Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

ACC

10000|120|5370

G/92/1

Sur

CC

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

10000|120|5370

G/92/1

SUPPRESSION OF DISTURBANCES

OCT. 1944 - JAN. 1947

4061
4220

COVER I

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

SD/92/106

HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
APO 782

AG 111.5 BPATC

15 JUL 1946

SUBJECT: Transmittal or Receipt

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commision, A.C. (MMIA), APO 394, U. S. Army

1. Transmitted herewith is document receipt as per request in basic communication.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

Donald W Williams

DONALD W. WILLIAMS
Major, Infantry
Acting Assistant Adjutant General

1 Incl:
Ltr, Land Forces Sub-Commision, A.C. (MMIA) dtd 8 July 1946

N/A

4220

MMIA - 'G'
FILE SD/92/11
DATE 8/18/46

18500

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

103

SUBJECT : Political Elections - Public Order

LAND FORCES SUB COM AC (MMIA)

G/92/1

12 May 46

TO : AC (attn Public Safety)

Herewith for info copy of instructions issued by Ministry of War to Territorial Commands on subject of public order during forthcoming elections.

ARCB/ell

Major-General,
M. M. I. A.

4219

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

0 copies AC (for file safety) Air Force Sub-Com made copy also

TRANSLATION

FROM: Ministry of War. REF: 213300/

TO: All addressees and M.M.I.A. for info.

BGS	X
GSO 1 (AA)	X
Dep [illegible]	
GSO [illegible]	X
GSO [illegible]	
GSO [illegible]	
GSO [illegible]	
GSO [illegible]	

Rotax

[illegible] 16.5.46

C.C.R.R.

SUBJECT: Political Elections : Public Order.

M.M.I.A. - 'G'
FILE G5/92/1
DATE 8/21/5

Further to :

- circular No. 20600/11 of 4 March 1946
- letter 212526/11 of 10.5.46 (for the units which received it).

1. - As laid down by the Public Security laws, in the event of the Ministry of the Interior or, on it's authority, the prefects, declaring a "state of war", the direction of public order and the responsibility for its execution passes from the civilian authorities to the military authorities.

Under such circumstances, in order to avoid difficulties in the transfer of powers, it is essential that the military territorial commanders are up to date on the general situation in their respective areas, in addition to being fully informed as to the strength and duties of the police forces, the other armed and militarised forces available for public order duties, establishing a constant liaison with the Prefectures, Questuras, and H.Q.s of CC.RR Legions and Brigades and Finance Guard H.Q.s.

2. - In the event of the "state of war" being declared, the military territorial commanders will adhere to the instructions contained in Public Security Laws Chapter IX (Art.214 - 219), a copy of which is enclosed for ease of consultation.

3. - The military territorial commanders will make previous contact with the highest Navy and Air Force provincial authorities which exist in the areas of their command in order to establish the maximum assistance which such armed forces may give in the event of, with the declaration of the "state of war", the looking after of public order being entrusted to the Military Authorities.

4. - In view of the above, the military territorial commanders will arrange for the drawing up of appropriate instructions which must be issued to the units and H.Q.s under command in order to instruct their staffs in the duties entrusted to them so that, at the opportune moment, there will be no uncertainties

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

102B.

Extract

PUBLIC SECURITY LAWS

Loc 102A

Chapter IX

State of Public Peril and State of War

Art 214

In the event of the danger of disorders the Ministry of the Interior, with the consent of the Prime Minister, or the Prefects, on its authority, may declare a State of Public Peril by decree.

Art 215

During the State of Public Peril the Prefect may order the arrest or detention of any person should he consider it necessary to establish or preserve public order.

Art 216

Over and above the instructions contained in Article 2, should the declaration of public peril cover the whole of the territory of the Realm, the Ministry of the Interior can give orders, even if contrary to existing laws, on matters connected in any way with public order and public security.

The a/m disturbers of order are punishable with imprisonment of not less than one year or heavier punishment as laid down by law.

The preceding regulations also apply to those who contravene the orders of the Prefect issued, during the state of declared public peril, by virtue of the powers conferred on him by Article 2.

Art 217

Should it be necessary to entrust the maintenance of public order to the military authorities, the Minister of the Interior, with the consent of the Prime Minister, the Prefects, by delegation, may declare, by decree, a state of war. 217

In this event the regulations in the previous articles are applicable. The power of issuing orders is entrusted to the authorities commanding the military forces.

Offenders are punishable under the terms of the preceding

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Article.

Art 218

During the declared state of war the civilian authorities will continue to function in respect of all that is not connected with public order.

For such as concerns public order, the civilian authorities will exercise such powers as the military authorities see fit to delegate to them.

Art 219

During the declared state of war, persons charged with crimes against the State, the public administration, the public order, or persons or property, will be tried by military tribunals, should the a/m crimes have been committed during the declared state of war or the state of public peril preceding it.

Note: Article 2.

In the case of urgency or of serious public necessity, the Prefect has the power of adopting such measures as are essential to the maintenance of public order and public security.

Appeal against action taken by the Prefect may be lodged with the Ministry of the Interior by the person concerned.

O.Denin Sjt.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

101

Land Forces Sub Com. AC (M.M.I.A.)

— G/92/I —

20 May '46

SUBJECT : Employment of 6 Prov. Gp (USITI) on Public Security Duties.

TO : C.O. 7 BLM, Florence, Italy.

100A

Ref. your BLU/27 dated 16 May '46, subject as above.

1. AFHQ instructions precludes this Hq. from even asking for units in this category to be placed under another command. Therefore the request is not approved.

2. The unit is placed w/e P.B.S. for a special task and if 7 Terr. Comd had authority to employ them they may be placed on a divergent task that would detain them for a greater period of time than now appears.

LESTER R. ALBERT
Lt. Col. Inf.
For Major General
M.M.I.A.

Agree
20/5

11/20/5215

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Q 3 7 4

FDD A

BGS	
GSO 1 (SD)	
Dep G III	
GSO II (SD)	
GSO II ( )	Index
GSO III (SD)	
GSO I (JRG)	
G II (L)	

7 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
FLORENCE

MMIA - 'G'
FILE G/92/1
DATE R/20/5

G/92/1

G.

REF: BLU/27

Florence, 16 May 1946

Subject : Employment of 6 Prov. Group (US)TTI) on public security duties

To : Auxiliary Tp. Comd.
HQ. P.B.S.

Copy to : M.M.I.A.

REC 7108 20 MAY 1946

See folio 101 for reply

1. A request has been received from 7 Territorial Command for units of 6 Prov. Group to be employed on public security duties under order 7 Territorial Command over the period of the forthcoming elections on 2 June 46.

It is requested that those troops not employed on normal guard duties should be confined to barracks from 0001 hrs 1st June and be kept at a state of readiness to move on orders from 7 Territorial Command.

2. The following instructions have been issued to all units under 7 Territorial Command.

(1) Commencing morning 20 May all leave for officers and O.Rs will stop (except for military personnel returning from PW Camps)
Military personnel will only be admitted to hospitals in emergency cases.
Any reception of officers or ORs will be reported to 7 T.C. within 24 hours of arrival.

(2) Commencing 0001 hrs 1st June 46 until further orders from 7 T.C. the following will apply: -

4214

(a) No off-duty passes will be issued.

(b) All officers and ORs on duty with units will remain night and day in their barracks.

(c) HQs., Stores, Hospitals will ensure a night duty officer and NCO.

(d) Names of Offrs and NCOs held in surplus to duty

2 of 30

./.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

requirements will be notified to 7 T.C. by 25 May, for other duties, for example inspections of detachments.

(e) Special authority will be required from barrack Commanders for any personnel wanting to leave temporarily, his post of duty. This authority will be issued from time to time but not to cover any particular period. Units detachment barrack etc, Coods will be answerable for anyabsentee not provided with proper authority as specified above.

3. Will you please notify this HQ. of your decision on this request.

4. Please treat as urgent.

H.W. Hamilton

H.W. HAMILTON
Major
GSO II

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Translation

G/92/1 99

From M.of W.
To M.M.I.A.

Ref. 212539/II
Date II/5/46.

Subject Army Unit Help for the Political Elections.

I - On the 7 May 1946 a meeting took place at the Min.of Intern between the representatives of all the armed forces and militarised corps presided by the Under-secretary for Intern the Hon.Spataro with the object of settling the number of troops to be used for the maintainance of public order during the forthcoming elections.

2 - As far as the army was concerned,an availability of only 30.000 men was reported to thebaforesaid Ministry in respect of the 60.000 required.

This force is to be employed,in the territory of each Mil.Terr. HQ,exclusively at electorale buildings together with other police forces,armed forcesand militarised corps.

Said personnel will be drawn almost completely from C.A.Rs who will,therefore,have to suspend for an estimated period(about 3 days)their training activities.

Regarding the 5 infantry divs under our command it has been agreed to arrange for their employment in units not less than battalion or group.

3 - We give the above for information.

4212

DAK

Lombardi.

BGS	
GS( )	
Dep.	
GSO ( )	
GSO ( )	
GSO I ( )	
GSO I (A)	
G 11 (b)	

MMIA - 'G'
FILE G/92/1
DATE 2/16/4

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

98

INTER OFFICE LETTER

GT/1601

To :- Adj.

SUBJECT :- C.I.P. Strike.

1. Verbal information has this morning been received in this Branch from S.M.F.A. that, as the result of a meeting last night between the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the the Ministry of Internal Affairs in conjunction with the War Ministry, it has been decided to put Police in to guard all C.I.P Depots south of and including Bologna to-day, and for the Army to draw their own petrol from the depots to-morrow.

2. C.I.P. technical staff are remaining in the depots but come under Italian Army jurisdiction.

BGS	
GSO I (SD)	X
Dep G (SD)	X
GSO II (SD)	X
GSO II ( )	X
GSO III (SD)	
GSO I (PWB)	
G II (L)	

MMIA - 'G'
FILE G/1212
DATE 15/5

Lt. Col.
ADJT.

AEC/pg

15th May 46.

Copies to :- G. (Ops & SD).
G. (Int).
Q.
C),IS. Section.

421

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

SUBJECT: Designation units.

HQ III TERR. COMD.

Copy to: HQ AMTA.

HQ 3 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT
Tel: 152965(Ext-107)

G/31/2

15 Apr 46

RECEIVED 18 APR 1946
5535

In your M.03/1013 dated 28 Mar 46 it is noted that you still refer to IX Assault Bn.

It is pointed out that the correct designation of this unit is III Bn. 68 Inf Regt which should be used in all future correspondence.

MMIA - 'G'
FILE: G/32/1
DATE: R/18/4

G/02/1 per our letter at foot p 95

Lt Col
GS

MILAN
CJO/LO

Col GS	
GSO I (SD) X	X
Deo G3	
GSO II (SD)	
GSO II (I)	
GSO I (Trg)	

4210

18500

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

SECRET 95

SUBJECT : Nomenclature - 9 Assault Bn.

LAND FORCES SIER. COM, A.C. (SERIAL)

O/32/1

Date: Apr 46

TO : 3 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

Ref your O/31/2 dated 31 Mar para 3.

Please ensure use of correct nomenclature when referring to ex 9 Assault Bn of 6B Inf Regt and influence KELLAR to do so also.

Major General,
M. M. I. A.

AMCS/an

4209

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

SECRET

94

Subject : Public Security.

HQ 3 British Liaison Unit.
(Tel No. 152965 Ext 107).

HQ 99 Area

Info :
HQ 2 District.
HQ MMIA.

Ref G/31/2.

31 Mar 46.

RECEIVED 1 APR 1946 1846

The following precautions are being taken by the Italian Military authorities during the period of the elections in MILAN.

1. All Italian tps in the garrison will be confined to Brks on the actual polling days.

2. IX Assault Bn moves temporarily from VIGEVANO to MILAN, arriving 3 Apr and remaining approximately one week.

3. Actual strengths in MILAN on 7 April will be :-

Unit.	Strength.	Location.
1st Bn, 3rd Inf Regt.	120	Montebello Brks. 58 Via Vincenzo Monti.
Gelto Bersaglieri Bn.	150	Teulie Brks. Corso Italia.
IX Assault Bn.	300	Commissariat Depot. Via Olivieri.

[signature]
Lt Col.
G.S.

MILAN.
YBS/LCH.

MMIA - 'G'
FILE: G/42/1
DATE: 8/4/4

Col. GS
Lt. Col. GS
Maj. G3
Capt. A (SD)
Lieut. A (W)
G (Int)
G (T) L

5208

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

93

05 10 [illegible] B

[illegible]

0.193

[illegible]

91 92

[illegible] G/52 AND G/53 (*) [illegible]

[illegible]

G/52/1

G (HO)

[illegible]

4207.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

92

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM : 11 ELU B 021010

TO : HQ 3 DISTRICT (GS1B)

INFO : G 2 RAAC - CSO 1 HQ 10AIA

REF : G/53 UNCLASSIFIED

91

1 (.) FURTHER TO THIS UNIT SIGNAL G/52 DATED 1 APRIL (.) SITUATION M O N T E L E P R E AND B E L L O L A M P O QUIET (.) TOTAL CASUALTIES 4 CC RR WOUNDED (.)

2 (.) SISTER OF G I U L I A N O ARRESTED (.) THIS FOLLOWS ARREST OF G I U L I A N O ' S MOTHER AND ANOTHER SISTER 3 DAYS

ACK.

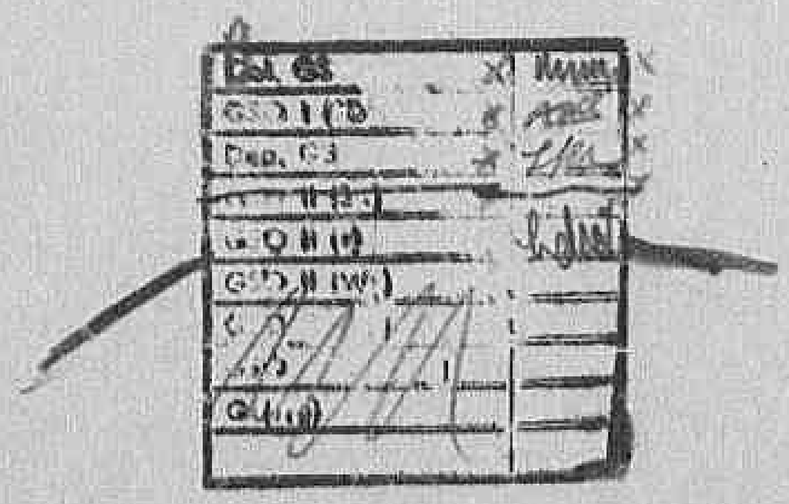
Done HBC

DISTRIBUTION :

ACTION : G/92/1

INFO : IIT

3 April 46
gb



4206

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 185020

COPY IN OUTING SIGNAL

FROM : 11 BLU

TO : HQ 3 DISTRICT (GSIB)

INFO : G 2 RAAC GSO 1 - HQ MMIA

REF : G/52

012130 B

— See Fol. 92.

UNCLASSIFIED

BUS CONTAINING CC RR AMBUSHED IN WAY TO M O N T E L E P R E APPROX 1615 TODAY (.) BANDITS PUT DUMMY BODY IN ROAD CAUSING BUS TO STOP (.) CC RR BRIGADIERE WENT TO INVESTIGATE AND WAS FIRED ON BY SEVERAL BANDITS ARMED WITH AUTOMATICS (.) OTHER CC RR RETURNED FIRE (.) 1 BRIGADIERE WOUNDED (.) CC RR REINFORCEMENTS INCLUDING ARMOURED CARS MAKING COUNTER ATTACK (.) WILL REPORT FURTHER (.) ACK.

Done
Abc

DISTRIBUTION :

ACTION : G/92/1

3 Apr 46
sb

Col. GS	X	
GSO I (SD)	X	
Dep. G3	X	
GSO II (S.)	X	
GSO II (I)	X	
GSO II (W.)		
GSO II (SD)		
GSO II (Admin)		
[illegible]		

4205

COPY

90

CC.RR. SECTION.
II B.L.U.

G/9211

23rd March 1946.

SUBJECT : Serious Crimes in Sicily.

TO : G.S.O. I.
CC.RR. Section
H.Q. M.M.I.A.

I. I have to report for your information that on the evening of the 20th March 1946 a Brigadier of Carabinieri at Partinico, Palermo Province, was shot and killed by an unknown person. He was about to enter his home at 8.30 pm. when he was shot down from behind. No arrests have been made.

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

3. On the 22nd March 1946 at Messina a series of serious demonstrations were held. It commenced in the morning with a demonstration of unemployed. The demonstrators were reinforced and split up into different sections. These forcibly entered various public offices and forced the employees to cease work. Shops closed and all public transport stopped. The records of the Intendenza di Finanza, the Tax office and the Afterwar Assistance Office were burned. The stores of the Consorzio Agrario and of UNRRA were entered and large quantities of goods stolen including sugar, soup powder and tinned goods. The rioters would not let the Fire Brigade function for some time. The situation got out the control of the Police large number of whom had been sent out into the country in preparation for the elections on Sunday. Unit of the Italian Army were called to assist in restoring order. An armed demonstrator opened fire and serious wounded a soldier, who afterwards died. As a result the soldiers fired and granades were thrown by demonstrators. It is reported that thirty four were wounded.

4204

Order was restored and road blocks were established to search persons to recover the stolen goods and to arrest participators.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 795020

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4204

Order was restored and road blocks were established to search persons to recover the stolen goods and to arrest participators.

Col. GS	Rec'd
G.S.O. I (C.D.	Aug
Dep. G3	
G.S.O. II (S.)	
G.S.O. II (I.)	
G.S.O. II (W.)	
G.S.O. III (SD)	
G.S.O. III (Ops. I)	
G (Ira)	

MMIA - 'G'
FILE: C/92/1
DATE: 8/2/4

Sgd:

T. GOODACRE
Major
CC.RR. L.O.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. T85020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Land Forces S/C

-COPY-

H.Q.SICILY LIAISON GROUP, A.C.
APO 394

RECEIVED 28 MAR 1946 3577

File: AC/S/G 01

22 March 1946

Subject: Disturbance - Palermo.

To : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394
(attn Executive Commissioner)

1. Reference signal 1930 dated 14 March 45 not received, copy given verbally by phone from Adjutant's Office this A.M.

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

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

MMIA - 'G'
FILE: [redacted]/42/1
DATE: 2/20/3

Col. GS
GSO I (OD)
Dep. G3
G[illegible] II (S)
G[illegible] II (I)
G[illegible] II (W)
GSO III (SC)
G[illegible] III (AG)
G (PR)

Copy to:- CA Sec
1 PS S/C
Land Forces S/C

4203

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

HQ. ALCOM 14 March 46

ALCOM LO PALERMO

See Fl 89

1830 UNCLASSIFIED

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

Copy to: O.A. Section
P.S. Section
Land Forces S/C

PRIORITY
Office of the Executive Commr

4202

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM : EYDO NAPLES

TO : HQ 3 DISTRICT CMF

INFO : G.2. R.A.A.C. - G.S.C.I. LMLA

FROM : RDO PALERMO 271105

TO : RDO NAPLES

REF : PAL/1/2 PRIORITY

1 CC.RR. KILLED APPROX 21.00 HRS 25 MAR 46 AT P I O F P O NEAR M O N R E A L E (.) CC.RR. WAS ON LEAVE (.) NOTE FOUND ON BODY SAYING QUOTE, TI SEI MERITATA LA FINE CHE FANNO TUTTE LE SPIE CONTRO GIULIANO (.) UNQUOTE QUOTE THIS IS THE END DESERVED BY ALL WHO SPIED AGAINST GIULIANO (.) UNQUOTE ACK

A/Copy. G/92/1
Into. INT.

28 March 1946
sb

Col. GS	
G-1 (D	
Dep. G-1	
G-1 (S)	
G-2 (Ops)	
G-2 (Int)	
G-3	
G-4	
G (Ln)	

Copy to INT 4201

038

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY OF INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM : 11 BLU 141545 A

TO : MMLA : FOR MEDLAM.

G/44 UNCLASSIFIED

LABOURERS RETURNED TO WORK AT CAR TODAY CAR WILL STILL NOT BE READY FOR 15 MARCH (.) ALTERNATIVE ARRANGMENTS FOR BATHING AND FEEDING HAVE BEEN MADE ACK

See folio 81

C/TRGDISTRIBUTION

TRG/27/11

COPY TO : SD C/92/1



4200

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

85

FM I A

11 E L U

14 1610 A

0.185

UNCLASSIFIED

TOUR 0/42 OF 13 MAR (.) ACK

UNCLASSIFIED

G (AD)

A.R.G. SOMERS, LT COL

G-3

A/32/1

ABC/ab

A1439

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. T85020

DECODED

OP PRIORITY

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

G/92/1 84

M/C 8339

CALL	CIRCUIT No.	PRIORITY	TRANSMISSION DATE
	NR	--OP--	RECEIVED 14 MAR 1946 (DATE) 1326

SPACES WITHIN DOUBLES LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) 11 BRITISH LIASION UNIT G. | DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN 131500

TO (FOR ACTION) HQ 3 DISTRICT (FOR GSIB) NAPLES
G-2 RAAC GSOI HQ MMIA, ROME OC BRITISH TROOPS SICILY

TO (FOR INFORMATION)

Message Instructions: GR

(REF. No.) G/42

(SECURITY CLASSIFICATION) SECRET

SITUATION QUIETER. FEW SMALLER MEETINGS OF RIOTERS STILL BEING HELD. TROOPS INCLUDING GARIBALDI REGT NOW ON GARRISON AND PATROL DUTIES WITHIN THE WHOLE OF THE TOWN OF PALERMO. IT IS BELIEVED THAT SOME OF THE BEPARATIST ELEMENTS USED THIS AS AN EXCUSE TO STAGE AN ATTACK ON THE CC.RR. CASUALTIES THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE OF 12 MARCH WITH 6 KILLED INCLUDING ONE CC.RR. 20 TO 25 WOUNDED INCLUDING ONE ITALIAN ARMY OFFICER. ALDISIO-HIGH COMMISIONER OF SICILY IS TODAY REPORTED TO HAVE RESIGNED. ACK.

Col. GS
GSO I (D)
Dep. G3
GSO II (SD)
GSO II (I)
GSO II (WS)
GSO III (SD)
GSO III (ORB)
G (Trg)

M.M.I.A. 8/14 SIGNALS

OP PRIORITY

SECRET

LOCAL DISTRIBUTION

PRECEDENCE: OP PRIORITY

ORIGINATING SECTION:

A. G. AUTHENTICATION:

ORIGINATOR'S AUTHENTICATION:

XXXXXXXR Opr.

132020A

TIME CLEARED 4198

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

83

11.10
14 A

MMA

11 BLS

0-1B&

CONFIDENTIAL

REM YOUR G/44 OF 12 (*) CPM WITH OP MAJ BLAKE REFERS TO 12 MAR (*)
TWO CHEK THESE DATE WITH YOU (*) THERE MOBILE BATH UNIT WILL BE
PROVIDED FOR ROCKETS UNTIL WATER SUPPLY ARRANGED

DECYPHER

(Illegible)

G/32/1

Internal:
TBS/27/11

R 14/3
4197

DF COL AND ROUTINE

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

DECODED

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

G/42/1

82

M/C 7958

CALL	CIRCUIT No.	PRIORITY	TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
	NR		

SPACES WITHIN DOUBLES LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) 11 B L U

DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN 121455

TO (FOR ACTION) HQ 3 DISTRICT FOR GSIB

TO (FOR INFORMATION) G-2 RAAC AND GSOI HQ MMIA OC BRITISH TROOPS SICILY

Message Instructions: GR

(REF. No.) G/40

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: RESTRICTED

STRIKE NOT COMPLETE RIOT. RECORDS AT THE TAX OFFICE BURNT BY RIOTERS ALSO ATTEMPT MADE TO ENTER AND BURN RECORDS AND RATION CARDS AT THE "UFFICIO ANNONARIO" OF THE MUNICIPIO. POLICE FIRED ON THE RIOTERS AND INFLICTED A NUMBER OF CASUALTIES. (1) 4 KILLED. WILL REPORT FURTHER. ACK.

81 refs.

Col. GS
GSO I (LD)
Dep. G3
GSO II (SD)
GSO II (I)
GSO II (W)
GSO III (SL)
GSO III (ORB-T)
G (Trg)





RECEIVED 13 MAR 1946 (DATE) 1312

RESTRICTED

LOCAL DISTRIBUTION

PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE

ORIGINATING SECTION:

A. G. AUTHENTICATION:

ORIGINATOR'S AUTHENTICATION:

THEATOR	Opr.
XXXX	
121718A	
TIME CLEARED	4196

RESTRICTED

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

81

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM : KDO NAPLES

TO : HQ MMIA ROME

FROM : KDO PALERMO 121450 A

TO : KDO NAPLES

REF : G/41 SEE FOL 83

UNCLASSIFIED

PERSONAL FOR MEDLAM ALL WORK ON C A R SUSPENDED DUE TO GENERAL STRIKE IN P A L E R M O . TRYING TO GET MILITARY PERSONNEL AS SUBSTITUTION FOR STRIKERS . AT PRESENT UNLIKELY THAT C A R WILL BE ABLE OPEN ON 15 MARCH 46 DUE TO LACK OF WATER AND ELECTRICITY WHICH IS NOT YET COMPLETE (.) KDO P A L E R M O PASSED FOR 11 ELU (.) NXG NOT ADDEE PASS TO HQ MMIA ROME FOR ACTION

See 82

TAG SD DISTRIBUTION:

ACTION : TAG/27/II

INFO : G/92/1

IMMEDIATE

Col. GS
GSO I (SD)
Dep. G3
GSO II (SD)
GSO II ( )
GSO II (WS)
GSO III (SD)
GSO III (ORB&T)
G (Trg)

4195

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Report received from A.C. I.O. BARI on 3 Aug 45.

SUBJECT: MATERA.

S.D. G/92/1

Matera quieter. Minor trouble at PESCHICI, where communications are out, and reported burning of buildings.

500 Garibaldi troops plus 350 Carabinieri are already there and are able to restore order.

Sig. SCELBA (Minister of Communications) is expected arrive from Rome to speak at MATERA today.

The number of rioters is estimated to be 100. They are unarmed so far as is known.

The report that the municipio was destroyed (1 Aug 45) is untrue. Only the outbuildings were involved.

C. D. Buckmaster
CAS G/92/1

TO: Chief Commissioner,
Records Section,
Land Forces Sub-Commission.

NNDG - 'G'
FILE: G/92/1
DATE: 8/4/8

GSO 1
GSO 2 (X) 206
GSO 2 (S)
GSO 2 (V)
GSO 2 (L)
GSO 3 (SO)
GSO 3 (C-in-C)
GSO 3 (I) 4194

91270

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

0 3 9 6

77

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

G/92/1

Ref 4/332/CA

2 August 43

SUBJECT : Situation in Matera

TO : 1 CO Econ Sec MMIA
Ex. C. Pub Saf.

G

Following message from Col MILLER was received this morning:

"Matera. Quiet last night. Large crowds tried to seize all mills and grain stores. Demands are abolition of ration and free percolation to buy and sell own grain.

Crowd broke into the prison and released some 50 prisoners some of whom have already returned. Others refused release.

150 CMRR re-inforcements are already in the area. Italian Government have authorised 6 Companies to move from TRANI to MATERA to-day. They are fully armed and situation is believed to be in hand.

There has been no shooting or bloodshed."

A.D. Benham-Carter

A.D. BENHAM-CARTER
Lt Colonel,
for VF CA Section

GSO 1 X

GSO 2 (O) X AWC X

GSO 2 (S) /

GSO 2 (W)

GSO 2 (I)

GSO 3 (SD) X

GSO 3 (Ops)

GSO 3 (I)

9/2

MMIA - 'G'
9/92.
FILE
R/2/8.

4193

2187

621670

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 725020

CONFIDENTIAL

78

SUBJECT: Disturbances at ACOLI PICHO

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, AC (MMIA)
G/92/1
20 Apr 45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

Will you please now forward to this HQ the information requested by MMIA letter G/92 of 25 Mar 45.

68A

L.B.

tvm.

Major General
MMIA

R 2/4

4192

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDO NO. 785020

SECRET

77

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

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

TO : AFHQ

70

1. In answer to para 3 of your AG 370.61/G31 GCT-O of 3 April 1945, the following copies of correspondence are forwarded:-

(i) Public Safety Sub-Commission letter AC/14602/9/PS of 23 March 45, subject, SICILY Disturbances

(ii) MMIA letter G/92 of 19 March 45, subject, SICILY Disturbances. (to Civil Affairs Section, A.C.)

