of late. This is due chiefly to the drastic action taken by the War Minister in the dismissal of some twenty-five Army Generals for their political activities during fascism and for inefficiency, and the appointment of better officers of higher rank to places of responsibility in the War Ministry.

7. Relations with the Allies continue to be good. There are no reports of serious differences of opinion or lack of cooperation. In the forward areas relations are splendid and all reports from the Combat Gps now in the line indicate cooperation by Italian Staffs and a friendly attitude of both officers and men towards Allied troops.

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8. Great efforts are being made to tighten up discipline in the Italian Army. All reports received from various sources which indicate that officers lack discipline with their men are forwarded to the War Ministry for action. In cases where poor discipline and inefficiency are reported action is taken against those responsible and the officer or N.C.O. replaced.

Severe action is being taken against deserters and those failing to report when called up. Results so far have shown that these measures are yielding satisfactory results.

9. No serious breaches of Security have been reported although it is evident that the Italian Army needs much training in Security. Efforts are being made to this end and Combat Gps are to have special Security training under Allied instructors. It is hoped to form Italian F.S. Sections for the Gps trained in British methods.

(K)

cgl

Major General
F.P.I.A.

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SECRET

Appx "A" to MIIA Security
Intelligence Report - Italian Army
for month of January 1945

DOSSIER OF ITALIAN OFFICERS

1. The War Minister

His Excellency Count Alessandro CASATI.

Belongs to a noble Milanese family.

Was born in Milan in 1881

Has a degree in law.

His main occupation has always been historic, literary and philosophic studies.

He took part in the 1915-1918 War as volunteer having attained the rank of Lt. Col. as a result of three promotions on the field. Was wounded in action.

Appointed Senator of the Realm in 1923.

In 1924 he became Minister for Education, representing the Liberal Party.

In Jan 1925 he retired to private life because he opposed the fascist regime and took no part in public life until June 1944.

He was appointed Minister for War in June 1944 by the first Bonomi Cabinet.

2. Chief of the Italian General Staff

Brig General RONCO Ercole
Born 16 April 1890 in Turin

Commissioned as 2/Lt in the Infantry September 1911.

Took part in the Italo-Turkish Campaign.

As Lieut and later as Capt and Major took part in the Italo-Austrian Campaign in units of the "AOSTA" Alpini Bn. Later held a staff appointment on the Headquarters of 36 Inf. Div.

At Staff College from Feb'20 until Dec'21

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Assistant Instructor at Staff College '22.

Promoted Lt. Col. '26

O.C. 14 Eritrean Bn. Became General Staff officer and C of S 2 Alpini HQ holding the appointment of Cond 9th Inf Regt. Promoted Colonel '36. As such C of S Italian Armed Forces Aegean Islands.

Brig General Jan '42

Cond Parachutist Training Centre Sept - Nov '42 and GOC "NEMBO" Div and GOC "FRIULI" Div.

GOC "SARAUDA" Div till present appointment

Decorations - Knight of the O.M.S., 1 silver medal, 1 bronze medal, and 2 bronze medals for valour.

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3. Under-Secretary of State for War

Brigadier CHATRIAN Luigi

Born in Aosta in 1891

Has followed his career with the Alpine troops

Decorated for courage

Has a degree in law

Lecturer on Military Organization for 5 years, at the Staff College.

Commander of the Naples Military School for 3 years.

Well known in Italy and abroad for his essays on State Territorial Military Organizations, on limitation of armaments and on Mountain Warfare. In 1939, at the request of the Swiss Officers' Club, he gave lectures in 5 Swiss cities on the subject "The War in the Mountains".

Before his present appointment he held the following appointments :-

Commander of the 227 Infantry Div employed since Jan 1944 in cooperation with 3 District (Gen Collier). The Allied authorities have been generous in their praise of the work done by said division.

General member of commission for the study of Italian frontiers.

5888

Lawyer Mario PALERMO.

Born in Naples in 1898. Took part in the 1915-1918 War as a volunteer having been granted an emergency commission. He was wounded in action. Was president of the Naples Association of War Disabled having resigned from this position a few years after the advent of Fascism.

He is one of the most notable criminologists of the Neapolitan Bar.

In 1925 he started his activities as conspirator against Fascism to which activities he devoted his best efforts from that moment.

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In 1925 he started his activities as conspirator against Fascism to which activities he devoted his best efforts from that moment.

He particularly distinguished himself in political cases in which he courageously defended thousands of exiles and of accused by the "Special Tribunals", having earned the esteem and admiration of all Italian anti-Fascists.

After having taken part in the "Justice and Liberty" movement he joined the Communist ranks in which he has honorably developed his activities for several years.

He became assessor to the Bar Council of Naples after the expulsion of the Germans and was appointed Under Secretary for War by the second Badoglio Cabinet. He has since retained this appointment in the two Bonomi cabinets.

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Subject:- Monthly Security Report.

Liaison Officer,
Land Forces Sub Comm.
A.C. (MMIA)
c/o HQ., I District.
Ref 10/67
27 Feb 45.

To:- Land Forces Sub Comm A.C.
M. M. I. A. ROME.

I. There is nothing of particular importance to report this month.

MMIA Lt. Comdt.
I District.

I 92
11

SUBJECT:- Security Report (period 25 Jan - 25 Feb 45)

Liaison Officer,
Land Forces Sub Comm, AC,
(M.M.I.A.),
c/o Rear HQ, Eighth Army.

MM/105
26 Feb 45.

Land Forces Sub Comm, AC,
(M.M.I.A.), R O M E.

W.P. S 1/3

General

Energetic steps have been taken by G.S.I(b) Army to instill some form of security in the Combat Groups. F.S. Sections ("Sezioni di Sicurezza Militare") have been formed from personnel of the CC RR Secs and 10 day courses have been run at RAVENNA. The latest reports of the activities of these sections are very satisfactory.

It has now been suggested that G.O.Cs. Gruppi should issue directions setting forth the doctrine of Military Security and explaining the function of the Security Secs.

Morale

This continues to be, generally speaking, good and desertion in the Combat Gps has fallen off to a trickle. The inadequacy of the ration is the main source of discontent, particularly where British and Italian tps work and live in close contact. Resentment against continuous shortages of such necessities as cigarettes and soap is also widespread.

An example of German/Republican Fascist propaganda put over recently to Cremona Gp is attached. P.W.B. combat German propaganda to a certain extent by supplying rival reading matter such as "Corriere Alleato" and "Il Mese."

Relations with British Tps

From reports received these appear to be good. Only isolated "incidents" occur. Resentment against Italian girls going out with British tps finds occasional expression in written threats on walls.

Control of Movement

Unauthorised entry into Army Area has been reduced to a minimum and the old trick of soldiers getting leave to visit FANO and other towns just south of the control line in the hope of

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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The attached letter hinting at the unauthorised activities of a certain Senior Officer of the Regia Aereonautica is forwarded for information.

B.G. Lamotte

Major,
MMIA LO, Rear Eighth Army.

NOTE: It is hoped in subsequent reports to include extracts from F.S. and other reports, dealing with matters of interest.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT:- Security Report (period 25 Jan - 25 Feb 45)

Liaison Officer,
Land Forces Sub Comm, AC.
(L.M.I.A.),
c/o Rear HQ. Eighth Army.

Land Forces Sub Comm, AC,
(L.M.I.A.), R O M E.

MM/105
26 Feb 45.

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5895

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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The attached letter hinting at the unauthorised activities of a certain Senior Officer of the Anglo Ferrovienia is forwarded for information.

B.G. Lumsden

Major,
MMIA LO, Rear Eighth Army.

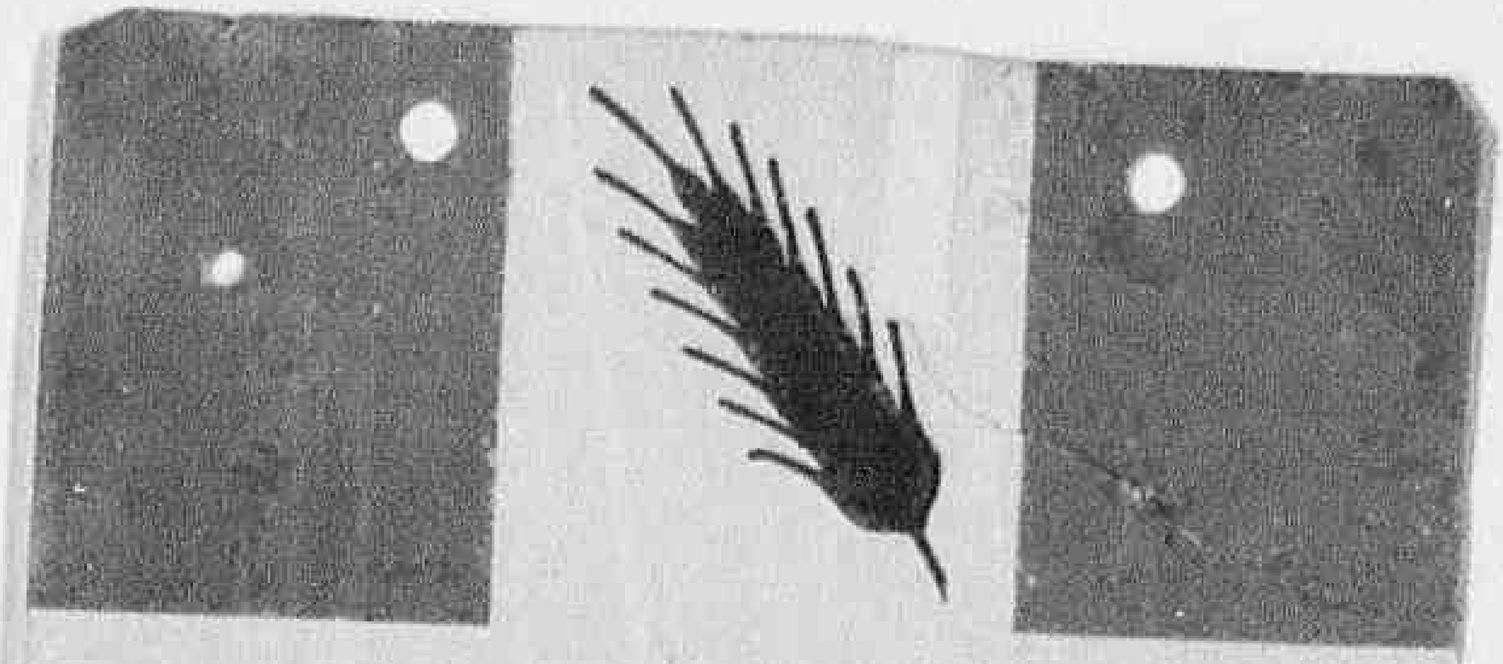
NOTE:. It is hoped in subsequent reports to include extracts from P.W. and other reports, dealing with matters of interest.

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0029

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020



I Colori d'Italia su stoffa inglese?

Soldati della Divisone Cremona!

Non sapete voi ancora che l'uniforme che voi portate, nell'Italia meridionale, è diventato il simbolo della fame, della miseria, delle violazioni ed oltraggi?

Volete voi profanare i colori della vostra Patria, combattendo sotto di essi per l'Inghilterra, che considera la vostra Patria non altro che una pedina nel suo gioco per il dominio del mondo?

Soldati!

Sapete voi, che il vostro Comandante, il Generale Primieri, il giorno 17. gennaio mandò un telegramma al Comandante Supremo dell'8va Armata Britannica, il ten. generale Mc Creery, in cui disse:

Ognuno di noi s'impegnerà nel suo onore di com[illegible]ere fino [illegible]imo respiro e se necessario anc[illegible] per la cosa [illegible]ibertà e della democra[illegible]

[illegible] sia- vo[illegible]
[illegible]on il [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Ma basta!

Hanno da essere sacrificati ancora migliaia di soldati italiani come in Grecia, Africa e Russia? Perché dei generali ambiziosi e dei Capi incapaci, nel rango di ufficiali superiori vogliono assolutamente raccogliere allori, invece di interessarsi della loro truppa e di provvedere ad una istruzione ed un addestramento adeguato e sufficente?
Deve forse ripetersi una nuova ondata di dolore e di strazio nei cuori delle madri e delle spose italiane?
Debbono piangere ancor più bambini in Italia, il loro padre?
Che ha da essere finita la tua vita, sepolte le tue speranze, spento il tuo amore?

L'Italia ti chiama!

Al di là del fronte, ti attende il paese natio. Paese di ordine e di pace. La tua famiglia ha bisogno di te, la tua professione sta aperta dinanzi a te, e pure la terra ha bisogno della cura attenta ed amorevole delle tue mani. E se anche tu non risiedi nell'Italia settentrionale, c'è ugualmente pane, lavoro ed una sistemazione per te.

I tuoi camerati che passarono a noi, o che furono fatti prigionieri già i primi giorni dell'impiego della vostra Divisione, a quest'ora si trovano già a casa, insieme ai loro cari!

Non tardare! Vieni anche tu!

Con [illegible] lasciapassare puoi passare senza pericolo alcuno le linee tedesche. Osserva queste norme: 1. Getta le armi! 2. Getta le armi! 3. Di giorno, agitare il manifesto, o altra carta bianca, oppure un panno bianco! 4. Di notte chiamare «Camerata!»
Venite singoli oppure in gruppi fino a tre uomini!

Lasciapassare!

Il soldato italiano latore di questo manifesto è da trattare come un camerata e da allontanare subito dalla zona di pericolo. L'Esercito lo deve fornire di vitto come un soldato tedesco, e se [illegible] gli soccorso sanitario e conse[illegible]
Co[illegible] Soldati italiani che rimpat[illegible]
COMANDANTE d'ARM[illegible]

Subject:- Control of Movement

SECRET

Main HQ
Eighth Army, CMF
Tel:- Ext 65
M 312/1 I(b)
6 Feb 45

MMIA
Rear HQ Eighth Army

The following extract from 47 PS Section Security Report No.46 dated 4 Feb 45 is forwarded for information:-

"VICCHI Enrico di Eugenio.

Corporal of Italian Air Force in "congedo". Found in Army Area without proper authority.

When questioned gave the following story:

In Oct.43 he was sent, together with NASCA Antonio and GENTILE Giovanni, on a mission into EOT by General RANZA of Regia Aeronautica Commando IV Zona
(a) to see the General's family
(b) to obtain military intelligence

The details of their journey and return to AOT are held and can be forwarded if necessary.

The story is reported only because it appears doubtful whether this mission was effected with the consent of the Allied authorities, because it appears highly undesirable from the security point of view that Italian officers should, without authority, despatch men on such missions and because the officer concerned, whose home is still in EOT (FIRENZUOLA D'ARDA), may be tempted to despatch another such mission."

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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DL

R Rogan Capt RA
for Lt. Col.
G.S.I.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785028

0035

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

51/28 D/3617 ~~11/28~~

LROF V MAED NR 81

FROM MMIA LO 54 ~~RBBY~~ AREA 271000A
TO MMIAL
QQX BT

SD/94 • RESTRICTED • REF YOUR S/1/106/1 OF 7 DEC • 5892
N I L REPORT
BT 271000A
SENT NR 81 EM BB K
RD 2356A FA BBKKK

281000

CONFIDENTIAL.

SECURITY INTELLIGENCE REPORT - ITALIAN ARMY.

Outstation : LEGNANO COMBAT GROUP Area covered .....

Report No. 1 Period from 1Feb 45 to 25 Feb 45.

A. GENERAL SECURITY.

1. Morale. Morale appears high and no cases of unrest or serious complaints have been brought to notice.
The recent modification of the ration scale caused General UTILI to send an appeal to 1 District (via the BLU) in which he asserted that the order was having "a disturbing effect upon the morale of the troops". His signal was drafted on the same date as the notification was received, so it may be assumed that to date only the morale of Gruppo HQ has suffered.

Desertions and Absence. It is difficult to say whether the figure of desertion and absence will increase on a large scale when more Italian homes are liberated. Some men have been heard to say openly that they will desert as soon as they can rejoin their families.
A report by the F.S.S. Sergeant is attached, which mentions this aspect.
Present available figures are as follows :-

Total AWOL from Gruppo as at 17 Feb : 76.

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied activities or trends.

Nothing to report.

5891

3. Illegal storage of Arms and Ammunition.

Nothing to report.

4. Political activity, Propaganda, Monarchism.

No data on which to base a report.

5. Relations with and attitude towards Allied troops.

I do not find this Gruppo on such good terms with its B.L.O. as was the case with the "Cremona". On the other hand, there is no suggestion of antagonism or rudeness. "Aloof" would perhaps describe the

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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I do not find this Gruppo on such good terms with its B.L.U. as was the case with the "Cremona". On the other hand, there is no suggestion of antagonism or rudeness. "Aloof" would perhaps describe the attitude. I have the impression that Gruppo HQ prefer to get on by themselves. This may be due to the fact that Legnano Gruppo has already done a certain amount of fighting and know the ropes and are more independent than Cremona, who looked to the B.L.U. for guidance down to the smallest detail.

6. Discipline.

I am not particularly impressed with the standard as seen so far. To give only one example, there are far too many civilians riding about in Gruppo vehicles. The matter has been represented by the B.L.U. on several occasions, but no action seems to be taken to stop the practice.

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7. Rumours and Indiscreet talk.

Security is bad. There is careless talk in front of the villagers on subjects such as probable date of move to the line, locations of other Gruppi now in the line, type and amount of equipment still required to complete the Gruppo, etc. etc.

8. Summary of Military Security situation.

As will be seen from the foregoing remarks, this Gruppo, in my opinion, leaves a certain amount to be desired. On the other hand there is no reason to suppose that they will not fight well once they are back in the line.

B. Personalities.

Owing to the very short time I have been with the FERNANO Group, I do not feel that I can report reasonably on its Commander, Vice-Commander and Chief of Staff, all of whom however have impressed me as being efficient for their appointments.
Attached however is a report regarding some of the Regimental and Battalion Commanders, which was compiled by the G2 Training and his training officers. The report is based on Italian standards.

5800

Major,
M M I A L O.

25 Feb 45.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

10 0 347

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT: Security Training of the LEGNANO Gruppo di Combattimento.

CONFIDENTIAL.

To:

Commandant, H.Q., F.S.S.
G.S.O.III., 92 B.L.U.

Sir,

The Security training of the LEGNANO Gruppo di Combattimento is now completed, on our part. Further training on this subject should now be carried out by the Officers of the various Units.

The training consisted of a complete cycle of General Security Lectures, to groups of selected Officers, N.C.O.s and men, averaging in numbers from 40 to 100 from each Battalion, Battery or Coy. Stress was laid on the dangers of refugees and the necessity for making sure that they be evacuated through the proper organised channels.

Throughout our tour of the Units, 100 % co-operation was obtained from both officers and men of the Gruppo, in facilitating the execution of our none too easy task.

The CC.RR.

(a) A group of 15 CC.RR of whom one is a Maresciallo, under a CC.RR. Lieutenant, have been instructed in both Military and Civil Security measures. As regards Civil Security stress was laid on the necessity of Movement control and the reasons whyfore

(b) The 15 CC.RR. have been formed into detachments, under our supervision, of four men each, consisting of one N.C.O. and three CC.RRs of whom one has driving experience. They are now operating with the Regiments. Unfortunately minus transport, as the Gruppo has not as yet an Establishment for an F.S. Section, however this difficulty has been temporarily overcome, by getting the respective Regiments to loan each Detachment with a Motor Cycle.

They are attached to the Regimental I.O. for all purposes and the method of getting their information into our hands (as agreed by all concerned) is for all their reports to be ocalated by their Lieutenant, passed on to the Divisional I.O., who will in turn send a copy to the G.S.O.III of the B.L.U.

(c) Each member of this F.S. Section have been given a special Identity Card, for use within the Gruppo, Specimen attached. Also it was seen that the Regiments were instructed by the Gruppo G.S.O.I. that these men were not to be employed for any other purposes but that of Security.

(d) This F.S. Section is being designated amongst the Gruppo as CARABINIERRI SERVIZIO SICUREZZA, it is also of interest to note that amongst them are a few who have already seen some service with Britian F.S. Sections in theatres of Operations.

(Cont. Sheet 4.

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During the period under review the following points are worthy of mention.

(a) General: The majority of the troops come from parts of Italy still in enemy hands and one is safe in assuming that they are the better types of Italians.

(b) MORALE. The morale of the troops in this Gruppo has been found to be exceptionally high for Italians. This can be partly attributed to the fact that their homes are in enemy hands and that the sooner its over the sooner they will be amongst their people.

(c) Relations with British Troops Their relation vis avis British Troops could be termed " Diplomatic" or should one say they suffer us through no other alternative. Amongst the Officers and better types of N.C.O.s a certain amount of inferiority complex is prevelent, which is attributed to their loss of the war, their subsequent volte face and the realisation that they are merely the tools of a gesture on the part of His Majesty's Government.

(d) Complaints. The chief complaint amongst both officers and men appears to be the inequality in treatement and supply of both commodities and war materials as given to British Divisions.i.e. second hand equipment, unnescessary delay and poor rationing.

CONCLUSION

It is greatly doubted if it would ever be possible to make the troops of this Gruppo Security Minded, the greater majority of the troops have already had to some respects similar training under the Fascist Regime, with no visible effect and according to an unknown, high ranking Officer of the the Gruppo " it is not in the Italian nature, to observe, small and yet nescessary details such as Security". There is existent a suppressed feeling of antagonism towards us , which can be partly attributed to their feeling of inferiority complex. It is thought, with obvious foundation, that once Norther Italy is " Liberated", desertions in the Gruppo will be exceptionally high.

Field
17/2/ 1945

Sgt. F.S.S.

0034

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Report - Italian Army

LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
NAPLES
G/S

26 February 1945

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C. (M.M.I.A.

Reference your S/I/106 of 7 December 1944.

1. This outstation has nothing to report for the period ending 24 February 1945.

GEORGE D. SMITH JR.
Major, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

FJAC/nl

SECRET

0040

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Y AFDS/rrc

LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED COMMISSION (M.M.I.A)
Allied Garrison Sardinia
A.P.O. 397, U.S. Army

20 February 1945

TO: Commanding General, Land Forces Sub Com A.C. (MMIA)

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Outstation: Sardinia — Area Covered: Sardinia

Report No. 10 — Period from 20 January to 20 February

A. General Security

1. Morale

(a) Morale among the Italian soldiers here in Sardinia appears to be high. No complaints have been received. When inspections are made, conversations are held with officers and enlisted men and no grievances have been expressed. Continued successes on the Russian Front have caused great interest and a feeling the war in Europe will be over very soon.

The Italian Army has been very cooperative in handling the first phase of the Recall. Their interest and enthusiasm has contributed greatly to the success of the 1st phase.

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities and Trends:

(a) Throughout the island a number of posters were pasted on buildings, "Do Not Present Yourself" for the recall. However, this had little or no effect since the number reporting was much greater than expected.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition:

Nothing to report.

4. Political Activity:

(a) The Questura informed us that in a number of communities the political parties held public meetings endorsing the recall.

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5. Relations with and Attitude Towards Allied Troops:

(a) Continues to be favorable.

6. Discipline: Very satisfactory.

7. Rumors and Indiscreet Talk: Breaches of Security:

(a) Nothing to report.

(b) No apparent breaches of security.

8. Summary of Military Situation and Similar Matters:

(a) The 1st phase of the recall has been completed and the number reporting has exceeded all expectations. So far no incidents or demonstrations against the recall have been reported.

B. Personalities

1. Information (White) on higher leaders:

Nothing to report.

2. Information (Black) on higher leaders:

Nothing to report.

F. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

0042

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COPY

On the morning of Feb 8th(Artilleryman)ZITO CARINGLO of 1/155 Artillery Regt. 2nd Battalion, was approached by four civilians who asked for and offered him 25,000 lire for a Thompson Machine Gun, Hand Grenades and Ammunition.

(Artilleryman) ZITO not only refused the offer but immediately informed his Battery Commander, who took the four civilians into custody.

These men are being held in custody by the Warrant Officer in charge of MIRABELLA Police Station(CC.RR.) who is carrying out inquiries.

Lee - Put on Security Report File
FEB 43

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

HQ Security Int Report - I

SECRET.

96

AV MMIALO att FRIULI I.C.E.
30 Jan 45.

To HQ MMIA.

Ref your S/I/106/1 dated 7 Dec 44.
The following interim report is submitted and is based on personal observation during period 22 - 30 Jan 45. Between 23 - 26 Jan, FRIULI ICE was on the move between RADDA and conc area at FORLI - FORLIMPOPOLI - BERTINORO; time for observation was therefore limited.

A. General Security

1 Morale. In general is high and all ranks anxious to get into the line. Chaplains at Mass and Senior Offrs on parade have stressed the ideals for which FRIULI is about to fight, the responsibility of Offrs to lead by action and good example and the importance of winning the first battle. Desertion continues on a small scale and if returns are to be believed averaged five daily over the period under review with a slight increase during the move. Actual figures of those absent [illegible]

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2. Fascist activities. On 24 Jan when I spent a night at TOLENTINO near MACERATA, it was reported to me by a Second Lieutenant of the local Patriots, a man whose sincerity

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was vouched for by the Comd of 225/57 A/Tk Bty RA stationed in the neighbourhood, that he had recognized a certain Sgt ABBONDANZA of 35 Arty Regt during the move of the Regt through TOLENTINO the same morning. ABBONDANZA, he said, had joined the Germans in Greece in 1943 and having enrolled in the G.N.R., came with SS troops to TOLENTINO where he played an active part in the removal of 1914-27 classes to Germany for forced labour. He also was responsible for disclosing the identity of local patriots to the Huns and took part in the execution of many.

This information is being checked and has been passed to GSI of 50 BLO and Main S'Hqrs.

5. Relations with allied Hqs

(a) with 50 BLO. The outspoken views of certain members of 50 BLO on the efficiency and exploits of the FRIULI must offend very deeply Capt RUSPOLI who lives in the Mess with British and Maltese Members. Having been educated in England and married an English wife, his

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

he played an active part in the removal of 1914-27 classes to Germany for forced labour. He also was responsible for disclosing the identity of local patriots to the Huns and took part in the execution of many.

This information is being checked and has been passed to GSI of 50 BLU and Main S Corps.

5. Relations with allied lps

(a) with 50 BLU. The outspoken views of certain members of 50 BLU on the efficiency and exploits of the FRIULI must offend very deeply. Capt RUSPOLI who lives in the Mess with British and Maltese Members. Having been educated in England and married an English wife his outlook and reactions are British to a certain degree; beyond this he is essentially an Italian, extraordinarily diplomatic in his conduct and contacts as Interpreter. One can only hope that his innate courtesy prevents him from spreading to other Italian Offrs the unfortunate remarks that he must overhear almost daily.

Contact between BLO & Offrs of I.C.E. HQ is otherwise friendly and fully cooperative

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b) with other Allied Tps. So far only one incident has come to my notice; it was of a minor nature but represents the type of misunderstanding which might be the cause of graver ones. 5 Corps Tps troops have for some time past given weekly Dances in the neighbourhood to which the majority of the local female population have been invited. Last week, the BERTINORO Dance was boycotted by a crowd of some 200 soldiers from 88 Inf Regt in the village square. They denied entry to the guests with the consequence that no more than a few girls found their way into the Hall and they at the risk of losing their hair. The order that Italian soldiers shall not dance has since ~~been~~ been partially rescinded on a local basis and on 3 Feb a joint Anglo-Italian dance has been organised. The misunderstanding has been cleared up.

Cond and Staff of 5 Corps have already met the senior Offrs of I.C.G. Hqs. and the Italians are impressed by the action taken to welcome them. Cond 5 Corps is taking the salute at a Divisional Parade next Sunday which is being held

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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Comd and Staff of 5 Corps have already met the senior Offrs of I.L.G. Hq. and the Italians are impressed by the action taken to welcome them. Comd 5 Corps is taking the salute at a Divisional Parade next Sunday, which is being filmed by SHAEF Photographic unit and given publicity through allied Military channels.

8. Summary of Military Security Situation

During the move to conc area I accompanied elements of the FRIULI column from TOLENTINO to FANO. Reception from majority of civilians in the streets was completely negative, C.C.R.R. appeared

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interested at the passage of Ops, but the only real welcome to Combat Ops was from units of 228 Bde who lined the rds outside their billets. It is not known how much military info was disclosed to civilians en route — several who were seen to have stopped at civilian houses.

B. Personalities NTR.

Brig Lord Strathcarron Maj
The Queen's Royal Regt.

Addendum.

Since going to press, the following info has been received and should be added to para as shown.

para 1. The promise by Field Marshall Alexander that the Gruppi shall be treated exactly the same as all other Allied armies under his Command is of paramount importance and will be the cause of discontent of the gravest order if not implemented. This fact is appreciated by Eighth Army and 5 Corps, who have both gone out of their way to provide all available material considered necessary. In Forli an Officers' Hotel and ORs canteen are being organized.

SECRET.

850

Subject:- SECURITY INTELLIGENCE REPORT - ITALIAN ARMY.

3DLO/5/1
5 Feb. 45.

Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
R O M E.

1
6/2

Herewith return called for in your S/I/106/1 of 7 Dec 44.

OUTSTATION:- H.Q. 3 District.
REPORT No:- 1.
AREA COVERED:- SICILY, CALABRIA, CAMPANIA, part LAZIO.

A. GENERAL SECURITY.

1. MORALE.

During the period of the call up in SICILY a certain amount of unrest was reported from the island. There had previously been the incident of the burning down of the Municipio in CATANIA.

Areas principally affected during the riots were VITTORIA, COMISO, and RAGGUSA, where civilians took to armed force in an effort to avoid being called up.

Separatists are primarily responsible for these and similiar disturbances, though Fascists are also said to be involved. 58.9

A party of 100 men of the SABAUDA Div stationed at SYRACUSE were sent to deal with the original outbreak but these were soon disarmed by

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A party of 100 men of the SABAUDA Div stationed at SYRACUSE were sent to deal with the original outbreak but these were soon disarmed by the civilians. A further party of 200 men under orders of Gen RONCO (GOC SABAUDA) were later, after some casualties, successful in restoring order in the area.

Gangs of armed bandits have been reported in the GIOIATAURO area of CALABRIA (D.6583). Italian gds on VPs in that area have been given extra arms and amn but no trouble has so far been reported.
(3 District reports).
(Sigs from COMLIT CALABRIA)

(contd.)

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2. Fascist, Pro-German, anti-Allied activities.

As far as the Army is concerned, none are reported from 3 District.

3. Illegal storage of arms and amn.

N.T.R.

4. Political activities.

N.T.R.

5. Relations with Allied tps.

These are good. No trouble in this connexion has been reported either by 3 District or the Italian Army.

Certain BR-ITI units habitually complain about their rations and others about clothing but these complaints very often can be traced to the interest taken in the unit by the British Cadre, etc. comds. No complaints of any serious nature have been noted.

(Personal observation.)

6. Discipline.

On the whole discipline is good. No incidents between Allied and Italian tps have been reported.

5878

7. Rumours.

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(Personal observation.)

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7. Rumours.

There has been the usual batch of rumours but most of them have only a local hearing. One particularly alarming rumour is that Russia, Germany and Republican Italy are about to sign a treaty; another is that Russia will sign a pact with Germany to allow the latter to turn all her effort onto dislodging the Allies from Western Europe.

A rumour, supposed to have originated in a Naples newspaper (but which cannot be traced)

(contd.)

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has it that the Germans are preparing a hurried withdrawal from the BOLOGNA area.

(Conversations and 3 District I summary)

8. Summary.

The Italian Army is giving very little trouble indeed from a security point of view. Most of the local outbursts are of civilian and especially student origin.

B. PERSONALITIES.

1. Gen di Brigata GINO GRANATA. Age about 50 - 55 years, CE at Comando Territoriale Napoli. This officer appears to be capable insofar as dealings regarding the reconstruction of AFRAGOLA camp have been concerned. He has drive and does not appear to be afflicted with the pomposity and mock curtesy often associated with Italian officers of this seniority. Nothing is known of his political leanings.

(Personal acquaintance)

2. Gen MANNERINI. This officer is responsible for the reception of repatriated Italian ex-PW. Age about 50 but gives the impression of being younger. Only one interview has been held with Gen MANNERINI but it has confirmed the opinion formed on our last encounter in Apr 43 on the occasion of his capture when GOC of the "GRUPPO SAHARIANO" in the Desert, i.e. that of an extremely self-satisfied but probably efficient officer.

(Personal acquaintance)

3. Div Gen SILVIO ROSSI. Age slightly over 50 years.

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(Personal acquaintance)

3. Div Gen SILVIO ROSSI. Age slightly over 50 years. GOC 227 Div. Gives the impression of being a good officer with the interests of his tps at heart, though how much of this impression is due to the efficiency and drive of his C of S, Major SCOTTO-LAVINA, who is, by the usual standards, outstanding, is hard to tell.

(Personal acquaintance)

Delay in the submission of this report is regretted.

Major,
MMIA LO,
3 District.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

SUBJECT :- Security Int Report - Italian Army

Ref LO 21/5

3/ Jan 45

Outstation :- CESANO

Report No :- No 1 Period from :- 1 Jan 45 to 31 Jan 45

A. GENERAL

1. Morale

There was considerable unrest during the first three weeks of Jan owing to :-

(a) Overcrowding new recruits in buildings that were windowless and doorless,

(b) Lack of clothing,

(c) Lack of blankets

(d) Arrival of 1400 new rfts from SICILY who had travelled in box waggons without doors and who had not been issued with blankets and straw for the journey from the South. On arrival they found the conditions outlined in (a), (b) and (c).

During the last ten days :-

(i) The arrival of adequate clothing and blankets,

(ii) The progress in weather-proofing the buildings,

(iii) Despatch of rfts to Gruppi to ease overcrowding alleviated the posn and morale rose accordingly.

The inadequate scale of rations remains a source of complaint and dissatisfaction. No cigarettes have been issued to RTC for distribution to tps since 20 Jan 45

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2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI-ALLIED activities or trends

NTR

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF ARMS & AMN

NTR

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITY - Propoganda, monarchism

NTR

...../2

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5. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Tps

Cordial

6. DISCIPLINE

Low standard - due mainly to enormous influx of recruits with inadequate number of officers and senior NCOs to control them. This is now being remedied by the arrival of the PICENO DIV which is furnishing the permanent cadres. At the moment the discipline of the PICENO does NOT seem to be of a high order.

7. RUMOURS and indiscreet TALK

NTR

8. SUMMARY of MILITARY SECURITY situation including any other matters that cannot be correctly listed under 1 to 7 above.

NTR

(All the above is personal observations)

B. PERSONALITIES

1. Will follow in next report.

Maj RA
DAA & QMG(Br)

58.3

DISTRIBUTION

Land Forces Sub Comm AC (MMIA) ROME ✓

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NTR

8. SUMMARY of MILITARY SECURITY situation including any other matters that cannot be correctly listed under 1 to 7 above.

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58[illegible]

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To see 2 i/c
Col Ridsley
Capt Selby

File →

83

SECRET

SUBJECT : HQ Security Int Report

MMIA LO
att FRIULI Italian Combat Group

HQ MMIA

13 Jan 45

"A"

1. Morale

In the performance of the tasks required by the present phase of trg, all reports tend to show that morale is good. However, the large number of recent desertions suffered by the Group creates diffidence in the tps' will to fight. This diffidence is increased by censors' reports that letters are being written home containing threats to desert as soon as the Group reaches the fighting line. Reports on officers still show that they fail to take interest in their men, and that generally the personal bond between pl comds and their men is conspicuous by its rarity.

In the belief that the men would return, leave was granted to a large body of men, and when 40% did NOT return, a further 300 men, due for leave, were forbidden to go, at least until those AWOL were struck off the group's effective strength. We thus have a further 10% of the Group still waiting for leave.

4. Political Activity

From Italian and Brit sources there are persistent reports that communist propaganda aims at breaking up the Group. Both S GIOVANNI and MONTEVARCHI are communist centres, and 87 Regt, which has suffered considerable losses through desertion, has been moved from MONTEVARCHI to CASTELNUOVO. A curfew from 1800 - 0500 hrs has been requested from AMG for MONTEVARCHI, and a picquet of the Group GC RR is being sent to the village. It is reported that the local communist party is opening a cell at Castellina, the location of 88 Inf Regt.

Action taken

5. There have been clashes with SA tps in one of which an Italian sjt was killed. This took place at S GIOVANNI. One of two fights with SA tps also occurred at CASTELNUOVO. The tps reacted by requesting local civilians NOT to entertain SA tps.

6. Discipline

Twelve soldiers of 87 Inf Regt were charged with mutiny, tried by extraordinary court martial and awarded a total of 50 yrs imprisonment. NO further cases have occurred.

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8. It would seem that the Group employs no security classification of documents. This is probably a matter for a general order from the Ministry of War.

Identity cards for the tps have at last been received and the distribution is taking place now. The absence of these cards has made the arrest of deserters more difficult.

There have been NO cases of breaches of military security.

BLV should take action

...../ "g"

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"B"

Personalities - MEMTA

1. Ten col VEDOVATO - Chief of Staff

Age - 38

Courses - Accademic Militare Artiel e Genio/Scuola di Guerra

Campaigns - 1. EAST AFRICA 1935 - 6 Capt
2. FRANCE 1940 Maj
3. GREECE 1940 Sotto Cap Gen Staff 8th Corps

Medals - a) Al Valore argento e bronzo
b) Croce di guerra al valore

2. Ten col LA STELLA - Capo Sez Personale e Segretaria

Age - 54

Courses - Scuola di Applicazione Infanteria 1914

Campaigns - 1. LIBIA 1911 - 12
2. GREAT WAR 1914 - 18 AUSTRIAN Front
3. CENTAURO Div 1943 Chief of Staff IP
4. FRIULI Div CORSICA

NB: This officer spent 12 yrs between the two wars as a civilian. All his superiors have written glowing reports on him.

58:3

M. Fieldman

CMF
MT/STE

Maj
MICA LO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

b) Croce di guerra al valore

2. Ten col LA STELLA - Capo Ses Personale e Segreteria

Age - 34

Courses - Scuola di Applicazione Infanteria 1914

Campaigns - 1. LIBIA 1911 - 12
2. GRAF KAR 1914 - 18 AUSTRIAN Front
3. CENTAURO Div 1943 Chief of Staff FF
4. FRIULI Div GORRICA

NB: This officer spent 12 yrs between the two wars as a civilian. All his superiors have written glowing reports on him.

58.3

M. Fieldman

CMF
MF/SIB

Maj
MMIA LO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad

Subject: Security Intelligence Report - Italian Troops with Fifth Army.

To : Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. (MMIA)
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. Reference your File No. S/1/106/1 of 7 December 1944.

2. General Security:

a. Morale: Absences without leave and desertions by Italian soldiers continue. The 210 Division US-Iti have been dropping men after 5 days AWOL instead of 30 as provided by Paragraphs 13 and 14, AFHQ letter AG 091.711/169 GCT-O, dated 16 November 1944 and MMIA Administrative Instructions No. 13, paragraphs 13 and 14, dated 1 December 1944. I computed the AWOLs among the US-Itis and ITI-Itis as being a fraction over 1% and 2% among the Br-Itis but these percentages were obtained when the US-Itis were dropping men after 5 days. Have pointed out to the 210 Division that their status reports should be based on 30 day periods. Am not aware of any seditious or subversive influences likely to undermine morale.

b. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: None that I know of among the Italian officers and men. Among the civilian population, am definitely of the opinion that a large majority of the people in Florence are pro-Fascist and Anti-Ally. Our soldiers are insulted on the streets by civilians and are not received as they have been in Rome and other cities.

c. Illegal Storage of Arms or Ammunition: None.

d. Political Activity: The Italian officers with whom I come in contact, apparently fear a communistic Italy and probably favor continuing the monarchy. No officer within my knowledge has been spreading any propaganda or taking any part in any political activity.

e. Relations with an attitude towards Allied Troops: Very satisfactory as far as officers and soldiers are concerned but not civilians.

f. Discipline: Improving.

g. Rumors, Indiscreet Talk and Breaches of Security: Very satisfactory.

h. Summary of Military Security: Conditions here are very satisfactory.

3. Personalities:

a. Information on higher leaders:

(1) General Officer, Commanding Delegation T, CERICA Angelo; appointment, General Staff, Lieutenant General; age 60. Reasonably cooperative, not obstructive, his political views are [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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3. Personalities:

a. Information on higher leaders:

(1) General Officer, Commanding Delegation T, CERICA Angelo; appointment, General Staff, Lieutenant General; age 60. Reasonably cooperative, not obstructive, his political views are likewise no doubt as indicated above for other Italian officers, but he is not engaging in any political activity to my knowledge. Attached is a memorandum by General CERICA on the treatment of Partisans to which I subscribe in part. He prepared this upon my suggestion after having discussed a partisan directive with him.

(2) General Officer, Commanding 210 Division, CORTESE Giuseppe; appointment, General Staff, Brigadier General; age 56. Reasonably cooperative; not obstructive, his political views are no doubt as indicated above for other Italian officers but he is not engaging in any political activity to my knowledge. I consider him an efficient officer and possessing considerable energy.

(3) General Officer, Commanding 231 Division, MANNIE Mario; appointment, General Staff, Brigadier General; age 53. No contact with him yet.

b. Dossier of Italian Officers: Reference your TS/1/123 of 1 January 1945. Expect to have this completed by the 15th of this month.

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4. Conclusion: The above opinions and views are my own and based upon my own observations, which of course, are limited in scope. So far as I can determine, generally speaking, no serious disaffection, lack of loyalty or any other willful disloyal activity exists among the Italian officers and men assigned or attached to Fifth Army which would be inimical to the interests of the Allied cause.

R.C.VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,
5th Army.

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I

Rear HQ 8 Army.
MM/120.
2H Jan. 45.

2811

MMIA - Rome.

Security Intelligence Report No 2.
25 Dec HH — 25 Jan HS.

1.) Morale continues to improve for the reasons given in my last report. The entry into action of the Cremona Group has also had a good effect.

2.) General Security.
Nothing particular to report apart from the usual crop of illegal entrants into Army area. 5870
leave or bogus duty passes.
Among these, Navy + Air Force are especially prominent.

Alexander

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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A.H. Moiandy
Lt Col

MHIA. LO.
Rear HQ 8 Army.

Allied Force HQ

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SECRET

LIAISON OFFICE
LAND FORCES SUB COMM. AC (MMIA)
& AC SICILY REGION Hq.
APO 534

I 80 D

2711

No 1307

25 January 1945

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence-Monthly Reports-Italian Army.

TO : G.O.C. Land Forces Sub Comm. AC (MMIA) Rome.

Out station Sicily
Report No. 9

Area Covered-Sicily
Period from 21 December 1944
to 20 January 1945

In compliance with your S/I/106/1 dated 7 December 1944, subject report is submitted.

A. General Security

1. Morale:

a. The morale of the Italian Soldier remains good. The Officers for the most part are concerned about the general welfare of their men and seem to endeavor to improve conditions of their troops, whenever and wherever they can. There have been no important indications of unrest. Natural complaints over the shortage of transportation, parts and tires have been presented, but this has been done in a respectful and courteous manner. As soon as the Certification of all Military Transport now in the hands of the Military is completed so that an effort can be made to return vehicles now in the hands of Civilians and private enterprise, to the Military, such complaints should almost cease. The ration of the Italian soldier is good and, so he says, adequate. The only complaints I have received concerning the ration was as to the Olive Oil. These were more of a comment than a complaint as it was admitted that the oil was of the new crop. No undue unrest or dissertions have been reported. The Italian Soldier continues to be kept busy on guard duties and training, the recent disturbances caused him to be employed. Clothing and equipment is beginning to be sorely needed and unquestionably a sizeable issue to troops would help bolster morale. A report from Ragusa(supplied by 21st F.S.S.) states" The morale of the Italian troops appears to be somewhat higher, partly because of the influence of General Prisotto, who went personally to the revolts at Ragusa, when his troops were called upon to help quell the rebels there and partly because the soldiers feel they are doing, at last, something useful instead of lounging around doing nothing".

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities Trends.

a. It is reported from Agrigento that in the local Faccacceria on Via Roma, Fascist songs were sung by soldiers of local Garrison. The soldiers were under the influence of drink. One of the soldiers tore down several PWB photos from display panels on the wall. The photos in question were of Italian patriots. Only on the intervention of a P S agent did the soldier desist from tearing photos of Allied troops in France and Italy from the panels. The same evening, 31 December 1944, another group of soldiers who had been amusing themselves by singing the Camicie Rosse, came to blows with some of the Fascists from the Cafe. It is further reported that the 4th Bde (22 Inf. Regt) troop are very rowdy and cause considerable disquiet to the local population. This has been brought to the attention of Territorial Hdqts.

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b. Other Fascist demonstrations of a minor nature has been reported to me by the 51 F.S.S., but they dealt with the Civilians and had no connection with the Army. A number of Fascists have been arrested in various parts of the Island.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition.

a. Nothing to report from the Military on this subject. It seems that Italian soldiers use to carry grenades, but no report of such has been received lately.

b. Many instances of armed robbery is reported, mainly from the south central part of the Island. The Deisel train to Catania has been stopped and passengers robbed by armed mobs. Private vehicles have also been halted and robbed. The hold ups, are in the main taking place in the region described as a line between Agrigento, Canicatti, Sciacca, Agrigento. On the 13 January 1945, the Lucato-Agrigento bus was held up by 30 Armed persons. Concerted armed resistance was given in Ragusa province during the Call-up in early January. In Riberia, four delinquents were captured who had committed at least 7 robberies. Arms and 2000 rounds of ammunition was found, including 30 Jemmies. Seven other persons in the vicinity of Agrigento were arrested and were found to be in illegal possession of arms, rifles, hand grenades and pistols.

One man Brancato and two youths during the demonstration of protest against the call-up at Canicatti on Jan 7 shouted abusive remarks against the Allies the Italian Govt. and praises and cheers for fascism and Mussolini were arrested by the ITI police. Branxato Emanuele which incidentally is FSP No. 3 fascist suspect at Canicatti is being proposed for interrment by the ITI authorities.

4. Political Activity-Propaganda Monarchism

a. Nothing to report from the Army.

b. It is noted that since about Xmas the communists have increased their membership by 1600 while the Christian Democrats have increased about 3500 and have more than doubled the number of sections in the province.

COMMUNIST 12563 Sig. Giorgio Cresi
Christian Democrats 10,000 Salvatore Scivo
Democratic Labour 4753 Mario Bonfigio
Socialists Ing. Fiorentino Giosue 1900
Liberals Gerlando Costa 873
Action Party Francesco Macaluso 365
Reformist Enrico La Loggia-just beginning political activity

The swelling of the ranks of the Christian Democratic Party recently has been due to the fact that the regional leader is the High Commissioner (Aldisio) because of which, it is considered

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persons. Concerted armed resistance was given in Ragusa province during the Call-up in early January. In Riberia, four delinquents were captured who had committed at least 7 robberies. Arms and 2000 rounds of ammunition was found, including 30 jammies. Seven other persons in the vicinity of Agrigento were arrested and were found to be in illegal possession of arms, rifles, hand grenades and pistols.

One man Brancato and two youths during the demonstration of protest against the call-up at Canicatti on Jan 7 shouted abusive remarks against the Allies the Italian Govt. and praises and cheers for fascism and Mussolini were arrested by the ITI police. Branxato Emanuele which incidentally is FSP No. 3 fascist suspect at Canicatti is being proposed for interment by the ITI authorities.

4. Political Activity-Propaganda Monarchism
   a. Nothing to report from the Army. 5808

b. It is noted that since about Xmas the communists have increased their membership by 1600 while the Christian Democrats have increased about 3500 and have more than doubled the number of sections in the province.

COMMUNIST	12563	Sig. Giorgio Crasi
Christian Democrats	10,000	Salvatore Scivo
Democratic Labour	4753	Mario Bonfigio
Socialists	Ing. Fiorentino Giosue	1900
Liberals	Gerlando Costa	873
Action Party	Francesco Macaluso	365

Reformist Enrico La Loggia-just beginning political activity

The swelling of the ranks of the Christian Democratic Party recently has been due to the fact that the regional leader is the High Commissioner (Aldisio) because of which, it is considered the Prefect of Agrighento is following the local secretary (Avv Scifo) of the party and to the fact that a good part of the old mafia are giving its support to the party. In fact there have been a large number of applications for return of citizen rights on the part of members of this organization.

The Dem. Labour Party and Socialist Parties have not been active lately.

5. Relations with and attitude toward Allied troop.
   a. From the Italian Military Stand point of view Excellent.
   b. From the Civilian side, it seems to be a matter of toleration.

SECRET

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SECRET

Security Intelligence-Monthly Reports-Italian Army (Con't)

6. Disciplne: Remains good

7. Rumors and indiscreet talk-Breaches of Security.
a. Nothing to report on the Italian Military.
b. Civilian rumors are "That England is taking much of the Olive Oil from the people of Sicily to meet their own needs." - "Russia has kept hidden from the other Allies six months supply of arms so she can, after Germany is beaten, attack England.

8. Summary of Military Security.
Relations between Civilians and Italian Armed Forces remain uneasy. The sudden increase in armed robbery is a plain case of flaunting authority. Such a case as the disarming of 100 troops on 6th January, outside Ragusa does not speak well of the Italian soldier or Officer as far as security of the Island is concerned.

Note: All information in this report is based on reports from the 51st Field Security Section, 21st Port Security Section, Hdqts. 204th Sub-Area and my own observation.

Further to this report see attached general report of the 21 Port Security Section.

HOMER E. LONG
Major, QMC
I O Sicily

5807

SECRET

CIVIL DISORDERS:

Subject:- Summary of Events, RAGUSA and SYRACUSE Provinces, 3 - 12 Jan 45.

No.21PS/Sec.

SECRET

To: 51 Field Security Section.

From: 21 Port Security Section.

Jan.3	RAGUSA	CC.RR arrested 28 people found in street after curfew and 9 youths who had not answered call-up.
	VITTORIA	Demonstrations in streets.
	MODICA	Demonstrations in streets.
	AVOLA	Night 3/4 Jan, AVOLA-NOTO railway line dynamited 1 km. from AVOLA Station. About 2½ ft of line blown.
Jan 4	RAGUSA	1 Italian officer and 2 soldiers seized by crowd. Later liberated by Italian tps and CC.RR. Demonstrations. Shots exchanged between civilians and military. 1 CC.RR and a Commissario fo P.S. injured; 1 civilian killed and 1 injured.
	VITTORIA	Demonstrations continue.
	MODICA	Demonstrations continue.
	AVOLA	Railway line repaired. Train service resumed.
Jan 5	RAGUSA-VITTORIA	Road. CC.RR ration truck stopped and pilfered by civilians armed with rifles, machine-guns and hand grenades.
	COMISO	Disturbances start. 200-300 armed civilians retire to hills about town followed by CC.RR. Shots exchanged. 1 CC.RR injured.
	MODICA	Demonstrations continue. Still no casualties nor damage.
	VITTORIA	Demonstrations continue. Still no casualties nor damage.
Jan 6	RAGUSA	1230 hrs 100 Italian tps from 16 Arty Regt sent from CALTANISSETTA to RAGUSA disarmed a few kms outside RAGUSA by civilian armed with rifles, machine-guns and hand grenades. 1 Italian officer and 3 O.R's killed. 70 extra CC.RR arrive at RAGUSA. Firing between civilians and tps at RAGUSA. Tps refuse to leave barracks because of armed crowds. Prefect asks SYRACUSE for reinforcements.
	SYRACUSE	200 Italian tps sent to RAGUSA.
	VITTORIA	Demonstrations. Sporadic firing. CC.RR barracks attacked and a few CC.RR disarmed. Civil Prison attacked and some prisoners set free.
	COMISO	Demonstrations continue.

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VITTORIA Demonstrations. Sporadic firing. CC.RR barracks attacked and a few CC.RR disarmed. Civil Prison attacked and some prisoners set free.

COMISO Demonstrations continue/

MODICA Situation still tense.

SCICLI Situation tense.

Jan 7 RAGUSA Prefect and tps besieged in Prefecture. Prefect asks for all CC.RR available to go to Prefecture. 1 CC.RR officer and nine O.R's only answer call. Remainder refuse to leave barracks. Large crowd in main square addressed by one of ringleaders. Sporadic firing around town. Rebels control railway line RAGUSA-MODICA

SOLARINO 200 Italians tps from SYRACUSE arrive at RAGUSA 1600 hr. Attacks on Amasso Grano and Amasso Cilio. Doors blown in with hand grenades. CC.RR and tps prevent thefts.

CASSIBILE Private house next to Amasso damaged. 1 girl injured. Small railway bridge on SYRACUSE-RAGUSA line dynamited Labourers sent to repair bridge attacked by crowd with hand grenades.

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Jan 7 (Cont'd)	VITTORIA	Sporadic firing.
	COMISO	CC.RR Disarmed. Comitato Provisorio del Popolo established with a Commissario at its head.
	SYRACUSE	Brig-Gen. RONCO leaves SYRACUSE by road for RAGUSA with 30 tps and 60 CC.RR. BRUNO DI BELMONTE, deputy to PINNOCHIARO-APRILE, arrives at SYRACUSE and contacts Provincial Separatist leader, CIANCI. Asks CIANCI to send delegate to RAGUSA as an observer. Emissary fails to reach RAGUSA.
	MODIWA	Situation still tense.
	GIARRATANA	Tps proceeding from SYRACUSE to RAGUSA fired on near GIARRATANA during night 6/7 Jan 45. A few tps injured. Search made round countryside for sulprits unsuccessful.
Jan 8	RAGUSA	Situation quietened down. Sporadic firing in morning.
	COMISO	Colonel C.C. 16 Arty Regt on way to RAGUSA from CALTANISSETTA escorted by armoured car, attacked by civilians in COMISO. Had to fire machine-gun to force passage. Town in complete control of rebels. Two road blocks set up just outside town on road to RAGUSA. Sporadic rifle fire. Groups of armed youths patrol streets.
	VITTORIA	All quiet. General BRISOTTO and 300 tps leave AGRIGENTO for VITTORIA.
	MODICA	All quiet.
	SCICLI	Demonstrations. Hand grenades thrown. No casualties.
	AVOLA	0730 hrs, six hand grenades thrown at train from NOTO carrying on board 200 youths who had presented themselves for military service. No casualties. Crowd of about 1000 people round station. Order restored by 1045 hrs with arrival of tps from NOTO.
	CASSIBILE	CC.RR and tps sent from SYRACUSE to protect labourers attempting again to repair bridge at CASSIBILE. Bridge repaired.
	SOLARINO	Arrests start of culprits of incidents of previous night. Night 8/9 Jan 45 small bridge ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ (road) blown one mile beyond SOLARINO.
Jan 9.	RAGUSA	All quiet. Arrests continuing as interrogations proceed.
	VITTORIA	1330 hrs ammn dump attacked by rebels most of whom had come from COMISO. Truckload of rebels carrying white flag open fire on military. Rebels armed with four machine-guns, L.M.G's, hand grenades and

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VITTORIA — 1330 hrs ammn dump attacked by rebels most of whom had come from COMISO. Truckload of rebels carrying white flag open fire on military. Rebels armed with four machine-guns, L.M.G's, hand grenades and rifles. Attacks continue for three hours. Dump gallantly defended by Lieut. MARIANI and 30 men; used 2 German A/T guns to beat off attacks. 6 military wounded, 3 rebels dead; number of rebels wounded not known. Sporadic firing round town. Armed Communists help to keep order. Brig-Gen. BRISOTTO's column consisting of two companies of infantry and one battery of artillery arrive 2100 hrs.

COMISO — Still in control of rebels. Sporadic firing. Comitato del Popolo posts orders round town; threatens to shoot any people who disobey them. (See Appendices "A" and "B.")

MODICA — All quiet.

SCICLI — Situation still tense.

SYRACUSE — Arrest, by order of the Prefect, of eight former Fascists of SYRACUSE, six of these Squadristi;

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Jan 9 (cont'd)	SYRACUSE	this as done as a precautionary measure. Only one of them, however, is a figure of any significance.
Jan 10.	RAGUSA	All quiet. Sipplies and reinforcements on way escorted by 50 Alpini tpe. Arrests and interrogations continue. Two priests arrive at RAGUSA from COMISO asking military to spare the town, saying that no further incidents would occur if those who had been called up were released from such obligation and could stay at home. 13 Italian military made prisoner and sent to COMISO are set free and return to RAGUSA.
	COMISO	Still in hands of rebels. Road blocks still in position.
	VITTORIA	Sporadic firing continues. Military ration truck fired on. Gen. BRISOTTO's tpe carry out mopping-up operations.
	SOLARINO	Total of 16 arrests effected for incidents of 7 Jan 45.
Jan 11.	RAGUSA	All quiet.
	COMISO	Taken by Gen. RONCO and Gen. BRISOTTO. No resistence, road blocks had been taken down, most of ringleaders had fled. Only one captured, a sailor recently returned from SPEZIA.
	VITTORIA	All quiet.
	MODICA	All quiet.
	SYRACUSE	Provincial meeting of SYRACUSE Communist Party. Members urged to keep orderly and help authorities as much as possible.
Jan 12.	SCICLI	Italian tpe march through the town to give a display of force. Generally quiet throughout RAGUSA and SYRACUSE Provinces. Arrests, interrogations and search for arms continue.
	SYRACUSE	Two more squadristi arrested as precautionary measure. Small demonstration outside Civil Prison when a few of the RAGUSA prisoners are brought in. Civilians insulted Italian military escort.

CASUALTIES.

Italian Military: Killed - 1 Army officer and 3 O.R's.
- 1 CC.RR and 1 Guardia di Finanza
Wounded - 21.

Rebels: Killed - 8. Many other bodies, however, are believed to have been hidden.
Wounded - 20. Known for certain, but probably many more.

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ARRESTS.

Total at RAGUSA up till 12 Jan 45 was ± 195.
Total in other town in RAGUSA Province not yet known, but arrests continue constantly.
Total arrested at SYRACUSE for political reasons during period under review is nine (one of those arrested having since been set free.)
Total arrested at SOLARINO (SYRACUSE Province) is 16.

---oOo---

COMMENTS ON THE ABOVE EVENTS.

1. Instigation.

Until the arrests and interrogations are completed it is not possible to come to many conclusions. In well-informed circles at RAGUSA the trouble is attributed to Fascist elements rather than Separatists.

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It now appears that several of the instigators are men who have been dismissed from their posts since the invasion, as being squadristi, Sciarpa Littorio, etc. Many other instigators are men who had paid posts in some Fascist organisation and are now without work.

Many of the poorer people, together with many youths, joined in to express objection to the call-up or as an expression of discontent to the present general conditions of living. A great many others taking advantage of the complete confusion, took part probably just for the sake of hooliganism, looting or for the enjoyment of acting against the authorities.

At VITTORIA the blame is widely attributed to the Fascists and to the Separatists in equal share. Much blame, however, is attributed to the men of COMISO who came in to raid the ammn. dump.

At COMISO many people attribute the trouble to irresponsible youths though others say that the ringleaders were students with pro--German sentiments. The priests said that if it had not been for the call-up there would not have been any trouble.

More definite conclusions must await a more detailed investig--ation.

2. Organisation.

Here again it is not yet possible to come to any conclusion. There does appear, however, to have been a certain amount of organisation; some of those arrested at RAGUSA spoke of trucks circulating the town distributing arms. The crowds in many cases were organised into definite bands in so far as they followed definite leaders who gave them instructions. These leaders came not only from RAGUSA Province. One man who was interrogated stated the leader of his band was known as "the lieutenant," was a native of CATANIA, and only arrived at RAGUSA on 6 Jan 45. One ringleader at VITTORIA and another at COMISO were Northern Italians. (In all towns leaders of bands were known as "lieutenants.")

There was an attempt to isolate RAGUSA Province and prevent reninforcements coming by the blowing of the railway line at AVOLA on 3/4 Jan, and of the railway bridge at CASSIBILE on 7 Jan, and of the road bridge beyond SOLARINO on the night of 8/9 Jan. Whether these were local decisions or the plan of the ringleaders in RAGUSA Province is not known.

3. Comportment of Authorities.

a) The Italian Army troops, particularly the Sardinians, on the whole behaved fairly well.

The disarming of the 100 tps on 6 Jan is hardly calculated to create an atmosphere of confidence. However, they had been ordered, it is reported, to carry only rifles, to shoot only on the order of an officer (and then to shoot over the heads of the civilians???). They

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b) CC.RR and Pubblica Sicurezza during the two days of worst disorder at RAGUSA, showed themselves lacking in any initiative or spirit. On 7 Jan when the Prefect asked for all available CC.RR to come to the Prefecture, only one officer and nine C.R's arrived, the remainder refusing to leave their barracks.

CC.RR at COMISO were disarmed, apparently without resistence, and a few were disarmed at VITTORIA.

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c) Italian Navy. As a matter of interest in case any trouble should start in SYRACUSE Province, it has been reported from several sources that there are likely to be difficulties if the ratings from the battleship "DORIA" are called in to suppress demonstrations. Many sailors are saying that if they are called in they will hand over their arms to the rebels.

4. Situation in SYRACUSE.

The situation at SYRACUSE has remained very quiet and there do not appear to be any immediate threats of trouble. Considerable alarm was caused by the precautionary arrests, by order of the Prefect, of a number of former Fascists on 9 Jan and 12 Jan, although those arrested are, with two exceptions, amongst the more insignificant figures.

The Separatists have been keeping a close watch on events in RAGUSA Province. Ever since 8 Jan Separatists from RAGUSA Province have been coming daily to SYRACUSE to report to CIANCI, the Provincial President. DI MARTINO arrived at SYRACUSE on 13 Jan 45, BRUNO DI BELMONTE and other members of the BELMONTE family have returned to SYRACUSE and propose visiting RAGUSA Province on 15 Jan.

The Communists have shown themselves eager to remain orderly and to help the authorities.

Although the anti-call-up agitation has strong support at SYRACUSE, disapproval has been quite widely expressed regarding the use of force against Italian military by rioters in RAGUSA Province. 38

5. Present Situation in RAGUSA Province.

The general situation is at present quiet, but only outwardly. The authorities have now started to use strong measures, and bitterness has begun to set in amongst the population, bitterness which will increase with the imposing of heavy punishments on the chief culprits. More trouble can be expected unless Italian tps are retained in sufficient strength in the Province.

The main failure of the Italian "campaign" was the anti-climax at COMISO where on the 11 Jan Italian tps "took" the town. No armed resistence was met. The town appeared normal. Only one arrest was made. The rebels (this was the HQ town) had all escaped, as the attack was well-known to all beforehand and the military had taken no steps to cut off the escape routes out of the town.

Hence further trouble may well be expected in the area - the rebels having dispersed with their arms.

(Signed)
B. BANKS

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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(Signed)
B. BAKER
Capt.
O.C. 21 Port Security Section.

G.M.P.
15 Jan 45

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

A

A P P E N D I X "A."

CONCITTADINI !

Perchè la precarietà del momento sia sentita il meno possibile e per la più rapida normalizzazione della vita pubblica, siete invitati a riprendere la calma, a ritornare alle vostre normali attività e a collaborare col Comitato Provvisorio del Popolo.

In considerazione de ciò si stabilisce quanto segue:

1) Tutti i decreti legislativi, decreti-legge, leggi, disposizioni e decreti prefettizi, ordinanze municipali, che non sono in contradizione con le nuove ordinanze che via via dal Comitato saranno emanate non si indentono nè abrogate, nè derogate.

2) Qualsiasi cittadino che ha da reclamare, da dare suggerimento o altro può presentarsi, in qualunque ora, al Palazzo Comunale ove sarà sentito e aiutato nei limiti delle presenti possibilità.

3) Tutti gli uffici pubblici riprenderanno da oggi a funzionare regolarmente.

4) Viene ripristinato il coprifuoco, che avrà inizio alle ore 20 e termina alle ore 5.

5) Le vie di accesso al paese restano bloccate e pertanto coloro che dovessero uscire dall'abitato per improrogabili necessità (lavoro, malattie ecc.) sono invitati a fornirsi di lasciapassare che viene rilasciato dal Comune.

6) Il servizio di ordine pubblico e di vigilanza notturna è affidato 5801
a speciali pattuglie che avranno il compito di impedire qualunque offesa alla proprietà privata e alle persone.

7) Tutti coloro che venissero trovati in circolazione dopo il coprifuoco dovranno fermarsi all'intimazione dell'alt, esibire i documenti dell' identità e giustificarsi.

8) Le violazioni di domicilio i soprusi armati, i furti, le delazioni, le intese col nemico nel presente momento e fintantochè non saranno emanate norme diverse o che a queste deroghino, saranno punite con la fucilazione da eseguirsi nella pubblica piazza.

9) Le razioni alimentari saranno distribuite regolarmente.

10) Nel caso che il pa se venisse attaccato da forze nemiche, il segnale di "stato di allarme," sarà dato col suono delle campane a martello e in tre riprese.

Comino, 9 Gennaio 1945.

IL COMITATO PROVVISORIO DEL POPOLO.

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Comiso, 9 Gennaio 1945.

IL COMITATO PROVVISORIO DEL POPOLO.

A P P E N D I X "B."

A V V I S O.

Si avvertono tutti i cittadini, che chiunque venga sorpreso in tentativo di furto o di qualsiasi violazione alla proprietà privata viene immediatamente punito con la pena di morte mediante fucilazione alla schiena.

IL COMITATO PROVVISORIO DEL POPOLO.

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LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED COMMISSION (M.M.I.A.)
Allied Garrison Sardinia
A.P.O. 397, U.S. Army

22 January 1945

TO: Commanding General, Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C. (MMIA).

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Outstation: Sardinia — Area Covered: Sardinia

Report No. 9 — Period from 20 December to 20 January

A. General Security

1. Morale

(a) Morale among the Italian soldiers here in Sardinia appears to be high. No complaints have been received. When inspections are made conversations are held with officers and enlisted men and no grievences have been expressed.

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities and Trends:

Nothing to report.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition:

Nothing to report.

4. Political Activity:

Nothing to report.

5. Relations with and Attitude Towards Allied Troops:

(a) Continues to be favorable.

6. Discipline: Very satisfactory.

7. Rumors and Indiscreet Talk - Breeches of Security

(a) Nothing to report.
(b) No apparent breeches of security.

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8. Summary of Military Situation and Similar Matters:

(a) On 18 January 1945 the students in Cagliari put on a little demonstration and speech making. According to the local newspaper, this demonstration was in protest of the Re-call. A few hand grenades were thrown resulting in the death of a member of the Questura and injury to a few civilians. The demonstration lasted about two (2) hours and no additional disturbances have been observed since that time.

B. Personalities:

1. Information (White) on higher leaders:

Nothing to report.

2. Information (Black) on higher leaders:

Nothing to report.

F. L. Simmons

F. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

S E C R E T

I 28

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Reports - Italian Army

LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
NAPLES
C/C

24 January 1945

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C. (M.M.I.A.)

Reference your S/I/106/1 of 7 December 1944.

1. Herewith, the monthly Security Intelligence report compiled from notes made by Captain Thrupp before he handed over.

GEORGE D. SMITH JR.
Major, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

FJAC/nl

Noted 26/1

S E C R E T

10090

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army.

Outstation: MMIA LO PBS Southern District. Area covered: Naples

Report No: 1 (New Series). Period up to: 24 January 1945

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. Morale - Morale among troops at AFRAGOLA Camp is not high, and this is largely attributable to the bad conditions prevailing there, e.g. continued bad weather turning parts of the camp into a sea of mud; lack of dry huts or large tents; men sleeping on straw or damp ground; lack of clothes; lack of fecilities for recreation. The Italian soldier in these circumstances is liable to blame his own officers for not doing their best for him. A slightly sarcastic attitude on the part of the officers is sometimes apparent, their implication being that many Allied officers visit the camp and make vague promises that are never fulfilled, and that the Camp will only be ready to cope with winter conditions when the winter is over.

2. Security - Early in January the presence of an unidentified wireless transmitting station in this area was reported by the Naval LO to the Italian Navy. Its characteristics were given as follows:-

Frequency	5450 Kc per sec
Call Sign	2-letter, e.g. IE, AY, VC, CJ, MJ, PR, CO
Code	4-letter, with 2 to 4 figure indicators.

At the request of the Naval LO, this information was passed to the Italian Hq., NAPLES, and to the Air Force Sub Commission. Nothing of interest has yet been reported, but investigations continue. For the Italian Army investigations are in the hands of Lt. Col. Pecorella of the Italian Counter-Intelligence organization.

0091

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

Subject. Security Intelligence - Monthly Reports. - Italian Army.

Liaison Office.
Land Forces Sub Comm.
A.C.(MMIA) c/o 54 Area.
LO/15/3D
22 Jan 45.

Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.(MMIA).

Ref MMIA letter 3/1/106/1 dated 7 Dec 44.

Att. at Appx "A" is report No 2 from this Office.

J.G.BIRD Major
Senior LO.MMIA Det.
c/o Hq 54 Area.

5859

Appendix 'A' to LO/15/SD dated 22 Jan 45

77

SECURITY INTELLIGENCE REPORT- ITALIAN ARMY.

Outstation: BARI

Area Covered. APULIA & LUCANIA

ReportNo 2

Period from 22 Dec 44 to 22 Jan 45.

A. GENERAL SECURITY.

1. Morale

a) Unrest due to call-up. Feeling general that Italy should know what she is fighting for, and what she will lose by Armistice Terms. Lack of publication is said to be prime cause of lack of enthuasm. I think this is doubtful and if at all only concerns students. War weariness and laziness are more prominent features, also a"certainty" that failure to answer call up cannot be punished.

b) A cause of discontent is that both Airmen and Sailors in this area are extremely well dressed in new clothing, while soldiers are not. I was asked the other day by a working man if pro fascist were clothed in grey green Italian uniform, labourers in green B.D. and real soldiers in KHAKI.

2 - 4 NIL

5. NORMAL

6. No adverse reports heard; in BRITI units rather the reverse, though in BRINDISI and BARI where Italian Pioneers and Docks Operating Coys work side by side on night shifts, discontent is growing because a night issue of tea, sugar and milk has been authorised for the Docks Operating Coys only. Can pioneers on the same work be included please?AFHQ/2606/Q Maint of 11 Dec 44 and our ST/4 of 12 Jan 45 refers.

5855

7 - 8. NIL report.

B. PERSONALITIES.

1. Information (white) on higher leaders.

Lt Col BIANCHI sotto capo Territorial HQ.
Age 42(?) efficient and co-operative.

2. Information(black)

NIL.

NOTE: No real grievance of value concerning officers either of Territorial H.Q. or 230 Div have been made. Orders have been executed without undue delay, and little " belly aching.

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2 - 4 NIL

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Inked 48

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

SUBJECT : Security Int Report

MMIA LO
att FRIULI Italian Combat Group

HQ MMIA

13 Jan 45

"A"

1. Morale

In the performance of the tasks required by the present phase of trg, all reports tend to show that morale is good. However, the large number of recent desertions suffered by the Group creates diffidence in the tps' will to fight. This diffidence is increased by censors' reports that letters are being written home containing threats to desert as soon as the Group reaches the fighting line. Reports on officers still show that they fail to take interest in their men, and that generally the personal bond between pl comds and their men is conspicuous by its rarity.

In the belief that the men would return, leave was granted to a large body of men, and when 40% did NOT return, a further 300 men, due for leave, were forbidden to go, at least until those AWOL were struck off the group's effective strength. We thus have a further 10% of the Group still waiting for leave.

4. Political Activity

From Italian and Brit sources there are persistent reports that communist propaganda aims at breaking up the Group. Both S GIOVANNI and MONTEVARCHI are communist centres, and 87 Regt, which has suffered considerable losses through desertion, has been moved from MONTEVARCHI to CASTELNUOVO. A curfew from 1800 - 0500 hrs has been requested from AMG for MONTEVARCHI, and a picquet of the Group CC RR is being sent to the village. It is reported that the local communist party is opening a cell at Castellina, the location of 88 Inf Regt.

5. There have been clashes with SA tps in one of which an Italian sjt was killed. This took place at S GIOVANNI. One of two fights with SA tps also occurred at CASTELNUOVO. The tps reacted by requesting local civilians NOT to entertain SA tps.

6. Discipline

Twelve soldiers of 87 Inf Regt were charged with mutiny, tried by extraordinary court martial and awarded a total of 50 yrs imprisonment. NO further cases have occurred.

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G 3 I 8. with copy

It would seem that the Group employs no security classification of documents. This is probably a matter for a general order from the Ministry of War.

Identity cards for the tps have at last been received and the distribution is taking place now. The absence of these cards has made the arrest of deserters more difficult.

There have been NO cases of breaches of military security.

...../ "B"

Block + white cuts on 4/3/43

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0096

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

S/1/106/1

SECRET

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence Monthly Reports - Italian Army.

MMIA IO
att 53 BIU.
A/2
7 Jan 45.

TO LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(MMIA)
ROME.

Ref your S/1/106/1 of 7 Dec 44. Herewith Monthly Security and Intelligence Report on the FOLGORE Combat Group.

S. Monico Maj. 58[illegible]
MMIA IO.

SECRET

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army.

Outstation FOLGORE Combat Group.

Report No. 1

Period 7 Dec 44 to 7 Jan 45.

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. Morale. See attached Appendix "A" It is pointed out that this letter is fairly representative of feeling within the Group, especially among the more intelligent and thinking soldier;

2. Nothing to report.

3. Nil.

4. There is little evident political or propoganda activity. It is apparent that the greater proportion owe allegiance to the House of Savoy.

5. Relations with allied troops encountered in this are are good.

6. Discipline is that of the normal Italian standard: there is nothing to report.

7. Nothing to report.

8. Since the arrival of more equipment morale maintains a fairly high level. The rations continue to be criticised especially in view of the active training now being done. This should improve on receipt of the combat scale. General security is weak and this has been recognised by Group H.Q. who are keeping a check on it. There are no serious breaches to report however. A strict control will be maintained when the Group moves to its new location for Group H.Q. are now conscious of the value of Security. This was certainly not the case beforehand.

B. 9. Nothing especial to report.

S. Morris Maj
NMIA IO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

3. Nil.

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S. Monico Maj
MAIA IO

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Appendix "A" Letter from a soldier to his Company Comdr.

P.W. 146

25 Nov 44.

ARMISTICE CLAUSES

1. On the evening of 8 Sep I was on duty at the Signals Exchange of the 161 Coast Bn, in a small village in CALABRIA, when I learnt from the Regt HQ that the Armistice had been signed.

2. From that day exactly one year, two months and seventeen days have passed, a long enough period of waiting to know the famous secret clauses of the Armistice, dictated by the Anglo - Americans and signed by Signor Badoglio.

3. I have said that the period of waiting was long, but now I would repeat that it was very long when one begins to consider that during this lapse of time our Fleet, defeated in NO battle, has given to the Anglo - American Navy a very great contribution in their various offensive and escort operations; our dismembered Air Force, with its little more than 300 machines, has actively and positively taken part in actions of war; and our glorious Italian Corps of Liberation (C.I.L.) with its lads of the "FOLGORE", "SAN MARCO", "ANCONA", "ALPINI and various other special service troops, who have shown that the Italians know how to fight and know very well how to shed their Latin blood when it comes to driving the enemy from their home soil.

4. Much blood was spilled, many losses were sustained, to liberate our Country; towards this end, do not forget CASSINO, MONTELUNGO, and other no less glorious battles.

These soldiers were half-naked and poorly equipped !

Now we are ready to return to the battlefront, but in our hearts there appears a note of interrogation. Why do we continue to fight ? What will be the end of it all ? Are we, or are we to be, soldiers who fight for their country, or only mercenaries who fight because they are paid or clothed ? What are the conditions ?

The Various Allied Radio Commentators make a great effort to tell us that we must fight for our freedom; they preach to us to fight so that Italy may tomorrow have its due place among the great nations; Churchill and Roosevelt make great efforts to encourage us and to send us many helpful messages on the Radio and a fair amount of material, but they always forget to tell us what are the Armistice Clauses.

NO! Gentlemen! When it comes to shedding one's own blood, to recover one's own skin, one has indeed the sacrosanct right to have clear ideas, to know from what and from how many layers of mud we are going to raise ourselves; we want to know whether the game is worth the candle. Will our future freedom be freedom in the true sense of the word, or will it be synonymous to slavery ? Shall we be tomorrow a great nation among the great nations or merely a protected nation among protecting nations ?

Many such points are still obscure to us, and as the time approaches for our return to the line we would wish - in fact we claim the right - that these matters be made clear to us.

We neither wish to, nor should we, ask for our freedom as a present, as a gift to a beggar; we should, and we wish to, win it for ourselves; we wish to raise ourselves up, and not be [illegible]

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war; and our glorious Italian Corps of Liberation (C.I.L.) with its lads of the "FOLGORE", "SAN MARCO", "ARIETE", "ALPINI and various other special service troops, who have shown that the Italians know how to fight and know very well how to shed their Latin blood when it comes to driving the enemy from their home soil.

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Many such points are still obscure to us, and as the time approaches for our return to the line we would wish - in fact we claim the right - that these matters be made clear to us.

We neither wish to, nor should we, ask for our freedom as a present, as a gift to a beggar; we should, and we wish to, win it for ourselves: we wish to raise ourselves up, and not be raised up; and to this end we fight and we shed our blood - therefore we wish to be treated as free men, as equals to equals, and not as vassals or serfs of the soil.

To :- Offr BARKER
Maj Br - Sqn Coy

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RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad
7 January 1945

Subject: Security Intelligence Report - Italian Troops with Fifth Army.

To : Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C. (MMIA)
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. Reference your File No. S/1/106/1 of 7 December 1944.

2. General Security:

a. Morale: Absences without leave and desertions by Italian soldiers continue but the situation is definitely improving. Am preparing a survey on AWOLs in this area, a comparison between organizations and will forward as soon as completed. Am not aware of any seditious or subversive influences likely to undermine morale.

b. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: None that I know of.

c. Illegal Storage of Arms or Ammunition: None.

d. Political Activity: The Italian officers with whom I come in contact, apparently fear a communistic Italy and probably favor continuing the monarchy. No officer within my knowledge has been spreading any propaganda or taking any part in any political activity.

e. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops: Very satisfactory.

f. Discipline: Improving.

g. Rumors, Indiscreet Talk and Breaches of Security: Very satisfactory.

h. Summary of Military Security: Conditions here are very satisfactory.

3. Personalities:

a. Information on higher leaders:

(1) General Officer, Commanding Delegation T, CERICA Angelo; appointment, General Staff, Lieutenant General; age 60. Reasonably cooperative, not obstructive, his political views are likewise no doubt as indicated above for other Italian officers, but he is not engaging in any political activity to my knowledge. I have just completed a conference with him on the Italian

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

b. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: None that I know of.

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(1) General Officer, Commanding Delegation T, CERICA Angelo; appointment, General Staff, Lieutenant General; age 60. Reasonably cooperative, not obstructive, his political views are likewise no doubt as indicated above for other Italian officers, but he is not engaging in any political activity to my knowledge. I have just completed a conference with him on the Italian Army Materiel situation and am hoping for complete cooperation in the future.

(2) General Officer, Commanding 210 Division, CORTESE Guiseppe; appointment, General Staff, Brigadier General; age 56. Reasonably cooperative; not obstructive, his political views are no doubt as indicated above for other Italian officers, but he is not engaging in any political activity to my knowledge. I consider him an efficient officer and possessing considerable energy. At the present time he is in a Florence hospital having had a minor operation.

(3) General Officer, Commanding 231 Division, NANNEI Mario; appointment, General Staff, Brigadier General; age 53. No contact with him yet.

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4. Conclusion: The above opinions and views are my own and based upon my own observations, which of course, are limited in scope. So far as I can determine, generally speaking, no serious disaffection, lack of loyalty or any other willful disloyal activity exists among the Italian officers and men assigned or attached to Fifth Army, which would be inimical to the interests of the Allied cause.

R.C.VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,
5th Army

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CHATRIAN

Gen -

This report is very interesting. Clearly shows to me that the main cause of desertion - ie - family reasons could be overcome if the officers took an interest in the men.

The shocking thing is that with a shortage of manpower men are kept in confinement from 2 - 6 months without even being questioned. No wonder men hate officers who have no more sense than to let this happen.

I think this is a fit subject for a conference with the Minister, and I propose we have an Italian Commission to clear the matter up - with one of our officers to sit with the Commission. Only drastic action will clear the matter.

(K)

T=ih

0106

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COPY TRANSLATION

Circular No.7850/1 dated 25.5.44. Issued by War M. Entry

Subject: Political tendencies among the rank and file of the Army.

The formation of a National Government, comprising all anti-fascist parties, intent on chasing the enemy out of Italy and restoring the country to a regime of freedom, should destroy all prejudice against political parties.

Officers should therefore respect the political ideas of their men, always provided that such ideas are not expounded to the prejudice of discipline or team spirit of units.

The Officers' mission in this most important field should tend to avoid sterile and damaging discussions, though allowing everyone complete freedom of thought and ideals, specially so when such ideals coincide with the common aim of chasing the enemy out of the country and contributing to the resurrection of the Nation, the chief aim of our Army.

In this respect all parties have set the example forsaking their political ideals in favour of the supreme interest of the nation. The exalted moral significance of this collaboration should be brought to the attention of the men by their officers.

All the above does not modify, but, on the contrary, confirms our basic policy and that is that the Army has no politics and its function is to serve the nation, of which it is the living expression, with perfect discipline.

THE MINISTER

52.47

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FOR SECRET LO'S (.) REF OUR S/I/106/1 of 7 DEC (.) SECRET

I.S DEPARTMENT REPORT SUMMARY

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

S II 106/1 '31 D

LIAISON OFFICE
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION AC (MMIA)
& AC SICILY REGION HQ
APO 394

No 1160 — 23 December 1944

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Reports - Italian Army.

TO : G.O.C. Land Forces Sub Comm. AC (MMIA) ROME.

1. Further to my report 1160 same subject dated 21 December 1944, I am inclosing herewith copies of reports furnished me by Captain Oliver of the 81st Field Security Section. These reports were received too late for incorporation in my original monthly report and are therefore being forwarded your office as I received them.

2. It is interesting to note that no report of Call-ups recruited has as yet been received from Agrigento Province.

HOMER E LONG
Major AMC
LO Sicily

To See
G.O.C. dft
2 i/c. DS
Col Ridsley WP Would not A.C. he interested to read this? WT.
G I
G II(Q)

31/12

SECRET

SECRET

Copy

SECRET.

To: Capt. Oliver, 51 Field Security Section.
From: A/Sgt. King W.J.H. 7073874.

Subject: Anti-"call-up" Demonstrations in ENNA and CALTANISSETTA Provinces.

The following is noted for reference only, and it is emphasized that it may have no bearing on the subject whatsoever, but in view of the fact that a somewhat similar slogan was mentioned at ALCAMO (Trapani Province) some few days before the riot there it is felt best to record that:

On 5th December a slogan appeared on the walls of PIAZZA ARMERINA bearing the legend: "Long Live the Duce! Down with the Communists and Socialists! Citizens ! Hope for the return of Mussolini and of Fascism! "

In the town of ENNA on the morning of 10th December citizens found handwritten posters bearing following slogans:
(a)"The Armistice Government makes us laugh and blush."
(b)"Shall they recall you to the same army that has so vilely betrayed you? Just try it!"
(c)"We who have returned from the wars have definitely deserted."
(d)"The population of Athens have traced a path to follow with their blood to follow Italians! until now we have been cheated."
(e)"Men of the 14-24 classes wake up! Don't present yourselves for military service."
(f)"One cannot believe in any England that cannot bring itself to publish the armistice clauses."
(g)"Sicilians of Sicily - Rebel!"
(h)"The House of Savoy is ready to sell the survivors of the Youth of Italy to Death!"
(i)"The people of Italy has the full right to know why it must fight- Allies what have you got up your sleeves?."
(j)"Down with Bonomi - worm - that is what you are".
(k)"Abyssinia, Spain, France, Greece, Russia, Jugoslavia, Lubia and Tunis. Isn't that sufficient?"

On 13th December at about 1700 hours some 100 youths liable for call-up assembled in ENNA and avowed their intention of not taking any notice of the summonses, the Prefect and the Commander of the Military District were prevailed upon to try and help them or at least make their viewpoint known to the authorities. Other demonstrations of a like nature at PIAZZA ARMERINA, NICOSIA, CALASCIBETTA, VILLAROSA, MARIANNANCA and PIETRAPERZIA all of Enna Province.

On 15th December at about 0530 hours, while it was yet dark, the Aidone-Piazza Armerina 'bus was stopped at BELLIA (Enna Province) as it was suspected of carrying conscripts for the call-up. Two cubs were exploded some distance from the 'bus to intimidate passengers.

On 15th December at about 1300 hours

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(b)"Shall they recall you to the same array that has so vilely betrayed you? Just try it!"
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On 15th December at about 0530 hours, while it was yet dark, the Aidone-Piazza Armerina 'bus was stopped at MILLIA (Enna Province) as it was suspected of carrying conscripts for the call-up. Two cabs were exploded some distance from the 'bus to intimidate passengers.

On 15th December at about 1100 hours military was trying to disperse the crowds that kept forming in the Piazza when some person unknown threw a hand grenade, which exploded without doing damage.

On 15th December the prefect of Enna forbade the gathering of more than three people at once in the squares or public places of ENNA or PIAZZA ARMERINA.

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SECRET.

Subject: Anti-"Call-up Demonstrations in ENNA and CALTANISSETTA provinces.

On 14th December in CALTANISSETTA about 600 youths assembled and shouted slogans against the call-up and against the Government. The Prefect and the Commander of the Military District were persuaded to take note and present their desiers to the Government.

On 15th and 16th December at about 1600 hours some 1000 students and others assembled and publicly burnt their call-up papers and posters and papers of the Committee of Liberation of Caltanissetta exhorting them to obey the summonses. Other demonstrations were also reported from GELA, MAZZARINO, SAN CATALDO, RIESE and MUSSUMELI all of Caltanissetta Province.

On 16th December an order was issued by the Prfect forbidding more than three or more persons to meet together in the public places of Caltanissetta. A curfew was also imposed between the hours of 1500 and 0600 hours.

In spite of the curfew on the morning of 17th December slogans painted in big white letters appeared on the buildings of all the public places, reading "Don't Present Yourselves!"; "Clear Out of the Town!"; "We Want Peace!"; "Down With War!"; "Down With Bonomi!"; "Down With Savoy!"; Peace!"

Public opinion was strongly with the students and young men and included all political parties. Most people agreed that the following points wated clarifying or explaining before there could be any question of a call-up:
(a) Why should the youth of Italy be called up without knowing the allied armistice terms?
(b) Why should the youth of Italy be called up when so many of them are still prisoners of war?
(c) Why should the youth of Italy be called up while Italy is treated as a conquered nation?
(d) Why should the youth of Italy be called up just before the festivals of Christmas and the New Year?

But it must be noted that the Separtist Party has NOT been specially active lately.

On 17th December Lieut. MESSINA of the Carabinieri received a tip off that it might be advisable to post extra guards at the prison in CALTANISSETTA, accordingly twenty extra military were told-off to guard that institution. An extra guard of another twenty was placed at the barracks.

On 17th December at about 1600 hours some four or five hundred students and others assembled at MAZZARINO, Caltanissetta Province, and Brigadiere of Carabinieri RIZZO tried to quell the ardour of the mob; but the crowd continually increased and included many unemployed and poor people, until it reached four or five thousand, many of whom carried guns, pistols or hand grenades. In spit of RIZZO the crowd decided to sack and burn the following places and did:

(a) Municipio:

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(a) Municipio;
(b) Offices of the U.S.E.A.;
(c) Offices of the Vigili Urbani;
(d) Offices of the Ragioneria Comunale;
(e) Offices of the Imposte Dirette;
(f) The Directors Private apartment at the Imposte Dirette;
(g) The Circolo di Riunione;
(h) Between eight and ten homes of the most wealthy inhabitants;

Brigadiere RIZZO just managed to stop the mob from sacking and burning the Carabinieri Station and the Guardia di Finanzia Station.

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SECRET.

Subject: Anti-"call-up" Demonstrations in ENNA and CALTANISSETTA Provinces.

As the telephonic and telegraphic systems were destroyed Vice-Brigadiere ALFANO was sent to Caltanissetta and returned with the Commander of Carabinieri at about 2045 Hours. The Prefect and Questure were informed and reinforcements of thirty men under Lieut. MESSINA despatched. An extra 100 reinforcements of Carabinieri were sent from Palermo and arrived on the morning of the 18th.

On 18th another 20 Carabinieri were sent from Caltanissetta.

On 19th another 30 Carabinieri were despatched under the command of Lieut. SCARDOCI.

Up to the 21st December seventeen persons are reported arrested in connection with the affair but the interrogations are not yet complete.

Brigadiere BORSALINO of the C.S. reports that among the mob crying out against the call-up at CALTANISSETTA he noted the following persons who are in movise affected by the order: FUSCHI Michele (see Caltanissetta Security Report for week-ending 7th June) CAMPORETTI Lorenzo (See same report) and STRACCI ex-capo Squadra di Milizia.

In the field 21st December 1944 A/Sgt.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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Security Report for week-ending 7th June) CAMPORETTI Lorenzo (See same report) and STRACCI ex-camo Squadra di Milizia.

In the field 21st December 1944 A/Sgt.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Copy:

SECRET

Subject:- Civil Disturbances - CATANIA

No. 21PS/Sec/

To:- G.S.I. (b), No. 3 District.
'G' 204 Sub Area.
Allied Commission, CATANIA.

From:- No. 21 Port Security Section.

Ref this Section's 21 PS/Sec dated 16 Dec 44.

After a quiet night during which no fresh incidents were reported, the following day came as an anti-climax. Large crowds continued to mill about the main streets, but a large porportion of these consisted of interested spectators"sight-seeing" the results of the previous days wanton destruction and arson.

Dec. 15

It was reported in the morning that probable objectives of the rioters would be the Ufficio Dazio(Tax Office), the Distretto Militare, and the main Civil Gaol. "Zero hour" was said to be timed for 1030 hrs, but, although there were numerous groups of people in all the streets in the central area of the City, there was no attempt at concerted action.

Some of the fires started the day before were still burning.

1900 hrs. Student wounded by firearm in Piazza Stesicoro

1130 hrs. A loud report was heard in the centre of the town but investigations by Security could not determine the cause.

1200 hrs. CC RR fired a few shots in the air in Piazza Carlo Alberto to disperse a crowd. In the stampede that followed several persons were injured. It is possible that demonstrators had designs on the Ufficio Annonario, which is the only administrative building in the neighbourhood.

1500 hrs. Groups of youths at street corners in the afternoon gave the impression that they were waiting for a lead such as they had the previous day, but lorries carrying Italian troops patrolled the streets armed with rifles and machine-guns and no major incident developed.

The "Corriere di Sicilia" and bills pasted on walls gave notice that there would be a curfew from 1800 hrs until 0500 hrs.

1600 hrs. Sporadic firing in Piazza Stesicoro and Via Vittorio Emanuele. Again it is believed that CC RR were firing in the air to disperse crowds.

Reports of firing in the Bellini Gardens were unfounded.

1615 hrs. In Piazza Universita a crowd publicly destroyed a bust

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1615 hrs. In Piazza Universita a crowd publicly destroyed a bust of King Victor Emanuele taken from the Municipio.

It was reported that the demonstrators made attempts to fraternise with Italian troops, assuring them that "Tutti siamo fratelli" They met with little response.

1745 hrs. Six shots were heard in the Piazza Stesicoro. Investigations showed that once more the CC RR were attempting to disperse crowds.

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Italian troops in lorries scattered leaflets announcing curfew and warning the people that all steps, including the use of arms, would tb taken to maintain public order and prohibiting loitering or gatherings of more than three persons.

1800 hrs. A joint manifesto was pasted on the walls deploring the events of the previous day and the resultant bloodshed. The manifesto as signed on behalf of the following parties:

Partito Liberale.
Partito Democratico-Cristiano del Lavoro.
Partito Socialista.
Partito Comunista
Partito d'Azione
(N.B. Movimento Separatista did not subscribe to this Declaration.)

1900 hrs. onwards. All quiet. Curfew being strictly obeyed and enforced.

Dec. 16. Situation returned to Normal.

Total Casualties for two days 14 and 15 Dec 44.

Killed: One civilian(NOT a student as previously reported.

Injured: Questura Police(all in civilain clothes) - 7.
Students ... ... - 3.
Miscallaneous civilians ... . - 18.
28.

Total Killed : 1(one), injured 28(twenty-eight)

Security Comments on the Disturbances.

Although there is little doubt that the initial demonstration was supported in principle by the Separatists, and backed in fact by the Youth Section of the Movement, it is almost certain that the full day's programme was NOT due to any organised plan. Resentment has for some time been openly expressed by persons of all political shades, against the call to arms - " to fight the Germans, our own brother Italians and possible the Japanese, whilst our families are left behind to starve"

The underlying reason for the riots as active dissatisfaction with local administration, food control, the pages question, and public resentment in general

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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The underlying reason for the riots as active dissatisfaction with local administration, food control, the wages question, and public resentment in general - a situation which has been boiling up for some time, and which was touched off by the firing by Italian soldiery on Sicilian civilians. (In fairness to the Italian Military it must be added that they fired from within their own barracks and within their own courtyard, in defence of their own installation.)

The subsequent excesses by uncontrolled mobs were the result of sheer animal hooliganism of urchins, young boys, town riff-raff, and a fair sprinkling of older men, the latter out to do as much damage as possible to existing administration and all things representing it.

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Sheet 3.

The students of the early morning demonstration do not appear to have taken part in the excesses of the afternoon, and appear to regret their earlier participation.

A notable feature of the disturbances was the almost complete inertia of uniformed civilian police forces and CC RR and their unwillingness to cope with the situation at the start or subsequently. During the afternoon of the 14 Dec 44 in the main centres of activity, not a single uniformed police official was to be seen on the streets. It has been stated that they were given orders NOT to interfere. (Plain clothes Questura agents were, however, amongst the crowds all day.)

The Sindaco of CATANIA would appear to have done nothing to help matters.

C.M.F.
HM.
16 Dec 44.

Capt.,
O.C. No. 21 Port Security Section,,

5830

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C.M.F.
HH.
16 Dec 44.

Capt.,
O.C. No. 21 Port Security Section,.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Copy:

SECRET

Subject:- Civil Disturbances : CATANIA. No. 21 PS/Sec.

To:- G.S.I.(b), No. 3 District.
"G" 204 Sub Area.
Allied Commission, CATANIA.

From:- No. 21 Port Security Section.

The following is a summary of events in CATANIA as observed, etc., by Security.

13 Dec 44. There was distributed a printed manifestino (copy attached) addressed to the Giovanni Siciliani and advising them not to report for military service with the Italian forces.

14 Dec 44.

1630 hrs. In Piazza Stesicoro a crowd of about 300 consisting of students, young workers and sympathisers, assembled to demonstrate against the recent mobilisation order of the Italian Government. The age groups concerned were those of 1921, 22, 23. There was much yelling and shouting and many separatists cries such as:
"Why should we fight in ITALY while our families are left to starve here?"
"We will not fight against our brothers in ITALY".
"We want nothing to do with the Italian Government", etc., etc.
When properly worked up the crowd made its way to the Distretto Militare where they attempted to force an entry: some 200 did succeed in doing so but the majority were forced out by Italian Military who fired(only from within the building) over the heads of the demonstrators.
About 50 demonstrators remained inside the building and these were fired on by the Military, still inside the premises, with the result that one (a student) was killed, one was seriously wounded and two slightly wounded.
It is pointed out that the Italian soldiery did not fire in the street but confined their activity to their own premises. During this incident it is reported that hand-grenades were thrown but these were more probably large sized thunder-flashes.
The mob then returned to the Via Etnea by way of the Villa Bellini and public gardens.
From this point onwards incidents were taking place in various parts of the city simultaneously as follows:

1230 hrs. One crowd made its way to the civilian Post Office with the intention of doing further damage but were either distracted or dissuaded by postal officials.

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In Piazza Stesicoro an Italian sergeant was dragged from his motor-cycle which was set a light. A Civilian fired a pistol at an Italian fireman who had arrived at the scene.

In Via Garibaldi all documents were taken from the Ufficio Leva and the Case Malattie adjoining and burned in the street An attempt was also made to set the building alight.

In Piazza Stesicoro two Italian Army officers were

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set upon by the crowd and stripped of their uniforms. (It is noted that an attempt to protect these officers was made by Vice-Commissario RISIZZI, recently released from internment.)

1400 hrs. The crowd from the Via Garibaldi made its way to the offices of the Partito d'Unione in Via Manzoni where they sacked the premises and burned the documents in the street.

1430 hrs. Some personnel of CC RR including the City Commander, Capt. LARGAIOLLI arrived in the Piazza Stesicoro. Their trucks were attacked and overturned and then set alight by the mob.

By this time the affair was no longer a students' and workers' demonstration but rather an opportunity for all the irresponsibles and delinquents of CATANIA to create trouble and see that things were kept moving. At every street corner of the Via Etnea there were groups of 10-12 youths with a sprinkling of older people who seemed to be giving advice and instructions.

1500 hrs. Four carabinieri were set upon by the crowd and disarmed; the demonstrators made use of the arms so acquired until, on the arrival of CC RR reinforcements, they were disarmed.

A crowd forced an entry into the Tribunale (Law Courts) at the corner of the Piazza Stesicoro and burned the documents in the Via Etnea. The premises were then set alight.

1530 hrs. The attention of all the mobs were then centered on the Municipio where they hoped(it is reported) to obtain arms from the Guardia Municipale. The building was first stoned and all its windows broken. A Grenade(or, more probably, a large thunder flash) was thrown at the door which was finally forced by the use, as a battering-ram, of a beam from the debris of a bombed building. The crowd rushed the premises and threw documents and furniture from the windows to make bon-fires in the Piazza below. They then set fire to the building; as it was burning, groups of youths under the direction of self-appointed"heroes" and ringleaders, lit smaller fires in the neighbouring streets and threw all sorts of missiles from the debris - stones, sticks, pieces of piping, etc. The building burned for approx twelve hours and is completely gutted.

1600 hrs. A car containing some Municipio official arrived at Piazza Duomo. The crowd shouted that it was the Sindaco's car, turned the

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1600 hrs. A car containing some Municipio official arrived at Piazza Duomo. The crowd shouted that it was the Sindaco's car, turned the occupant out and set fire to the car. The crowd now consisted almost entirely of boys and youths who, having been mere delighted spectators in the morning, had decided to take a hand in the proceedings. By this time the Civil authorities seemed to have had enough and, in the neighbourhood of the Municipio in the course of the afternoon not one Carabiniere, guardia municipale of special constable was seen and there was complete freedom of action for the rioters

Traffic control was early non-existent for most

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traffic policeman seemed to have given up and before quitting acted solely as interested onlookers.

1730 hrs. The Tax Office in Piazza Cutelli, Via V. Emanuele was looted and sacked and set on fire. This building is gutted.

1845 hrs. A relatively small crowd went to the Banca di Sicilia, Piazza Cutelli, and sacked the premises, setting the documents alight. An attempt at arson may have been made.

1945 hrs. The house of the Sindaco in Via Manzoni then received the attention of the crowd who sprayed oil and petrol in front of the premises with the intention of Arson. The Sindaco and his family were not on the premises but some women on the ground-floor successfully besought the rioters to desist.

For the greater part of the evening there were bon-fires in Piazza Duomo and elsewhere; these fires were added to by furnishings looted from the Municipio, etc. The Italian Fire Brigade had arrived late on the scene and with insufficient water and equipment. They confined their activities to the rescuing of people from upstairs offices. The building was completely gutted and was still burning the following morning.

1800 hrs. Italian tps were turned out on patrol and from then on there were no further incidents reported.

2030 hrs. The situation was quiet.

2100 hrs. British Military firemen were ordered out to assist the civilian fire services.

583

N.B. A questura agent has stated to Security that the "capi" at the Questura had given instructions not to interfere.

Casualties.

CC RR - One Carabiniere injured by a fall.
P.S. - Four or five injured, including Commissario COSTANZO who is reported to have been injured by a hand-grenade.
Firemen - NIL.
Finanza - NIL.
Civilians- One killed(reported by Questura as having been killed by a hand-grenade), six

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C.M.F.
MH
16 Dec 44.

Capt.,
O.C. No. 21 Port Security Section.

Copy to:- 51 Field Security Section.

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Copy:

GIOVANI SICILIANI,

Ancora una volta dopo lunghi anni di guerra, di sciagure e di miserie, ci si chiede contro la v lonta di un popolo, di spargere il nostro sangue.

Come ieri il vil- monarca ci impose di morire per la conquista di altri imperi, oggi con lo stesso vile, ci impone di conservargli col no tro sacrificio quella corona che non ha il diritto di tenere, per il suo alto tradimento al popolo tutto.

A noi giovani si uniscano le nostre madri ed i nostri padri. Il popolo tutto formi un blocco compatto per difendere questa gioventu veramente destinata al macello.

Noi non impugneremo le armi.

GIOVANI DI SICILIA,

siate tutti solidali nell'esprimere la vostra volonta non presentandovi. Pace Pane e Lavoro: Ecco quello che vogliamo!

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CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Demonstrations in Western Sicily.

To: G.S.I.(b), HQ 3 District.

From: 51 Field Security Section. Ref: 51/S/15

1. Demonstrations against the call-up to the Italian Army took place throughout Western Sicily during the week 10-17 Dec 44, but with the exception of AGRIGENTO Province there was little violence.

2. Reports from areas where demonstrations took place are as follows:

Palermo. Demonstrations were held every day over the period 11-17 Dec by students outside University Building, PALERMO. Walls were plastered with manifestoes, such as: "For what ideal do we fight" "What are the Armistice Terms" "Enough of Militarism" "Not military Service but bread and pasta" On Dec 11 four students were arrested and were later released by the Questore, but towards the end of the week the students were allowed to demonstrate without hindrance. The students appeared to divide themselves into various factions -- a) Separatists, who deplored having to fight for Italy; b) Neo-Fascists who first wanted to know the armistice terms and sneered at democracy; c) Pacifists, who asked to be left alone; d) and a large body who did not like the idea of having to take a blanket and a spoon (value lire 1,050) and having to eat the allegedly poor rations of the Italian Army. On 15 December Communists effaced some of the anti-call-up manifestoes and replaced them with "You wanted this war--Now get into it". Up to 17 Dec no serious incident has taken place, and by that time many people of the town has become somewhat tired of the students.

Palazzo Adriano (Palermo Prov.) At 2200 hours on 11 Dec a number of rioters set fire to the Tax office and the U.P.S.E.A. office at Palazzo Adriano (Pal.) destroying most of the documents in these offices. Hand Grenades were thrown at the Municipio and the "Intellectuals" Club, without doing any great harm. Telephonic and Telegraphic communications were interrupted and rifle shots were fired at the CC.RR barracks. Five carabinere made sorties and attempted to disperse the mob and prevent further damage. There were no casualties. The disorders were meant as a protest against the calling up of the 1914-1924 classes, against the regulations for the levy of 25 kgs a head on people with permits to grind corn, and against oil-amassing operations. Public order was reestablished by the intervention of the CC.RR.

Palma di Montechiaro (Agrigento Province) The most serious indident during the week in the Western part of the Island took place at this town. At 1300 hours on 14 Dec about 300 persons started a violent demonstration against the call-up. The demonstrators were joined by over 600 other persons who carried red flags and were armed with rifles, automatic weapons, and hand grenades. They paraded through

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with 30 quintels of pasta for the civil population was also held up and plundered. Other lorries and cars suffered likewise. The first reinforcements of police (CC.RR and P.S. Agents) sent to the town were unable to gain control, although a number of the inhabitants invited the police into their houses so that they could fire from the windows. A second reinforcement of policemen and soldiers from the AGRIGENTO garrison (30 Mortar Bm) commanded by Capt TOMMERI of the Gruppo Carabinieri AGRIGENTO then arrived. At about 1000 hours on 15 Dec. these policemen after keeping up firing for several hours, succeeded in penetrating the center of the town Firing continued for several hours until calm prevailed. Up to 16 Dec the casualties were two dead and two wounded On 17 Dec order was completely restored.

Naro (Agrigento Province) On the night of 15 Dec hand-written leaflets appeared on the walls at NARO, inciting youths not to report for military service. (Text is given as Appendix A) On 16 Dec a demonstration took place with the intention of taking possession of the Town Hall and flour mills. Reinforcements of CC.RR were sent to the town and no further developments were reported.

Campobello di Licata (Agr.) During the night of 13 Dec unknown persons wrote on the walls in the centre of the town "Revolution, yes; soldiers, no:"

Licata. During the night of 15 Dec the following slogans appeared in the town: "Long live Fascism! Don't go as soldiers! Why Die? For What Nation?"

Favara (Agr.) On 14 Dec about 100 persons demonstrated against the call-up. No damage was done.

Canicatti. On 12 Dec about 3000 persons demonstrated against the call-up and attempted to burn down the Post Office. On 13 Dec the demonstration was repeated. Those taking part carried round with them notices saying: "Very soon every one to run away and hide. We do not want war; let no one report for military service." Up to 16 Dec demonstrations were broken up by local polic without recourse to weapons.

Ribera. On 12 Dec leaflets were posted on the walls advising youths called up not to report, but to run away. On the afternoon of the same day about 1000 persons demonstrated against the call-up and against the closing of the flour mills. The demonstration was broken up peacably and two clubs, allegedly pro-fascist, were closed down by the police.

Alessandria della Rocca (Agr.) On the night of 13 Dec leaflets were posted in the town advising youths called up not to report, but to join the "GIULLIANI" band, (This is an outlaw band which operates on Maffia Lines). The text of these two leaflets is given as Appendix B.

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Agrigento During the night of 15 Dec leaflets were stuck on the walls in the main streets inciting youths not to report, but to join the "GIULLIANI" band. (Note: Rumor has it in AGRIGENTO province that the Guillani band has Fascist leanings and will welcome all who join it in order to escape military service.

Caltanissetta. Demonstrations of a mild type took place in CALTANISSETTA on 14 and 15 Dec, where excited students made use of slogans such as: "Down with BONOMI and Company! etc."

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Piazza Armerina (Enna Prov) Here, as in ENNA, demonstrations took place on 14 and 15 Dec. The only act of violence reported to the latter date was the throwing of a hand grenade at a bus in Piazza Armerina.

Trapani: A demonstration took place in TRAPANI on the morning of 16 Dec when some 300 persons protested against the call-up. The demonstrators gathered in front of the prefettura where the Prefect endeavored to speak to them, but was unable to make himself heard over the shouting and whistling. The demonstrators carried a variety of posters affirming their unwillingness to become "mercenaries" arguing that the terms of the armistice imposed upon Italy are still unknown. They also demanded a reopening of the mills and a weekly distribution of pasta. At 1030 hours on the same day the demonstrators gathered in front of the Local Italian Army HQ and at mid-day they paraded through the principal streets of the town, without provoking disorder. Inscriptions have appeared on the walls of the town praising Nazism, Fascism and Separatism".

3. It will be noted that the most serious incidents in Western Sicily have taken place in the southern half of AGRIGENTO province, where delinquents have taken advantage of the demonstrations to provoke their own particular type of disorder.

.....Capt.
O.C. 51 F.S. Section.

In the Field.
17 Dec 44

Copy to: 'G' 204 Sub Area.
Regional Public Safety Officer
U.S. N.O.B.
21 Port Security Section

5887

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785028

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.....Capt.
O.C. 51 P.S. Section.

In the Field.
17 Dec 44

Copy to: 'C' 204 Sub Area.
Regional Public Safety Officer
U.S. N.C.F.
21 Port Security Section

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Appendix "A"

Translation of leaflet found at NARO

SICILIANS, ex-servic men of all ranks DO NOT REGISTER FOR MILITARY SERVICE.
Do not allow the name of MERCENARY to be added to those of TRAITOR and VANQUISHY
Do not leave your work.
Remember the humiliations and sufferings you have undergone in vain.
Think of our dead and of our brothers who are still in prisoner-of-war camps.
For what object? For Whom? For what ideal?
If the English minister EDEN announced that Italy must resign herself to the loss of her colonies, if they talk of giving TRIESTE and the whole of ISTRIA to YUGO-SLAVIA and the Dodecanese to GREECE. Perhaps you must fight so as to be deprived of those things?
Or maybe as a reward for your sacrifices, you are told of the foul terms of an armistice which they have dared to sign in the name of the people?
SICILIANS, now is the time to demonstrate that you are no longer sheep.
DO NOT REGISTER FOR MILITARY SERVICE!
A man of honour should not put on a uniform which reeks with shame, dishonor and defeat nor, what is worse, still wear a mercenary one.
Are you not aware that the MONARCHY and the GOVERNMENT are both subordinated to others and are only looking after their own interests?
Do you not see that the people are being betrayed?

Peasants, workers, brain-workers, do not allow your blood to be bartered for a few sacks of flour or for a dozen or so flannel pyjamas.
Do not make your mothers weep any more.
DO NOT REGISTER FOR MILITARY SERVICE.
The military authorities have no expectations of successful results from the call-up. They are trying out the ground. And, when the people say NO, it means NO!

(Copy of a leaflet in circulation in Sicily)

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APPENDIX "B"

Translation of pamphlets stuck on walls at ALESSANDRIA della ROCCA.

(1) N O T I C E .

Citizens, do not report to the Distretto Militare. The time's come to put an end to it. Any Carabiniere who tries to root us out will die quickly. Anyone 88 who does report is to be pitied. We have no country. WE're nobody's tool. And we wont let anyone trouble us. We brothers in arms must see eye to eye: WE've pulled ourselves out of the frying pan and now they want to chuck us in the fire. Let's all rebel! Long live Giulliani! We're your friends.

(Anyone who tears this down will be torn apart)

---

(2) Allessandrian Youth, Join Giulliani's band! Down with the Army!

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(2) Allessandrian Youth, join Giullisni's band! Down with the Army!

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COPY:

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To: Capt. Oliver, 51 F.S.S.,
From: A/Sgt. King W.J.H.

Subject: Riot at ALCAMO, Trapani Province 18/12/44.

A certain amount of discontent and unrest was occasioned at ALCAMO, Trapani Province, by the closing of certain flour mills, bakeries and bakers' shops. These essential services were closed down by order of the Alto Commissario via the Prefect for two reasons, firstly to render more difficult the activities of speculators and secondly to facilitate the accumulation of a store of grain against the threatened shortage of supplies as the season advances. This order was put into execution on 2nd December last and on that day two of the three flour mills were closed down and on the 6th December ninety bakers' shops out of a total of 120 were likewise close. Eight bakeries were unaffected by the order and continued to bake bread as usual.

Apparently the order played into the hands of the speculators rather than against them for the price of bread per kilo rose almost at once from approx. one hundred lires a kilo to almost two hundred lires a kilo.

The very poor, who rely on their official bread ration plus a certain quantity which they buy on the black market, were very hard hit and although there were grumbles there was no demonstration.

Public opinion was in this rather unstable state of affairs when the official "call-up" for the Italian Army was announced.

It would appear that the Separatist Party decided to make political capital out of these two grievances plus the strong anti-Anthony Eden feeling now prevailing throughout Sicily.

Accordingly on Sunday 17th December, 1944 at about 12.40 hrs. students staged an anti-"call-up" demonstration in the Piazza Ciullo, Alcamo. Demonstrators carried banners bearing slogans: "Down with War!", "Down with the Monarchy!" and "Down with the Army" Crowd including students and spectators was addressed by twenty-year- old Separatist-agitator, student MILAZZO.

MILAZZO cried: "We went go to war until we know why we are going. The concentration camps of England, America, Germany and Russia are full of our prisoners of war and

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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MILAZZO cried: "We went go to war until we know why we are going. The concentration camps of England, America: Germany and Russia are full of our prisoners-of-war and we are sick of the war. Therefore we wont present ourselves for military service." He then started to talk about the bread situation and the closing of the mills.

Whereupon crowd cried back: "We want bread ! Reopen the mills! "

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Subject: Riot at ALCAMO, Trapani Province 18/12/44

Commissario of the Public Safety, DRAGO, tried to calm the mob and shouted that he would see the Prefect and the Commissario Prefettizio (a sort of acting Sindaco) and see about the re-opening of the mills.

Shouted back MILAZZO: "O.K. we will all meet here again tomorrow, Monday the 18th December, at 12 o'clock."

And the crowd began to disperse. Commissario DRAGO approached MILAZZO and said: "You know I can't possibly get a reply by that time.

On the evening of that day (17th December) Captain of Carabinieri, MIRAGLIA, sent panic message by phonogram to H.Q. Trapani asking for reinforcements if the mills were not immediately re-opened as there was grave danger of violent public disorders.

On the morning of the 18th December Commissario DRAGO and Commissario Prefettizio GALAT set off by car for Trapani to confer with the Prefect. It was now 7 o'clock.

But by 0900 hrs. a crowd of five or six thousand thronged the Piazza Giulio. Captain of Carabiniere MIRAGLIA went about the crowd trying to quieten it and pleading with individuals to await the Prefect's reply.

At 1030 hrs (approx.) a phonogram arrived from Trapani saying that the Prefect agreed to the unconditional re-opening of the mills.

But it was too late. From balcony of RISTORANTE STELLA, twenty-seven-(approx.)-year-old Avv. CASSARA Chief Representative of Separatist Youth, started to harangue the mob about "the Taxes".

This might have been a signal for the crowd almost at once started to shout "Burn down the tax offices!" And they did.

Captain of Carabiniere MIRAGLIA says that he appealed to Avv. CASSARA to stop the riot. Avv. CASSARA seems to have been frightened by the forces he set in motion and tried but no one would listen and rioters proceeded to the following places which they sacked and burned. A bonfire of papers and furniture was made in the Piazza Ciullo.

(1) Ufficio Dazio (Municipal takes on wine &c.);
(2) Esattoria Communale (Taxes on land, factories &c.);
(3) Ufficio Distrettuale Del Imposte (Stamps &c.);
(4) Pretura (Magistrates' Offices);
(5) U.C.S.E.A. (Ufficio Comunale Statistici ...

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(1) Ufficio Dazio (Municipal takes on wine &c.);
(2) Esattoria Cummunale (Takes on land, factories &c.);
(3) Ufficio Distrettuale Del Imposte (Stamps &c.);
(4) Pretura (Magistrates' Offices);
(5) U.C.S.E.A. (Ufficio Cummunale Statistici, Economico Agricoltura) (Grain statistic &c);

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Subject: Riot at Alcamo, Trapani Province, 18/12/44

(6) Municipio (Town Hall):
(7) Ufficio di Publica Securesa (Police Offices):
(8) The residence of Commissario DRAGO(which is attached to the Public Safety Offices):
(9) Circolo di Civili (Club premises of rich landowners and people popularly supposed to be connected with the black market).

In additaional to burning all the records, furniture and other moveable objects at the above stated offices and doing enormous damage, the rioters looted the following two places:-

(1) Magasini Granai del Popolo, where seventy-five quintals of grain, a quantity of chemical fertilisers and a quantity of American tinned foodstuff were pillaged.

(2) Consorsio Agrario Succursalse where the mob pillaged a considerable quantity of American tinned foodstuffs and burnt out the premises.

In additional to all the foregoing the mob attempted to burn down the Ufficio Interprovinciale di Polizia but were foiled by the Carabinieri and Publica Securesa agents. Shots were exchanged with the crown and one man was wounded in the leg, he remains, however, unidentified, being removed from the scene on the action by his friends. Two guns were taken away from the crowd and confiscated.

At the Municipio Captain of Carabinieri MIRAGLIA tried to reason with the mob but the only answer was the throwing of a number of hand grenades, one of which slightly wounded five of the carabinieri and another of which landed at the feet of MIRAGLIA but fortunately failed to explode. The time was now about 1200 hours and elements of the crowd began to shout: "To the Carabinieri Station! Burn it Down! Captain of Carabinieri MIRAGLIA immediately made his way with his men to the station and arrived just in time to prevent the crowd from destroying the building.

The time was now between 1300 and 1400 hours and the crowd began to disperse.

At about 1400 hours Commissario of Public Safety DRAGO returned from Trapani bringing with him twenty carabinieri and ten Public Safety Agents as reinforcements.

At about 1500 hours the Prefect, the Questore and Commandant of the Carabinieri of Trapani Province arrived on the scene.

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At about 1800 hours 100 soldiers of the Campagnia di Formazioni 5 Reg Fanteria S.I. Arrived from Palermo.

Soldiers, carabinieri and Public Safety agents patrolled the streets all night and interrogated citizens. No cuffew was imposed. Numerous arrest were made.

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Subject: Riot at Alcamo, Trapani Province, 18/12/1944

B.S.P. made a personal inspection of the damage done, which was considerable. The whole of the interior of the Municipio is burned out and parts of it were still smouldering and the fire brigade was still playing a hose on the embers at 1400 hrs 19th December. In the other offices every thing of value has been either removed or burned, burnt papers littered the streets and idlers stood about in groups watching. There are a few slogans painted on the walls of the town and most of them of an ordinary character, such as "W Slatin" and "W Stalin".

The arrests made up to 1400 hours 19th December, totalled forty but it is emphasizes that there will probably be more and at least some of these are thought to be innocent. Up to 1500 hours the interrogations had not been carried out and the responsibility remains a matter of conjecture. The Commissario of Public Safety, DRAGO, suspects the Separatist Movement of being at the bottom of the riot and to land support to this it is noted that neither Avv.CASSARA nor Student MILAZZO have been arrested and a search made of their homes ellicites the information that they have fled.

A list of the arrests to date is attached hereto.

In the Field
19th December 1944

A/Sgt. 7673874

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In the Field
19th December 1944

A/Sgt. 7673874

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SECURITY INTELLIGENCE REPORT - ITALIAN ARMY.

Outstation : CREMONA Combat Gp Area covered :

Report No. 1 Period from 26 Nov 44 to 25 Dec 44.

Seen WP

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A. GENERAL SECURITY.