(iii) MMIA letter G/92 of 19 March 45, subject, SICILY Disturbances. (to AFHQ)

(iv) Civil Affairs Section letter AC/14602/9/PS of 13 Feb 45, subject, SICILY Disturbances. (to AFHQ, G-5)

(v) MMIA letter G/92 of 19 March 45, subject, Radio Communication - SICILY. (to AFHQ)

(vi) MMIA letter S/G/33 of 15 March 45, subject, SICILY. (to Ministry of War - copy to AFHQ)

J. M. Engledow
Lt-Col

Major General
M. M. I. A.

Copy to: Executive Commissioner, A.C.

ws

4191

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

76

Tel: 489081 - 365

23 March 1945

AC/14602/9/PS

SUBJECT: SICILY Disturbances

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

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

(a) The names of the instigators and the leaders of the disorders;

(b) The action taken against them;

(c) The cause and the objects of the disorders;

(d) Whether any evidence has been disclosed that the disorders were inspired by the enemy or by a subversive organization.

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

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

Copy to: AFHQ (Ref. AG 370.61/031 GCT-O)
MMIA

AFW/wg

70

WS

4190

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

SECRET

75

SUBJECT: SICILY Disturbances

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

TO : CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION, A.C.

1. Para 4e of AFHQ letter, file AG 370.61/031 GCT-O, subject SICILY Disturbances - Report on Rebellion in Province of RAGUSA 5 - 11 Jun 45, dated 20 Feb 45 is quoted.

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

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

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

WS

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

COPY

74

SECRET

SUBJECT: SICILY Disturbances

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

TO : AFHQ

1. In answer to your AG 370.61/031 GCT-O dated 13 March, received today, and further to MMIA letter S/G/33 of 24 Feb 45, attached is copy of letter Civil Affairs Section, A.C. to AFHQ for G-5. The specific answer to para 4e of your AG 370.61/031 GCT-O of 20 Feb 45 is being prepared by the Civil Affairs Section, A.C.

2. Please see MMIA letter S/G/33 of 15 March 45 which answers para 2 of your AG 370.61/031 GCT-O of 9 March 45.

3. Please see MMIA letter G/92 of 19 March 45 for present answer to para 3 of your AG 370.61/031 GCT-O of 9 March 45.

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

WS

De-classified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

73

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 394

Tel. 409081 - 580

AC/14602/9/PS

13 February 1945

SUBJECT: SICILY Disturbances

TO : AFHQ, G-5

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

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

(a) The Group Commander, who was temporarily absent, will be subject to disciplinary measures.

(b) CC RR Captain has been punished and transferred.

(c) 1 Sergeant and 3 CC RR are being dealt with by a disciplinary commission.

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

For the Chief Commissioner:

(Sgd) J.S. REAMES,
Major,

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

Copy to: Chief of Staff

WB

4187

0 4 0

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

72

SECRET

SUBJECT: Radio Communication - SICILY

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

TO : AFHQ.

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

(a) Number of stations required

(b) Where they are required.

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

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

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

ws

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

71

COPY

SECRET

SUBJECT: SICILY

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

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

1. Further to MMIA letter S/G/33 of 14 Feb 45.

2. To increase the efficiency of the Internal Security Divisions in SICILY, it is desired that you make the necessary arrangements for the delegation by the High Commissioner for SICILY and the Commando Territoriale della SICILIA of full powers to the military commander on the spot in case of a grave emergency.

3. It is also desired that you review the motor transportation situation throughout the Island and form a plan for the most economical employment of what transport is available, bearing in mind the desirability of retaining in areas where civil disturbances are likely to occur, sufficient transport to ensure the rapid movement of troops.

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

tvs

Copy to: AFHQ (your 370.61/G31 GCT-O of 9 March refers)

Internal: MA to GOC
Q
ST

ws

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

SECRET

Land /3cm

SECRET
By Authority of
S: 17 April 1945
Initial
Date April 1945

4505

70

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

AG 370.61/031 GCT-O

SUBJECT: Sicily Disturbances - Report on Rebellion in Province of Ragusa, 11 January 1945.

TO : President
Allied Commission
APO 394.

G/92

G 14

64

1. To date there is no record of your reply to letter, this headquarters, file and subject as above, dated 13 March 1945.

2. It is desired that the matter be expedited and, if further delay is necessary, that you inform this headquarters when your reply may be expected.

3. If subject communication has already been answered, request copy of action taken be sent to this headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

ALBERT W. KARR
Captain, AGD
Asst Adjutant General

1 Incl
Ltr, AFHQ, dtd
13 Mar 45.

See F-77.

MMIA-'G'
FILE: G/92
5/4
DATE:

4184

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

69

AG 370.61/031 GCT-O 13 March 1945

SUBJECT: Sicily Disturbances - Report on Rebellion in Province of Ragusa, 7-11 January 1945

B/92

TO : President
Allied Commission
APO 394

1. Reference is made to letter, this headquarters, file AG 370.61/031 GCT-O, dated 20 February 1945, subject as above, addressed for attention of the Land Forces Sub Commission.

2. A reply to this communication was received in the form of the minutes of a meeting held at Headquarters MMIA on 9 February 1945, reference S/G/33, dated 11 February 1945, and forwarded to this headquarters under reference MMIA S/G/33 of 24 February 1945. Consequent upon this, the Land Forces Sub Commission were requested under reference AG 370.61/031 GCT-O of 9 March 1945, to drew the attention of the Ministry of War to certain points upon which further amplification was considered necessary. No reply has as yet been received to this letter letter.

3. It is not considered that paragraph 3 of MMIA S/G/33 of 24 February 1945 provides the information called for at paragraph 4 e of AG 370.61/031 GCT-O of 20 February 1945. It is requested that this matter be taken up with the Italian authorities concerned and a report rendered to this headquarters at an early date.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

EDMUND R. SHUGART
Colonel, AGD
Asst Adjutant General

MMIA - 'G'
FILE: a/a2
DATE: 5/4

4183

SECRET

Incl #1

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 795020

68A

Subject: Disturbances at Ascoli Piceno

Land Forces
Sub Commission, AC (MMIA)
Rome
G/92
25 March 1945

To : Minister for War

Attached

1. Attached hereto are reports covering disturbances at Ascoli Piceno.

2. It is desired that you investigate the participation of Italian soldiers in these disturbances and furnish this headquarters with a copy of the investigation and a statement of the action taken by you in the matter.

L. Brownell

Major General
Land Forces
Sub Commission, AC (MMIA)

CPK/lak

3 Incls:
Incl 1 - Ltr Hq ALCOM, Pub Safety Sub Comm, 19 Mar 45.
Incl 2 - Ltr Hq ALCOM, Pub Safety Sub Comm, 19 Mar 45.
Incl 3 - Report from AMG dated 14 March 1945.

Sec 78

R 25/3.

4182

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

688

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394.

AC/14602/PS.

Tel. 469081 - 365.
19th March, 1945.

SUBJECT : Disturbances at Ascoli Piceno.

TO : Commanding General CC.RR.

1. Attached herewith is a copy of a report received from the Regional Commissioner, Abruzzi-Marche, concerning disturbances which occurred at Ascoli Piceno between the 7th and 12th March, 1945.

2. The report comments unfavourably on the conduct of the CC.RR, under Lt. Di Giuseppe, and brings to notice the fact that CC.RR Capt. Pistoni Santino and the CC.RR Colonel were both absent from their commands during the time the disturbances were taking place.

3. It is requested that a full and urgent enquiry be made into this matter and the result reported as soon as possible.

4. An enquiry has been instituted by the Italian Army District Headquarters into the conduct of the Italian soldiers.

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

Copy to: Regional Commissioner,
Abruzzi-Marche Region.

Land Forces Sub-Commission.

FJW/ea.

4181

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

68c

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

AC/14602/PS

Tel: 489061 Ext 365
19 March, 1945

SUBJECT : Disturbance at Ascoli Piceno.

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission.

1. With further reference to copy of telephone message respecting the above subject, forwarded to you on the 16th instant.

2. Herewith is a copy of full report on the matter, submitted by the P.P.S.O. Ascoli Piceno.

3. A very serious view is taken of the intimidation of the law enforcement agencies by Italian soldiery, and an enquiry is being held by the local Italian Military District Headquarters.

4. The Commanding General CC.RR. has been supplied with a full report of the matter and requested to hold an urgent enquiry. You will be informed of the result.

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

PJW/jwf

Copy to:
R.C. Abruzzi-Marche.

4180

D.d 2

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

From P.P.S.O. Ascoli Province
To Regional Commissioner, Abruzzi-Marche Region.
Attention of R.P.S.O.
Subject:-Disturbances etc. in Ascoli Piceno.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

I have to report for your information and any action deemed necessary the following facts respecting disturbances which have recently taken place in the town of Ascoli Piceno.

On Wednesday 7th March, 1945, following a public meeting, duty authorised, held by the local Labour Party, persons dispersing from the meeting about 5:30 pm subsequently went to the houses of various officials, including the residence of Dr. RIGI Luperti, and that of Dr. BRUNI, respectively the heads of Consorzio Agrerio and Alimentation.

These persons behaving in a disorderly manner demanded the immediate resignation of these officials from their offices on the grounds of inefficiency and past political activities. These persons were not assaulted, but were intimidated, and put in fear of subsequent reprisals if they did not accede to the demands of the crowd, amongst which were prominent three of the local 'bad eggs' PERINI Pietro, PERINI Dino and LORETI Libero. At one of the incidents it is believed that the intervention of Italian soldiers prevented an actual assault from taking place.

This matter has been thoroughly investigated by the local Questore, and as a result proceedings before an A.M.G. Court are pending against these individuals for conduct to the prejudice of good order.

The second incident occurred at about noon on Sunday, 11th March, when, on approaching the Prefettura, I found that the square outside was packed with over 200 persons, who were demanding to see the Prefect to discuss the dismissal of these two directors, and to get more supplies of boots, clothing, coal and other commodities.

When I arrived I found that the Carabinieri on duty on the door had locked it, thus preventing entry to the Prefettura. I gained entry after a little time and found that four women were inside, and on interrogating them I found that they represented the assembly outside and demanded an interview with the Prefect.

I asked them the nature of the trouble and found that it was again the troublesome question of supplies of boots, clothing, soap, coal etc. I told them that they would not be allowed to see the Prefect and that in any case no attention would be paid to their requests whilst it was accompanied by any semblance of mob law and that if the crowd dispersed in an orderly manner they could

179.

Encl 3

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

approach either the Prefect or members of the Allied Military Government and their grievances would, if possible be rectified. After some discussion these women went outside and passed this information to the crowd.

The persons assembled did not at once disperse, despite the fact that the CC.RR. there, several in number, were called upon to move them and it was necessary to myself drift the crowd away. This I succeeded in doing after some time without the assistance of the CC.RR, who were absolutely indifferent to my orders and requests to them to assist. However eventually the crowd did disperse, due solely to my own efforts.

On the evening of Sunday, 11th. March (the same day) I received information that a further demonstration would take place at 9am. on the morrow - Monday. After discussing this matter with the Provincial Commissioner (Lt. Col Rutter) it was decided to call together members of the local Committee of Liberation and other prominent local politicians and a meeting was held at the Prefetturn at about 10:30 pm, that night. The Prefect attended.

Those present were strongly cautioned by the Commissioner against permitting the proposed demonstration and after a long discussion promised to do their best to prevent any recurrence. If they did actually do anything at all to prevent the gathering their efforts were entirely unsuccessful.

Arrangements were made for CC.RR. and Questore agents to be in readiness from 8 am. at the Prefettura. Some 25 CC.RR, in charge of their Lieutenant DI GIUSEPPE Romualdo, to be inside the building and some 18 P.S. agents to be outside in the crowd if it assembled. Nothing untoward occurred at that time, but at about 10:30 am. I was informed by the Questore that the demonstration was due to start at 11 am. It duly did!

From that hour persons assembled in the square, together with a squad of Italian soldiers, armed with automatic machine guns, who had been called in at the request of the local Captain of CC.RR. (This Captain PISTONI Santino was conveniently absent having I am informed gone to Pescara to visit his father who was ill - a most opportune occurrence so far as the Captain was concerned).

The reasons for the second disturbance were these quoted above for that of the Sunday one. Certain persons in the crowd were very voicifeous, demanding access to the Prefettura and a far larger crowd assembled than had been present on the Sunday.

I personally ordered most of the CC.RR. on reserve in the the building to go outside and disperse the crowd, repeating this order to the Lieut. DI GIUSEPPE, whom I also ordered to have certain

178

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

of the more prominent demonstrators (whom I pointed out to him) arrested. He went outside but apart from this did nothing at all to assist in the dispersal and no CC.RR. there, to my knowledge, did anything useful at all towards getting the assembly away.

Thinking that my Italian had not been understood, and on the arrival of Major Tyson, who speaks a little more Italian than I do, I asked him to repeat the order respecting arresting certain persons, and he duly repeated it, but without effect at all.

No action was taken at all by the soldiers, until a woman in the crowd pushed one of them. He then stood back, unslung his tommy gun, loaded it, pulled the bolt back and pointed it towards her. I was close by at the time with the Questore and Capt. Philip, and this soldier was at once seized and the magazine removed from his gun, thus preventing what might have been a nasty incident. This, apart from the fact that two soldiers some time later did escort a person inside, was all the action they took.

To disperse the crowd it was necessary for Capt. Philip, Lieut. Lavender and myself to go out amongst them and arrest those persons who had the most to say and who refused to go away on request. Seven persons were arrested and will, together with one other, whom I recognised as one of the women inside the Prefettura the previous day and whom I subsequently traced and interviewed, appear before an A.M.G. Court on Thursday, 15th. March, on a charge of taking part in a public demonstration or assembly not authorized by the Allied Military Government.

Subsequently with much difficulty and no assistance from the CC.RR. we three dispersed the crowd after a lot of efforts.

I have taken the matter of the negligence of the CC.RR. up directly with the Colonel of CC.RR. and appropriate action has been promised. This individual was also away from Ascoli on the occasion in question having been to Rome and it is to be regretted that both the heads of the CC.RR. were absent at the same time.

I am absolutely disgusted with the conduct, inefficient control of men, lack of obedience and absolute inefficiency of the Lieutenant in charge, and would ask that this matter be taken up on a much higher level with a view to suitable action being taken against him. No support whatever was given by this body of men.

Later I was informed, again by the Questore, who is a real mine of reliable information in these matters, that a further assembly would take place in the afternoon, and that on this occasion firearms would be used to obtain the granting of the desires of the mob.

Having regard to the attitude of the crowd it was impossible to remove the prisoners from the Prefettura at once and they were detained until the afternoon with the exception of the woman, who was bailed to appear in Court on Thursday, 15th. March.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. T85020

The citizens began to re-assemble again outside the Prefettura after lunch, but in the meantime, whilst at the Officers' Mess I had been approached by PIERINI Spartaco, one of the local leaders, who was accompanied by a Lieutenant PENNACCHI Michele of the locally stationed Company of the Folgore, and other persons, who demanded that I release the prisoner from custody. I told them I could not discuss any matters at the Mess and if they had anything to say they should come to the Commissioner's Office at 2:30 pm., the same day.

After the crowd had assembled these persons appeared at about 2:55 pm. when they were seen by Col. Hutter. They reported that the crowd outside were demanding the release of the persons detained in connection with the disturbance of that morning. It also appeared that more Italian troops had arrived and had ranged themselves on the side of the congregation. The Lieut. said that unless the prisoners were released the soldiers would assault the CC.RR and release the prisoners. It appears that the extra soldiers who had arrived were called by a private individual (so far untraced) who had asked them to come along and assist in this unlawful release.

After discussion it was agreed that provided that a substantial bail was forthcoming for each prisoner, and that it be forfeited if there was any further trouble (this was suggested by the AMG side) but the Lieut. and Pirini both said that no money was available and this was not possible. He - the Lieut. - said that the soldiers had fixed zero hour for 3:30 PM. and if the prisoners were not released by that hour the CC.RR. would be forced to surrender the prisoners. Having regard to the force of arms against the few officers of AMG, and the total inefficiency of the CC.RR. it was reluctantly agreed that the prisoners be released and they were released at about 4pm.

Shortly after 3:30pm. whilst in Col. Hutter's office with other members of the discussion an Italian soldier appeared in the doorway. He had a machine gun on his shoulder. I at once went to him and demanded the reason for his presence there. He said the time was getting late and it had gone 3:30pm. and what were we doing about the prisoners. I told him to get out and duly saw him out of the building. He did not resist.

4176

Meanwhile, outside the Prefettura five members of the Questore had been relieved of their small arms and a machine gun which the CC.RR had inside the Prefettura had been taken by the soldiers. I cannot blame the Questore agents, who went about single or in pairs, as I was informed that in one case a soldier reported to the agent that there was something doing down a side street and on the agent investigation he was attacked by soldiers and his automatic forcibly removed.

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

However, I do complain most bitterly about the CC.RR. who, standing or sitting, like rabbits in their warren, allowed these soldiers to enter and take away their machine gun, despite the fact that the CC.RR each had a rifle and bayonet. They made me sick, and are the weakest lot of CC.RR I have come into contact with to date.

The Questore has identified two of the soldiers who took the automatics from the agents, but has been unable to recover the arms. The machine gun has been returned by two soldiers to the CC.RR. today.

As a result of these disturbances Col Rutter visited the Brigadier at 10 Corps H.Q. Macerata, and asked for the Italian soldiers to be removed and a full inquiry conducted into the matter of this reprehensible conduct by Italian troops.

A preliminary inquiry into the conduct of the Lieut. of the Italian Army, Folgore Div. and a Captain who took a supporting but secondary part in the discussion was held the following day by the A.P.M. 10 Corps and arrangements have been made for the whole matter to be investigated through Corps and the Italian Army District.

A small detachment of C.M.P. have been stationed in Ascoli for a few days to prevent recurrence, and to assist generally.

As the incident on the Wednesday evening occurred after black out time a curfew has been placed on the town, commencing at 7pm. It was not very well observed the first night but yesterday was much better observed by everyone. There has been no further disturbance since Monday and on the surface everything is going along quite normally.

/s/

Ascoli - 14th. March, 1945. Captain, F.P.S.O.

4175

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

67

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

G

25/3

Tel : 489081-365

AC/14602/9/PS

23 March, 1945

SUBJECT : Sicily disturbances

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

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

a) the names of the instigators and the leaders of the disorders;

b) the action taken against them;

c) the cause and the objects of the disorders;

d) whether any evidence has been disclosed that the disorders were inspired by the enemy or by a subversive organization.

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

John W. Chapman

JOHN W. CHAPMAN
Colonel, J.A.G.D.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission

Copy to:
AFHQ (Ref. AC 370.61/031 GCT-O)
MMIA

APW/WE.

MMIA
FILE: 6/92
DATE: 26/3.

4174

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

SECRET

SUBJECT: SICILY Disturbances

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

TO : CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION, A.C.

1. Para 4e of AFHQ letter, file AG 370.61/031 GCT-O, subject SICILY Disturbances - Report on Rebellion in Province of RAGUSA 5 - 11 Jan 45, dated 20 Feb 45 is quoted.

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

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

Major General
M. M. I. A.

WS

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

65A

SECRET

SUBJECT: SICILY Disturbances

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

TO : AFHQ

1. In answer to your AG 370.61/031 GCT-O dated 13 March, received today, and further to MMIA letter S/G/33 of 24 Feb 45, attached is copy of letter Civil Affairs Section, A.C. to AFHQ for G-5. The specific answer to para 4e of your AG 370.61/031 GCT-O of 20 Feb 45 is being prepared by the Civil Affairs Section, A.C.

2. Please see MMIA letter S/G/33 of 15 March 45 which answers para 2 of your A G 370.61/031 GCT-O of 9 March 45.

3. Please see MMIA letter G/92 of 19 March 45 for present answer to para 3 of your AG 370.61/031 GCT-O of 9 March 45.

Major General
M. M. I. A.

WS

4172

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. T85020

COPY

65/B

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 394

Tel. 469061 - 580

AC/14502/9/PS

13 February 45

Subject: Sicily Disturbances.

To : AFHQ, G-5

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

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

a) The Group Commander, who was temporarily absent, will be subject to disciplinary measures.

b) CO RR Captain has been punished and transferred.

c) 1 Sergeant and 3 CC RR are being dealt with by a disciplinary commission.

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

For the Chief Commissioner:

(Sgd) J.S. REAKES,
Major,

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

Copy to: Chief of Staff.

WO

4171

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NHXC NO. 785020

SECRET

JC/jem

LAND FORCES S/C

SECRET
Authority
SACT
Initials
Date March 1945

2655

6(4)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

AG 370.61/031 GCT-O

9/92

SUBJECT: Sicily Disturbances - Report on Rebellion in Province of Ragusa, 5-11 January 1945

TO : President
Allied Commission
APO 394

89 S/G/33

1. Reference is made to letter, this headquarters, file AG 370.61/031 GCT-O, dated 20 February 1945, subject as above, addressed for attention of the Land Forces Sub Commission.

79 S/G/33

2. A reply to this communication was received in the form of the minutes of a meeting held at Headquarters MMIA on 9 February 1945, reference S/G/33, dated 11 February 1945, and forwarded to this headquarters under reference MMIA S/G/33 of 24 February 1945. Consequent upon this, the Land Forces Sub Commission were requested under reference AG 370.61/031 GCT-O of 9 March 1945, to draw the attention of the Ministry of War to certain points upon which further amplification was considered necessary. No reply has as yet been received to this latter letter.

90 S/G/33

100 S/G/33

3. It is not considered that paragraph 3 of MMIA S/G/33 of 24 February 1945 provides the information called for at paragraph 4 e of AG 370.61/031 GCT-O of 20 February 1945. It is requested that this matter be taken up with the Italian authorities concerned and a report rendered to this headquarters at an early date.

70

90 S/G/33

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

89 S/G/33

19 mar
(1) Letter from AFHQ to Land Forces
(1) Letter to Civil Affairs

RECEIVED 25 MAR 1945 A.G.

19 4/17 Mar

Edmund R. Shugart
EDMUND R. SHUGART
Colonel, AGD
Asst Adjutant General

(I)

COPIES FURNISHED:
3 District

MMIA 'G'
File 6/92
Date 17/3

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

6B

FROM : DISTHREE

191310A

TO : AFHQ

INFO : AFHQ (G2=C1):ALCOM: ALCOM SOUTHERN REGION: MMIA

GO 593

CONFIDENTIAL

FIRST (.) 54 AREA REPORT SHOOTING INCIDENTS DURING LAST 2/3 DAYS AT M I N E R V I N O M U R G E (.) 0379 (.) LAST NIGHT C A R A B I N I E R I ESCORTING PARTY BRIT OFFRS THROUGH TOWN SUFFERED CASUALTIES 3 KILLED SEVERAL WOUNDED (.) NO BRIT CASUALTIES (.) BRIT OFFRS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN FIRED UPON (.) SECOND (.) FURTHER TROUBLE CONSIDERED LIKELY (.) 50 CCRR AND F/S SJT PROCEEDING TO M I N E R V I N O IMMEDIATELY (.) OC 2 CDO TRG WING SATISFIED THAT UNIT CAN ASSUME FULL RESPONSABILITY FOR OWN PROTECTION BUT UNABLE CONTINUE TRG AT PRESENT (.) FOURTH (.) FURTHER DETAILS AWAITED

SD/DIST:

Action Copy: G/92

ma.

4169

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

MMIA - 'G'
FILE: G/92
DATE: 20/3.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES 43/19

G/92

10/

6598

LROF V MEDY 19218
QVR 5

FROM · DISTHREE 191310A
TO AFHQ
INFO AFHQ (G2-C1) · ALCOM · ALCOM SOUTHERN REGION · MMIA
QQY GR -- BT

GO 593 (.) CONFIDENTIAL . FIRST (.) 54 AREA REPORT SHOOTING INCIDENTS
DURING LAST 2/3 DAYS AT M I N E R V I N O M U R G E (.) Ø379 (.)
LAST NIGHT C A R A B I N I E R I ESCORTING PARTY BRIT OFFRS THROUGH
TOWN SUFFERED CASUALTIES 3 KILLED SEVERAL WOUNDED (.) NO BRIT
CASUALTIES (.) BRIT OFFRS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN FIRED UPON (.)
SECOND (.) FUTHER TROUBLE CONSIDERED LIKELY (.)
5Ø CCRR AND F/S SJT PROCEEDING TO M I N E R V I N O
IMMEDIATELY (.) THIRD (.) OC 2 CDO TRG WING SATISFIED THAT UNIT
CAN ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR OWN PROTECTION BUT UNABLE
CONTINUE TRG AT PRESENT (.) FOURTH (.) FURTHER DETAILS AWAITED
BT 191310A
SENT MMC B 1 K

RD NR 19218 1333 JWR BB KK

4168

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

AC/14602/PS

Tel: 489081 Ext 365
19 March, 1945

SUBJECT : Disturbance at Ascoli Piceno.

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission.

1. With further reference to copy of telephone message respecting the above subject, forwarded to you on the 16th instant.

2. Herewith is a copy of full report on the matter, submitted by the P.P.S.O. Ascoli Piceno.

3. A very serious view is taken of the intimidation of the law enforcement agencies by Italian soldiery, and an enquiry is being held by the local Italian Military District Headquarters.

4. The Commanding General CC.RR. has been supplied with a full report of the matter and requested to hold an urgent enquiry. You will be informed of the result.

JOHN W. CHAPMAN
Colonel, J.A.G.D.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission

FJW/jwf

Copy to:
R.C. Abruzzi-Marche.

G1 - there is no trace on report or telephone conversation - Can you pl: let me know if P.S.S.C. phoned you? G 20/3

G 20/3 file

4167
MMIA
FILE: INT/103
DATE:

0 4 2

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

68

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394.

Tel. 489081 - 365.

AC/14602/PS.

19th March, 1945.

SUBJECT : Disturbances at Ascoli Piceno.

TO : Commanding General CC.RR.

1. Attached herewith is a copy of a report received from the Regional Commissioner, Abruzzi-Marche, concerning disturbances which occurred at Ascoli Piceno between the 7th and 12th March, 1945.

2. The report comments unfavourably on the conduct of the CC.RR. under Lt. Di Giuseppe, and brings to notice the fact that CC.RR Capt. Pistoni Santino and the CC.RR Colonel were both absent from their commands during the time the disturbances were taking place.

3. It is requested that a full and urgent enquiry be made into this matter and the result reported as soon as possible.

4. An enquiry has been instituted by the Italian Army District Headquarters into the conduct of the Italian soldiers.

JOHN W. CHAPMAN,
Colonel, J.A.G.D.,
Director, Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

Copy to: Regional Commissioner,
Abruzzi-Marche Region.

Land Forces Sub-Commission.

4166

PJW/ca.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

16 March, 1945.

Telephone message received from RPSO Abruzzi-Marche by Capt. Powell at 10 a.m. Friday 16 of March 1945.

SUBJECT : Disturbances ~~at~~ at Ascoli.

On Monday afterday afternoon 12th of March 1945 a crowd ~~demonstrated~~demonstrated at the Prefettura Ascoli protesting against the price of bread. Some were armed. 25 C.C.RR. were inside the Prefetture but were absolutely useless. 8 persons were arrested by Captain Bellamyand another British officer.

Later the crowd returned with Italian soldiers and the Questore informed the Provincial Commissioner that it was their intentions to raid the jail and release the prisoners. The Italian Military Captain and Lt. who were in charge of the Italian troops said that they could not control their men. The Prisoners were admitted to bail because the Provincial Commissioner could not get assistance.

No Allied Military or CMP are in Ascoli now.

A 7 P.M. curfew has been imposed.

Everything is now quiet and the Provincial Commissioner has approached the Army authorities to have Italian troops withdrawn.

Report delayed owing to incoherent telephone communications.

A full report follows.

B. POWELL, Capt.

16/3/45.

MMIA - 'G'
FILE: 16/33 G IV
DATE: 17/3/45

4165

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

TOP SECRET

59

SUBJECT: SICILY Disturbances - Joint Report by MMIA and PWB

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. G/33
19 Feb 45

TO : AFHQ for G-5

87

Your ref.: 000.5 dated 14 Feb 45.

1. Attached are two copies of the original report of the above mentioned subject, forwarded as requested.

REP

for Major General
M. M. I. A.

WB

RG/N

4164

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

4/23 T. Safely 58

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TBJ/seb

G-5: 000.5

14 February 1945

SUBJECT: Sicily Disturbances - Joint Report by MMIA and PWB.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission
APO 394.

1. Reference is made to AC 14602/9/PS of 13 February.

2. Will you please arrange for two more copies of the original report to be sent to this Section for use by other interested Staff Sections.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

T. B. JACKMAN
Lt. Colonel.

Copy to:
G-2 (CI)
(Attn: Maj. E. D. Lewis.)