1. Morale. Remains high, although my impression is that the morale of the Combat Gp has shown signs of deterioration since arrival in the present location. This particularly affects that part of the Group located in and around the town of ASCOLI PICENO, where a subversive communist element has undoubtedly made a dead set at the troops. This situation is being carefully watched. There are a large number of young men in ASCOLI who appear to do nothing apart from living a life of ease and contentment ; the troops have noticed this and it has made a bad impression on them.

Absentees have increased considerably, partly attributable to the desire to be with their families for Xmas. Official figures of absentees was given as 326, but I cannot help feeling that the number is greater.

One of the British training officers informs me that just before Xmas 35 per cent of one particular battalion of the 21st Inf Regt was absent, and that men were disappearing at the rate of about 15 daily. In addition certain men were granted official Xmas leave. The result is that company strengths for training average about 45 men at the moment ; a highly undesirable state of affairs in view of our imminent move to the line.

5525

2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI-ALLIED activities or trends.

Nothing to report.

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF ARMS OR AMMN.

Nothing to report.

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITY - Propaganda, Monarchism.

Nothing of note to report apart from communist activity referred to above.

5. RELATIONS WITH AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS ALLIED TROOPS.

Most cordial. There have been two "incidents" between Allied personnel and personnel of the Gruppo, but the allied personnel were entirely

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Nothing of note to report apart from communist activity referred to above.

5. RELATIONS WITH AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS ALLIED TROOPS.

Most cordial. There have been two "incidents" between Allied personnel and personnel of the Gruppo, but the allied personnel were entirely unconnected with the B.I.U. and were under the influence of alcohol at the time. There were no serious results.

6. DISCIPLINE.

Outwardly good, e.g. Saluting, respect shown to Officers, &c. Basically, above average Italian standards. Relations between Officers and men seems good.

7. RUMOURS AND INDISCREET TALK - BREACHES OF SECURITY.

The Italian is not security-minded as a rule, and steps are being taken to impress on all ranks the necessity for preserving military secrets. There have been no serious breaches, however.

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8. SUMMARY OF MILITARY SECURITY, etc.

The name of the General commanding the Gruppo has been mentioned in the local Press. I understand that it was also referred to in a ROME newspaper on the occasion when part of the Gruppo marched through ROME. This is unfortunate, particularly in view of the fact that the General's family are still in German occupied territory.

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Wireless security is very bad indeed, as has been proved on several exercises which have taken place recently. Steps are being taken to improve this before moving up to the line.

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"EYE" 69

Subject:- Security Intelligence Report.

Liaison Officer,
Land Forces Sub Comm.,
A.C., (MMIA).,
c/o HQ., I District.
Ref. LO/G7.

17 December 44.

Land Forces Sub Comm., A.C.
M. M. I. A. ROME.

Nothing of particular interest to report.

Capt.
MMIA.,LO., I District.

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Report on a visit to FORTE BOCCEA, near Rome, on 28 Dec, during which a number of Italian Military deserters held in the Fort were interrogated.

The object of my visit to Forte Boccea was to endeavour to discover the real reasons which cause the Italian soldier to desert. I found out that there were about 150 Italian Army deserters held in the Fort awaiting trial. In order to give the Italians as little warning as possible at 1200 hrs I informed the officer in charge via Rome Territorial H.Q. that I would visit him at 1430 hrs, adding that I was interested in the condition etc. of men held there, and that my visit was in no way an official one.

Fort Boccea is situated about four miles NE of Rome just off Route 1. The CC RR guard at the double iron gates had been warned of my arrival and let me in without any fuss. I was met by Col BRINDISI, Officer in charge, a man of about fifty, who seemed a trifle worried at the appearance of a British Officer. I told him I had come to see what the conditions were like in the place and to talk to the men.

There are 120 deserters detained in the Fort awaiting trial by the Military Court (Tribunale Militare) Rome. They sleep on straw, and, in the daytime, pace up and down in a small courtyard as there is no other accomodation for them. If it rains they sit about in their sleeping quarters on the straw.

They get one hot meal per day. The ration scale is civilian and the same as any prisoner receives in any other prison in Italy. Every man I spoke to complained that he was hungry and that occasionally friends in Rome sometimes brought extra food to implement their meagre rations.

It was possible for me to talk to the men individually, as I had previously told the Colonel that this was my intention.

Knowing the Italian soldier's mentality I decided to adopt a friendly attitude towards the men as I spoke to them - or rather - as they spoke to me in turn. I should like to make it quite clear that the men spoke to me most sincerely and very willingly. There was no holding back and I told them that what they said to me would in no way be used against them or against their friends.

The following particulars, chosen from many, may help to give some idea of the reasons for which men desert and their chief complaints. It was not possible for me to go into detail with every man and I wrote down a few hurried notes after I had spoken to each man. All information was given verbally. I cannot guarantee accuracy or verity.

1. Pte MAIOZZI Ercole - of "F" Recce Sqn: Had not seen his family for 2 years. Father of a child he had never seen. Refused leave by his officer. Deserted to see his family last heard of in Rome. Did not find family there. Went on to Bari. On his return to Rome was arrested and put in Regina Coeli Prison and

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It was possible for me to talk to the men individually, as I had previously told the Colonel that this was my intention.

Knowing the Italian soldier's mentality I decided to adopt a friendly attitude towards the men as I spoke to them - or rather - as they spoke to me in turn. I should like to make it quite clear that the men spoke to me most sincerely and very willingly. There was no holding back and I told them that what they said to me would in no way be used against them or against their friends.

The following particulars, chosen from many, may help to give some idea of the reasons for which men desert and their chief complaints. It was not possible for me to go into detail with every man and I wrote down a few hurried notes after I had spoken to each man. All information was given verbally. I cannot guarantee accuracy or verity.

1. Pte MAIOZZI Ercole - of "F" Recce Sqn: Had not seen his family for 2 years. Father of a child he had never seen. Refused leave by his officer. Deserted to see his family last heard of in Rome. Did not find family there. Went on to Bari. On his return to Rome was arrested and put in Regina Coeli Prison and then transferred to Forte Boccea.

Comments: This man has been 5 months in the Fort without even being questioned. Told me his unit was just like a happy family. No complaints whatsoever against offrs, food, conditions. Stated he wept bitter tears when he read of exploits of "F" Recce in newspapers. Begged to be allowed to return to his unit or any other combat force. Complained of conditions in Fort and of utter despair of those held there. Seemed a good type.

SCALAMPA Adelmo also of "F" Recce Sqn: Had same type of story to tell. Also very desperate and would do anything to get back to the unit. Had been 5 months in goal awaiting trial. No complaints other than that he was refused leave, so deserted.

.../2.....

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2. Sgt. LUPPI Giuseppe of 68 Inf C.I.L. stated he joined his unit as a 2/Lt because he thought he would get a better chance to lead men. As a 2/Lt he was C i/c Esploratori Pl. which took Mt. Mattone - near Mt. Marrone. For this action he recieved Bronze medal for valour. Fought at MONTELUNGO and CASSINO. When his unit was relieved and pulled out of the line for rest a few officers of 68 Inf discovered that Sgt. LUPPI was not an officer and reported him. In order not to lose face with his men after a brilliant career he deserted.

Comments: A first class fighting soldier who is eating his heart out in the Fort. Complained that Italian offrs have not changed since Fascist days and that the C.R. is still treated like dirt. No political reasons for his desertion. Is very keen to fight. Begged to be sent to Gruppi in a combat unit. Has been in gaol 2 months awaiting trial.

3. Cpl ZARNETTI: Paratrooper of "Nembo" - made P.W. by Germans this year - escaped and went home - arrested by CC RR as deserter - has not been interrogated.

Comments: This man has also served in "F" Recce Sqn and speaks highly of a certain Capt GAY whom he would serve faithfully "to the bitter end". Very keen to return to "F" Recce. Has been 4 months in gaol. Good type.

4. Cpl SPADAVECCHIA Francesco of 143 Marine Bde (Naval). Came over from Sardinia. Fought in C.I.L. Had not seen family for 27 months. Deserted to see his mother. Reported personally to CC RR. Sent to prison. In gaol 2 months.

Comments: A young, intelligent lad of nineteen. Complained of insufficient rations. Said troops did not get full scale as offrs kept rations for themselves. Complained of bad treatment at hand of offrs. Begged me to help him as he was dead keen to fight against Germans. Very demoralised after long weeks in gaol. No political reasons for desertion.

5. Pte. SANTANGELO Giuseppe of 9 Reparto di Assalto. Had fought with C.I.L. Received letter to say widowed mother seriously ill. One brother P.W., one brother missing. 6 others at home. Deserted as he felt he was badly needed at home as the only bread-winner in family. Arrested by CC RR on 9 Sep. Has been in gaol ever since.

6. Pte FRIDA Angelo of Friuli Div. Came over from Sardinia. Was then posted from one unit to another, eventually sent to Rome. Tried to rejoin Friuli but CC RR arrested him as a deserter. States he never deserted. Has not been interrogated. Awaiting trial.

7. Pte GATTA Mario of Alpini Bn.. His C.C. gave him leave to Ancona, then in restricted area, telling him to make his way as best he could and warning him that he might be arrested. At Ancona he found his home bombed but parents safe. Brought parents to Rome. Arrested in Rome by CC RR as deserter.

Comments: Very good type. Very keen to rejoin Alpini but would fight with any other unit. No complaints against offrs or conditions.

Sent to Chieti. Conditions there terrible.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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Comments: Very good type. Very keen to rejoin Alpini but would fight with any other unit. No complaints against offrs or conditions.

8. Cpl SFORZA Damiano of Friuli. Sent to Chieti. Conditions there terrible. Volunteered to join 8 Army. Disappointed when refused. Heard his family in terrible plight. Deserted! Went to Bari to fetch his mother. Brought her to Rome. Was arrested in Rome.

Comments: This man complained that Italian officers took no interest in their men. Flogged rations and were still "Fascist". Was very upset at conditions in the Port and complained of inadequate rations.

9. Sgt. Maj. PIETRONI of Friuli. Was incriminated unjustly by four men who accused him of handing over 4 motor tyres to the Germans. Deserted as he had lost face in his unit. Carried letter signed by two Allied officers stating he was good soldier and had served well.

..../3.....

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10. Pte FELICE Pietro of 1002 Coy P.S.S. Had not seen his family for two years. Parents very ill. Was refused leave. Deserted! Had been 4 months in gaol some of which time spent in Regina Coeli.

GENERAL REMARKS

During the three hours spent in the Fort I was able to speak with most of the men. The main reasons for desertion in order of priority seem to be :-

(1) Family reasons.
(2) Hatred of officers.
(3) War weariness and lack of the right education on present war aims.
(4) Inability on the part of Italian officers to instil keeness and interest in their men.
(5) No welfare.
(6) Political chaos in Italy (according to the Italian "tommy") therefore unwilling to "serve" by standing and waiting.

Note: I did not find any man who had been punished for his political views. I found considerable difficulty in disengaging myself from the men when I left them as they all gathered round me, begging me to help them and unanimous in their desire to fight.

Before I left I spoke with Colonel BELLINI - J.A.G. Rome. I asked him why men had to wait so long before trial. He stated he had insufficient staff to deal with all cases, which include security and espionage cases, and said that four offrs are now being trained in legal affairs for the Rome Tribunale Militare.

5820

I asked him if these men could volunteer for front line service at their trial. He stated that there was a clause in the Military Penal Code which allowed this and deferred a man's punishment till after the war. If a man showed outstanding courage and service in the field his sentence is reduced. The clause, however, has not been put into effect since 8 Sep '43 and Col BELLINI stated it would only apply again at the request of the Allies.

31 Dec 44.

R. Selby.
Captain
GIII (Int)

DISTRIBUTION:
GOC
S i/c

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DISTRIBUTION:
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File S
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LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED COMMISSION (M.M.I.A.)
Allied Garrison Sardinia
A.P.O. 397, U.S. Army

24 December 1944

TO: Commanding General, Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C. (MMIA).

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Outstation: Sardinia — Area Covered: Sardinia

Report No. 8 — Period from 20 November to 20 December

A. General Security

1. Morale

(a) Morale among the Italian soldiers here in Sardinia appears to be high. No complaints have been received. Constant inspections are made unannounced and conversations are held with officers and enlisted men and no grievences have been expressed.

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities and Trends:

Nothing to report.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition:

Nothing to report.

4. Political Activity:

Nothing to report.

5. Relations with and Attitude Towards Allied Troops:

(a) Continues to be favorable.

6. Discipline: Very satisfactory.

0156

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7. Rumors and Indiscreet Talk - Breeches of Security

(a) Nothing to report.

(b) No apparent breeches of security.

8. Summary of Military Situation and Similar Matters:

Nothing to report.

B. Personalities

1. Information (white) on higher leaders:

Nothing to report.

2. Information (black) on higher leaders:

Nothing to report.

F. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

SUBJECT:- Security Intelligence Report.

SECRET

27/12

Liaison Officer
Land Forces Sub Comm.AC (MMIA)
c/o Rear HQ EIGHTH ARMY.
M/127

23 Dec 44

I

Land Forces Sub Comm.AC.
(M M I A) Rome.

27/12

Situation:- Rear HQ EIGHTH ARMY. Area Covered:- 8 Army Area.

Report No.1. Period:- 25 Nov to 25 Dec.

5817

A. GENERAL SECURITY.

1. Morale.

Better supplies of clothing, regular cigarette issues, the concession of leave, the abolition of the title " Levoratori " for Pnr. Ops and the welfare campaign, which has already opened some canteens, have all contributed to a general improvement in morale.

Absence without leave continues to be the major trouble (Labour report figures equal to about half a Bn out of 8 Bns under command), but 2nd Nzd. report that 80 - 90% of the total absentees are rfts from the Home call-up.

2. Fascist, pro-German or anti-Allied Activity.

Nil.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Situation:- Near HQ EIGHTH ARMY. Area Covered:- 8 Army Area.

Report No.1. Period:- 25 Nov to 25 Dec.

5[illegible]

A. GENERAL SECURITY.

1. Morale.

Better supplies of clothing, regular cigarette issues, the concession of leave, the abolition of the title " Lavoratori " for Pnr. Lgs and the welfare campaign, which has already opened some canteens, have all contributed to a general improvement in morale.

Absence without leave continues to be the major trouble (labour report figures equal to about half a Bn out of 6 Bns under command), but 228 Div. report that 80 - 90% of the total absentees are rfts from the Home call-up.

2. Fascist, pro-German or anti-Allied Activity.

Nil.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammn.

Nil.

4. Political Activity.

No reports.

5. Relations with Allied Tps.

On the whole good, and nearly all British units speak highly of Italian tps working under their command. 86 Area reported a certain reluctance to cooperate of the C.O. 516 Cd. Bn. (Magg. A.Montini), and the Div Vice Commander has cautioned him.

Good.

/2.

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6. Discipline.

Satisfactory. Two minor incidents are reported.

(a) A dozen men of 20A I.F.Coy., who disobeyed an officer's order to go to work after having been refused admittance to a cinema, are being court martialled.

(b) A fracas took place between some Italian soldiers and civilians at Gambettola, in which two hand grenades were thrown (it is not known by whom). It is reported that the trouble was over women, and AMG has cautioned the civilians.

7. Rumours and Indiscreet Talk.

During the past fortnight various Italian military and civilians have suggested that the present German offensive in Belgium has been made possible by the withdrawal of first class troops from the Russian front. This, it is hinted, is due to a secret agreement between Germany and Russia to enable Germany copes with her western enemies. It seems likely that this rumour has been deliberately put about by enemy agents.

8. The military security situation in 228 Div. appears to be healthy. A considerable amount of trouble, however, is given both to GSI(b) and this office by Italian military, including Air Force and Navy personnel, who are apprehended in Army area with invalid or bogus documents. Some of these are found to be in possession of private mail for delivery to civilians in the area. This appears to be a possible channel for information to the enemy.

Among those arrested in Army area are a certain number of over-age ex-soldiers who are attempting to return to their homes in enemy occupied territory. As it is not possible to ensure that all such are caught, some leakage of information may be due to them.

B. PERSONALITIES.

Nothing to report.

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B. PERSONALITIES.

Nothing to report.

Lt-Col. G.S.
MMIA Rear HQ EIGHTH ARMY.

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0161

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

LAKE V LAEE NR 23 P P IMPORTANT

FROM MMIA LO 52 AREA 261501A

TO MMIA

QQX GR 10 BT

Q 118 CONFIDENTIAL (.) YOUR S/I/106/1

DATED 7 DEC (.)

NOTHING TO REPORT

BT 261830A

SENT NR #23 26/2224A LM BB

RECD NR 23 26/2222A J O E KK

N80/26

5815

0162

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

LRKB V LAEE NR 25
FROM MMIA LO 54 AREA
TO MMIA
GR ~~SECRET~~ BT

SD/11 . RESTRICTED . REF YOUR S/1/126/1 DATED 7 DEC.
NIL REPORT
BT
SENT NR 25 23/2246A JY B K
RECD NR 25 23/2246 A AAA B2

N113/23 I

5814

SECRET

LIAISON OFFICE
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION AC (MMIA)
% AC SICILY REGION HQ
APO 394

I/106/1.64

28/12

No 1180

21 December 1944

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Reports - Italian Army.

TO : G.O.C. Land Forces Sub-Comm AC (MMIA) ROME

Copy to: Commander, N.O.B. Palermo.
" " Commander, 204 Sub-Area, Catania

Out-Station Sicily
Report No. 8

Area Covered - Sicily
Period from 20 Nov 44
to 20 Dec 44

In compliance with your S/I/106/1 dated 7 December 44, subject report is submitted.

A. General Security.

1. MORALE:

a. From inspections made by personnel of this office and reports that come in, the morale of the Italian soldier remains good. He is, for the most part, satisfied with his ration, which is always a great morale factor. The state of his clothing here is probably better than most Italian soldiers I have seen elsewhere. He is kept relatively busy on guard and other duties.

5813

b. On the evening of 24 November 1944 at the Palermo "Olimpia" Theatre the picture "The Great Dictator" was being shown. The theatre was very crowded and at about 1700 hours a bomb was placed in the W.C. located next to the projection room. A member of the CC.RR and one civilian who were outside the door at the time of the explosion suffered severe head wounds. Necessarily this caused a panic among the spectators. The same film was being shown at another theatre at the same time, but no disturbance was recorded. As fas as the people as a who is concerned, normal public order was maintained.

c. The Call-up in Sicily provoked several demonstrations carried on for the most part by young students. These however lasted only from the 13th to the 17th December and then practically subsided except for a few minor demonstrations scattered over the Island. Palermo was quiet and orderly except for a few parades by students carrying banners in protest of the Call-up.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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c. The Call-up in Sicily provoked several demonstrations carried on for the most part by young students. These however lasted only from the 15th to the 17th December and then practically subsided except for a few minor demonstrations scattered over the Island. Palermo was quiet and orderly except for a few parades by students carrying banners in protest of the Call-up.

There have been forty-three demonstrations without incident at thirty four different places in Sicily. Nine places have had demonstrations with damage and conflict. Five places have had demonstrations with damage.

Concurrently demonstrations have been reaction to grain amassing as follows: without incident three; with damage two; with damage and conflict two.

As of today, approximately four civilians have met death, twenty five civilians injured and six police injured as a result of all demonstrations.

I have been informed that beginning 20 December, force will be used to arrest those not responding to the Call-up.

To date the Call-up has fallen far below expectations.

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SECRET

Security Intelligence - Monthly Reports - Italian Army (Continued)

2. Fascit, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends.
Nothing to report.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition.
Nothing to Report.

4. Political Activity - Propaganda Monarchism.
Nothing of late has been heard from the Separatist Party. Riots in Catania, wherein public buildings were set on fire and at least two people were killed has been blamed on the Separatists, but this is only verbal and has not been confirmed.

5. Relations with and attitude toward Allied Troops.
From what I have been able to observe the relationship is excellent. The Commander of the Naval Base in Palermo has a perpetual campaign to cement good relationship between troops and civilians. He has plans for a large "Bambini" party for Christmas which is very popular among all troops.

6. Discipline.
From my own observation - good.

7. Rumors and indiscreet talk - Breaches of Security.
Nothing to report.

8. Summary of Military Security.

a. Italian Armed Forces. Relations between civilians and Italian Armed forces remain uneasy. This opinion is arrived at from talks had with C.G. Military Hq of Sicily and also members of his staff.

Note: Due to the short period of time I have been in Sicily I am unable to make a very intelligent report of the situation here. My next report I hope to make more comprehensive and understandable.

/s/ Homer E. Long

HOMER E. LONG
Major MC
L O Sicily

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From my own observation - good.

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Major MC
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SECRET

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad
18 December 1944

Subject: Security Intelligence Report - Italian Troops with Fifth Army.

To : Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C. (MMIA)
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. Reference your File No. S/1/106/1 of 7 December 1944.

2. General Security:

a. Morale: Absences without leave and desertions by Italian soldiers continue but the situation is definitely improving. Copy is enclosed of reply by Capt. Cicogna, Italian L.O., to the letter of CIC 5th Army of 10 October 1944. Your AQ/27/1 of 1 November 1944 also refers. Am not aware of any seditious or subversive influences likely to undermine morale.

b. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: None that I know of.

c. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition: None

d. Political Activity: The Italian officers with whom I come in contact, apparently fear a communistic Italy and probably favor continuing the monarchy. No officer within my knowledge has been spreading any propaganda or taking any part in any political activity. Wherever one goes, there is evidence of the civilians favoring communism. For example, I attended an Italian civilian cinema, "The Battle of the Ukraine" and the crowd cheered Joe Stalin more than the people in Arkansas or Texas would cheer General MacArthur's picture when it appears on the screen.

e. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops. Very satisfactory.

f. Discipline: Improving.

g. Rumors, Indiscreet Talk and Breaches of Security: Very satisfactory.

h. Summary of Military Security: Conditions here are very satisfactory.

3. Personalities:

a. Information on higher leaders:

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

[illegible] any sections of society [illegible] likely to undermine morale.

b. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: None that I know of.

c. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition: None

d. Political Activity: The Italian officers with whom I come in contact, apparently fear a communistic Italy and probably favor continuing the monarchy. No officer within my knowledge has been spreading any propaganda or taking any part in any political activity. Wherever one goes, there is evidence of the civilians favoring communism. For example, I attended an Italian civilian cinema, "The Battle of the Ukraine" and the crowd cheered Joe Stalin more than the people in Arkansas or Texas would cheer General MacArthur's picture when it appears on the screen.

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f. Discipline: Improving.

g. Rumors, Indiscreet Talk and Breaches of Security: Very satisfactory.

h. Summary of Military Security: Conditions here are very satisfactory.

3. Personalities:

a. Information on higher leaders:

(1) General Officer, Commanding 210 Division, CORTESE Guiseppe; appointment, General Staff, Brigadier General; age 56. Reasonably cooperative, not obstructive, his political views are no doubt as indicated above for other Italian officers, but he is not engaging in any political activity to my knowledge. I consider him an efficient officer and possessing considerable energy.

4. Conclusion: The above opinions and views are my own and based upon my own observations, which of course, are limited in scope. So far as I can determine, generally speaking, no serious disaffection, lack of loyalty or any other willful disloyal activity exists among the Italian officers and men assigned or attached to 5th Army, which would be inimical to the interests of the Allied cause.

R.C.VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MMLA) L.O.,
5th Army

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COPY COPY

From : Italian Liaison Office.
To : MMLA Sr LO - 5th Army

S.N. : 3483 Dec 8 1944

Subject: Morale of Italian Troops.

Referring to your interoffice ref. sheet dtd Oct 20 and transmitting report concerning the morale of Italian Troops forwarded by Mj. Stephan F. Spingarn, CIC. 5th Army.

1. Ref your para 2 of above mentioned report, the absences WOL have been long ago foreseen, as already notified to 5th Army Hqs. This inconvenience is considered unavoidable owing to the fact that most of the men have been for years far from home and without any news from their families.

As a remedy it is suggested:

(a) Leaves be granted to Officers and EM as soon as their homes are liberated.
(b) Transportation facilities be granted to Italian Military personnel going on and coming back from leave.
(c) Leave restrictions be changed, leave period be lengthened and 8th Army area be opened for leaves.

Consequently:

(d) Replacements should be shipped immediately when requested.
(e) More transportation should be allotted to Units.

As for the tiredness of the troops, the general situation could be bettered by granting Units adequate periods of rest, as already done for some units.-

2. Ref Para 3 same report and not in accordance with the information therein contained it is stated that:

(a) Pack Mule Units and Stretcher Bearers Units receive a daily allowance of 45 lire, all other units 32 lire.
(b) Commutation of rations is still 5 lire for all troops.
(c) Sick and wounded receive their regular daily pay.

3. Ref para 4. Undecided National and International Italian situation has a depressive influence over the troops morale, in addition to the sight of the misery suffered by the people.

4. Ref para 5a. CG 210th Div states that AWOLS must be considered differently according to the sort of their guilt.

(a) AWOL's who have come back to their Units of their own accord after visiting their families or have delayed their return owing to lack of trans-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

As a remedy it is suggested:

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3. Ref para 4. Undecided National and International Italian situation has a depressive influence over the troops morale, in addition to the sight of the misery suffered by the people.

4. Ref para 5a. CG 210th Div states that AWOLS must be considered differently according to the sort of their guilt.

(a) AWOL's who have come back to their Units of their own accord after visiting their families or have delayed their return owing to lack of transportation are often good soldiers performing a good job. It would be a loss for their Unit to send them away.

(b) It is agreed that a severe example is necessary for AWOL's who did not return to their Units, and that other guilts have to be regularly punished.

5. Ref. para 5b. Officers cadre revision has been done.
6, Ref para 5c. Oil and salt supply has been normalized.
7. Ref para 5 d. Clothing supply is now better.
8. Ref para 5 e. Action has been taken in order to distribute newspapers and magazines to the troops. Radios are not available from Italian sources.

/s/ A. Cicogna, Capt.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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SECRET

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Reports - Italian Army

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. S/I/106/1
7 Dec 44

TO : All M.M.I.A. L.O's

Ref our I/106 of 10 May 44 not to all.

1. You are requested to submit a Monthly Security Report on matters as listed in attached Appendix "A".

2. Reports will be classified "SECRET" and will on no account be sent through Italian channels.

3. Reports should reach this H.Q. by 25th of the month, and should be consolidated by Senior M.I.A. L.O's in areas where applicable.

C.M. Tomkinson
Lt Col
GS

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

Appendix "A" to S/I/106/1 of Dec 44.

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Unit station.....Area Covered.....

Report No..... Period from ..... to.....

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. Morale - Include details of unrest, complaints, undealt with grievances, desertions. Any seditious or subversive influences likely to undermine morale.

2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI-ALLIED activities or trends.

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF ARMS & AMMUNITION.

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITY - Propaganda, manifestos.

5. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops.

6. DISCIPLINE

7. RUMOURS and indiscreet TALK - Breaches of Security.

8. SUMMARY of MILITARY SECURITY situation including any other matters that cannot be correctly listed under 1 to 7. above.

B. PERSONALITIES.

1. Information (white) on higher leaders.
Note 1*

2. Information (BLACK) - ditto.

Note: 2
SOURCES It is essential to give source and assessment of reliability of each item of information i.e. personal observation, visit, interview, second-hand from....., reported by ..... etc. Sources considered reliable, doubtful etc.

Note 1* Rank, appointment, age. Information co-operative negative - obstructive - political attitude - efficiency - energy.

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Report - Italian Army

Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/I/106/1
7 Dec 44

TO : Hq A.A.I. (for G.S.I.)

Copy to: A.C.

Ref Appx "A" to our I/106 of 10 May.

Herewith report for month of November.

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. Morale

For the first time in the history of the Italian Army formations of Italian troops wearing British kaki battle dress and equipped throughout with British arms and vehicles paraded through Rome on two different occasions this month on their way to the front. On both occasions the citizens of Rome crowded the route to give "these Italian tommies" - as one onlooker remarked - a warm and what appeared to be a genuine God speed. These troops were part of the FRIULI and CREMONA Combat Gps who had completed their basic training in the [redacted] area.

Most of the Roman papers gave these troops a good write-up and commented favourably on the fact that their clothing, modern equipment and arms are of a quality never previously possessed by Italian soldiers. One Roman paper said, "Our soldiers were not wearing their familiar "grigio verde" uniforms. This is of no importance. They wear the tricolor on their arms. They are well clothed, well armed and well fed. They will not fall exhausted by the wayside for they travel in vehicles." This paper went on to thank the British for making it possible for the sons of Italy to restore the Honour of their country.

All reports indicate that the morale of these

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Copy to: A.C.

Ref Appx "A" to our I/106 of 10 May.

Herewith report for month of November.

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Most of the Roman papers gave these troops a good write-up and commented favourably on the fact that their clothing, modern equipment and arms are of a quality never previously possessed by Italian soldiers. One Roman paper said, "Our soldiers were not wearing their familiar "grigio verde" uniforms. This is of no importance. They wear the tricolor on their arms. They are well clothed, well armed and well fed. They will not fall exhausted by the wayside for they travel in vehicles." This paper went on to thank the British for making it possible for the sons of Italy to restore the Honour of their country.

All reports indicate that the morale of these troops is high. One soldier of the "Friuli" Gp remarked to a British officer, "In two months we will achieve more than the Allies have achieved in two years"!

There is no doubt that both the morale of these Combat Gps and that of Italian troops working with the Allies has improved steadily. This improvement is confirmed by personal liaison with the Italians and is mirrored in the Italian Press which has been giving a greater and more spontaneous publicity to the Italian Army, not only in its more glamorous Combat role, but also in its invaluable role as a "silent Army" working for the Allied effort in the shape of muleteers, pack transport companies, engineer and signal units and pioneer labour.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

2. Fascist - Pro-German - Anti Allied Activity

Nothing to Report

3. Illegal Storage of Arms

Nothing to Report.

4. Political Activity

Nothing to Report

5. Relations with and Attitude towards Allied Tps

Continue to be good.

6. Discipline

Nothing new this month.

7. Rumours and Indiscreet Talk

Nothing to Report.

8. Summary of Military Security

There has been considerable improvement in Security of Information as indicated by Censorship reports and reports from outstations on the Control of Movement.

Further Intelligence courses for Regimental I.O's have been held during the month in Rome when special instruction has been given on Security. Italian students attending have been instructed to hold Unit Security courses on their return.

Considerable strides have been made in Welfare for Italian troops in the forward areas. A report from FLORENCE states that a certain Italian officer who attended a British Welfare Course in Rome, has organized canteens, a cinema and other welfare facilities for Italian troops in FLORENCE. His work has been greatly appreciated. He has made an appeal to the wealthy families in FLORENCE for assistance and encouragement in this welfare work.

B. PERSONALITIES

1. Information (white) }
2. Information (black) } Nothing to Report.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Nothing new this month.

7. Rumours and Indiscreet Talk

Nothing to Report.

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B. PERSONALITIES

1. Information (white) }
2. Information (black) } Nothing to Report.

Lt. Col
Major General
M.M.I.A.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:-Security Report.

Liaison Officer,
Land Forces Sub Comm.,
A.C.,(M.M.I.A.).,
c/o HQ.,I District.
LO/G7

26 November 44.

To:-Land Forces Sub Comm., AC (MMIA).,
R O M E.

With reference to the above subject; a NIL report is rendered from this office for period 28 Oct 44 to 26 Nov 44.

Capt.,
MMIA. LO, I District.

5805

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I/106/1

P 69

22/11

LIAISON OFFICE
LAND FORCES SUB COMM. AC (RMIA)
& AC SICILY REGION HQ
APO 394

No.1020

20 November 1944.

SUBJECT: Reports - Security Intelligence

TO : G.O.C., Land Forces Sub Comm. AC (RMIA) ROME

Copy to: Comdr. N.O.B., Palermo
Comdr. 70 Sub Area, Catania.

Out Station - Sicily
Report No. 7

Area Covered - Sicily
Period from 20 Oct. to
20 Nov. 44.

In compliance to your I/106 dated 10 May 44 hereby submit the following report:

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. Morale.

a From inspections made by personnel of this office and reports that come in the morale of the Italian soldier remains good.

b The crime situation has slightly improved the past month, a less number of crimes have been reported. (Verbal from G 2 (I) AC Region 1).

c The collection of grain situation remains about same as previous report. The amount of grain now on hand will last to about 1 Jan. 45. Increase trouble may be experienced then. Force collection of grain to continue. Sicily had to import grain in peace time, never was sufficient raised here to supply need. The Separatist Party quiet in Palermo past month.(G 2 (I) AC Region 1). Approx 500 III soldiers been assisting in collection of grain.

d Riot at Palermo 19 Oct.

(1) See Appx 'B' to 51 FSS Security Report No.9 enclosure No.1 herewith.

(2) The court of Enquiry into the recent disorders had come to a deadlock. Three members of the Committee of Liberation have resigned from the Court, leaving [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

20 Nov. 44.

In compliance to your I/106 dated 10 May 44 hereby submit the following report:

A. GENERAL SECURITY

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d Riot at Palermo 19 Oct.

(1) See Appx 'B' to 51 FSS Security Report No.9 enclosure No.1 herewith.

(2) The court of Enquiry into the recent disorders has come to a deadlock. Three members of the Committee of Liberation have resigned from the Court, including MONTALBANO, head of Palermo Communist Section. Although the reason given was the enquiry was not objective enough, it is this Section's opinion that the real reason was that the Court found itself unable to prove that the Italian soldiers threw the first grenades, which ran counter to the line put out by the parties concerned. The actual incident which provoked the resignation was when the Officer Commanding the troops involved attempted to prove by ballistics that it was impossible for the grenades to have been thrown from the lorry. It is believed that the Committee of Liberation intend to hold their own investigation. (From Report 51 FSS)

(3) See enclosures 3 and 4 herewith.

(4) I am of the opinion that the riot situation is calmed but with black market price so high and if food is not sufficient later considerable trouble may arise. The people

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Par. g (4) (continued)

speak of lower prices before the invasion. (Personal opinion from observation).

2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI-ALLIED ACTIVITIES OR TRENDS.

KRISMANCIC, Ivonovito claiming to be a Yugoslav at Licata on 11 Oct. 44 spoke at a Communist meeting against the Separatist Movement and that the Germans who were thought by everyone to be beaten were in a better position than ever before. He said that, alongside the Russian Army, the Germans would come here to set the Italians free. He later stated he was in direct communication with the German Military Authorities. The enemies of Italy, he stated, were not the Germans but the Americans and the English who brought total ruin and hunger. He stated finally that Russia and Germany together would win the war. The Communist section printed in the Giornale di Sicilia an announcement disclaiming any responsibility for him. It was later found that he was MERLINO, Francesco born in Castiglione di Sicilia on 10-5-21. He is now held at the disposition of Capt. Di Bio, C.S. (Report 51 FSS)

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

N.T.R.

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES - PROPAGANDA, MONARCHISM.

a The Separatist Party have not been as active in Palermo the past month. At the time of the Palermo Riot (19 Oct.) their Hq. was raided and some subversive literature was found but the Hq. has since been returned to them. (See Par 1 d above) It is understood that the Separatists intend to bring legal action against the CC.RR for damage they caused to the premises. They plan to broadcast by public address system installed in the [illegible] down of the Hq. speeches made within the party's premises. The movement for independence in Sicily still has strong backing. - Reasons for increase strength are: Failure of grain campaign which was controlled by the National Liberation Committee, and wide spread rumors throughout the Provinces of the imminence of Separatist action. Increase activities are expected, another congress is scheduled for 15 Dec. at Catania. The movement seems to be gaining in Trapani. (Report 51 FSS)

5. RELATIONS WITH AND ATTITUDE TOWARD ALLIED TROOPS.

As a whole good, no anti- allied feeling during Palermo Riot. Two U.S. Sailors shot and wounded, 18 Oct., outside Cafe, alleged by ITI soldiers. U.S. Navy at [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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5. RELATIONS WITH AND ATTITUDE TOWARD ALLIED TROOPS

As a whole good, no anti- allied feeling during Palermo Riot. Two U.S. Sailors shot and wounded, 13 Oct., outside Cafe, alledged by ITI soldiers. U.S. Navy at Palermo have established soup kitchens on quite an extensive scale and furnishing food to needy children. They are also making extensive preparations to give Christmas gifts including food, clothing, medicine, toys etc. to the needy. Both of these enterprizes are and will create a better feeling toward the Allies.

6. DISCIPLINE - Continues to improve slightly.

7. RUMORS AND INDISCREET TALK - BREACHES OF SECURITY

a Palermo - by civilians: that the Allies are going to ship grain into Sicily.

b Trapani - (1) That Africa is a storehouse of poison gas to be used should Germany commence such warfare.

(2) That a reaction with violence is expected shortly as a result of present conditions.

(3) That Sicilians are held responsible for Italy's invasion and defeat.

(4) That England is at her old game of fomenting trouble and incidents - e.g. Palermo.

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c Agrigento - (1) That Russia is trying to negotiate a separate peace with Germany.

(2) That there are only 30 German Divs. on the French Front, while there are 36 Divs on the ITI front. Therefore, the Germans are going to make a strong effort to push the Allies back in Italy.

(3) That Germany is using a secret 'ray' from a giant reflector apparatus - recently about 200 English soldiers were found dead on the Western Front with no signs of wounds. (Source - escaped ITI "forced workers" who were supposed to be engaged on this "Somewhere in Germany". From Report 51 FSS)

8. SUMMARY OF MILITARY SECURITY.

a Italian Armed Forces. Relations between civilians and Italian Armed forces remain uneasy.

b Civilian Population.

PALERMO. Economic distress continues to be widespread. Relief to destitute children by U.S. Naval Authorities in the shape of hot lunches have made a favourable impression. Recent speeches by Allied leaders have strengthened the Sicilian impression that their only help is likely to come from the Allies. It is not expected, however, that any such help will come up to Sicilian expectations and complaint from some quarters may be expected. Smallpox has broken out in the town, but at the moment appears to be under control. Wages, high cost of living, and arbitrary fixing of high prices for necessities by individual dealers, continue to be the chief topics of conversation.

TRAPANI. Pitiable conditions as previously reported prevail. The EGADI Islands continue to be a grave problem, and an unconfirmed report of deaths from starvation has been received.

AGRIGENTO. The situation remains calm but depressing. The new Prefect is not very popular owing to the impression that he thinks too much of his own position rather than of the needs of the population.

LICATA. Trouble was expected here during the week ending 29 Oct. 44 owing to poor economic conditions. All possible precautions were taken against the reoccurence of the disorders of last June. No incident to report.

CALTANISSETTA AND ENNA. Discontent among both employed and unemployed. The latter, apart from a little foodstuffs, receive only Lire 8 per day. The situation is more aggravated in Enna province due to the incidence of unemployment among sulphur miner. (From Report 51 FSS)

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Lester R Albert

LESTER R ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

Encls. *1. Appendix "B" to 51 FSS Security Report No.9
**2. Ref No 4565/01 Mil. Hq. Sicily dated 13 Oct. 44.
**3. Ref No 4712/01 Mil. Hq. Sicily dated 20 Oct. 44.
**4. Ref No 4680/01 Mil. Hq. Sicily dated 20 Oct. 44.
**5. Ref No. 4547/01 Mil Hq. Sicily dated 27 Oct. 44.
**6. Ref No 5012/01 Mil. Hq. Sicily dated 3 Nov. 44.

* Not to N.O.B. and 70 Sub Area.
** Previously forwarded to 70 Sub Area by Military Hq Sicily.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Copy:

SECRET

Appendix "B" to Security Report No.9.

Interim Report on Disorder In PALERMO - 19 Oct.44.

1. Chronicle of Events.

On 19 Oct 44, municipal employes of PALERMO went on strike against the high cost of living. The Italian State employes had been given an increase in salary and the Municipal employes considered that the same privilege should have been extended to them. Large crowds assembled in the main streets, including a high percentage of juvenile delinquents and minors. These were carrying sticks and beating against shop windows. The proprietors, in order to avoid looting, closed shop. Shortly be fore 1200 hrs. a large crowd assembled outside the Prefettura and demonstrated for 'pane and pasta'.
A Capo Gabinetto at the Prefettura, becoming anxious, telephoned the Italian 12 Corps for military assistance. This was provided and a company (80 strong approx.) arrived on lorries at the scene of the demonstration. As far as can be ascertained two grenades were then thrown at the lorry, wounding 11 soldiers. Without waiting for orders the soldiers retaliated with grenades and small arms fire, and up to 22 Oct 44 the death toll amounted to 19 persons, together with 105 wounded. The street was then blocked off and the soldiers were relievedby Carabinieri. The wounded were removed to First Aid Posts and hospitals, while the dead were carried away on an open lorry with the tail-board down, creating an unfortunate impresseion. So much for the actual events.

2. Action Taken.

Squads of Carabinieri were then employed in keeping the street clear. The scene of the incident was kept blocked off for 48 hours? Street lighting was inaugurated on main thoroughfares. The U.S. Navy cancelled all shore leave and confined their men to barracks. O.C. British Troops and British Merchant Marine conformed. There was no incident involving any Allied personnel.

3. Subsequent Events.

For 2 days small groups consisting mainly of juveniles roamed the streets, demonstrating for 'pane and pasta', but no further incident occurred, and by 22 Oct 44 the situation was normal.

4. Political Repercussions.

The following is a translation of a pamphlet issued by the Separatists on 20 Oct. 44. It is pointed out that the heads of the movement were all ...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

the Italian 12 Corps for military assistance. This was provided and a company (50 strong approx.) arrived on lorries at the scene of the demonstration. As far as can be ascertained two grenades were then thrown at the lorry, wounding 11 soldiers. Without waiting for orders the soldiers retaliated with grenades and small arms fire, and up to 22 Oct 44 the death toll amounted to 19 persons, together with 105 wounded. The street was then blocked off and the soldiers were relievedby Carabinieri. The wounded were removed to First Aid Posts and hospitals, while the dead were carried away on an open lorry with the tail-board down, creating an unfortunate impresseion. So much for the actual events.

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The following is a translation of a pamphlet issued by the Separatists on 20 Oct. 44. It is pointed out that the heads of the movement were all away at a conference at TAORMINA at the time, and this pamphlet was not sponsored by responsible members of the Party; in fact many Seperatists disapprove strongly.

Translation: "Sicilians"P: The massacre carried out in front of the Prefettura at PALERMO by representatives of that treacherous King, disowned and hated by the Sicilians as a traitor, and an accomplice of the fascist dictatorship, is an attempt against Freedom.
The mean, premeditated act of the King's associates can have no other meaning. Nobody provoked the Royal butchers, the citizens had exercised one of their rights - the right to strike. The hand grenades thrown against unarmed citizens, the machine guns

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AIMED against calm and disciplined people, the provocative attitude (which was maintained all day long) of the butchers who, in perfect battle order, defiantly drove up and down the main streets, are the clear evidence of the King's premeditated will to condemn the Sicilian people, whose sentence, passed at the time of the liberation, branded with blood all the treacheries by the Royal family against our abandoned, exploited and despised Sicily.
The divisions sent to our island have only one aim - that of suppressing the freedom of the Sicilian people: of terrorising the Sicilian people: of choking by terror any anti-monarchic tendency in Sicily: of bending by violence and massacre our infomitable will to deny to the Sabauda monarchy the right to govern us.
It is not the fortune of this or that party, of this or that movement, which is at state: our, and our sons' freedom, the Freedom of Sicily, is at stake.
We Separatists, while we bow reverently before the victims of the Royal lead, and salute them as the noblest expression of the right to Freedom, at the same time we re-affirm our determined will never to recognise in Sicily any other form of Government except the Republican. Masters of our destiny, we will fight now and ever for the Freedom and Independance of Sicily"
Following on the issue of this manifesto, the High Commissioner took action and made a statement as follows:-

"The Questura received information that Separatists were scattering these pamphlets on passers-by from the windows of their HQ. These pamphlets were not only unauthorised but were calculated to stir up the feelings of the people" Whereupon the order was given to the Police to raid the premises where documents were found of a nature contrary to the government. Eight individuals found on the premises were arrested and later released. The documents were impounded. The High Commissioner concluded that it was clear that the Italian state would no longer tolerate infractions of the law which could compromise the unity and integrity of its territory and would take all the necessary energetic action to suppress any such illegal activities.

(b) Communist reaction.

5801

The communist party also attacks the Sabauda Division (N.B. it was troops of the AOSTA Div involved in the incident.) as being the instrument of the House of Savoy in bringing back a reactionary form of government against the wishes of the people.
The following is a sample of cuts made by the Press Sensor, Capt OSBACK, from the issue of 'La Voce Communista' due to come out on 21 Oct.44. The newspaper did not appear.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Cuts. Why did the soldiers fire, breaking from the noble civilized generous and humanitarian traditions of the Italian Army?

Why was an infamy committed which can certainly reflect on our army but which undoubtedly dishonours those who prepared and committed it?

We desire that full light is shown on all these questions and on other points as well, because the Sicilian people have the sacred right to know the whole truth, to know the guilty to judge them, to punish them in competent courts, to deal with the insidious plots planned against them by certain reaction-aries who would like to install a new fascist or super-fascist dictator-ship, still more cruel and bestial than that of Mussolini, which brought Italy to catastrophe in her history.
The deaths caused on Thursday last by officers and men of the Sabauda Division bring into prominence a constitutional question that of the monarchy which, after having betrayed the State and imposed fascism in 1922, is trying now to save itself by preparing a new and more bestial reactionary movement.
In truth the monarchy, as we pointed out in the second number of "Unita Proletari", is working intensively to bring back the Royal Army, not the national, but savoyard army, which they need to sustain them and impose their will; despite the will of the people. It is certainly not without significance that, at variance with all Italian traditions, military units carry the arms of Savoy on their uniform, and the vehicles of their formations carry the same sign. It is a fact of the greatest interest that attempts are continually being made in the Army and the Navy to force the hands of the officers and men, by fascist methods and opportune intimidation and blandishments, to make of them, against all the wishes and hopes and fears of our people, instruments for the resurrection of the House of Savoy. Hence episodes of violence from various parts exercised by officers and men against civilians who will not declare themselves monarchists. The vile killings of 19 Oct. are only the most tragic of the episodes in this Savoy policy of suppressing with violence the notoriously anti-monarchic feeling of the Sicilian people."

The reason for these cuts is clear.

(i) The presence in Sicily of units of the Italian army is necessary to the Allies, not only for the preservation of civil order, but also for the guarding of Allied dumps and installations, permitting the number of Allied troops in Sicily to be kept to a minimum, thus helping the Allied war effort.

(ii) It is obviously to the Allied interest that the unpopularity of the Italian troops in Palermo diminish as soon as possible so that they continue in their previous role.

(c) Other parties of the Committee of National Liberation.

They express pious horror. Many speeches can bring Sicilians to get

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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(c) Other Parties of the Committee of National Liberation.

They express pious horror. Many speeches exhorting Sicilians to get together and live together in brotherly harmony.

4. Appreciation by this Section.

(a) It is not felt that any ill-will is shown against the Allies. Personnel of this section driving through the crowd shortly before incident were well received.

(b) It is not thought that there was any political significance in the event itself, nor can any evidence be found that any party fomented the disorder.

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(c) It is clear however that both Communists and Separatists intend to make political capital out of the incident.

(d) The main reaction has been violent antagonism to the Italian Army on the part of the civilians. This has manifested itself by groups of individuals parading the streets with wreaths labelled "To the innocent victims of Savoyard lead." Unconfirmed reports also state that Italian soldiers have been assaulted by civilians. It is pointed out that the majority of the troops are Sardinians, between whom and the Sicilians no love is lost.

(e) This section is not in a position to state who threw the first grenade, the civilians maintaining it was the soldiers, and vice-versa. A full enquiry is being made by Government authorities.

(f) As far as can be judged, the object of the strike was to break the Black Market and to stabilise prices - all in five minutes. As an example of rackets carried on by private traders, the price of greens rose in one night from 60 lire per kilo to 90 lire, and the strike was a protest against this form of sharp practice.

(g) It is feared that unless the Government takes strong measures to clear up existing abuses, such incidents are likely to recur.

Capt.
O.C. 51 Field Security Section

57[illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

AS/mar

d.s. d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"On. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 4565/01 Palermo, 13 October, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To : H.Q. 70 Sub Area, Catania.

1. Military Security

- During the early hrs of September 28th, in the Comune of Villalta (Caltanissetta), a gang of about five malefactors stopped and robbed 10 civilians.

*** The local CC.RR. immediately intervened and began a conflict which lasted 3 hrs. The Caltanissetta Military Garrison, on request of the CC.RR., sent 50 Military with an Officer d/c, in order to carry out a widespread beat, which was however fruitless. The malefactors have been identified and enquiries are being held in order to lead to their arrest. At Villalba order was immediately restored and the 50 Military were withdrawn.

- At 0530 hrs on October 11, following the explosion of an anti-tank mine at the Gela (Caltanissetta) Amn Dump, two Military were killed and other two were wounded, all of the 1st Gp 16th Arty Regt on guard duty at the said Amn Dump.

*** It appears that the incident was due to the carelessness of a gunner who was trying to dissemble a mine. An inquest is being held.

** At abgut 1930 hrs on October 11, near Altavilla (Palermo) on the Palermo-Messina highway, a gang of about six malefactors assaulted the car containing the Catania Questore (Police Chief). The escort policemen immediately began an armed conflict with the gang, killing one of them. Two P.S. policemen were wounded, one of whom seriously was taken to the Palermo Military Hospital.

The malefactors were armed with sub-machinegun.

*** Severe enquiries are being held to bring the malefactors to justice. XXXX

- At about 0520 hrs on October 10 at Mutocervo di Nicosia (Enna) the CC.RR. began an armed conflict with four malefactors succeeding in capturing two of them whilst a third, wounded, gave himself up during the day.

*** Arms and Amn have been sequestered. The CC.RR. are making enquiries in order to arrest the fourth malefactors and to find the persons who helped them.

- During the night of October 7, unknown persons broke into the "ferriera Erta" in via Malaspina (Palermo) with intent to steal. A detachment of the 139 I.S. Inf. Regt was on guard duty. Corp. MARENTI Enrico, who immediately intervened, wounded a malefactor who was however carried away by his friends. They succeeded in escaping, firing a few pistol shots.

*** Enquiries are being held to lead to the capture of the thieves.

2. Miscellanea

a) Relations between Troops & Civilian Population.

Are keeping well.

b) Morale of Civ.Pop.,Behaviour of Civ.Authorities & reaction of Population.

- At about 1030 hrs on October 8 a meeting of about 300 state, para-state, public and private employees was held in the rooms of the old Palermo Assises, to discuss about the new increase in wages. The meeting ended at about 1140 hrs on the same day, without incidents.

- During the night of October 8, at Ventimiglia Sicula (Palermo), unknown persons pasted up placards hostile to the local Sindaco and to Priest Leone. This incident was generally disapproved by the population, to such an extent that at about 1630 hrs on the same day about 400 persons assembled before the Municipio Buildings shouting "Long live the Sindaco! Down with the cowards!". After a few minutes the demonstration broke up without any incidents. Public Order, calm.

- At about 1000 hrs on October 10 about 100 workers of the local "Gas" works assembled before the director's office of the same works to ask for an increase in pay, as already asked for before. ./.

0142

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

./.

*** The Public Forces immediately intervened, breaking up the demonstration. Public Order...calm. No Incident.

- During the week the following Military have been employed for checking operations in the handing-in of the wheat to the "People's" Granaries:

Agrigento Military Garrison... total of 306 Military;
Catania " " ... " " 129 " ;
Messina " " ... " " 60 " .

c) Rumours set about by the enemy. Pessimistic, over-optimistic, or meant to capture Military Secrets.

N.T.R.

d) Various.

N.T.R.

by order,

Sgd R. Griglio, Col, Chief of Staff.

***

10193

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

C/mar

d.s. d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Op. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 4711/01 Palermo, 19 October, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To : H.Q. 70 Sub Area, Catania.
****

1. Military Security.

- During afternoon of October 12, an auxiliary Carabiniere, having met a dangerous criminal, asked him to follow him to the barracks. The Criminal refused, attacking the Carabiniere who, after a furious fight, succeeded in putting his pistol to use firing at the criminal wounding him in the right thigh.

*** The criminal was a prisoner on perole and knew he was wanted for breaking the control orders (Ordini di Vigilanza). The criminal has been arrested.

2. Miscellanea

a) Relations between Troops and Civilian Population.

Normal.

b) Morale of Civ.Popul, Behaviour of Civ.Authorities & reaction of Population.

- On October 16, 17 and18 the Communal Employees went on strike and held a public demonstration because of the delay in the payment, by the Municipio, of the 1000 lire in advance, as had been fixed for all the employees. On October 19 many private employees stayed away from work and tried to get other categories to join in the strike. The demonstrants were joined by a large mob which began to ransack some shops and motor-trucks loaded with flour. Following this the demonstrants, having increased in number and having become threatning, went to the Prefettura which asked the intervention of the Garrison Military who were then placed at the disposal of the Questura (Civ.Police). At 1100 hrs a truck carrying 34 Military was sent from the Questura to the Prefettura. The Military, during the journey, were applauded by the crowd, but when the truck arrived in front of the Prefettura a bomb thrown from the demonstrants exploded near the truck wounding nine Soldiers. The Troop reacted firing their rifles and throwing hand-grenades in order to make the crowd move away, the crowd having taken up a threatning attitude and was crowding the truck, but the same time continuing to fire. Casualties: Amongst the Civilians, 14 dead and about 20 wounded; amongst the Public Forces, 2 seriously wounded and seven slightly, 2 CC.RR. and 2 P.S. Policemen wounded.

*** The causes of the demonstration which has had such tragic ending are due to the very high cost of living which has caused extremely great difficulties especially for the employee class.

- During the past week the following Military have been employed, together with the CC.RR., for checking the handing in of wheat to the "People's" Granaries:
Messina Miltary Garrison . total of 60 Military.

c) Rumours set about by the enemy. Pessimistic, over-optimistic or meant to capture Military Secrets.

N.T.R.

d) Various

N.T.R.

by order
Certif. true copy, Sgd Di Santo, Capt. R. Griglio, Col, Chief of Staff.
****

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Op. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 4712/01 P.M. 126, 20 October, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To : M.M.I.A. Detachment H.Q., Palermo.
****

Herewith, for your information, a copy of the weekly report mentioned above, sent today to H.Q. 70 Sub Area, Catania. by order, Sgd Griglio, Col, Chief of Staff

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COPY
MA/mar

Outgoing P.A.P.A.-Cable.

From : Military H.Q. of Sicily, Palermo.
To : H.Q. 70th Sub Area, Catania.

Ref. No 4672/01

On 16, 17, and 18 October the comunal employees went on strike and held demonstrations, in protest of the fact that they had not been given the advance of 1000 lire on the wage increases fixed by the Council of Ministers. Comunal employees today returned to work following steps taken as mentioned in today's "Giornale di Sicilia". Many private employees however stayed away from work this morning and tried to get other categories to adher to the strike. The strikers were joined by mob who began ransacking some shops and vehicles loaded with flour. The demonstrants then marched to the Prefettura with threatning attitude.

At 1100 hrs Prefettura asked for the aid of Garrison Military. Orders were immediately given and Military began to assemble at the local Questura (Police station) coming from various barracks. At 1200 hrs Questura sent motor-truck with 34 Military of the 139th I.S. Regt u/c of an Officer to the Prefettura.

During the journey the truck was hand-clapped by the population. When it arrived in front of the Prefettura a bomb was thrown from the crowd exploding on the left-hand side of the truck and wounding nine Military who were still on board. Military immediately reacted, firing a few rifle shots and throwings few hand-grenades in order to hold crowd which was barricading the truck and was continuing to fire. 14 dead amongst civilians and about 20 wounded. Amongst police forces: two Military seriously wounded and seven slightly, two Carabinieri wounded, two P.S. Policemen wounded.

Energetic action of Military immediately reestablished order. Population is still in excited state.

General Mariotti.

Palermo, 19 October, 1944.

5783

Certified true copy,
Sgd S. Di Santo, Capt,
for Mjr, O.C. "Op. Add. & Mob." Office.

MS/mar

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Op. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 4680/01 P.M. 120, 20 October, 1944.
Subject: Public Order at Palermo.
To : L.O. M.M.I.A., c/o A.C., Palermo.

Herewith, for your information, copy of cable No 4672/01 sent by this H.Q. to H.Q. 70 Sub Area on October 19.

by order,

Sgd R. Griglio, Col, Chief of Staff.

C/mar l.s. - d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Op. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 4846/01 ------- P.M. 12c, 27 October, 1944.

Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.

To : H.Q. 70th Sub Area, Catania.

****

1. Military Security

- On the morning of October 16, in the Copolla (Caltanissetta) area, two CC.RR. and two "Field" Guard ("Campestri") were doing patrol duty when they came into conflict with two absconders who were on horse-back and armed with a "91" type rifle, and who had attempted to rob three of the local citizens. Nobody was wounded.

*** One of the malefactors has been arrested. Enquiries are being continued.

- At about 1200 hrs on Oct.17, in the Giannetta (Agrigento) area, two CC.RR. surprized several youths who, for robbery, were taking away about 50,000 lire's worth of olives. The malefactors threw a bomb at the CC.RR. but this did not explode. The CC.RR. made use of their arms.

*** One of the malefactors was seriously wounded.

- On the evening of October 19, in the Castellamare del Golfo (Trapani) built-up area, unknown persons fired a few rifle and pistol-shots at a CC.RR. Corporal, who replied to the fire.

*** The CC.RR. Corporal died shortly afterwards because of the wounds. Enquiries are being made to trace the persons guilty of the homicide.

2. Miscellanea

a) Relations between Troops and Civilian Population

- At 1400 hrs on October 20 some civilians stopped an Infantryman in piazza S.Anna, Dial Palermo, with the intention of beating him because they thought his to be a native of Sardinia. When found he was from Bologna he was released.

- At 1530 hrs on Oct. 20 about 150 demonstrators neared the American Desel-oil pipe-line in via Venanzio Maraviglia, Palermo, throwing two hand-grenades at the soldier who was on guard duty there. The guard reacted firing two rifle-shots into the air, succeeding in getting the demonstrators to move away.

*** No one was wounded. The order was immediately re-established.

b) Morale of Civ.Popul.. Behaviour of Civ.Authorities & reaction of Population.

- On the morning of Oct.20, at Corleone (Palermo), about 100 state employees (Imp. Parastatali), comunal employees and private employees made a demonstration simpathising with the movement that had taken place at Palermo on Oct.19. The demonstrators asked for a raise in pay at the same time.

*** The demonstration broke up after about two hrs without any incidents taking place. Normal Public Order.

-On afternoon of Oct.20 , at Lentini (Siracusa), a group of Communists, holding a demonstration, tried to take over the Public Offices, succeeding only in entering some rooms where they tried to destroy the existing documents. The intervention of the CC.RR. prevented further incidents.

*** Four leaders of the demonstration were arrested.

- On Oct.21, at Palermo, the Public Force, after having arrested three persons who were distributing separatist propaganda leaflets that had been printed in the bush, carried out an inspection in the separatist movement buildings sequestering propaganda leaflets and mixed correspondence.

*** Ten persons of the personnel were arrested, all working in the offices of the separatist movement head-offices.

- On Oct.21 a demonstration took place at Palermo at which about 50 youths

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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- On Oct.21 a demonstration to k place at Palermo at which a out 50 youths and some boys paraded a placard earing the word: "We want bred and pasta". They forced the shops to close and stopped the traffic.

*** The Public Force immediately broke up the demonstration.

- On the afternoon of Oct;21 another group of youths, for the most part separa--tists, having reached the buildings of the via Trabia (Palermo) Communist Federation, came to hands with members of the said Federation. The Public Force immediately dispersed these people.

*** Some of the more riotous persons were taken into custody.

- During the week the following Military have been employed, together with the CC.RR., in checking operations for handing-in of wheat to "People's" Granaries:

Messina Military Garrison ..... total of 60 Military.

c) Rumours set about by the Enemy, pessimistic, over-optimistic, or meant to capture Military Secrets.

N.T.R.

d) Various .... N.T.R..

by order,
Sgd R. Griglio, Col, Chief of Staff.

/mar Military H.Q. of Sicily P.M. 126, 27 October, 1944.
Ref. No 4847/01 "Op.Add.&Mob." Office.
Subject: Weekly Report On Operational Security To : L.O., M.M.I.A., Palermo.
Copy, for your information, as sent to H.Q. 70 Sub Area. Sgd R. Griglio, Col, C/S.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

[redacted]/mar

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Op. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 5011/01 P.M. 126, 3 November, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To : H.Q. 70th Sub Area, Catania.

1. Military Security

- On Oct. 25 last, near Novo (Agrigento), the CC.RR. doing patrol duty ran into two malefactors who were wanted by the police and with whom they had a short conflict. One of the malefactors was arrested whilst the other one managed to escape.

*** No one was wounded. The CC.RR. are looking for the other malefactor.

- On the evening of the 31st October, '44, the Allied Military doing guard-duty at the Punta Priolo (Mondello - Palermo) Petrol Dump surprized two malefactors who were attempting to steal empty petrol-drums. The sentry fired a few rifle-shots which reached one of the malefactors, who died shortly afterwards. The other one succeeded in throwing himself into the sea and disappearing.

*** The American Police came to the spot of the theft. Enquiries are being carried out in order to trace the other malefactor.

2. Miscellanea

a) Relations between Troops and Civilian Population.

N.T.R.

b) Morale of Civ.Popul., Behaviour of Civ.Authorities and reaction of Population.

- During the week the following Military, together with the CC.RR., have been employed for checking operations in handing-in of wheat to "People's" Granaries:

Catania Military Garrison.....total of 51 Military.

- There is strong disontent in the Comunes of S.Giuseppe Jato and others in the Palermo Province, because of the non-distribution of pasta during months of September and October last.

*** It is not to be excluded that this state of mind may break out in public demonstrations.

- On October 31, at Corleone, about 300 farmers held a public protest meeting against the searches recently carried out by the provincial police nucleus on duty for the wheat campaign.

*** The ready intervention of the CC.RR. broke up the meeting and reestablished the public order.

c) Rumours set about by the Enemy, pessimistic, over-optimistic or meant to capture Military Secrets.

N.T.R.

d) Various.

-On October 18, 22, 24 and 26, near Melilli (Siracuse), some citizens arrested Indian Military Sepong Rama Ram who was guilty of numerous robberies, whilst armed with bombs, to the detriment of the local citizens.

*** The said Indian has been handed over to the CC.RR..

by order,

Sgd R. Griglio, Col, Chief of Staff.

57

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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by order,

Sgd R. Griglio, Col, Chief of Staff.

***

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Report - Italian Army

CONFIDENTIAL

D 158

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/I/106/1
8 Nov 44

TO : Hq A.A.I. (for G2I)

Copy to: A.C.

Ref Appx "A" to our I/106 of 10 May.

Herewith Report for month of October.

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. Morale
Desertions and absenteeism continue. Reports show an appreciable decrease during the month in units under Allied Command owing to the fact that a greater interest in mens' comfort and welfare is being taken by Allied Officers. Italian Officers are now attending welfare courses in Rome run by British Army welfare. These are the first courses of this type to be attended by Italian Officers and it is hoped to get Italian Officers welfare-minded. Furthermore, wherever possible, assistance in welfare materials and facilities will be given to the Italian Army by the Allies. It is hoped that this new welfare drive will have a favourable effect on the morale of Italian troops.

2. Fascist - Pro-German - Anti-Allied Activity
Nothing to report.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms
Nothing to report.

5732

4. Political Activity
Very little to report. There are indications that Italian Officers fear a Communist Italy, whilst amongst O.Rs there are signs of a general leaning towards the Parties of the Left.

5. Relations with and Attitude Towards Allied Troops
Continue to be good.

6. Discipline
This continues to be unsatisfactory. As a result of pressure from this H.Q. the Italian War Minister has issued a circular to all Italian H.Qs outlining the duties and responsibilities of all officers and giving a solemn warning that [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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2. Fascist - Pro-German - Anti-Allied Activity

Nothing to report.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms

Nothing to report.

5722

4. Political Activity

Very little to report. There are indications that Italian Officers fear a Communist Italy, whilst amongst O.Rs there are signs of a general leaning towards the Parties of the Left.

5. Relations with and Attitude Towards Allied Troops

Continue to be good.

6. Discipline

This continues to be unsatisfactory. As a result of pressure from this H.Q. the Italian War Minister has issued a circular to all Italian H.Qs outlining the duties and responsibilities of all officers and giving a solemn warning that inefficiency and slackness will not be tolerated. All senior officers are instructed to keep a watchful eye on discipline. All those who are slack or inefficient will be dismissed.

7. Rumours and Indiscreet Talk

Nothing to report.

8. Summary of Military Security

Intelligence courses are now being held in Rome for the I.O's of the Italian Combat Divisions. In addition to instruction on Intelligence in the Field, interrogation of P.W. etc, special periods are given to Security in the Field and Censorship.

B. PSYCHOLOGICAL

1. Information (white))
2. Information (black)) Nothing to report.

H.C.L.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:-Security Intellig. Report - Italian Army.

Liaison Officer,
Military Mission
Italian Army.
c/o HQ.,I District.
LO/G7.

31 Oct 44.

To:-Military Mission Italian Army,
R O M E.

Herewith my Security Report for period 26 Sep 44 to 26 Oct 44. Area covered - Provinces PESCARA, CHIETI and AQUILA.

I. Morale.

Complaints re lack of clothing and boots, slowness of postal system and cases of letters not being delivered at all.

2. NIL to report.

3. NIL to report.

4. Politics.

General leaning of soldier to "left" parties. Officers show fear of communism.
On I6 and I7 Sep 44, NEMBO detachment in vicinity of TERAMO plastered the town with Monarchist propaganda sheets. Democratic elements in town tore down these posters, leading to minor scuffles. A NEMBO Maresciallo posing as an officer arrested 2 youths. Report forwarded to H.Q., M.M.I.A.

5. NIL to report.

6. Discipline.

General low sense of duty and lack of moral sense of OO.RR.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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On Io and I7 Sep 44, NEMBO detachment in vicinity of TERAMO plastered the town with Monarchist propaganda sheets. Democratic elements in town tore down these posters, leading to minor scuffles. A NEMBO Maresciallo posing as an officer arrested 2 youths. Report forwarded to H.Q., M.M.I.A.

5. NIL to report.

6. Discipline.

General low sense of duty and lack of moral sense of CO.RR.

Attached is a report, with quotations, from ACCO in CHIETI. It illustrates most of the above points.

W H Bourne

Capt.,
MMIA.,LO.,I District.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

S E Z I O N E MILITARE C E N S U R A D I G U E R R A
CHIETI

RISERVATA

N._____ di prot.

Chieti,.....

OGGETTO:

RELAZIONE QUINDICINALE DAL1° AL 15 OTTOBRE 1944 SULLA REVISIONE DELLA CORRISPONDENZA MILITARE.-

ISPETTORATO CENSURA MILITARE S.I.M.
Stato Maggiore Generale
P.M. 151

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
P.M. 151

e. per conoscenza
AL COMANDO MILITARE DI PUGLIA E LUCANIA
P.M. 67

DISCIPLINA E SENSO PATRIOTTICO

Lo spirito di disciplina che anima il nostro soldato - ad eccezione di qualche raro caso - è sempre vivo nell'animo ed assai lusinghieri sono gli apprezzamenti per il nostro Esercito. In tutti è grande il desiderio che il conflitto abbia a risolversi al più presto per poter ritornare alle proprie case e, con l'attività, ricostruire ciò che la falsa politica del passato regime ha distrutto:

Mittente: Caporale COLAIE' Michele
870 Rgt.Fant.. Comp.Comando P.M.79

Destinatario: Maresc. di P.S. PETTINELLI Mario
R. Questura - CHIETI

Data:28/9/44

"...Io sono in un reparto mobilitato in attesa di partenza per il fronte e non aspetto altro. Sono orgoglioso di poter partecipare alla guerra di liberazione a fianco degli alleati, sperando che la nostra cara patria possa essere domani trattata da alleata. Voi ben conoscete e sapete che ho sempre preferito l'azione alla politica da caffè.Checchè ne dica qualcuno e per quanto già attore inconsapevole di una politica che ha portato tanta lutto alla nostra Patria [illegible]

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STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO

P.M. 151

e. per conoscenza

AL COMANDO MILITARE DI PUGLIA E LUCANIA

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./.

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Mitt: LA ROMERE G.
6ª Compagnia Cannoni Anticarro
22° Regg. Fanteria - P.M.64

Destin: BARONE Enrico
Via Pedro Alessa.Valignani- Palazzo Incis - CHIETI

Data: 29/9/1944

"....E' appena un giorno che presto servizio al reparto ma già mi sono ambientato benissimo e mi sono affiatato col capitano comandante e con i colleghi, tutti bravi ragazzi. Il vitto è buono ed abbondante. Nel complesso mi trovo bene, e, come tu sai, questa vita, anche se scomoda, mi appassiona e la preferisco...."

Mitt: 1°Aviere FRATTINI Pietro
1° Rgt.Avieri- Comp.Com. Uff.Disciplina
Casermette Mutano - BARI -

Destin: Cap.m. BOVIO Pierino
503° B&M. - VASTO -

Data: 13/9/1944

5703

"... cioè avevi il desiderio di andare in linea a fare il dovere da vero artigliere, ma non ti hanno mandato, pazienza, forse è meglio che guarisci la tua ferita prima e poi ti manderanno con la prossima spedizione... "

Mitt: Autiere BIACCHI Salvatore
1003 Gaomp. Spec. Aut.Plotone
Comando - CASALBORDINO -

Dest: CHIACCHIARELLA Annibale
CIVITELLA DEL TRONTO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

"....E' appena un giorno che presto servizio al reparto ma già mi sono ambientato benissimo e mi sono affiatato col capitano comandante e con i colleghi, tutti bravi ragazzi. Il vitto è buono ed abbondante. Nel complesso mi trovo bene, e, come tu sai, questa vita, anche se scomoda, mi appassiona e la preferisco...."

Mitt: 1° Aviere FRATTINI Pietro
1° Rgt. Avieri - Comp.Com. Uff.Disciplina
Caserma Nutano - BARI -

Destin: Cap.m. BOVIO Pierino
103° Btg. - VASTO -

Data: 13/9/1944

5709

".... cioè avevi il desiderio di andare in linea a fare il dovere da vero artigliere, ma non ti hanno mandato, pazienza, forse è meglio che guarisci la tua ferita prima e poi ti manderanno con la prossima spedizione.... "

Mitt: Autiere BLACCHI Salvatore
1003 Caomp. Spec. Aut. Plotone
Comando - CASALBORDINO -

Dest: CHIACCHIARELLA Annibale
CIVITELLA DEL TRONTO

Data : 29/9/1944

".... vi fò sapere che quando io scappai a casa e la mia compagnia venne qui, il capitano inglese fece l'appello ed io ero assente. Il 28 sono stato denunciato e mi hanno tolto anche la paga per assenza arbitraria. Il mio tenente ha scritto subito al Tribunale Militare che io mi ero ripresentato il 13 settembre ed ora finchè non viene ritirata la denuncia non mi danno i soldi e prendo solo L.20 del lavoro e mi hanno anche tolto L.9- al giorno. Non so se hanno tolto la paga anche a voi. Mi fate sapere su-

./.

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bito qualche cosa: se ve lo hanno tolto la paga allora, che vada come vuole ma scoppio di nuovo. Su questo voi non vi impressionate.

E' doloroso invece constatare come qualche carabiniere non senta profondo il senso del dovere, nella corrispondenza, con parenti e famigliari, si esprime con parole che denotano una totale mancanza di dignità e senso morale:

Mitt: Car. VALERIO ARMANDO
Comp. Rinforzo - 4° Nucleo
CHIETI

Delegazione A asked to instigate disciplinary action

Dest:
DI MEO Antonio
FILIGNANO (Campobasso)

Data: 4/10/1944

".... Vi dovete mettere d'accordo con il brigadiere e con il dottore e mi fate un telegramma dicendomi che mio padre sta grave ammalato(non possa mai succedere). Se non è possibile il telegramma vi fate fare un certificato medico firmato dal Podestà e dal brigadiere e me lo mandate dentro una lettera raccomandata. Vi dico che facendo in questo modo riesco ad avere una quindicina di giorni di licenza. Se non è possibile questo chi lo sa quando ci rivedremo...."

Mitt: Carab. VALACCHI Raffaele
Nucleo Rinforzi CC.RR. Legione
CHIETI

Dest:
Sig.ra DE SIMONE Anna
S.Andrea - Via Lenito N°6

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Mitt: Car. VALERIO ARMANDO
Comp. Rinforzo - 4° Nucleo
CHIETI

Delegazione di polizia giudiziaria investigate disciplinary action

Dest:
DI NEO Antonio
FILIGNANO (Campobasso)

Data: 4/10/1944

".... Vi dovete mettere d'accordo con il brigadiere e con il dottore e mi fate un telegramma dicendomi che mio padre sta grave ammalato(non possa mai succedere). Se non è possibile il telegramma vi fate fare un certificato medico firmato dal Podestà e dal brigadiere e me lo mandate dentro una lettera raccomandata. Vi dico che facendo in questo modo po- tr) avere una quindicina di giorni di licenza. Se non è possibile questo chi lo sa quando ci rivedremo...."

Mitt: Carab. VANACORE Raffaele
Nucleo Rinforzi CC.RR. Legione
CHIETI

Dest:
Sig.ra DE SIMONE Anna
S.Andrea - Via Lenito N°6
VICO EQUENSE (Napoli)

OGGETTO:
Proposito di diserzione - Data 7/10/44

".... Ora, come voi mi dite che avete fatte le carte con poco terreno che sarebbero male fatte che non posso ottenere quel che io voglio, è me- glio che non mi arrivano se no me ne scappo e me ne frego della denuncia che mi fanno...."

./.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Mitt: Carabin. CARRETTA Giovanni
Stazione CC.RR. di
CASTELLI (Teramo)

Dest: CARRETTA Lina
TAGLIACOZZO(Aquila)

Data: 30/9/1944

"... se ne vedono troppe delle parzialità, qui ci sono quelli della provincia di Teramo e a noi ci hanno mandato a trecento Km. oltre le famiglie. Siamo ancora alla vecchia Italia. Non c'è ancora giustizia, l'epurazione non è completa e non riusciranno mai a farla e il perchè te lo dirò: in quello che noi oggi vediamo i repubblicani sono più benvisti ed accomodati a suo piacere degli sbandati, e si dovrebbe passare due volte alle cose...." "....il brigadiere Panella l'hanno mandato a Isola del Gran Sasso perchè era patriota mentre un repubblicano a Castelli. Si stava troppo bene con Panella, s'interessava di tutto mentre questo s'interessa solo delle puttane e qui ce ne sono quindi siamo abbandonati da tutti siamo in mezzo alle montagne e agli uccelli: ora fa freddo anche loro fuggono, si rimane da soli. Sono tre giorni che non posso uscire per le scarpe rotte... sono sempre di piantone...."

TRATTAMENTO E CONDIZIONI DI VITA
VETTOVAGLIAMENTO - VESTIARIO

Discordi sono i pareri circa il vettovagliamento del soldato. Prevale però il malcontento circa l'insufficienza dei viveri. Concorde è invece il malcontento circa il vestiario:

Mitt: BERNARDELLI Ciro
Interprete 1003 (1) C.P.Cov
P.M.186

Dest: RUBANI Dante
pr. erreria Bernardelli
Via Pr. Amedeo 51 - BARI

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"... se ne vedono troppe delle parzialità, qui ci sono quelli della provincia di Teramo e a noi ci hanno mandato a trecento Km. oltre le famiglie. Siamo ancora alla vecchia Italia. Non c'è ancora giustizia, l'epurazione non è completa e non riusciranno mai a farla e il perchè te lo dirò: in quello che noi oggi vediamo i repubblicani sono più benvisti ed accomodati a suo piacere degli sbandati, e si dovrebbe passare due volte alle cose...." "....il brigadiere Panella l'hanno mandato a Isola del Gran Sasso perchè era patriota mentre un repubblicano a Castelli. Si stava troppo bene con Panella, s'interessava di tutto mentre questo s'interessa solo delle puttane e qui ce ne sono quindi siamo abbandonati da tutti siamo in mezzo alle montagne e agli uccelli: ora fa freddo anche loro fuggono, si rimane da soli. Sono tre giorni che non posso uscire per le scarpe rotte... sono sempre di piantone...."

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Discordi sono i pareri circa il vettovagliamento del soldato. Prevale però il malcontento circa l'insufficenza dei viveri. Concorde è invece il malcontento circa il vestiario:

Mitt: BERNARDELLI Ciro
Interprete 1003 (1) G.T.Coy
P.M.166

Dest: ZUBANI Dante
pr.argneria Bernardelli
via Pr. Amedeo 51 - BARI

Data: 1/10/1944

".... per di più anche il trattamento è peggiorato e non so cosa attribuirne la causa, perchè il lavoro aumenta sempre più. I vestiti non me li hanno più dati, ne soltanto sempre promessi, e ora sto proprio a terra sia di vestiti che di scarpe. Quando poi si vede che non mantengono si va giù dei sangheri....."

. / .

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Mitt: Ten. MARIO AINA
Via Sassari, 40
ITTIRI (Sassari)

Dest: Ten.Vet. MARINA Riccardo
Com.Tappa 20
LECCE

Data 10/9/1944

".... qui in Sardegna si trova da mangiare ma per tutto quello che si riferisce a manufatti; anche i più semplici: crisi!! Eppure sono molti quelli che vogliono "l'autonomia"!!...."

Mitt: finanziere CARBONI Maurizio v
Brigata Volontari
CHIETI

Dest: BUDRONI Giuseppina
BONNANARO (Sassari)

Data: 11/10/1944

".... col vitto che ci passano in caserma si muore di fame e bisogna ricorrere a comprare qualche cosa fuori.... sip può vivere con duemila lire al mese?....."

57

Mitt: MACARO Gino v
CC.RR. Nucleo Rinforzi
CHIETI

Dest: Sig.na PALMERO Anna
SPINAZZOLA(Bari)

Data: 10/10/1944

".... A Chieti si sta bene, divertimento in quantità e molta fame. Un chilo di pane costa L.120 e non si trova, si tira la cinghia...."

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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Mitt: finanziere CARBONI Maurizio X
Brigata Volontari
CHIETI

Dest:

BUDRONI Giuseppina
BONNANARO (Sassari)

Data: 11/10/1944

"..... col vitto che ci passano in caserma si muore di fame e bisogna ricorrere a comprare qualche cosa fuori.... sip può vivere con duemila lire al mese?....."

57

Mitt: MACARO Gino X
CC.RR. Nucleo Rinforzi
CHIETI

Dest:

Sig.na PALUMBO Anna
SPINAZZOLA(Bari)

Data: 10/10/1944

"..... A Chieti si ~~xxxx~~ sta bene, divertimento in quantità e molta fame. Un chilo di pane costa L.120 e non si trova, si tira la cinghia...."

Mitt: Cap.le SCIARRA Alfredo
22° Rgt.Ftr. 3° Btg. P..65

Dest:

MACNO Clementina
GIULIANO TEATINO(Chieti)

Data: 5/10/1944

"..... poi come mangiare ci trattano come maiali....."

./.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Mitt: Carab. ORFEO Antonio
Stazione CC.RR.
MERETO

Dest:

D'ALO' Luigi - Carabiniere
Stazione CC.RR.
PIETRABBONDANTE (Campobasso)

Data 6/10/44

"... come servizio si sta molto bene, poi per mangiare non se ne parla si trova tutto quello che vuoi e si paga poco, divertimenti e cose che non hanno mai fine....."

SITUAZIONE ECONOMICA GENERALE

PREZZI

Frequenti sono gli accenni relativi al costo della vita e sfavorevolissimi sono i commenti:

Mitt: MACARO Gino
Legione Terr. CC.RR. Nucleo Rinforzi
CHIETI

Dest:

Sig.na PALUMBO Anna
SPINAZZOLA (Bari)

Data 10/10/1944

"... A Chieti si sta bene, divertimento in quantità e molta fame. Un chilo di pane costa L.120 e non si trova, si tira la cinghia...."

5755

Mitt: Brig.re CC.RR. MASELLI Angelo
Staz. CC.RR. di
SCAFA DI S.VALENTINO (Pescara)

Dest:

MASELLI Nicola
Carmeccini
FERRANDINA (Matera)

Data 5/10/44

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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SITUAZIONE ECONOMICA GENERALE

PREZZI

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Mitt: MACARO Gino
Legione Terr. CC.RR. Nucleo Rinforzi
CHIETI

Dest: Sig.na PALUMBO Anna
SPINAZZOLA (Bari)

Data 10/10/1944

"... A Chieti si sta bene, divertimento in quantità e molta fame. Un chilo di pane costa L.120 e non si trova, si tira la cinghia...."

5785

Mitt: Brig.re CC.RR. MASELLI Angelo
Staz. CC.RR. di
SCAFA DI S.VALENTINO (Pescara)

Dest: MASELLI Nicola
Cappuccini
FERRANDINA (Matera)

Data 5/10/44

".... In quanto al costo della vita è inutile parlarne, i prezzi sono eguali dap-pertutto, anche qui nulla si trova e quel poco che c'è costa un occhio: un vestito 10 mila lire, un paio di scarpe 2 - 3 mila ecc, il vitto poi è straordinario un chilo di patate 15 lire, un litro di vino 50 - 60 lire, un uovo 15 lire la carne 160. 180 il chilo un litro di olio 500 - 600 lire...."

./.

COMUNICAZIONI

Un palese malcontento circa i servizi in generale e postali in particolare:

Mitt: S.Ten. GIULIANO ROCCO
CHIESA - P.M. 185

Dest: Sig.na BARBELLI Nina
MONACILIONI (C.Basso)

Data: 6/10/44

".... qui i mezzi non sono molti e se a Chieti la posta arrivava dopo un paio di settimane, qui le cose vanno ancor più alla lunga....."

SITUAZIONE POLITICA GENERALE

APPREZZAMENTI SUI VARI PARTITI POLITICI

Qualche accenno circa i vari partiti con prevalenza per quelle di sinistra:

Mitt: BACCELI Giuseppe
Via S.Maria, 33
Vasto (Chieti)

5704

Dest: 2° Capo segn. BACCELI Gaetano
Caserma G.Da Procida
SALERNO

Data 28/9/44

".... A riguardo del comunismo è meglio che ti parli chiaro la mia opinione. Appena sono tornato da Napoli mi feci la tessera comunista, in realtà la comunità sarebbe buona ma mi son pentito di avermi segnato a questo partito, perchè non esiste famiglia e i nostri bambini andranno in mani estranee, quando si arriva a una certa età si va in pensione a un ospizio...." "e.... poi è sempre esistito il povero che lavora [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Dest:

Sig.na SARNELLI Nina
MONACILIONI (C.Basso)

Data: 6/10/44

".... qui i mezzi non sono molti e se a Chieti la posta arrivava dopo un paio di settimane, qui le cose vanno ancor più alla lunga....."

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"... ho incontrato Rodolfo il capo comunista e mi disse che si doveva riempire un modulo che lo dobbiamo mandare a Chieti insieme a tutti gli

. / .

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altri partiti...." ".... ho dovuto tirar fuori L.50 per la bandiera comunista, vuol dire a volontà, chi ne ha messo 100 chi 25 insomma come uno può. Poi ce ne sono tanti dei più sfegatati come Del Maro Amedeo...."

OPINIONI SULLE NAZIONI UNITE E SUL MEDICO

Incostanti i pareri circa le truppe alleate, vivo l'odio per le truppe nazi-fasciste:

Mitt: Sott.SANGIACOMO Francesco
13° Rgt. Art. da C.A.
P.M.50

Dest: SANGIACOMO Vincenzo
LANCIANO (Chieti)

Data: 15/9/44 - Timbro post. Macomer (Sardegna)

".... La notizia che Vittorio si trova a Roma presso la Caserma Padgora mi ha sollevato in quanto è salvo dall'oppressione tedesca e dalla spietata vendetta dei nazisti.... " "..Così da parte nostra posso dire che questa guerra ha preservato tutti e sono contentissimo..."
"... Qui gli americani ci hanno aiutato in tutti i modi e sono irreprensibili nel modo di trattare, corretti, giovialì; ho conosciuto ufficiali bravissimi e buoni compagni..." "...la tragedia del nostro paese mi ha profondamente turbato e quello che più dà da pensare è l'immensa miseria e l'inflazione che ci circonda e quello che potrà essere nel dopo guerra. Con la distruzione che la guerra ha portato la nostra rinascita sarà penosa e lunga ed io ne ho paura. Speriamo che qualcuno ci aiuti altrimenti non so come potremo andare avanti..."

Mitt: Brig.re CC.RR. MASELLI Angelo
Staz. CC.RR. di
SCAFA DI S.VALENTINO (Pescara)

Dest: MASELLI Nicola
Cappuccini
FERRANDINA (Matera)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Mitt: Sott.SANCIACOMO Francesco
13° Rgt. Art. da C.A.
R.M.50

Dest:
SANCIACOMO Vincenzo
LANCIANO (Chieti)

Data: 15/9/44 -Timbro post. Nagoner (Sardegna)

".... La notizia che Vittorio si trova a Roma presso la Caserma Padgora mi ha sollevato in quanto è salvo dall'oppressione tedesca e dalla spietata vendetta dei nazisti.... " "..Così da parte nostra posso dire che questa guerra ha preservato tutti e sono contentissimo..."
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Mitt: Brig.re CC.RR. MASELLI Angelo
Staz. CC.RR. di
SCAFA DI S.VALENTINO (Pescara)

Dest:
MASELLI Nicola
Cappuccini
FERRANDINA (Matera)

Data 5/10/44

"... abbiamo però vissuto momenti terribili specialmente nei giorni precedenti alla liberazione. Per grazia di Dio tutto è andato bene e ci siamo salvati. Ora che siamo stati liberati dai gloriosi alleati ci sentiamo rinati e tranquilli...."

./.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Mitt: S.Ten. PELLICCIONI Umberto
Corso Garibaldi, 92
VASTO

Dest:

Sig.ra PELLICCIONI Marcella
Via Calderini, 60
ROMA

Data: 30/9/44

"... per il resto è un paese da nevrastenia... invaso dagli inglesi che si sentono i rappresentanti in terra del Padreterno..."

Mitt: Carab. D'ORAZIO Camillo
Porto Fino - Torrecosta
MACERATA

Dest:

Famiglia SCHINA Concetta
COLLEDIMACINE (Chieti)

Data: 5/9/44

"... i dispiaceri che ho avuto dai fascisti, forse il Signore non ha voluto, che mi ha aiutato fino al mio bisogno; Due ore con le mie spalle al muro che mi dovevano fucilare perchè non mi presentavo; la famiglia dove stavo che piangevano con tutti gli altri che mi conoscevano e si raccomandavano come era un suo figlio. Questo è stato il 31 marzo, quel giorno benedetto che me lo ricorderò pure dopo morto..."

Mitt: Fiumara PIROS Leonardo
Corso Umberto I, 30
Lanciano

Dest:

PIROS Antioco
Via Nazionale, 154
VILLANOVA MONTELEONE

Data: 6/10/44

"... Durante il tempo passato con le belve tedesche, il tempo non fu tanto buono, ma da quando sono giunte le truppe liberatrici la vita mi è ritornata al normale ed ora sembra che la guerra non abbia

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"..... per il resto è un paese da ncvrastenia.... invaso dagli inglesi che si sentono i rappresentanti in terra del Padreterno..."

Mitt: Carab. D'ORAZIO Camillo
Porto Pino - Sforzacosta
MACERATA

Dest: Famiglia SCHINA Concetta
COLLEDIMACINE (Chieti)

Data: 5/9/44

"... i dispiaceri che ho avuto dai fascisti, forse il Signore non ha voluto, che mi ha aiutato fino al mio bisogno; Due ore con le mie spalle al muro che si dovevano fucilare perchè non mi presentavo: la famiglia dove stavo che piangevano con tutti gli altri che mi conoscevano e si raccomandavano come era un suo figlio. Questo è stato il 31 marzo, quel giorno benedetto che me lo ricorderò pure dopo morto..."

Mitt: Finanz. PIROS Leonardo
Corso Umberto I, 30
Lanciano

Dest: PIROS Antioco
Via Nazionale, 15i
VILLANOVA MONTELEONE

Data: 6/10/44

"... Durante il tempo passato con le belve tedesche, il tempo non fu tanto buono, ma da quando sono giunte le truppe liberatrici la vita si è rimessa al normale ed ora sembra che la guerra non ci sia neppure passata..."

. / .

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SITUAZIONE SANITARIA GENERALE

EPIDEMIE

Nessun accenno circa la situazione sanitaria.-

P. IL CAPO UFFICIO
(Capt. Rosai Giuseppe)

57[illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O.#464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad
25 October 1944

Subject: Security Intelligence Report-Italian Troops with Fifth Army.

To : Headquarters, Military Mission Italian Army,
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. Reference your 1/106 of 10 May 1944.

2. General Security:

a. Morale: The absences without leave and desertions are still too large. Am inclosing copy of report on morale conditions made by CIC and my reply thereto. G-2, Fifth Army, refused last summer to ask for a security report on Italian Troops in Fifth Army, when I suggested he do so.

b. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: None that I am aware of.

c. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition: None

d. Political Activity or Propaganda: The Italian officers whom I meet appear to fear a communistic Italy and are always apprehensive, of course, of the future.

e. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops: Satisfactory.

f. Discipline: Based upon our standards, unsatisfactory.

g. Summary of Military Security: I would rate as satisfactory.

3. Personalities:

a. General Cortese: Reasonably co-operative and satisfactory from an Allied point of view.

4. Conclusions: The above opinions and views are my own and based upon my own observations, which of course, are limited in scope. So far as I can determine, generally speaking, no serious disaffection, lack of loyalty or any other willful disloyal activity exists among the Italian officers and men assigned or attached to 5th Army, which would be inimical to the interests of the Allied cause.

R.C.VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,
5th Army

SECRET

LIAISON OFFICE
MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
% ACC SICILY REGION HQ
APO 394

No.873

20 October 1944

SUBJECT: Reports - Security Intelligence

TO : G.O.C., Military Mission Italian Army, ROME
(Attention: GSI)

Copy to: Comdr., N.O.B., Palermo.
Comdr., 70 Sub Area, Catania.

Out Station - Sicily

Area Covered - Sicily

Report No.6

Period from 20 Sept. to 20 Oct. '44

In compliance to your I/106 dated 10 May 44 hereby submit the following report:

A. GENERAL SECURITY.

1. MORALE

a From inspections made by personnel of this office and reports that come in the morale of the ITI soldier remains good.

b The bands of outlaws continue to operate throughout the Island. See Encls. 1 to 3 inclusive.

c Between 500 to 1000 ITI soldiers are assisting in collecting the grain. The task is progressing slowly. The objective has not been reached and probably be a shortage of food in Jan. Not yet decided by ACC to bring in food to Sicily or make a more thorough search for hidden grain. (Verbal from G2(I) ACC Region 1).

2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI-ALLIED ACTIVITIES OR TRENDS.

N.T.R.

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

More than 25 cases of robbery by armed bands in the Province of Palermo been reported by the Questura during the period under review. These groups consist or from 2 to 20 individuals and are armed with pistols, rifles and sometimes

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Report No. 5 Period from 20 Sept. to 20 Oct. '44

In compliance to your I/106 dated 10 May 44 hereby submit the following report:

A. GENERAL SECURITY.

1. MORALE

a From inspections made by personnel of this office and reports that come in the morale of the ITI soldier remains good.

b The bands of outlaws continue to operate throughout the Island. See Encls. 1 to 3 inclusive.

c Between 500 to 1000 ITI soldiers are assisting in collecting the grain. The task is progressing slowly. The objective has not been reached and probably be a shortage of food in Jan. Not yet decided by ACC to bring in food to Sicily or make a more thorough search for hidden grain. (Verbal from G2(I) ACC Region 1). 57.0

2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI-ALLIED ACTIVITIES OR TRENDS.

N.T.R.

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

More than 25 cases of robbery by armed bands in the Province of Palermo been reported by the Questura during the period under review. These groups consist of from 2 to 20 individuals and are armed with pistols, rifles and sometimes with machine guns and hand grenades. It is not thought that arms and ammunition is stored away on a large organized scale. The CC.RR being immobile can not cope with these outlaws efficiently. The increase in these cases has been watched with anxiety by the civilian population, and is one of the principal reasons for their lack of confidence in the ITI Govt, and also in the Allied administration. (Report 51 FSS)

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES - PROPAGANDA, MONARCHISM.

a SEPARATIST PARTY

Members of the Separatist Party broke up a meeting at the Massimo Theater, Palermo, 13 Sept which was to be addressed by Minister without Port folio Meuccio Ruini, member of the National Committee of the Democrazia del Lavoro.

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On 17 Sept. the CC.RR broke up a Separatist meeting at Mondello (near Palermo) which was to be addressed by their leader Finocchiaro-Aprile. (Report 81 FSS)

5. RELATIONS WITH AND ATTIDUDE TOWARD ALLIED TROOPS

As a whole good. Have had one verbal report of ITI soldiers shooting and wounding two U.S. sailors. Full report not as yet received. In Palermo a British soldier was stabbed by an unknown civilian 27 Sept.

6. DISCIPLINE.

Am of the opinion that discipline is improving. There has been a decrease in number of adverse reports.

7. RUMORS AND INDISCREET TALK - BREACHES OF SECURITY.

a From Agrigento - civilian sources.

(1) Germany is already trying to obtain an Armistice.

(2) That Lampedusa and Pantalleria will remain Allied - to be used as Naval bases.

(3) That Allied Police Force will begin to control the Island in October of this year.

(4) That a million ITIs will be forced to work in European countries in reconstruction.

b From Caltanissetta - 57.8

(1) That this area is to be used as a rest area for troops of the 5th Army.

(2) That Italy will shortly pass from co-belligerence to full alliance with the United Nations. That the ITI Army is to be re-formed under Badoglio and that enlistment will begin soon. And an expeditionary corps is to be furnished the Allies in the Pacific.

c From Trapani -

(1) One and one half million ITIs are to be used in the war against Japan; the ITI Fleet is now in the Far East.

(2) At the end of the war Sicily will be turned over to Britain on a 50 year lease.

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7. RUMORS AND INDISCREET TALK - BREACHES OF SECURITY.

a From Agrigento - civilian sources.

(1) Germany is already trying to obtain an Armistice.

(2) That Lampedusa and Pantalleria will remain Allied - to be used as Naval bases.

(3) That Allied Police Force will begin to control the Island in October of this year.

(4) That a million ITIs will be forced to work in European countries in reconstruction.

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b From Caltanissetta -

(1) That this area is to be used as a rest area for troops of the 5th Army.

(2) That Italy will shortly pass from co-belligerence to full alliance with the United Nations. That the ITI Army is to be re-formed under Badoglio and that enlistment will begin soon. And an expeditionary corps is to be furnished the Allies in the Pacific.

c From Trapani -

(1) One and one half million ITIs are to be used in the war against Japan; the ITI Fleet is now in the Far East.

(2) At the end of the war Sicily will be turned over to Britain on a 50 year lease.

(3) That the 5th Army will shortly come to Sicily to rest.

d Palermo -

(1) That administration of Naval Operating Base will be taken over by British authorities.

(All above from Report 51 FSS)

8. SUMMARY OF MILITARY SECURITY.

a Civilian population -
(1) Are somewhat aroused by the black market prices.

(2) The dock laborers at Palermo on 17 Oct. threatened to go on a strike, but remained at work. They are being made discontent by articles in newspapers regarding higher wages. Arrangements

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were made with Military Hq of Sicily to temporarily furnish ITI soldiers to take their place so the loading and unloading at the dock would continue.

Lester R Albert

LESTER R ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

*Encls: 1. Ref No.4060/01 MHS dated 22 Sept '44.
2. Ref No.4232/01 MHS dated 29 Sept '44.
3. Ref No.4409/01 MHS dated 6 Oct. '44.

*NOT to 70 Sub Area. Previously sent by MHS.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

g/ma

d s. - d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Oper. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 4060/01 Palermo, 22 September, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To : H.Q. 56 British Area, Catania.

1. Military Security.

- On Sept 6, in a conflict which took place in the "Marcato da Rivo" area, Comune of Caltanissetta, the CC.RR. succeeded in capturing 7 malefactors who had infested the area for some time.

Several automatic arms held by the malefactors were captured.

- At 1300 hrs on Sept 19 two unidentified persons broke into the Air Force, Artillery and mixed Salvage Depot at Perrignano (Alterello di Baida) with the intention of stealing

Surprised by military of 46th Inf. Regt, who were on guard, they gave up the enterprise by escaping.

- On Sept 13th, in the "Birbi" (Trapani) area, six malefactors armed with a rifle, three of whom wore CC.RR. Uniforms, carried out a false search at the home of Barrago Francesco, taking away objects to the value of 650000 lire.

*** Enquiries are being carried out in order to bring the malefactors to justice.

- On Sept 15, in the "Carbone" (Trapani) area, 15 armed malefactors surrounded the Angello Antonino farm to carry out a robbery. Having come into conflict with the Poggio Reale CC.RR. the delinquents escaped in the darkness after violent firing.

*** Enquiries are being held in order to bring to the arrest of the malefactors.

- In the Scoglitti, Vittoria (Ragusa) area, four armed malefactors assaulted two wayfarers robbing them of about 5000 lire.

*** The CC.RR. immediately had enquiries made and identified all four malefactors, arresting two of them. Arms and stolen goods were sequestered.

- At Burgio an armed gang has been discovered, having inter-provincial branches. Till to-day 11 bandits have been arrested, guilty of robberies, homicides, etc.. Arms, ammunitions and part of the stolen goods have been sequestered. Enquiries are being carried out to bring about the arrest of the other gangsters.

- In the Fontanelle (Trapani) area about 30 malefactors attempted to steal petrol from the Air Force Petrol Dump. Surprised by the Air Force Men on guard and by the CC.RR. they ran away, after some firing. Seven of them have been arrested.

2. Miscellanea,

a) Relations between Troops and Civilian Population.

Are keeping well.

b) Morale of Civilian Population - Behaviour of Civ. Authorities and reaction of Population

The morale of the Civilian Population is depressed because of the high cost of life and the raging of the Black Market.

- On Sept 16 a protest demonstration was held at Palermo by 400 port workers.

The reason for the protest appears to be the discontent caused by harassing carried out by certain employers, who refuse to give work to specialized workers in order to accept casual workers and pay them less.

The meeting, after a representative party had been sent to the Prefect, ended.

Normal Public Order.

- On Sept 19, at Messina, following demonstrations by separationist elements, 50 military of the 2nd Bn, 45th Inf. Regt were placed at the disposal of the R. Prefettura, for Public Order Duty.

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- At 1700 hrs on Sept 17 in the Valdese (Palermo) suburb , about 150 bers of the separationist party assem led for a procession.
Incidents took place but were immediately placated.
Following this the re-union came to an end, without further incidents.
* During the week the following military were employed for checking the handing in of the wheat to the "people" granaries, together with the CC.RR.:

Messina	Military	Garrison	total of	60	military;
Agrigento	"	"	" "	314	" ;
Catania	"	"	" "	127	" ;
Trapani	"	"	" "	420	" .

c) Rumours set about by the enemy, pessimistic, over-optimistic, or DESIGNED TO CAPTURE MILITARY SECRETS.
None.

d) Various.
Nothing to report.

by order,

Sgd A. Chiariotti, Lt Col, Deputy Chief of Staff,
Acting Chief of Staff.

****

DS/ma

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Oper. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 4061/01 P.M. 126, 22 September, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To : M.M.I.A. Detachment, Army Sub Commission, Palermo.

****

Above, for information, copy of the Report stated above, sent to-day to H.Q. 56 Area.

by order,

Sgd A. Chiariotti, Lt Col, Deputy Chief of Staff,
Acting Chief of Staff.

57.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

S/ma d.s. - d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Oper. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 4232/01 Palermo, 29 September, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To : H.Q. 70th Sub-Area, Catania.

1. Military Security.

- At 1500 hrs on Sept 16, in the Sugarelli area, Comune of Montlepre (Palermo), CC.RR. Lt Filippo TESTA, interim O.C. of the Partinico (Palermo) lieutenancy, and 9 CC.RR., whilst they were carrying out a beat in order to capture a certain number of malefactors who had taken part in a conflict a few hours before against the Montelepre CC.RR., were fired on by intense sub-machinegun fire.

The said military sustained a long conflict, until the malefactors, numbering about 10 and all belonging to the well known "Giuliano" Gang, succeeded in escaping. During the conflict Lt Filippo TESTA was seriously wounded in the abdomen. On Sept 17, at 0745 hrs, Lt Testa died because of the wound received.

*** Enquiries are being carried out in order to arrest the malefactors.

- At 2100 hrs on Sept 13, in the Birgi (Marsala) Area, six malefactors, dressed in military uniforms and armed with a rifle, carried out an unauthorized search of the home of a certain BORROGO, taking away object of the value of 150000 lire

*** Enquiries are being held to identify and arrest the malefactors.

2. Miscellanea.

a) Relations between Troops an Civilian Population.

Are remaining good.

b) Morale of Civ. Population, Behaviour of Civ. Authorities & reaction of Popul.

- The morale of the population is depressed because of the high cost of living and because of the raging of the black market.

- On Sept 6, at Messina, about 600 women and a few men carried out a protest demonstration in front of the R. Prefettura, because of the precarious food situation due to the non-distribution of pasta.

- During the week the following military have been employed, together with CC.RR., for checking the handing-in of the wheat to the "People's" Granaries:

Messina Military Garrison,	total of	60	military
Syracuse "	" "	60	"
Catania "	" "	126	"
Trapani "	" "	87	"
Castelvetrano "	" "	46	"
Agrigento "	" "	312	" .

c) Rumours set about by the enemy, pessimistic, over-optimistic, or designed to capture military secrets.

Nothing to Report.

d) Various.

- At 2130 hrs on Sept 15 at Priolo (Syracuse), Pte Aniello GIORDANO di Carlo, 1924 age-group, of the 907 Pioneer Coy, attached to H.Q. B.S.D. (British), robbed British Gunner ROED STANLEY BYRON, of the Magnisi Isles (Syracuse) A.A. Btry, of his wallet containing 1400 lire and various documents.

*** Giordano has been arrested.

by order,

Sgd A. Chiariotti, Lt Col, Deputy Chief of Staff,
Acting Chief of Staff.

M.M.S., "Oper. Add. & Mob." Office. Ref. No 4233/01. P.M. 126, 29 Sept, '44.
Herewith copy of Report as sent to H.Q 70 Sub-Area on same date. Sgd Dep. C/S.
To : M.M.I.A., Palermo.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

DS/mds

C.S. - d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Oper. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 4409/01 Palermo, 6 October, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operationnl Security.
To : H.Q. 70th Sub Area, Catania.

1. Military Security.

- At 0530 hrs on Sept 28, in the Chiapperia (Caltanissetta) area, five malefactors armed with German and Italian Military Rifles and Hand-Grenades, robbed 10 Civilians, taking away clothes and money.

*** The CC.RR. of the local Section immediately intervened, and having contacted the malefactors they began a conflict which lasted about 3 hrs. The malefactors succeeded in getting away because of the thickly covered ground, but they were all identified and action is being taken to bring them to justice.

- At 1500 hrs on Sept 27 the Sirignano (Trapani) CC.RR. arrested electrician VANNINO Santo fu Vittorio, resident at Santa Ninfa, because he was guilty of stealing the Air Force Military Telephone Line between Santa Ninfa, Gibellina and Sirignano. *** The large quantity of stolen godds is being salvaged.

2. Miscellanea.

a) Relations between Troops and Civilian Population.

Are keeping well.

b) Morale of Civ.Population, Behaviour of Civ.Authorities & reaction of Populn.

- The morale of the Population is depressed because of the high cost of life and because of the raging of the Black Market.

*** About 100 Qls of cereals have been sequestered.

On Sept 26 & 28, Military of the 6th I.S. Regt acting as reenforcements to CC.RR. and Security Police for the repression of the contraband of rationed food-stuffs, when on duty at the Mercatobianco (Palermo) Station to check the train coming from Catania and bound for Palermo, began a brief conflict with many contraband agents who, having come off the train whilst it was stopped at the station, were escaping rapidly into the surrounding country carrying contraband goods.

*** During the conflict which took place on Sept 26 contraband agent Emilia Biagio di Michele was seriously wounded, and died on the way to the hospital.

- During the week the following Military have been employed, together with the CC.RR., in operations for checking the handing in of wheat to the "People's" Granaries: Military Garrison of Syracuse total of 350 military;
" " " Enna " " 108 " ;
" " " Trapani " " 130 " .

c) Rumours set about by the enemy, pessimistic, overoptimistic, or designed to capture militarys secrets: None.

d) Various: Nothing to Report.

by order

Sgd R. Griglio, Col, Chief of Staff.

DS/mds

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Oper. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 4410/01 Palermo, 6 October, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To : M.M.I.A. Detachment H.Q., Palermo.

Herewith, for your information, copy of the Weekly Report mentioned above as has been sent to-day to H.Q. 70th Sub Area, Catania.

by order,
Sgd R. Griglio, Col, Chief of Staff.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:-Unit Security Report.

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Liaison Officer,
Military Mission
Italian Army.
c/o HQ., I District.
IO/37.
13 Oct 44.

To:-Military Mission Italian Army,
R O M E.

With reference to the above subject, a NIL report is rendered from this office.

H.A.C. Harvey

Lt. Col., G.S.O.1. (L).,
MMIA., IO., I District.

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SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Report - Italian Army

CONFIDENTIAL

MILITARY MISSION
ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
S/I/106/1
6 Oct 44

H.Q. A.A.I. (for CSI)

Copy to: A.F.H.Q.

Ref Appx "A" to our I/106 of 10 May.

Herewith report for month of September.

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. Morale

There is little to add this month. It is clear from reports that the morale of Italian troops working for the Allies is considerably higher than that of Italian troops elsewhere. Allied formations provide for the welfare and comfort of Italian troops under command and the efforts to improve their conditions and provide welfare facilities are appreciated. On the other hand troops under command of Italian formations have no welfare facilities. This leads to discontent and absenteeism.

There are also large numbers of A.W.O.L. and desertions. The main causes are weariness of war since 1936, general dissatisfaction owing to conditions in the army, a desire to return home and help wives and families during a period of economic strain, and the impossibility of apprehension and punishment of such large numbers under present conditions.

2. Fascist - Pro-German - Anti-Allied Activity

Nothing to report.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms

A report from 67 Garrison indicates that there are several hundreds of tons of arms and ammunition in the Abruzzi area to be collected. This is due, not so much to illegal storage, as to lack of personnel and transport.

The fact that mortars, rifles and hand grenades have been used during disturbances in Sicily indicates that many have hidden arms and ammunition. Reports show, however, that it is the civilian population, and not army personnel, which has illegal access to these arms. A.C.C. are taking steps to rectify this.

4. Political Activity

Nothing to report.

5. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops.

Continue to be good.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

1. Morale
There is little to add this month. It is clear from reports that the morale of Italian troops working for the Allies is considerably higher than that of Italian troops elsewhere. Allied formations provide for the welfare and comfort of Italian troops under command and the efforts to improve their conditions and provide welfare facilities are appreciated. On the other hand troops under command of Italian formations have no welfare facilities. This leads to discontent and absenteeism.

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2. Fascist - Pro-German - Anti-Allied Activity
Nothing to report.

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3. Illegal Storage of Arms
A report from 67 Garrison indicates that there are several hundreds of tons of arms and ammunition in the Abruzzi area to be collected. This is due, not so much to illegal storage, as to lack of personnel and transport.

The fact that mortars, rifles and hand grenades have been used during disturbances in Sicily indicates that many have hidden arms and ammunition. Reports show, however, that it is the civilian population, and not army personnel, which has illegal access to these arms. A.C.C. are taking steps to rectify this.

4. Political Activity
Nothing to report.

5. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops.
Continue to be good.

6. Discipline
Desertions and absenteeism continue. The main causes are given in para 1. A contributing factor is that Italian officers and N.C.Os do not exercise the same control over or have the same personal contact and camaraderie with their men as is the case with Allied officers. On the other hand, owing to insufficient numbers of Carabinieri, shortage of escort personnel and transport, and inadequate communications, the Italian authorities can do little to track down and apprehend absentees and deserters and punish them.

7. Rumours and Indiscreet Talk
Nothing to report.

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8. Summary of Military Security
No serious disaffection and no lack of loyalty or co-operation is reported.

B. PERSONALITIES

1. Information (white) } Nothing to report.
2. Information (black) }

L. Brownell

Maj Gen
M M I A

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

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3-9

HCV/jad
27 September 1944

Subject: Security Intelligence Report-Italian Troops with Fifth Army.

To : Headquarters, Military Mission Italian Army,
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. Reference your 1/106 of 10 May 1944.

2. General Security:

a. Morale: The absences without leave or desertions by Italian soldiers have reached alarming proportions, especially among the replacements arriving or about to be sent to this area. This, of course, is an indication of low morale or lack of proper discipline upon the part of these Italian soldiers.

b. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: None that I am aware of.

c. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition: None

d. Political Activity or Propaganda: The Italian officers whom I meet appear to fear a communistic Italy and are always apprehensive, of course, of the future.

e. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops: Satisfactory.

f. Discipline: Based upon our standards, unsatisfactory.

g. Summary of Military Security: I would rate as satisfactory.

3. Personalities:

a. General Cortese: Reasonably co-operative and satisfactory from an Allied point of view.

b. Major Pollestra Rocco, 210th Division, has requested a discharge and as previously stated, is personally obnoxious to me and radical in his views. I recommend that his request be granted.

c. Captain De Medici has been relieved and assigned to Rome. He has been replaced by Captain Cigogna who was with 5 Army previously and went to 8th Army. He appears to be more competent than Captain De Medici, more co-operative and a better organizer. I am certain he will cause things to run more smoothly in the future.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

4. Conclusions: The above opinions and views are my own and based upon my own observations, which of course, are limited in scope. So far as I can determine, generally speaking, no serious disaffection, lack of loyalty or any other willful disloyal activity exists among the Italian officers and men assigned or attached to 5th Army, which would be inimical to the interests of the Allied cause.

R.C.VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,
5th Army.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jad
27 September 1944

Subject: Security Intelligence Report-Italian Troops with Fifth Army.

To : Headquarters, Military Mission Italian Army,
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. Reference your 1/106 of 10 May 1944.

2. General Security:

a. Morale: The absences without leave or desertions by Italian soldiers have reached alarming proportions, especially among the replacements arriving or about to be sent to this area. This, of course, is an indication of low morale or lack of proper discipline upon the part of these Italian soldiers.

b. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: None that I am aware of.

c. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition: None

d. Political Activity or Propaganda: The Italian officers whom I meet appear to fear a communistic Italy and are always apprehensive, of course, of the future.

e. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops: Satisfactory.

f. Discipline: Based upon our standards, unsatisfactory.

g. Summary of Military Security: I would rate as satisfactory.

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4. Conclusions: The above opinions and views are my own and based upon my own observations, which of course, are limited in scope. So far as I can determine, generally speaking, no serious disaffection, lack of loyalty or any other willful disloyal activity exists among the Italian officers and men assigned or attached to 5th Army, which would be inimical to the interests of the Allied cause.

R.C.VAN KIRK,
Major, Infantry,
Sr. (MMIA) L.O.,
5th Army.

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To Military Mission Italian Army.

MMIA.IO.
VASTO.
25.9.44.

Subject:- Security - Italian Army.

Area covered - 67 Garrison (formerly 60 Sub Area)
Period from 25.8.44 & 25.9.44.

General Security.

1. Morale of units arriving this area fitted out with dred battledress and good boots definitely good. Large number of desertions because men entitled to demobilisation cannot go until their substitutes arrive. These substitutes are promised but never come.
2. Nil to report.
3. PSS enquiring into collection of abandoned arms in Abruzzi area. Delegazione A has collected a lot but estimate that there are still hundreds of tons of arms and munition waiting to be collected. Difficulties of personnel and transport.
4. Nil to report.
5. Generally satisfactory - there is no mixing in towns in the evening. Two incidents have occurred. At Teramo, on 25.8.44, paratroopers beat up two S. Africans menacing them with weapons. The S Africans were fairly drunk, and possibly provoked trouble. I have asked for disciplinary action against Italians for the assault. An AMG driver refused to halt to give Italian military hitch hikers a lift. They fired and spent bullet found later in tyre. This was before order re non carriage of arms.
6. Fairly good but unable to stop desertions of men going home. CCRR not very efficient. They were reprimanded by General di Stefanis, Delegazione A, for their failure to assert themselves during recent football match incident at CHIETI. (separate report sent).
7 & 8. Nil to report.

Capt.

SECRET

I/106/1

ARMY SUB COMMISSION ACC
(AMMIA) L. O. SICILY
% ACC SICILY REGION HQ
APO 394

No.770

20 September 1944

SUBJECT: Reports - Security Intelligence for August

TO : GOC Army Sub Commission (MMIA)
(Attention GSI)

Copy to: Comdr. 56 Area, Catania (Info)
Comdr. N.O.B., Palermo (Info)

Out Station - Sicily

Area Covered - Sicily

Report No.5

Period from 20 Aug to
20 September 1944.

In compliance to your I/106 dated 10 May 44 hereby submit the following report:

A. GENERAL SECURITY.

1. MORALE

a The ITI soldier's morale is good. They take very little interest in the war outside of Italy.

b There has been an increasing number of minor disturbances throughout the Island , some caused by the enforcement of collection of grain and others caused by the renewal of activities of outlaws, who use any unrest and the reduction of police protection to further their activities. (Am told Sicily has always had a number of criminals). See our enclosures 1 to 4 for further details. (Reports to my office from various sources).

c R.A.F. fighter No.648 when flying at a low altitude on 13 Aug 44, was fired on between SCIACCA and MAZZARA. The pilot (Brit) was killed and investigation proved fruitless. (Report of 51 FSS)

d Between 800 and 1000 ITI soldiers are assisting in the collection of grain in Sicily. To date approx one third of the anticipated amount of grain has been collected, the process is slow, soldiers will probably be required

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c R.A.F. fighter No.648 when flying at a low altitude on 13 Aug 44, was fired on between SCIACCA and MAZZARA. The pilot (Brit) was killed and investigation proved fruitless. (Report of 51 FSS)

d Between 300 and 1000 ITI soldiers are assisting in the collection of grain in Sicily. To date approx one third of the anticipated amount of grain has been collected, the process is slow, soldiers will probably be required for this duty until first of year. Many incidents reported where the grain collectors have been opposed by armed forces. In two cases mortars were used by the outlaws. So far there has been 5000 violators. The opinion of G 2 (I) ACC Region 1 is that:

(1) Disturbances will increase and although not on a Sicilian wide organized basis now, but if the Gov't isn't strong enough to quell these scattered disturbances they may organize and the situation may become serious.

(2) The instructions from the BONOMI Gov't to deal firmly with the SEPARATISTS may have made the Separatists stronger because the outlaws, who have been dormant under a strong Gov't, will unite with the Separatists to gain their objective and the Separatists desire to increase their prestige will accept anyone to become stronger. Furthermore the Separatists may increase in strength on the assumption that they are not allowed freedom of assembly etc. (Verbal conversation with G 2 (I) ACC Region 1).

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e General MARIOTTI , Comdr Military Hq Sicily, is of the opinion that too many ITI troops are being moved from the Island and with the guard duties and collection of grain, there would not be sufficient troops to quell a major disturbance. He requested from Ministry of War three more Bns. First Bn, 46 Inf to move to Calabria this week.

2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI-ALLIED ACTIVITIES OR TRENDS.

a AGRIGENTO. The arrest of MANGIAFORTE has had a strong deterrent effect on the remaining fascist elements in PORTO EMPEDOCLE. The effect is also seen in AGRIGENTO since there was always a close connection between the fascists in those two places. In PORTO EMPEDOCLE the fascist are no longer seen together except for a few minutes at a time. Rumor also has it amongst this group that there are others still to be arrested - the number is given as 26 (Report of 51 FSS)

b CASTRO FILIPPO. On 24-25 August fascists inscriptions appeared on walls in the province of AGRIGENTO for first time in two months. The VICE-PREFECT ordered the slogans to be removed. (Report of 51 FSS).

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION. The fact that in all these disturbances the outlaws use mortars, rifles and hand grenades indicates that many have hidden away arms and ammunition. It is not thought to be on a central organized scale.

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES - PROPAGANDA, MONARCHISM.

a SEPARATIST PARTY It appears that the High Commissioner has received direct instructions from the BONOMI Gov't to deal firmly with the SEPARATISTS. One of the first steps taken by High Commissioner ALLIATO to break the power of the SEPARATIST Movement has been to dismiss the SINDACO OF PALERMO, Lucio TASCA, a one hundred percent SEPARATIST, and the GIUNTA COMUNALE, which contains SEPARATIST elements. TASCA reacted strongly and a propaganda started with the distribution of thousands of pamphlets demanding a plebiscite. Recruiting has been going on in country areas and activity has been reported from AGRIGENTO Province. New sections have been started in ENNA, CALTANISSETTA, VALLEDOLMO, VALLELUNGO, VILLALBA AND MUSSOMELI. At PONTASICA, FINOCCHIARO-APRILE held a meeting attended by about 2000 persons No incidents took place but it has been learned that the number of adherents in the area has increased. The High Commissioner has now banned meetings at PONTASICA and at other places in the province of PALERMO. The excuse given was that police to maintain public order could not be taken from other duties. FINOCCHIARO-APRILE sent a telegram to Sig.BONOMI in the following

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(1) To take action in view of the liberty destroying decision of the Italian Government, and to maintain its own attitude of resolute and open opposition to the government.

(2) To intensify its propaganda for the achievement of the Independence of the Sicilian people, which has decided to break off all relations with the Italian State.

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(3) To leave to the Italian Government, which continues to use reactionary and fascist methods, the responsibility for the consequences of its thoughtless conduct.

(4) To inform the United Nations of the new attacks of the Italian Government upon the liberty of more than 400,000 members of the movement for Sicilian independence and of the whole Sicilian people, insisting on a plebiscite under international control so that Sicily may show its determination to reconstruct the country and to make a sovereign and independent state.