TO	INIT	DATE
COL. CHAPMAN		
COL. DOHERTY		
LT. COL WILCOX		
MAJ BUCKMAN		
MAJ WILSON		
MAJ HANBURY		
MAJ BALLANCE		
CAPT POWELL		
CHIEF CLERK		

Passed to MMIA 19 F

Copies sent REP

4163

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY: To Land Forces S/C (MMIA) - for information.
(For attention of Lt.Col. INGLEDEW)

Bgste + B/F. 57

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 394.

Tel.489091 - 580

AC/11602/2/PS.

13 February 45.

Subject: Sicily Disturbances.

To: AFHQ, G-5.

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

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

a) The Group Commander, who was temporarily absent, will be subject to disciplinary measures.

b) CC.RR Captain has been punished and transferred.

c) 1 Sergeant and 3 CC.RR are being dealt with by a disciplinary commission.

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

For the Chief Commissioner:

(Sgd.) J.S. RHAKES,
Major,

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

Copy to: Chief of Staff.

LAND FORCES SC (Att. Lt. Col. INGLEDEW)

4162
REP

S.G.33.

0 4 2 1

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

SECRET

COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 394

G-5: 000.5

31 January 1945

SUBJECT : Sicily Disturbances.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394

1. Reference is made to the very full joint report dated 18 January prepared by MMIA and PWB on the "Rebellion in the Province of Ragusa 5/11 January" copies of which were forwarded to this Headquarters and to Headquarters Allied Commission under MMIA reference G/33 of 26 January.

2. Particular reference is made to paragraph 7b of the above report recommending specific action so far as concerns the Carabinieri involved in the disturbances.

3. It is requested that this Headquarters be informed of the action which is being or has been taken by the Italian Government so far as the Carabinieri are concerned.

T.R. HENN, Colonel,
Acting Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5

4161

SECRET

154

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

56

COPY

FROM DISTHREE

TO AFHQ (G-3 Ops)

AFHQ G-2 (C1) AICOM FOR MMIA MMIA LO

GO 429 RESTRICTED

REF OUR GO420 DATED 05 (.) STRIKE DID NOT TAKE PLACE (.)

PALERMO REPORTED CALM (.) ALL INFORMED

cgl

Seen by G-1

Distribution
S/G/33
Chief of Staff Sec
C.A. Sec
Public Safety Sub Com.

4160

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

7.0

N 85/5 SD 6/2

FM CINCMED V MEDY NR 447 OVE 3
FROM DIST XX DISTHREE Ø5 A
TO AFHQ (GA/ (G-3OPS)

AFHQ G-2 (GI); ALCOM ;MMIA; MMIALO7;

ET

G0429 RESTRICTED (.) REF OUR G042ØDATED Ø5 (.) STRIKE DID NOT TAKE PLACE (.) PALERMO REPORTED CALM (.) ALL INFORMED

THI1710 ET

SENT NR 447 Ø523ØØ TPF AR""""""

RECD NR 447 Ø523ØØA USA AR THU

SD Division
Action Copy :- 5/6/33 } 3 Copies
Ø6ØØ15 159

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 725020

7031

FLASH V. HEDY NR 70

FROM DISTREE 051030A

TO MMIA

CCY

GC 420 CONFIDENTIAL . GENERAL STRIKE THREATENED PALERMO COMMENCING 05 .
CAMERA DEL LAVORO ORGANISING IN VIEW HIGH PRICES AND NON-FULFILMENT
GOVERNMENT PROMISE TO INCREASE WAGES . NOT KNOWN WHETHER PUBLIC
UTILITY PLANTS WILL BE AFFECTED . PALERMO QUIET BUT DISORDERS POSSIBLE .
ALL INFORMED

PT 1030

SENT 1056A GDW AR

NR 70 RECD 051356A PJB B1

Action Dept :- S/S 3/6/33

4158

0432

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

FROM: MACIA LO SARDINIA (.) SIGNED FORSETT

TO: MMIA FOR SIMMONS

Y 72

05 1200 A

CONFIDENTIAL

YOUR SD 2243 OF 04 FEB ACKD (.) MARTIN RETURNED TO DUTY 03 FEB (.) HAS BEEN ASSIGNED SUGGESTED DUTY (.)

NEW SUBJECT (.)

NO RPT NO INCIDENTS DURING PARADE YESTERDAY (.)

IMPORTANT

SD DISTN

ACTION COPY CAMP (US)

" " S/G/33

INFO COL SIMMONS

IM

4157

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

53

SUBJECT: Report on RAGUSA Rebellion 5/11 Jan 45. TOP S E C R E T

Land Forces Sub Com, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
S/G/33
2 Feb Jan 45.

H.Q. 204 SUB AREA.

Ref Disthree signal GO 335 of 29 Jan 45.

Herewith, as requested, copy of report on RAGUSA rebellion compiled jointly by Lt.Col. HOWARD, MMIA and Maj. MANLEY, P.W.B.

Please acknowledge receipt.

2. Browning 4156

Major General.
M.M.IA.

Int: CIRC.
B/B.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

MEDY 290336 QVR1

...ISTHREE 291300A

30/29 3.1 G N54/09 c.f. c/1981

...O MMIA

INFO 204 SUB AREA

QQX BT

GO335 (.) RESTRICTED (.) REF YOUR G/33 OF 26 JAN (.) REQUEST

COPY OF REPORT ON R A G U S A BE SENT TO 204 SUB AREA

EARLIEST

BT THI 1315

SENT 1600 GB " B

RCD 1600A HRA KKK

Dustin

G/33

4155

Plant

291617

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

TOP SECRET

SUBJECT: Report on the Rebellion in the Province of RAGUSA 8/11 January 1945

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. C/35 ——
26 January 1945

TO : ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
HQ ALLIED COMMISSION
P.R.O. (ROME) (5)
3 DISTRICT

1. Herewith copies of a Report on the Rebellion in the RAGUSA Province compiled jointly by Lt. Col. HOWARD, MMIA, and Maj. MANLEY, P.W.B..

2. This report contains valuable information and outlines in some detail, the military and Political situation in SICILY.

3. It is considered that the lessons brought out by the Rebellion will be of good value in any disturbances which may occur in the future.

4. MMIA sees no objection to P.R.O. making what use of the report he thinks fit.

Lt-Col

Major General
M. M. I. A.

4154

TOP SECRET.

518

REPORT ON THE REBELLION IN THE PROVINCE OF RAGUSA 5/11 JANUARY 1945.

1. OBJECT OF REPORT:-

The object of this report is to give the facts, in so far as they are known, about the rebellion in the Province of RAGUSA which lasted from the 5th to the 11th of January 1945, and to comment on the action taken by the Italian Civil and Military Authorities to restore order.

The report has been compiled jointly by Lt-Col. the Hon. H.A.C. Howard, Coldstream Guards (MMIA) and by Major. I. Manley, Intelligence Corps (PWB).

This is a confidential report no parts of which will be reproduced in other reports for information without prior reference to the Land Forces Sub Commission AC (MMIA), nor will it be shown to any person not directly concerned.

A sketch map attached as Appendix 'A' shows the area covered by the rebellion and the main roads and towns affected.

The distribution list is attached as Appendix 'I'.

2. DIARY OF EVENTS:-

Wed. 3 Jan.:- Demonstrations and riots reported from larger towns in Province of RAGUSA and part of Province of SYRACUSE. Those participating claimed that pretext for demonstrations was the call up.

RAGUSA - Demonstration. Trouble began when CCRR arrested 28 persons in street after curfew and 9 men for ignoring call up.

1 Bn. (250 all ranks) from 139 Inf. Regt PALERMO arrived of which 70 were sent to MODICA.

AVOLA - During night 3/4 Jan. small length of rail on railway line was destroyed by explosives 1 Km. South of railway station.

MODICA - Demonstration. 70 troops from 139 Inf. Regt. at RAGUSA arrived.

COMISO - Demonstation

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 75528

military authorities to restore order.

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MODICA - Demonstration. 70 troops from 139 Inf. Regt. at RAGUSA arrived.

COMISO - Demonstation.

VITTORIA - Demonstration.

Thur. 4 Jan.:-Demonstations continue; situation in area tense.

RAGUSA:- Demonstrations. Shots exchanged between troops and rebels. One Italian Officer seized by crowd, but later liberated by Italian troops. Casualties, killed one civilian, wounded one CCRR, one commissario di Pubblica Securezza and one civilian. Another report states that the casualties were -

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. T8502

Killed one CCRR and one Finance Guard and wounded one civilian.

AVOLA - Railway line repaired and train service resumed.

MODICA - Demonstrations continue.

VITTORIA - Demonstrations continue.

Fri.5 Jan:- Situation in area unchanged.

RAGUSA:- Situation more serious. Prefect ordered the Major Commanding the RAGUSA garrison to get his troops out. These troops were fired on by well armed rebels in the area near the railway station of RAGUSA IBLEA on the outskirts of the town. Troops remained in this area for the night. Prefect asked for reinforcements of troops to be sent to his area to deal with situation. Prefect sent written report to O.C. Troops, SYRACUSE. Between RAGUSA and VITTORIA CCRR vehicle carrying rations held up and rifled by rebels armed with machine guns, rifles and hand grenades.

MODICA - Demonstrations continue no casualties or damage.

COMISO - Heated demonstration. 200 to 300 armed rebels despersed on escarpment above town by CCRR and troops sent from RAGUSA. Shots exchanged one CCRR wounded.

VITTORIA - Demonstrations continue no casualties or damage.

Sat.6 Jan:- Situation in area takes a more serious and violent turn.

RAGUSA - In morning troops belonging to RAGUSA Garrison returned to town.

12:30 hrs 100 troops belonging to the 16th Arty.Regt. of the SABAUDA Division which had been sent from CALTANISETTA as reinforcements were ambushed and after short action disarmed by rebels at road junction on outskirts of RAGUSA. Troops in accordance with orders did not have their weapons loaded. Rebels kept arms, troops proceeded to RAGUSA in disarmed condition. One officer and two other ranks killed during action.

In afternoon 70 CCRR arrived as reinforcements from PALERMO. Skirmishes between troops and rebels in town.1 off.15 O.R's disarmed Military Dist.H.Q's plus 5 CCRR. 16:00 hrs Demonstration outside prefecture. Prefect telephoned to SYRACUSE for reinforcements.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 185028

[illegible] Troops, SYRACUSE. Between RAGUSA and VITTORIA CCRR vehicle carrying rations held up and rifled by rebels armed with machine guns, rifles and hand grenades.

MODICA - Demonstrations continue no casualties or damage.

COMISO - Heated demonstration. 200 to 300 armed rebels despersed on escarpment above town by CCRR and troops sent from RAGUSA. Shots exchanged one CCRR wounded.

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RAGUSA - In morning troops belonging to RAGUSA Garrison returned to town.

12:30 hrs 100 troops belonging to the 16th Arty.Regt. of the SABAUDA Division which had been sent from CALTANISETTA as reinforcements were ambushed and after short action disarmed by rebels at road junction on outskirts of RAGUSA. Troops in accordance with orders did not have their weapons loaded. Rebels kept arms, troops proceeded to RAGUSA in disarmed condition. One officer and two other ranks killed during action.

In afternoon 70 CCRR arrived as reinforcements from PALERMO. Skirmishes between troops and rebels in town.1 off.15 O.R's disarmed Military Dist.H.Q's plus 5 CCRR. 16:00 hrs Demonstration outside prefecture. Prefect telephoned to SYRACUSE for reinforcements.

SYRACUSE - 21:15 hrs 225 troops under the Command of Lt.-Col. TRAPANI left by road for RAGUSA of which 125 were from 145 Regt. SYRACUSE and 100 from 45 Regt. CATANIA.

GIARRATANA - Troops on their way to RAGUSA from SYRACUSE fired on by rebels while passing through town at night, slight injuries. Column then remained in area until later during 7 Jan., mopping up.

MODICA - Situation still tense.

SCICLI - Situation tense.

TOP SECRET.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 135020

COMISO - Demonstrations continue.

VITTORIA - Demonstrations and rebel activity, some shooting. CCRR barracks attacked and a few CCRR disarmed. Civil prison attacked and a few prisoners set free.

Sun. 7 Jan:- Situation in area unchanged. Telephone lines in area interupted. Railway line RAGUSA to MODICA under rebel control.

RAGUSA - Shooting and skirmishes between troops and rebels in town. Prefect telephoned several times during day to SYRACUSE for reinforcements. Prefect and troops beseiged(assediato, in his own words) by rebels in Prefettura. Serveral shots which were fired at the Prefettura entered the prefects office.

During the day Prefect ordered Lt-Col. MANDANICI O.C. CCRR of RAGUSA to send sufficient men to the Prefettura to help desperse the rebels. A 2nd Lt. and about 60 men were despatched but on reaching the bridge at RAGUSA IBLEA they were fired upon by machine guns and rifle fire. The majority returned to their barracks and only the 2nd Lt. and 9 men arrived at the Prefettura. The Prefect again telephoned to Lt-Col. MANDANICI for reinforcements but the latter was unable and probably unwilling to lead his men in aid of the Prefect.

16:00 hrs Column, under Command of Lt-Col. TRAPANI, from SYRACUSE which had been held up in GIARRATANA area arrived.

17:00 hrs (approx.) Col. LEONARDI Commanding Officer 16th Arty. Regt., arrived from CALTANISETTA with 25 men and one armoured car on tow.

17:30 hrs Gen. RONCO arrived with troops. Set up his H.Q. at the Prefettura and de facto took over from the Prefect.

19:00 hrs. Telephone line between RAGUSA and SYRACUSE interupted.

During the night the situation quietened down as the majority of the rebels either left the town or went into hiding.

SYRACUSE - 12:30 hrs Gen. RONCO with 80 men(40 CCRR from CATANIA, 10 CCRR from SABAUDA Div. at MESSINA and 30 troops from 46th. Inf. Regt. at MESSINA) left for RAGUSA by road.

17:15 hrs. Lt-Col. HOWARD and Major. MANLEY arrived. Contacted Major. GRAY, O.C. Troops, and Capt. HUGHES A.C. Public Safety in order to ascertain latest situation.

4152

CASSIBILE- Early in day small railway bridge on SYRACUSE-RAGUSA line destroyed by explosives. Workmen who were sent to repair the bridge were prevented from doing so by rebels who attacked them with hand grenades.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

Prefettura entered the prefects office.

During the day Prefect ordered Lt-Col. MANDANICI O.C. CCRR of RAGUSA to send sufficient men to the Prefettura to help disperse the rebels. A 2nd Lt. and about 60 men were despatched but on reaching the bridge at RAGUSA IBLEA they were fired upon by machine guns and rifle fire. The majority returned to their barracks and only the 2nd Lt. and 9 men arrived at the Prefettura. The Prefect again telephoned to Lt-Col. MANDANICI for reinforcements but the latter was unable and probably unwilling to lead his men in aid of the Prefect.

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4152

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SOLARINO - In the evening rebels destroyed doors of grain and olive oil stores belonging to the Commune with hand grenades. Private house next to grain store damaged and one girl injured.

GIARRATANA - CCRR dispatch rider on motor/cycle on way from SYRACUSE to RAGUSA forced to turn back by hostile attitude of crowd.

COMISIO - CCRR disarmed at their barracks by rebels. Rebels use CCRR barracks as P.W. cage for CCRR and captured Italian Officer and other ranks. Comitato Provissorio del popolo established.

TOP SECRET.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 185020

VITTORIA - Rebel activity and spasmodic shooting occured.

Mon.8 Jan:- situation still tense and serious in area. Telephone communication between SYRACUSE and RAGUSA still interupted. Call up temporarily suspended.
Lt-Col.HOWARD, Major.MANLEY and Sjt.JACOB,F.S.S. left SYRACUSE at 09:20 hrs returning 17:35 hrs. During the day SOLARINO, PALAZZOLO, GIARRATANA, RAGUSA, MODICA, ISPICA, NOTO, AVOLA and CASSIBILE visited.
C.C.Troops, SYRACUSE informed early in morning that:-
(a) Railway line between AVOLA and RAGUSA had been cut.
(b) Damage had been done to grain and olive oil store at SOLARINO by rebels.
(c) A bridge near CASSIBILE had been destroyed.

SOLARINO - Outwardly calm. In main square sulky and hostile looking inhabitants were standing about in small groups. Damage to store slight. CCRR guarding it.

PALAZZOLO - Looked outwardly calm in morning. Traffic normal on road SYRACUSE - PALAZZOLO.

GIARRATANA - At about 11:30 hrs. Very hostile looking crowd of men standing around cross roads in centre of town, no arms seen. Took road leading down valley to RAGUSA, passed several small groups of peasants coming from the direction of RAGUSA.

RAGUSA - Troops in control, situation improved, mopping operations in progress. Rebels in hiding or had left town.
On outskirts passed RAGUSA IBLEA railway station all shut up and deserted.
Shops and houses closed and streets deserted.
Population peered from behind doors and windows.
About 15 Italian troops encountered standing in large archway in main square of RAGUSA IBLEA. Troops had taken up positions with no cover. Troops appeared nervous. One of them acted as guide to main town of RAGUSA where the Prefettura is situated.
Courtyard of Prefettura full of troops and cumbersome and dilapidated Italian Army M.T.
Called immediately on Prefect DOTT NAITANA he appeared nervous. Prefect outlined events of previous days and considered that though order had been restored the situation was tense and that there was possibility of further trouble breaking out from one moment to another. He stressed the necessity for the systematic disarming of the civil population.
Gen.RONCO who was present concurred with the Prefect's statements and added that the rebels had now either gone into hiding or left the town, and that they were controlling the RAGUSA -MODICA road by means of a road block. Gen. asked Lt-Col.HOWARD to obtain [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 18502

SOLARINO - Outwardly calm. In main square sulky and hostile looking inhabitants were standing about in small groups. Damage to store slight. CCRR guarding it.

PALAZZOLO - Looked outwardly calm in morning. Traffic normal on road SYRACUSE - PALAZZOLO.

GIARRATANA - At about 11:30 hrs. Very hostile looking crowd of men standing around cross roads in centre of town, no arms seen. Took road leading down valley to RAGUSA, passed several small groups of peasants coming from the direction of RAGUSA.

RAGUSA - Troops in control, situation improved, mopping operations in progress. Rebels in hiding or had left town.
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Courtyard of Prefettura full of troops and cumbersome and dilapidated Italian Army M.T.
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Gen.RONCO who was present concurred with the Prefect's statements and added that the rebels had now either gone into hiding or left the town, and that they were controlling the RAGUSA -MODICA road by means of a road block. Gen. asked Lt-Col.HOWARD to obtain further reinforcements , arms, ammunition and supplies on returning SYRACUSE.
Both Prefect and Questore GIUFFRE considered that trouble in Province caused chiefly by Fascist elements aided by separatist who had used the call up as the pretext for creating the disturbances.
Interrogated 4 men who had been arrested as rebels only 2 of whom were liable for call up .
One said he had been given his weapon by Catanese Lt. while another said he had been given his weapon from a truck.
127 total of rebels and suspects arrested up to 15:00 hrs.
During time spent in town there were spasmodic burst of firing and explosions of hand grenades caused by the mopping up operations.

TOP SECRET.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 185020

Elements among the troops appeared to be trigger-happy.
Prefect had had manifesto prepared to put up in town prohibiting meetings and assembling of crowds (for translation see Appendix 'B').
14:45 hrs Left RAGUSA for SYRACUSE Via MODICA and NOTO.
No sign of rebels or road blocks between RAGUSA and MODICA. Road deserted and all houses cleared.

MODICA - 15:15 hrs. Outwardly calm. Small groups of men in main street. Several slogans against call up on walls. CCRR patrols in streets.

ISPICA - 15:45 hrs. Outwardly calm apart from hostile looking groups of men in main square. Several fresh anti-call up and pro Fascist slogans on walls.
No CCRR visible.

ROSSOLINI - By passed town. Separatist slogans on station building.

NOTO - 16:45 hrs. Appeared normal. Two CCRR patrols in main street.

AVOLA - During the day rebels armed with M.Gs. (?) threw six hand grenades against train carrying 200 conscripts from NOTO to SYRACUSE forcing it to stop. None of the conscripts used this as an opportunity for deserting. Troops sent from NOTO restored situation after an exchange of shots with rebels. Troops remained occupying positions near railway station and patrolling main street.
17:15 hrs. Passed through town, troops near railway station in open positions with no cover in street, outwardly calm, unfriendly looking groups of men in main square.

CASSIBILE - 17:30 hrs. Quiet.

COMISO - Concentration of rebels in occupation of town. Town under control of Comitato Provissorio del Popolo with Commissario del Popolo at its head. During the morning Commissario del Popolo telephoned to RAGUSA to inquire about the situation there and to ascertain if the Prefect was still in office.

VITTORIA - Situation tense, partial lull in rebel activity. Commissario Prefettizio in control. Local Committee of Liberation supported by all parties formed armed squads to help maintain public order and protect the town hall. The Communist leader is reported to have been the principle organicer. Signor CULTRONE, brother-in-law of Salvatore ALDISIO the High Commissioner for Sicily, was a member of one of the squads.

SCICLI - Situation tense and unsettled, rebels reported

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC NO. T85020

looking groups of men in main square. Several fresh anti-call up and pro Fascist slogans on walls.
No CCRR visible.

ROSSOLINI - By passed town. Separatist slogans on station building.

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SCICLI - Situation tense and unsettled, rebels reported in area. Unconfirmed report stated that hand grenades were thrown in town.

Tues. 9 Jan:- Situation calmer and less tense. More traffic on road SYRACUSE to RAGUSA via NOTO and MODICA. Telephone line between SYRACUSE and RAGUSA still interupted.
Lt-Col. Howard, Major. Manley and Sjt. Jacobs left SYRACUSE at 09:15 hrs, passing through CASSIBILE, AVOLA, NOTO, ISPICA, MODICA twice during day, visiting RAGUSA and undertook reconnaissance to within 2 kms. of COMISO. The same route was taken both ways on account of the reported mining of other road between SOLARINO and PALAZZOLO.

TOP SECRET.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 165020

TOP SECRET.

RAGUSA - Controlled by troops, situation calm, fresh slogans against the call up written on walls in centre of town.
Meeting with Prefect and Gen.RONCO. They had received no news from either COMISO or VITTORIA and considered that the towns were in the hands of the rebels. They were of the opinion that Gen.BRISOTTO's column from AGRIGENTO had already arrived in the area and that order would soon be restored. The Prefect then sent for a telegram which he had received the day before from Salvatore ALDISIO the High Commissioner for Sicily regarding Gen.BRISOTTO's column. On reading it again carefully he learned from it that the column was expected to arrive at VITTORIA at 12:00 hrs; this information had not been given by him to Gen.RONCO. Discussed the possibility of sending agents to COMISO and VITTORIA to ascertain what the situation was. This was an idea which they had not thought of before. They both stated that among the CCRR and Questura Agents there was no one that they could trust and that if they sent one of these men it was possible that he would betray them to the rebels. Gen.RONCO said that none of the CCRR in RAGUSA were like his own Div.H.Q. CCRR, 10 of which he had with him. Gen.RONCO said that he was going to place one of his platoons about 1 Km. outside RAGUSA astride the road leading to COMISO-None of his troops had been as far as this point till then. Gen.RONCO asked for additional medical personnel to be sent to RAGUSA.
Visited prison to interrogate woman who had been acting as a nurse to the rebels and who was accused of having fired on the troops. Interrogation produced no results. Questura plain clothes agent who acted as a guide to the prison was frightened to return to Prefettura on foot as he claimed that he was a marked man; he had to be escorted back in the jeep as a consequence.
14:30 hrs proceeded along road to COMISO - no traffic. Passed through the remains of several rudimentary stone road blocks erected by rebels outside RAGUSA. Countryside deserted and all houses closed up.
Continued on winding road leading down escarpment above COMISO to within about 2 kms. of town. Excellent view of COMISO, VITTORIO and surrounding countryside from this point. Observed from 15:00 hrs to 15:30 hrs.

COMISO - Town in rebel hands. Two manifestos put up in town by Comitato Provissorio del Popolo (for translation see Appendix C).
From observation point saw road block consisting of two rows of stones in position across the road entering the town from RAGUSA. From the town a few rifle shots were heard and two flares fired from a Very pistol. People and carts were using the other roads leading to the town.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG No. 785020

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VITTORIA - Situation fairly quiet in morning, action squads on duty. Commissario Prefettizio telephones MENEGO and reports situation in hand but reinforcements required.
13:30 hrs - Strong force of rebels containing elements principally from COMISO attack town with intention of capturing arms and ammunition depot.
Few shots exchanged with action squads who dispersed on arrival of rebels.
Rebels took up position in houses on outskirts of town from where they could obtain a field of fire on positions of the depot.
Rebels captured ten soldiers in town belonging to the depot garrison who were collecting rations.
The arms and ammunition depot garrison consisted of 40 troops under the command of a Maresciallo, ten of

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDD No. 185020

whom had already been taken prisoner by the rebels.
Lt.Teresio MARIANI of the Direzione di Artiglieria Palermo who had been sent to VITTORIA on 5 Jan to salvage arms and ammunition from the area was in the depot when the attack was made and immediately took over command of the garrison, gave orders for its defense, and personally placed the troops in strategic positions inside the depot.
Lt.MARIANI estimated the rebels to be about 500 strong and to be well armed. He stated that the rebels had four M.Gs.and that what appeared to be their leaders were armed with Mitra Beretta automatic rifles.
During the afternoon the rebels made six attacks on the depot. During one attack a rebel car passing by the entrance to the depot was destroyed and set on fire by hand grenades thrown by the troops, its occupants escaped though wounded. In another attack rebel elements tried to enter by the main gate, this attempt was replused by the troops with M.G. fire and hand grenades; one rebel, however, managed to get inside the perimeter defenses before he was wounded and captured, later he escaped from the civil hospital.
During the afternoon Lt.MARIANI ordered two 47 mm . German ATK guns in the depot to be used against the rebels, six rounds were fired.
The attack continued until dark when the rebels retired in the direction of COMISO, threatening to return early the next day.
About 6 soldiers were wounded, 4 rebels killed and an unascertained number wounded during the action.
The able and courageous defense of the arms and ammunition dump by Lt.MARIANI undoubtedly prevented its capture by the rebels and saved a dangerous situation in the Province from becoming critical.
Part of this attack was witnessed between 15:00 hrs and 15:30 hrs from the observation point above COMISO. At the time it was thought that it was Gen.BRISOTTO's column that was engaged.
04:00 hrs - Gen.BRISOTTO left AGRIGENTO by train with 100 troops from 16th Arty.Regt. from CALTANISETTA, 100 troops from 139 Regt. ~~Artee~~. from PALERMO and 100 troops from 22nd Arty.Regt. AGRIGENTO.
About 12:00 hrs train carrying troops arrived GELA..Here joined by troops and 4 guns that had come by road from CALTANISETTA. Guns left by road.
15:00 hrs-Train left GELA for VITTORIA.
21:00 hrs-Train arrived VITTORIA.
Quiet night at VITTORIA.

CHIARAMONTE - Small groups of rebels reported in hills above town.

SCICLI - Small groups of rebels reported in district.

SOLARINO - PALAZZOLO road - 09:00 hrs- F63 SYRACUSE received report that road mined at one point.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 185020

entrance to the depot was destroyed and set on fire by hand grenades thrown by the troops, its occupants escaped though wounded. In another attack rebel elements tried to enter by the main gate, this attempt was repluced by the troops with M.G. fire and hand grenades; one rebel, however, managed to get inside the perimeter defenses before he was wounded and captured, later he escaped from the civil hospital.
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Quiet night at VITTORIA.

CHIARAMONTE - Small groups of rebels reported in hills above town.

SCICLI - Small groups of rebels reported in district.

SCLARINO - PALAZZOLO road - 09:00 hrs- F&S SYRACUSE received report that road mined at one point, investigation later in the day showed that about one third of road had been inexpertly demolished during the night by explosives. Damage repaired during day, traffic only held up temporarily.

Wed.10 Jan:-Situation improved in all areas except COMISO which remained in rebel hands. Mopping up operations at VITTORIA. Appearance all towns passed through outwardly calm.. Telephone communication SYRACUSE-RAGUSA restored in morning.
Lt-Col.Howard, Major.Manley and Sjt.Jacobs left SYRACUSE 08:25 hrs, returning 20:15 hrs. Passing through twice during the day CASSIBILE, AVOLA, ISPICA, MODICA and visiting RAGUSA and VITTORIA.

TOP SECRET.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. T-2502

RAGUSA - Town rapidly returning normal life. Troops had not moved further than outskirts of the town. 160 rebels and suspects arrested to date.:
Called on Gen.RONCO, Prefect and Questore, Avv. Giovanni LUPIS RAGUSA socialist leader at Prefettura..
Gen.RONCO received congratulations on operations and orders for the co-ordinated attack on COMISO for 12:00 hrs on thu.11 Jan. from Gen.MARICTTI. Gen.RONCO had previous to this order planned to attack at dawn on Thu.11 Jan.
Prefect now in control and calm.
Questore had sent no agents out to rural areas to observe rebels.
12:00 hrs - Left RAGUSA for VITTORIA Via observation point above COMISO.
In afternoon Lt.Sabatini and other prisoners held by rebels at COMISO liberated and returned RAGUSA..

COMISO - No attempt to attack VITTORIA.
Early in the morning the parish priest of COMISO together with another priest went to RAGUSA as an intermediary of the rebels. At RAGUSA he told Gen. RONCO that the rebels were prepared to cease fighting if the call up was abolished and that they would return the prisoners they held. Gen.RONCO replied that his terms were :-
(a) Immediate return of the prisoners held by the rebels.
(b) All arms and ammunition in the hands of the rebels to be handed immediately to the Commissario Prefettizio in COMISO.
Priest then returned to COMISO.
In afternoon rebels released SABATINI and other Italian army prisoners.
It appears as if the rebels began to loose heart in evening and to disperse.
At 12:15 hrs observed COMISO from road leading down escarpment. Town still in rebel hands but outwardly calm, no firing, road blocks in position on road entering town from RAGUSA. Civilian traffic on other roads leading from town.
12:30 hrs - Returned to top of escarpment and took secondary road to VITTORIA thereby avoiding passage through COMISO.

VITTORIA - Order restored, troops in control, mopping up in progress. Few arrests made. Population sullen and hostile looking, most of them standing in their doorways.
13:15 hrs- Arrived at entrance to arms and ammunition depot. Heard story of previous days attack from Lt. MARIANI and then proceeded to centre of town to visit Gen.MERISOTTO. The General was found lunching with his A.D.C. and the Commissario Prefettizio for VITTORIA, former vice-sindaco of CATANIA at hotel. At

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 135028

point above COMISO.
In afternoon Lt. Sabatini and other prisoners held by rebels at COMISO liberated and returned RAGUSA..

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13:15 hrs- Arrived at entrance to arms and ammunition depot. Heard story of previous days attack from Lt. MARIANI and then proceeded to centre of town to visit Gen.BRISOTTO. The General was found lunching with his A.D.C. and the Commissario Prefettizio for VITTORIA former vice-sindaco of CATANIA at hotel. At another table the Communist leader was eating who had played a prominent part in organising the action squads. He gave the clenched fist salute on leaving room. Discussed situation with Gen.BRISOTTO, during this rifle fire and explosions from hand grenades was heard from the troops who were mopping up. Practically no rebel prisoners or suspects taken up to the time of leaving.
In town a number of pro-Fascist, anti-call up and anti-allied slogans had been written on the walls. One anti-allied slogan "A morte agli invasion", "To death with the invaders".
Called at arms and ammunition depot and were shown around by Lt.MARIANI. It has a very large perimiter and is a difficult place to defend without previously

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG No. 183020

prepared defences. Inspected German ATK guns that had been used for defense.
Left at 14:30 hrs returned to RAGUSA uneventful. Encountered people from COMISO but unable to extract any information.

CHIARAMONTE - Small groups of rebels reported in area.

SCICLI - Small groups of rebels reported in area.

ROSOLINI - A short distance after by passing town at about 18:30 hrs heard rifle shot near road.

CATANIA - In the evening supply column of vehicles on train left for RAGUSA with escort of 100 troops from 45th Regt.

Thur.11 Jan:-Situation outwardly calm to normal in all areas except COMISO which was occupied by troops without incident. Appearance of towns passed through normal. Lt-Col.Howard, Major.Manley, Capt.Baker, Sjt.Harrison and Mr.Nestor U.S. Consul General Palermo left SYRACUSE 08:15 hrs returning at 17:30 hrs; passing through twice during the day the same towns as on the 10 Jan. except VITTORIA and in addition visiting COMISO.

RAGUSA - Situation calm, U.S. continue arresting suspects.
In early morning supply column and escort arrived by road from CATANIA, having detrained at MODICA. Party arrived 11:00 hrs, called on Prefect and Gen. ROMCO, latter having lunch with his officers, several telephone calls delayed Gen. from eating and it was not until 11:40 hrs that he left the Prefettura with a small column of troops to join his troops who were then deploying on escarpment above COMISO. Party followed in rear of colum.

COMISO - Situation outwardly calm. No sign of rebels. Town occupied by Gen.BRISOTTO's troops without incident. No reaction of any sort to entry of troops by population.
Troops commence mopping up and post standing patrols at entrances to town.
12:15 hrs - Gen.ROMCO's colum followed by Allied party motored into town finding it already occupied by Gen.BRISOTTO's troops.
14:00 hrs - Party interviewed Parish Priest who acted as intermediary for rebels. Owing to his evasion of certain points that were raised failed to obtain satisfactory answers to all pertinent questions.
14:30 hrs - Party visited CCRR barracks to interrogate only rebel arrested up to this time. He was a Venetian who stated that he had crossed enemy lines

4149

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 185020

on train left for RAGUSA with escort of two troops from 45th Regt.

Thur.11 Jan:-Situation outwardly calm to normal in all areas except COMISO which was occupied by troops without incident. Appearance of towns passed through normal. Lt-Col.Howard, Major.Manley, Capt.Baker, Sjt.Harrison and Mr.Nestor U.S. Consul General Palermo left SYRACUSE 08:15 hrs returning at 17:30 hrs; passing through twice during the day the same towns as on the 10 Jan. except VITTORIA and in addition visiting COMISO.

RAGUSA - Situation calm, U.S. continue arresting suspects.
In early morning supply column and escort arrived by road from CATANIA, having detrained at MODICA. Party arrived 11:00 hrs, called on Prefect and Gen. RONCO, latter having lunch with his officers, several telephone calls delayed Gen. from eating and it was not until 11:40 hrs that he left the Prefettura with a small column of troops to join his troops who were then deploying on escarpment above COMISO. Party followed in rear of colum.

COMISO - Situation outwardly calm. No sign of rebels. Town occupied by Gen.BRISOTTO's troops without incident. No reaction of any sort to entry of troops by population.
Troops commence mopping up and post standing patrols at entrances to town.
12:15 hrs - Gen.RONCO's colum followed by Allied party motored into town finding it already occupied by Gen.BRISOTTO's troops.
14:00 hrs - Party interviewed Parish Priest who acted as intermediary for rebels. Owing to his evasion of certain points that were raised failed to obtain satisfactory answers to all pertinent questions.
14:30 hrs - Party visited CCRR barracks to interrogate only rebel arrested up to this time. He was a Venetian who stated that he had crossed enemy lines 12 days before and had come to COMISO with his wife who formerly lived there. The Maresciallo of CCRR told party that rebels had said they were expecting a drop of arms and supplies from the Germans in the DONNAFUGATA area.
Up to time party left COMISO no arms had been found by troops.
14:45 hrs - Party left COMISO returning directly to SYRACUSE.

NOTO - Few kms. south of town on return journey found two unexploded shells minus their fuzes standing up in road.

4149

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. T85020

NOTES:-

(A) On returning to SYRACUSE each evening a meeting was held at which Lt-Col.Howard and Major.Manley informed all present what they had seen during the day and what their impressions had been. Those attending the meeting each evening were as follows:-

Major.GRAY, C.C. Troops, SYRACUSE.
Capt.BAKER, 21 FSS (on 10 Jan.only).
Mr.NESTOR, U.S. Consul General, PALERMO.(on 10 Jan. only).
Genral.DE LORENZIS, G.C.C. II Bde."SABAUDA" Div.
Col.SALERNO, 145 Inf.Regt.(on 10 Jan. only).
Lt.Col.ROSSITTO, 145 Inf.Regt.
Major.RE. C.C., CORR, SYRACUSE.
Capt.AZZOLINI, Liaison Officer to C.C. Troops,SYRACUSE.
Dr.COCUZZA, Prefect of SYRACUSE Province.
Pte.COHEN, Took the minutes of the meeting.

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(B) The only telephone line between SYRACUSE and RAGUSA is an R.A.F. meteorogical one which continues to AGRIGENTO. This line was put at the disposal of the Prefect of RAGUSA during the period of the rebellion by O.C. Troops, SYRACUSE. This line was interupted for two days during the rebellion.

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(C) For translation of anti-call up leaflet circulated in RAGUSA in the month of Dec 44 see Appendix 'H'.

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(D) Reference Lt.MARIANI's estimate that the rebels were about 500 strong on page 7, it is probable that many spectators were included and that the number of rebels were at least halved.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 135028

Dr. COCUZZA, Prefect of SYRACUSE Province.
Ftc. COHEN, Took the minutes of the meeting.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NRDC NO. 18502

3. BACKGROUND AND CAUSES:-

(a) Background:-

Though Sicilians belong to the Italian race they differ in many respects from the Italians on the mainland; this can be largely accounted for by the influences left behind by the various races which have occupied the island in historical times , each of which has left its mark on the customs, language and character of the people.

Sicilians are very individualistic and selfish people who have little team or public spirit outside their own family, to which they are very closely tied, or Mafia circles, they are only loosly linked together and distrust for one another is common. They have, however, a deep individual pride in being sicilian.

Their personal character is declared to few apart from relatives and intimate associates. Sicilian "omert'a" is an impenetratable barrier to the outsider except when their tempers get the better of them.

Corruption and deceit are rife among all classes, particularly so among the rich and urban population. The contadini have the same weaknesses though they are generally hard working and industrious people

A large proportion of the people are illiterate.

From the end of the Great War until the advent of Fascism the few who were politically mature had rightist tendencies, because they felt that right politics gave protection to their vested interest. In the towns there were small groups of Socialists, principally among professional classes, and a few Communist. The most popular party was the church party known as the "Partito Popolare" under the leadership of Dr.Luigi STURZO. Seperatism as an organised movement was then unheard of. Fascism had some of its early cells in Sicily, made headway out of the prevailing unsettled conditions, the town of RAGUSA being notable for its activity.

The majority of the people remained politically immature or apolitical.

Public demonstrations and disorders were infrequent, bribery and corruption was generally practiced. Organised brigandage and Mafia activities were common, especially in certain areas.

The Fascist Government, on the whole, neglected the welfare of the island, but in certain instances, efficiency was improved, notably with the railways. The Government managed to enforce its laws through its public administration, which later became corrupt and inefficient. The CCRR were respected until recent years when they succumbed to corruption and began to loose the peoples respect. An energetic campaign was carried on against the Mafia and brigandage, and crime reduced, and public safety largely restored. 4178

The majority of the people were either apathetic, disinterested or against the Fascist wars of conquest and feared Italy's entry into the war against the Allies in 1940.

Though conditions to begin with remained fairly normal, apart from certain restrictions, in the island, the people rapidly became war weary. Allied air attacks, the

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 185020

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The majority of the people were either apathetic, disinterested or against the Fascist wars of conquest and feared Italy's entry into the war against the Allies in 1940.

Though conditions to begin with remained fairly normal,,apart from certain restrictions, in the island, the people rapidly became war weary, Allied air attacks, the arrival of German troops and finally the Axis defeats in Africa, all added to this.

A reaction to Fascism began to set in and small individual Anti-Fascist groups began to form clandestinely.

The Allied landings in Sicily though Italy was still at war with the Allies were welcomed by the majority of the people even though they heralded the defeat of Italy. They saw in them what they imagined to be a speedy solution to their sufferings and problems, especially as Allied propaganda had led them to expect an improvement in their political and economic conditions.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NND No. 785020

With the Allies came political freedom and the abolition of Fascism, Political parties formed and public meetings were held. The separatist party came to light as soon as PALERMO was occupied under the title of the Committee for the Independance of Sicily. Measures were taken to combat Fascism and remove prominent Fascist from official positions.

Quantities of Italian, German and some Allied war material was left everywhere after the speedy campaign and some time passed before its collection into dumps began. During this period certain elements, with an eye to the future, collected and hid arms and ammunition, the possession of which even in peace time is a source of pride to the Sicilian.

A.M.G. administration raised the peoples hopes to expect a new era of honest and efficient administration. They were soon dismayed to find that many former Italian officials were still in office and could not understand, firstly, why they had been retained and secondly, why many officials were still open to bribery and corruption.

The rise in the cost of living which followed and the scarcity of food encouraged both crime and black market activity. The police forces and public authorities were unable to stop its growth. The people began to become disillusioned.

During the winter 1943/44 crime and armed banditary were on the increase and there was a considerable lack of public safety in many areas.

In Feb.44, A.M.G. relinquished its administration, Sicily being returned to the control of the Italian Government with A.C.C. in an advisory capacity. MUSOTTO was appointed by the Govermont as first High Commissioner for Sicily.

The public administration without A.M.G. behind it began to loose the respect and confidence of the people and was the target for much criticism much of which was incorrect or unfair.

The seperatist claimed at different times to have the support of either Great Britain or the U.S.A. and began a new intensive political campaign together with criticism of the Italian Government. Stormy scenes took place at seperatist meetings.

The consignment of grain to the Granai del Popolo met with a poor response on account of the low price of 1000 lire per quintal for hard grain being fixed when it could be sold illicitly to the black market for more money. This resistance was encouraged by the seperatist who had support of the large "latifondisti". Another factor which may have contributed to the failure to reach the quota for each province was that the latter may have been fixed too high. At the end of Dec 44, 43% of the total quota fixed had been consigned to the Granai del Popolo, RAGUSA province, however consigned 90% of its total quota during this period.

Crime and brigandage continued. Robbery was encouraged by the rising prices and economic distress.

On the 19 Oct 44 in PALERMO, while a large crowd was demonstrating against economic conditions a hand grenade was thrown and Italian troops opened fire, thereby wounding a

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. T-8520

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On the 19 Oct 44 in PALERMO, while a large crowd was demonstrating against economic conditions a hand grenade was thrown and Italian troops opened fire, thereby wounding a number of the civilians. This incident brought forth a storm of protest and the feeling was very bitter against the troops who had taken part in the firing. Criticism against the Italian army was general, which, it was claimed, should be at the front and not firing on its own people. The seperatist used this incident as a further pretext to attack the Italian Government and claimed that it had no authority as it had not been elected by the free will of the people.

The seperatist continued with their opposition to the Italian Government and its representatives in Sicily, and encouraged the people though not openly to adopt a form of Civil disobedience

FOR SECRET.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. T8520

An Official British Government statement was made denying support of the Seperatist, though officially disclaimed the Seperatist leaders still tried to demonstrate to their less well informed followers that they were being supported by the Allies by means of associating whenever possible with Allied officers in public places and by inviting them to their homes.

Early in Dec 44 the first phase of the call up of the 1922/1923 and first quarter of the 1924 classes was begun. This brought a storm of protest and an outburst of public demonstration. In PALERMO, CATANIA and CANICATTI they lasted for several days, while at PALMA DI MONTECHIARO in AGRIGENTO province. armed demonstrators who objected against the call up held the town for 24 hrs before the CCRR and troops were able to regain control.

The Seperatist together with a large weight of public opinion encouraged the men called up, especially students, not to present themselves, but to demonstate instead. Further opposition to the call up was created by a rumour prevailing everywhere at the time that those called up were being sent to units which would go to BURMA, CHINA or JAPAN.

During Dec 44 the German counter offensive in Belgium and their small offensive in Italy gave impetus to the revival of Fascism, more of its exponents coming out into the open. Pro-Nazi elements also became active with the fabrication of rumours. These elements together with the Seperatist began using the pretext of the call up to create further unrest. Furthermore it is not unlikely that some Nazi subversive agents have been at work stirring up trouble, but there is no evidence to confirm this. Enemy agents recently dropped in Sicily and who were captured had quite different missions to accomplish.

The second phase of the call up began on 6 Jan 45 with the calling up of the 1918 to 1921 classes, this had already been postponed a few days at the request of ALDISIO who feared that further demonstrations would take place.

Demonstrations began against the call up in the main towns of RAGUSA and parts of SYRACUSE provinces on 3 Jan 45. In the remainder of the island the call up proceeded according to plan.

The series of events during the last few years combined with the Sicilian character have both contributed towards the present situation and the attitude of the population.

The people have lost confidence in themselves and in their government and are disillusioned. Furthermore they have had for some time now a completely post war outlook which makes it difficult for them to bear with the continued war conditions and to make the contributions now demanded of them to prosecute the war against the Nazis.

A growing lack of sympathy for the Allies has further added to this complex outlook.

(b) Causes:-

4147

I. The Call Up of certain classes for military service. Reasons and pretexts were:-

(a) General war weariness little or no desire to continue fighting in a war which Italy has lost, especially now that the war has moved away from Sicily.

(b) Population has reached a post war state of thinking

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. T85620

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(a) General war weariness little or no desire to continue fighting in a war which Italy has lost, especially now that the war has moved away from Sicily.
(b) Population has reached a post war state of thinking.
(c) Low rates of pay and family allowances in the Italian army.
(d) Unwilling to serve while many of their brothers and relatives are prisoners in Allied hands.
(e) The dislike for Italians by Sicilians makes them unwilling to serve in the Italian army under Italian officers.
(f) Fear because they do not know what they are being called up for and how they will be treated.
(g) Fear that they will be sent to BURMA, JAPAN or CHINA.
(h) Fear of leaving those whom they support by their earnings when economic conditions are bad and the cost of living high.
(i) Desire to be given good uniforms and boots, and to be given food and pay equal to Allied military standards.

TOP SECRET.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. T8502

(j) Short notice for call up.
(k) Desire to obtain Allied status before they fight alongside Allies.
(l) Desire to know the armistice terms

II. Political:-
(a) Italian Government has little authority.
(b) Opposition to and distrust of local Government authorities.
(c) Desire to overthrow local authorities.
(d) Separatist agitation.
(e) Recent revival of Fascism and Fascist agitation.
(f) Pro-Nazi agitation.
(g) Anti-Allied feelings.
(h) Desire to embarass the Allies.
(i) Possible activity of enemy agents.

III. Failure of local authorities:-
(a) Failure of local authorities to enforce the law and general inefficiency.
(b) Failure of local authorities to forsee trouble, make plans accordingly, and take effective measures to nip trouble in the bud.
(c) Questura and P.S. agents inefficient and fear to take strong action.
(d) CCRR have lost much of their former prestige, were inefficient and were not prepared to put up a fight when attacked.
(e) CCRR who have their wives and families in Sicily fear reprisals on them if they forcefully enforce the law.

IV. Economic Conditions:-
Economically the area affected by the rebellion is not nearly as badly off as other parts of Sicily. The majority of the population depend on agriculture for their livelyhood and have not felt inflation and food shortage the same as those who live in the large towns. Rations of bread and pasta have been distributed regularly, however, if larger quantities were available at reasonable prices, it would do much to content the population. Unemployment is slight apart from 800 asphalt miners who are out of work.
Though economic conditions were not a direct cause of the rebellion, the population complain that:-
(a) They fear that much of the grain they produce is exported to the mainland.
(b) After RAGUSA province had already consigned 90% of its grain quota to the granai, Aldisio's recent demand for a further 25 kgs of grain from the landowners and contadini's personal reserve created discontent.

V. Various:-
(a) Availability of arms and ammunition in Sicily.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NNDC No. T6502

(f) Pro-Nazi agitation.
(g) Anti-Allied feelings.
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V. Various:-
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4. FAILURE OF CCRR TO CONTROL THE SITUATION:-
(a) One of the main reasons why the disorders in the Province of RAGUSA took such a dangerous turn was that in many instances the CCRR failed to carry out their duties and in certain others were considered by the Italian Military Authorities to be guilty of cowardice. The following are examples of the above:-
(i) At RAGUSA on the morning of 7 Jan 45 the Prefect asked for reinforcements from the CCRR barracks at RAGUSA IBLEA as

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 785020

he was then besieged in the Prefettura. Lt-Col. MANDANICI, C.O., CCRR, sent out a 2nd Lt. in charge of some 60 men.

After a short skirmish at the bridge, most of them turned back and only the 2nd Lt. and 9 men reached the Prefettura.

The Prefect again telephoned to Lt-Col. MANDANICI for more reinforcements but the latter remained in barracks at the head of his men. His first appearance at the Prefettura was at 21:00 hrs after General RONCO had arrived and some time after relative order had been restored by the troops. Both the Prefect and General RONCO said plainly that they no longer considered the CCRR garrisoned in towns in the area affected to be trustworthy.

(ii) At COMISO on 7 Jan 45 some dozen CCRR commanded by a maresciallo handed their arms over to the rebels without firing a shot.

(iii) At VITTORIA a certain number of CCRR were disarmed without firing a shot on 6 Jan 45.

(iv) At RAGUSA IBLEA 5 CCRR were disarmed without firing a shot on 6 Jan 45.

(b) The previous behaviour of the CCRR in the CATANIA riots of 15 Dec 44 (not referred to in this report) coupled with the general opinion about their conduct in the RAGUSA Province affair lead one to the following generic conclusions about the CCRR in SICILY:-

(i) They have been incapable of showing the necessary determination to quell civil disorder in its initial stages and before it became dangerous.

(ii) They have lost their own self respect and the esteem of the people.

(iii) The officers are often very indifferent. The recent troubles at CATANIA and RAGUSA proved the two senior officers concerned to be at any rate inefficient and probably timid.

(iv) Both officers and men more often than not are married and have families in the towns where they are garrisoned. Since a considerable proportion of them are Sicilian this is a guarantee that they will not shoot, even in self defence, because they fear reprisals.

(v) The rank and file seem to be very old or very young. At COMISO the average age of the garrison appeared to be 40.

(vi) They are inadequately armed to deal with (a) street riots, (b) armed rebellion, and are probably bewildered by the recent regulations issued after the PALERMO riots governing their use of arms in the case of civil disorder.

5. COMMENTS ON ACTION TAKEN BY ITALIAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO RESTORE ORDER.

(a) Command:-

(i) Military action against the rebels was directed as far as possible by General MARIOTTI, G.O.C. Comando Territoriale della Sicilia from his H.Q. at PALERMO.

This was a mistake firstly because his communications by telephone with General BRISOTTO at AGRIGENTO/GELA/

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG No. 785020

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5. COMMENTS ON ACTION TAKEN BY ITALIAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO RESTORE ORDER. 6146

(a) Command:-

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This was a mistake firstly because his communications by telephone with General BRISOTTO at AGRIGENTO/GELA/VITTORIA and with General RONCO at RAGUSA were slow, uncertain and controlled by civilian exchanges, and secondly because even had his communications been good he had not the necessary knowledge of local conditions to make his control effective at such a distance.

It is surprising that a man of General MARIOTTI's experience should have failed to appreciate the necessity for complete control by the man on the spot (General RONCO) and that he should have been guilty of issuing the operation order which is attached to this report as Appendix 'D' without comment.

(ii) Efficient leadership amongst Italian Army Officers and N.C.O's is hard to find, and when found their standards differ so widely from Allied standards that its value is hard to assess.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

Without any doubt however the energy and determination of General RONCO ensured the restoration of order in RAGUSA whilst that of Lt. MARIANI saved the arms and ammunition dump at VITTORIA from being captured by the rebels.

Generally speaking most of the operations carried out by Italian Army Units large and small violated all the known principles of war.

Organisation was slow and clumsy, elementary battle drill such as embussing, debussing, field formations, street patrols, the taking up of fire positions etc., were carried out inefficiently.

No reconnaissance of any kind was made by either General or any of their officers prior to the occupation of COMISO.

The failure of Genral BRISOTTO to keep in touch, by means of reconnaissance patrols, with the rebels retiring to COMISO, after his arrival at VITTORIA at 19:00 hrs on 9 Jan., and his inertia that night and the following day ensured the effective dispersal of the rebels and the hiding of their arms.

General RONCO and more especially General BRISOTTO appeared to have little idea of handling the particular guerilla type of operation which they were required to perform, Though General RONCO, who is an able Commander, no doubt had his style cramped by General MARIOTTI's interference. He had in fact planned to surround and attack COMISO at dawn on 11 Jan. That this inability to adapt themselves to the circumstances was true of all ranks is shown by the fact that on 6 Jan., the reinforcement column of 100 men from CALTANISETTA was ambushed by the rebels, 1 officer and 2 O.R's killed and the remainder not having their rifles loaded surrendered and were disarmed after a short action in which the rebels sufferod no casualties.

(b) Staff:-

It was quite impossible to guess on visiting the H.Q's. of both the Generals concerned if there was any attempt being made to allocate staff duties even in accordance with normal Italian procedure. There was no "I" of any kind whatsoever, and in the case of General RONCO "Q" appeared to be his own personal responsibility. General BRISOTTO apparently considered an ADC sufficient for all needs. Punctuality was noticeably absent from all operations. Reinforcement and supply columns never once arrived on time during the whole course of the operations.

(c) Transport:-

The striking power of the troops employed was crippled from lack of transport. Whether there is a real lack M.T. throughout the Island or whether what there is is uneconomically employed is not known, but there was a very definate shortage in the vital area.

General DE LAURENZIS at SYRACUSE had no vehicles with which to send General RONCO urgently needed ammunition supplies on 9 Jan.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 165020

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A vital M.T. supply column destined to leave CATANIA for RAGUSA via SYRACUSE at 10:35 hrs on 10 Jan., by rail and to arrive at 14:47 hrs on the same day actually left by rail on the evening of the 10th arrived at MODICA, where it detrained, late at night and finally reached RAGUSA by road early on the morning of the 11th.

The tendancy to send M.T. columns by rail was a notable feature of all operations, and the excuse given was a shortage of fuel and the necessity for conserving tyres. The limitations imposed by time in carrying out this procedure and the risks run in adopting it are obvious.

(d) Communications:-

(i) All urgent communications between Italian H.Q's. were

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG No. 165020

carried out by telephone. No R/T is available to the Italian Army I.S. Divisions and D.R's. were not able to use roads safely.

(ii)All telephone communications were served by civilian exchanges.

(iii)The line GELA/AGRIGENTO/ PALERMO appeared to work fairly well for General BRISCTTO but General RONCO had to rely on the faulty R.A.F. line between RAGUSA and SYRACUSE - which was cut once - in order to keep in touch with his superior. All his messages had to be relayed on to PALERMO from SYRACUSE as there is no through communication.

(iv)General RONCO was working from the touring map of Italy 1/1.000.000 as issued by the R.A.C. d'Italia. No other maps were available to him or to his staff until supplied from Allied sources.

(d) Organisation and Order of Battle:-

(i) The organisation of an Internal Security Division is shown in Appendix 'E'.

The Italian Army Order of Battle for SICILY as at 5 Jan 45 is shown in Appendix 'F'.

Given the present poor road and rail communications of the Island, the lack of military transport with which sudden operational moves can be made (civilian transport is unsatisfactory in the case of civil disturbances) there would seem to be an unequal distribution of the armed forces throughout SICILY with too heavy a concentration of troops at PALERMO.

(ii) As is usual in the Italian Army when units were required to produce bodies in a hurry they were found to be very much under strength. The batallion of the 139 Regiment which arrived at RAGUSA from PALERMO on 3 Jan was 250 strong.

(iii) The fact that most of the troops employed were Sardinians from the SABAUDA Division made certain that there would be no disaffection on the part of the soldiery. The feelings between the Sicilian populace and the Sardinian troops of the SABAUDA and AOSTA Divisions have remained bitter throughout the Island since the PALERMO incidents of 19 Oct 44.

6. CONCLUSIONS:-

(a) It is difficult to draw up a balance sheet showing the relative importance of the rebellion in the Province of RAGUSA. The people, however, who bore arms during the period 5/11 Jan 45 in the Province have been accorded the name of "rebels" and the disorders called "rebellion" for the following reasons:-

(i) A definite attempt was made to besiege, attack and take over the Prefettura at RAGUSA.

(ii) At RAGUSA, COMISO and VITTORIA some of the CCRR and troops were disarmed and in the case of COMISO imprisoned.

(iii) At COMISO a provisional committee of the people was set up which drew up its own laws, called upon all citizens to obey them, and prepared to defend the town against Government forces. It referred in a public manifesto (Appendix 'G')

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 765020

(c) Organisation and Order of Battle:-

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(ii) At RAGUSA, COMISO and VITTORIA some of the CCRR and troops were disarmed and in the case of COMISO imprisoned.

(iii) At COMISO a provisional committee of the people was set up which drew up its own laws, called upon all citizens to obey them, and prepared to defend the town against Government forces. It referred in a public manifesto (Appendix 'C') to the Government forces as "the enemy" and apparently directed all activities in the area which were carried out against them.