(5) To bring to the knowledge of the oppressed Sicilian people and of all civilised peoples in the world, the action of the unworthy Italian Government.

(The above from 81st F.S.S.Report)

5. RELATIONS WITH AND ATTITUDE TOWARD ALLIED TROOPS. Military Hq of Sicily in their weekly reports state "Continue to be good", have noticed nothing to contrary.

6. DISCIPLINE A number of verbal complaints have come to me of a laxity of ITI Army guards on Allied installations of doing their duty and stopping theft of commodities they are guarding. I advised my informers to give me concrete cases in writing and action would be taken. Recently I have had two such cases reported to me and have forwarded them to the C.G. Military Hq Sicily for immediate disciplinary action be taken against the guards and against the officers of the guard units, if found negligent, who evidently do not have the men under control.

7. RUMORS AND INDISCREET TALK #BREACHES OF SECURITY. From all Areas - that the Germans are prepared to use gas on all fronts. (Report 51 FSS)

57[illegible]

c. SUMMARY OF MILITARY SECURITY

a There is no change in the guarding arrangements at the port and nothing of any security interest to report. (Report 51 FSS)

b Civilian Population

PALERMO Political activity on the increase, particularly SEPARATISTS (See Par 4 above). Black Market prices rising - 800 lire for a packet American cigarettes. All around demand for return of ITI Ps OW. Impression that the war will finish soon is linked up with the foregoing.

TRAPANI. The food question looms large as also does the

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a There is no change in the guarding arrangements at the port and nothing of any security interest to report. (Report 51 FSS)

b Civilian Population

PALERMO Political activity on the increase, particularly SEPARATISTS (See Par 4 above). Black Market prices rising - 200 lire for a packet American cigarettes. All around demand for return of ITI Ps OW. Impression that the war will finish soon is linked up with the foregoing.

TRAPANI. The food question looms large as also does the housing problem. The opinion is frequently expressed that the repatriation of North African refugees would considerable ease the problem both of food and housing. This question of repatriation has been taken up by the local Questura.

AGRIGENTO. The people's main preoccupations are the economical disorganisation of the country, unemployment, the ammasso, and the return of Italian POWs to their homes.

CALTANISSETTA. No change in civilian situation, although the ammassing of grain has become easier. Unemployment is on the increase, particularly in ENNA. A certain amount of discontent is expressed about the lack of repatriation of Italian POWs.

B. PERSONALITIES

N.T.n.

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Lester R Albert

LESTER R ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

Encl: 1. Ref NO.3422/01 M.H.S. dated 25 Aug 44.
2. Ref No.3573/01 M.H.S. dated 1 Sept 44.
3. Ref No.3718/01 M.H.S. dated 8 Sept 44.
4. Ref No.3891/01 M.H.S. dated 15 Sept 44.

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FO/ma

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 3422/01 Palermo, August 25, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To M.M.I.A. Detachment H.Q.,
Army Sub-Commission, Palermo.

Herewith, for your information a copy of the report mentioned in "Subject" which has been sent to-day to H.Q. 56 Area.

by order

Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

DS/ma

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 3406/01 Palermo, August 25, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operationnl Security.
To H.Q. 56 British Area, Catania.

1. Military Security.

- On August 18,at about 1200 hrs, some malefactors abusively took away a certain amount of ammunition from the "Parisi" area (Bagheria) Salvage Dump.

*** The Bagheria Bassa Carabinieri carried out the arrests of farmers: BATTITTA Pietro fu Giuseppe, 45 year-old, GAGLIARDO Giuseppe di Giuseppe, 19 -year old, both from Bagheria, responsible of the theft. The Military Administration material stolen was to be placed on the market, using the metal parts (empty charge-cases and the explosive for game-shooting purposes).

- At about 0300 hrs on August 22, the Castelvetrano Carabinieri, with the help of 3 Men of the 2nd Gp 16 Arty Regt, following a planned watch, sustained a long exchange of shots inside the Castelvetrano habitat (Trapani), against malefactors ACCARDI Diego and SCARIATA Lorenzo, guilty of various serious crimes.

*** The malefactors were arrested. Furthermore various ammunition, a '91 model rifle, a shot-gun and a pistol were sequestered.

2. Miscellanea.

a) Relations between troops and civilian population.

Are remaining good.

b) Morale of civilian population. Attitude of civilian authorities and reaction of population.

- At about 0930 hrs on August 21 the workers and employees of the Marsala (Trapani) Wine Works (Stabilimenti vinicoli), amounting to about 1000, abstained from work, as a protest for the non-issue of pasta.

Other people (about 2000 persons) of the village joined the strikers, and then all went into piazza Umberto Io, where they held a demonstration hostile to the local comunal Administration, 'till about 1200 hrs.

After such time some of the persons who had taken part in the demonstration went to the Chamber of Labour (Camera del Lavoro) to discuss certain urgent problems on hand. No incidents took place. High pent-up feelings still harbour in the population.

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- At about 0200 hrs on August 23, at Ponte Graci (Villafranca-Sargio Road, Agrigento province), auxiliary Carabiniere CERNOLO Amalio and fante USAI Pietro of the XXXth Mortar Bn, on grain check and salvage duty, whilst returning from Ribera on a cart, where they had gone to draw food-rations, were treacherously attacked with rifle shots by an unknown number of malefactors, their objective being robbery.

*** Investigations are being carried out in order to trace the malefactor (Because of the assault being so sudden, the military were unable to react immediately. The Carabiniere was seriously wounded.) (-s.

- During the week the following military were employed in duties concerning the handing in of grain to the "People's" Granaries:

Palermo	Military Garrison	-----	a total of	171	military;
Messina	"	"	-----	"	"	"	60	"	;
Caltanissetta	"	"	-----	"	"	"	25	"	;
Syracuse	"	"	-----	"	"	"	50	"	.

c) Rumours set about by the enemy, pessimistic, over-optimistic, or meant to capture military secrets.

None.

d) Various.

- At about 0730 hrs on August 20, on the Island of Stromboli, a violent vulcanic explosion took place, with hurling of rocks, of enflamed lapilli, and ensuing sea-quake. Notices le damages to the olive-groves. Light damage to civilian buildings. The salt Depot has been damaged. Shipping was slightly damaged. Various fires were quickly put out, having been caused by the fall of enflamed lapilli. Much panic amongst the population. No victims.

by order,

Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

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Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 3573/01 Palermo, September 1, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To H.Q. 56 British Area, Catania.

1. - Military Security.
- At 0200 hrs on August 25, at the Misilmeri Petrol Dump (Palermo), sentry PINNA Antonio, together with a patrol of passing English Soldiers, thwarted an attempted theft of petrol.
*** Two civilians were arrested and handed over to the Misilmeri Carabinieri. The investigations are being continued.

2. - Miscellanea.
a) Relations between Troops and Civilian Population.
- Relations between Troops and Civilian Population appear cordial.
b) Morale of Civilian Population - Behaviour of Civilian Authorities and Reaction of Population.
- On August 20 the Provincial "Ispettorato" for Agriculture arranged a public meeting in the "Supercinema" buildings, in order to carry out some propaganda for the handing in of the wheat to the "People's" Granaries. After certain documentary films had been shown the Provincial "Ispettore" began but did not succeed in finishing a speech because the public protested shouting "Bread! Bread!". The meeting came to an end without any incidents taking place.
- On August 25 the workers and employees of the Marsala (Trapani) Wine Works (Stabilimenti Vinicoli) began work again. Normal Public Order. (See Weekly Report No 3406/01 dated August 25, 1944.)
- On August 24 the Agrigento R. Questura (Police) asked for the intervention of 50 Military in order to precede and prevent eventual disorders caused by the Civilian Population following the diminishing of the bread ration from 300 grams to 200 grs. This duty ended on August 26. No incidents to report.
- During the week the following Military, together with the Carabinieri, were employed for checking the handing-in of grain to the "People's" Granaries:

Caltanissetta	Military	Garrison	...	total	of	Military..	20
Agrigento	"	"	...	"	"	" ..	317
Palermo	"	"	...	"	"	" ..	122
Catania	"	"	...	"	"	" ..	128
Trapani	"	"	...	"	"	" ..	420
Messina	"	"	...	"	"	" ..	60

c) Rumours set about by the enemy, pessimistic, over-optimistic or meant to capture Military Secrets.
None.
d) Various. None.

by order
Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

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Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 3576/01 Palermo, September 1, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To M.M.I.A. Detachment H.Q.,
Army Sub-Commission, Palermo.
For your information, as sent on same date to H.Q. 56 Area. Sgd A. Calaresu, Col,

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DG/ma

d.s. - .d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 3718/01 Palermo, 8 September, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To H.Q. 56 British Area, Catania.

1. - Military Security.

- The "Circolo delle Costruzioni TT" (Building Society) of Palermo informs us that foreman MICELI Paolo, whose duty it was to dismantle the telephone lines of the Baide 5th Group, discovered that 13 poles, 600 yds of covered wire for temporary lines, 1000 yds of zinc-plated wire (diam. 3mm) and other telephone equipment was stolen by unknown persons on August 26 and 27. The same "Circolo" furthermore states that along the Palermo-S. Martino stretch 5 lengths of double 3mm bronze wire, equivalent to 75 Kilos, have been stolen.

*** The Carabinieri have been informed of the theft, and they are carrying out enquiries in order to be able to trace the thieves and the stolen goods.

- On August 28 the Bagheria (Palermo) Carabinieri sequestered several unlawfully possessed arms and ammunition held by civilians of the same town.

2. - Miscellenea.

a) - Relations between Troops and Civilian Population.

Are being maintained good.

b) - Morale of Civ. Population, Behaviour of Civ. Authorities & reaction of Popln.

- At 1945 hrs on August 26, near the Bagheria (Palermo) Railway Yard, 90 Civ. Police, together with Carabinieri, stopped the passenger train arriving from Catania, in order to check if any contraband was being transported. During the inspection large quantities of food-stuffs were sequestered, including 1329 Kilos of Wheat, 141 Kilos of Flour. Furthermore 30 persons were arrested, 16 of whom had contravened law No 245 dated April 22, 1943. At 2010 hrs the Diesel Train returned to Palermo, but, while the train made a temporary halt at Puntaguglia level-crossing, at 21.10, relations of the contrabandiers and other unknown persons threw two hand grenades which seriously wounded a Carabinieri Sgt and 4 Civilians; 4 other Civilians were slightly wounded. The Carabinieri Sgt's right limb has been amputated. Both the police and the Carabinieri fired a few rifle-shots.

*** Enquiries are being made to discover the persons responsible.

- At about 1000 hrs on September 6, at Messina, a out 600 women, led by a few men, held a demonstration in front of the R. Prefetture (Civ. H.Q.) because of the bad food situation and because no pasta had been given since June.

*** Police and Carabinieri immediately intervened. The demonstrants threw stones at them wounding a Police Officer and 9 men. In order to send the demonstrants away a few rifle and pistol shots were fired, wounding two of the demonstrants. 3 persons guilty of resisting the Police and responsible for the desonstration were arrested. The Public Order was immediately re-established.

- During the week the following Military were employed for the "People's" Granaries grain check:

Agrigento	Military Garrison,		total	of	Military .	309
Palermo	"	"	"	"	"	...122
Trapani	"	"	"	"	"	...420.

c) - Rumours set about by the enemy, pessimistic, over-optimistic, or designed to capture military secrets.

None.

d) - Various.

None.

by order,
Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

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d.s. - d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Op. Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 3891/01 Palermo, 15 September, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To H.Q. 56 Area, Catania.

****

1 - Military Security.

- At 0800 hrs on Sept. 10, in the Barbarigo di Agira (Enna) area, 23 Carabinieri and 3 civ. policemen together with 7 fanti of the "Sabauda" Div. were sighted by a certain number of bandits and were fired upon.

The Military replied with energy which caused the malefactors to mount their horses and escape. On this occasion one Carabiniere was wounded in the left hand.

*** The bandits have all been identified: they were carrying sub machine-guns, machine-gun pistols and rifles. Action is being continued for the capture of the bandits

- Following active enquiries carried out by the Cattolica Eraclea (Agrigento) Carabinieri, and armed gang comprising 11 persons (there are probably more) has been discovered in the Sciacca Comune, the said gang, being armed with a light machine-gun, rifles, muskets and pistols, over-running the country and roads of Cattolica Eraclea, Cianciana, Montallegro and Ribera with the purpose of robbing wayfarers, motor-cars and carts.

*** A large portion of the gang has been arrested. Active enquiries are being continued to bring to justice the other members.

- At 1600 hrs on Sept. 10, in the Spizzera area (Comune of Monreale, Palermo), 12 unidentified persons armed with a rifle went to the Di Lorenzo farm, attacking and tying up all the farmers living there and taking from them sheep, calves, horses, mules and about 3 tons of wheat valued at about 1 million lire.

*** Enquiries are being held in order to be able to trace the malefactors.

- At 0130 hrs on Sept. 10 in the Fondachello Area (Comune of Gibellina, Trapani), 8 unidentified persons, armed with an automatic rifle, stopped a lorry loaded with fish by firing a few shots, then robbing all the civilians on board.

*** Enquiries are being carried out to lead to the arrest of the malefactors.

2 - Miscellanea.

a)- Relations between Troops and Civilian Population.

Are keeping good.

b)- Morale of Civ.Popul. - behaviour of Civ.Authorities and reaction of Population.

The morale of the Civilian Population is depressed, because of the high cost of living and of the spred of the Black Market.

- Rumours are circulating, that have not yet been completely checked, that it appears possible to obtain, after having payed the sum of 10,000 lire, the embarcation without passport on American Merchant Ships bound for the U.S.A..

*** Enquiries are being made to check the truth of such rumours.

- At 0900 hrs on Sept. 10, at Castellana Sicula (Palermo), about 400 persons assembled in the village square to protest a out the inadequate price of wheat.

The people then armed themselves with sticks and work tools and went to the Carabinieri Barracks, surrounding the barracks. During the demonstration the population attacked 4 Carabinieri who were slightly wounded

The Military straightaway reacted slightly wounding 6 of the persons.

*** Reenforcements of the Carabinieri immediately intervened reestablishing the public order at 1100 hrs on same day Enquiries are being made in order to be able to arrest the people responsible.

- On Sept. 11, at Ragusa about 800 workers of the local asphalt mines went on strike.

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Reason: Increase in pay, back-payment of "Ricchezza Mobile" Tax, etc.. Practically, the strike can be attributed to solidarity on the part of the workers against the action taken by the management against worker FALCOMETO Giovanni because he refused to buy a box of powdered soup from the canteen, the soup being part of the supplementary ration.

The strike continues. Public Order is normal.

- On September 9 the representatives of the workers of the Democratic Countries arrived at Palermo, and held a meeting at 1000 hrs on Sept. 12 at the Regional Works Office, in Palermo.

In the afternoon of the same day the representatives left for Catania to discuss in that city (or the Province) problems concerning the organization of Italian workers, as at the meeting at Palermo.

- During this week the following Military have been employed, together with the Carabinieri, in the duty of checking handing in of wheat to the "People's" Granaries:

- Catania	Military Garrison,	total of	128	Military.
- Palermo	"	"	" "	122	"
- Trapani	"	"	" "	159	"
- Castelvetrano	"	"	" "	161	"
- Enna	"	"	" "	106	"
- Syracuse	"	"	" "	345	"

c)- Rumours set about by the enemy, pessimistic, over-optimistic or designed to capture military secrets.

None.

d)- Various.

Nothing.

by order,

Sgd A. Chiariotti, Deputy Chief of Staff
Lt Col, acting C/S.

***

0254

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:-Unit Security Report.

MMIA. 7
FILE REF 1
Date Recd 15/9/44

Army Sub Commission, (ACC).,
MMIA.,L.O.,No.I District.

13 Sept 44.

Ref:-L.O/G.7.

To:-Army Sub Commission, (MMIA).,
H.Q., A.C.C.,
R O M E.

A NIL return is submitted in respect of the above subject.

H.C. Howard

Lt.Col.,
MMIA.,L.O.,No.I District.

5723

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

MM A.
FILE REF
Date Recd 8/9/1

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A. P. O. #464, U. S. Army

RCV/jeh
30 August 1944

Subject: Security Intelligence Report - Italian Troops with Fifth Army.

To: General S-2 Officer, Military Mission, Italian Army,
A. P. O. #394, U. S. Army.

1. General Security:

a. Morale: Typical complaints and grievances by Italian Soldiers continue, but not to the extent that morale is seriously impaired. The absences without leave continue because of a lack of proper discipline, by both officers and men.

b. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: None that I am aware of.

c. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition: None.

d. Political Activity - Propaganda: The officers are always arguing politics, but they are like a weather vane, one way, one day, another the next.

e. Relations with and Attitude Towards Allied Troops: Satisfactory.

f. Discipline: Based upon our standards, unsatisfactory.

g. Summary of Military Security: I would rate as satisfactory.

2. Personalities:

a. General Cortese: Reasonably co-operative and satisfactory from an Allied point of view.

b. Major Pollestra Rocco, 210th Division: Is an excellent interpreter and am informed is a good medico, but he is personally obnoxious to me and radical in his views. Could well be demobilized.

c. Captain de Medici: Will report when I see you.

3. Conclusions: I have never been able to get G-2-CI, 5th Army, to ask for any reports from the American Units to which Italian Units are attached. The above views are based upon my personal interviews and observations.

R. C. VAN KIRK.
Major, Infantry,
M.M.I.A. - L.O.,
Fifth Army.

SECRET
-1-

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Report Italian Army

CONFIDENTIAL

Army Sub Commission (SCIA)
H.Q. A.C.C.
R O M E
I/106/1
4 Sept 44

HQ AAI (for SSI)

Copy to: ACC

Ref Appx "A" to our I/106 of 10 May.

Herewith report for Month of August.

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. MORALE

The good news during the month of August was excellent for the morale of the Italian Army. The great successes of the Allied Armies in France, the liberation of Florence and the successful actions of the CIL on the Adriatic Section have had a marked effect on morale. Great satisfaction has been expressed by the War Ministry and General Staff at the publicity given, not only to the CIL but also to the Italian Army working for the Allies in rear areas, by AAI and SCIA. There is a strong conviction that the Italian Army has stood the test through the difficult months since the Armistice and that the fighting of the CIL and the help given by the thousands of Italian troops working for the Allies in docks, on roads and bridges, on L of C and in Pack Transport Coys is appreciated by the Allies in a positive way. The greatest compliment the present Army has had paid came in the news from Mr. Churchill that additional Italian forces would be joined to those already fighting with the Allies, thus publicly confirming the confidence the Allies are placing in the New Italian Army.

Reports from SARDINIA and SICILY indicate that the Italian soldier regards Germany's present plight as desperate; the present developments daily increase the possibility of an early return to their homes.

2. FASCIST - PRO GERMAN - ANTI ALLIED ACTIVITY

The only report of this nature comes from SICILY where a small Fascist conspiracy at PORTO EMPEDOCLE was "cleaned up". The Questore of the town and the CC RR produced a large amount of evidence on the grounds of the Questore wished to intern the persons. Their activities took the form of anti-allied talk, spreading of false rumours, continual expressions of devotion to the Duce and mural decorations.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Fortnightly report for [illegible] August.

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Mangiaforte Nicolo and di Pinzi Anita, a squadrista and ex-federal inspector was interned and the remaining 13 were imprisoned for a limited period.

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF ARMS

Nothing to report.

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITY

All reports indicate that the Italian Army is not politically minded as a whole. Some increase in Communist activity is reported from SARDINIA and SICILY. This may possibly be due to the fact that the Communist party is more active and possibly better organised than the other political parties.

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A report from the CIL states that there is little interest in Italian politics. No signs of communist organisations have been observed and there is no indication of monarchist propaganda. It will be remembered that the Minister of War issued Directive on "Political tendency in the Army" on 25 May 1944 calling attention to the fact that the Italian Army must be "above party".

5. RELATIONS WITH AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS ALLIED TROOPS

Save for isolated cases relations with Allied troops are good.

6. DISCIPLINE

Satisfactory. Some units in Sicily have had trouble and stern punishment have been given to offenders. Desertions and absenteeism continue, but on a reduced scale.

7. RUMOURS AND INDISCREET TALK

Rumours, especially of landings in all parts of Europe and of developments in other theatres are always rife. One particular rumour from Sardinia treats of Allied Control of Italy for a period of ninety-nine years, and it is claimed by most of the personnel that Italian Seaports are to be occupied by Allied Government agents for the purpose of a absolute control of shipping.

8. SUMMARY OF MILITARY SECURITY

Three enemy agents were dropped by parachute in the vicinity of Cabras (Sardinia) about 13 August. Two of them were apprehended by shepherds and turned over to the American Military authorities. The third was apprehended at his home several days later by CIC and Italian Secret Service Personnel. Investigations on an explosion in the Italian bomb dump at Decimomannu on 3 July eliminates the possibility of sabotage.

It is clear that there is no Security Organisation as such in the Italian Army. Considering this the Italians, with Allied help, are becoming slowly more security minded. Recent censorship reports show a decline in Breaches of Security Regulations.

B. PERSONALITIES

1. Information (white) - Nothing to report.

2. Information (black) - Nothing to report.

2 B.

Ref foo

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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2. Information (black) - Nothing to report.

2 B.

CGL.

Maj Gen
Army Sub Commission

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

0260

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

To Army Sub Commission.

Attached security report submitted later than called for because of necessity for investigation of incidents at Chieti and Aquila - 23-25 August.

Capt.
Liaison Officer.

5740

10261

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

To Army Sub Commission. ACC.

MMIA.LO.
60 Sub Area
25.8.44

Subject:- Security - Italian Army.

Area covered - 60 Sub Area
Period from - 25.7.44 - 25.8.44.

I. General Security.

1. Officers have had disciplinary troubles with units from Sardinia arriving in this area, a high percentage of them not having boots, thus causing discontent.
With a few units minor ration complaints. CIL rft units attached to Delegazione 'A' disgruntled at not getting any longer CIL ration scale. Authority being requested for this to be re-granted.
2. Nil to report.
3. Nil to report.
4. Nil to report.
5. On 31.7.44. at Chieti? a parachutist COVINO insulted a SAAF officer walking with local resident and his daughters. Parachutist punished. Report submitted to MMIA on 10.8.44.
When 447 Bn Bersaglieri moved from S.Salvo to Minervino, the employing unit 121 Rd Cons Coy turned out to see them off. Most cordial relations.

Investigation at Aquila of typewritten slips warning girls against consorting with Allied soldiers. General belief that not soldiers but civilians are to blame. Weekly general dances are very successful and local Italian C.O. most co-operative.
6. Incident at Chieti, when three soldiers of I Rft Bn invaded CCRR barracks and threw a grenade. They were under influence of drink. Two of these have since been deserted. CCRR surprisingly lax to have permitted them to create such a disturbance within their quarters.
7. Nil to report.
8. Nil to report.

J.H.Bourne Capt.
Liaison Officer.

10262

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Y SDM/rrc

SECRET

Headquarters A.A.I.
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Army Sub Commission
A.P.O. 509, U.S. Army

M.A.I.A. I
INTEP
Date Rec'd 9/1

25 August 1944

TO: Commanding General, Army Sub Commission, ACC, APO 394.

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Outstation: Allied Garrison Sardinia Area Covered: Sardinia

Report No. 4 Period from 20 July to 20 August

A. General Security

1. Morale:

(a) It is clearly evident that Allied prestige has been greatly augmented by the successful landing in Southern France on 15 August and continued Allied successes on all fronts. From the tone of Italian officers' conversation, it is clear that they regard Germany's present plight as desperate. Among the ranks of the Italian soldiers stationed here on Sardinia, the present developments are thought to increase the possibility of an early return to their homes.

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities and Trends: Nothing to report.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition: Nothing to report

4. Political Activity:

(a) Some increase in Communist activity has been reported. Several political meetings were held in Cagliari and Sassari provinces and Communist propaganda was disseminated. Public reception to these meetings and propaganda was not enthusiastic.

5. Relations With and Attitude Towards Allied Troops:

(a) Continue to be favorable.

6. Discipline: Very satisfactory.

7. Rumors and Indiscreet Talk - Breeches of Security

(a) One particular rumor dealing with the post-war position of Italy has been the topic of spirited discussions by the Italian soldiers. It treats of Allied Control of Italy for a period of ninety-nine years and it is claimed by most of the personnel that

SECRET

0263

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Italian seaports are to be occupied by English and American government agents for the purpose of absolute control of shipping. It is noted that these rumors have commenced contemporaneously with the news of major Allied gains and successes.

(b) No apparent breeches of security.

8. Summary of Military Situation and Similar Matters.

(a) Three enemy agents were dropped by parachute in the vicinity of Cabras (Oristano) about 13 August. Two of them were apprehended by shepards and turned over to the American military authorities. The third was apprehended at his home several days later by Counter Intelligence Corps and Italian Secret Service personnel.

(b) Investigation of an explosion in the Italian bomb dump at Decimomannu on 3 July 44 was completed during this period. Results eliminated the possibility of sabotage as the bombs were of Italian and German make and were out of use.

B. Personalities

1. Information (white) on higher leaders:
Nothing to report.

2. Information (black) on higher leaders:
Nothing to report.

F. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Representative in
Sardinia

5746

24 I 5 44

To:- MMIA, Army Sub Comm, ACC
From :- LO (G) CIL

Security Intelligence Report

Outstation - CIL
Report No - 1

Area Covered - CIL Ops Area
From - 25 Jul to 25 Aug 44

1. MORALE

(a) Complaints

(i) Chief complaint has been that CIL tps have been given no rest, that most of them have moved north from LANCIANO on foot and that they would be entitled to relief. They have now been relieved save for five bns, and this relief was welcomed.

(ii) Italian tps often express the feeling that they are in a condition of inferiority to allied tps in personal and unit eqpt, but the feeling does not appear to be strong enough to effect morale.

(iii) A chief grievance of all ranks is the insufficient supply of cigarettes.

(b) Fascist, pro-German, anti-Allied activities or trends

NTR. I have been unable to find any grounds fer outside rumours of fascist trends in NEMBO.

(c) Political activity - Propaganda, Monarchism

There appears tobe little interest in Italian politics among tps. A case occurred in which an Italian NCO sang the International in a Polish area and was taken into custody forthwith. A further case in which a soldier wrote to a communist newspaper saying that CIL tps were starving. But I see no signs of communist erg among tps. There is also no indication of monarchist propaganda, unless the recent arrival of the Duke of Aosta (whose [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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(d) Relations with and attitude towards Allied Tps

Save for isoltaed cases relations with British tps is good. Relations with Poles at all levels have been more difficult. Poles have refused cooperation when they could.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

6. **Discipline**

Discipline in our sehse is poor. Respect for rules and relulations seems to exist only when authority is present to enforce it. There are always a number of AWLs, soldiers who take leave to visit th families in recently liberated areas. In the past month some 70 men of PIENONTE bn and a number of 29 Bers bn departed in this fashion. A percentage of them return at their own good pleasure. They know they can leave with impunity as they can hardly be traced. A part of such AWLs or dewertions could be avoided if there were a policy clearly defined as to tps visiting families in liberated areas.

7. **Ruhours and Indiscreet Talk**

Rumours, especially of landings in all parts of Europe and of developements in other theatres are always rife. Indiscreet talk is general because tps have no security trg . As soon as fwd tps reach a town they plaster it with posters saying W + unit name, often adding bde and name of commander. NEMBO are worst offenders. In PERGOLA I got an almost O of B of a bde.

8. **General**

5744

There is no security org in CIL. Therefore a report must be based on what one hears. Chief of Staff has considerable infm on discipline through A channels, but I am not now in touch with him. An FSO recently moved to SASSOFERRATO to make a security check tells me that apart from the obvious points mentioned above, in the past ten days he has found no serious breaches here and no trace of person or persons wilfully;aiding the enemy or spreading harmful propaganda.

J. A. Philip Capt.

J A Philip, Capt.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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J A Philip

J A Philip, Capt.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

0268

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT: Monthly Security Report

SECRET

Army Sub Commission (MMIA)
H.Q. A.C.C.
ROME
I/1064
21 May 44

Major R.C. Van Kirk
MMIA LO HQ 5th Army
G-4 Section

Herewith attached as requested copy of Monthly Security Report of 10 May.

CCL.

Maj Gen
Army Sub Commission

SECRET

MMIA	I
FILE REF	1
Date Recd	23/9/44

Army Sub Commission ACC
(MMIA) L.O. Sicily
% ACC Sicily Region Hq.
APO 394

No.620

20 Aug 1944

Subject: Reports - Security Intelligence - Monthly

To : GOC Army Sub Commission ACC(MMIA)
Attention: GSI

Copy to: Cmdr 56 Area, Catania (Info)
Cmdr N.O.B., Palermo (Info)

Out Station - Sicily
Report No.4

Area Covered - Sicily
Period from 20 July to
20 Aug 1944

In compliance to your I/106 dated 10 May '44 hereby submit the following report:

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. MORALE.

5747

a The succession of good news of Allied Landing and advances in the last month has given a decided lift to the morale of the Italian Army in the effect that they think the end of the war is in sight.

b On the 3rd August Military Hq of Sicily sent approx 100 Italian soldiers to Partinico (about 25 miles SW of Palermo) to quell a reported disturbance amongst the civilians which is said was due to a shortage of bread. No trouble arosed and the soldiers returned to Palermo. Carabinieri has the situation in hand. (Reported by M.H.S.)

c The collection of the grain harvest is still very slow, and there is still strong resistance over handing the grain in. Civil Police and Italian Military are out forcing the farmer to hand the grain over. (G 2(I) ACC Region 1)

d Organized criminal bands are again operating on the is-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Copy to: Cmdr 56 Area, Catania (Info)
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c The collection of the grain harvest is still very slow, and there is still strong resistance over handing the grain in. Civil Police and Italian Military are out forcing the farmer to hand the grain over. (G 2(I) ACC Region 1)

d Organized criminal bands are again operating on the island and there is a threat of them increasing. (G 2(I) ACC Region 1)

e On the 21 July a fire occured at the oil jetty at Palermo docks. A ship was discharging 100 octane and in starting up the booster pump on the jetty a spark ignited the petrol and burnt the 6 inch rubber hose line for approx 50 yds from the ship to the pump. The fire was soon under control. The court of inquiry found no trace of sabotage. (6 BPSC, RASC)

f On the 5th August a strike occurred amongst the civilians dock workers at Palermo for higher wages. When it was threatened that Italian Military would be brought in the men returned to work. (Reported by Ministry of War Transport)

g Evidence still continues to come to hand about the illegal crossing of the Strait of Messina in large numbers and it is not considered necessary to report on individual cases. The method of fares do not appear to vary very much. (Report of 51 FSS)

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI ALLIED ACTIVITIES OR TRENDS.

Ref Security Report No.3, par 2 Fascist activities at PORTO EMPEDOCLE. It was decided to have a "clean up" in this town. A large amount of detailed evidence was produced by the Questore and CCRR on the grounds of which the Questore wished to intern 14 persons. Their activities took the usual form of Anti-Allied talk spreading of false rumors, continued expressions of devotion to the Duce and mural decorations as well as attempts to influence the local youths.

It was decided that MANGIAFORTE Nicolo Fu Vincenzo E di Punzi Anita a Squadrista and ex Federal inspector should be interned and the remaining 13 would be incarcerated for a limited period on Italian Civil charges. This is felt will have a steadying effect not only on the Fascist elements at Porto Empedocle but also at Agrigento as there is definitely a connection between these two groups. (From Report of 51st FSS)

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF AMMUNITION.

Quantities of amn and arms are still held illegally by the civilians as it has been shown by various disturbances that have occurred. CCRR will have to make every endeavor to collect this as it might become a serious menace to the internal security of the island. (Report 51 FSS)

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

Separatist Movement. A number of meeting have been held by this movement, but it does not appear to have a very strong hold on the people. Its main idea is a free Sicily and to preach hate against the Italian Government. In most cases it appears to favor the Allies even suggesting that America or Britain should make Sicily a protectorate. (From Report by 51st FSS)

5. RELATIONS WITH AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS ALLIED TROOPS.

May be broadly outlined as follows: British troops are respected for their good discipline, but many Sicilians have been heard to say that they would prefer the return of American troops for economic reasons and because they feel more at their ease dealing with their "distant cousins". Their apparently unfriendly attitude towards the British is very often occasioned by a kind of awe. at British reserves which quickly breaks down once relations are established. (From 51st FSS report)

6. DISCIPLINE

a On the 21st July 4 Italian soldiers of the 45 Inf Regt who were acting as train guards interfered [illegible] bathing at the Lido [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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6. DISCIPLINE

a On the 21st July 4 Italian soldiers of the 45 Inf Regt who were acting as train guards interferred with an Italian Family bathing at the Lido Syracuse. Firing shots in the close vicinity to where the family were bathing. The father of the family a "Railwaymen" recognized the men as part of the train escort of the train 7307 which had arrived at Syracuse on the night of 20/21 July. One of the soldiers struck the railwayman in the mouth. At this stage the RTO S/Sgt R.M.Bennet and L/Cpl Gardner intervened. The RTO ordered the whole escort to report to the office of the Guard Commander ~~an~~ by this time a large crowd had gathered. The RTO dispersed the crowd. The Guard Commander (an officer) tried to take the names of these men but they refused to givethem the necessary information. He said he would be able to get the names from his unit and would report the matter immediately. (From a report by S/Sgt Bennet RTO Syracuse) It was due to the strong but tactful handling by the RTO and his staff that nothing more serious occurred. M.H.S. have been asked to advise of disciplinary action taken.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

b Apart from above incident discipline appears good as can be expected according to Italian standards.

7. RUMORS AND INDISCREET TALK (51st FSS report)

a PALERMO - from civilian sources - that arrangements are being made for Sicily to be leased to America for a period of 90 years after the war.

b TRAPANI - from an RASC escort that all Allied troops are supposed to be out of the island within the next two months. From Military sources (before the end of July) that another invasion is to take place either in the south of France or the north of Italy at about the middle of this month.

c Cannicatti - from civilian sources that the terms of the Armistice include the following - the ports of Palermo, Bari, Taranto, and Genoa, to be taken over by the British. Industries, railways and state monopolies to be taken over by America on a 90 year basis. Sicily to be taken over by America, Sardinia to be given to the French, Trento, Trieste and Fiume will be handed over to the Austrians, Libia will be given to Turkey.

6. SUMMARY OF MILITARY SECURITY

The circulation of Italian Military all over the island for the purpose of collecting the grain crop has prevented any major disturbances up to date.

B. PERSONALITIES.

574

1. COL. LO VECCHIO.

In all my dealings with Col Lo Vecchio, Director of the Commissary for M.H.S., who is about 55 years old, I have found him to be intelligent and very cooperative. He has improved the quality of the bread being produced, his reports are punctual and reasonably reliable and the general state of depots has improved. In comparison with other Italian officers, I would consider him a capable, energetic and efficient officer.

2. LT. COL. BERTINI.

Lt. Col. Bertini, about 50 years of age, has been the C.O. of the 505 S.S. Bn since we established our office in Palermo. The Bn was engaged in guarding Allied dumps and installations and carried out its duties very well. I was particularly impressed by the efficient manner in which the battalion departed from Palermo, by rail. It was an operation of which any Allied Bn Commander could feel proud.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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LESTER R ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

* Encls: 1. Ref No.2673/01 M.H.S. dated 21 July 1944.
2. Ref No.2786/01 M.H.S. dated 28 July 1944.
3. Ref No.2934/01 M.H.S. dated 4 Aug. 1944.
4. Ref No.2785/01 M.H.S. dated 5 Aug. 1944.
5. Ref No.3082/01 M.H.S. dated 11 Aug. 1944.
6. Ref No.3258/01 M.H.S. dated 18 Aug. 1944.

* Enclosures to Army Sub Commission (MMIA) only.

SECRET

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10275

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

DS/gi

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 2673/01 Palermo, July 21, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To M.M.I.A. Detachment H.Q.,
Army Sub-Commission, c/o I.B.S., Palermo.

Herewith, for your information, a copy of the report (see subject) sent to-day to H.Q. 56 Area.

by order,
Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

DS/gi

d.s. - d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 2673/01-SECRET Palermo, July 21, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To H.Q. 56 Area, Catania.

1 - Military Security

At about 2230 hrs on July 16, 2nd Lt AMBU Giovanni, Sgt MONCERI Eugenio and Infantryman EZIT Romeo, of the 46 Inf. Regt and on orderly duty at the Boccadifalco Guard installations, have arrested a certain CITITO Antonio fu Rosario, born at Palermo on June 6, 1912, and having domicile in via Perpignano, Fondo Seidita, while he was trying to unlawfully take away two complete American Truck-wheels.

*** CITINO Antonino was arrested and handed over, together with the stolen goods, to the American Police.

2 - Miscellanea

a) - Relationship between Troops and Civilian Population.

Has kept good.

b) - Morale of Civilian Population, behaviour of Civilian Authorities and reaction of the Population.

On 12 July the Floridia (Syracuse) Carabinieri sequestered a large quantity of bread and pasta which was to go onto the Syracuse Black-Market. 10 persons were arrested.

Immediately afterwards a person (man with a penal record) incited the crowd, consisting mostly of boys, to turn against the authorities and asking for the immediate sale of the sequestered goods, insulting and interfering with the Carabinieri.

*** The said person, responsible for the incident, has been arrested. The ready intervention of Carabinieri re-enforcements caused the Public Order to be re-established.

5739

c) - Rumours set about by the enemy, undermining, over-optimistic, or meant to catch military secrets.

Nothing to report.

d) - Various.

In Baucina (Palermo), there has been a case of Typhoid Fever on adult person, and Mediterranean Fever also on adult person.

*** The local Sanitary Authorities have taken the necessary prophilactic precautions.

by order,
Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

0276

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

/ma

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 2786/01 P.M. 126, July 28, 1944.
Subject: Weekly report on Operational Security.
To M.M.I.A. Detachment H.Q.,
Army Sub-Commission, c/o I.B.S., Palermo.

Herewith, for your information, a copy of the report re.subject sent to-day to H.Q. 56 Area.

by order,
Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 2784/01 Palermo, July 28, 1944.
Subject: Weekly report on Operational Security.
To H.Q. 56 Area, Catania.

1 - Military Security

At 1300 hrs on July 19, 1944, GIAMMANCO Domenico di Salvatore, 46 years old, stole seven cases of "Azonite" from the Amn Dump in contrada "Parisi", Bagheria.

*** The thief, immediately identified by S/Ten Dangone, C.O. of the Amn Dump guards, was arrested. All the stolen goods have been found.

Unknown persons have stolen about 3 km of military telephone line, between Gibilrossa and S.Caterina, also taking the poles.

*** Enquiries are being held. Instructions have been sent to the Carabinieri in order to stop such acts of sabotage being repeated.

2 - Miscellanea

a) - Relations between Troops and Civilian Population

Are being maintained good.

-In the Agrigento Military Garrison the following military are being employed for control duty for handing in of wheat to people's Granaries: 9 Officers, 26 N.C.O.s(W.O.s & Sgts), 26 N.C.O.s(Cpls), 260 Men.

-In the Trapani Military Garrison the following have been employed for the same duties: 5 N.C.O.s and 32 Men per day.

-At Castelvetrano 2 N.C.O.s and 21 Men carried out the same duties.

-On July 11, at about 1130 hrs, a certain Maugeri Giuseppe fu Matteo, 30 years old, was hit and badly wounded in the left shoulder by a shell-splinter, from a shell which was blown up in regione Acquamare at about 100 yards from the town of Regalbuto, by the salvage squad of 16 Arty Regt.

*** The wounded man was straight away taken to Catania Hospital. It has been proved that the squad is not to be blamed for the incident, and that Maugeri, against the order given to the population to remain indoors, stayed in the court-yard in front of his house.

b) - Morale of the Civilian Population, behaviour of Civilian Authorities and reaction of the Population — Nothing special to report.

c) - Rumours set about by the enemy, discouraging and overoptimistic, or meant to capture military secrets — Nothing to report.

d) - Various — N.N.

By order,

Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

0277

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

DS/gl

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 2934/01 Palermo, August 4, 1944.
Subject: Weekly report on Operational Security.
To M.M.I.A. Detachment H.Q.,
Army Sub-Commission, Palermo.

Herewith, for your information, a copy of the report re. subject sent to-day to H.Q. 56 Area.

by order,
Sgd A.Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

DS/ma d.s.-d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 2917/01 Palermo, August 4, 1944.
Subject: Weekly report on Operational Security.
To H.Q. 56 Area, Catania.

1. - Military Security.

- At 0730 hrs on July 23 fante FURBARO Francesco, sentry at post No 43-F Port, Palermo, noticed about twenty civilians who were about to steal wood from the Allied dump that is located there. Two of the civilians, seeing that the sentry had no intention of allowing them to pass and meant to follow the orders heh had had, moved off and came back a little later accompanied by an English Military, and all of them took up threatning attitudes, forcing the sentry to very resolutely order them away. When everybody saw that the sentry meant what he said, they moved off without further trouble.

- At 1200 hrs on July 23 a group of about 500 sulphur-mine workers forcibly occupied the rooms of the "Concordia" Club, ex FFascio" House, at Grotte (Agrigento), in order to set up a "Chamber of Work".

*** The immediate arrival of the Carabinieri and of Men of the Agrigento Military Garrison, led by 8 N.C.O.s and 2 Officers, reestablished order. At 1900 hrs on July 23 the Men returned to their locations.

- At about 1600 hrs on July 25, near the Cerva (Palermo) Amm Dump, some civilians, while searching for salvage from American Amn, caused a fire.

*** The immediate arrival of the guard stopped the fire from spreading. One of the civilians who caused the fire was arrested and handed to the Carabinieri.

- On the 26th of July, near the Palermo Stadium, two American Military, Pte SANI Stello A.C.C. n.7675 reg. and F.C. BORGANT Elves, Supply Du A.C.C., were stopped, asis laid out in the guard orders, by the Italian sentry, fante CORONA Ferdinando. The American Military obeyed the order but refused to give him their names and took up a threatning attitude towards the sentry, forcing him to keep them away by using his rifle. Before moving away one of the Military used insulting language, towards the sentry, and threatned to meet him outside as soon as he was off duty. This he did on the afternoon of the same day, repeatedly kicking and punching Fante Corona.

- At 1900 hrs on July 27, near the Palermo Stadium, an English Military attempted to bring a 12-year old boy into the Stadium recinct. Following the orders he had received, the Italian sentry, fante PORRU Arturo, of the 46 Inf. Regt. opposed the English Military reminding him of the orders not allowing civilians to enter.

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Despite this, the English Military, taking the boy by the hand, tried to drag him into the recinct. Fante Porru, upon this happening, decidedly opposed the action. The English Military then tried to assault and disarm the sentry, whilst two other English Military intervened trying to help the first one. The immediate intervention of the Italian guards caused the attackers to move away, and no other acts of violence were carried out.

- On July 28 last some civilians tried to bribe the sentry at the Misilmeri Petrol Dump, in order to be allowed to take away petrol. The sentries, having seen that it was impossible to get the said civilians to move away, opened fire, at which the civilians replied with heavy rifle fire.

The civilian succeeded in escaping, protected by the dark and the heavily wooded country. Enquiries have been started to find the persons concerned.

--At about 2100 hrs on July 30, in the waiting room of the Piazza Armerina Brothel, a "fante" of that Garrison came to words with one of the prostitutes. Another "fante" intervened to try and settle the argument, but to no avail as he was attacked, punched and kicked.

To stop the fight between the two Italian Military some English Military that were present intervened (They belonged to the local detachment of the A.A.V. Ries-Bellia). One of the latter, CIOLIS Edoardo by name, was set upon and punched by fante BELLAMOLI Enrico, of the 30th Cannon Coy. The Italian "fante" was pinned down by English Corp. CONTES Giorgio and by English soldiers PALATUT Konnet and BLINLI Bil, who were present at the incident.

*** Fante Bellamoli Enrico has been confined to the unit cell and has been given the utmost of punishment. The Italian Military Garrison H.Q. has sent in its apologies to the A.A.V. Ries-Bellia Detachment H.Q., because fante Bellamoli Enrico was responsible for the incident.

- At 0030 hrs on July 31, at Palermo, 2nd Lt IACONO Antonio, attached to the Commisary H.Q. of this H.Q., having intervened to help certain women who alleged they were being molested by an American Military, was mortally wounded by a pistol-shot fired by the latter.

The officer expired at 1640 hrs on August 1.

*** From the enquiries made so far by the Italian Police, together with the American Police, it appears that it was an act (Unprovoked) of violence on the part of the American Military.

- At 1000 hrs on July 31 the Forte Menaia (Messina) Ammunition Dump blew up. The cause seems to be the auto-combustion of "innescamento" gun-powder of propellant charges, which set fire to about 40 cases of "balistite". Victims: 2 Italian Military - 2 others and 1 civilian badly wounded. An inquest is being held.

*** Military of the 2nd Bn 45 Inf. Regt, Allied Military and the Fire Brigade intervened to put out the fire that had spread to the surrounding gorse.

- At 0115 hrs on August 3 three civilians attempted to carry out thefts from the via Perpignano Air-plane factory, guarded by guard No 7/30 F of the 46 Inf. Regt. Not having obeyed to the challenge the sentries opened fire on them. Two civilians succeeded in escaping, the third was wounded in the left fore-arm and was captured.

*** Enquiries are continuing to discover the authors of the theft.

2. -Miscellanea.

a- Relations between the troops and the civilian population.

Are being maintained good.

- In order to check the handing in of wheat to the "People's Granaries" in the Comunes of Serradifalco, Mazzarino, Pescecane and Landro the following military have been employed: 4 N.C.O.s and 40 Men of the 16th Arty Regt, at Caltanissetta.

b- Morale of the civilian population, behaviour of civilian authorities and REACTION OF THE POPULATION.

---- On August 2, because of likely disturbances at Partinico due to the pasta not being distributed, the Prefettura requested adequate reenforcements for security.

*** 50 Men under the comand of 1 Officer were sent.

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c- Rumors set about by the enemy, undermining or over-optimistic, or meant to capture military secrets.

Nothing to report.

d- Various.

N. N.

by order,

Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

10280

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

DS/gi

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Pef. No 2785/01 Palermo, August 5, 1944.

Subject: Incident at Agrigento, amongst XXXth Morter Bn.

To Army Sub-Commission A.C.C.,
(M.M.I.A.) L.O Sicily, Palermo.

Reference your request in letter No 542 dated July 27, and pointing out that this H.Q. has not received your letter No 540 dated July 27:

1. Describtion of incident.

On the evening of July 4, at 2145 hrs, fante LEZZERI Antonio of the 3rd Coy XXXth Mortar Bn reentered the Bonamorona Barrack buildings slightly inebriated, refusing to parade as ordered by the orderly N.C.O..

Lt BALSAMO Francesco, Coy C.C., who was present at that moment, intervened personally, and when the "fante" still refused to carry out orders he gave instructions that he be put in chains. The Officer, having seen that this action had caused bad feeling amongst a few of the men, which they demonstrated by holding a disorderly meeting in front of the Coy offices, gave orders that they should all go to their posts in the rooms and he then immediately went out on a light truck to call Capt. PESCE Domenico, who was comanding the Bn in the absence of the official C.O..

During the absence of Lt Balsamo a few rifle-shots were fired into the air, and some hand-grenades were thrown. Everything quietened down quite soon and no military was absent from the roll call held early in the morning.

2. Steps taken.

a) - For the complete helplessness they showed and lack of understanding of the responsabilities attached to their rank, extremely serious punishments have been dealt out to the Bn vice-C.O. and to the Lt, Coy C.O..

b) - Other Officers present in the barracks were also punished for not having intervened with sufficient energy.

c) - LEZZERI and four other Military who were more to blame for the incident have been taken into custody to be tried by the Military Tribunal.

5734

by order,

Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

0281

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

DS/

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 3082/01 Palermo, August 11, 1944.

Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.

To M.M.I.A. Detachment H.Q.,
Army Sub-Commission, Palermo.

Herewith, for your information, a copy of the report (see subject) sent to-day to H.Q. 56 Area.

by order,

Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

DS/ma d.s - d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 3073/01 Palermo, August 11, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To H.Q. 56 Area, Catania.

5733

1. - Military Security

- On August 7 at 0955 hrs, near the Vittoria (Syracuse) Rly Siding, for reasons that are as yet not known, two rly wagons loaded with explosives blew up. The explosion spread to other six wagons being unloaded, they too being full of ammunition. There were victims, military and civilian, wounded and serious damage was done to civilian and army owned buildings.

*** Military of the 46th Inf. Regt were sent to the spot to clear the debris and stores. A regular inquest is being held.

- On ~~August~~ July 30, in the Syracuse Rly Station Guard-rooms, fante FIORE of the 9th Coy, 45 Inf. Regt, accidentally wounded two fanti of the same Coy with his rifle. The two wounded military later died.

*** An inquest is being held in order to discover the real facts.

- At 1130 hrs on August 1, two civilians came up to Sector No 3, and offered the sentry, fante ERRA Francesco of the 46 Inf. Regt the sum of 1500 lireto let them take away a drum of petrol, to be carried out at night. Fante Erra immediately warned the post-commander of this and he arrested the two civilians. Fante Erra has been rewarded by the G.O.C. M.E.S. for his examplery conduct.

- On August 12, a gang of 12 civilians went up to the sentry of guard No 61 F (furnished by 46 Inf. Regt) at S. Lorenzo Colli, asking him to be allowed to take away some petrol. The sentry informed the guard commander who immediately went to his post and at the same time made arrangements for the local detachment of English troops to be informed. The Italian military then opened fire on the civilians who were trying to take away petrol drums. The thieves replied to the fire and then escaped.

10282

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

- On August 5, at about 2000 hrs, at Misilmeri (Palermo), an unidentified military threw a hand-grenade at two civilians. One civilian was wounded.

*** An inquest is being held in order to trace the Military.

2. - Miscellanea

a)- Relations between troops and civilian population.

Are keeping good.

-- The following Military have been employed to check the handing-in of the wheat to the 'people's granaries'; during this week:

- Catania Military Garrison: 10 squads totalling 108 Military;
- Trapani " " : 35 N.C.O.s and 259 Men;
- Castelvetrano " " : 14 N.C.O.s and 161 Men;
- Palermo " " : 2 N.C.O.s and 108 Men;
- Syracuse " " : 2 N.C.O.s and 20 Men;
- Agrigento " " : 14 Ofcrs, 25 N.C.O.s and 364 Men;
- Caltanissetta " " : 3 N.C.O.s and 23 Men;
- Enna " " : 3 N.C.O.s and 60 Men.

b)- Morale of the Civilian Population - attitude of civilian authorities and reaction of the civilian population.

- On August 7, at Palermo, about 150 workers of the local Municipal Gas Coy improvised a demonstration, going along via dei Mille, via Roma and piazza Castelnuovo.

When they arrived in via Siracusa, near the offices of the Gas Co., they made it clear that if they were not allowed to carry on work they would occupy the w/shops and the ovens.

Reason for the demonstration: the gas workers had had information that the coal that had already been set aside for the production of gas was to be withdrawn and used for the electric power-station.

The manager of the Co. promised his men that he would put the question up before the authorities and asked them to keep calm while awaiting higher-up decisions. After this the men went away.

*** Carabinieri and Civilian Police intervened. Normal Public Order.

c)- Rumours set about by the enemy, pessimistic, over-optimistic or meant to capture military secrets.

Nothing to report.

5733

d)- Various

N.N.

by order,

A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

0283

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

DS/ma

d.s.- d.s.c.

Military H.Q. of Sicily
"Operazioni Add. & Mob." Office.

Ref. No 3258/01 Palermo, August 18, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To H.Q. 56 Area, Catania.

1) - Military Security

On August 17, the 505 S.S. Bn passed under comand of the 8th Army from being under comand of No 3 District.

On August 13, an air-squadron of light English Aircraft flew low over the coast area of Western Sicily, following the coast in the direction of Capo Granitole-Capo S.Marco One of the 'planes, marked with the number RO-FS 648, on arriving above Campobello di Mazara (Trapani), flying low, was fired upon from the ground and the shot killed the 1st Pilot Sgt/Mjr Robert Walter.

*** An enquiry is being held to find and arrest the author of this very serious incident. It is beleived that the killing of the N.C.O. concerned is to be blamed on rural delinquency which is widespread in the areas of Western Sicily.

2) - Miscellanea

a) Relations between troops and civilian population

Are keeping good.

b) Morale of the civilian population, attitude of civilian authorities AND REACTION of the population.

On August 11 at about 1200 hrs, in the Fellamonica zone, comune of S. Giuseppe Jato, a patrol consisting of 3 Carabinieri, 2 members of the civilian police force (Agenti P.S.) and 8 Fanti of the 46 Inf. Regt on duty checking the handing in of wheat to the "People's Granaries", ordered 8 persons, leading as many mules loaded with grain, to stop. The farmers, instead of stopping, fired a few rifle-shots at the Military. 5731

The latter readily reacted without however succeeding in capturing any of the persons concerned because the latter succeeded in getting away through the nearby thickly planted cane-plantations.

Two pools of blood were found on the spot, proving that probably one of the persons had been wounded.

*** 210 Kilos of grain were sequestered and two mules. The enquiries are being continued which will lead to the capture of the persons.

On August 12, in the "Fontana Rossa" zone, comune of Cerda, Palermo, previously implicated Cicero Loreto fu Gaetano in order to escape canture, tried to throw two hand grenades at two Carabinieri. Carabiniere Petrucci, in order to neutralize this action, threw himself at the person breaking his (the person's) right arm. The latter was arrested and the hand-grenades were sequestered.

On August 12, at 1230 hrs, in the Fellamonica zone, comune of S. Giuseppe Jato, a patrol composed of two Carabinieri, two civilian Policemen and two Fanti of the 46 Inf. Regt called upon two civilians, driving grain-laden mules, to stop. One of the farmers, instead of stopping, fired two rifle-shots at Fante Coccodi, without however wounding him. The Fante immediately reacted wounding the second farmer who however seemed harmless, whilst the other one escaped through the vin-yards.

*** The wounded person was taken to the Palermo Benefratelli Hospital. The enquiries are being continued.

0284

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

On August 16, in the S. Giuseppe Jato comune (Palermo), a patrol consisting of 3 Carabinieri, 2 land-guards and 6 Fanti of the 46 Inf. Regt, during checking duty of handing of Grain to the "People's Granaries", was fired upon by 4 unknown persons, who were also armed with sub machine-guns. During this conflict Fante Antonio Zara was killed.

*** Enquiries are being held to find and arrest the guilty.

During this week the following Military have been employed, together with the Carabinieri, to help in keeping a check on the handing in of Grain to the "People's Granaries":

Palermo Military Garrison	.....2 Officers,	10	N.C.O.s	and	163	Men.
Ragusa " "	..... ----	2	"	"	18	"
Agrigento " "	....14 Officers,	25	"	"	364	"
Trapani " "	..... ----	35	"	"	259	"
Castelvetrano " "	..... ----	14	"	"	161	"
Catania " "	.....1 Officer,	8	"	"	121	"
Enna " "	..... ----	5	"	"	97	" .

c) Rumours set about by the enemy, pessimistic or over-optimistic or meant to capture military secrets.

None.

d) Various

None.

by order,

A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

***

Subject:-Unit Security Report, period 16 JULY 44 to 31 JULY 44.

41

L.C.,Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C.,
Military H.Q., CALABRIA,
Pontegrande-CATANZARO.

2 Aug 44.

Ref:-G.8/MS/15.

D

To:-Army Sub Commission, (M.M.I.A.).,
H.Q., A.C.C.,
R O M E.

M.M.I.A.	1
FILE REF	1
Date Recd	9/8/44

1. The morale of the troops in CALABRIA continues to be reasonably good.

2. Information was received by Public Safety Officer, Region VII., A.C.C., that certain civilian employees of Direzione, Comando Genio, Military H.Q., CALABRIA, were indulging in pro-Fascist activities. A full investigation has shown that the allegations were completely unfounded, and were made by two individuals who were acting in a spirit of vindictiveness because they had been accused of dishonesty. These two individuals are now being suitably dealt with.

5789

55

3. Ref. para 2 of last security report G.8/MS/14 of 20 July 44, I have not yet received from P.S.O. Region VII., A.C.C., his report.

4. Ref. para 3 of same report, full details are not yet available.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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5739

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55

4. Ref. para 3 of same report, full details are not yet available.

Capt., R.E.,
R.E., L.C., Military H.Q., CALABRIA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

0287

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

Army Sub Commission ACC
(MMIA) L.O. Sicily
% ACC Sicily Region Hq.
APO 394

No.560 31 July 1944

Subject: Reports - Monthly and Quarterly.

To : GOC Army Sub Commission ACC (MMIA)

1. Enclosed herewith following reports:

a Order of Battle.

b State of Italian Army in Sicily

2. Enclosed herewith following reports in compliance with Appendix "D" MMIA Adm Ins No.3 dated 4 June 1944:

a Monthly Strength State of Italian Armed Forces

b Monthly Demand (Medical Stores)

c Ten day Forage Demand

d Monthly requirements from Local Resources (Subsistence)

e Monthly Return of Disinfectants.

f Quarterly Stock Return of Medical Stores.

3. Reports mentioned in Par 2 above have been forwarded to Ministry of War by Military Hq of Sicily. Forwarded for your information.

LESTER R ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

Encl: As listed in Pars 1 & 2 above.

SECRET

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Reports
Italian Army

File

Army Sub Commission (AMIA)
H.Q. A.C.C.
ROME
I/106/1
6 Army 44

H.Q. A.A.I. (for GSI)

Copy to: HQ A.C.C.

Ref Appendix "A" to our I/106 of 10 May.

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. Morale

A slow but steady improvement in the morale of the Italian Army is reported from all sources. Troops in rear areas are less pessimistic about the future of their country, while the fighting soldiers of the CIL, who have shown courage and good fighting qualities in action during the past month, generally express confidence in the speedy liberation of Italy and the deliverance of their families in the North. The Italian Press, in particular the Rome papers, are printing more articles on the battles fought by the Italian Corps in recent operations and stories have appeared describing individual acts of gallantry on the part of officers and men in the Corps. Newspapers and Radio have given the news of the visit of the Lieutenant General and the War Minister to the Italian Combat Troops - at the front and the public is gradually getting "Italian Army" conscious in spite of the great publicity given in the press to the Italian Patriots. The morale of the Army will improve considerably when Italians are told more of what the Army has done and is doing for the Allies, not only in the battle area, but in labour units, guard duties, engineer units, L of C and port detachments.

Owing to the liberation of fresh territory it is now possible to recruit younger classes into the Army and demobilise the older classes whose morale is low owing to very long periods of service and an impatience to return home. Furthermore, the increase in the number of volunteers for the Army shown in recent days is bound to have a favourable effect on morale generally. Great publicity has been given in the Press and in the speeches of Ministers to the prospects of an increase in the combat formations of the Italian Army as indicated in Mr. Churchill's recent speech.

The new single ration scale for the Army which came into effect on 1 August is bound to have a favourable effect on morale of the original "Scale B" troops, though reports go to show that it is likely to have an adverse effect on "Scale A" (combat) troops, who suffer a considerable reduction (6 oz flour and 3 oz pasta) per day. This is the staple or basic food of the Italian, who likes bulk in his belly and is not so interested in calorific value.

2. Fascist - Pro-German - Anti Allied Activity

The only report of Fascist activity comes from SICILY. A Fascist circle has been discovered in PORTO EMPEDOCLE. The Questura and ACC are [illegible] the Italian Authorities [illegible]

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2. Fascist - Pro-German - Anti Allied Activity

The only report of Fascist activity comes from SICILY. A Fascist circle has been discovered in PORTO EMPEDOCLE. The Questura and ACC are fully in the picture and the Italian Authorities of Agrigento wish to intern 14 participants. An investigation into possible Fascist activity in the University of Palermo has been instituted.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms

A few local disturbances in Sicily, in which hand grenades were thrown and rifle shots fired, indicate that there is some illegal storage. In the opinion of our L.O. this storage is not on an organised scale.

4. Political Activity

The following report comes from SICILY :-

a. FILIBERTO, Giuseppe di Marco on 18 December '43 applied to the "Cavaliers of Liberty" for membership and was accepted conditionally but later expelled when his Fascist history was revealed. He organised the "Volunteers of Sicily and Sardinia" appointing himself C.C., with the rank of Captain, and promised his followers to obtain authority from the Italian Government to form bands of patriots with a salary

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of 10,000 to 15,000 lire a month. He holds meetings at his home in Palermo and states in speeches that the Germans are his enemies. His followers are young Italians between the ages of 16 and 20 and in his anxiety to obtain support of the Sabauda Division led two Sabauda Div officers to report him to the Questura at Palermo. He is reported to be still a follower of Alfred CUCCO, former Vice-Secretary of the Fascist Party in Palermo (now arrested in Rome). He has always been active in Fascist affairs. In the Abyssinian War he enlisted in the Tevere Div where he and his comrades distinguished themselves by their thefts, looting and murdering. When the present war broke out he enlisted voluntarily in the Red Cross from which he was dismissed in 1942 for being involved in fraud.

b. PERTORA, Vincenzo gave a discourse for the "Partito d'Azione" at Trapani 7 July. This group represents Socialists and anti-Monarchist sentiments and received the speaker well. He stressed more cooperation with the Allies and better relations with France and blamed the Italians on the mainland for the present unhappy position with the latter.

5. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops

These continue to be good. Incidents between Allied and Italian troops which have occurred in the past when shots have been fired and personnel wounded or killed should now be avoided owing to an order issued to the Italian Army by General Berardi - Chief of Staff - stating that all ranks in the Italian Army are prohibited to carry arms of an description when off duty.

6. Discipline

Reports from Army areas are good. In Calabria and Sicily discipline is fair. One incident reported by our LO in Sicily is recorded.

On July 4th an officer of the 30 Mortar Bn (Sabauda Div) at AGRIGENTO gave orders for the Carabinieri to arrest an Italian soldier who was drunk. Consequently the majority of the soldiers demonstrated, firing rifle shots and throwing hand grenades wounding a cadet officer. The soldiers were quieted by releasing the "drunk" and disappeared in to the country side but returned early next morning. These soldiers have been dissatisfied for some time at the meagerness of their food and the poorly prepared food. The men attribute this to the lack of interest taken by their officers who are said to enjoy good and abundant food. The C.O., Lt Col PANNAIN, Asperio was away on convalescent leave. The unit is largely Sardinians and many have criminal records. (51 Field Security Section report). This unit was formerly at Palermo and when here I inspected the battalion and was of the opinion that they ranked high as an Italian unit and that the C.O. was efficient and looked after his men as he was making improvements in their quarters. However an early inspection will be made of this unit by this officer.

7. Rumours and Indiscreet Talk

In Palermo certain rumours were spread about the movement of British and U.S. troops and a possible landing in the South of France. Rumours amongst Italian troops in Polcorps stated that Polcorps is to be withdrawn and replaced by 5 Corps. These are most prevalent amongst the officers, who are looking forward to such a change. There is a general feeling of optimism as to a speedy end to the war coupled with [illegible]

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8. Summary of Military Security

The following is an excerpt from the G-2 Periodic Report, Allied Garrison of Sardinia, 2 July 1944. On 26 June 1944 an enemy Italian aircraft, type SM 79, departed from Venegono Airfield in German-occupied Italy with five (5) Italian Air Corps enlisted men who had seized the ship in order to escape to liberated territory. Four (4) of the soldiers reside in Catania, Sicily. They had planned to land in Sicily but due to shortage in fuel they were directed to Elmas Airdrome, Sardinia. They were all referred to the CSMIC representative in Sardinia and the subjects are now being held for final disposition.

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Troops of XII Italian Corps are placed in strategic points in the grain belt on the Island to be prepared to assist the Police in collecting the grain and quell any disturbance that might arise. Although there has been no major disturbance in collecting the grain the producers are reluctant in turning in the grain at the prices fixed. An order has been issued to each Province that the grain must be collected 15 days after thrashing (G-2 (Intelligence) ACC Region I).

B. PERSONALITIES

Nothing to Report.

A.D.

Maj Gen
Army Sub Commission

CEL.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

F/1061/1

To Army Sub Commission.ACC. — MMIA.HQ.
Main Hq. M.M.I.A. — c/o 60 Sub Area.

M.M.I.A. | FILE REF I/1061 | Date Recd 28/7/44

25.7.44.

38

Subject. Security in Italian Army.

Area covered. 60 Sub Area.
Period from 25.6.44.& 25.7.44.

(a) Much discontent because of recent order that men are to be 'congedati' only when substitute has arrived. Considerable difficulty in getting rfts for this area. From 15 June to 16 July, 203 have deserted. This figure does not include the 'genio' units. A very few have returned after seeing their families.
(b) Nil.
(c) Nil.
(d) Nil.
(e) Incident at CHIETI on 2 July, when Indian capt: with girl mena-ced by Italian soldiers with knives. Rescued from church by CMP. Criticism of ensuing investiga-tion forwarded in separate report to MMIA.

J.H.Bourne Capt.
Liaison Officer.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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NARA, Date 10-4-01
FILE #
Date Rec'd 12/7/44

Headquarters A.A.I.
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Army Sub Commission
A.P.O. 509, U.S. Army

20 July 1944

TO: Commanding General, Army Sub Commission, ACC, APO 394.

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Outstation: AGC Sardinia — Area Covered: Sardinia

Report No. 3 — Period from 20 June to 20 July

A. General Security

1. Morale:

(a) There is a general feeling of optimism throughout the Italian Army due to the continued Allied progress on all fronts.

(b) Two letters of complaints were received from Italian soldiers during this period. The first letter was written by a private in the Engineer Corps. He praised his company, a mobile bridge building shop; he also listed the Tables of Organization; and lamented the fact that his company has been idle for the past five months awaiting shipment to the continent. A copy of the letter was forwarded to Italian Army Headquarters for any action deemed necessary. The second letter was written by a private, now a mental patient in the 40th Station Hospital. He asserted that he is not insane and that he has been excessively maltreated. The Italian Army Headquarters has been requested to investigate and report findings to this office.

5725

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities and Trends:
Nothing to report.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition:
Nothing to report.

4. Political Activity:

(a) After a proximately a fifteen (15) year absence, Emilio Lussu, prominent Sardinian and fervent anti-Fascist returned to his native Sardinia on 1 July 1944. During the Fascist reign, he had been interned as a threat to the Fascist security on the island. He was warmly greeted upon his return to Sardinia as he told the masses that Sardinia was not forgotten and that the problems and difficulties confronting Sardinia could be set by full cooperation on everyone's part.

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5. Relations With and Attitude Towards Allied Troops:
(a) Continue to be favorable.

6. Discipline: Very satisfactory.

7. Rumors and Indiscreet Talk: Breeches of Security: Nothing to report.

8. Summary of Military Security: Other Matters:
(a) The following is an excerpt from the G-2 Periodic Report, Allied Garrison of Sardinia, 2 July 1944. On 26 June 1944 an enemy Italian aircraft, type SM 79, departed from Venegono Airfield in German-occupied Italy with five (5) Italian Air Corps enlisted men who had seized the ship in order to escape to liberated territory. Four (4) of the soldiers reside in Catania, Sicily. They had planned to land in Sicily but due to a shortage in fuel they were directed to Elmas Airdrome, Sardinia. They were all referred to the CSDIC representative in Sardinia and the subjects are now being held for final disposition.

B. Personalities
1. Information (white) on higher leaders: Nothing to report.
2. Information (black) on higher leaders: Nothing to report.

F. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Representative in
Sardinia

NOTE:
Security Intelligence Reports for this Outstation are prepared by Captain Louis A. Cerutti, Cavalry.

57

FILE REF
Date Rec'd 16 7 44

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Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Orbitation PONCORPS Area Corps Sector

Report No 3 Period from 23 Jun to 22 Jul

1. Morale The morale of troops is high, owing to the continued advance despite strong enemy resistance. Fighting troops have plenty of confidence in themselves, though shortage of kit and especially of entertainment does not help morale. Annoyance is caused by leave restrictions in Army area; their attitude is that when troops may fight in the line, they should surely be permitted to visit their liberated homes. A number of men from C.I.L. have been stopped & sent back by C.M.P. when proceeding on leave to Eighth Army area. (P.O)

2. Pro-German Activity etc. N.T.R. All Cpls whose opinions I have heard have been bitterly anti-German. (P.O)

3. Illegal Storage of Arms NIL

4. Political Activity No suppressed political propaganda. Crown Prince UMBERTO was warmly welcomed on his recent visit to the troops. (P.O) 57

5. Relations with Allied Tps No suppressed bad feeling at all. Relations between Italian troops and Allies has always been good. Combat Tps have their own rest camps. (P.O)

6. Discipline Good.

7. Rumours General rumour that Polish Corps is to be withdrawn and replaced by 5 Corps

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A number of men from C.P.W. have been stopped & sent back by CDM.P when proceeding on leave to Eighth Army area (P.O)

2. Pro-German Activity etc N.T.R. All Cpls whose opinions I have heard - have been bitterly anti-German (P.O)

3 Illegal Storage of Arms NIL

4. Political Activity No signs of political propaganda Crown Prince UMBERTO was warmly welcomed in his recent visit to the troops (P.O)

5. Relations with Allied Tps No signs of bad feeling at all Relations between Italian troops and Allies has always been good. Combat Tps have their own sector (P.O)

6 Discipline Good.

7 Rumours. General rumour that Polish Corps is to be withdrawn and replaced by 5 Corps Prevalent among officers, who are looking forward to such a change. General feeling of optimism about a forthcoming finish to the war, coupled with fear of going out of the line to rest right at the moment of victory

Army Sub-Commission

GO Donnell.
Capt
Liaison Officer

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1029 #

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:-Unit Security Report, period 1 JULY to 15 JULY 44.

B 23/7

35

L.C.,Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.,
Military H.Q., CALABRIA,
Pontegrande-CATANZARO._ _ _ _ _ _

20 July 44.

Ref:-G.8/MS/14.

I/106/c
25/7

To:-Army Sub Commission, (M.M.I.A.).,
H.Q., A.C.C.,
R O M E.

1. The morale of the troops in CALABRIA continues to improve slightly (I draw this conclusion from my conversations with all ranks on recent visits).

2. I have heard vague reports of arms and ammunition being discovered in the REGGIO area, and I have asked the P.S.O. of Region V11 A.C.C. for a brief report on this which I hope to include in m y next Security Report.

3. Ref. my letter G.14/115 of 15 July 44; I am unable to judge of the Seriousness [redacted] of the incident until I have received the American version from O.C., 800 Engineer Forestry Coy., COSENZA.

4. Enclosed herewith is a brief history and report on XXX Corps by Capt.DAL LAGO, at present working for P.W.B. in CALABRIA. He is a very shrewd man, but the narrative is coloured very much by his own experiences.

[signature] 57
Capt.,
M.M.I.A., L.O.,Military H.Q.,CALABRIA.

Encl:-Report by Capt.DEL LAGO.

REPORT BY CAPITANO DAL LAGO.

I. XXXI Corps came into being in CALABRIA in the first year of the war, and was one of the first Corps which formed the backbone in 1941 of the VII Army, commanded by H.R.H. The Duke of Bergamo, Adalberto Di Savoia Genova, who had the task of the defence of Southern Italy and whose H.Q. was in CAVA DEI TIRRENI (SALERNO). The jurisdiction of XXXI Corps, bordered on the North East by that of IX Corps and on the North West by that 19 Corps. Actually this large formation was scattered over the three provinces of CALABRIA with particular regard to coastal zones. It was made up of three coastal divisions - the 211, the 212, the 227 and a tactical division operating as a mobile reserve, the "MANTOVA" Infantry Division. XXXI Corps was commanded in succession by Generals ZINGALES, TADDEO ORIANDO, MERCALLI (who commanded it at the time of the Allied invasion of the peninsular) and CORONATI. One cannot in conscience talk of regiments or units which particularly distinguished themselves in so far as XXXI Corps - like all the other big units scattered in the defence of the peninsular - performed its task during three years of long, demoralising waiting during which a few small units of infantry of the coastal batteries were engaged occasionally and spasmodically with their activities of Commandos on the coast, or some coastal battery in action against Allied submarines operating along the coast against Axis shipping - all operations of limited importance and of small relief. At the time of the Allied invasion of CALABRIA one can say that all the large units were cut up, already tried by aerial bombardment and above all by the insupportable material and moral situation brought on by three long years of political and military misgovernment of the troops, deprived of the most indispensable means of arms, equipment, rations, and annoyed by unfortunate methods of commands, and above all broken in morale. As for one of the bulletins of the Italian Command in the first days of September speaking of the praiseworthy conduct of the combat of the 211 Coastal Division it cannot be said in reality that there was any serious resistance. The news was given more than anything else for motives of internal propaganda. The truth is that all the coastal troops of XXXI Corps scattered, offering a spectacle of confusion of disorder by no means edifying. Lengthy and patience was the word for the reconstitution and re-organization of the dismembered troops, a work which, I may say, has continued until a short time ago and to a certain extent is still continuing. The present situation of XXXI Corps is that of a body with a big head and very reduced limbs; in fact Headquarters are plethoric and the troops very thin. Actually XXXI Corps has 400 officers above its organisation; in fact it consists of one regular division of infantry the "MANTOVA" composed of the 113 and 114 Regiments formed in their turn from the Depot of the 800 Infantry Regiment in MANTOVA, a division which has not yet been engaged having being held in reserve as a manoeuvreable unit and on which it is

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far as XXXI Corps - like all the other big units scattered in the defence of the peninsular - performed its task during three years of long, demoralising waiting during which a few small units of infantry of the coastal batteries were engaged occasionally and spasmodically with their activities of Commandos on the coast, or some coastal battery in action against Allied submarines operating along the coast against Axis shipping - all operations of limited importance and of small relief. At the time of the Allied invasion of CALABRIA one can say that all the large units were cut up, already tried by aerial bombardment and above all by the insupportable material and moral situation brought on by three long years of political and military misgovernment of the troops, deprived of the most indispensable means of arms, equipment, rations, and annoyed by unfortunate methods of commands, and above all broken in morale. As for one of the bulletins of the Italian Command in the first days of September speaking of the praiseworthy conduct of the combat of the 211 Coastal Division it cannot be said in reality that there was any serious resistance. The news was given more than anything else for motives of internal propaganda. The truth is that all the coastal troops of XXXI Corps scattered, offering a spectacle of confusion of disorder by no means edifying. Lengthy and patience was the word for the reconstitution and re-organization of the dismembered troops, a work which, I may say, has continued until a short time ago and to a certain extent is still continuing. The present situation of XXXI Corps is that of a body with a big head and very reduced limbs; in fact Headquarters are plethoric and the troops very thin. Actually XXXI Corps has 400 officers above its organisation; in fact it consists of one regular division of infantry the "MANTOVA" composed of the 113 and 114 Regiments formed in their turn from the Depot of the 800 Infantry Regiment in MANTOVA, a division which has not yet been engaged having being held in reserve as a manoeuvreable unit and on which it is difficult to pass a reliable judgement. It is obvious to think that the long inactivity has not had a good influence on the combat qualities and th their striking power. The artillery at the disposition of the Corps is actually very reduced right to its limits. The Services are stronger. The rest of the troops are scattered in small units (companies, battalions) in process of re-organisation.

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II. The regional origin of the men of XXXI Army Corps varies; but for the most part they are Southerners (60%), and as for the rest one can say that all the Provinces are represented.

III. The general reaction to the constitution of political parties on the part of Officers, N.C.Os. and Men of the Corps is in general weak and indifferent - but stronger on the part of the Officers. The Southerners are completely uninterested in politics, being lacking in political education and maturity - which explains the apathy in question. Of the other soldiers (of Central,and Northern Italy), about 10% read the papers, listen to the radio etc. on politics. Among the N.C.Os., about 30% are interested in politics - with very little understanding. This understanding of politics is generally lacking among the Officers also - whether reservists or regulars, particularly the younger ones. However, about 80% of officers, read the newspapers, listen to the radio (including German transmissions) and hold lively discussions. The soldiers' reaction to the government provision forbidding political activity to members of the Armed Forces was practically nil among troops and N.C.O.s: among the Officers it was keen enough in the sense that particularly with Officers of the reserve such a participation would be desirable. Among those who are interested in politics, the parties followed are: among the O.R.s the Communist Party, among the Regular Officers, the ordered Parties with neo-fascist savour. Among Officers of the Reserve, tendencies are varied: a noted tendency is towards the neo-fascist parties - [illegible] (Union Party, etc.) but there is also a section which sympathises with the demi-liberals, another with the Christian Democrats and small bodies which propound the idealism of the Action and the Communist Parties. The feeling of devotion towards the king, although a little anaemic exists in the greater part of the soldiers of the South. It is much less keen in the others, some of whom manifest a positive aversion to the House of Savoy. Among the Officers (except those in permanent service who are all devoted to the King) sympathy towards a Republican Regime gains more ground every day. The Senior Officers, and in particular the General Officers, see with manifest aversion the growing tendency of their juniors to mix in politics and seek to offset it in every way.

IV. Trials for desertion at the Military Tribunal of XXXI Corps from September till the present time number 21,000 - a percentage of 30%. Of these roughly 4% were Officers and 6% N.C.O.s The greater part of the deserters were those who were tired of the War and tired of Army life. The unpopularity of the War, the privations suffered in it, the disorganisation of the Army, the ill-treatment suffered from stupid and incapable superiors, and above all the lack or poor quality of the food and clothing and the very bad sanitary conditions of the billets, combined with a strong desire to revisit the family were the main causes of desertion up till December 1943.Desertions after that date - on a much smaller scale were due on the one hand to the fear of having to fight

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The attitude of XXXI Corps to Allied troops is one of perfect loyalty. There have been no incidents in these 8 days between Italian and Allied troops.

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For the moment Italian troops should only be employed in the back areas, though a force of volunteers of modest proportions could take part in action provided they were well armed, and well paid and led by leaders other than their present ones. A notable part (particularly among Officers) has a longing for Fascism, caused more than anything by the discomfort and disorder of the present situation and the lack of political education, and adopted more as an expression of discontent than as an expression of profound and sincere sentiment. There are still a few fanatical supporters - mostly in bad faith - of the ideologies of the late regime. But the propaganda they make is very cautious and entirely oral. There are no members of the disbanded M.V.S.N. among the Units of XXX Corps.The few who did exist in the ranks of the CC.RR have recently been weeded out. The Regular Army has towards the Militia and ex-members of similar organisations and increased feeling of contempt.

2 June 1944.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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SI INT/106/1 MONTHLY REPORTS. SECURITY. 1st jacket

Opened May 10, 1944. Closed Mar. 1, 1945

MAY 1944 - MAR 1945

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I/106/34
23/7

Army Sub Commission ACC
(MMIA) L.O. Sicily
% ACC Sicily Region Hq.
APO 394

No.505

20 July 1944

Subject: Reports-Security Intelligence- Monthly

To : GOC Army Sub Commission ACC (MMIA)
Attention: GSI

Copy to: Cmdr. 56 Area, Catania
(Thru MMIA LO Major Thrupp (Info)
Cmdr. N.O.B., Palermo. (Information)

Out Station - Sicily
Report No.3

Area Covered - Sicily
Period from 20 June to 20 July 1944.

In compliance to your I/106 dated May 1944 hereby submit the following report:

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1.MORALE. An improvement is noticed among the Italian Armed Forces since the Allies have taken Rome and advanced north in Italy. Many of the troops stationed in Sicily come from the recently liberated part of Italy and are anxious about the welfare of their families. Generally the majority take no interest in the progress of the war elsewhere.

2.FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI ALLIED ACTIVITIES OR TRENDS 571
A particularly vicious fascist circle has been discovered in PORTO EMPEDOCLE. The Questura and ACC are fully in the picture. As a result of these investigations the Questura of AGRIGENTO wish to intern 14 participants. This town has always been tough. An investigation into possible fascist activity in the University of Palermo has been instituted. (From report of 51 Field Security Section).

3.ILLEGAL STORAGE OF AMMUNITION. The Italians have illegally some hand grenades and rifle ammunition as shown in a few local disturbances throughout Sicily, but my opinion it is not on an organized scale. Frequent firing of rifle in streets of Palermo nights by both Italian soldiers and civilians.

5.POLITICAL ACTIVITY. (From Report of 51st F.S.S.)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Report No.3 Period from 25 June to 25 July 1944.

In compliance to your I/106 dated May 1944 hereby submit the following report:

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. MORALE. An improvement is noticed among the Italian Armed Forces since the Allies have taken Rome and advanced north in Italy. Many of the troops stationed in Sicily come from the recently liberated part of Italy and are anxious about the welfare of their families. Generally the majority take no interest in the progress of the war elsewhere.

2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI ALLIED ACTIVITIES OR TRENDS 57 A particularly vicious fascist circle has been discovered in PORTO EMPEDOCLE. The Questura and ACC are fully in the picture. As a result of these investigations the Questura of AGRIGENTO wish to intern 14 participants. This town has always been tough. An investigation into possible fascist activity in the University of Palermo has been instituted. (From report of 51 Field Security Section).

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF AMMUNITION. The Italians have illegally some hand grenades and rifle ammunition as shown in a few local disturbances throughout Sicily, but my opinion it is not on an organized scale. Frequent firing of rifle in streets of Palermo nights by both Italian soldiers and civilians.

5. POLITICAL ACTIVITY. (From Report of 51st F.S.S.)

a FILIBERTO, Giuseppe di Marco on 18 December '43 applied to the "Cavaliers of Liberty" for membership and was accepted conditionally but later expelled when his Fascist history was revealed. He organized the "Volunteers of Sicily and Sardina" appointing himself O.C., with the rank of Captain, and promises his followers to obtain authority from the Italian Government to form bands of patriots with a salary of 10,000 to 15,000 lire a month. He holds meetings at his home in Palermo and states in speeches that the Germans are his enemies. His followers are young Italians between the ages of 16 and 20 and in his anxiety to obtain support of the Sabauda Div led two Sabauda Div officers to report him to the Questura at Palermo. He is reported to be still a follower of Alfred CUCCO, former Vice-Secretary of the Fascist Party, Palermo (now arrested in Rome). He has always been active in Fascist affairs. In the Abyssinian War he enlisted in the Tevere Div where he and his comrades distinguished themselves by their thefts, looting and murdering. When the present war broke out he enlisted voluntarily in the Red Cross from which he was dismissed in 1942 for being involved in fraud.

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b PORPORA, Vencenzo gave a discourse for the "Partito d' Azione" at Trapani 7 July. This group represents Socialists and anti-Monarchist sentiments and received the speaker well. He stressed more cooperation with the Allies and better relations with France and blamed the Italians on the mainland for the present unhappy position with the latter.

5. RELATIONS WITH AND ATTITUDE TOWARD ALLIED TROOPS.

a As a whole very good, there is occasionally minor squabbles between Allied Troops and Italians generally due to one party being intoxicated as shown in XII Corps Weekly Reports on Opn Security enclosed herewith.

Most of the U.S. troops have departed from Palermo and Trapani. The secrecy of this movement was well kept as the U.S. troops were confined to barracks before the movement began.

6. DISCIPLINE

a On July 4th an officer of the 30 Mortar Bn (Sabauda Div) at AGRIGENTO gave orders for the Carabinieri to arrest an Italian soldier who was drunk. Consequently the majority of the soldiers demonstrated, firing rifle shots and throwing hand grenades wounding a cadet officer. The soldiers were quieted by releasing the "drunk" and disappeared in to the country side but returned early next morning. These soldiers have been dissatisfied for some time at the meagerness of their food and the poorly prepared food. The men attribute this to the lack of interest taken by their officers who are said to enjoy good and abundant food. The C.O., Lt Col PANZALIS, Amperio was away on convalescent leave. The unit is largely Sardinians and many have criminal records. (51 Field Security Section report). This unit was formerly at Palermo and when here I inspected the battalion and was of the opinion that they ranked high as an Italian unit and that the C.O. was efficient and looked after his men as he was making improvements in their quarters. However an early inspection will be made of this unit by this office.

b On a whole discipline very good considering Italian standards.

7. RUMORS AND INDISCREET TALK. (51st F.S.S. Report)

a Palermo- (1) U.S. Naval personnel and U.S. Troops. That 20th and 21st Port Embarkation Units under command of a general will be the striking force in the next landing which is due to take place shortly, and which will be in the South of France.

U.S. Crusiers taking part in this landing will arrive in the port of Palermo 14 July.

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U.S. Crusiers taking part in this landing will arrive in the port of Palermo 14 July.

(2) U.S. Naval Personnel - that 5 U.S. Battleships are due in Palermo on 14 July, and that they were concentrated in the Bristol Channel untill a few days previous. One of these is the " Indiana".

(3) Civilian source - that a British Garrison is moving into the Palermo area and that all the American troops are moving out. Also that on 15 July '44 a number of American Naval personnel are coming to Palermo.

(4) From patients in U.S. Naval Hosp - that Stalin said he was 1000 hours from Berlin, and Churchill that he was 50 days away. These statements are reported to have been made by B.B.C.

b Trapani- (1) Civilian sources - that Trapani is to be taken under the care of U.S. Navy.

(2) That 2000 British troops are arriving in Trapani.

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8. SUMMARY OF MILITARY SECURITY. (b)

Troops of XII Italian Corps are placed in strategic points in the grain belt on the Island to be prepared to assist the Police in collecting the grain and quell any disturbance that might arise. Although there has been no major disturbance in collecting the grain the producers are reluctant in turning in the grain at the prices fixed. An order has been issued to each Province that the grain must be collected 15 days after thrashing (G-2 (Intelligence) AGO Region 1)

B. PERSONALITIES. NTR.

LESTER R ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

Encl: 1. Ref No.2163/01 XII Italian Corps dated 23 June '44.
2. Ref No.2280/01 XII Italian Corps dated 30 June '44.
3. Ref No.2426/01 XII Italian Corps dated 7 July '44.
4. Ref No.2582/01 XII Italian Corps dated 14 July '44.

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SECRET

XIIth Italian Corps H.Q.
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office.

Ref. No 2163/01 Palermo, June 23. 1944.

Subject: Weekly report on Operational Security.

To M.M.I.A. Detachment,
Army Sub-Commission A.C.C.
c/o I.B.S. Palermo.

We are sending you, for your information, a copy of the report stated in the "Subject" sent to-day to H.Q. 56 Area.

by Order,
for the Chief of Staff, (absent on duty)
Sgd A. Chieriotti, Deputy Chief of Staff.

I)- Military Security
Nothing to report.

II)- Miscellanea

a) - Relations between troops and civilian population.
On June 19 th, at Palermo, ia 28 Ottobre, a coloured American Soldier, billeted in Fondo Morello, attacked a tailor of the place punching and kicking him, and stole from him the sum of 2005 lire and a wrist watch of the value of 2000 lire.

b) - Morale of the civilian population - behaviour of civilian authorities and reaction of the population.
No incident to be reported.
The military happenings in Italy and France are being followed with increasing interest and faith by the Sicilian population.
In Syracuse several posters of the newly formed "Partito della democrazia del Lavoro" were pasted on the walls,, explaining the policy of the party based on the new rights of labour.
It has been found that the water of Villabate (Palermo) is contaminated with "bacterium coli" at 7% per litre. Traces of nitrous acid have also been discovered.
*** The civilian authorities have already taken precautions. It is thought that this is due to infiltrations due to the breakage of pipelines.

c) - Rumours started by the enemy, over-optimistic or meant to capture military secrets.
N.N.

d) - Various :
Nothing to report.

A. Mariotti, G.C.C.

for certified copy,
for the Chief of Staff, (absent on duty)

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FO/ma

SECRET

XIIth Italian Army Corps H.Q.
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office.

Ref. No 2280/01

Palermo, June 30, 1944.

Subject: Weekly report on Operational Security.

To M.M.I.A. Detachment,
Army Sub-Commission,
c/o I.B.S., Palermo.

Herewith, for your information, a copy of the report stated in "Subject" sent to-day to H.Q. 56 Area.

by order,
Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

DB/ma

d.s. - d.s.c.

XIIth Italian Army Corps H.Q.
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office.

Ref. No 2280/01

Palermo, June 30, 1944.

Subject: Weekly report on Operational Security.

To H.Q. 56 Area,

Catania.

1) - Military Security

* The 145 Arty Group has arrived in the the Syracuse zone, strength: 140 men, C.O. Captain DONNINI.

2) - Miscellanea

a) - Relations between troops and civilian population

- On June 25, at Palermo, in via 28 Ottobre, a civilian, living in the same street, was assaulted and the sum of 2000 lire and a watch was stolen from him by a coloured American Soldier.

At 2300 hrs on the same day and in the same locality, and by the same above-mentioned soldier, a farmer was assaulted and 1200 lire and a knife were stolen from him.

- Morale of the civilian population, behaviour of civilian authorities and attitude of the population.

- At 1500 hrs on June 27, on the Borghetto-Monreale (Palermo) road, at "Contrada Sagona", Carabinieri Captain PAGANO Francesco, O.C. the Monreale Coy, on re-entering to his Location was fired on with an automatic rifle, which immobilised his service-vehicle.

The officer returned fire with his rifle.

At the same time hand-grenades were thrown at him, causing wounds in various parts of the body, healable in 15 days.

Carabiniere MELLUCCI Luigi was also slightly wounded, he being with the officer.

The Vehicle was set on fire.

Captain Pagano continued to react.

When Carabinieri re-enforcements, from Partinico reached the spot, having been immediately informed, the attackers ./.

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./. escaped into the nearby country.
It is beleived the attack was aimed at the killing of the officer, to hinder enquieries that were being made.

*** The O.C. the Palermo Internal Group has immediately begun mopping-up operations, wide-spread, in the district, arresting 50 persons, some of whom were strong suspects and others were in possession of military fire-arms.

- In order to re-enforce the Carabinieri in the Action they will probably have to take, in enforcing the forceful banding in of wheat to the "People's Granaries", it has been found necessary to send a Bn to Agrigento, the XXXth Mortar Bn from Palermo, which left this morning, June 30, at 0915 hrs, by rail.

c) - Rumours started by the enemy, over-optimistic or meant to capture military secrets.

n. n.

d) - Various

- Infantryman Macci Mario, of the 8th Coy, 2nd Bn 45th Inf. Regt, on guard duty at a building in Catania, in which building a party and dance was being held for British Military, wounded an English Sailor (with a rifle-shot), who had tried to enter the building being guarded.

***** Regular enquieries are being made.

A. Mariotti, G.O.C..

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FS/ma

XIIth Italian Army Corps H.Q.
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office.

Palermo, July 7, 1944.

Ref. No 2126/01
Subject: Weekly report on Operational Security.
To M.M.I.A. Detachment,
Army Sub-Commission,
c/o I.B.S., Palermo.

Herewith, for your information, copy of the report re. Subject sent to-day to H.Q. 56 Area.

by order,
Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

d.s. - d.s.c.

DS/ma

XIIth Italian Army Corps H.Q.
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office.

Palermo, July 7, 1944.

Ref. No 2400/01
Subject: Weekly report on Operational Security.
To H.Q. 56 Area, Catania.

1 - Military Security

-- At 2000 hrs on July 2, in the port of Messina, three drunken English sailors orally provocated an Infantryman of the 45 Inf. Regt. The Infantryman sook shelter in a nearby Italian Guard Room. The three English sailors tried to reach him despite the opposition of the sentry. One of the English sailors, having had a rifle from another English Military who was passing by there, fired a shot at the sentry who returned fire. The incident turned into a conflict because of the arrival of other armed English and Italian Military.
Checked losses: Italian, three Infantrymen wounded, of whom one seriously, one Carabiniere who was transiting, killed, and one civilian seriously wounded.
English, two dead and three wounded.

5710

2 - Miscellanea

a) - Relations between Troops and Civilian Population

Always good.

b) - Morale of the Civilian Population, reaction of the population and behaviour of the Civilian Authorities.

** At 1100 hrs on July 1. at Bivona (Agrigento) about 200 persons made a demonstration in front of the "Sindaco"s house protesting because they had been left without food-coupons, the "Alimentazione" Section of the Comune of Agrigento not having received the number requested.
*** The immediate action of the Carabinieri and the promise that from July 2nd the correct ration of food would be equally distributed (bread-ration) caused the people to go to their homes peacefully. The Public Order returned to normal. No incidents.

c) - Rumours set around by the enemy, over-optimistic or meant to capture military secrets.

Nothing to report.

d) - Various

-- On July 3 at Misilmeri (Palermo), there has been a case of Typhoid, followed by death.
*** The sanitary Authorities have taken the necessary prophilactic steps.

A. Mariotti, S.O.C..

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for certified copy, sgd U. Foce, Major.

10316

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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FC/ma

XIIth Italian Army Corps H.Q.
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office.

Ref. No 2582/01 Palermo, July 14, 1944.
Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.
To M.M.I.A. Detachment H.Q.
Army Sub-Commission, c/o I.B.S., Palermo.

Herewith, for your information, a copy of the report vis. "Subject" sent to-day to H.Q. 56 Area.

by order,
Sgd A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

DS/gi d.s. - d.s.c.

XIIth Italian Army Corps H.Q.
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office.

Ref. No 2581/01 Palermo, July 14, 1944.
Subject: Weekly report on operational security.
To H.Q. 56 Area, Catania.

1) - Military Security.

- On July 11, for reasons that are still unknown, an ammunition dump in the Raganella (Sciacca) locality blew up; so far there have been no victims.
*** An enquiry is being held.
- On July 10, at the Boccadifalco (Palermo) Allied Petrol Depot, unknown civilians with the aid of some Italian Military attempted to carry out a theft of Petrol. The ready and energetic action of the sentry and of the guard personnel stopped the theft from being carried out.
One Italian Military, an accomplice, was killed, two of the civilians were wounded.
*** Enquiries are being made with a view to finding the other accomplices of the attempted theft. The goods, consisting of 22 44-gallon drums, have all been found.
- On July 13, while a mine-field near S.Stefano Camastra (Palermo) was being lifted, an anti-tank mine blew up, for unknown reasons, causing the immediate death of the Italian N.C.O. who was carrying out the lifting.

2) - Miscellanea.

a) - Relations between troops and the civilian population.
Always good.

b) - Morale of civilian population - behaviour of civilian authorities and reaction of the population.
Nothing new to report.

c) - Rumours set about by the enemy, over-optimistic, or meant to capture military secrets.
Nothing to report.

d) - Various.
On July 13, Infantryman CALZOLAI Eddi, of the 46th Inf. Regt, was hit by an American truck, No TRK 51, driven by the Negro Jamerson Florenc of the P. 41 Trk Co. The Italain Military received multiple wounds on the head and suspected cerebral haemorage.
At about 2030 hrs on July 10, Infantryman LANDE Antonio of the 46th Inf. Regt, on returning to the guard quarters No 80 (F) near the Favorita (Ten--nis Club), was set upon, for no reason whatsoever by 3 American sailors.
Some Italian Military, having seen from a distance what was happening, ran to the help of Landi. The American sailors, seeing these others arrive, took to their heels. Infantryman Landi was slightly wounded about the head, healable in 5 days unless complications set in.

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At Belognetta (Palermo), there have been two cases of typhoid, on adult persons.

sss The medical authorities have taken the necessary prophilactic steps.

for the G.O.C., absent on duty,
A. Calaresu, Col, Chief of Staff.

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0318

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:- Black/White Lists.

L.O., Army Sub Commission, (ACC)., Military H.Q., CALABRIA, Pontegrande-CATANZARO.

17 July 44.

Ref:- G.9/23.

To:- Army Sub Commission, A.C.C., Main H.Q., (M.M.I.A.)., ROME.

I submit the attached information (Appendix "A") - an account of the arrest of Maj. GAZZANO - for the above report for the period 1 July to 15 July 44.

Capt.,
M.M.I.A. L.O., Military H.Q. CALABRIA.

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Appendix "A"

HEADQUARTERS REGION VII

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

File Ref: RVII/PS/425 Date:

SUBJECT: INTERNMENT OF CIVILIANS - REQUEST BY ACC FOR ORDER OF INTERNMENT.

TO: G. O. C., H. Q. NO.2 DISTRICT.

1. In accordance with the provisions of H.Q. ACMF confidential directive No. ACMF/1401/7/G1 (b) of 2nd February 1944, relative to the internment of civilians, application is hereby made for your Order of Internment in the following case - particulars of arrest and facts of the case are combined in this report.

2. Particulars of Arrest

Name.....GAZZANO Italo Luigi fu Giovanni.
Date and place of birth...23/3/1893, SESTRI LEVANTE, GENOA.
Occupation.....Doctor of Agricultural Science but unemployed at present time.
Address.....No fixed abode.
Date and time of arrest...8/7/1944 at 10.am.
Place of arrest.....CATANZARO City.
Arrested by.....Major G. RICHARDSON, Regional Public Safety Officer, H.Q. Region VII, ACC - no PSS/CIC stationed or operating in the area.
Arrest classification.....By virtue of his position, personality, sentiments and record constitutes a threat to Allied Forces, operations or Military and/or Italian Government.
Recommendation.....Internment for duration of hostilities.
Present location.....In transit under escort to No.371 P.O.W. Camp.

3. Facts of Case and Antecedents

(1) As stated above subject was born at SESTRI LEVANTE, Province of GENOA on 23/3/1893. He is a married man with no children; his only living relatives, wife, mother and sister are resident at SESTRI LEVANTE.

(continued)

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(2) GAZZANO is a Doctor of Agricultural Science having graduated at the University of PISA and during the last war served with the Italian Forces on the northern Italian front with the rank of Captain and was taken prisoner-of-war.

(3) After demobilisation he became interested in fascism and has admitted under interrogation that after joining the P. N. F. on 21st July 1921 he has devoted his life to the furtherence of the doctrines of the Party. The following is his fascist background :-

(a) Squadrista
(b) Marcia su Roma
(c) Soierpe Littorio
(d) 1924 - Sept 1925 - appointed member of Communal Administration, SESTRI LEVANTE.
(e) 1925 - 1926 - Commissario Prefettizio, SESTRI LEVANTE.
(f) 1926 - 1930 - Podesta, SESTRI LEVANTE.
(g) 1925 - 1929 - Provincial Secretary of Technical Agricultural Association for Province of GENOA - a fascist appointment.
(h) 1930 - 1932 - Sindaco, RECCO(GE), Province of GENOA.
(i) 1932 - 1934 - Podesta and Commissario Prefettizio, BORZONASCA, Province of GENOA.
(j) 1934 - 1935 - Federal Inspector, Province of GENOA.
(k) 1935 - 1940 - Federal Secretary, SALERNO.
(l) 1940 - July 1941 - Federal Secretary, POTENZA.
(m) 1941 - May 1943 - Federal Secretary, PISA.
(n) May 1943 - 25/7/43 - Federal Secretary, IMPERIA.
(o) Member of the Fascist National Council.
(p) In 1938 appointed Knight of Sam Maurizio and Lazzaro for services to the State.
(q) In 1941 appointed Grand Officer of Italian Crown for services to the State.

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(continued)

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(4) On 27th July 1943 GAZZANO was re-called to the colours at GENOA, commissioned as a Major and ordered to report to an infantry unit at REGGIO CALABRIA. He never arrived there, but instead reported to the 31st Italian Army Corps and eventually found himself at LAINO BRUZIO, a small village in COSENZA Province. There he lived with a private family and was observed to be associating with certain local residents who held office in the P. N. F. - enquiries as to the activities of these particular people are now in hand from this Office.

(5) At the beginning of March 1944, GAZZANO came to CATANZARO and reported to the H.Q. 31st Italian Army Corps. He was given no particular task or duty, but like so many Italian Army Officers here was left in the district to his own devices.

(6) Information has been received from reliable sources that subject was well informed of conditions in German occupied Italy and for a period was missing from CATANZARO when making an unsuccessful attempt to cross the 'lines' to ROME. [It is also alleged that whilst taking meals at the Italian Officers' Mess in CATANZARO he spread fascist propaganda during conversation with brother Officers but, so it is said, was saved from exposure as the result of protection afforded by certain high ranking Italian Officers.] As was to be expected, GAZZANO denied these allegations when interrogated.

(7) On 26th June 1944, subject was discharged from the Italian Army as his services were no longer required by that authority. It should be explained that this dismissal was in accordance with normal procedure and in no way connected with his fascist background or alleged activities.

(8) As stated in the first portion of this report, I apprehended GAZZANO on 8th July and carried out an interrogation as to his activities, contacts, etc. The following are extracts from the examination and these, I submit, indicate his true sympathies:-

(1) Question - "What are your political feelings"
Reply - "I have no political feelings"

(continued)

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(ii) Question - "Are you still a fascist and do you still believe in the doctrines of the Party"

Reply - "It is very difficult to explain; from one day to another a man cannot be changed".

(iii) Question - "Does that mean that you are still a fascist".

Reply - Subject declined to answer.

(iv) Question - "Did you and do you agree with the Italian - Allied Armistice of September last".

Reply - Subject declined to answer.

(v) Question - "To whom do you owe allegiance, the outlawed Government of Mussolini or the Italian Government of New Italy".

Reply - Subject declined to answer.

(Sgd.) O. Richardson, Major,
Regional Public Safety Officer,
for the Regional Commissioner.

Distribution

Chief, Public Safety Sub-Commission, H.Q. ACC. 5703
Commandant, No. 371 P.O.W. Camp.
O/C, Military Mission, 31st Corps.
Reg. Legal Officer, H.Q. Region VII, ACC.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Y LAC/vjt.

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Headquarters A.A.I.
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Army Sub Commission
A.P.O. 509, U.S. Army

I/106/1 32
19/7

23 June 1944

TO: Commanding General, Army Sub Commission, ACC
Main Headquarters, Lequile (IECCE)

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Outstation: ACS Sardinia — Area Covered: Sardinia

Report No. 2 — Period from 20 May to 20 June

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. Morale:

(a) The opening of the second front in Northwest Europe and the continued Allied advances in Italy have contributed to an amelioration of the Italian soldier's morale. The success of present operations has brought about a more optimistic feeling and a general belief that the war will end in Europe before the end of 1944.

(b) Complaints are brought to the attention of this office through the receipt of anonymous letters and from personal interviews with Italian soldiers. The majority complain about the lack of shoes, cigarettes and rations. An extensive inspection of mess halls and ration dumps in Sardinia was conducted by two officers of this section during this period. It was found that the food issued is adequate, but there is a definite lack of cigarettes and wine. Tobacco is issued to the Italian soldiers, but it is of very low quality. No cigarette paper is issued and consequently most of the tobacco is not used. In respect to wine and tobacco, the complaints from the soldiers are well-founded. During the forthcoming period sufficient shoes are being shipped to Sardinia which should eliminate grounds for complaints on this item.

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti Allied Activities and Trends:

(a) An extract from a letter written by an Italian soldier in Sardinia to a relative on the island was forwarded from Civil Censorship Group by HQ Allied Control Commission Information Division. In part the letter read as follows: "I always will be faithful to ideas I had before no matter what happens. I am a soldier of a beaten Army. It was beaten neither by valor nor by ideas but by the great and brutal strength of the enemy."

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(b) A report from Pyschological Warfare Branch was forwarded by the Provincial Commissioner, Sassari Province relative to a speech by Brigadier Romeo to thirty (30) officers of the Sassari District. He declared that the Allies were stealing their animals and that that the Allies intended to remain on the island for a long period of time. He also stated that he had fought against the Germans in Croatia but that did not prevent him from appreciating German organization. The Provincial Commissioner of Sassari is of the opinion that the report is based on hearsay, but he has taken steps to investigate and we are awaiting a more conclusive report.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition: Nothing to report.

4. Political Activity:

(a) The Italian soldier is not especially impressed by the Prince of Piedmont's assumption of government duties. Umberto, as Lieutenant General of Italy is acceptable for the present, but the majority of the Italian soldiers feel that Italy should be a Republic after the war.

5. Relations With and Attitude Towards Allied Troops:

(a) Continue to be favorable.

6. Discipline: Very satisfactory.

7. Rumors and Indiscreet Talk: Breaches of Security:

(a) Several Italian officers who had been transferred from the mainland to Sardinia during this period told an officer of this section that it was generally believed in the Naples area that a new American Army was being formed south of Salerno, and that a French Corps was in Corsica, both of which would take part in an amphibious landing at LIVORNO before 28 June. These rumors were prevalent among the Neapolitan civilians and not among Allied military personnel.

(b) The transferring of Italian personnel from Sardinia to the mainland was conducted with no reported case of a breach of security.

8. Summary of Military Security:

(a) On the whole, military security in Sardinia is satisfactory.

B. PERSONALITIES:

1. Information (white) on higher leaders:: Nothing to report.

2. Information (black) on higher leaders: Nothing to report.

F. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Representative in
Sardinia

Subject:-Unit Security Report, period I5/30 JUNE 1944.

31
I/1641

L.C.,Army Sub-Commission,(ACC).,
XXXI Italian Corps,
Pontegrande-CATANZARO.

1 July 44.

Ref:-G.8/MS/I3.

To:-Army Sub Commission,ACC.,
Main H.Q., (M.M.I.A.).,
L E Q U I L E. (LECCE).

The following security report for the period I5 June 44 to 30 June 44 is submitted:-

I. The morale of XXXI Corps troops has been raised appreciably by the Allied successes in Italy, but on the other hand, these same successes have increased the restlessness of the men of Northern Italy. The men of Liberated Italy are naturally anxious to visit their freed towns and villages, while those who have their homes or families in German occupied territory have had their anxiety increased by the current stories of German whole-sale destruction in their retreat. (They are convinced that Rome was only spared through the direct intervention of the Pope).

2. Enclosed herewith is an account, forwarded to me by the Public Safety Officer, Region VII., of a fairly serious Fascist organisation unearthed in CALABRIA.

I have just received another report, this time from Capt. Dal LAGO, of the Military Tribunal, on XXXI Corps after the Armistice, of which I will forward a translated copy as soon as it is finished.

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The following security report for the period 15 June 44 to 30 June 44 is submitted:-

1. The morale of XXXI Corps troops has been raised appreciably by the Allied successes in Italy, but on the other hand, these same successes have increased the restlessness of the men of Northern Italy. The men of Liberated Italy are naturally anxious to visit their freed towns and villages, while those who have their homes or families in German occupied territory have had their anxiety increased by the current stories of German whole-sale destruction in their retreat. (They are convinced that Rome was only spared through the direct intervention of the Pope).

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Capt.,
L.O.,XXXI Corps.

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CATANZARO PROV.

APPENDIX "A".

REPORT ON FASCIST ACTIVITIES IN CATANZARO AND COSENZA DISPLAYED BY GROUPS OF EX- P.N.F. MEMBERS.

At the end of October 1943 in Nicastro and in Sambiase (CATANZARO) a fascist re-awakening had been observed followed by many acts of terror to the damage of private people and public institutions that made a strong impression on the local authority.

Following the enquiries set in motion by the CC.RR. it was possible to establish that not only in the Province of Catanzaro but also in that of Cosenza centre of the P.N.F. headed by students supported and directed in the background by some old hands belonging to the same party, were in the course of organization.

For that reason in the final days of the month of April last and latterly the following arrests have been enacted:-

II by the CC.RR. Company of Catanzaro.
34 " " " " " Nicastro.
9 " " " " " Cosenza.
4 " " " " " Crotone.

Also arms, hand bombs and explosives have been confiscated.

The extent of the movement, smothered at birth, was that of reconstructing the Fascist Party, collecting funds and personnel necessary for the organized groups, procuring arms and munitions for carrying out acts of Sabotage, and for initiating a guerilla warfare against the Allied troops with the end in view of aiding, at any cost, the Italians and Germans of Republican Italy and of collaborating with them: For this reason the Province of Catanzaro had been divided into four zones, namely:- Catanzaro, Crotone, Nicastro, Vibo Valentia.

Subjected to interrogation some of the arrested and precisely SERGI Giovanni, CUPIRAGGE Giulio, GALLERANO Gaetano and COLOSIMO Antonio declared that Honorary Lieutenant CAPOCASALE Pietro (also arrested), who was interested in holding united and compact the youngsters who were maintaining Fascist ideas, especially with meetings and propaganda in Catanzaro and Nicastro, had told them that Prince PESCATELLI, head of the movement, was in agreement and was attempting or (yes) would have attempted, to go to Rome to receive orders so as to make him head of a vast phile-Fascist movement, and that from Rome he would have sent some messages

Then at the beginning of March of this year Capocasale obtaining the aid of two young students, sent a letter to [illegible] ask him, as he

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Then at the beginning of March of this year Capocasale obtaining the aid of two young students, sent a letter to ANSANI Simone (arrested) to ask him, as he says, for a prominent post in his coming comittee. In that letter a cipherred message was included that Ansani says he did not find there.

Capocasale now tries to justify himself by saying that he does not know Prince PIGNATELLI, that he gave the youngsters to understand that PEGNATELLI was the head of the organization to give added prestige to it and because he did not think it likely that anyone might go to the other side of the line for the purpose of bringing about unity in order to avoid risks that may possibly follow such an undertaking.

These attempts at justification do not hold when it is realised that Capocasale gave to Colosimo indications of the ammunition and explosives dumps of 31st. Army Corps, although he now tries to make clear that the youngsters knew these dumps and that he did no more than confirm their

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knowledge, knowing that the scope of those who had sought the information from him was that of preventing the said dumps from falling into the hands of the Comunists who were making themselves prominent by astrong burst of activity.

What is more Capocasale is unable to justify the various reasons for which before his departure for Pertona he created with Colosimo and consigned to him a kind of cipher with which they were to communicate between (yes) each other.

It appears to me that Capocasale is one of the principal figures in this affair in which appears also the 18 year old BERNARDI Antonio who together with the parachutist Toni BATTISTINI had the idea of crossing the lines to reach Rome (on the advice of GIMIGLIANO who advanced him 1000 lire expenses for the journey), with the excuse of obtaining news of easier living there, but in effect in order to confer with BARRACU ex-Federale of Catanzaro or with TRANQUILLI ex vice Federale of Catanzaro to whom he would, of necessity, have presented the birth of the movement and demanded funds to sustain it and instructions which would be forced to arrive by radio.

Bernardi and the parachutist, left Catanzaro towards the beginning of January and met at Barletta, but, discouraged by the difficulties encountered turned back. The parachutist, however, left Catanzaro for Bari, and it is not unlikely that the following communication of Radio Rome of 24/4/44 may be attributed to revelations made by him:-

"A parachutist coming from Central Italy, self-presented to a German command has declared that in Anglo-American occupied Italy the will to assist is not to be found; solely one seeks to enroll oneself through hunger. At Catanzaro a group of parachutists have destroyed the press of a comunist paper and have slapped in the face its director Paparazze."

It is Bernardi who with Sergi and Cupiraggi affirm that towards 20-22 April they heard from Radio Rome the following messages "Ei fu siccome immobile" and "Sparse le trecce morbide sull'affannoso petto" messages that would have and must have signified that the guerilla action against the Allies must begin on 5 May 44.

Strange coincidence: On 6th. of May in the neighborhood of the 'terrente' "Alli" on the vehicle tracks to Simeri Crichi (Catanzaro) a rectangular piece of red paper was discovered with word "ATTENZIONE" printed in big letters.

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On the same day an aeroplane was observed believed by some, by the noise of the engine, to be Italian according to others German, which from a high altitude surveyed the Province of Catanzaro. As a result of this it is deduced that this piece of paper formed part of a 'Block', of which other examples have not up till now been found, that may have been dropped from an aeroplane.

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It is not unlikely that this piece of paper may have been dropped to warn the people to remain attentive and not to initiate the guerilla action owing to the arrests effected.

At any rate from the above I deduce that:-
I. Lieut.Capocasale is one of the people mainly responsible amongst all the arrested because it is presumed that he has actually made contact with Prince Pignatelli, who left Catanzaro 18 December 1943 to be cured in a Naples clinic of an amoebic infection contracted in Africa, returned to Catanzaro in February 1944 with the expressed intention of obtaining food, returning to Naples after two days.

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2. Prince Pignatelli a noted adventurer, may have come to Catanzaro to make accord with his friends and successively may have sent his wife to the other side, to receive instructions on the impulse to be given to the movement in Calabria for reviving Fascism.

3. The transmission of two Radio Messages above mentioned while Princess Pignatelli was at Rome and nearly contemporaneously with the arrival of the parachutist Toni Battistini who must have gone to the ex-Federale of Catanzaro Barreca just as the Princess went.

4. The telephone conversation between Ing.BERNASCONI and SPADETTA in Naples, looked at in conjunction with the events in Catanzaro, is possibly the connecting link in an agreement between Bernasconi and Prince Pignatelli an agreement made all the more probable in Ing.Bernasconi, resident in Naples in via. S. Stefano 8 may be identified with that Bernasconi Edoardo, an assistant, known as Engineer, at one time employed by the "Società Anonima Bonifiche Calabresi" of Catanzaro, with residence from 1928 to 1934 in Melia, Rosarno, and Nicastro (the last locality where many arrests were effected for tentative re-organization of the Fascist Party). Bernasconi and Spadetta are under enquiry at Naples.

5. Dott.GRIFFO Espero fu Luigi dental surgeon of Catanzaro, intimate of Prince Pignatelli is possibly a means of contact between Fascist of Catanzaro and Prince Pignatelli. As to this there is an indication from the frequent journeys that Griffo makes to Naples where he has a dental surgery in the precints of Gallery Umberto Ist.

6. Another means of collaboration with the Prince is possibly Lt.ARCURI, in fact in service in Naples with the 212 Coastal Division ex commendom of the S.I.L. of Catanzaro (once interned by the Allies and later liberated) or whom falls definite general suspicion for the friendship that binds him to the Prince. Arcuri has recently been at Catanzaro with the expressed intention of procuring the necessary documents to obtain his retirement. In Catanzaro it is said that Arcuri may have been arrested at Naples, it is not known by whom, when and why.

It has not been possible to establish if the Princess Pignatelli had in past known in Calabria the notorious German Major who was met after she passed into German occupied territory. In Catanzaro there are many families of the surname TOMASELLI but none that can reasonably be presumed to have been in contact with the above mentioned Princess, about whom therefore, it occurs to establish in which city of Calabria she might have known the Major, just as it is well to test what are the relationships that hold between the Prince, Capocasale (arrested); Bernasconi, Griffo and Arcuri who must be subjected to the strictest vigilance to establish with whom they have contact.

It must also be established what are the relations between the Prince and Avv.Filosa Luigi of Cosenza, ex squadrista who was once expelled from the

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Naples.

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It must also be established what are the relations betweenthe Prince and Avv.Filesa Luigi of Cosenza, ex squadrista who was once expelled from the Fascist Party and reinstated in it with all honours in 1943 with the job of organizing guerilla bands against the Allies in the territory of Cosenza Province.

According to the declarations made by one of the arrested of Cretone, a certain MARELLI Gaetano, FILOSA, who is being sought, told him that he himself was chief of the organization in Calabria but that Prince Pignatelli was at the head of the whole movement.

FILOSA told Marelli to be in contact in Catanzaro with Doctor CORDA Antonio di Salvatore ex secretary of the Federale BARBACO.

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In Catanzaro and district no traces have been found of MORRIS the subject of the telegram sent to me on the night of 14 inst. by Major Moody.

The search that took place at the saw mill and in the building in which the living quarters and administrative office of the forementioned Prince are situated gave a negative result.

I maintain that the rumours which said that arms and ammunition were hidden on the land of the Prince is due to the fact that arms and ammunition of the 91st. Army Corps were deposited in GUIDO's farm the property of the Prince. The dump had recently been transferred elsewhere. The members of the organization were thinking also of profitting by this dump.

As further it appears that a few relations of the arrested are beginning to seek to attennate or remove the blame of the responsibility from the people responsible it would be a good thing if the prosecution devolved upon an Allied Court.

560.

(Sgd) [illegible] Scolaro.

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NAML/T/5

Military Censorship of the United States
Telephone.

From SPADETTA AMADEO Telephone exchange, Naples.
To 10830, BERNASCONI Ing.
S.Stefani 8.

Disposal - Passed.

Language :- Italian.
Date:- 6 : 5 : 44

Possible Political Party or reunited groups.

6th. May

In a conversation between these two people Bernasconi said:-

"Catanzaro is ours, Reggio Calabria will be and in Sicily a movement on a larger scale is in preparation. Yes, I left them in the sea. The head of S.M. of the Army Corps will leave".

Spadetta.

Replied:-

"What is interesting is the opinion of the Allied and Italian authorities. It is known officially because we have communicated with them and they have replied that they have dealt with it. We must as soon as possible send something to those "Signori".

Bernasconi:-

"The predispositions at Catanzaro are excellent, we must show that amongst us there is someone who can think. Naples does not depend on the Italian Government, but on A.M.G.O.T. At Naples we are not out of the running because Salerno is some way off. At the Ministry ZANIBONI will be substituted for the undertaking".

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P.I.C.

Spadetta

Concludis:-

"I will wait for you up there, then as soon as the head of S.M. goes away we can speak at length and at ease.

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FASCIST REORGANIZATION

CATANZARO Area.

x:x:x:x:x:x:x:x:x:x:x:x:x

The first tentative steps at reorganization of the Fascist Party as far as Catanzaro is concerned took place in the month of November 1943.

In the first instance the Party would seem to have been under the joint leadership of PAPARO and GIMIGLIANO with SESTIO as treasurer and COLOSIMO and GALLERAMO playing important roles. At the end of November a meeting took plave in the house of Paparo and a decision was made to contact CAPOCASALE Pietro a Lieut. in the Italian Army who was organizing a similar group in PETRONA.

COLOSIMO one of the more active students and group leader first met CAPOCASALE in December. Amongst other confluences CAPOCASALE indicated to him the location of the arms deposits of the 31st. Italian Army Corps and a Code was divised as a means of Secret intercommunication.

Apparently the word went round, originating with Capocasale that prince Pignatelli was the leader and that Ansani Simone of Sellia Marina a man in the service of the Prince was his confident and general factotum. Ansani and others were said to have a large stores of arms secreted, Pignatelli was said to be in contact with Rome etc. Some of the boys and ably, FATICA, from whose house 4 hand bombs, 2 pistols and 83 mine fuses and other things were confiscated, managed to aquire a certain amount of ammunition and a number of firearms.