(iv) The attack against the arms and ammunition dump at VITTORIA was a calculated attack by armed forces against Italian Army troops and organised with the object of placing at the disposal of the COMISO committee large stocks of weapons and munitions.

In short the sum total of the disorders during the period mentioned were co-orinated, if badly so, in such a way as to attempt to overthrow the representatives of the legal Italian Government at the Provincial Capital and to control a large part of the Province.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 165020

It was not a case of spontaneous "disorders" or "riots", provoked by the call up, but of rebellion, planned to force the Government to abandon it.
On the credit side for the rebels the Government was forced to employ seven days and approximately 1600 troops and CCRR in order to quell the rebellion, and of this total, 1240 had to be dispatched from other centres thus weakening the internal security at CATANIA, SYRACUSE and AGRIGENTO at an inopportune moment.
Furthermore in addition to many minor acts of sabotage some 150 soldiers or CCRR were disarmed and their weapons taken off them, 1 officer and 6 other ranks were killed and about 26 wounded, and the Government was forced to suspend the call up for the Province of RAGUSA.

(b) The three danger periods during the rebellion were as follows:-
(i) 6/7 Jan when RAGUSA town might have been taken had the rebel action been more determined and skilfull
The taking over of the Prefettura at RAGUSA by the rebels would undoubtedly have spread and prolonged the rebellion.
(ii) 9 Jan when had it not been for the able and courageous defence of the arms and ammunition depot at VITTORIA the rebellion might have been given a dangerous impetus by the capture of large stocks of war material including at least three serviceable artillery pieces.
(iii) During the whole period 5/9 Jan the area GIARATANA, CHIARAMONTE, COMISO, and VITTORIA was sufficiently under contol of the rebels to enable enemy aircraft to land at the airfields at COMISO and VITTORIA or to drop supplies or agents unhindered and unreported anywhere in the area.
The rebels at COMISO were reported by the CCRR to have stated that they expected a drop by the Germans at DONNAFUGATA.

(c) The reason for the moderate success enjoyed by the rebels may be summarised as:-
(i) The good breeding ground the Province of RAGUSA offered for discontent which was fostered by the unpopularity of the call up, by seperatism and Fascism, by the [illegible] circulation of a great number of arms and by the high cost of living.
(ii) The failure of the Civilian Authorities to forsee what form of violence the growing discontent would be likely to take and to suppress the rebellion in its initial stages.
(iii) The disgraceful and in some cases cowardly conduct of the CCRR.
(iv) The inefficiency of the Italian Army units employed.
(v) The difficulties of transport and communications facing the Italian Army Authorities.

4144

(d) The Italian Army succeeded in its task of restoring law

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4144

(d) The Italian Army succeeded in its task of restoring law and order in the Province.
It failed in its task of capturing the rebels their arms and ammunition.
It is a safe assumption that the great majority of those who took part in the rebellion will not now be found.
Whilst it is difficult to assess the numbers of rebels engaged there are probably still at large throughout the Province not less than 300 and not more than 800 well armed men who have at their disposal a few machine guns; a good number of light machine guns and sub-machine guns and considerable quantities of Italian rifles and hand grenades.

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There is no apparent lack of ammunition. Only very few of these hidden arms are likely to be recovered by either the Military or Civil Authorities. The majority of these men are now "hunted". They will go to ground either in the towns or the hills or try to join one of the brigand bands operating in SICILY. They will form a reserve of easy recruits for future disturbances should they occur. At the moment they are not organised and led, their danger is therefore only potential.

(c) Discontent, arising at present mainly from the call up, Separatist agitation, latent Fascism, and in some cases economic distress, combined with brigandage will contribute to the continuation of isolated acts of violence throughout the Island.
Such a semi permanent state of disorder is unlikely to crystallize into rebellion unless the pretext is a strong one, the moment favourable and suitable leaders emerge. The two most likely pretexts in the near future may be the call up and shortage of food, but unless grave weakness is shown by the Civil and Military Authorities disorders are likely to remain localised.

(f) Although most of the proceedings connected with the rebellion were carried out in an atmosphere of comic opera, and although the casualties on both sides were slight (see Appendix 'G') the danger which it constituted to the Allied war effort was that firstly a large tract of territory, including two airfields, was controlled by a movement hostile to the present Italian Government and possibly in a lesser degree to the Allies, and secondly that with a little more organisation and impetus a state of affairs would have arisen necessitating Allied intervention.
Since the Allies are continually seeking opportunities to drop agents North of the line and to exploit just such circumstances as happened in RAGUSA Province it is not unreasonable to suppose that where the Germans could retaliate economically they might well try to do so.

7. LESSONS BROUGHT OUT BY REBELLION:-

(a) In order to discourage activities on a similar scale breaking out elsewhere in the Island a stern example must be made of men convicted of bearing arms and of killing or wounding any members of the armed forces. SICILY which is a troublesome area to administrate should have first class prefects and questores. Inefficient or weak administrators should be weeded out now, if they exist.

(b) A complete report on the CCRR in SICILY should be made with a view to punishing officers and men who have failed in their duty during the recent disorders at CATANIA, RAGUSA and elsewhere, and to reorganising and strengthening the

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 165020

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(b) A complete report on the CCRR in SICILY should be made with a view to punishing officers and men who have failed in their duty during the recent disorders at CATANIA, RAGUSA and elsewhere, and to reorganising and strengthening the Legion in order to overcome the defects mentioned in para 4 sub para (b).

(c) The following points regarding the military organisation in the Island should be studied:-

(i) In a grave emergency the need for a delegation of full powers to the military commander on the spot by the High Commissioner for SICILY and the Comando Territoriale delle Sicilia, i.e. he must not be tied by advice from PALERMO military or civil or by regulations as to when he can open fire or upon what conditions he is allowed to use hand grenades etc.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. T 85020

(ii) The policy of strengthening garrisons by drawing off small numbers of men from units in other provinces is uneconomical.
A small mobile striking force should therefore be formed to be held as a reserve for immediate employment in cases of emergency.

(iii) Provincial Capitals must be adequately garrisoned, if necessary at the expense of other trouble centres. So long as the authority of the Prefect in his Prefettura is maintained disorders elsewhere are likely to remain localised.

(iv) The transport situation of the Comando Territoriale della Sicilia should be improved.

(v) Wireless communication should be restored to the Italian Army in SICILY for essential headquarters in order to overcome the existing difficulties of communication.

(vi) A report should be made on the organisation, equipment and efficiency of the AOSTA and SABAUDA Divisions with recommendations as to how their value for an internal security role could be increased.

(vii) An energetic press and radio campaign by the Italian Authorities preparing the people for the call up is essential. This was not in fact carried out in some of the Sicilian Provinces. In the Province of MESSINA where both the Civil and Military Authorities took great pains by means of posters, articles in the press, conferences, etc., to prepare the ground for the call up, well over the 1000 men expected, from the 1922/1923 and first quarter 1924 classes, were accepted for service with the colours.

4143

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

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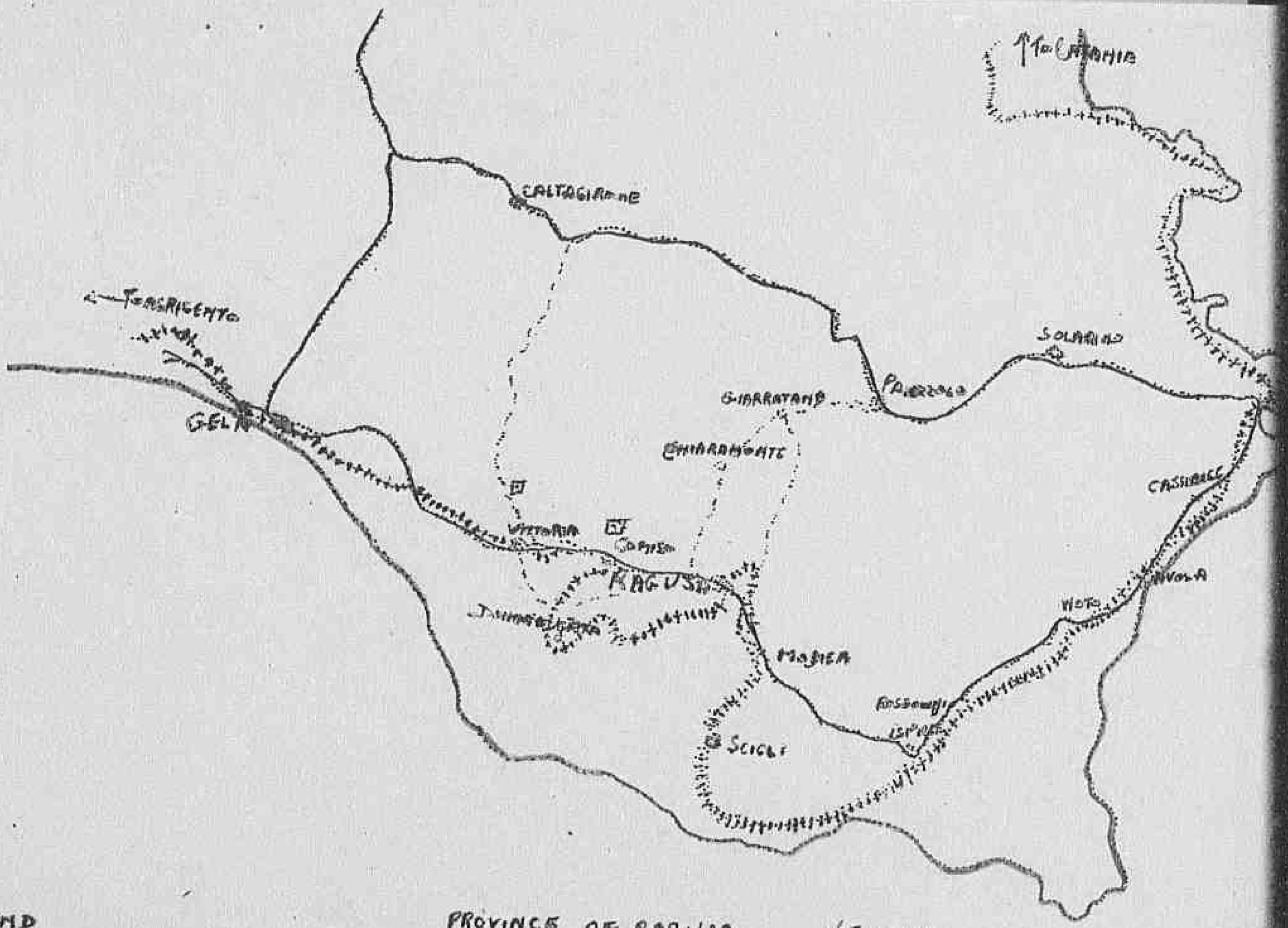
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13 Jan 45.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

APPENDIX A

APPENDIX "B"

MANIFESTO ISSUED BY Dottore MAITANA, PREFECT of RAGUSA, on 8 Jan. 1945.

The Prefect of the Province of RAGUSA.

GIVEN the particular and exceptional needs of the moment necessary to maintain normal public order at all costs throughout the Province;

GIVEN the ordinance 16.12.1944 of the High Commissioner for SICILY;

IN VIEW OF the necessity for prohibiting, until further orders can be issued, all assemblies or public meetings in public or private places;

GIVEN the ordinance 3 Jan. No. 019 Gab. di P.S.;

GIVEN the existing texts of the laws of P.S. (public order);

GIVEN article 19 of the existing urban and Provincial bye-laws;

D I R E C T S

1) - From to-day and until rescinded participation in assemblies or meetings inside or outside of houses is prohibited throughout all Provincial communes.

2) - Whoever is found spoiling or destroying this manifesto will be liable to severe punishment.

3) - The agents of Public law and order are entrusted with the rigorous application of the present order.

RAGUSA, 8 Jan. 1945.

Declassified N.D. 12065 Section 3-402/NNMC No. 185020

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GIVEN the ordinance 16.12.1944 of the High Commissioner for SICILY;

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RAGUSA, 8 Jan. 1945.

The Prefect NAITANA.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 78520

APPENDIX "C"

(A) Notice and (B) Manifesto printed in COMISO, issued by the Provisional Committee of the People, 9 Jan. 1945 and posted all over the town.

(A) N O T I C E

All citizens are warned that whoever is found in the act of robbery or of any kind of violation to rights of private property will be immediately punished by sentence of death by means of shooting in the back.

THE PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE.

(B) FELLOW CITIZENS !

In order that the uncertainty of the times should be felt as little as possible and in order that public life should rapidly return to normal you are invited to remain calm, to return to your normal occupation and to collaborate with the Provisional Committee of the People.

With reference to the above the following is established :-

1) All legislative decrees, decree-laws, laws, instructions, bye-laws and municipal instructions which are not at variance with the new decrees issued by the Committee will be neither cancelled or altered.

2) Any citizen who has complaints or suggestions etc. to make may visit the Palazzo Comunale at any time where he will be heard and helped within the limits of the present conditions.

3) All public offices will resume their normal functions as from today.

4) Curfew is re-imposed from 2000 hrs. to 0500 hrs.

5) The roads entering the town are blocked and therefore those who have to leave it for essential reasons (work, sickness, etc.) are requested to obtain a pass which will be issued by the Comune.

6) The service of public order and of night watches is

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by means of shooting in the back.

THE PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE.

(B) FELLOW CITIZENS !

In order that the uncertainty of the times should be felt as little as possible and in order that public life should rapidly return to normal you are invited to remain calm, to return to your normal occupation and to collaborate with the Provisional Committee of the People.

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6) The service of public order and of night watches is assigned to special patrols which will have the task of preventing any violation of person or property.

7) Anyone found circulating after curfew will halt when called upon to do so, will produce identity papers and justify his actions.

8) Violation of domicile, abuse of arms, robberies, treason, contact with the enemy at the present time and until further instructions are issued cancelling the present ones, will be punished by shooting: the execution to take place in the public square.

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9) Rations will be distributed normally.

10) In the case of enemy forces attacking the town the signal for "state of alarm" will be given by ringing the bells in peals of three.

CORISO, 9 January 1945.

THE PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 185020

TOP SECRET.

APPENDIX "D"

OPERATION ORDER from General MARIOTTI

to Generals RONCO and BRISOTTO

10 Jan 1945 1630 hrs.

From Comando Territoriale PALERMO
To General RONCO Ercole RAGUSA
To General BRISOTTO Silvio VITTORIA

No. 282/01 di prot. I congratulate General RONCO and the troops under his command for their determined action during the last few days which resulted in the restoration of order at RAGUSA and I inform him that a supply column is on the way in accordance with his request escorted by 100 men of the 45 Inf Regt.

I also congratulate General BRISOTTO on the occupation of VITTORIA and I wish him too to express my warmest congratulations to the personnel of the arms and munitions depot for their determined and courageous action during the rebel attack on the depot itself.

COMISO, still under control of the rebels, now remains to be liberated with the object of capturing the rebels themselves and bringing in their arms and munitions.

To this end:

General BRISOTTO will move from VITTORIA at about 0900 hrs tomorrow 11 Jan in such a way as to be able to attack the town of COMISO at about 1200 hrs.

General RONCO will arrange to block the road RAGUSA COMISO at 1200 hrs tomorrow 11 Jan with such troops as he has available, who will not push further west than the line VILLA AREZZO - CASCINA - FRASCA (reference map 1/100,000).

Signed General MARIOTTI

4139

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Signed General MARIOTTI

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TOP SECRET.

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TOP SECRET.

APPENDIX "F"

Order of Battle Italian Army in SICILY as at 5 Jan 44.

PALERMO	Territorial HQ SICILY HQ AOSTA Div 3 Bde HQ (A) 5 Inf Regt (A) 6 Inf Regt (A) 139 Inf Regt (A) less one Bn 28 Bn Engr (A) MONTEGRANERO Alpine Bn less two Coys	3 Bde (5 Inf Regt, 6 Inf Regt)
MESSINA	HQ SABAUDA Div 46 Inf Regt (S)	
CATANIA	1 Bde HQ (S) 45 Inf Regt (S) 1 Coy Alpini	1 Bde (45 Inf Regt, 46 Inf Regt)
SIRACUSA	2 Bde HQ (S) 145 Inf Regt (S)	2 Bde (145 Inf Regt, 16 Arty Regt)
RAGUSA	1 Bn 139 Inf Regt (A) 2 Coys 145 Inf Regt (S)	
CALTAGIRONE	1 Gp 16 Arty Regt (S)	
CALTANISETTA	16 Arty Regt less one gp (S)	
ENNA	139 Bn Engr (S)	
AGRIGENTO	4 Bde HQ (A)	4 Bde (22 Arty Regt, 139 Inf Regt)
TRAPANI	22 Arty Regt (A)	

Note A. It is probable that owing to guard duties, sickness, leave, absence without leave etc. not more than 1/3 of the above units were available for special duty during the emergency.

Note B. The following reinforcements were sent to the places indicated (early Dec figures refer to garrison troops).

	RAGUSA Army	RAGUSA CC.RR.	VITTORIA Army	MODICA Army	From
Early December	110	60	30		145 Regt SIRACUSA

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	139 Inf Regt (A) less one Bn 28 Bn Engr (A) MONTEGRANERO Alpine Bn less two Coys		
MESSINA	HQ SARAUDA Div 46 Inf Regt (S)		
CATANIA	1 Bde HQ (S) 45 Inf Regt (S) 1 Coy Alpini	1 Bde	(45 Inf Regt 46 Inf Regt
SIRACUSA	2 Bde HQ (S) 145 Inf Regt (S)	2 Bde	(145 Inf Regt 16 Arty Regt
RAGUSA	1 Bn 139 Inf Regt (A) 2 Coys 145 Inf Regt (S)		
CALTAGIRONE	1 Gp 16 Arty Regt (S)		
CALTANISETTA	16 Arty Regt less one gp (S)		
ENNA	139 Bn Engr (S)		
AGRIGENTO	4 Bde HQ (A)	4 Bde	(22 Arty Regt 139 Inf Regt
TRAPANI	22 Arty Regt (A)		

Note A. It is probable that owing to guard duties, sickness, leave, absence without leave etc. not more than 1/3 of the above units were available for special duty during the emergency.

Note B. The following reinforcements were sent to the places indicated (early Dec figures refer to garrison troops).

	RAGUSA Army	RAGUSA CC.RR.	VITTORIA Army	MODICA Army	From
Early December	110	60	30		145 Regt SIRACUSA
End of December	90				" " "
3 January	180			70	139 Regt RAGUSA 1 Bty C
6 "		70			125: 145 Regt SIRACUSA
7 "	225				100: 45 Regt CATANIA
7 "	30				46 Regt MESSINA
7 "	25	50			16 Regt CALTANISETTA
9 "			300		CC.RR : MESSINA and CATANIA
Totals	660*	180	330	70	

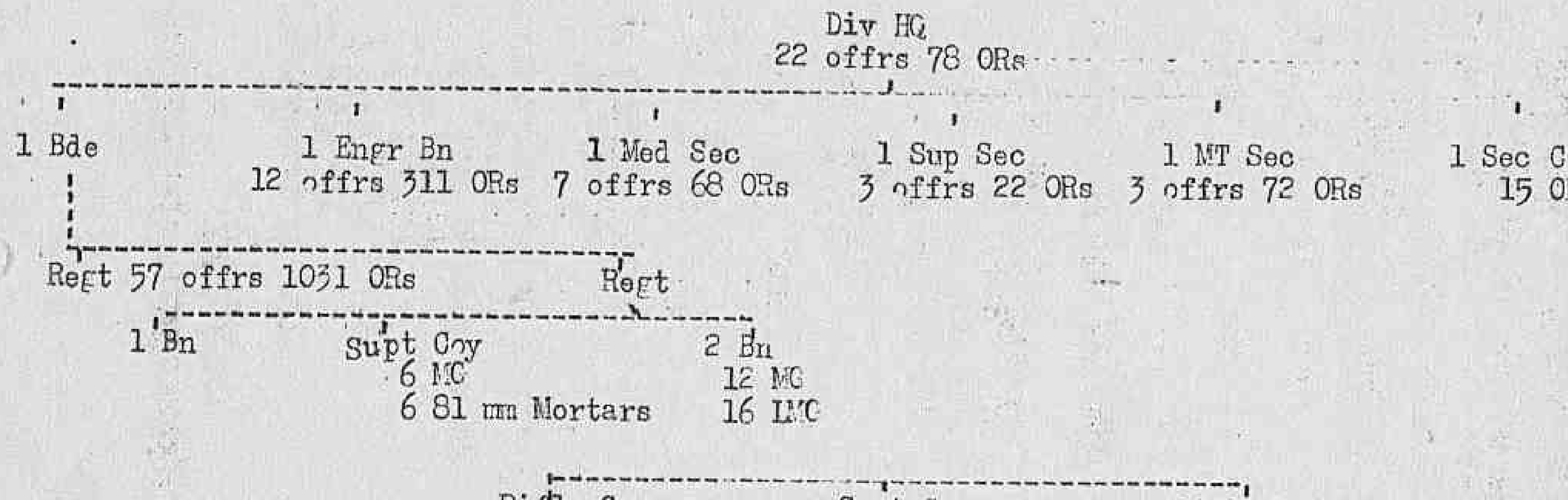
* This does not include 100 men of 16th Arty Regt sent from CALTANISETTA and diverted en route RAGUSA on 6 Jan 45 & 100 men sent from CATANIA of the 45 Inf Regt en route to a supply column on 10 Jan 45.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

W.E. Internal Security Division



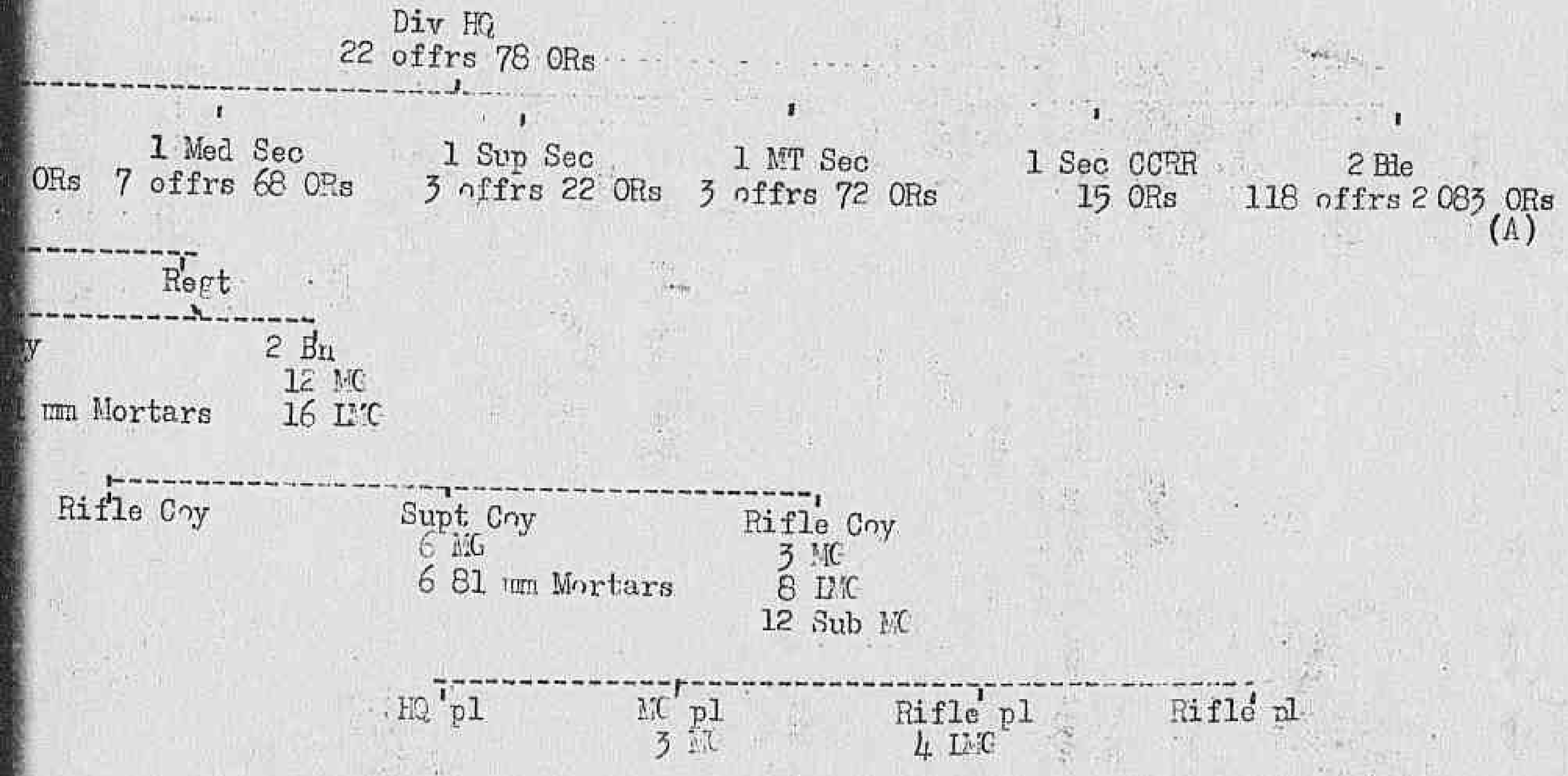
(A) includes Bde HQ

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

4138

APPENDIX "E"

W.E. Internal Security Division



Appendix 'G'.

CASUALTIES.

	Italian Armed Forces				Rebels	
	Killed		Wounded		Killed	Wounded
	Off's.	O.R's.	Off's.	O.R's.		
Reported during Rebellion:-	1.	6.		15 to 26.	5 to 13.	10 to 20.
Italian Government Official figures announced 16 Jan 45:-	2(A)	16.		24.	19.	63.

(A) Includes CCRR Lieutenant killed at NARO Province of AGRIGENTO on 13 Jan 45.

Rebels and Suspects Arrested:-

(i) The Italian Government has announced that 30 rebels have been arrested among whom are some of the leaders of the rebellion.

(ii) The Questore of RAGUSA stated that 264 rebels and suspects had been arrested of which 22 had been released in RAGUSA up to 17 Jan 45.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 785020

APPENDIX 'H'

MIMEOGRAPHED LEAFLET CIRCULATED IN RAGUSA

DEC. 1944.

An answer to "Italy at War" of . . . . .

In the gazette of the 24th of this month a criminal madman writes "Italy at War" inciting all of us the youth (of Sicily) to take up arms once again in order to expel from our martyred land the loathed nazi-fascists. To this man, a person certainly of great . . . . . we answer WE WILL NOT GO, we will not go because our hearts tell us not to, because this is our sacred will, because our feelings in absolute opposition to any kind of militarism, can only register disgust and nausea for those who, after gambling at will with the unhappy fate of an Italy miserably and shamefully capitulated, try to gamble with the life so precious and so dear to us the youth (of Sicily), the life which is the dream and hope of our beloved ones. Shame! and above all contempt for those who discarding our history, forgetting how much we have suffered and our mothers wept, urge us to take up arms, to don our uniform caked with mud, and to fight under a flag not saturated with the pure blood of those who gave their lives on the battle field crying

" . . . . . Land of my birth
the life which you gave me I hereby return to you"

but saturated with the shame of a dynastic house whose continued existence is unjustified and hateful. To the mad criminal of "Italy at War" we must affirm that our land, today as never, is pregnant with resurrected Garibaldean heroes who fought and suffered and died for the liberation of the soil of Italy, and of heroes of the Risorgimento who to their thoughts and actions added the sacrifice for the indipendence and union of Italy. Like these and like worthy sons we are ready to give all, even our lives. . . . We, the youth (of Sicily) who have already suffered too much from the frightful violence of this war are unable to consider sane he who defines it as our "sacred duty" to respond to the call to arms, we cannot but deplore him criminal who exhibiting the most cross political ignorance thinks that such a contribution to the war will give Italians the possibility of preparing the future of the country and of accelerating along the road to re-birth the fortunes of democratic and proletarian Italy. Such men are either deaf or pretend not to hear. A few days ago Anthony Eden publicly declared

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this man, a person certainly of great . . . . . we answer WE WILL NOT GO, we will not go because our hearts tell us not to, because this is our sacred will, because our feelings in absolute opposition to any kind of militarism, can only register disgust and nausea for those who, after gambling at will with the unhappy fate of an Italy miserably and shamefully capitulated, try to gamble with the life so precious and so dear to us the youth (of Sicily), the life which is the dream and hope of our beloved ones. Shame! and above all contempt for those who discarding our history, forgetting how much we have suffered and our mothers wept, urge us to take up arms, to don our uniform caked with mud, and to fight under a flag not saturated with the pure blood of those who gave their lives on the battle field crying

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For whom must we fight? For whom must we say goodbye to our dearly loved ones? For whom are we to shed our blood? Our questions can be epitomised in a single reply for those who have conquered us with shame and with betrayal, who have affirmed their imperialistic theories in every age, conquering a vast empire at the cost of the blood and sacrifice of others, and also for those opportunists who in order to maintain themselves in the saddle try the most desperate remedies.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 765020

We do not wish to go and we must not go.

The unknown author of "Italy at War" had also better realise that the future and guarantee for the liberty of our people will not be a gift of others which we do not want or aspire to, but the fruit of our titanic sufferings, of our assiduous labours and of our thirst for peace which burns within us.

YOUTH (OF SICILY) MEN AND WOMEN WHOM AN ODIOUS TYRANT IS ATTEMPTING TO BLIND, MOTHERS WHO HAVE CONSUMED THE BEST DAYS OF YOUR LIFE IN PAIN AND TEARS, WIDOWS WHO HAVE BEEN SNATCHED FROM THE AFFECTIONS OF YOUR BELOVED HUSBANDS BY THE BLOWS OF A DEVILISH WAR, WAR WOUNDED TORN AND MARTYRED IN FLESH AND BODY, UNITE WITH US, AND SWEAR WITH US, HATE, ETERNAL HATE, IMPLACABLE HATE AGAINST ANYONE WHO TRIES TO GAMBLE ONCE AGAIN WITH OUR TOO OFT TORMENTED LIVES.

Appendix 'I'.

1. Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.(MMIA).....20 Copies.
2. Mr.C.R.Radford, Chief of Intelligence P.W.B..... 2 "
3. Lt.Col.H.A.C.Howard, MMIA..... 1 Copy.
4. Major.I. Manley, P.W.B..... 1 "
5. MMIA, LO, SICILY..... 1 "

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND NO. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

SECRET

650A

ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

20/Gds
all contained in Hqrs reports.

20 January 1945

S/G/33
24/19

FILE : RC/000.5

SUBJECT: Report on Disorders in Sicily

TO : HEADQUARTERS - Allied Commission - APO 394

1. I am enclosing herewith copy of a report on the recent disorders made by my Public Safety Division.

2. I concur in this report and in order to avoid delay am forwarding it in original.

3. I would draw particular attention to the matter of troops and police being disarmed by the civil population owing to their weapons being unloaded. I have referred this matter to your Headquarters in a separate letter, my RC/000.5 of 19 January 1945.

for/ H. CAIR
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

Incls: PS Rept No. 3 - 18 January 1945

Copies for: Public Safety Sub-Commission
Land Forces Sub-Commission

4135

SECRET

SECRET

SOB.

Report Nº 3.

S/124/JTM 18th January, 1945.

Disorders in Sicily - January, 1945.

Brigadier M. Carr, C.B.E., M.C.
Regional Commissioner, Sicilia Region.
Headquarters, Allied Commission,
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

General.

1. At the end of December it was foreseen that further disorders were likely to occur in Sicily and as already reported by signal, a number of serious disturbances have taken place in the early part of the present month.

The following is a brief outline of these disorders so far as it can be illustrated with the aid of somewhat disjointed and contradictory information received from various sources, including the Carabinieri Reali, Questori, High Commissioner, Prefects, Military Commander, F.S.S., P.W.B. etc. In the first instance it should be pointed out that the disturbances mainly occurred in an area in the South-east corner of the Island, far removed from the Headquarters, and that owing to the lack of communications caused by interrupted railway services, broken telephone lines and heavy snowfall it has been extremely difficult to obtain accurate and up-to-date news of events as they occurred. In addition the operations quickly assumed a military rather than a civil character, enquiries are still in hand and the various Authorities are reluctant to submit written reports of occurrences until the results are made known of investigations now pending. In these circumstances it is requested that the information contained in this report should be treated with reserve. As and when more detailed and authentic reports become available, these will be forwarded for information.

4134

Table of Disturbances.

2. The table below shows the dates and places of demonstrations or disorders, with brief particulars of each. Where the reported facts are in conflict, those which appear the more reliable have been reproduced:-

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 125020

Regional Commissioner, Sicilia Region.
Headquarters, Allied Commission.
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

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28/12/44 - Rosolino (Catania).
250 persons demonstrated after 3 persons arrested for failing to answer call-up. Shooting occurred for the purpose of intimidating the CC.RR. and securing release of arrested persons. The CC.RR., after a shooting-duel, released prisoners and demonstration immediately ceased.

29/12/44 - S. Cono (Catania).
Population assaulted trucks carrying grain, wounding one

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 765820

driver and seizing grain. Hand-bombs thrown and guns fired by the demonstrators who ransacked local "Granai del popolo".

30/12/44 - S. Michele di Ganzeria (Catania).
Three Carabinieri fired at by unknown persons, one being killed and one seriously wounded.

1/ 1/45 - Sciacca (Agrigento).
During the night 31 Dec/1 Jan. 45 fascist wall posters appeared in Sciacca. The following day 2,000 people demonstrated against the call-up. No damage or casualties.

3/ 1/45 - Ragusa.
Demonstrators assaulted Italian soldiers and Police, throwing hand-grenades, following arrest of 9 persons for failing to report. One civilian killed and one wounded. One Carabiniere wounded and 6 persons arrested.

4/ 1/45 to 8/ 1/45
Serious riots took place following disturbance referred to above. Mass demonstrations crowds soon became excited and hostile. Local Police were overwhelmed and disarmed. 100 Italian troops coming from Caltanissetta were also disarmed. 200 additional troops sent to Ragusa and after [redacted] fighting restored public order. Casualties: Military.- 1 Officer killed; 3 soldiers, one Carabiniere, one Finance Guard killed; 15 soldiers seriously wounded. Civilians: - 5 killed, 8 wounded. Approximately 200 persons arrested. The Military Authorities did not succeed in persuading rioters to hand in their arms.

3/ 1/45 to 10/ 1/45 - Vittoria (Ragusa).
Following the arrest of 9 persons for failing to answer call-up and of 20 persons for curfew infringements, rioters damaged Railway Lines, telephone communications, etc. Demonstrators also made repeated attempts to force an entrance into the Ammunition Dump, but were repelled by the Depot Guard. Italian Troops, coming from Agrigento eventually restored order in town of Vittoria, but rioters then took to open countryside pillaging private houses and land properties. Order completely restored when other troops forced their way into the town. Casualties: 3 soldiers wounded, 3 civilians killed and 20 wounded.

4133

5/ 1/45 to 11/1/45. - Comiso (Ragusa).
1000 armed rioters took possession of town digging trenches, erecting barbed wire, mining bridges and blocking roads. The barracks of the CC.RR., Finance Guards and Questura were attacked and the Police disarmed. Italian Troops, made several attempts to enter town. Many of these soldiers were disarmed and others taken prisoners by rebels. Railway Lines and telephone

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. [illegible]

3/ 1/45 = [illegible].
Demonstrators assaulted Italian soldiers and Police, throwing hand-grenades, following arrest of 9 persons for failing to report. One civilian killed and one wounded. One Carabiniere wounded and 6 persons arrested.

4/ 1/45 to 8/ 1/45 Serious riots took place following disturbance referred to above. Mass demonstrations crowds soon became excited and hostile. Local Police were overwhelmed and disarmed. 100 Italian troops coming from Caltanissetta were also disarmed. 200 additional troops sent to Ragusa and after [redacted] fighting restored public order. Casualties: Military.- 1 Officer killed; 3 soldiers, one Carabiniere, one Finance Guard killed; 15 soldiers seriously wounded. Civilians: - 5 killed, 8 wounded. Approximately 200 persons arrested. The Military Authorities did not succeed in persuading rioters to hand in their arms.

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4133

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7/ 1/45 = Canicatti (Agrigento).
Demonstrators suddenly appeared on the streets protesting against the call-up. Communist elements broke into the Traders' Club and demanded exclusion of all Fascists.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NRSC NO. 165020

7 /1/45 - Solarino (Siracusa).
Rioters attacked grain warehouse and olive-oil Depot, causing damage.

7 /1/45 - Cassibile - Avola (Siracusa).
to 8/1 /45. Railway bridge blown up between these two places. Hand-grenades thrown at labourers repairing lines. Train attacked by rioters.

9 /1/45 - Scicly (Ragusa).
Demonstrators threw hand-grenades - no casualties.

11/1/45 - Canicatti (Agrigento).
Demonstration took place. No damages or casualties reported.

11/1/45 - Campobello di Licata. (Agrigento).
Demonstration took place. No damages or casualties reported.

11/1/45 - Naro (Agrigento).
to 13/1/45 300 rioters took possession of the town, ransacking and setting on fire the CC.RR. Barracks. CC.RR. reinforcements entered the town on the morning of the 13th and restored order. Casualties:- 2nd Lieut. DI DINO killed; 4 CC.RR. wounded; 5 civilians killed; 12 civilians wounded; 15 persons arrested.

14/1/45 - Delia (Caltanissetta).
Sudden and violent manifestation took place when 1000 persons, incited by 15 armed men, plundered grain warehouses, clothing Depots, causing damage amounting to 3 million Lire. The CC.RR. Barracks, Customs-Office and other buildings were also attacked. Reinforcements of CC.RR. and Italian soldiers entered the town and restored order early following morning. 1800 quintals of grain stolen, operations for the recovery of this grain in progress.

14/1/45 - Sommatino (Caltanissetta).
Demonstrators sacked grain-warehouses and other food stores.

In addition to the above various incidents involving damage to railways and telephone lines occurred at certain points.
Casualties: The total casualties as published in the Giornale di Sicilia dated 17th January, 1945, are shown below:-
Province of Ragusa:- killed 12 carabinieri, 1 officer, 1 non-commissioned officer, 2 troops; wounded: 15 soldiers. Rioters: killed 13, wounded 50.
Province of Agrigento: killed 1 Officer of CC.RR. wounded 4 carabinieri; Rioters: killed 5, wounded 12, 300 captured.
If the above are complete, the figures are very small

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 165020

Demonstration took place. No damages or casualties reported.

11/1/45 = Campobello di Licata, (Agrigento).
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If the above are complete, the figures are very small having regard to the scale of the operations.

Causes of Disturbances.

3. The principal cause of these disturbances has undoubtedly been the enforcement of the call-up; to this must be added the general discontent of the public over shortage of food and high cost of living, the weakness and inefficiency of the Administration also what appears to be incitement by Separatist and Fascist elements and the acts of criminals and hooligans always anxious to exploit such a situation. It should also be observed that the affected area is, politically speaking, more Communistic than any other part of the Island. In Ragusa Province it appears that many persons were particularly incensed by being called upon to hand in

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a further 25 kg. of grain, that Province having already ammassed a higher percentage of the prescribed quota than any other in the Island, viz. 90%.

Action taken in Disturbances.

4. Criticism has again been levelled against the Carabinieri Reali for their failure to cope with the situation in its early stages. At Ragusa, for example, it has been reported that only 1 officer and 9 men would turn out in response to the Prefect's call for assistance, the others declining to leave their stations. The CCRR. have been given precise instructions as to their action in the event of disorders, including the use of arms, and General Sannino is paying particular attention to these complaints in the enquiry which he is now having conducted. Whether such criticism is warranted cannot be assessed until the full facts of individual disturbances are known. It is sufficient to say at the moment that as already indicated the operations quickly achieved a military character owing to the large number of armed rioters involved and the policing agencies could hardly be expected to deal with the resulting situation. It appears that military assistance was made available as quickly as reasonably possible but it does seem that in present circumstances a fairly large force should be kept available in all provincial capitals and so avoid long journeys from places so far distant as Palermo and Agrigento as was necessary in this instance.

The following have been promised as aid:-

2 cruisers
12 light tanks
24 Armoured vehicles
24 trucks
2 Battns troops

but so far as can at present be ascertained only

6 armoured vehicles
6 trucks

have arrived.

Every effort is being made to requisition, through the Italian Authorities, 24 serviceable trucks to replace those being sent but it is very doubtful whether this number will be obtained.

Searching operations are now being conducted to gather in arms and arrest responsible persons, including those whose political activities are suspect and justify their internment by the Italian Authorities, also to concentrate and guard isolated and scattered ammunition dumps. Military patrols are being maintained in affected areas and a display of force thus demonstrated. It is understood that some 200 persons have been arrested, mostly in Ragusa City, but it is possible that some of these may be proved quite innocent after enquiries are made.

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There have been two or three minor incidents of antagonism towards Allied personnel but nothing of a definite or serious character.

The Regional Commissioner has made a personal tour of the district affected.

Future considerations.

5. For the past three days conditions throughout the Island have been reported as tranquil. The future, however, is most un-

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certain and there is no question but that widespread unrest exists among a resentful population which may lead to further demonstrations or disorders at any time. Even now this is being manifested in the shape of small demonstrations and strikes by communal and public utility undertaking employees, who complain of the non-payment of Christmas gratuities and of the difficult economic conditions. One of the most serious aspects of the recent disorders is that many armed rioters, estimated at Comiso alone as 1000, have not been disarmed and are not only in possession of the weapons originally held but also those taken from police and troops. An Order has been issued by the Prefect for all arms to be surrendered by 18th January but the latest information is that the order is not being complied with. Finding the arms will be a difficult problem and in the meantime some of these armed persons who have taken to the open country may form themselves into armed bands and endeavour to terrorise local inhabitants and travellers and take over control by such tactics. A band of 30 armed men recently held up a bus on the Licata-Agrigento road.

In these circumstances it is absolutely essential that strong Italian military forces should remain in the Island in support of the policing agencies. It is further necessary that the armoured cars and trucks promised should be supplied. The transport now in possession of policing agencies is in poor condition and the greatest need at the moment, in this connection, is tyres and tubes. Provided the food and economic situation does not worsen and energetic action is taken to (a) search for leaders of recent riots, including political elements, (b) to collect arms and (c) to display a sufficiently strong patrolling force to convince the public that the Authorities intend to maintain law and order and are in a position to do so; the present precarious situation may be prevented from deteriorating, but in the meantime conditions are most uncertain. It has been reported that the call-up figures in Catania have much improved, viz: of the 2910 men in the 1922-24 classes who were liable to report, 2284 have done so. This would seem to indicate that the reaction to the call-up will not continue as the chief cause of discontent and that if the food and economical situation can be ameliorated, then a return to more normal conditions in Sicily can be expected.

J. T. MANUEL,
Major,
Public Safety Officer.

4130

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 185020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: GO 224

Date/Time of Origin: JAN 231945

Message Centre No: C/9137

Date Time Rec'd: JAN 24 0930

Precedence:

FROM: DISTRIB

TO : AFHQ (G30AS) INFO AFHQ (G2 C1) AICOM - MMIA - MMIA LO

CONFIDENTIAL

INFO - ACTION

CONFIDENTIAL.

Signal dated 19 January from Allied Crn Comd SARDINIA states anti call up demonstrations occurred CAGLIARI 18 January. Town reported quiet on 19 January

DIST

INFO-ACTION	P SAFETY
"	L FORCES (2)
INFO	A/PRESIDENT
	CHIEF COMMISSIONER
	CoS
	C A SEC
	POL SEC
	P R BR
	NAVY
	AIR
	ETIR

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS 24 JAN 1945

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

FROM: AICOM SICILY REGION PALERMO (CARR) CITE RPS 87

TO : HQ AICOM

INFO: P SAFETY SC ROME

210700A

C/8810

SECRET

1. BEGINNING 21 JANUARY ENERGETIC ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ITALIAN GOVT COLLECT MEN FAILING ANSWER CALL UP (.)

2. FURTHER DISORDERS MAY OCCUR

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

AC DIST.: Action Pub Safety
Info A/President; Chief Commissioner; C o S; C.A.Sec; Land Forces; File (2); FLOAT.

WS

22 Jan 48

(1)

SD DIST.: S/G/33 (Action Copy)
SD/50; FLOAT

4129

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 78502D

SECRET

L-F 37/21

C/ 8810

CITE HKG 87

JAN 21 07:00A

JAN

ROUTINE

AIRGRAM DIRECTLY FROM CONSUL PALERMO (GAMBY)

TO AIRGRAM SET E SAFETY SO ROME

SD 21/1

SECRET.

1. Beginning 21 January energetic action will be taken Italian Govt collect mem failing answer call up.

2. Further disorders may occur.

AG DIST.

Action Pub Safety

Info A/President
Chief Commissioner
C S S
C.A.Sec
Land Forces
File (2)
Fleet

Sd Dublin

Action copy :- S/G/33
SD/50
Fleet
} 3 copies

HEADQUARTERS
21 JAN 1950
4128

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 725020

47

COPY

FROM: ALCOM SARDINIA REGION, CAGLIARI

TO : HQ ALCOM 202110A

S/8765 CONFIDENTIAL

SPECIAL SITREP (.) 1 KILLED 11 INJURED IN ANTI-CALL UP LAW DEMONSTRATION HELD CAGLIARI 18 JANUARY (.) CITY NOW QUIET

Dist:

Action - P Safety
Info - A/Pres
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
Pol Sec
P R Br
Navy
L. Forces
Air
File

ws

SD DIST.: G/G/33 (Action Copy)
SD/50
FLOAT

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

CONFIDENTIAL

35/21

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

ALGIERS GENERAL PRIORITY, CASERTA

TO ALGIERS

CONFIDENTIAL.

Special Allroy. 4 killed 11 injured in anti-Jewish demonstration held CASERTA 4th January. City now quiet.

Distn

Action :- Safety
Info :- A/Press
Chief Commissioner
P & S
GA Sec
Pol Sec
P & Sy
Navy
Air Forces
Air
File

Action Copy :- S/G/33
S&P/50
Gloat.
} 3 copies.

HEADQUARTERS 1ST JAN 1945 A.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

4126

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

LAND FORCES 40

HEADQUARTERS
20 JAN 1945
A. C.

ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

8/6/33.

FILE:RC/000.5

18 Jan 1945

SUBJECT: situation in Sicily

TO : Headquarters Allied Commission
ROME

1. I am enclosing copy of a letter from General SANNINO, Commander of 3rd Division CC.RR sent to me after an interview with him on 15 JAN.
As pointed out in the attached letter, the 3rd Division Commander has transferred his Headquarters to SICILY in order to keep in close touch with the situation here.

2. I concur in the view expressed as to the seriousness of the situation. Although tranquil at the moment, the situation has serious possibilities which call for considerable improvement in the forces of public order. The break-down of law and order in CATANIA, ALCAMO and other places during the disorders in December and features in the disorders which have recently taken place in the province of RAGUSA during the month have given positive proof of the ineffectiveness of the police and of the CC.RR., as has already been pointed out in my reports.

3. As regards para 2 of the attached letter, I have no information which would confirm that the recent disorders are the result of direct organization by the separatists. In my opinion, the fundamental reason for the recent outbreaks is that the Sicilian does not wish to leave his home and fight on the mainland. I consider that this call-up or some other action by the central Italian government can cause further outbreaks of violence.
One of the most difficult and pressing problems is the quantity of arms and ammunition in illegal possession of the civil population.

4. As regards the CC.RR (and the police forces generally) it seems clear that they must be strengthened both morally and materially. The transfer of the Divisional Commander seems to be a move towards improving and strengthening the discipline and morale of the CC.RR.

4125

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. T85020

With regard to equipment, I concur in the view that better communications are an urgent necessity and that more mobility is required. 24 trucks, 24 armored cars (or tanks) and 2 Battalions of troops have been assigned to SICILY. As yet only 6 armored cars have arrived. I trust that these reinforcements will be despatched at the earliest possible date.

M. Carr Brigadier

M. CARR
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

1 Encl-
Letter(copy) General Sannino to Brigadier Carr N.324/32,15 JAN 45 re situation in Sicily).

Copies TO: Public Safety Subcommission
Land Forces Subcommission

4124

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 725020

COPIA

COMANDO 3a DIVISIONE CARABINIERI REALI

N.324/32 di prot.Ris. Palermo, li 15 gennaio 1945

OGGETTO: Situazione in Sicilia.

Sig. Brigadier M. Carr. C.B.E., M.C.
Regional Commissioner
H.Q. Sicilia Region

A.F.O. 394

Mi riferisco alla conversazione che ho avuto questa mattina con V.S. per porre in evidenza i seguenti argomenti:

1)- mi sono trasferito dalla mia sede di Napoli a Palermo per seguire piu' direttamente la situazione che si e' determinata in Sicilia;

2)- gli avvenimenti di questi ultimi giorni dimostrano come debba esistere una vera e propria direzione dei movimenti, organizzata dal separatismo che, profittando del malcontento e del disagio, ed accoppiandosi a correnti filofasciste e sabotatrici della nostra guerra, ha mobilitato le sue forze, dimostrando una capacita' organizzativa ed aggressiva, che sarebbe pericoloso trascurare;

3)- i fatti verificatisi a Catania ed il comportamento tenuto nella circostanza dai carabinieri hanno formato oggetto di accurate verifiche con proposte di esemplare rigore verso i responsabili;

4)- anche i tumulti e le violenze che si sono riscontrate in questi giorni in varie localita' della Sicilia, sono attualmente oggetto di accurate verifiche per esaminare se in tutte le circostanze i carabinieri abbiano fatto il loro dovere;

5)- non e' assolutamente ammissibile che vi possano essere ormai incertezze da parte dei carabinieri sul modo di comportarsi di fronte ai disordini, e sull'uso delle armi che essi hanno in consegna. Il comando generale dei carabinieri ha gia' da tempo dato istruzioni precise ed inequivocabili in base alle quali l'arma deve agire con la massima energia, occorrendo anche con le armi, in modo da non essere assolutamente sopraffatta dai rivoltosi. Queste istruzioni sono state ripetute a tutti i carabinieri e quindi chi non vi ottempera incorre in mancanza che sara' esemplarmente repressa; 1123

6)- posto quanto precede, V.S. sara' indubbiamente d'accordo con

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me che la obbedienza a questi ordini da parte dei carabinieri sara' tanto piu' facile quanto piu' elevato potra' essere il loro morale, e quanto piu' forte sara' la certezza di potere avere ragione sui rivoltosi;

7)- a questo riguardo debbo soggiungere a V.S. come purtroppo i mezzi di cui attualmente disponiamo non siano proporzionati alla gravita' ed estensione dei disordini che si sono verificati, ed a quelli che si potranno probabilmente verificare anche in seguito, in tutto il resto della Sicilia;

8)- si deve infatti tener presente che circa il 70% dei comandi dei carabinieri non disponendo di telefono, si trova spesso a dovere improvvisamente fronteggiare con pochissimi militari, gravi tumulti di alcune migliaia di dimostranti potentemente armati, senza alcuna possibilita', per mancanza di telefono, di chiedere rinforzi. questo fatto non puo' non influire sul morale del nostro personale e talvolta sull'incerto suo comportamento;

9)- molti comandi dei carabinieri non dispongono di automezzi(autovetture, autocarri, motocicli) o quelli che hanno in distribuzione sono pressoche' inservibili;

10)- mentre per ordine del comando generale dei carabinieri sono gia' da qualche tempo in atto provvedimenti per il potenziamento dei carabinieri in questa isola, io non posso fare a meno di prospettare alla S.V. come un concorso da parte del Governo Alleato nel fornire apparecchi radio ed automezzi ai carabinieri della Sicilia sarebbe utilissimo ai fini del mantenimento dell'ordine in questa isola, cosi' minacciosamente compromesso.

IL GENERALE COMANDANTE

/t/ (Ernesto Sannino)

/s/ E. Sannino

4122

46

TRANSLATION

From HQ 3rd Div CC RR Ref 324/32

To Brig M Carr HQ Sicilien Region Date 15, 1. 45

Subject: Situation in Sicily
I

I beg to refer to the conversation I had with you this morning and to put forward the following arguments:

1. I have moved from my Hq in Naples to Palermo in order to follow more closely the situation which has arisen in Sicily.

2. Events of the last few days prove that there must exist a real and proper leadership of the movement, organized by separatism, which, taking advantage of discontent and of the situation, and joing forces with the Fascist xxx and sabotaging group which hinders our war effort, has mobilised its forces showing an organizing capacity and agressive qualities which it would be dangerous to overlook.

3. Events which have taken place in Catania and the behavior of the carabinieri under the circumstances have been the subject of a careful inquiry with the proposal of exemplary disciplinary severity against the culprits.

4. The riots and violence which have taken place in these days in various localities in Sicily are at present being carefully investigated in order to ascertain if in all circumstance the Carabinieri have done their duty.

5. It absolutely cannot be tolerated that there should be today any doubts on the part of the carabinieri on how they should act when faced with disorder and on wf what use they should make of the arms they have on charge. GHQ of the CC RR have long ago issued exact and unmistakable instrs. in accordance with which the CC RR should act most energetically even with their arms in such a way that they should under no circumstances be overcome by the rioters. These instrs have been repeated to all the CC RR and consequently anyone not obeying them will be the subject of exemplary disciplinary action.

6. With all the above in view you will no doubt agree with me that compliance with those orders by the CC RR will be easier in proportion to the height to which their morale can be lifted and in proportion to their assurance of being able to enforce their reason on the rioters.

7. In this respect I would like to add that unfortunately the means at our disposal at present are not proportionate to the seriousness and extention of the disorders which have taken place and of those which will probably take place possibly in the near future and in all the rest of Sicily.

8. One must bear in mind that about 70% of the CC RR stations have no telephones and consequently it is often the case that unexpectdly very few men have to meet and quell grave revolts involving a few thousand people well armed being unable owing to the lack of a telephone to ask for rfts. This state of affairs cannot possibly lift the morale of our personnel and may even often affect their behavior. 121

9. Many CC RR stations have no vehs (cars, lorries or m/c's) or those vehs that they have got on charge are practically useless.

10. Though by order of the CC RR GHQ measures are already being taken to increase the strength of the CCRR on the island I feel that I cannot but suggest to you that cooperation on the part of the Allied Govt in the form of

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 1-402/NND No. 785020

the fascist ~~war~~ and sabotaging group which hinders our war effort, has mobilised its forces showing an organizing capacity and agressive qualities which it would be dangerous to overlook.

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10. Though by order of the CC RR GHQ measures are already being taken to increase the strength of the CCRR on the island I feel that I cannot but suggest to you that cooperation on the part of the Allied Govt in the form of supplying wireless sets and vehs to the CC RR in Sicily would be most useful to further the maintaince of order in this island which is at present under a dire threat.

The General Commanding

/s/ E. ~~SANNINO~~

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 185020

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

FROM LC/GT MMIA LO MANTOVA GP 161700

TC MMIA

INFO 20A SUB AREA, MMIA LO SICILY

45

MII. SECRET

(For IMOLEDEW ?) FROM HOWARD

Long reports by Telephone MARIOTTI is NOT calling up classes 14 to 17 at present. MARIOTTI states his othy is BONOMI via ALDISIO. He further states he will be unable call up older classes until arms cars all available and 2 Bns at present CALABRIA return to island. Meantime energetic steps will be taken as from 21 Jan to bring in balance classes 18 to 24 not reported. General MORO considers numbers likely to be accepted from older classes will not justify risk of widespread disorders likely result from calling them up. I agree with him. If MARIOTTIS action with which I agree is contrary to Allied Policy please signal instrs to LONG as I am shortly resuming tour of provinces. Will telephone from PALERMO about 22 Jan. Report on rebbelion RAGUSA province will be forwarded 19 Jan.

IMMEDIATE

SD DISTR:
A/C SD/49
SD/50
S/C/33
Flont

4120

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDO NO. 785020

(COPY)

244

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

TO: AC HQ - ROME

FROM: ALCOM SICILY REGION PALERMO

I6 I9I5 A

OFFICE OF ORIGIN ITALIAN CIPHER

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

LONG MMIA LO SICILY TO MMIA ROME CITE I982/15
SECRET (.) HAVE JUST CONFERRED WITH GENERAL MARIOTTI (.) HE HAS POSTPONED CALL UP OF I9I4 TO I9I7 CLASSES TO AVOID FURTHER ~~EXTERRERNEXTEXTES~~ DISTURBANCES PENAUTHORITY THE PRIME MINISTER (.) REASON GIVEN IS THAT HIS PRESENT TROOPS ARE UNABLE TO COPE WITH THE SITUATION THAT HE AWAITS TWO BNS OF THE 45 AND 6 REGIMENTS DUE SHORTLY FROM CALABRIA AND TANKS DUE SOON FROM SARDINIA (.) FURTHER THAT SOME DISTRICTS HAVE PRODUCED GOOD RESULTS WHILE OTHERS HAVE NOT AND WOULD BE UNFAIR TO CALL FURTHER ON THE GOOD DISTRICTS FOR THE OLDER MEN UNTIL ALL DISTRICTS COME UP TO PAR HE PLANS TO WAIT UNTIL 20 JANUARY THEN BEGIN ARRESTS OF SHIRKERS (.) PLEASE ADVISE

SD DISTRIBUTION
A/C SD/49
S/G/33
SD/50

4119

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

43

ALCOM SICILIA REGION (CARR)

HQ ALCOM FOR VICE PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

171530A

KEE
G/8305

RESTRICTED

R18/1

1. SUBJECT IS RECENT DISORDERS (.)

2. REGIONAL COMMISSIONER HAS MADE PERSONAL TOUR OF DISTRICT AFFECTED AND INFORMATION WILL BE INCLUDED IN GENERAL REPORT NOW BEING COMPILED

P Jam
REF

cgl

DISTR:
S/G/33
SD/50
Fleet

DIST:
Action CA Sec
Info A/President
Chief Commissioner
C of S
Pol Sec
P Safety
Navy
Land Forces
Air
PRO
File

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

RESTRICTED

2 6/18 L F

CITE REC-176
JAN 171536Z

S/S305
JAN 171845Z
ROUTINE

ALGER (TELL) REICH (DARR)
EA ALGUN FOR VICE PRESIDENT ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION

FOR INFORMATION

RESTRICTED.