In December the student BARNARDI met the parachutist Toni BATTISTINI. The two between them were given a total of 1000 lire with which to make their way to the German lines. Gimigliano gave instructions that they were to contact BARRACU ex Federale and TRAMPUILLO ex Vice-Federale of Catanzaro.

On 21-22 March Capocasale is said to have sent a message in code to Simone ANSANI by the hands of the students Colosimo and Gallerano. The message which Capocasale denies having sent and Ansani denies having received was, by the boys, supposed to have dealt with Pignatelli's departure for Rome.

Capocasale's specialist seem to have been that of keeping the youngsters united and good spirits; for that reason he may in order to make a good impression have exaggerated the strength of the movement in which he admittedly took part. It is established that he did a certain amount of liaison work and was for instance in contact with SCOLA one of the leaders of Crotone, CIANCIULLI comunel Secretary of Sambiase, Ugo NOTARO a squadrists of Nicastro who is said to have been the organizer behind the trouble there, his cousin PALAIA Nino of Nicastro, and his cousin PERRI of Soverato who was one of the right hand men of the Soverato organizer SCALOMANDRE Pietro. It would appear that the head for Marcellinara area was a certain DONATO, for Strongoli Armando CAPPA, GARAFOLO and COLOSIMO

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RICCI were the liaisonbetween boys and the older Fascists.

Amonget other things several tentative attempts were made to reach Rome on the party of sympathisers, and a certain CHIEFARI proposed to blow a bridge but was according to his own statement dissuaded by Capocasale who said that the time was not ripe for such action.

Where the evidence is strong enough exponents of this attempted re-organisation of the Fascist Party have been arrested and sent to Naples where they are at the disposal of the Allied Military Tribunal. From Catanzaro area proper proceedings are being instituted against 17 people of whom 12 are students.

W.A.Moody, Maj.

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FASCIST REORGANIZATION

NICASTRO AREA.

The first sign of a Fascist re-organization was a pro Fascist demonstration that took place in Nicastro on 27-28 October the anniversary of the March on Rome. Five students were arrested but released after 15 days. This was followed by other acts of evidence and propeganda continuing until April 1944 when three small boxes of dynamite were placed beneath the door of the well known Nicastro anti-Fascist Ing.NICOTERA Marcello in an attempt to blow up his house. Fortunately for Nicotera the fuse went out before it reached the dynamite.

As a result of this act four students were arrested the confession of whole set onfoot an investigation which has led to the arrest of 35 people. Ten other are under summons.

After the differences and contradictions of the various statements have been considered the facts would seem to be as follows:-

The leader of the terrorist gang ("Capo drangda") in the early days appears to have been LISCOTTI Marco Giovanni. Liscotti is also said to have financed with 6000 lire four students who had the intention of crossing the lines. On 22nd.April a bomb was thrown against the house of ZAFFINA Salvatore and a second bomb against a Carabiniere who tried to apprehend the culprit. As a result of a search in the house of BISURGI Carmila (later established as innocent) three mines, 14 tubes of Gahynite, six large legs of balentite, a sack of black gun pocoder, 13 hand bombs, 6 magazine for automatics, 45 magazines for weapon army model 38 (Italian) 11 Metres of fuse and 2 detonators were discovered. Bisurgi implicated a certain SERGI Giovanni one of the main witnesses in the plot, the custodian of the arms and ammunition and self-confessed as the person who threw the bombs in the incident of 22nd. April cited above. As a result of Sergi's evidence CUPIRAGGI Ubaldo Giulio was arrested as the leader of the youth organization in Sambiase (near Nicastro). When in prison Cupireggi was visited by STELLA Pietro, CAPOBALE Raffaele both very active members ofthe organization and a certain PAMPANA Mariano, a Caporale Maggiore of the 76th. Italian Infantry Regiment who supplied the students with a small quantity of bombs and is said to have promised them all they wanted when the opportune moment arrived. With the exception of PAMPANA all the arrested are so far students, but some of them inculpate the following elder Fascists as the people who encouraged them:- IONGO Raffaele, DELESI Angeline, MONTESANTO Giacinto, MONARDI Bruno and CIRANDO Giovanni all old Fascists and with the exception of the last officers of M.C.Os ofthe M.V.S.N. Amongst other things Sergi wanted to blow the bridge ZINNAVO but was dissuaded from doing so, and some what later a plan was devised for blowing up the Sambiase Municipio.

It was not until after the 17th. April when CAPOCASALE Pietro, honorary lieutenant of the Italian Army visited Nicastro that the move-

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The leader of the terrorist gang ("Capo drangda") in the early days appears to have been LISCOTTI Marco Giovanni. Liscetti is also said to have financed with 6000 lire four students who had the intention of crossing the lines. On 22nd.April a bomb was thrown against the house of ZAFFINA Salvatore and a second bomb against a Carabiniere who tried to apprehend the culprit. As a result of a search in the house of BISURGI Carmilo (later established as innocent) three mines, 14 tubes of Gehynite, six large bags of balestite, a sack of black sun pocoder, 13 hand bombs, 6 magazine for automatics, 45 magazines for weapon Army model 38 (Italian) 11 Metres of fuse and 2 detonators were discovered. Bisurgi implicated a certain SERGI Giovanni one of the main witnesses in the plot, the custodian of the arms and ammunition and self-confessed as the person who threw the bombs in the incident of 22nd. April cited above. As a result of Sergi's evidence CUPIRAGGI Ubaldo Giulio was arrested as the leader of the youth organization in Sambiase (near Nicastro). When in prison Cupiraggi was visited by STELLA Pietro, CAPORALE Raffaele both very active members of the organization and a certain PAMPANA Mariano, a Caporale Maggiore of the 76th. Italian Infantry Regiment who supplied the students with a small quantity of bombs and is said to have promised them all they wanted when the opportune moment arrived. With the exception of PAMPANA all the arrested are so far students, but some of them inculpate the following elder Fascists as the people who encouraged them:- IONGO Raffaele, DELESI Angelino, MONTESANTO Giacinto, MORABDI Bruno and CIRANDO Giovanni all old Fascists and with the exception of the last officers of M.C.Cs of the M.V.S.N. Amongst other things Sergi wanted to blow the bridge ZINNAVO but was dissuaded from doing so, and some what later a plan was devised for blowing up the Sambiase Municipio.

It was not until after the 17th. April when CAPOCASALE Pietro, honorary lieutenant of the Italian Army visited Nicastro that the movement began to take place on a wider aspect. Capocasale's first contact was Dott. Francesco CIANCIULLI the vice-comunal Secretary of Sambiase. Cianciulli introduced Sergi to Capocasale and told him to accompany Capocasale and told him him to accompany Capocasale to the house of the Squadrista Ugo NOTARO of Nicastro. In the conversation that took place in Notaro's house at which Notaro, Capocasale, Sergi and a certain student Provenzano were present, the organisation of the movement, the ways and means of obtaining arms and ammunition were discussed and future policy and action were discussed. It was decided to divide the Province of Catanzaro into the regions of Catanzaro, Nicastro, Crotone, and Vibo Valentia.

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Capocasale is reported to have answered in reply to Notare's complaint that they were short of arms "At the opportune moment the arms will be forthcoming from the very barracks of the military". A pass word "Roma" was to be used in recognising any Catanzaro members that might visit Nicastro. Pignatelli was mentioned as the leader.

A store of arms, and explosives found on 4 May in Contrada Sociorso, Nicastro, and according to evidence the property of Sergi comprised amongst other things a sack of "balestite", 5 small mines, 6 Kg. of dynamite, 5 tubes of gelatine, 4 detonators and 2 morter bombs.

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FASCIST REORGANIZATION
CROTONE AREA.

The first positive sign in the Crotone area that anything prejudicial to the safety of the Allied forces was in preparation was the arrest by the Guardia Finanzia on 23th. March 44 of a certain BOMBARDIERE Francesco stopped with a case of hand bombs which he says he was carrying on the instructions of Dott.SCOLA Attilio, from the house of the Marchese MORELLI Gaetano to a place on the Calabria Lucana railway. Bombardiere escaped and sheltered on the premises of the Marchese Morelli. But on the 29th. April the RR.CC. of Crotone acting on instructions from Catanzaro arrested SCOLA Giuseppe di Attilio. On receiving news of the arrest Morelli told Bombardiere to go to SILA and hide himself there. However, on 8 May 44 he was picked up by the CC.RR of PETILIA POLICASTRO for being without identy papers.

As a result of the interrogation of Bombardiere, MAGISTRI Ernesto and PORELLI Gaetano were arrested. On Morelli's property and precisely in Contrada "GULLO" near his country house 230 hand bombs, 11 rifles and other materials were found buried. Morelli was arrested and interrogated. Subsequently MIULLO Giuseppe and his brother Francesco were arrested and immediately afterwards RUSSO Umberto, CUTULO Giuseppe, SCOLA Francesco the brother of Giuseppe, their father SCOLA Dott. ATTILIO and CORDA Dott. Antonio, propogandist on the Catanzaro Fascist Federation. For lack of sufficient proof of culpability, RUSSO and CUTULO have since been released.

The outcome of the interrogation made by the CC.RR. is as follows:- Morelli says that in February he was in contact with Avv.FILOSA Luigi of Cosenza with whom in a four hours talk the ways and means of impeding the Allied war effort and assisting the Germans was discussed. FILESA gave him to understand that he (FILESA) was the leader of a Fascist movement embracing the whole of Calabria which was itself dependent on a still vaster movement, led by Prince Pignatelli for all Allied occupied Italy. A certain Dott.CORDA friend and secretary of the ex-Federale BARRACU of Catanzaro and now Minister in Mussolini's Government was given by FILOSA as the leader for Catanzaro. On his way back to CROTONE Morelli saw Dott.CORDA who is said to have complained of the difficulties encountered in organizing such a movement. (In his statement CORDA denies having said this and says that he and Morelli merely spoke in generalities).On his return to CROTONE Morelli set about collecting arms and preparing himself for the day when he would be able to use them in aiding the Germans. He claims to be largely responsible for the financing of the movement.

His chief collaborator, if not indeed his master seems, from RR.CC. evidence, to have been Dott.SCOLA. Bombardiere, Scola Giuseppe, Miulle Giuseppe, his brother Francesco and Magistri Ernesto were mainly interested in collecting arms and ammunition. Bombardiere acquired most of the hand bombs at four lire each and Magistri the rifles which were, according to him, bought from some unknown sailor at 600 lire each. Scola Francesco the other son of Dott. ATTILIO SCOLA attended meetings

Subsequently RIZZO Giuseppe and his brother Francesco were arrested and immediately afterwards RUSSO Umberto, CUTULO Giuseppe, SCOLA Francesco the brother of Giuseppe, their father SCOLA Dott. ATTILIO and CORDA Dott. Antonio, propogandist on the Catanzaro Fascist Federation. For lack of sufficient proof of culpability, RUSSO and CUTULO have since been released.

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Meetings were held in the house of Morelli and amongst those present were Bombardiere, Dott.SCOLA Attilio, his two sons Giuseppe and Francesco, his brother Arturo of Cosenza, Riullo Francesco and a certain, as yet unidentified, MANZULLI Mario.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - Monthly Reports - Italian Army

SECRET

File 5

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MMIA)
LECCE (LECCE)
I/106/1
7 July 44

30

MMAI (for CSI)

Copy to: MMAS

Ref Appendix "A" to our I/106 of 10 May.

Herewith Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army - for the month of June 1944.

A. General Security

1. Morale

The liberation of Rome and the rapid advances of 5 and 8 Armies have boosted the morale throughout the Italian Army. The good news from France and Russia has been overshadowed by the fact that Rome was taken almost intact and that historic monuments and churches stand, unharmed by a fleeing, revengeful foe and a victorious advancing army. To most Italians Rome is Italy and the fact that the capital is freed and that the Armies are now approaching Pisa and Florence have done much to cheer the hearts of the Italian soldiers in depots and camps and increasing interest and faith is placed in the future. Great satisfaction has been expressed by both Staff Officer and soldier in the fact that the part played by the Italian Corps in active operations has been mentioned in the Allied Press and over the Radio. Censorship reports give further evidence of a considerable "step-up" in the morale of the Italian Army during the past month and many petty grievances have been forgotten. Civilians in newly-occupied territory are now very enthusiastic at the sight of Italian uniforms amongst troops of the advancing armies and welcoming posters to the "Lion of St Mark" and the "Garibaldini dell'Aria" have put Italian troops in good heart.

All reports show that greater welfare facilities provided for the Italian troops by the Allies together with a better clothing issue and an improvement in rations have raised the morale. Italian officers and men now feed on one ration scale.

2. Fascist - Pro-German - Anti Allied Activities.

No serious reports. Italian parachutists in VASTO made statements to the effect that Italian girls seen talking to British soldiers would have their hair cut off. In the same area one or two incidents occurred between Italian parachutists and C.M.P. after curfew but the whole situation in VASTO has now returned to normal as these troops have moved forward.

Report from 2 District No 2002/1 GSI dated 27 Jun

We think this report is overdrawn. Undoubtedly (and perhaps naturally in view of their upbringing) many senior Italian officers are Monarchist. But this does not mean today that they, plus the Prince of Piedmont, are planning a coup d'etat. Surely the latter is not possible while the Allies are in Italy.

ACC are enquiring into the alleged "anti-Jewish" activities of the

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Report from 2 District No 2022/1 GSI dated 27 Jun

We think this report is overdrawn. Undoubtedly (and perhaps naturally in view of their upbringing) many senior Italian officers are Monarchist. But this does not mean today that they, plus the Prince of Piedmont, are planning a coup d'etat. Surely the latter is not possible while the Allies are in Italy.

ACC are enquiring into the alleged "anti-Caracciolo" activities of the Democratico-Liberale press.

The cases of Generals BOATTA and BIRELLI are being investigated.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms

The only report received comes from SICILY. Incidents indicating the possession of arms, hand grenades and other weapons illegally continues to occur. A recent incident resulted in the severe injury of several sailors when an Italian soldier threw a hand grenade at them. No storage as such, however, appears to exist.

4. Political Activity

On 25 May in a circular to the Army the Italian Minister of War laid down the policy to be adopted by the Army on Politics. He stated that the formation of a National Government should destroy all prejudice against political parties. Officers must respect the political ideas of their men, sterile and damaging discussions were to be avoided, although everyone should be allowed complete freedom of thought and ideals, especially when such ideals coincide with the common aim of chasing the enemy out of the country. Officers were to tell their men that political ideals were to be

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4. forsaken ... favour of the supreme interest of the nation. The circular ends thus, "All the above — confirms our basic policy and that is that the Army has no politics and its function is to serve the nation, of which it is the living expression, with perfect discipline."

Gen MORIGI, GOC Nembo Div wrote an open letter to the people of CHIETI, the first town of any importance entered by Italian troops. The letter contained no definite political trend, the theme being that of a new Italy "purging with her blood the degredation of the old Fascist regime."

Unconfirmed reports state that parachutists of the Nembo Div on entering certain villages for the first time, shot local Fascists denounced to them by the populace.

5. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops.

All reports indicate that these continue to be good.

6. Discipline.

Discipline is improving in the Army. This is due to the fact that steps are being taken to replace unsuitable officers with officers who have better control over their men. Action is taken by this Headquarters on reports from LO's with Italian formations indicating poor control or lack of cooperation displayed by Italian officers. These reports are forwarded to the Italian General Staff with a request that these officers be removed and replaced by officers who can control their men.

A report from SICILY states that discipline is improving. Conversations with the Military Tribunal authorities indicates a resumption of order and system to the point where, with quick trials, higher standards will result.

7. Measures etc. Breaches of Security.

Reports from VARTO stated that Italian troops in the CIL showed poor security discipline. Information regarding the moves of British and Italian units was disclosed to civilians. A letter was sent by this HQ to the Italian General Staff giving the facts and asking that strong action be taken to tighten the Security Discipline of the CIL. Gen CARLIA, Italian Dep CS wrote to the commanders of units in the CIL ordering them to take steps to ensure that no further breaches of Security were committed, informing all concerned of the Regulations regarding Security Discipline. Italian troops in the forward areas continue to commit breaches of Censorship Regulations. General Berardi - Chief of the Italian General Staff - has been warned of the serious view taken by the Allied Authorities and it has been pointed out that, unless strong measures are taken by the Italian Authorities to stop this state of affairs all postal privileges and facilities for the Italian troops may have to be suspended.

There have been no reports of any serious ruptures which might have undermined morale.

8. Summary of Military Security.

A. (1) It is clear from reports that the Italian soldier is not security minded and that the Italian Army needs much training in Security Discipline. Strong action against offenders with severe punishment may do much to correct the present

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There have been no reports of any serious rumours which might have undermined morale. 5689

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B. Personalities Black - Nothing to report.

L. B.

CMF.

Maj Gen,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

Army Sub Commission ACC
(MMIA) L.O. Sicily
c/o I.B.S. APO 550

I/106/1 29
NT

No.373

30 June 1944.

Subject: Security

To : GOC Army Sub Commission ACC (MMIA)

1.RIOTS

In my recent conversation with Intelligence Officer, Region No.1 ACC and Dep C/S XII Italian Corps they express the opinion that when ACC flour ceases to be distributed (4 July 1944) there may be some riots in the larger cities of Sicily.

2.FLOUR & GRAIN SITUATION

a Dep C/S XII Corps expresses the opinion that 1000 lire per Quintali is too low as the farmers claim it costs them 1600 lire per Quintali to grow and harvest. Cost of labor here in Sicily has arisen due to inflation. Therefore the farmers are not bringing in their grain.

b Intelligence Officer, Region No.1 ACC, stated an agreement has been made with C.G. XII Corps to furnish troops in each Province to force the collection of the grain.

3.TROOPS

a XII Corps are very anxious about having another Div come to Sicily to assist in quelling any disturbances due to the grain situation that may arise. I told them it was improbable that the Div would arrive before latter part of August, if then.

b I pointed out that the troops required by Allies for guarding would be diminished - this is especially true in vicinity of Palermo, by 15 July the Navy (taking over IBS Installations) would only require approx 700 guards. Am of the opinion same would apply when No.1 District departed but unable to ascertain. Therefore these extra guards would be available to XII Corps for riot duty if required.

c It may be well to leave 505th Security Service Bn here available to XII Corps for riot duty when they are no longer required by Region No.1 ACC for guard duty (Providing it is approved to Attach this Bn to ACC for July as requested in our No. 254 of 16 June).

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4. Will keep you informed of the situation.

Lester R. Albert

LESTER R ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET.

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Outstation:- 2 POLISH Corps. Area:- ~~Corps Area~~

Report No. 2 Period 23 May - 22 June.

A. General Security

1. Morale. Is now higher than ever before, owing to the enemy withdrawal along the front, and to the fact that the civilians in newly-occupied territory go very enthusiastic at the sight of Italian uniform, and the welcoming posters to the lion of St. Mark and the "Garibaldini dell'aria" have put the troops in good heart

2. Anti-Allied trends. } Nothing to report.
3. Illegal Arms. }

4. Political Activity. Gen. MORIGI, G.O.C NEMBO, wrote an open letter to the people of CHIETI, first town of any importance entered by Italian troops. There was no definite political trend, the theme being that of a new Italy washing away with its blood the degradation of the old Fascist regime. Unconfirmed reports state that parachutists of NEMBO have shot, on first entry to some villages, those denounced as local Fascists.

5. Relations with Allies. During the period of martial law in the early part of the months, troops of NEMBO created a bad impression through cockiness and swaggering in front of British troops. So far there has been no relation to the arrival of the Poles. There is too much work to do.

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2. Anti-Allied trends.
3. Illegal Arms. } Nothing to report.

4. Political Activity Gen. MORIGI, G.O.C NEMSO, wrote an open letter to the people of CHIETI, first town of any importance entered by Italian troops. There was no definite political trend, the theme being that of a new Italy washing away with its blood the degradation of the old Fascist regime. Unconfirmed reports state that parachutists of NEMSO have shot, on first entry to some villages, those denounced as local fascists.

5. Relations with Allies. During the period of inactivity in the early part of the months, troops of NEMSO created a bad impression through cockiness and swaggering in front of British troops. So far there has been no relation to the arrival of the Poles. There is too much work to do.

6. Discipline Nothing to report.

7. Rumours Nothing to report.

3 June 44.

E.O'Donnell
Capt.
Liaison Officer

0351

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

I/106/1 (0 2).

Most Secret.

To G (1)
Main H.Q. MMIA.

M.M.I.A. L.O1
60 Sub Area.
24.6.44.

Subject. Security Intelligence.in Ital: Army.

Area covered. 60 Sub Area.
Period from - 24 May to 24 June.

(a). Morale good with recent advances of front, but almost invariably the jubilation is due not to the defeat of the Germans but to the prospect of returning back home.

Desertions are occurring as territory is liberated and soldiers have the possibility of getting back to their homes. e.g. Comdt of 370 P.O.W. camp, who has 4 coy,9 Mitr: Bn doing guard duty, reported that II men deserted on 23 June.

(b). Nil to report.

(c) Italian parachutist troops in Va-sto made statements to the effect that Italian girls seen talking to British soldiers would have their hair cut off. This became widespread among the civilians. One Italian soldier was caught by me spreading this story. He was reported for action to be taken. During the last two weeks, this talk has died down, and parachutist troops are seldom seen in Vasto.

One or two incidents occurred between parachutists, creating unruly disturbances after curfew, and C.M.P. Former drew knives and threatened C.M.P. A [redacted] letter

5656

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written to Italian L.of C. H.Q. A police patrol of parachutists was laid on. I suggested that carrying of arms here when not on duty be forbidden. This has not been adopted.

F.S.S. informed me that important operational signal wire was cut 3 times on 3/4 June by personnel of Ia Batteria Motoristi d'artiglieria. O.C. denied knowledge when interrogated although one soldier witness said that Cap. CHIMIERI was present and made no attempt to stop them. The first two cases occurred at 1200 hrs and 1540 hrs when same two lt of wire were removed. On 3rd occasion, 300 yds were removed. Excuse - to erect tents. The O.C. Cap. CHIMIERI was warned that he would be held responsible for further breaks. On 9.6.44 the wire was cut again. I asked for measures to be taken against the personnel concerned, by letter, dated 11.6.44. and results to be communicated to me. No answer yet received.

(d) Nil to report.

(e) I have reported to 209 Div an officer who misrepresented the motivo del viaggio in order to send 3 soldiers on leave. I had a week earlier refused permission for their 'foglio di licenza' as their destination was 50 Army area.

24.6.44.

Capt.
Liaison Officer.

SECRET

Army Sub Commission ACC
(MMIA) L.O. Sicily
c/o I.B.S. APO 550

I/106/1 26
24/6

No.289

21 June 1944

Subject: Reports - Security Intelligence - Monthly

To : GOC Army Sub Commission ACC (MMIA)
Attention: GSI

Copy to: I.B.S.
56 Area (Thru MMIA LO Thrupp)

In compliance with your I/106 dated 10 May submit the following report:

Report No.2.

A. General Security

1. a Morale Giving more responsibility to the Italians has boosted their morale, especially among the officers which reflects down to enlisted men. Good news from the Italian theater of war is also boosting morale and it has overshadowed news of the [redacted] invasion of France. (Personal opinion.)

b No.1 District assisted XII Corps to stop desertions from Sabauda Div of the Italian military of Slav orgin by preventing passage to Italy in vicinity Messina. (Report from XII Corps).

c See Weekly Report XII Corps of 9 June.

d See Weekly Report XII Corps of 16 June.

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied activities or trends.

None observed.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms & Ammunition

a It has been reported to me that Italian civilians have arms and ammunition in their possession, as was shown by the Regalbuto and Licata disturbances the latter part of May (See our No.124 of 2 June)report on Regalbuto and Licata disturbances) My opinion that this illegal possession is not held by an organized band.

b On night 27 May approximately 35 armed Italian civilians

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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b On night 27 May approximately 35 armed Italian civilians with mule carts broke open 883 boxes Cal 30 Ammunition at BAD # 1, CERDA (33 miles E of Palermo) for the purpose of stealing the cloth in the bandoliers. It was an organized band from the vicinity of Cerda and returned the fire of the U.S. guards. Seven were captured and are being held by the Carabinieri for trial. Appox 25 others were later apprehended, but could obtain no proof of their being implicated. Four rifles and some ammunition were captured. There has been no disturbance since and the Ammunition Dump is in the process of being moved. (Report from Ord. Sec.IBS).

4. Political Activities.

a Gen Ronco C.G. Sabauda Div, told me, in his opinion, Andrea Finocchiaro-Aprile, and attorney at Palermo and leader of the Separatist Party in Sicily, was the cause of the Regalbuto and Licata disturbances and he thought there would be no further trouble from any other source.

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b There is considerable confusion of political thought amongst the civilians but this "letting off of steam" does not seem to have spread to the army who are more concerned with trying to save what "face" they can. In certain quarters fears of Communism are expressed. (Personal observation & conversation of a Staff member).

5. Relations with and attitude towards Allied Troops.

On a whole very good. Occasionally there is a little disturbance caused generally by an allied soldier or sailor being drunk and gets mixed up with Italian guards, not considered serious. The fact that Ps W receive better food and clothing from the Allies tends to cause dissatisfaction among the Italian soldiers. (Person observation)

6. Discipline.

Good considering Italian standards. Seems to be a little improvement. (Personal observation)

7. Rumors & Indiscreet talk.

None observed.

5633

8. Summary of Military Security.

a The Italian do not classify documents with same security as the Allies, but no intentional breech has been observed.

b Note reports from:
(1) Public Safety Division, Region 1 ACC.
(2) C.I.C., IBS

10356

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COPY

FO/gi (d.s.)-(d.s.c.)

XIIthe Army Corps H.Q.
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office

Ref. No 171/I Palermo, June 9, 1944

Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.

To : Detachment M.M.I.A. - Army Sub Commission,
c/o I.B.S. Palermo.

****

Herewith, for information, cop of the weekly report on Operational Security sent today to No 1 British District H.Q.

by order,

Sgd A. Calaresu, Col., Chief of Staff

56[illegible]

COPY

DS/ma

d.s. - d.s.c.

XIIth Army Corps H.Q.
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office

Ref. No 170/I

Palermo, June 9, 1944

Subject: Weekly Report on Operational Security.

To : No. 1 British District H;Q.
(Re. sheet 1704/G dated 15-I-944) Catania

****

I) Military Security

At 1400 hrs on the 1st of the current month the Misterbianceo (Catania) ammunition Dump exploded by self-combustion. One Italian military, on guard duty, wounded; one SPA 1.39 and a small building were destroyed.

*** The British Police intervened for traffice control and to rope off the danger zone; British Firemen also arrived but did not enter into action. Enquiries are being held to find out if there are any signs of sabotage.

On the 5th of June the Villaseta ammunition Depot (see last report No. 58/i dated 19th May), caught fire for unknown reasons. The fire was put out on the same day. No casualties, no damage.

*** An enquiry is being held.

II) Miscellanea

a) relations between troops and civilian population.

Are always good.

At 2000 hrs on the 29th of May the American Corp. Ivan A. Blak of the 715th Tng. Cp, near the Gela Air field, went to Piazza Mercato 27, Gela, visibly under the influence of alcoholic drinks, shot into the air three rounds from a sub machine gun in his possession. He then entered a brothel and fired another three shots down the corridor, into the ceiling, causing panic amongst the persons present. The same soldier then entered the shop run by Pannuzzp Giovanni, in Via Nazionale 14, and fired two shots into the attic.

*** The Carabinieri intervened, unloaded the arm held by Corp. Blak, took him back to his unit and handed the clip of rounds to the American Lt. Harris, i/c of the Gela Food Depot.

- On the 30th of May, during "walking out" hrs, in Piazza Uditore (Palermo), four visibly drunk American soldiers attacked, for no apparent reason, an Italian soldier, punching and kicking him, throwing him to the ground.

The said soldiers then moved off, seeing the hostile attitude of the civilians present at the affair.

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The said soldiers then moved off, seeing the hostile attitude of the civilians present at the affair.
On the 5th of June, at Bassano(Comune of Misilmeri - Palermo), two American soldiers, having stopped a truck No PA 5202, threatened the owner and five persons on board with a revolver.
The soldiers took possession of the vehicle, containing goods, document, and 8000 lire, and left at a high speed towards Palermo.
b) Morale of the civilian population - attitude of civilian authorities and response of the population.

At Syracuse demonstrations by students re examinations.

Three P.S. (Public Security guards) slightly wounded.

"*** Carabinieri, P.S. Guards and British Police intervened. Order was reestablished.
At Palermo the employees of the Banca d'Italia and of the RR Poste went on strike.
Reason: reduction of the"Assegno temporaneo di guerra"
No incident of note.
**** Carabinieri were sent to the spot.

Sgd A.Calaresu, Col. C/S. for G.O.C. (absent on duty)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

DS/ma

XIIth Army Corps H.Q.
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office.

Ref. No 2057/01 Palermo, June 16, 1944.
Subject: Weekly report on Operational Security.
To M.M.I.A. Detachment, Army Sub-Commission,
c/o I.B.S. Palermo.

Herewith, for your information, copy of the report re. Subject, which has been sent today to H.Q. 56 Area.

by order,
Sgd A. Chiariotti, Lt Col, Deputy Chief of Staff,
for Chief of Staff (Absent on duty).

DS/ma d.s. - d.s.c.

XIIth Army Corps H.Q.
"Operazioni - Ordinamento" Office.

Ref. No 2011/01 Palermo, June 16, 1944.
Subject: Weekly report on Operational Security.
To H.Q. 56 Area, Catania.

I) Military Security
Nothing to report.

II) Miscellaneous
a) Relations between troops and civilian population.
Always good.
b) Morale of the civilian population - behaviour of civilian authorities and reaction of the population.
-- The liberation of Rome has caused patriotic demonstrations to be held in various localities.
There is no incident to report.
The military operations in Italy and in France are being followed with increasing interest and faith by the population.
-- Catania: On the occasion of the laying of the first stone of the newly planned "Cristo Re" church, Mons. RUSSO, Archbishop of Acireale, made a patriotic and decidedly unitaryist speech. A few unfavourable comments from some authorities.
-- Catania: In the periodical "La Repubblica di Sicilia", under the direction of Cesare Battiato, there appeared a few injurious comments against the governing authorities.
Since in one of these comments the Army and particularly the "Sabauda" Div. were depreciated, the author has had to be arrested.
c) Rumours inspired by the enemy, over-optimistic, or designed to capture military secrets.
d) Miscellaneous.
Nothing new to report.

A. Mariotti, G.O.C.

for certified copy,
Sgd A. Chiariotti, Lt Col, Deputy Chief of Staff,
for Chief of Staff (Absent on Duty).

10360

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SECRET

PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION
REGION 1. RCC

Brief Report for Period June 1 - 20, 1944.

The slight improvement in the crime situation, particularly as regards the more serious offences, is being maintained. Only one minor disturbance has so far occurred this month, at Palagonia on 14/6/44. Discontent continues over small ration of bread and pasta. The low price to be paid for grain is likely to lead to difficulties in assessing and the various Agencies, including police, are co-operating in this matter.

Political activities continue among the various Parties but the situation is quiet.

A small additional number of cases of telephone wire cutting have been reported and are under investigation.

Action being taken to repair and re-open two prisons to relieve over-crowding elsewhere.

Morale and efficiency of P.S. Agencies satisfactory.

56.9

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10361

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS
ISLAND BASE SECTION
APO 550

June 21, 1944

SUBJECT: Intelligence Report on Italian Troops

TO : MAIA, Hq. Iba, Palermo.

1.MORALE: There appears to be no change in morale other than a probable increase following greater facilities provided the troops and officers in the way of entertainment; better clothing issue, etc. The nature of the assignments given Italian troops, being mostly gaurd duties, etc., will, if not at present, result in some disgruntled condition, a large proportion of them hoping to be assigned to " more important" war duties, or to actual front line combat.

2.FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN AND ANTI-ALLIED ACTIVITIES: No dangerous fascist or Pro-German activities exist. However, while not strictly anti-allied in its nature, some poof exists of the fact that in Italian Army official circles, the degree of assistance rendered to the Allies by Italian officers is being considered as anti-Italian. One officer, being subjected to court martial charges in addition to other charges has been accused of being an americanophile to the detriment of the Italian troops, for example.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms and Ammunition: Incidents indicating the possession of arms, hand grenades and other weapons illegally by members of the Italian troop units continue to occur. A recent incident resulted in the severe injry of several sailors when an Italian soldier threw a hand grenade at them. No storage as such, of an illegal nature seems to exist.

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITY: No change from that described in report of May 29, 1944.

5. RELATIONS WITH AND ATTITUDE TOWARD THE ALLIED TROOPS: No change from that described in report of May 29,1944

6.DISCIPLINE: Italian troop discipline seems to be improving. Conversations had with the TRIBUNALE MILITARE authorities indicate a resumption of order and system to the pint where with quick trials, higher standards will result.

7. RUMORS AND INDISCREET TALK: General security within the Italian troop units is poor, but this is unimportant in view of the relative unimportance of their activities. Many rumors still persist as to the possibility of some of the battalions being shipped for battle, etc., but no rumors of a dangerous type appear to exist.

8 MILITARY SECURITY: No cahnge from last report. See Par 7. Above. No report has been received from the SIM-CS, and demand upon them has been made. It will be forwarded to MAIA upon receipt.

Mario E. Scarf
MARIO E. SCARF
CAPTAIN CIC
CIC Commanding.

SECRET

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Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
(MMIA) L.O. Sicily
c/o I.B.S. APO 550

I 1/06/1 b
06/6

25

No.113

1 June 1944

Subject: Security

To : GOC Army Sub Commission ACC (MMIA)
Attention GSI

Civilian disturbance at LICATA and NACALMUTO recently appears political. Carabinieri Cmdr states under control. Full report follows.

Lester R Albert

LESTER R ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

Copy to No.1 District thru LO MMIA

MA B
8/6

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ACTION SLIP

This Slip will not be removed.

To: 2 i/c via GI Jr 5/6

~~Col Kerr~~ (K)	For info.
CG	for your information (K)

2 B
6 Jcrew

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Lucas | Take in 11 Obli folder pl

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OA/6

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
(MMIA) L.O. Sicily
c/o I.B.S. APO 550

No.124

2 June 1944

Subject: Security (Regalbuto and Licata disturbances)

To : GOC Army Sub Commission ACC (MMIA)
Attention GSI

1. Enclosed herewith reports obtained from General Branca, Commander 6th R.H. Carabinieri Brigade, Sicily, on the Regalbuto and Licata disturbances.

2. General Branca informed me that both situations well in hand.

Lester R. Albert

LESTER R ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

Encl: 1. Regalbuto disturbance
2. Licata disturbance

Copy to: 1. No.1 District (thru LO MMIA)
2. I.B.S.

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SECRET

H.Q. 6th RR. Carabinieri Brigade.

Ref. No 309/10

Palermo, June 1st 1944.

List of papers which are being sent to: Lt.Col.Albert, Army Sub-Commission A.C.C., (M.M.I.A.C L.O. Sicily, c/o I.B.S. APO 550.

No I) Report of disturbances which took place at Regalbuto (Enna) on the 27th of May;

No I) Report of disturbances which took place at Licata (Agrigento) on the 28th of May;

****

.... which are being sent following an oral request.

Sgd. Amoeo Brance, C,G, Brigade.

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SECRET

RR. Carabinieri Territorial Legion of Messina,

Regalbuto detatchment.

92

Ref. No 32/I R/to Regalbuto, May 27th 1944.

Subject: Public Order in the Regalbuto Comune.

Distribution: ...omitted.

At 1700 hrs of the 27th inst. Andrea Finocchiaro and Rindoni Santi arrived at Regalbuto (Enna) from Catania in order to hold a conference on "Independent Sicily", in the local half finished cinema building.

The conference had only just begun when about 100 Comunists from Enna, Leonforte, Nissoria, Agira and Regalbuto itself arrived and started a hostile demonstration against the people in the said building and tried to enter it. They were stopped by police forces, consisting of local Carabinieri, Leonforte Public Security men and the Enna Reenforcement Nucleus, but after about an hour suddenly tried to break the cordon shouting and firing against members of the "Independent" party who were at the entrances to the building and against the police forces, wounding lightly in the "parietale" region Carabiniere Di Sisto Antonino of the Sperlinga section and Enna Reenforcement Nucleus. Some of the "Independents" fired back and the military forces fired several shots into the air in order to intimidate the people. In this conflict Rainerl Mario, Regalbuto farmer, was killed and 51 year old Campagna Croce and 19 year old Campagna Gabriele, both from Regalbuto, were slightly wounded. It appears that the first to have opened fire was 41 year old Milisenna Santo di Vincenzo, writer and head of the Enna Comunists, who moved away at the end of the conflict and died of heart-failure in the Via Cairoli. He was armed with an automatic pistol and so were several other Communists who were with him and who escaped as soon as the firing ceased. Finocchiaro Aprile and comrades left for Catania at 1940 hrs.

Enquieries are being made in order to find the persons to be held responsible for the disturbances. The public order has been reestablished.

Sgd Gaetano Susso, Comanding Lieut.

For certified copy,
Sgd Gracinto Paolantonio, Staff Lt.Col.

Lively exhibition!

SECRET

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SECRET

RR. Carabinieri Territorial Legion, Palermo, Agrigento Group.
Ref No 559/8 dated 7.3 Agrigento May 30 1944.

Subject: Licata Disturbance.
Distribution: .....omitted.

21

Following on statement No1852/34-3 of the 29th instfrom Licata Det.:
At 1800 hrs of the 27th inst Doctor Graci, leader of the local Italian Comunist Party, presented hinself to the O.C. the Detatchment in order to tell him that there was strong discontent amongst the members of the said party because of the opening of an Employment Bureau, which was being run by two ex-fascists, sigg. Lus and Salvago. In the circumstances he asked the officer that he should have the Bureau closed, because the farmers were highly exited. Lt. Messina, awaiting the decisions of the Provincial Authorities, informed the said Employment Bureau and the Sindaco of the talk he had had with the Comunist Leader, asking the Sindaco that he should shut down the Bureau for Public Order reasons. He was assured by the Sindaco, Dott. Amato, that his would be seen to. However Dott.Salvago opened the Employment Bureau to the public at 1000 hrs on May 27th, for unknown reasons, and so the Comunists, evidently all in agreement, took the excuse that two ex-fascists had been appointed to the Bureau, that the reapers pay was insufficient, that the recently appointed Sindaco Amato Francesco was protected by the On. La Lumia, and was consequently hated by the people, and began to throw hand-grenades, occupied the key points of the town, destroying and setting fire to the Employment Bureau, the Registry office and the Taxation office, forcing guards at the Rly Station, at the Det. of the fire station and local police to give up their rifles. They alsb threw a few bombs into the Toll office, trying unsuccessfully to get arms from the Fort H.Q. and closing all exits from the town.
The Carabinieri straightaway intervened, trying also to get messages through to their higher comands although the public telegraph office and the railway telegraph office were surrounded, and called their forces together in order to stop the revolt-people, who had 56. increassed in number from 1000 to about 3000 and were armed with an unknown number of hand-grenades, rifles, machine-guns, from destroying everything.
In the meantime a first reenforcement arrived from Agrigento, and the conflict which had already begun continued until 2100 hrs, when the rioters ceased fire and remained in their positions. The night passed calmly. This H.Q. however asked for more reenforcements, inclu-ding an armoured vehicle and a section of four 20mm AA guns. These forces began entering the town at 0700 hrs on the 29th inst, and the authorities immediately gained control of the situation.
On the 28th there were two dead and seven wounded amongst the civilians, apart from the damage done. The town was immediately searched and so far 40 persons have been detained. The search continues in the neighbourhood.
The arms in possession of the rioters belonged to the fire station (6 rifles), to the local police (3 rifles and I sub-machinegun), to the Railway personell (2 rifles), and to the army, which abandoned them when the Italian forces retreated. The situation is now calm.
There are on the spot:
100 Carabinieri from the Palermo Nucleus;
87 Carabinieri from the Agrigento Nucleus;
90 Carabinieri from the Caltanissetta group;
80 Gunners from the Caltanissetta Military District
80 Gunners from the Agrigento Military District;
I Armoured vehicle;
4 20mm AA guns, and an adequate number of machine and sub-machineguns

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SECRET

contnd.:
The said forces will be allowed to return as soon as possible, whilst the political authorities have asked for 100 Carabinieri to be left on the spot.

Sgd Giacinto Scichilone, Maj. comanding the Group.

For certified copy,

Sgd Giacinto Paolantonio, Lt.Col..

SECRET

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Army Form 0-2256

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUC. TIONS	IN NETT-NESB NR221/2 H QUR 3 MEM OUT	No. of Groups OR 27	Office Date Stamp 1561

TO MMIA INFO MMIA CO AT IBS

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

FROM THRUPP	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number

TIS1 please return soonest this office copy of ALBERTS letter dtd 7 of 27 my subject security erroneously fwd by me to you

Done
Albt
cbl

This message may be sent As Written by [illegible] (Telegraph) (Telephone) ..... Written

Signature .....

* Originator may delete "telegraph" and insert "telephone"

This message must be sent In Cipher or liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands

Signature .....

Originator's Instructions
Degree of Priority

O/C

Time of Origin 0118048

T.H.I 0118 081

5670 T.O.R.

(Below this line is for Signals use Only.)

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender
L	02 0821	[illegible]									

2256/PMEAX 100,000 Pads 4-42

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A-0 Do Not Remove

ACTION

This Slip will not be removed.

To: G.O.C. via G1

for approval and signature please.

2/6

1 Bn
3 Tank

Urgent report - mention No. of W. carriers.
re patrolling in Army & feeding on one
Scale - receiving with Palermo.
Send copy to ACC.

L Bn.
3 June

Natal S. 56.3

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence - MONTHLY REPORTS - Italian Army.

File

SECRET

Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.
Main HQ (MIK.)
LONDON (LCCS)
I/106/1
3 June 44.

H.Q. AAI (for GSI)

Copy to: ACC

Ref Appendix "A" to our I/106 of 10 May.

Herewith Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army - for the month of May 1944.

A. GENERAL SECURITY.

1. Morale.

From reports received it is evident that the morale of Italian troops is generally low. A striking contrast is found amongst Italian troops under command of Allied formations and in diluted units; here the morale is generally high.

The morale of the Italian Regimental soldier in rear areas remains at a low level for the following reasons: -

(a) Little contact and camaraderie between officers and men.

(b) Italian officers give little or no thought of welfare to their troops.

(c) The general atmosphere is static and barrack-bound.

(d) The officers wear field boots and spurs, they think it undignified to take off their coat and do a job of work with their men.

(e) The continued lack of boots and clothing for almost all units and the scarcity of pay when compared to high cost of living.

(f) The lack of an ideal to prompt them to enthusiasm over the war.

The situation was accurately and excellently expressed by PALMISO - Italian Under Secretary of State for War who, after visiting units in rear areas said: "Many soldiers were without boots or other clothes, and presented a very ragged appearance. As a result they had lost their self respect. If they are underpaid, underfed, and poorly clothed they cannot be expected to sacrifice their lives. The soldier must be made to feel that he had the best his country could provide."

He told officers they must get nearer to their men and must develop the spirit of comradeship which characterised the British and American Armies. He also stated he felt there were too many Generals. "When you have 14,100 troops you do not need 150 Generals, nor must the Army [illegible]

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He told officers they must get nearer to their men and must develop the spirit of comradeship which characterised the British and American Armies. He also stated he felt there were too many Generals. "When you have 14,100 troops you do not need 150 Generals, nor when the Army is under the command of the Allies ..... do you need a Comando Supremo and all the bureaucracy involved."

Reports from Liaison Officers with Italian troops in forward areas are more encouraging. Here the Italian troops see that more is being done for them, better equipment is provided and a personal interest is taken in their welfare. Italian troops under command 5 Corps have been most favourably impressed by the interest shown in them by G.O.C., 5 Corps.

The morale of the C.L.I. and "NEMBO" is high and has lately been "boosted up" considerably through the release of British anti-tank guns and other Allied equipment for their use.

The censorship of letters from troops in the forward areas reveals that many Italian officers and men are proud to be fighting for the "Liberation of Rome and the setting free of their families up North from the German yoke."

The news of the Allied offensive in Italy was well received, especially amongst troops in depots and back areas who, for many weeks, have had the feeling of being so far from the War that they were not able to "do their bit". Troops in SICILY and SARDINIA are anxious to come over to the Mainland and help the Allies.

(10)

Sheet 2/

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2. Fascist - Pro-German - Anti-Allied Activities.

The only serious report on Fascist activities comes from CALABRIA. The Carabinieri in the Provinces of COSENZA and CATANZARO arrested a number of former members of the Fascist party. Those arrested included some party hierarchs, and many young Fascists, mostly students. According to a PWB report an organisation among Italian officers was started in REGGIO CALABRIA. The aim of this movement is the continuation of the Fascist Party in the expectation that German troops will come back to S. Italy. Membership cards of ANNO XXII (22nd year of Fascism) have been issued and distributed to members. These members are chosen amongst the best and most courageous elements of XXXI Corps. Gerarchi and Squadristi are excluded. Only a few officers of MVSN are accepted; the bulk is from the regular army.

In this connection it is pointed out that owing to the deplorable state of conditions in some of the Army depots and reorganisation camps in CALABRIA there is a tendency for officers and men, dissatisfied with conditions and idle through lack of employment, to blame the Badoglio Government for their unhappy state and consequently think back to the days of Fascist rule and discipline and are inclined to fall in with any schemes or movement to restore the old Regime.

3. Illegal Storage of Arms.

Nothing to report.

4. Political Activity.

Several reports state that there is little political activity in the Italian Army. A genuine interest in the various political parties is shown in many units and there have been reports of criticism of the Monarchy. It appears that the officer class in the Italian Army fears Communism in Italy, partly because of the traditional, though not always genuine, allegiance to the King, partly through fear of the purges which would come about were Communism to rule. The soldier on the other hand, if expressing political thought or trend at all, tends towards Communism, believing that this Party alone would rid the Army of the bureaucracy which he so much hates.

In SICILY there seems to be a strong anti-Badoglio group and a strong Monarchic group amongst the officers, while SARDINIA remains almost entirely loyal to the King. It is interesting to note that troops in the Combat Zones do not express much political thought probably because their thoughts are chiefly concentrated on the immediate and tangible problem of fighting the enemy. In the Italo-

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5. Relations with and Attitude towards Allied Troops.

On the whole these are good. A certain amount of bad feeling and fights have been reported between Italians and French at VENAFRO. Elsewhere reports indicate that relations are satisfactory. A report from 5 Corps states that, since the removal of Canadian and Mauritian troops who were responsible for occassional trouble in which the Italians acted in admirable restraint, relations have been good.

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6. Discipline.

In forward areas discipline on the whole is quite high. Outward respect is shown to officers. The feeling is that the general quality of the N.C.Os is poor.

In SICILY and SARDINIA discipline is improving but the general opinion of Liaison Officers is that punishments are too light considering Allied standards. Nearly all reports confirm that Allied officers can get more out of Italian troops. Absenteeism is very marked in rear areas and amongst Depot troops. Desertions are common amongst Italian soldiers of Slav origin and men who have been under arms for several years. This is partly due to the poor discipline in units.

7. Rumours etc: - Breaches of Security.

Apart from the normal rumours there have been no reports of any serious rumour which might have undermined morale.

Numerous reports from Allied Censorship officers confirm the fact that the Italian soldier is not security minded. There have been repeated cases of soldiers writing from the forward areas revealing their P.M. numbers, locations and full address, as well as making mention of their movements etc.

8. Summary of Military Security.

A. 1. A report from 5 Corps states that there were several cases of breaches of control of movement regulations in the early part of the month. Less frequent lately.

2. A general feeling of war-weariness and anxiety for the safety of families in the North.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS
Island Base Section
APO 550

May 29. 1944

SUBJECT: GARGANO, Francesco

TO : MMIA, IBS, Palermo

1. The above mentioned subject is presently under investigation by this organization and the Italian SIM-CS for suspected espionage activities.

2. He has been determined to be a strong Fascist having amongst other things, been a SENIORE of the MVSN, a Moschettiere of the Duce, and decorated as a Marcia su Roma, and as Schiarppa Littorio. He is also known to have taken part in the OVRA and to have been engaged in other secret work for the Fascist Regime. He is generally believed by the public to be a terrorist and a man of no scruples, and to have repeatedly set forth his belief in the winning of the war by the Germans.

3. His presence here in Palermo created a furore amongst the anti-Fascist elements, andhis arrest and internment was demanded by several persons of character and reputation.

4. Investigation has thus far revealed that he was from his rank in the MVSN automatically made, in accordance with the Badoglio decree, a colonel in the Italian Naval Artillery. He was finally found in the company of the Italian admiral in charge of rembilitating various units of the Italian Navy. The admiral upon being informed of subject's antecedents stated that he would recommend the immediate discharge of the subject from his rank as Colonel. The admiral further agreed to arrange subject's missions so that he would leave Sicily, thus allowing continuation of investigation by SIM-CS and this office.

5. Subject's papers were all intercepted and copies made thereof. They indicate that his presence in Sicily is in order and they consist of various written authorities and permits attesting to his right to undertake various missions on behalf of the Italian Navy.

6. Major Coventry, of District 1, Catania was apprised of subject's back-ground andinvestigation, andhe stated that he would make a recommendation to the Ministry of the Navy for subject's immediate discharge. Regardless of such action that may be taken he will be kept under investigation.

MARIO F. BROD
Captain CMP
C.I.C. Commanding

5655

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

No 3271

J 18

TRANSLATION

Circular No 7850/I dated 25.5.44. Issued by War Ministry

Subject:- Political tendencies among the rank and file of the Army

The formation of a National Government, comprising all anti-fascist parties, intent on chasing the enemy out of Italy and restoring the country to a regime of freedom, should destroy all prejudice against political parties.

Officers should therefore respect the political ideas of their men, always provided that such ideas are not expounded to the prejudice of discipline or team spirit of units.

The Officers' mission in this most important field should tend to avoid sterile and damaging discussions, though allowing everyone complete freedom of thought and ideals, specially so when such ideals coincide with the common aim of chasing the enemy out of the country and contributing to the resurrection of the Nation, the chief aim of our Army.

In this respect all parties have set the example forsaking their political ideals in favour of the supreme interest of the nation. The exalted moral significance of this collaboration should be brought to the attention of the men by their officers.

All the above does not modify, but, on the contrary, confirms, our basic policy and that is that the Army has no politics and its function is to serve the nation, of which it is the living expression, with perfect discipline.

5695

The Minister.

Translation

Circular No. 7850/I dated 25.5.44. Issued by War Ministry

Subject: Political tendencies among the rank & file of the Army.

The formation of a National government, comprising all anti-fascist parties, intent on chasing the enemy out of Italy and restoring the country to a regime of freedom, should destroy all prejudice against political parties.

Officers should therefore respect the political ideas of their men, always provided that such ideas are not expounded to the prejudice of discipline or team spirit of unity.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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The Minister

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

N. di prot. 7850/1 / 7-3-52

Lecce, 25 maggio 1944

OGGETTO: ***Tendenze politiche nelle file dell'Esercito.***

Al Comando Forze Armate della Campania — *Napoli*
Al Comando Militare della Sardegna — *P. M. 50*
Al Comando VII Corpo d'Armata — *P. M. 112*
Al Comando IX Corpo d'Armata — *P. M. 67*
Al Comando XII Corpo d'Armata — *P. M. 126*
Al Comando XXXI Corpo d'Armata — *P. M. 114*
Al Comando LI Corpo d'Armata — *P. M. 410*
Al Comando Campi di Riordinamento — *P. M. 107*
Al Comando Arma CC. RR. dell'Italia Liberata — *P. M. 151/A*
Al Comando R. Guardia di Finanza per l'Italia Liberata — *Salerno*

e, per conoscenza:

A S. E. il Primo Aiutante di Campo Generale di S. M. il Re d'Italia — *P. M. 151/A*
A S. E. il Primo Aiutante di Campo Generale di S. A. R. il Principe di Piemonte — *Napoli*
A S. E. il Primo Aiutante di Campo di S. A. R. il Duca d'Aosta — *Taranto*
Alla Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri — *Salerno*
Al Comando Supremo — *P. M. 135*
Allo Stato Maggiore Regio Esercito — *P. M. 151*
All'Ispettorato Generale dell'Esercito — *P. M. 151/A*
All'Ufficio di S. E. il Generale d'Armata Alessandro Pirzio-Biroli — *Lecce*
All'Ufficio dell'Alto Commissario per i Prigionieri di Guerra — *Casa dei T.*
Alla Sezione di Tribunale Supremo Militare — Ufficio Presidenza — *Ostuni*
Alla Sezione di Tribunale Supremo Militare — R. Procura Generale — *Ostuni*
Alla Commissione per l'interrogatorio Prigionieri di Guerra — *Maglie*
All'Ispettorato dell'Arma di Artiglieria — *P. M. 151*
All'Ispettorato dell'Arma del Genio — *Sede*

7 GIU. 1944

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

RIVERSATO

Al Comando Forze Armate della Campania	*Napoli*
Al Comando Militare della Sardegna	*P. M. 50*
Al Comando VII Corpo d'Armata	*P. M. 112*
Al Comando IX Corpo d'Armata	*P. M. 67*
Al Comando XII Corpo d'Armata	*P. M. 126*
Al Comando XXXI Corpo d'Armata	*P. M. 114*
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e, per conoscenza:

A S. E. il Primo Aiutante di Campo Generale di S. M. il Re d'Italia	*P. M. 151/A*
A S. E. il Primo Aiutante di Campo Generale di S. A. R. il Principe di Piemonte	*Napoli*
A S. E. il Primo Aiutante di Campo di S. A. R. il Duca d'Aosta	*Taranto*
Alla Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri	*Salerno*
Al Comando Supremo	*P. M. 135*
Allo Stato Maggiore Regio Esercito	*P. M. 151*
All'Ispettorato Generale dell'Esercito	*P. M. 151/A*
All'Ufficio di S. E. il Generale d'Armata Alessandro Pirzio-Biroli	*Lecce*
All'Ufficio dell'Alto Commissario per i Prigionieri di Guerra	*Capo dei T.*
Alla Sezione di Tribunale Supremo Militare — Ufficio Presidenza	*Ostuni*
Alla Sezione di Tribunale Supremo Militare — R. Procura Generale	*Ostuni*
Alla Commissione per l'interrogatorio Prigionieri di Guerra	*Maglie*
All'Ispettorato dell'Arma di Artiglieria	*P. M. 151*
All'Ispettorato dell'Arma del Genio	*Sede*
All'Ufficio A.P.C. (presso Comando FF. AA. Campania)	*Napoli*
Alle Direzioni Generali e Uffici Autonomi del Ministero	*Sede*

La formazione di un Governo Nazionale con l'inclusione di tutti i partiti antifascisti, teso nella decisa volontà di cacciare dall'Italia il nemico e di restituire il Paese ad un regime di libertà, deve far cadere ogni prevenzione verso i partiti politici.

L'ufficiale quindi rispetti le tendenze dell'inferiore sempreché, beninteso, tali tendenze non si esplichino in manifestazioni che infirmino la disciplina e la coesione dei reparti.

L'opera dell'ufficiale anche in questo campo importantissimo deve tendere a che siano evitate discus-

7 GIU. 1944

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

sioni sterili e dannose, pur lasciando a ciascuno piena libertà di pensiero e di ideologie, specie quando queste tendono al fine comune dianzi accennato e cioè concorrere alla cacciata del nemico ed alla resurrezione della Patria, che è scopo precipuo del nostro Esercito.

Su questa via l'esempio è offerto da tutti i partiti, i quali hanno anteposto alle loro idealità politiche i supremi interessi del Paese; l'alto significato morale di questa collaborazione deve essere dagli ufficiali illustrato ai propri dipendenti.

Quanto sopra non modifica ma conferma quanto è canone nostro fondamentale e cioè l'Esercito è per sua natura apolitico e la sua funzione è di servire in perfetta disciplina il Paese di cui è l'espressione.

IL MINISTRO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Y FLS/rrc

SECRET

Headquarters A.A.I.
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Army Sub Commission
A.F.O. 509, U.S.Army

I/284/1 16

O/L

28 May 1944

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence Report-Italian Army.

MEMO TO: Commanding General, Army Sub Commission, ACC
Main HQ, Lequile (LECCE).

1. Monthly Security Intelligence Report for Sardinia for period 20 April to 20 May inclosed herewith.

2. This report was prepared by Captain L.A. Cerutti, Cavalry, and was delayed in forwarding until the return of the undersigned from conference at A.A.I. and MMIA.

F. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Representative in
Sardinia

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Y LAC/rrc

SECRET

15

Allied Force Headquarters
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Army Sub Commission
A.P.O. 809, U.S. Army

27 May 1944

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Cutstation: ASC Sardinia — Area Covered: Sardinia

Report No. 1 — Period from April 20 to May 20.

A. General Security

1. Morale:

(a) In general, the morale of the Italian soldier is satisfactory. There are individual cases in which the lack of shoes and insufficient clothing, the minimum supply of tobacco and cigarettes, and the small ration has an adverse effect. The majority of the continental soldiers are all extremely desirous of returning to the mainland. On one hand, continentals whose homes are in occupied Italy want to return to the mainland and work for the Allies; on the other hand, continentals whose homes are in liberated Italy want to return to their homes as dischargees from the Army in order to farm their lands or resume other civilian occupations.

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(b) One source for the state of morale is derived from anonymous letters received by this office from Italian troops stationed on the island. One such letter was signed "Alpine Troops, 175th Regiment, Villasor". The allegation was made that twenty-four bags of flour were stored in a Villasor depot, but that the only food received was carrots and boiled water. They further stated that eight bags of flour were reported lost in transit, but they could prove that their officers had sold them. The matter was referred to the Italian authorities requesting that an investigation be made. As yet, no report has been received from Italian Headquarters.

(c) An inspection was conducted by the G-1 Section, Allied Garrison of Sardinia, of the "Raggruppamento Granatieri" at Iglesias. It was reported that the officers and men were receiving less than three hundred (300) grams of bread per day, and that for the first week in May only one (1) book of matches was issued per man although the supply of matches to the Italian Army is sufficient to permit a distribution of two (2) books of matches per week to each

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

soldier. The matter was referred to the Italian authorities for action and investigation. To date no report has been received.

(d) The news of the Allied offensive in Italy was well received. In an informal talk at Italian Army Headquarters with four (4) Italian field grade officers and an officer of this section, the Italian officers were of the opinion that the Allied forces on the main Fifth Army Front would meet on the Anzio beachhead by 10 June 1944, and that Rome would be occupied by the Allies before 30 June 1944.

(e) The most reliable source of information concerning morale that this office has results from the constant inspections of Italian units by officers of this section. Many inspections are made unannounced; spot checks are made and conversations are held with officers and enlisted men of the unit.

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: Nothing to report.

3. Illegal storage of arms and ammunition: Nothing to report.

4. Political Activity

(a) There has been an ostentatious display of communistic slogans and the emblem of the hammer and sickle painted in red on many of the houses in Cagliari and the nearby towns. There have been, however, no incidents of public communistic demonstrations.