1. Subject is recent disorders.

2. Regional Commissioner has made personal tour of district affected and information will be included in general report now being compiled.

FOR INFORMATION

Dist

Action - CA Sec
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
S & S
Pol Sec
E Safety
Navy
Land Forces
Air
PRO
File

A/C S/6/33 } 3
S&S/50 } copies
Hoel }

RECEIVED
DEC 19 1945
A.

4118

RESTRICTED

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

RESTRICTED

40/17 S2

LAND FORCES 42

XDS 85
SAN 16/1705A

O/S268
SAN 17/1300

FOR INFORMATION ONLY ROUTINE

ALTOM SICILY REGION (SAIN)

MG ALOG AND PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION REPORT FOR INFO: MG 304 MGB AREA AND UNRRA PALERMO

6

1311

RESTRICTED.

1. Special Mtrgp.

2. Civil situation in SICILY remains delicate they are no disorders reported in progress at present.

3. Searching operations continue in the Provinces of AGRIGENTO and RAGUSA

4. Daily sitrep will not be continued but any changes in the situation will be reported.

SD Distn

A/c S/6133 ← 1 copy Pls.
SD 15. } 1 copy

13 Jan
RE

WAR

Actions: P. Safety
Infos: A/President
Chief Commissioner
Na Sec
Navy
Land S.
Air
F. O.
Political
File

4117

HEADQUARTERS
17 JAN 1945
A. C.

RESTRICTED

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

RESTRICTED

CITE MDR-84

JAN 161625

0/8145

JAN 161700

IMPORTANT | PRIORITY

ALCOM SICILIA REGION (CAIRO)

RE ALCOM RPT TO PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION AND IG 294 SUB AREA AND UNDER PARTICO

SD

INFO - ACTION ONLY

RESTRICTED.

Special sitrep.

Para 1. Disorder reported at DILI, CAITAMESETA Province on 14 January. Order restored on morning of 15 January by Carabinieri.

Para 2. Position at CAITAMESETA and SORGESIO described as uneasy.

Para 3. Remainder of island ntr

INFO ACTION ONLY

LIST 4116

ACTION P SAFETY
INFO A/PRESIDENT
CAIRO COMMISSIONER
CoS
C & SEC
NAVY
I FORCES
AIR
PRO
MIA

S/S Distr
A/C 8/6/33 } 1 copy
SD/50

18 Jan
DLR

RESTRICTED

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 725020

40

COPY

FROM: ALCOM SICILIA REGION (CARR)

TO : HQ ALCOM ROME (H) P SAFETY SC 151230A

INFO: P SAFETY SC
HQ 204 SUB AREA AND USNOS PALERMO

CITE RPE 83

RESTRICTED

Special Sitrep.

1. Situation NAGUSA Province remains tranquil.

2. Disorder at NARC AGRIGENTO Province now quelled and situation in hand.

3. Unrest reported at CAMPOBELLO DI LICATA and CANICATTI AGRIGENTO Province.

4. Remainder of Island NTR.

PRECEDENCE PRIORITY

Dist: Action - P Safety
Info- A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
Pol Sec
PRO
Navy
L Forces
Air
File

16 Jan RER

ws

4115

SD DIST.: S/G/33; SD/50; FLOAT

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

RESTRICTED

C/8011
Land Forces.

42/1/2

JAN 151230A
PRIORITY

FROM ALLIED REGION (NAME)
TO ALLIED MISS (X) P SAFETY SO ZPZ for ZIPO: HQ 2C4 OUR AREA AND USNOB PALERMO

RESTRICTED.

Special Survey.

1. Situation REGULA Province remains tranquil.

2. Disorder at SANTO STEFANO Province now quelled and situation in hand.

3. Unrest reported at CASTROLLO DI LIGATA and CANICATTI AGRIGENTO Province.

4. Remainder of Island NIL.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

SD Rich

5/9/33
SD/Sq Head

3 Copies

HEADQUARTERS
15 JAN 1945
A.
C.

Dist

Action - P Safety
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
C & I
GA Sec
Pol Sec
PHO
Navy
L Forces
Air
File

4114

RESTRICTED

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

39

COPY

FROM: DISTHREE DATE/TIME 151210 A

TO : AFHQ (G-3 Ops)

INFO: AFHQ(G2-CI) ALCOM MMIA MMIA LO

GO 102

RESTRICTED

REF THIS HQ GO54 DATED 15 (*) FIRST COMPOBELLA DI LICATA AND CANICATTI NOW QUIET (*) SECOND (*) REMAINDER OF ISLAND NT (*) THIRD (*) NO FURTHER SITREPS BEING ISSUED

4113

MMIA SD DIST: S/G/33 action
SB/50 info
Fleet info

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

384

FROM: LONG MMIA LO SICILY

TO : MMIA ROME 131115A

CITE 1082/11

FOLLOWING REPORT BY DISTRICTS FOR REF.N. 11 JANUARY PALERMO REPORTED 130 ACCEPTED 43 (.) MESSINA REPORTED 119 ACCEPTED 74 (.) CATANIA REPORTED 184 ACCEPTED 78 (.) TRAPANI REPORTED 2 ACCEPTED NONE (.) SIRACUSA REPORTED 20 ACCEPTED 9 (.) ENNA REPORTED 71 ACCEPTED 5 (.) CALTANISSETTA REPORTED 27 ACCEPTED 23 (.) ALL ACCEPTERS SIGNALED YOU (?)(?) (.) HAVE BEEN SHIFTED (???) REGGIO (.) NEW SUBJECT (.) DISORDER BROKEN OUT IN NAPO (.) CC.RR UNABLE TO ENTER TOWN BECAUSE OF MACHINE GUN FIRE (.) NO REPORT FROM REST OF ISLAND

WB

RCT

SD DIST.: SD/49 A/C
S/G/33 A/C
SD/50
FLOAT

16 Jan RCR 4112

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

53/15

Originator's Reference: GC 102
Date Time of Origin: JAN 151210A

Message Centre No: C/8018
Date Time Rec'd: JAN 151347A
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: DISTHREE

TO : AFHQ (G3 OPS) INFO: AFHQ (G2 -CI), ALCOM, MAIA, MAIA LO

G
15/1

RESTRICTED INFO - ACTION

RESTRICTED.

Ref this Hq C094 dated 13.

1. CAMPOBELLA DI MICATA and CANICATTI now quiet.
2. Remainder of Island Ntr.
3. No further Sitreps being issued.

Dist

Info-Action - P Safety
" MAIA
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
Navy
Air
PRB
Political
File

INFO - ACTION

So Dist

A/c S/G(33) 33
S/(50) } copies
Cour

HEADQUARTERS
15 JAN 1945
A. C.

4111

RESTRICTED

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

Copy

4636

FROM : DISTHREE 14 1225 A

TO : AFHQ (G3 OPS)
INFO : AFHQ (G2-C1). ALCOM,MMIA,LMIA LO.

REF GO 94 RESTRICTED

Ref our GO 79 of 13 January (.)

1. Reported minor unrest at COMPOBELLA DI LICATA and CANNIGATTI G 8662 (.) Details awaited (.)

2. Remainder Island NTR.

SD dist: S/G/33 ← 16 Dec
SD/50
Fleet

Dist:
Info-Action) F Safety
MMIA
Info A/President
Chief commissioner
CoS Air
CA Sec ERO
Navy POL
File 119

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

INCOMING MESSAGE

24/15 MMIA

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: CC 94
Date Time of Origin: JAN 141225A

Message Centre No: C/7950
Date Time Rec'd: JAN 141853A
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: DISTHREE

TO : AFHQ (G3 OPS) INFO: AFHQ (G2-C1) AICOM, MMIA, MMIA LO

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

INFO - ACTION

Ref our C079 of 13 January.

1. Reported minor unrest at COMPOBELLA DI LICATA and CANICATTI C 8662. Details awaited.

2. Remainder Island NTR.

INFO - ACTION

Dist

Info-Action - P Safety
MMIA
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
Navy
Air
PRO
Pol
File

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
JAN 1945
A. C.

4109

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

FROM AlCOM SICILY REGION (CARR)

TO HQ ALCOM RPT TO PUB SAFETY SC HQ 204 Sub Area USNOB PALERMO

Cite RPS 82

RESTRICTED

1. Special Sitrap. RAGUSA province reported returning to normal but operations inprogress against rioters who have taken to country.

2. Order given by military commander to surrender arms but none recovered.

3. CATANIA quiet.

4. Disorders reported at NARA and CANICATTI both in AGRIGENTO Province. Rfts sent to both places. Communications difficult owing to heavy snowfall & damage to telephone lines.

5. Report received of atta on British soldier now in hospital suffering from knife wounds but not serious. Motive of attack unknown. Enuiries in hand.

6. Remainder of Island NTR.

ACTION

EK SD DISTR: A/C S/G/33, SD/50, Float

16 Jan
TOR
4108

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

RESTRICTED 5914 L.F.

CITE RNR 82
JAN 1,1500A

C/TSOS
JAN 14 1520A
PRIORITY

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

ALGOA SCUTARI REGION (GAUR)

R. ALGOA RPT TO P SAFETY TO RR 304 SUB AREA AND TO UNDER PASSED

5D
14/1

RESTRICTED.

1. Special Situy. Kaiwan provinces reported returning to normal but operations in progress against rioters who have taken to country.

2. Order given by military commander to surrender arms but some recovered.

3. CATANIA quiet.

4. Disorders reported at RAGA and CANICATTI both in AGRIGENTO Province. Reinforcements sent to both places. Communications difficult owing to heavy snowfall and damage to telephone lines.

5. Report received of attack on British soldier now in hospital suffering from knife wounds but not serious. Native of attack unknown. Enquiries in hand.

6. Remainder of Twland NTR.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

HEADQUARTERS
14 JAN 1945

4107

Dist

Action - P Safety
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
Navy SO
Land Forces
Air
P R Br
Political Sec
File

1. [illegible] Dixie

AM 2/16/33 2 3
W/So
Flood

RESTRICTED

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

FROM ALCOM SICILIA[illegible]GION (CARR)

TO HQ ALCOM & PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COM

RPT 204 Sub Area and USNOB PALERMO

CITE RPS-80

RESTRICTED

1. Special sitrap RAGUSA Province 12 Jan.

2. Italian tps entered COMISO on 11 Jan without resistance.

3. Some rioters have taken to open country. Operations now in progress to restore order throughout RAGUSA Province.

4. Disorder reported evening of 11 Jan at FARA, AGRIGENTO.

5. Carg binieri reinforcements sent.

6. Unrest also reported at CATANIA but no disorder there at present.

EK SD DISTR: S/G/33, SD/50, Float

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

RESTRICTED

48/14
34

LAND FORCES

CITE RED-80
JAN 121650A

0/7056
JAN 141128A
ROUTINE

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

ALCOM SICILY REGION (CARC)

HEADQUARTERS ALCOM AND PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMISSION REPEAT TO 2CA SUB AREA AND TUNIS PALERMO

RESTRICTED.

1. Special sitrep RAGUSA Province 12 January.

2. Italian tps entered COMISO on 11 January without resistance.

3. Some rioters have taken to open country. Operations now in progress to restore order throughout RAGUSA Province.

4. Disorder reported evening of 11 January at PARA, AGRIGENTO.

5. Carabinieri reinforcements sent.

6. Unrest also reported at CATANIA but no disorder there at present.

HEADQUARTERS
13 JAN 1945
A. C.

SJ Divin
5/6/23
SD/50
Hoar.

DIST

ACTION: P.Safety
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
G.S.O.2.
G.S.O. Sec
Navy
Land Forces
Air S/C
PRO
Pol
File

4105

RESTRICTED

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

58/1 Land Forces 33

Originator's Reference: CITE 1082/10
Date/Time of Origin: JAN NET

Message Centre No: C/7890
Date Time Rec'd: JAN 141340A
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: ALCOM SICILIA REGION PALERMO, MMIA LO SICILIA
TO : ALCOM HQ, TO MMIA ROME

SD
14/1

SECRET

SECRET.

Report for 10 January. PALERMO reported 176 accepted 99. MESSINA reported 160 accepted 45. CATANIA reported 161 accepted 63 TRAPANI reported 49 accepted 22. RAGUSA reported 35 accepted 14. CALTANISSETTA reported 41 accepted 41.

New subject.

300 troops from AGRIGENTO entered VITTORIA early 1° time (?) January. Casualties reported troops wounded 3 civilians wounded 20 killed 3. COMISO held by rioters. Italian troops grouping on VITTORIA COMISO road for operations.

ACTION

Dist

15 Jan
RER

Action - Land Forces (2)
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
P Safety
C o S
CA Sec
Navy
Air SC
PRO
Pol Sec
File

SD Distn
A/C S/10/33
A/C 50/49
50/50
Ylant
3
4 Pubs

HEADQUARTERS
4104
14 JAN 1945
A. C.

SECRET

0532

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

LAND FORCES 32

Originator's Reference: CFTE 1082/9

Date Time of Origin:

Message Centre No: 0/7784

Date Time Rec'd: JAN 1[illegible]1938

Precedence: ROUTINE URGENT

FROM: SICILY REGION PALERMO

TO : HQ AFHQ ROME

18/14

ACTION

IN CLEAR.

Following report by districts for 8 and 9 January. PALERMO reported 260 accepted 183. MESSINA reported 167 accepted 117. CATANIA reported 327 accepted 167 AGRIGENTO reported 135 accepted 135. SIRACUSA reported 61 accepted 29. ENNA reported 53 accepted 53. CALTANISSETTA reported 81 accepted 74. Figures include 190 volunteers. Disturbances prevent earlier and more complete reports from all districts.

NEW SUBJECT

Battle in progress at LITTORIA. Bridge blown 1 mile south of SCLERNO on road to PALAZZOLO. British troops relieving Italian troops on WD installations on Cats Iaampnico? and RAGUSA reported quiet.

4103

DIST

ACTION LAND FORCES (2)
INFO A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
PUB SAFETY
CoS
CA SEC
NAVY
AIR
P R HR
POL SEC
FILE

HEADQUARTERS 14 JAN 1945

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 725020

40
31

S/16/33

ALCOM SICILIA REGION

9780 13 January 45 PRIORITY

C
14 Jan R 14/

SECRET FD

SUBJECT IS SICILIAN DISTURBANCES FD

PARA TO ALCOM SICILIA REGION FOR REGIONAL COMMISSIONER FROM HQ ALCOM PARA

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ARE SENDING TWO CRUISERS TO SICILIAN WATERS ONE TO PALERMO AND ONE TO CATANIA FD THEIR ROLE IS TO PROTECT HARBOUR INSTALLATIONS FD APART FROM FACT THEIR PRESENCE IS IN THE NATURE OF A DEMONSTRATION OF FORCE AND THEIR ROLE NOT REPEAT NOT AN ACTIVE ONE EXCEPT IN EXTREME NEED

Int. Dist.
Navy S/C
Land Forces S/C (MMIA)
Air Forces S/C
C.A. Sec.
Pol. Sec.
Public Safety S/C
P.R.O.

K

Office of the Chief of Staff

300

G. W. I. SHIPP
Lt. col.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

LAND FORCES 30

Originato.s Reference: GO 74
Date/Time of Origin: JAN 121730A

Message Centre No: C/7655
Date Time Rec'd: JAN 131002A
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: DISTHREE

TO : AFHQ (G3 OPS) INFO AFHQ (G2 CI). ALCOM. MMIA. MMIA LO

RESTRICTED

38

G

13/1

INFO - ACTION

RESTRICTED.

Reference our GO 61 of 12.

1. RAGUSA Province all quiet. Tps entered COMISO 1200 hrs 11 January meeting no resistance. Situation COMISO calm with no reaction to entry tps.

2. MMIA and ALCOM reps in SICILY concerned that total number rioters so far arrested small.

3. CATANIA no incidents. Disturbance NARO G 8255 11 January. Details awaited. Remainder Island NTR.

4. Unconfirmed reports state head of separatist movement FINOCCHIARO APRILE intends visit towns RAGUSA Province starting 15 January.

SD Draft

A/C 5/1/33
50/50

DIST

INFO-ACTION: P.Safety
" " Land Forces 2
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
C.C.S.
C.A. Sec
Navy
Air
PRO
File

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS 13 JAN 1945 C. A.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. T85020

FROM DISTHREE(

TO AFHQ G3 Ops

INFO AFHQ H2 CI, ALCOM, MMIA, MMIA IC

GC61

121616

RESTRICTED

-29

Ref our GC43 of 11 Jan (.) First (.) RAGUSA provinces (.) Towns between SYRACUSE and RAGUSA outwardly calm (.) Situation RAGUSA town returning to normal (.) Italian tps entered VITTORIA morning 10 Jan (.) Final elimination of resistance continues (.) Unconfirmed reports say Ops against COMISO postponed (.) Infm difficult owing breakdown comms SYRACUSE - RAGUSA (.) Second (.) State swallow ordered in CATANIA owing repeated rumours disorders likely between 11/14 Jan (.) Leaflets atributed to separatists distributed but no incidents reported (.) Third (.) Remainder island Ntr but further disorders thought likely owing resentful feelings popoulation (.) Fourth (.) CATANIA Military Dist report that out of 2910 persons due to be called up in 1922/4 classes 2284 reported 4101

EK SD DISTR: S/C/33, SD/49, SD/50, Fleet A/C A/C

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

5112

9172

C 13 Jan

LROF V MEDY NR 120217 QVR 4

FROM DISTHREE 121015 A

TO AFHQ (G3 OPS)

INFO AFHQ (H2 CI) - ALCOM - MMIA - MMIA LO

QQX GR --- BT

GO61 RESTRICTED (.) REF OUR GO43 OF 11 JAN (.) FIRST (.) RAGUSA PROVINCES (.) TOWNS BETWEEN SYRACUSE AND RAGUSA OUTWARDLY CALM (.) SITUATION RAGUSA TWON RETURNING TO NORMAL (.) ITALIAN TPS ENTERED VITTORIA MORNING 10 JAN (.) FINAL ELININATION OF RESISTANCE CONTINUES (.) UNCONFIRMED REPORTS SAY OPS AGAINST COMISO POSTPONED (.) INFM DIFFICULT OWING BREAKDOWN COMNS SYRACUSE - RAGUSA (.) SECOND (.) STATE SWALLOW ORDERED IN CATANIA OWING REPEATED RUMOURS DISORDERS LIKELY BETWEEN 11/14 JAN (.) LEAFLETS ATRIBUTED TO SEPARATISTS DISTRIBUTED BUT NO INCIDENTS REPORTED (.) THIRD (.) REMAINDER ISLAND NTR BUT FURTHER DISORDERS THOUGHT LIKELY OWING RESENTFUL FEELINGS POPULATION (.) FOURTH (.) CATANIA MILITARY DIST REPORT THAT OUT OF 2910 PERSONS DUE TO BE CALLED UP IN 1922/4 CLASSES 2284 REPORTED

BT

SENT NR 217 TB 1616 B4

RD NR 217 DML 1616

MC 5/6/33
AIC 5/6/43
SD/54
4100

RPT FROM THIRD TO - FUTHER DISORDERS

THIRD (.) REMAINDER ISLAND NTR BUT FURTHER

KK

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

RESTRICTED

28

CITE: RUS 79
JAN 11/1708

43/17

C/7569
JAN 12/1350
ROUTINE

ALCOM SICILIA REGTN (CMR:)

ALCOM ADD TO PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION INFO: AFHQ SWB AREA. USNB PALERMO

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

RESTRICTED.

8/G/33D

12 Jan

1. Special sitrep.

2. Situation RAGUSA province morning 11 January.

3. RAGUSA city and VITTORIA reported returning to normal.

4. Action in progress today against 1000 armed rioters controlling [illegible].

5. Anticipated this action will terminate disturbances RAGUSA province but further disorders area likely to occur.

6. Remainder of island nor

4099

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DIST

INFO-ACTION : PUB SAFETY

INFO : A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSION
CMS
CA SEC
LF
NAVY
AIR
FN BR
FILE

ZCR 13 Jan

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
12 JAN 1945

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

27

FROM: MAIA IC SICILY PALERMO CATANIA

TO : MAIA ROME
MG ALLIED COMMISSION ROME

11

CITE: 1082/8

IN CLEAR.

Reference my 1082/7 of 06 January. Following for 6 and 7 January completing first phase. PALERMO reported 26 accepted 22. MESSINA reported 58 accepted 45. CATANIA reported 90 accepted 35. AGRIGENTO reported 138 accepted 138. TRAPANI reported 43 accepted 31. SIRACUSA reported 123 accepted 104. ENNA reported 7 accepted 7. CALTANISSETTA reported 10 accepted 10.

NEW SUBJECT

Serious disorders reported from RAGUSA VITVORIA Area. Cause believed to be opposition to call up. CC RR and troops disarmed for reonfor (?) for emente(?) despatched by KARIOTTI. General BRISOTTO sent to VITTORIA to assume charge of troops. Four soldiers and 8 CC RR reported killed RAGUSA. General RONCO sent to RAGUSA to take charge. Railway line sabotaged N of of MODICA. Rioters armed with machine guns small arms and grenades.

4098

Dist

ACTION: MAIA
Info: A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
COS
CA SEC
P SAFETY
NAVY
AIR, PRB, FILE

WB

DIST.: SD/49 A/C
SD/50
S/C/33 A/C
FLOAT

0530

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

326

FROM ALCOM SIC( )N RETTCN (CARR)

TO HQ ALCOM & PUBLIC SAFETY SC ROME 111500A

INFO HQ 204 SUB AREA AND USNOB SALERNO

? FEB 78

RESTRICTED

1. Special Sitrep situation RAGUSA Province morning 10 Jan.

2. Available information indicates RAGUSA and VITTORIA quiet, COMISO controlled about 1000 rioters.

EK

ROUTINE

DISTR: S/G/33, SD/50, Float

4097

12 JAN 1945

RIZ

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDO NO. 785020

RESTRICTED

CITE RFS-75
JAN 101250A

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

JAN 111500A
ROUTINE

ALCOA SICILIA REGION (CARR)

MY ALCOA AND PUBLIC SAFETY SO LONG AS INFO RE 2ND PUB AREA AND
UNDER CONTROL

RESTRICTED.

1. Special Strep situation RACUSA Province morning 10 January.
2. Available information indicates RAGUSA and VITTORIA quiet.
CATANIA controlled about 1000 rioters.

Distr

Action - Pub Safety
Info - A/Provincial
Chief Commissioner
C G &
CA Sec
Recon Sec
Land Forces
P R Br
Air Sec
Navy Sec
File

Dist 5/B/334096
SD/SD
Dist

HEADQUARTERS
11 JAN 1943
A.

RESTRICTED

0541

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

RA

FROM AIR [illegible]CES SUBCOM ALLIED COMM ROME

25

TO - HQ MAAF SSO, HQ ALLIED COM (BY HAND), AFHQ, HQ 3 DISTRICT, AC SICILY
REGION, HQ BALKAN AIR FORCE

111645A

S E C R E T

RA 13

Your immediate signal JSC/176 of Jan 9 no time of origin delivered this Sub Com 1625 hrs Jan 10. Presume it was written prior to discussion with Deputy ACC in C by telephone but not certain of this as no time oforigin. Agree channels proposed by you are essential to avoid untoward incidents and misuse of aircraft.

1 S.79transport aircraft moved to CATANIA under orders of Chief of Staff Air Min without reference to Allies 1 other S.79 has returned ROME and a further one has proceeded CATANIA but only as transport for government officials. These aircraft now under orders of Italian Air Force commander SICILY Col SPEDINI.

Orders were issued 1630 hrs 9 Jan to Italian Air Min that no fighter aircraft were to be used in SICILY but that SM.79 aircraft could be used for the purpose of gaining information or supply dropping if required. Would point out ACCBALKAN Air Force has not operational control of SM.79 squadron which comes under Italian Air Min through this Sub Commission.

I M P O R T A N T

RV

10 JAN 1945

4095

EK DISTR: S/G/33, SD/50, Float

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

SECRET

LAND FORCES

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

BA 19
JAN 1016454

C/7455
JAN 1216454
IMPORTANT

FROM:- AIR FORCE SUBCOMMISSION ALLIED COMMISSION ROME

TO:- HQ MAAF 330, HQ ALLIED COMMISSION (BY HAND). AFHQ. HA 3 DISTRICT. ALLIED COMMISSION SICILY REGION, HQ BALKAN AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS
11 JAN 1945
A. C.

SECRET.

Your immediate signal ASC/176 of January 9th no time of origin delivered this SubCommission 1625 hours January 10th.

Presume it was written prior to discussion with Deputy A.C.C.-in-C. by telephone but not certain of this as no time of origin.

Agree channels proposed by you are essential to avoid untoward incidents and misuse of aircraft.

1 S.79 transport aircraft moved to CATANIA under orders of Chief of Staff Air Ministry without reference to Allies 1 other S.79 has returned ROME and a further one has proceeded CATANIA but only as transport for government officials.

These aircraft now under orders of Italian Air Force commander SICILY Colonel [illegible].

4094

Orders were issued 1630 hours 9th January to Italian Air Ministry that no fighter aircraft were to be used in SICILY but that SM.79 aircraft could be used for the purpose of gaining information or supply dropping if required. Would point out A.C.C. BALKAN Air Force has not operational control of SM.79 squadron which comes under Italian Air Ministry through this SubCommission.

DISTR
INFO:-OPTIONAL: P. Safety S/O
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
C.O.S.
C.A. Sec
Navy
Land Forces.
FR Br. File

Date
8/5/33
5 0/50
[illegible]

3 copies

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

FROM DISTHREE 111050A

TO AFHQ MFTD MAIA, HQ AFCOM SECRET

22 22

Your FX 81862 of 8th (.) Confirmed battalion MONTEGRANERO battalion.

PRIORITY

FK

SD DISTR: S/G/33/7, SD/50, Float

12 JAN 1945

4093

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO: 785020

FROM DISTHREE

TO AFHQ (g3 - Ops) INFO: AFHQ (G2 - CI) ALCOM, MMIA, MMIA LO 111400A

RESTRICTED

GO 43

Ref our GO 31 of 10 Jan. 1. Force 300 Italian tpd from AGRICENTO entered VITTORIA 10 Jan. Casualties Italian Army wounded 3. Civilians killed 3 wounded 20. 2. COMISO still held by rioters. Understood ops against COMISON scheduled start today. 3. RAGUSA and remainder idand ntr. 4. US consul PALERMO visiting SYRACUSE with OC 21 PRS.

EK

ROUTINE

DISTR: S/G/33, SD/50, Float

23

4091

R 12/1

12 JAN 1945

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

INCOMING MESSAGE

33/11

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

L. FORCES

Originator's Reference: GO 22
Date/Time of Origin: JAN 10/0925

Message Centre No: C/7393
Date Time Rec'd: JAN 11/1050
Precedence: PRIORITY

FROM: DISTHREE

TO : AFHQ RPTD MMIA, HQ ALCOM.

SECRET

ACTION

SECRET.

Your FX 81862 of 8th.

Confirmed battalion MONTENEGRO battalion.

DIST

Info-Action: L. Forces (2)
" P. Safety
Info: A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
Tn S/C
File

S/S/33/3
SD 4092
Merrell

HEADQUARTERS
11 JAN 1945
A. C.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: GO 43 Message Centre No: C/7409

Date/Time of Origin: JAN 11/1135A INFO - ACTION Date Time Rec'd: JAN 11/1400

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: DISTHREE

TO : AFHQ (G3 - OPS) INFO: AFHQ (G2 -CI) ALCOM, MMIA, MMIA LO

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Ref our GO 31 of 10 January.