(b) At an informal gathering of half a dozen Italian junior grade officers, all of whose homes are in Northern Italy, remarks were heard by an officer of this section to the effect that if Communism succeeded in getting a foothold in Italy, the results would be worse than that created by Fascism. They believed that the present King should abdicate and that a Regency should be set up with the King's grandson on the throne.

5. Relations with and Attitude towards Allied Troops:

(a) There is little evidence of fraternizing on the part of the Allied troops and Italian soldiers. Those that are in contact because of their military duties are cooperative.

6. Discipline

(a) General Rosselli, Commanding General 7th Italian Army Corps, however, reported two (2) Italian soldiers who failed to salute him on the streets of Sassari. When questioned by the General, the Italian soldiers stated that they were working for the Allies in Sassari and claimed they did not see him. An investigation is being

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

conducted to clarify the position and question of discipline as regards Italian soldiers working for the Allies. This office is wholeheartedly in accord with the policy that the Italian Army be solely responsible for the discipline of all Italian soldiers. This has, however, been a singular case, and discipline has been very satisfactory.

7. Rumors and Indiscreet Talk:

(a) During the period covered by this report a considerable movement of Italian troops and equipment took place. No case of a breach of security was reported.

8. Summary. Other Matters:

(a) The preparation for movement and the transport itself of the Nembo Division to the mainland were closely and constantly observed. After the initial misunderstandings and conflicting opinions as to the possible actions of Nembo personnel aboard ship, the movement to the mainland got under way. The Commanding General of the Nembo Division, Brigadier General Morigi, and Colonel P. L. Simmons of this office accompanied the first contingent. To date practically the entire division has been transported with absolutely no incidents. The Captain of the Giuseppe Garibaldi stated in his report that of all the troops he has transported to the mainland, the Nembo were the most orderly and best behaved. The security of this movement, considering all the preliminary difficulties, was superior. Upon arrival at Naples, many troops were surprised for they had believed their destination would have been North Africa. Moreover, the morale of this unit which has always been higher than average, was greater than at any other time.

B. Personalities.

1. Information (white) on higher leaders: Nothing to report.

2. Information (black): Nothing to report.

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P. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Representative in
Sardinia

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Y FLS/rvc

SECRET

Headquarters A.A.I.
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Army Sub Commission
A.P.O. 509, U.S.Army

29 May 1944

SUBJECT: Security Intelligence Report-Italian Army.

MEMO TO: Commanding General, Army Sub Commission, ACC Main HQ, Lequile (LECCE).

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2. This report was prepared by Captain L.A. Cerutti, Cavalry, and was delayed in forwarding until the return of the undersigned from conference at A.A.I. and MMIA.

F. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Representative in
Sardinia

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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13

Allied Force Headquarters
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Army Sub Commission
A.P.O. 509, U.S. Army

27 May 1944

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Outstation: ASC Sardinia — Area Covered: Sardinia

Report No. 1 — Period from April 20 to May 20.

A. General Security

1. Morale:

(a) In general, the morale of the Italian soldier is satisfactory. There are individual cases in which the lack of shoes and insufficient clothing, the minimum supply of tobacco and cigarettes, and the small ration has an adverse effect. The majority of the continental soldiers are all extremely desirous of returning to the mainland. On one hand, continentals whose homes are in occupied Italy want to return to the mainland and work for the Allies; on the other hand, continentals whose homes are in liberated Italy want to return to their homes as dischargees from the Army in order to farm their lands or resume other civilian occupations.

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(b) One source for the state of morale is derived from anonymous letters received by this office from Italian troops stationed on the island. One such letter was signed "Alpine Troops, 175th Regiment, Villasor". The allegation was made that twenty-four bags of flour were stored in a Villasor depot, but that the only food received was carrots and boiled water. They further stated that eight bags of flour were reported lost in transit, but they could prove that their officers had sold them. The matter was referred to the Italian authorities requesting that an investigation be made. As yet, no report has been received from Italian Headquarters.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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(d) The news of the Allied offensive in Italy was well received. In an informal talk at Italian Army Headquarters with four (4) Italian field grade officers and an officer of this section, the Italian officers were of the opinion that the Allied forces on the main Fifth Army Front would meet on the Anzio beachhead by 10 June 1944, and that Rome would be occupied by the Allies before 30 June 1944.

(e) The most reliable source of information concerning morale that this office has results from the constant inspections of Italian units by officers of this section. Many inspections are made unannounced; spot checks are made and conversations are held with officers and enlisted men of the unit.

2. Fascist, Pro-German, Anti-Allied Activities or Trends: Nothing to report.

3. Illegal storage of arms and ammunition: Nothing to report.

4. Political Activity

(a) There has been an ostentatious display of communistic slogans and the emblem of the hammer and sickle painted in red on many of the houses in Cagliari and the nearby towns. There have been, however, no incidents of public communistic demonstrations.

(b) At an informal gathering of half a dozen Italian junior grade officers, all of whose homes are in Northern Italy, remarks were heard by an officer of this section to the effect that if Communism succeeded in getting a foothold in Italy, the results would be worse than that created by Fascism. They believed that the present King should abdicate and that a Regency should be set up with the King's grandson on the throne.

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5. Relations with and Attitude towards Allied Troops:

(a) There is little evidence of fraternizing on the part of the Allied troops and Italian soldiers. Those that are in contact because of their military duties are cooperative.

6. Discipline

(a) General Roselli, Commanding General 7th Italian Army Corps, however, reported two (2) Italian soldiers who failed to salute him on the streets of Sassari. When questioned by the General, the Italian soldiers stated that they were working for the Allies in Sassari and claimed they did not see him. An investigation is being

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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(a) During the period covered by this report a considerable movement of Italian troops and equipment took place. No case of a breach of security was reported.

8. Summary. Other Matters:

(a) The preparation for movement and the transport itself of the Nembo Division to the mainland were closely and constantly observed. After the initial misunderstandings and conflicting opinions as to the possible actions of Nembo personnel aboard ship, the movement to the mainland got under way. The Commanding General of the Nembo Division, Brigadier General Morigi, and Colonel F. L. Simmons of this office accompanied the first contingent. To date practically the entire division has been transported with absolutely no incidents. The Captain of the Giuseppe Garibaldi stated in his report that of all the troops he has transported to the mainland, the Nembo were the most orderly and best behaved. The security of this movement, considering all the preliminary difficulties, was superior. Upon arrival at Naples, many troops were surprised for they had believed their destination would have been North Africa. Moreover, the morale of this unit which has always been higher than average, was greater than at any other time.

B. Personalities.

1. Information (white) on higher leaders: Nothing to report.

2. Information (black): Nothing to report.

F. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Representative in
Sardinia

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

I/106/1
O/L

12

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
(MMIA) LO. Sicily
c/o I.B.S. APO 550

No.94

29 May 1944

Subject: Security Intelligence-Monthly Reports
Italian Army

To : GOC Army Sub Commission ACC (MMIA)
Attention GSI

1. In compliance with your I/106 dated 10 May 1944 enclosed herewith required report. (Note- Copy of I/106 did not reach this office until 25 May which was forwarded by LO MMIA Catania).

2. Ref IDLO/1 LOMMIA to Hq No.1 District dated 25 May-GARGANO. Enclosed herewith report on Col Gargano by CIC, IBS.

Encl: 1. Security Intelligence Report
Italian Army.
a Attachd Capt Brod CIC IBS report
b Ltr subject Gargano, Francesco
2. Gargano, Francesco

LESTER R ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

Copy of Security Intelligence Report-Italian Army to No.1 Dist. and I.B.S.

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SECRET

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

28 May 1944

SECURITY INTELLIGENCE REPORT-ITALIAN ARMY

Out station-Sicily

Area Covered-Palermo Area

Report No.1

Period from_____ To-25 May 1944

A. GENERAL SECURITY

The following is the opinion of Major Hall, LO IBS to Italian troops in Palermo Area:

1.*MORALE Has improved since the Italians have been given some clothes and equipment. Also assigning them duties with responsibilities i e guarding installations and trains and in charge of smoke pots. Movies and games provided by Italian Red Cross and a Post Exchange boosts morale.

2.*FASCIST, PRO GERMAN, ANTI-ALLIED ACTIVITIES.

3.*ILLEGAL STORAGE OF AMMUNITION. Italians have a few hand grenades illegally but nothing serious and is being corrected.

4.*POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.

5.*RELATIONS WITH AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS ALLIED TROOPS. Very Good.

6.*DISCIPLINE. Satisfactory and improving. Since operations of Military Tribune there has been a great improvement, however the punishments are too light considering Allied standards and we are trying to have this fault corrected. Allied officers and NCOs have more influence with Italian soldiers in some instances. Still chance for great improvement in discipline.

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7.*RUMORS AND INDISCREET TALK. When the soldiers of 46 Inf Regt first got their green battle dress some minorfights ensued between the soldiers and civilians in the streets when they were called "Badoglios' Green Soldiers". This does not occur now. G-2, IBS is of the opinion that the local civilians are not too friendly with the Italians PWs and are trying to over charge them. Most of the PWs and 46 Inf Regt come from the Mainland.

8.*SUMMARY OF MILITARY SECURITY. From my own observation I concur with Par 8 Capt Brod's report attchd.

* See Capt Brod's report attached.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS
Island Base Section
APO 550

SUBJECT: Intelligence Report on Italian Troops — May 29,1944

To : M.M.I.A., Hq. IBS, Palermo.

1.MORALE: The Italian troops ' morale may be desriked generally as good, considering the circumstances surrounding the defeat of the Italian Army.Considering the fact that in the eyes of the world they are a conquered group; that their food is considered meager; their clothing and shoes poor, their military equippent almost non-existent; their transportation wholly inadequate and their quarters not what they would ordinarily have had,the problem of morale is not a serious factor. There is some natural grumbling and dissatisfaction, but all in all, they appears to have accepted their situation with good grace. The Officers are mostly concerned about the general welfare of their troops and are chagrined at their inability to improve their lot. There have been no important indications of unrest; complaints have been presented to various authorities with courtesy and respect. Tires, cars and other equipment have been sought upon application to IBS, ACC, and to the local civilian authorities without success because of the lack of these items. There seem to be no important undealt with greievances of the officers. There appear to be no indications of dangerous subversive elements, although several anonymous informations have been received by this office relating to the possibility of some German sympathy on the part of some officers. Investigation in this connection is being conducted, but negative results are anticpated.

2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN AND ANTI-ALLIED ACTIVITIES:
Other than above stated, no dangerous activity of this nature appears to exist. Several officers have been arrested and interned during the earl y days of the Sicilian occupation. All POW's have been screened and those displaying any possible pro-fascist or anti-allied sentiments have been recommended for duration internment.

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION:
While several small incidents have indicated the possession of illegal arms and ammunition there appears to be no indication of unusual quantities being stored. Ammunition control seems to be very rigid because of the limited quantities available, and no information or incident seems to indicate any reason for the wholesale storage of illegal arms and ammunition.

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITY:
The officers of the Italian Troops , while not strongly politically inclined evidence great interest in the progress of various political movements. There appears to be a strong anti-Badoglio group and a strong Monarchic group. None of these or other political thinking officers have to this date created any strong political stream within the troops. There is a present still being circulated a printed circular, copy of which is hereto attached indicating the trend of thou ht of one of these groups.

5. RELATIONS WITH AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE ALLIED TROOPS:
Considerable envy of a ntural type is evidenced towards the greater pay, better clothing, equipment , etc., of the Allied Troops. However it has not

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developed to the point which can be called serious. There is considerable pride within the ranks of Officers. Their attitude is one of friendliness however, with the obvious regret evidenced that they are still considered only " co-belligerent" rather than Allies. They have in some instances been sarcastic in this repsect, but not maliciously so.

6. DISCIPLINE:

Italian troop discipline is very bad, insofar as relations between troops and officers is concerned. There have been many indications of indifference on the part of the troops towards their officers, and this appears due to the general morale as set forth in 1 above. However no condition appears to exist which reveals any possibility of the officers not being able to control their troops in the event of difficulty. In general the troops conduct themselves properly on and off duty and only very few incidents of trouble with the c ivilian population exist, all of which can be considered normal.

7. RUMORS AND INDISCREET TALK:

Many rumors are circulated amongst the Italian troop units. These are identical to those circulating amongst our own troops, and none of these are of such a tyoe as seem to have been the result of enemy activity within the Italian army itslef. Indiscreet talk is the result only of the strong feeling amongst regular Army units to want to participate in the present war by actual front line duty. There have been accusta ons that ~~thay~~ " they", i.e., the Allies do not want the Italians to show what they really can do as fighting troops, and they have accused the Allies of misjudging their fighting ability. They want to fight,- or at least have often given this indication.

8. MILITARY SECURITY:

This is poor, as far as strong adherenceto purely security precautions are concerned. However this is not considered important nor a threat inasmuch as they are not in possession of military information which can be of any importance to the enemy. The security measures in operation at present are now being surveyed by the SIM-Cs, and a report in detail will be forthcoming, a station list having been supplied them to allow individual survey of each Italian unit.

9. A more detailed report will be rendered next month.

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MARIO E. BROD
CAPTAIN CMP
C.I.C. Commanding.

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COPY

LETTERA APERTA A S. E. IL CONTE SFORZA E A S. E. IL SENATORE CROCE

DI GIUSEPPE RISPOLI

ECCELLENZE,

Consentite ad un soldato d'Italia una parola in difesa di S.M. il Re d'Italia (sebbene la sacra persona del Re sia al di sopra di ogni giudizio e quindi non passibile di accuse, ne bisognosa di difese)additato da Voi pubblicamente al Mondo come corresponsabile degli errori compiuti dal fascismo e in difesa degli Ufficiali del R. Esercito accusati, secondo quanto Voi verbalmente avete, signor Conte Sforza, riferito nell'adunata di S. Marcellino, di avere evacuato senza combattere, l'isola di Lero nel Dodecanneso.

Innanzi tutto, per spiegarsi le attuali dolorose condizioni in cui versa il popolo, occorre precisare i seguenti precedenti inoppugnabili fatti storici che sono stati, insieme ad altri che per brevità si omettono, gli elementi determinanti della tragedia lacerante di dolore vissuta dal Re e dal suo popolo:

1) Garibaldi, all'indomani dell'Unificazione d'Italia, attaccò violentissimamente in pubblico Parlamento il Conte di Cavour, che ne rimase amareggiatissimo, per la cessione alla Francia di Nizza e della Savoia.

2) Il grande Mazzini, il vero forgiatore insieme ad altri pensatori dell'Unità d'Italia, aderì per amor patrio alla Monarchia di Savoia, riconoscendo il preziosissimo apporto al riscatto dallo straniero dell'Italia.

3) L'Italia, già legata alla Germania dal Trattato della Triplice, fu nel 1914 accusata di tradimento per l'intervento al fianco della Francia e dell'Inghilterra.

4) Gli eccessi compiuti in Italia dalle classi comuniste (occupazione delle fabbriche) generarono nel 1919 la costituzione delle squadre di azione, col tacito consenso degli ex governi liberali, democratici e popolari, pur funzionando, in regime d'indiscussa liberta le Camere e la pubblica stampa.

5) I sanguinosi, numerosi e continui conflitti tra fascisti e comunisti, lo stato di abulia governativa e l'incapacita dei partiti a formare un governo autorevole e stabile: non puo negarsi nel periodo 1919-22 la divisione e l'urto esistente tra i partiti. Si ricordi il veto posto dai popolari alla formazione di un governo Giolitti, il loro rifiuto ad una coalizione coi socialisti ed inoltr il rifiuto all'invito fatto loro di formare un Ministero degli on. Orlando, Meda, De Nicola.

6) La visita dell'on. Turati al Quirinale per auspicare un governo socialista, reso impossibile dal rifiuto dei partiti di centro e di destra.

7) Lo stato di nausea e d'indifferenza politica delle masse e la lotta latente esistente tra partito liberale e partito popolare; si ricordi la frase dell'on. De Nicola, che in un suo discorso del partito popolare ebbe a dire: --Partito carnefice e martire, che in tre anni di partecipazione al governo non e riuscito ad attuare alcun punto fondamentale del suo programma--. Ed il fatto che la legge agraria, votata a beneficio dei lavoratori dai partiti popolari e socialista, non pote essere attuata per la provocata conseguent caduta del Ministero.

8) La crisi del Ministero Bonomi, provocata dall'inevitabile fallimento della Banca Italiana di Sconto e principalmente ad opera del partito popolare massonico, che

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mai aveva tollerato la visita di condoglianze del governo italiano dal Ministro Rodino in Vaticano all'indomani della morte di Benedetto XV.

Queste, insieme a molte altre del genere, le dolorose condizioni del popolo italiano, che nelle piazze era dilaniato dalle sanguinose lotte tra fascisti e comunisti, lotte permesse ad arte dagli altri partiti e dal governo dell'epoca, perchè con errato calcolo, si sperava di neutralizzare tra di loro i partiti estremi.

Chi capeggiava il movimento rivoluzionario?

Un uomo, avversario manifesto della Germania, ex socialista, accusato di aver fondato con denaro estero il --Popolo d'Italia-- per sostenere nel 1914 l'intervento dell'Italia a fianco della Francia e dell'Inghilterra e che si arrogava, in concorso con d'Annunzio, il diritto di parlare in nome dei reduci dalle trincee. Il Sovrano, per evitare un inutile spargimento di sangue, rifiutò di firmare il decreto di stato di assedio e diede il potere a Mussolini, che garantì di voler formare un governo di unione nazionale e che dichiarò di accettare la collaborazione di qualunque partito.

Se, per ipotesi, il Sovrano avesse firmato il decreto di stato d'assedio, Mussolini e i suoi partigiani avrebbero assunto una maggiore aureola di martiri dell'Idea col il Fascismo, provato dal sacrificio di sangue, avrebbe avuto maggior radice nel popolo: si sarebbe verificato quanto dopo è avvenuto in Germania, ove il Cancelliere Hindenburg nei primi momenti si rifiutò di dare le redini del governo ad Hitler, ma dove poi deflettere dal suo atteggiamento in seguito all'incapacità di governo da parte dei partiti e di fronte al crescente favore presso l'opinione pubblica del movimento Hitleriano.

La prima scusa di corresponsabilità del Sovrano cade quando si pensi ai seguenti fatti:

1) Mussolini costituì il governo col consenso dei liberali, dei democratici e dei popolari, con larga partecipazione ai portafogli dei rappresentanti dei vari partiti.

2) Del governo facevano parte le Eccellenze Diaz e Tahon de Revel, artefici al fianco delle Nazioni Unite della Vittoria.

3) La Camera Italiana, formata nella parte governativa di appena 27 deputati fascisti e nel resto di 107 deputati popolari e da oltre 150 deputati liberali, tra cui gli on. Giolitti, Orlando e Salandra, diede i pieni poteri per un anno a Mussolini rinnovandoli per un altro anno alla scadenza del primo termine.

Solo il partito comunista ed il partito socialista votarono contro, ma si deve rilevare che il partito socialista ebbe ad approvare un suo o.d.g. col quale si accordava --una benevola attesa-- verso il governo Mussolini per la sua futura azione in favore del proletariato, azione che, a detrimento delle classi dei proprietari e dei datori di lavoro, Mussolini ha effettivamente eseguito.

4) Non ostante le staffilate vergognose e disonoranti di Mussolini, questa Camera formata appena da un numero sparuto di 27 deputati fascisti, nel resto da un'enorme maggioranza di deputati liberali, democratici e popolari, permise che Mussolini governasse per due anni e con pieni poteri il Paese e che fondasse nel 1923, senza alcuna protesta di alcun partito, la Milizia.

5) Il Senato, di cui Voi, Eccellenza Croce e Sforza facevate parte, ratificò quanto avevano fatto il Sovrano e la Camera dei deputati. Non vi fu mai alcuna protesta da parte di alcuno contro le infamanti parole di Mussolini a carico della Camera Italiana. Solo Voi, Eccellenza Sforza, aveste il coraggio d'indirizzare a Mussolini un telegramma di protesta, ma lo faceste indisciplinatamente, se pur lodevolmente, come ambasciatore, non disciplinatamente e legalmente, come avreste potuto dalla tribuna del Senato, ove ricordiamo la sola parola di opposizione del Sen. Albertini.

Quale fu l'atteggiamento dell'Estero? ed in ispecie della Francia, dell'Inghilterra e dell'America? Di assoluta approvazione.

Infatti Mussolini nel 1923 si reco a Parigi, da capo del governo italiano ed ebbe onorate accoglienze: nel 1923 S.M. il Re d'Inghilterra visitò il Re d'Italia e riceve

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la presentazione delle armi della M.V.S.N. e il saluto beneaugurante del Governo Mussolini, che in quel tempo seguiva una politica franco-inglese.

Gli Stati Uniti accolsero l'inviato del governo fascista, Conte Volpi di Misurata, per la sistemazione dei debiti e con/ lui firmarono un accordo che sanzionava ed approvava implicitamente l'opera del governo fascista.

Successivamente gli Stati Uniti accoglievano trionfalmente il Quadrumviro Balbo a capo dei transvolatori atlantici ed il Sud America il transvolatore atlantico Cap. Bruno Mussolini, ed inoltre tutte le Nazioni permisero la formazione all'Estero delle Case del Fascio.

Inoltre, il governo sovietico fu il primo a stipulare un accordo commerciale col governo fascista. Mussolini, sin dai primi atti del suo governo, seguì una politica franco-inglese.

Non si dimentichi:

1) Il suo fiero discorso contro la Germania per l'intangibilità del Brennero, cui risposero in modo molto aspro il Ministro Stresemann ed il Cancelliere austriaco.

2) Le grandi manovre sul Brennero, cui parteciparono gli addetti francese ed inglese, che Mussolini con significativo gesto volle al suo fianco al rancio del campo.

3) La marcia delle divisioni italiane per la difesa dell'Austria.

4) Il Trattato di protezione dell'Austria.

5) La proposta dell'Italia di fare entrare nella Lega delle Nazioni l'Abissinia.

6) Il patto a quattro, la Conferenza di Stresa e la Conferenza di Monaco.

Si può oggi e con quale coscienza, dopo questi ed altri fatti incontrovertibili ed inoppugnabili, sostenere la responsabilità del Re, che formalmente ha osservato tutti gli articoli dello Statuto, che ha, attraverso l'approvazione delle Camere, preteso la modificazione dello Statuto, ove venivano diminuite le garanzie della Corona? Un Re, che permette la preventiva approvazione del Gran Consiglio per la successione al Trono del Figlio, dà prova di disinteresse, di rinuncia, non di egoismo, ne di tradimento.

Ma vi è di più: nel 1923 la Camera Italiana ed il Senato approvarono (solo Luigi Sturzo e alcuni pochi fedeli deputati popolari si opposero) la legge elettorale a sistema maggioritario, secondo cui quel partito che avesse ottenuto il 25% dei voti della massa elettorale avrebbe avuto il diritto ai 2/3 dei seggi in Parlamento. Quella legge fu approvata per paura, appunto da quei deputati liberali, democratici ed alcuni purtroppo popolari, che oggi, dimentichi delle loro gravi responsabilità, per occultare innanzi alla vindice Storia le loro colpe, cercano oggi di gettare tutto il peso delle presenti sciagure sulla Maestà del Re.

Con quella legge il Parlamento per vilta rinunzio completamente a tutte le garanzie costituzionali. Mussolini abilmente si servì della vigliaccheria e dell'interesse a rimanere in carica di quei deputati (i cui superstiti non dovrebbero avere oggi la veste di accusatori, giacchè l'accusa si ritorce più grave su di loro) per ottenere il trionfo della sua idea: la legge sul Primo Ministro, la costituzione del Gran Consiglio etanti altri istituti rivoluzionari, che hanno diminuito la funzione istituzionale del Sovrano.

Voi, Eccellenza Croce, al Senato in proposito non avete pronunziato alcuna parola di opposizione: col consenso tacito siete responsabile di quella crisi istituzionale che oggi ponete innanzi alla Nazione.

Ma non si può negare l'unanimità di consensi di tutta la Nazione Italiana a seguito dell'assassinio della Missione in Grecia del gen. Tellini. Si rilegga il giornale di opposizione—Il Mondo—: in quel doloroso momento tutti gli Italiani furono solidali con Mussolini. E la stessa Inghilterra, che intimò lo sgombro di Corfù, partecipò con le sue navi, assieme a quelle francesi, agli onori voluti da Mussolini a favore delle Vittime. Venne l'epoca degli assassinii, don Minzoni, Matteotti, Amendola e tanti altri noti ed oscuri Martiri della Libertà, innanzi ai quali s'inchinano reverenti le nostre menti. E' noto che il delitto di Matteotti fu consumato mentre il Re era in Ispagna;

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S.M. trovo, al suo ritorno, gia avviata l'istruttoria; nessun deputato di opposizione, ed erano circa 200, ne alcun Senatore si avvalse dello Statuto per porre sotto accusa legalmente ed in piena Camera il governo Mussolini. Se poi si oppone che i deputati di opposizione con atto illegale, riprovato dallo stesso Giolitti, posero la questione morale, nessun Senatore ne Voi, o Conte Sforza e Sen. Croce, vi avvaleste di tale diritto. Che anzi il Senato, convocato in Alta Corte di Giustizia, mando assolto il quadrumviro De Bono.

Si puo oggi accusare il Re di corresponsabilita? No, certamente, quando si consideri il numero sempre piu crescente degl'iscritti al P.N.F. (si raggiunse nientemeno la cifra di 7.000.000 di iscritti alle varie organizzazioni e vi fu un tempo che furono chiuse le iscrizioni al Partito, di poi riaperte per le insistenti pressioni dei non iscritti; molti di quelli che vantano oggi la non iscrizione ebbero respinta la domanda di iscrizione).

Di fronte al dilagante favore presso le masse, preso dal fascismo, l'azione del Sovrano fu definita frenante e talvolta di ostilita, come si rileva dal discorso dello stesso Mussolini, il quale accusa la Monarchia di avere coperto sotto un manto le correnti antifasciste e contrarie alla guerra alle Nazioni Unite, cio che si rileva peraltro dalle autorevoli parole del Primo Ministro Churchill nel suo messaggio del 23.10. 1940 agli Italiani, ove addebita ad un uomo solo, al solo Mussolini, la responsabilita della guerra.

In definitiva, il popolo italiano, i cui sacri diritti di rappresentanza furono traditi dai suoi indegni deputati, sconta oggi l'errore di averli eletti.

Non e al Re, che con suo saggio provvedimento, senza alcun concorso ed intervento diretto del popolo, allontano Mussolini dal potere, si deve imputare la causa del presente disastro, ma ad una molteplicita e ad un concorso di cause fatali e piu di tutto alla innegabile suggestione esercitata da Mussolini sulle folle.

Circa l'evacuazione da parte delle Truppe italiane dell'isola di Lero, mentre Voi, sig. Conte Sforza, dichiarate che tale sconfitta e dovuta a mancanza del locale presidio italiano che non ha combattuto, il Maresciallo Badoglio invia solennemente vibrante protesta a tutte le Nazioni del mondo, per la fucilazione da parte dei tedeschi, di alcuni Ufficiali italiani, --rei di avere combattuto--.

La vostra accusa e destituita di fondamento. Conclusione:

Il popolo italiano e circondato da ogni lato dalla bufera della guerra: la sua epica tragedia e senza precedenti nella storia; vittima e nemico del suo ex alleato e oggi, per vinto, valido ausilio e amico del suo ex nemico. Le varie accuse di filofascismo contro il suo Re ed i suoi Ufficiali disorientano i soldati della trincea, che guardano nauseati, lo spettacolo cui da luogo l'attuale atteggiamento di alcuni partiti interni.

Quando il soldato muore per la Patria o, se non muore, espone a sacrificio di sangue la sua carne, e inammissibile qualsiasi giudizio di piazza.

Chi non conosce la differenza di trattamento ch'e stata fatta in ogni tempo al soldato italiano in confronto di tutti i soldati del mondo?

Oggi la maggioranza dei soldati italiani e prigioniera, molti languono sotto lo straniero, molti giacciono sotto la zolla africana, ma il loro silenzio e eloquente al nostro cuore; son quella forza sovrumana che si sprigiona dai loro avelli, essi ci comandano di salvare l'Italia ad ogni costo.

La Repubblica sociale di Mussolini, non e il risultato di un plebiscito del popolo italiano; la pretesa repubblica che, taluni partiti dell'Italia liberata, vorrebbe imporre, non poggerebbe sul consenso unanime del popolo italiano: le due repubbliche sono in antitesi e si elidono. Rimane in piedi la Monarchia, bandiera dell'Unita morale degl'italiani; l'abdicazione, che Voi vorreste imporre al Re e la rinuncia al Trono del Principe ereditario, colpevole secondo Voi di avere obbedito al Re ed alla voce del

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popolo, che fu espressa oltre che dal Parlamento, dai plebisciti che sancirono almeno formalmente l'operato del Re, ci renderebbe orfani in balia di avidi curatori, che noi soldati d'Italia sdegnosamente respingiamo. L'innato senso dell'onore ci rende solidali col nostro Re, maggiormente nel momento della sua momentanea sconfitta sul campo di battaglia, ed ancor più quando ferito lo vediamo attaccato proprio da quelli che furono i complici manifesti ed occulti del fascismo.

Tutto l'epico Risorgimento d'Italia si è compiuto da Novara a Vittorio Veneto sotto lo scudo sabaudo, non ostante le laceranti divisioni degl'Italiani e le varie ostilità dei condottieri italiani: oggi, più che mai, siamo uniti attorno al nostro Re, che riconfermiamo sacro ed inviolabile e siamo convinti che il Discendente di quel Re, che non fu insensibile al grido di dolore degl'Italiani aggiogati allo straniero, quel Re, che a Peschiera tramutò l'onta di Caporetto in vittoria del Piave, saprà trasformare la presente sciagura dataci dal fascismo in novella purificatrice Vittoria. Cadano pure le nostre opinioni e i nostri partiti, sia sempre viva la Patria.

NAPOLI, 29 Novembre 1943

GIUSEPPE MISPOLI

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To G 1
Army Sub Commission.
Main H.Q. M.M.I.A.

M.M.I.A. L.O.
60 Sub Area.
29.5.44.

Subject. Security - Information.

Nothing new to report.

Capt.
Liaison Officer.
60 Sub Area.

Subject:-Unit Security Report, period 13/31 May 44.

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From:- I.O., Army Sub-Commission, (ACC)., XXXI Italian Corps, Pontecorvo-CASERTA.

28 May 44.

Ref:- I.O./AS/10

To:- Army Sub Commission, ACC., Main H.Q., (A.M.I.A.)., 15th Inf. Div. (INTOM).

The following security report for the period 13 May 44 to 31 May 44 is submitted:-

2. Morale.

(a). The morale of XXXI Corps troops remains a low level owing to

(i). continued lack of boots and clothing for almost all units except the MANTOVA Div.

(ii). scarcity of Italian soldiers pay when compared to high cost of living.

(iii). Lack of an ideal to prompt them to enthusiasm over the war and general lack of troops welfare or means of welfare in CALABRIA.

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The MANTOVA Div. and a few small units in addition have maintained their morale surprisingly well under the circumstances largely owing to the fact that the command is energetic and interested.

(b). A report on the general conditions of XXXI Corps by a Lieutenant belonging to the 15 Infantry Depot in CORSICA is attached as Appendix A.

Whilst not entirely accurate in its facts this report is intelligent and in my opinion a sound summary of the situation as regards the morale of officers and men. I met and had a long talk to the officer concerned. He is a Malvern schoolboy,

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The MANTOVA Div. and a few small units in addition have maintained their morale surprisingly well under the circumstances largely owing to the fact that the command is energetic and interested.

(b). A report on the general conditions of XXXI Corps by a Lieutenant belonging to the IG Infantry Depot in COSENZA is attached as Appendix A.

Whilst not entirely accurate in its facts this report is intelligent and in my opinion a sound summary of the situation as regards the morale of officers and men. I met and had a long talk to the officer concerned. He is a Milanese stockbroker, and comes from a military family.

His war record is good, he was wounded in ALBANIA and he is by no means anti-army although a severe critic of the Italian army in general and of the regular army officers in particular.

A pleasant personality he made no attempt to conceal a bitter sense of disillusionment about Italy's war record in the past and what the future held in store for her.

His mood was thoroughly rebellious and though ~~he not~~ anti-allies he considered that not only had Italy been given no ideal to fight for as a co-belligerent but that she would receive very summary treatment at the peace treaty.

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He was in plain clothes as he stated his uniform had been left at REGGIO. He explained his daily routine as follows and said that it was shared by almost all other officers attached to the Depot who did not have special duties.

10.00 hrs. ... reveille.

10.30 hrs. ... shave, wash, brush up etc.

11.30 hrs. ... catch military bus to Depot for lunch.

1930 hrs. ... catch military bus to Depot for supper.

17.30 hrs. onwards, passeggiata, chiacchierata, coffee, maybe cinema and bed.

Not long before I saw him he had refused to escort 4 soldiers to CATANZARO as he did not consider this officers work.

(c). Conditions for both officers and men at the Depots are deplorable and will be discussed during my forthcoming visit to REGGIO.

3. Fascist Tendencies.

(a). A large civilian fascist organisation has been unearthed with Headquarters at COSENZA, CATANZARO, and REGGIO CAL. Fifty or more arrests have been made by the CC.RR. and confessions are reported to have been made by some of the youths now in custody. One officer in CATANZARO is included. A full report will be submitted when available.

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(b). A report by Sgt. SARACI, United States Army, P.W.B., COSENZA is enclosed as Appendix "B". The information is from the same source as that given in para 2 sub para (b) ~~(i)~~.

H.A.C. Howard.

Lt.Col.,
A.A.I.G.

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PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH:UNIT NO.8. Cosenza,1/5/44.

APPENDIX A

FACTS ON PUBLIC OPINION.

A...Short History of 31 CORPS.

XXXI Corps was formed from troops who were normally in Calabria, and whose H.Q.s were in the cities of Reggio,Catanzaro and Cosenza: that is to say from troops of the 207,208,and 20 Infantry Depots. To these should be added the 211 and 212 Coastal Divs and the Mantova Division, with their respective Services(R.E.-M.T.-Med.-S&T),some sections and one complete Unit of Anti-Parachutists. The strength and designatic of some units have been altered during the course of the war.
Some Units (156 Coast Bty,502 Coast Bty,23 Group Foot Cavalry,stationed on the Calabrian Coast facing Sicily) passed successively under the tactical command of 16 and 31 Corps, and hence it frequently happened t that soldiers of different Units performing the same role in the same area received different treatment as to administration. The comments of the men on this inequality of treatment were obvious and not very flattering naturally,particularly because this inequality showed itself with regard to boots and clothing. There was quite a long period when the conditions of the men were really pitiful. Still today the economic treatment of soldiers of the 116 Inf Regt (Reggio) differs from that of the soldiers of the 16 Inf Regt (Cosenza). At the moment of the Armistice the Coastal Units surrendered -(from Brancaleone to Catona not a single shot was fired: any report to the contrary is Not true)- the other units awaited the opportunity to do likewise.The fact is recorded that the number of Deserters was enormous - 17 per cent of the men, none of the Officers; these figures hold good for the 502 Coastal Bn (Reggio) whose soldiers were almost all from the Naples and Avellino districts. The principal causes were:
1.Absolute lack of efficient fortifications.
2.Absolute lack of Artillery(the little that there was was destroyed

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on the Calabrian Coast facing Sicily) passed successively under the tactical command of 16 and 31 Corps, and hence it frequently happened t that soldiers of different Units performing the same role in the same area received different treatment as to administration. The comments of the men on this inequality of treatment were obvious and not very flattering naturally,pafticularly because this inequality showed itself with regard to boots and clothing. There was quite a long period when the conditions of the men were really pitiful. Still today the economic treatment of soldiers of the 116 Inf Regt (Reggio) differs from that of the soldiers of the 16 Inf Regt (Cosenza). At the moment of the Armistice the Coastal Units surrendered -(from Brancaleone to Catona not a single shot was fired: any report to the contrary is not true)- the other units awaited the opportunity to do likewise.The fact is recorded that the number of Deserters was enormous - 17 per cent of the men, none of the Officers; these figures hold good for the 502 Coastal Bn (Reggio) whose soldiers were almost all from the Naples and Avellino districts. The principal causes were:

1.Absolute lack of efficient fortifications.

2.Absolute lack of Artillery(the little that there was was destroyed in the bombing).

3.The inefficiency of personal arms(1891 Rifle and a few handgrenades)

4.The professional incapacity of General Officers and Senior Officers: (with rare exceptions).It is sufficient to consider that, after a few bombings, they were not capable of ensuring efficient communications between units. A Radio was sent to Reggio which was not strong enough to link up Catanzaro. It was then very difficult to be able to procure telegraph poles.

5.Deficiency of Medical Stores.(The Field Hospital of Cannavo was provided with nothing, and entrusted to two Subaltern M.O.s, incapable through their inexperience of being on top of their job at a critical moment when

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moment when the wounded were counted in dozens. The soldier knew that - in view also of the complete lack of ambulances - he had a very slender chance of being saved.

6.Enemy Propaganda(individuals dressed as Italian soldiers coming from Sicily, spoke among other things of the excellent treatment of Italian prisoners and told stories of flamethrowers reaching over 200 metres by means of which, soldiers who did not give themselves up were burnt to ashes in their posts. These individuals were allowed to come in contact with the troops and the effect on morale can be imagined.

7.Lack of Postal Services(the men of the 502 Coastal Bn did not get news from home for more than two months).

8.Moral fatigue(soldiers of the classes 1911,1912,1913,1914 have seven to eight years service with many months of actual fighting. Some are men from the Russian front.

9.Physical fatigue(some units v.g.502 BN, were formed of men almost all of whom were of the 1907-1908 class.

These are the principal reasons which caused such a large number of deserters.

Actually XXXI Corps is formed of a confused mixture of soldiers with no moral cohesion, because

-they come from Northern Italy (a very small percentage).

-or they come from Corps formerly in Sicily

-or from units under XXXI Corps which presented themselves in accordance with the last proclamations 5649

-or they are men of the Northern Districts who have not deserted.

To conclude these short notes on XXXI Corps it might be interesting to note that the Officer responsible for the War Diary of a Unit received orders to gloss over the behaviour of H.Q. XXXI Corps in xxxx respect of his Unit.

E...Short History of the Pistoia Division

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B...Short History of the Mantova Division.

The facts mentioned above apply, but it can be added that it was formed from the 113 Reg.Fant.(VERONA) and the 114 Reg;Fant.(MANTOVA) and from II Arty Raggruppamento. For a time it was in Emilia, then in Piedmont and finally moved to Calabria.Soldiers and Officers alike are almost all from Northern districts, mainly Emilia. It is definitely the most efficient unit of XXXI Corps.

C...Regions of origin of the soldiers of XXXI Corps.

Fifty per cent of the soldiers of XXXI Corps are Calabresi. The rest are from Emilia, Abruzzi, Lombardy, and Veneto.

D...

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D...Political Situation of XXXI Corps.

In a discussion of this sort it is not necessary to make distinctions based on place of origin or rank, but only to separate Officers and O.R. O.R.s: The soldier is the clearest expression of the people because he springs directly from the people. To the constitution of Parties he had no noteworthy reaction. He is pasive and apathetic today just as he was yesterday. The individual social education of the soldier is very low, while the percentage of the illiterate is as high again. His moral ~~and~~-political horizon is very narrow; he sees only his own family, his own house, the earth to be cultivated: the rest does not interest him because he does not understand it. He is in bad faith who says that in the time of Fascism the Army realised that it was in an insupportable position: Fascism endured for the same reason that it came into being - because it had no opponents. The soldier, in his ignorance, today looks on with amazement at the sight of those very Superiors who, fired with a spirit of adaption without any sign of idealism, hold forth to them in the same terms today as they did yesterday. The soldier listens, reflects and supinely accepts every act. Beyond all possible doubt it is inevitable that the soldier has no faith in the re-birth of the Fatherland: talk will finally exasperate him. To make him really a soldier again there must be given the possibility of forming a new consciousness. His present superiors - those superiors who have bartered him body and soul in their own interests - are certainly not the ones who will help him in this re-birth. The soldier thinks that today for his superiors there exists one only ambition: their own political or economic convenience. He can nothing else but submit with resignation. The percentage of those who interest themselves in politics is infinitesimal. A newspaper is rarely seen to circulate among the soldiers. In the barracks there is only some privately-owned radio round which the soldiers gather during the transmission of the

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OFFICERS: What has been said about the soldiers could be repeated in substance about the Officers especially the Subalterns, who have no counterpart in a long distant past. In view of their wider culture, there is seen in them a greater moral unease and a more developed feeling of resentment at the professional unpreparedness of the General Officers and Headquarters. One question which one often hears raised is this: At the time of the Armistice, having two or three days and nights at their disposal, why was it not possible to free Italy of the comparatively few Germans who were then in the country?

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Where were the Gen al Officers and the Ready rters in those days? The percentage of Officers who are interested in politics is not more than seven per cent. The party which has most followers is the Communist Party. Among the remainder one notes only a profound sense of debasement. It follows that neither among the Officers nor among the men exists any longer any sense of devotion to the King. (Naturally, there are some exceptions among the Regular Serving Officers.) The Senior Officers do not mind whether the Subalterns mix in politics or not.

E...The Morale of XXXI Corps.

Desertion: Officers: one per cent. N.C.O.s: three per cent. O.R.s eighteen per cent. These figures hold good for May 1st for 16th Infantry Regt. In fact, on a variable strength of about 1200 men, 240 went absent without leave during the last 60 days and have not yet returned. Soldiers desert: 1. Through a desire to return to their family, where the need is felt for their help and their labour.

2. Through fear of being sent to the front. In fact it is enough for a whisper to spread that a unit is moving for the number of absentees to increase.

3. Through inadequate pay - lack of clothing - animosity against superiors. Ninety per cent of the deserters belong to districts of Calabria, and only return if accompanied by Carabinieri. The others are soldiers of Northern districts, or they find a civil job more remunerative or they try to pass through the lines to return to their home. Of those who return and those who go away the percentage remains almost unvaried.

Esprit de Corps. If there is still a certain esprit de corps among the troops and such a spirit is still noticeable among the Officers (especially among Subalterns) the bond of unity between Officers and men is very limited. Only yesterday, May 2nd, occurred the incident of the soldier in the barracks struck for some trivial

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Esprit de Corps. If there is still a certain esprit de corps among the troops and such a spirit is still noticeable among the Officers (especially among Subalterns) the bond of unity between Officers and men is very limited. Only yesterday, May 2nd, occurred the incident of the soldier in the barracks struck for some trivial reasons by an Officer of 16 Fanteria ()Going round among the troops, the comments were indeed by no means kind and naturally took the form of generalisations, because this Lieutenant, five or six years underx arms, had not taken part in any campaign and had always remained in Cosenza where his family resided. But normally the troops are treated very kindly by the Subalterns, especially if Officers and soldiers are from the same district and have returned from the same campaigns. There are a few odd cases of dishonesty on the part of Officers towards the troops. As for the Officers, it must be remebered that the uneasiness is for the most part moral:but the Senior Officers neither understand nor seek to alleviate this.

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For example, in the Mess of the 16th Infantry, no senior Officer eats with his own Subalterns. They feel alone and seek for a wider spirit of understanding outside barracks.

Distaste for Call-up: In the event of general mobilisation it is my personal opinion that 75 per cent of those called up would present themselves at first, to desert again after a short time. I exclude the possibility of active reaction on the part of the armed forces.

Attitude towards Allied Troops: To my knowledge there has been no incident of violence of one side to the other. I have noted only a feeling of abasement because of the clothing, pay and food of the Allies and a feeling of envy and admiration for their mechanisation, because of which the soldier is not called upon for long marches nor higher physical efforts.

Participation in the present conflict at the side of the Allies. Direct participation in fighting on the part of Italian troops can be excluded. Only a certain number of soldiers can be put under fire:

1. Volunteers with a much higher pay (strictly Italian volunteering is a phenomenon.)
2. Non-volunteers belonging to the young classes(at least from 1916 and above, with very good equipment and pay not much below volunteers'.
3. Possibly by making a change of front so that the soldier knows that he will not fight in Italy.
4. They would have to be commanded by Officers professionally capable and young (in proportion to their rank, naturally).
5. Transfer the Officers so that especially the Subalterns may not have under their orders the same soldiers whom they commanded before the Allied landing.
6. Demand that the Officerlive the same life as the soldier, eats with him the same food, and be dressed in the same manner.
7. Officers and men must be payed better so thathe who fights may know that his sacrifice serves or will serve at the end ofthe war to

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6. Demand that the Officer live the same life as the soldier, eats with him the same food, and be dressed in the same manner.
7. Officers and men must be payed better so thathe who fights may kno that his sacrifice serves or will serve at the end ofthe war to alleviate the economic discomfort of the members of his family.

Fascismamong the armed forces regret is felt for the old régime and a desire for its return: among the men,only by the organisations of the extinct P.N.F. which have been absorbed en bloc into the army (v.g. AA Defence - Road Police - Port Police - Fijance Guard.)

among the Officers, only by convinced Fascists and all those who have been most humiliated by the present state of things. It would not be at all certain to put these latter at 10 per cent.

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APPENDIX "B"

The Army.

'A few days ago Lt..... gave me the following verbal information with reference to fascist activities among Italian troops in CATANIA. An organization among Italian officers has started in REGGIO CAL. The aim of this movement is the continuation of the fascist party in the expectation that German troops will come back to Southern Italy. Membership cards of "Anno XXII" (22nd year of the fascist government) have been issued and distributed to members of the movement

(In MESSANO I heard rumours of membership cards of "Anno XXII" circulating among fascist elements of the population). Members of the movement are chosen among the best and most courageous elements of XXI Corps. Gerarchi and Squadristi are excluded. Only a few officers of M.V.S.N. are accepted; the bulk is from the regular army. Large stocks of weapons are hidden somewhere in the province of REGGIO. Lieutenant said that never out of fourty-one officers of his unit (16th Inf.) have joined this movement.

I cannot judge, for the time being, the reliability of the informant and the probability of his verbal information'.

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SECRET

I/106

L O MMIA Sicily
27 May 1944

Memo to: GSI MMIA

Ref: IDLO/1 LO MMIA No.1 District of 23 May. "GARGANO"

1. Am getting a report from CIC here at Palermo on "Garguno" and will forward soon. All indications point to him as being undesirable in the present Italian Armed Forces set up.

2. Have just received your I/106 of 10 May. Report to follow. The next report will reach you by 25 June.

Lester R. Albert

LESTER R ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

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SECRET

0417

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET

Memo to: G2I MMLA

L O MMLA Sicily
27 May 1944

Ref: IDLO/1 LO MMLA No.1 District of 20 May. "GARGANO"

1.Am getting a report from CIC here at Palermo on "Gergano" and will forward soon. All indications point to him as being undesirable in the present Italian Armed Forces set up.

2. Have just received your I/106 of 10 May. Report to follow. The next report will reach you by 25 June.

LESTER A ALBERT
Lt Col Inf
L O Sicily

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SECRET

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

O O

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17/24

Mayt v Mag6 Rx 214/24 M AMBAY QQX GR

~~MEGG V MEAV 131~~

~~T A MBAY~~

FROM MMIA LO DISTONE

TO MMIA

~~QCX KXXX~~

QCX GR 30

~~T47777/~~ 24

T1/4 23 YOUR 1/106 DATED 10 MAY 44

ONLY JUST RECEIVED THIS OFFICER HAVE

FORWARDED TO ALBERT BUT RETURN WILL BE

DELAYED PLEASE CHECK ON ADDRESSES OF MAIL

TO SICILY

RPTR ~~12E~~ ~~30~~ ~~T/4 23~~ ~~1/106~~ ~~10 MA~~

231215

SENT NW

I/106

24/5

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NAS

Rd Desp

T[illegible] - Army Sub Comm[illegible] C.C. SECRET.

I.1/122
25/5 6
1/41

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army.

Outstation 5 Corps. Corps Area.

Report Nº I. Period from 22------ to 22 May 44.

A. GENERAL SECURITY.

I. Morale.

(i) There is a certain amount of unrest or rather ill-feeling among tps of the older age groups who have been under arms for a long period, at the sight of younger men who are not in military service. This is especially the case with men from liberated territory. (Personal Observation)

(ii) Complaint re rations centre round lack of fresh meat and the inadequacy of the oil provided.

(iii) The recent reduction of pay for tps more than 15 Kms from the forward line has caused bitter complaints among tps who are working below this line but still in the zone of operations e.g. on railways or dumps. (P.O)

(iv) Repeated complaints that tps are not getting their full rations owing to "flogging" in the unit QM branch. This complaint comes from I/522 Regt. 209 Div advised.

~~(v) Complaints re non-existence~~ (PSS reports)

(v) Complaints re non-existence of post free mail from tps to home, esp in view of non-availability of stamps. Am informed that this is now being remedied.

(vi) Desertions.

a. On 17 Apr 44, four men of I/515 with homes in B.O.T, deserted at PRISA (Chieti Map 3106) and attempted to cross the lines. All four were apprehended by CC.RR, and are awaiting trial by 209 Div.

b. There have been occasional deserters among tps of Jugoslav origin. None of these has ever been retaken, presumably because they head SOUTH to join Jugoslav Forces.

2. FASCIST etc, trends. Nothing to report.

3. Illegal storage of arms. " " "

4. Political Activity.

No open sign of political interest among ORs. Officers tend to be monarchist, though not violently so ("My oath to H.M."). One officer speaking alone with me burst into invective against the Monarchy and the "Fascistoni" still in power. Insisted that

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(P.O)

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5. Relations with Allied tps.

Good since the removal of Canadians and Mauritians,who were responsible for occasional trouble in which the Italians acted with admirable restraint. Admiration for bearing of Indians,coupled with regret for their actions when suffering from sex-starvation.

(General)

6. Discipline.

On the whole quite high for Italians.Outward respect shown to their officers,but quality of N.C.Os could be better. Three men of I/522 are under arrest for informing officer that "now was time to do away with all that."

(P.O)

7. Rumours.

Occasional rumours re Allied landings at all sorts of places, and of enemy reoccupation of ORTONA.Not confined to military.

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8. Security General.

(i) F.S.S. report that among tps of 209 Div H.Q the general attitude is that the failure of the Italian Army was due to the officers.who are not held in high esteem.The morale of the tps themselves is high.

(ii) There were not infrequent cases of breach of Control of Movement regulations in the early part of the month.Less frequent lately.Mainly fault of Italian authorities in the South,the Regia Marina being the worst offender.G.O.C 209 Div has threatened with heavy penalties any of his officers who offend in any way.

(iii) Anxiety among officers re possible partitioning of Italian Fleet.This would certainly have considerable reactions inOfficer Corps.

(P.O)

(iv) General feeling of war-weariness and anxiety for safety of families in the North,this last being an ever-present worry.Particularly among officers there is the expressed desire to get with a combat formation and have a crack at the enemy.Itis hard to say whether this wish is real or only idealistic.

5033

S E C R E T

Army Sub Commission, ACC
(M M I A)
Rear H Q EIGHTH ARMY.
MM/103/23

25 May 44.

Army Sub Commission, ACC
Main H Q (M M I A)
LEQUILE (LECCE)

SECURITY REPORT FOR PERIOD 25 MAY 44.

1. MORALE

The morale is generally good. The following factors have a lowering effect :-

(a) Differences of pay.

(b) Lack of equipment i.e. K D, steel helmets and A G eqpt.

(c) Food - lack of olive oil and tomato paste.

2. RELATIONS WITH ALLIED TROOPS.

(a) I have been informed of bad feeling and fights between ITALIAN tps and FRENCH tps at VENAFRO.

(b) Politics are almost never discussed, but in the C I L the general feeling is that they would like to be considered as Allies; and the present policy forgotten. Their static r[illegible] disliked.

3. MILITARY SECURITY.

The question of leave is ill defined. Following talks with "A" Branch, EIGHTH ARMY an A R O will be issued. The chief problem is the control to be exercised over ITALIAN tps when they are outside EIGHTH ARMY area.

4. PERSONALITIES. - WHITE.

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4. PERSONALITIES. - WHITE.

TOMASELLI Attilio

Rank. Brigadier General.

Appointment. O.C. Raggrupamento Forze Italiane 8 Armata.

Age. 52.

General. Tomaselli is very cooperative and shows energy and efficiency in carrying out his duties.

General. Tomaselli, some years ago, had the task of making a report on the possibility of raising senior officers (army) against the Fascist regime. His report to the Palace was in the negative.

He also stated in a conversation that he would like British officers to be attached to the ITALIAN Government for a period of 5 years after the war in order to give help in establishing British methods of Government.

M. Feldman
Major,
Liaison Officer.

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Army Form C-2130. **MESSAGE FORM** Serial No. 4/15

CALL AND INSTRUC-TIONS	IN	M 27/15	No. of Groups	Office Date Stamp
	OUT	Immediate	CR.	Illegible

TO MAIN

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
NCC MAIN 3rd Marfleetland	5115	14	—

Restricted	O Weekly	Report	will	be	despatched
FOR CSO 073					

This message may be sent As Written by any means *(except) (.....) Wireless

Signature.....

This message must be sent In Cipher if liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands

Signature.....

Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority

Time of Origin —

(Before this Line is for Signals use Only.)

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System out	Time out	Reader	Sender	System In	Time out	Reader	Sender

T.H. 5629

T.O.R.

2298/PHEAX/101000 Pads — 1/42



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Army Form C.2130.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 15

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN / OUT	No. of Groups	Office Date Stamp
	NEXT x NGCB M 271/15	OR 20	3

TO MMIA

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

FROM MJDT

Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number

Ref nr paren will

five one MMIA be despatched

one gave Orestimated from ACC Mail Signed to morrow

Check, UNCERTAIN

report paren

This message may be sent As Written by any means (except) (.....) Wireless

Signature.....

This message must be sent In Cipher (Cable is interception or to (all) non-enemy lines)

Signature.....

(Originator's Instructions) Degree of Priority

Time of Origin 1621538

* Originator may delete "routine" and insert "priority" (Below this Line is for Signals use Only)

T.H.I.

Service In	Time In	Reader	Sender	Service out	Time out	Reader	Sender	Service in	Time out	Reader	Sender
L	1800	[illegible] SIF									

56 FOR

2288/PHEAX/163 (XX) Pads — 1/42

0426

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT: Securit Intelligence - MONTHLY REU TS SECRET
Italian Army

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MMIA)
LEQUILE (LECCE)
I/106
13 May 44

MMIA LO SICILY

Copy to: I.B.S.
1 District

Ref our I/106 of 10 May

Will you please ensure that copies of your Monthly Report go to I.B.S. and No 1 District.

CGL.

Maj Gen,
Army Sub-Comm A.C.C.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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1

SECRET

SUBJECT:- Security Intelligence - MONTHLY REPORTS - Italian Army

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (IBIA)
LECCE (LECCE)
I/106
10 May 44

Col SIMMONS Army Sub Comm SARDINIA
Adv HQ Army Sub Comm ACC SALERNO
IBIA LO HQ ACC NAPLES
" " c/o HQ ACC SICILY
" " c/o XXXI Italian CORPS
" " c/o REAR ITALIAN ARMY
" " c/o HQ 5 CORPS
" " c/o HQ 2 Div
" " c/o HQ 60 Sub IBIA
" " ZAMBONI

Copy to:- HQ AAI (for G2I(S))

1. Owing to the present static form of Operations in ITALY the enemy has been able to move an increasing number of agents through our lines. It is felt that security, particularly within the Italian Army, needs careful watching.

2. AAI has asked for a Monthly Security Report covering as much of the Italian Army as possible. In order that this report may present a true and accurate picture, detailed and comprehensive information is required from all outstations. In particular, information on the attitude, morale, political thought and general feeling of the Italian Army is required, and also its leaders. 5626

3. Action addressees will therefore submit a Security Report to reach this H.Q. not later than the 25th of each month, starting on the 25th May 1944.

4. Reports will cover Italian Troops in each outstation's area and will be rendered on matters listed in attached Appendix 'A'.

5. Reports will be classified SECRET and will on no account be sent through Italian channels.

6. This HQ letters I/106 of 2 and 22 Dec 43 and of 23 March 44 are

" " c/o [illegible]
" " c/o [illegible]
" " [illegible]

Copy to:- HQ AAI (for GSI(b))

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1. Owing to the present static form of Operations in ITALY the enemy has been able to send an increasing number of agents through our lines. It is felt that security, particularly within the Italian Army, needs careful watching.

2. AAI has asked for a Monthly Security Report covering as much of the Italian Army as possible. In order that this report may present a true and complete picture, detailed and comprehensive information is required from all outstations. In particular, information on the [illegible] morale, political thought and general feeling of the Italian Army is required, including its leaders. 5636

3. Action addressees will therefore submit a Security Report to reach this HQ not later than the 25th of each month, starting on the 25th May 1944.

4. Reports will cover Italian troops in each outstation's area and will be rendered on [illegible] listed in attached Appendix 'A'.

5. Reports will be classified SECRET and will on no account be sent through Italian channels.

6. This HQ letters I/20K of 2 and 12 Dec 43 and of 23 March 44 are hereby cancelled.

L. Brownjohn

AIC

Maj Gen,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

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SECRET

Appendix "A" to I/106 of 10 May 1944

Security Intelligence Report - Italian Army

Outstation..... Area Covered.....

Report No..... Period from..... to.....

A. GENERAL SECURITY

1. Morale - Include details of unrest, complaints, undealt with grievances, desertions. Any seditions or subversive influences likely to undermine morale.

2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI-ALLIED activities or trends.

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF ARMS & AMMUNITION.

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITY - Propaganda, monarchism.

5. RELATIONS WITH and ATTITUDE TOWARDS ALLIED Troops.

6. DISCIPLINE.

7. RUMOURS and indiscreet TALK - Breaches of Security.

8. SUMMARY of MILITARY SECURITY situation including any other matters that cannot be correctly listed under 1 to 7 above.

B. PERSONALITIES.

1. Information (White) on higher leaders.

Rank, appointment, age. Information co-operative - negative - obstructive - political attitude - efficiency - energy.

2. Information (BLACK) - ditto

Note

SOURCES. It is essential to give source and assessment of reliability

1. Morale - Include details of unrest, complaints, undealt with grievances, desertions. Any seditions or subversive influences likely to undermine morale.

2. FASCIST, PRO-GERMAN, ANTI-ALLIED activities or trends.

3. ILLEGAL STORAGE OF ARMS & AMMUNITION.

4. POLITICAL ACTIVITY - Propaganda, monarchism.

5. RELATIONS WITH and ATTITUDE TOWARDS ALLIED Troops.

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8. SUMMARY of MILITARY SECURITY situation including any other matters that cannot be correctly listed under 1 to 7 above.

B. PERSONALITIES.

1. Information (white) on higher leaders.

Rank, appointment, age. Information co-operative - negative - obstructive - political attitude - efficiency - energy.

2. Information (BLACK) - ditto

Note

SOURCES. It is essential to give source and assessment of reliability of each item of information i.e. personal observation, visit, interview, second-hand from....., repeated by..... etc. Sources considered reliable, doubtful etc.

3625

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