1. Force 300 Italian tpd from AGRIGENTO entered VITTORIA 10 January. Casualties Italian Army wounded 3. Civilians killed 3 wounded 20.

2. COMISO still held by rioters. Understood ops against COMISON scheduled start today.

3. RAGUSA and remainder island ntr.

4. US consul PALERMO visiting SYRACUSE with GO 21 FBS.

Dist 5/C/30 / 3
SD/50 - copies
Float

INFO - ACTION

DIST

Info-Action: Land Forces
" Public Safety
Info: A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
Air Force
Navy
Pr Br
File

HEADQUARTERS 11 JAN 1945

4090

RESTRICTED

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

S/G/33 D. 4-2/10 31 22

SECRET

JCS/176
JAN 09NFT

0/7281
JAN 10 1520A
IMMEDIATE

HQ MAAF SSO

AIR FORCES SUBCOMMISSION REPEATED HQ ALLIED COMMISSION. AFHQ. 3 DISTRICT F.C. SICILY REGION. HQ BALKAN AIR FORCE

S/G/33.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY. 10 Jan

SECRET.

Last sentence of second addressees signal 9468 January 8th is not repeat not understood. This HQ has not been consulted or given approval for the employment of any repeat any Italian aircraft in connection with Sicilian disturbances. If the Italian authorities wish to make a case for the use of Italian aircraft for such purposes as reconnaissance or supply dropping that case should be put up by Air Ministry through AFM BUSCARLET. It will be considered here and, if approved in consultation with AFHQ, ASC BALKAN Air Force, under whose operational control the IAF squadrons are, will be authorised to make appropriate arrangements through you to release the aircraft required, for employment under Italian Command and on Italian responsibility in SICILY. In no circumstances are any orders or requests to be accepted except through this channel and no repeat no aircraft are to move without approval as above. It is most unlikely that the use of fighter aircraft will be authorised in connection with present disturbances for which on present information they appear to be entirely unsuited.

2). It is understood that some 579 may already have moved to CATANIA. If this is so

4089

(a) You are to report by whom and to whom was this order issued, and

HEADQUARTERS 10 JAN 1945 A. C.

SECRET

No decision made by the +BC

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

42/10

Land Forces

(JCS/176 - 9 Jan continued)

SECRET

under whose orders they are now, and

(b) Immediate instructions should be issued that they are in no repeat no circumstances to be employed on anything but reconnaissance, supply dropping or transportation.

(Note: This message received from RAAC decyphering.)

DIST

ACTION: Air Forces E/C
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
C.C.S.
C.A. Sec
Land Forces
MR Br
F.Safety
Political Sec
Local Govt
File

4088

HEADQUARTERS
10 JAN 1945
A. C.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 795020

FROM DISTHREE

TO AFHQ (G3 - OPs)

INFO AFHQ (G2-C1) ALCOM MMIA MMIA LO 102214A

CO 31 RESTRICTED

Ref our CO 21 of 10 Jan (.) FIRST (.) Firing RAGUSA ceased 1500 hrs 9 Jan (.) Arrests now total 127 (.) Preliminary interrogation reports indicate many ex FASCISTS included (.) SECOND (.) VITTORIA and COMISO still held by rioters (.) Rd Blocks erected by riotere and rds leading to COMISO mined (.) Italian Tps conc in area (.) THIRD (.) Remainder of island ntr

EK DISTR: S/G/G3 A/c
SD/50
Float

4087

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

FROM V MEEY NR 604 CVR4

FROM-DICTATED 101620A

TO AFHQ (G3 - OPS)

INFO AFHQ (G2-C1) ALCON MMIA MTOUSA LC

COX

GC 31 (.) RESTRICTED (.) REF OUR GC 21 OF 16 JAN (.) FIRST (.) FIRING RAGUSA CEASED 1500 HRS 9 JAN (.) ARRESTS NOW TOTAL 127 (.) PRELIMINARY INTERROGATION REPORTS INDICATE MANY EX FASCISTS INCLUDED (.) SECOND (.) VITTORIA AND COMISO STILL HELD BY RIOTERS (.) ET BLOCKS ERECTED BY RIOTERS AND BDS LEADING TO COMISO MINED (.) ITALIAN TPS COMC IN AREA (.) THIRD (.) REMAINDER OF ISLAND NTR

ET 1651

EDT NR 604 2214A CDM K

RE 2214 CACC DEBE 5

8414 30

6/11

4086

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 795020

INCOMING MESSAGE

20

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION LAND FORCES

Originator's Reference: GO 31
Date/Time of Origin: JAN 101620A

Message Centre No: O/7321
Date Time Rec'd: JAN 101930A
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: DISTHREE

TO : AFHQ (G3-OPS* INFO AFHQ G2-CI) - ALCOM - MMIA - MMIA LO

HEADQUARTERS
11 JAN 45

RESTRICTED. INFO ACTION

Reference our GO 21 of 10 January.

1. Firing RAGUSA ceased 1500 hrs 9 January. Arrests now total 127. Preliminary interrogation reports indicate many ex fascists included.

2. VITTORIA and COMISO still held by rioters. Rd blocks erected by rioters and rds leading to COMISO mined. Italian tps conc in area.

3. Remainder of Island N T R.

DIST

INFO-ACTION: Land Forces
" " Public Safety
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
C.o.S.
C.A. Sec 4085
Air Force
PR Br
File
NAVY

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNPG NO. 725020

COPY

CITE HPS 75
JAN.

C/7322
JAN 101855A
PRIORITY

ALCOM SICILY REGION CARR

HQ AICOM AND F SAFETY SC RPTD TO USNOB PALERMO AND 204 SUB AREA

SECRET

1. Special Sitrep. 2. Situation RAGUSA Province grave but there is no definite indication that it is out of control. 3. Complete facts not available conflicting reports being received. 4. General RONCA sent to take command reported reached RAGUSA 7 Jan. 5. Report 1600 hrs from Commander 12 Corps as follows: Conflicts had taken place GIARRATANA and RAGUSA casualties Army 1 officer 1 NCO killed 35 wounded Carabinieri 1 killed Guardie di Finanza 1 killed civilians 4 dead many wounded. 6. Incidents also reported SOLARINO and CASSIBILE SIRACUSA Province.

EL SD DIST: S/G/33, SD/50, Fleet

4084

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

SECRET

LAND FORCES 18 1011

OITE NFS 75
JAN

[illegible] 0/7322
JAN 101855A
PRIORITY

ALCON RICILY RESTON CAIR
HQ ALCON AND P SAFETY RO RPTD TO USNCB FAIRBKO AND CG4 SUB AREA

SECRET.

1. Special Nitrep.

2. Situation RAGUSA Province grave but there is no definite indication that it is out of control.

3. Complete facts not available conflicting reports being received.

4. General ROSCA sent to take command reported reached RAGUSA 7 January.

5. Report 1600 hrs from Commander 12 Corps as follows: Conflicts had taken place CIARTATANA and RAGUSA casualties Army 1 officer 1 NCO killed 35 wounded Carabinieri 1 killed Guardia di Finanza 1 killed civilians 4 dead many wounded.

6. Incidents also reported POLARINO and CASTELLO CIMACUSA Province.

DA 4/6/53
5D/5-0
Hand

Dist

Action - P Safety (2)
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
Econ Sec
Land Forces
File Navy
Air
JIRC

HEADQUARTERS
11 12M 945
C
A.

4083

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

17

Originator's Reference: GO 21

Date Time of Origin: JAN 100945

Message Centre No: C/7290

Date Time Recd: JAN 10 0515

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: DISTHREE

TO : AFHQ (G3-OPS) INFO AFHQ (G2-CI1) AIGOM, MMIA, MMIA LO (BY HAND)

RESTRICTED

INFO - ACTION

RESTRICTED.

Ref our GO 14 of 9 January.

1st. Col HOWARD (MMIA) returned last night from visit scene disorders and reported RAGUSA and MODICA quiet. Battle reported in progress VITTORIA. Details awaited.

2nd. British tps relieving Italian tps on Wd installations and depots in CATANIA. Understood demonstrations likely CATANIA area shortly.

3rd. Reported release of news to press authorized and that High Commissioner will issue statement.

4th. Remainder of island Ntr

HEADQUARTERS
10 JAN 1945
C.

INFO - ACTION

11 JAN 1945

DIS T

INFO-ACTION L FORCES (2)
INFO P SAFETY
A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
CoS
C A SEC
AIR FORCES
P R BR
FILE

RESTRICTED

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

CITE RPT 73
JAN 071125A

5/6/33

C/7023
JAN 082030A
ROUTINE

SICILIA REGION (CARRà PALERMO
HQ ALCON INFO PUBLIC SAFETY SC 206 SUB AREA, USNOB PALERMO

SECRET.

1. Referring to previous reports contemplating disorders as result of call up.

2. Incidents have been reported at ROSLINI (SIRACUSA) 28 December 1944 when 200 people protested against arrest of 3 persons failing to answer call up.

3. Shooting took place but immediately ceased when Carabinieri released prisoners.

4. At EAN C ONO (CATANIA) on 29 December 1944 population assaulted trucks carrying grain and grain warehouse sacked. Hand bombs were thrown and shots fired.

5. At SAN MICHELE DI CANZERIA CATANIA on 30 December 3 Carabinieri fired at by unknown persons. One Carabinieri killed and 1 seriously wounded.

6. At RAGUSA on 6 January 45, rioters assaulted Italian Soldiers and police throwing hand grenades following arrest of 9 persons not answering call up. One civilian killed, 1 civilian wounded, 1 Carabinieri wounded, 6 persons arrested.

Dist

Action - P Safety SC (2)
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
Food (2)
Econ
File

No distn made of this Hdq

12 JAN 45

4193

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

48/10

C/7259
HAN 101122
PRIORITY

CITE RPS-77

JAN

ALCOM SICILIA REGION (CARR)

HQ ALCOM RPT TO PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION RPT FOR INFO TO HQ 204 SUB AREA

AND USNOB PALERMO

G
10 Jan

RESTRICTED.

Para 1. Special sitrep further to secret sitrep RPS-75 of 8th January.

Para 2. General situation RAGUSA Province.

Para 3. RAGUSA city under control and quiet.

Para 4. VITTORIA and COMISO uncertain.

No decision made
by this
ABC

DIST

ACTION P SAFETY
INFO A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
CoS
C A SEC
P R BR
FILE

4080

12 JAN 1943

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

DISTHREE FOR ACTION RPTD AFHQ RC SICILY REGION

9557 9 JAN GPS PRIORITY

SECRET PD

PARA ONE PD CANCEL LAST SENTENCE THIS HQ SIGNAL NINE FOUR EIGHT FOUR EIGHT JANUARY PD PAREN TO DISTHREE FOR ACTION RPTD AFHQ RC SICILY REGION FROM HQ ALCOM FROM CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION PAREN

PARA TWO PD AFTER CONSULTATION WITH A IR FORCES SUB COMMISSION ITALIAN RECCE AIRCRAFT ARE NOW TO OPERATE IN AFFECTED A REA

DIST

CHIEF OF STAFF
POLITICAL SEO
PUB SAFETY S C
LOC GOVT SC
HON ALEXANDER KIRK
SIR NOEL CHARLES

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

437

NICHOLAS PIOMBINO,
CWO, USA
ASS ADJUTANT

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: FX 81862
Date/Time of Origin: JAN 081800

Message Centre No: 017232
Date Time Rec'd: JAN 100830
Precedence: PRIORITY

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED SACMED CITE FHQCT

TO : DISTREE INFO MMIA, HQ AICOM

SECRET

INFO - ACTION

SECRET.

Your G 03 of 8th. Confirm 1 Bn ALPINI in your para 2 refers to MONTENEGRINO Bn now in SICILY

INFO - ACTION

HEADQUARTERS
10 JAN 1945
A

11 JAN 1945

SECRET

4078

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: GC 14
Date/Time of Origin: JAN-091315A
Message Centre No: C/7119
Date Time Recd: JAN-091404A
Precedence: ROUTINE

INFO - ACTION

FROM: DISTHREE

TO : AFHQ G3 ORG BRIT INFO AFHQ (G2- G1), ALCOM, MTOA, MMIA LO (BY HAND)

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Ref this Hq GC 3 of 8 January.

1. RAGUSA. Gen RCMCO reports situation in hand. Aprox 100 rioters and suspects arrested in RAGUSA.

2. VITTORIA and COMISO still controlled by rioters. Rfts Italian tps ordered to VITORIA object opening Comms with RAGUSA. Report awaited.

3. Casualties RAGUSA Province disturbances up to 2100 hrs 8 January Italian Army killed 4 wounded 15 missing 13. CCRR killed 3 wounded 3. Civilians killed 5 wounded 9.

4. Remainder Ireland N T R.

Dist

Info-Action - Land Forces (2)
" " F Safety
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
P R Br
File (2)
Float

INFO - ACTION

21 JAN 1945

HEADQUARTERS
JAN 1945
A. C.

RESTRICTED

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

FROM: DISTHREE

TO : AFHQ (G-3 (ORG BR)

INFO: AFHQ (G-2-C1)
ALCOM
MMIA
MMIA LO

GO 3

RESTRICTED

Ref our GC 982 of 7 January.

1. 204 Sub Area report situation quieter RAGUSA. Night 7/8 January Grain and oil stores blown up SOLARINO H9934. Railway Br blown up CASSIBILE J0620 - AVOLA H0112 Grens thrown at labourers repairing rly. CC RR and Italian tps are protecting labourers.

2. Gen RONCO now in comd. Has requested despatch 1 Bn Alpini tps. Reinforcements 200 tps arrived RAGUSA from SYRACUSE casualties killed 1, injured 18 missing 8. Rioters casualties killed 3.

3. Italian comd 16 Arty Regt proceeding to RAGUSA attached COMISO H 5416.

4. MODICA H 6808 quiet VITTORIA H4817 and COMISO not controlled by tps. Rest of Island N T R.

5. HQ ALCOM have requested no Allied intervention in present disturbances without prior consultation and agreement Chief Commissioner ALCOM.

DIST.: Info-Action - Land Forces (2)
" " F Safety (2)
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
Tn SC
File

9 [illegible] 1945

(X) 94476

WS

SD DIST.: S/G/33
SD/50
FLOAT

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

RESTRICTED

20/04

C/3060

JAN 050700A

SO 3
JAN 08 RPT

DIPTHREE
AFHQ (S 3 SEC RR) INFO: AFHQ (S R-01), ALCOM, KMIA, KMIA IO

RESTRICTED.

Ref our SO 582 of 7 January.

1. 204 Sub Area report situation quieter RAGUSA. Night 7/8 January grain and oil stores blown up SOLARINO 8994. Railway Br blown up CASTIGLIONE J0620 - AVOLA 8912 Stones thrown at labourers repairing rly. GURR and Italian tps are protecting labourers.

2. Gen ROSCO now in comd. Has requested despatch 1 Bn Alpini tps. Reinforcements 200 tps arrived RAGUSA from SYRACUSE casualties killed .
injured 18 missing 8. Rioters casualties killed 3.

3. Italian comd 16 Army Regt proceeding to RAGUSA attacked COMISO H 5416.

4. MODICA H 6808 quiet VITTORIA H 4817 and COMISO not controlled by tps. East of Island R T E.

5. HQ ALCOM have requested no Allied intervention in present disturbances without prior consultation and agreement Chief Commissioner ALCOM.

Dist:

Information - Land Forces (2)
" " P Safety (2)
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
G & S
CA Sec
Th SC
File

4075

HEADQUARTERS
9 JAN 1945
A. C.

RESTRICTED

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

COPY

10

FROM ALCOM SICILY REGION (CARR)

07 1735 A

TO HQ ALCOM

RPTD PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION ROME, USNOB PALERMO, 204 SUB AREA

RCS/74
~~S/7050~~

SECRET

1. Special sitrep. Information received that serious disorders have broken out in RAGUSA Comiso ERBA. 2. Cause believed to be opposition to call up. 3. Present reports indicate that trouble started 6 Jan when armed crowd disarmed carabinieri and later troops sent in support.

4. During night 6/7 reinforcements were attacked en route between SIRACUSA and affected area and casualties reported are 8 carabinieri and 4 soldiers killed.

EK

IMPORTANT

DIST C o S (2) Info: A/President
Chief Commissioner
CA Sec
Econ Sec
Land Forces
P Safety, File

SD DISTR A/C S/G/33
SD/49, SD/50, Float

RCA

4074

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

SECRET

9/104 Land Forces

RPT 74
JAN 07/1735A

C/7059
S/G/33. JAN 08/0930
PRIORITY

ALCOM SICILY REGION (CAIR)
HQ ALCOM RPTD PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION ROME, USFOR PALERMO
204 SUB AREA.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY G

SECRET.

1. Special sitrep. Information received that serious disorders have broken out in RAGUSA Comiso Erba.

2. Cause believed to be opposition to call up.

3. Present reports indicate that trouble started 6 January when armed crowd disarmed carabinieri and later troops sent in support.

4. During night 6/7 reinforcements were attacked en route between SIRACUSA and affected area and casualties reported are 8 carabinieri and 4 soldiers killed.

LIST

Action: C o S (2)
Infos: A/President
Chief Commissioner
CA Sec
Econ Sec
Land Forces
P Safety
File

HEADQUARTERS
9 JAN 1943
G-2

SD Distr
S/E/33
SD/neg
SD/PO
4073

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

19

COPY

FROM: HQ ALCOM

TO : AFHQ 08

INFO: CINCMED
DISTHREE
ALCOM SICILIAN REGION FOR REGIONAL COMMISSIONER

9503 SECRET

SICILIAN DISTURBANCES ARE SUBJECT (.) RESULT CONFERENCE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND THIS COMMISSION DECIDED THAT ALL POSSIBLE STEPS MUST BE TAKEN PREVENT SPREAD OF DISORDER (.) REQUEST IMMEDIATE STEPS BE TAKEN EXPEDITE MOVE REMAINDER BATTALION AOSTA DIVISION TO SICILY AND OF 12 LIGHT TANKS FROM CAGLIARI SARDINIA TO PALERMO

PRECEDENCE OP PRIORITY

ws

SD DIST.: SIG/33
SD/50
FLOAT

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

SECRET

8

AFHQ Rptd CINCMED DISTHREE ALCOM SICILIA REGION

9503 8 Jan 45 OP PRIORITY

SECRET PD

SICILIAN DISTURBANCES ARE SUBJECT PD

PAREN TO AFHQ REPEATED CINCMED CMA DISTHREE CMA ALCOM SICILIA REGION FOR REGIONAL COMMISSIONER FROM HQ ALCOM PAREN

RESULT CONFERENCE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AND THIS COMMISSION DECIDED THAT ALL POSSIBLE STEPS MUST BE TAKEN PREVENT SPREAD OF DISORDER PD REQUEST IMMEDIATE STEPS BE TAKEN EXPEDITE MOVE REMAINDER BATALION AOSTA DIVISION TO SICILY AND OF TWELVE LIGHT TANKS FROM CAGLIARI SARDINIA TO PALERMO

SD
9 Jan

SD distn
S/S/33
SD/SO
Fleet
} 3 copies

Intl Dist

Land Forces S/C (12TA) ✓
Navy S/C
C.A.Sec.
Public Safety S/C

Office of the Chief of Staff

300

N.W.DRAGNEFF
Major, ACD
ADJUTANT

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

FROM DISTHREE 071230A

TO AFHQ (G3 OPG BR)

INFO AFHQ (G2 -C1)

MMIA MMIA LO

GO 982 RESTRICTED

FIRST (.) 204 SUB AREA REPORT SERIOUS DISORDERS IN SICILY ALL CENTERED AREA RAGUSA H6514 COMISO H5517 VITTORIA H4717 (.) DISORDERS CREATED BY LARGE NUMBERS WELL ARMED CIVILIANS (.) DET 100 ITALIAN SOLDIERS SENT TO RAGUSA AREA FROM SYRACUSE WERE DISARMED BY RIOTERS (.) FURTHER DET 200 ITALIAN SOLDIERS DESPATCHED MEETING STRONG ARMED RESISTANCE (.) CASUALTIES ITALIAN ARMY KILLED 4 CC RR KILLED 8 (.) COMMS DIFFICULT AND REPORTS NOT YET CONFIRMED (.) SECOND (.) COMILIT SICILY HAVE SENT GENERAL RONCO TO SCENE TO EXAMINE SITUATION AND IF NECESSARY ASSUME PERSONAL COMD (.) THIRD (.) DISTRUBANCES AIMED AGAINST CALL - UP (.) REMAINDER ISLAND QUIET BUT FURTHER TROUBLE CONSIDERED POSSIBLE (.) FOURTH (.) ALLIED INTERESTS NOT INVOLVED

cgl

DISTR:

S/G/SSAC

SD/50

Float

4072

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

T-LRKS - C/6927

PS.

LAND FORCES S/C

LRKP V MEDY NR 221 OVR S

FROM DISTRIB 071230 A

TO AFHQ (G3 OPS ED)

INFO AFHQ (G2 -C1)

MMIA MMIA LO

OOM OR ---

CO 562 . RESTRICTED .

FIRST . 204 SUB AREA REPORT SERIOUS DISORDERS IN SICILY ALL CENTRED AREA RAGUSA M6514 COMISO M5517 VITTORIA M4717 .

DISORDERS CREATED BY LARGE NUMBERS WELL ARMED CIVILIANS .

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THIRD . DISTURBANCES AIMED AGAINST CALL UP .

REMAINDER ISLAND QUIET BUT FURTHER TROUBLE CONSIDERED POSSIBLE .

FOURTH . ALLIED INTERESTS N O T INVOLVED .

TMI [redacted] 1325

SENT 221 JUN B K

RECD 221 AT 07/2056 A AAA D1 // D2

26/7

G. N 104/7

Dup C/G/33 AC/S SD/50 Hist Sect

4071

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

S/G 33

Ref: AD/14602/6/25

28 Dec 44

SUBJECT : Demonstrations against Military Call-up in Sicily.

TO : COS.

The following notes have been prepared regarding the recent demonstrations in Sicily against the call-up for the Italian Army:-

1 Italian Army Call-up

The call-up for the Italian Army effected the 1914-1924 age groups, who were to be called up in three batches: the 1922/23/24 classes to present themselves during the period 12-19 Dec 44, while the remaining classes to be called up during the periods 3-10 Jan 45 and 15-22 Jan 45.

2 Summary of Demonstrations

The demonstrations began on the 10 of December and continued for about 10 days. No incident has been reported since the 20 of December.

In all, 73 demonstrations are known to have occurred, the majority dispersing without causing injury or damage. The incidents may be summarised as follows:-

Demonstrations causing	conflict and damage	9	
"	" conflict	1	
"	" damage	8	
"	without conflict or damage	55	73

3 Casualties

Dead	4 civilians
Injured	25 "
	6 police

4 Catania Incident

The most serious disorder and damage occurred in the city of Catania on the 14th of December 44.

a) In the morning about 500 demonstrators, led by students, gathered in front of the Italian Military District Headquarters to protest against the call-up. A handgrenade was thrown by an unknown person killing one civilian and injuring another. Two Italian Army Officers were attacked by the crowd and stripped of their uniforms. There was also some disarming of the Carabinieri.

b) In the afternoon some Carabinieri trucks which had brought Carabinieri into the City were set alight by the mob. Several Carabinieri were disarmed by the crowd. The Town Hall was set on fire after the door had been forced by a beam used as a battering ram. No attempt was made to extinguish the fire, the Fire Brigade, although called, failing to appear on the scene. The Law Courts and the Tax Office were also gutted, while other buildings including the military District Headquarters were damaged by fire. The damage was largely caused by a comparatively small number of youths or

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG No. 76520

called up during the periods 3-10 Jan 45 and 15-22 Jan 45.

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c) Further demonstrations were attempted on 15 of Dec but were repressed by the police. The total casualties in Catania on the 14 and 15 Dec were:- 1 Civilian killed and 16 injured. 3 Carabinieri were injured. 27 arrests were effected.

d) On the 17 of Dec demonstrators again attacked the Town Hall in Catania. Carabinieri opened fire killing two civilians. 100 Italian troops were placed at the disposal of the Civil Authorities in case reprisals were attempted but the situation remained quiet.

31 Dec
REP

(6670)

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NARS No. 77020

5 Causes of the Disturbances

While the disturbances originated as a protest against the military call-up, economic and political dissatisfaction was also ventilated. Unfortunately the military call-up coincided with an order from the High Commissioner to agricultural producers to consign 25 kilos of grain per person to ease the food shortage. There is no evidence to connect the separatists with the outbreak but there can be little doubt that their past propaganda exerted an influence on the minds of the population. It is said that the call-up came as a surprise to the Sicilians who had not been prepared by suitable publicity.

The grounds of protest may be summarised as follows:-

a) The Sicilians have no wish to participate in the War (such slogans as "We will not serve as gun-fodder" were carried by students).
b) They do not wish to fight for the Italian Government.
c) They are unwilling to bear arms against Italians in the North.
d) The Italians are still treated as enemies by the Allies.
e) The armistice terms have not been made public.
f) The young men called up refused to abandon their families to starvation.
g) Those called up were invited to bring with them blankets, spoon and mesatin which they would have to buy.
h) The call-up should not have coincided with the Xmas festivities.

6 Result of Call-up

Of the 8000 men who should have answered the call-up in Sicily between the 12 and 19 Dec, only 1600 presented themselves. The Ministry of War has stated that the military call-up both in Sicily and elsewhere will proceed and that men who failed to enlist will be arrested.

7 Control of the Disturbances

In general it can be said that the police failed to take energetic action to disperse demonstrators before disorders occurred. In Catania especially, it is alleged that no policeman were seen in the streets while crowds of excited people were gathering. Although Italian Troops have been called on to stand by as a reserve no instances have been reported of troops having been used against the civil population.

8 Strength of Police, etc

The strength of the Police Agencies in Sicily is as follows:-

Carabinieri	8273
Agents of Public Security	2702
Finance Guards	2218

Internal Garrison troops of the Italian Army (chiefly Sabaudia Division) stationed in Sicily number:

635 Officers and 10372 men.

9 Reinforcements

a) Arrangements were at once made to reinforce the Carabinieri in Sicily by sending 700 troops of the Montegrumero Battalion to Palermo. The majority of these have already arrived, while the others are in course of transit. The Commanding General of the Carabinieri, at the request of the Ministry of the Interior, is sending to Sicily 300 Carabinieri from the mainland (Rome, Naples and Bari)
b) It has also been agreed to expedite the transfer of two battalions (800 men) of Italian troops to reinforce the Italian garrison troops in Sicily.
c) A mobile unit of 1000 Carabinieri is being equipped with 2½ three Ton trucks and 2½ armoured vehicles supplied by the Ministry of War. These Carabinieri are drawn from those already serving in the Island. They will be distributed

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 12020

e) The Italians are still trusted as cleaning by the Allies.
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b) It has also been agreed to expedite the transfer of two battalions (800 men) of Italian troops to reinforce the Italian garrison troops in Sicily.
c) A mobile unit of 1000 Carabinieri is being equipped with 24 three Ton trucks and 24 armoured vehicles supplied by the Ministry of War. These Carabinieri are drawn from those already serving on the island. They will be distributed throughout Sicily with Headquarters at Palermo and Messina.

10 Other measures

a) A new Prefect of Catania left Rome by plane on the 17 Dec 44.
b) The High Commissioner for Sicily has ordered an investigation of the conduct of the Carabinieri during the Catania riots.
c) The Director of the Public Security, Ministry of the Interior and the Commanding General of the Carabinieri have been requested to conduct a thorough investigation of Police action in Sicily. It has also been suggested to them

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNBC No. 135020

that a statement originating from the Prime Minister might be issued announcing to the Italian people that it is the intention of the Government to preserve Law and order by any means in its power and by force if necessary.

d) There is before you for submission to the CC a draft letter to the Italian Prime Minister expressing concern at the inability of the Italian Police to control the disturbances in Sicily and asking what measures will be taken to prevent a recurrence.

G.R. HOLMES Brig.
VP CA Section,
DCOS AC.

Copy to: Land Forces Sub-Commission.

4068

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNEC NO. T8502

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

5A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 392

Ref:- 14602/4/FS

7 Nov '44.

SUBJECT:- Palermo Riot

TO:- Land Forces Sub-Commission.

AGM/1 G
FILE NO 33
Date Rec'd 8/11

1. I attach a copy of the report of the Regional Commissioner on the Palermo riot.

2. You will observe that the Regional Commissioner expresses the opinion that the situation was not well handled by the military authorities when they actually arrived on the scene, and the A/Chief Commissioner requests that you investigate the question of what Standing Orders are given in the Italian Army with regard to action when the military are called out in aid of the civil power, and to make such recommendations for their improvement as you may consider desirable and appropriate.

J. R. Lyjohn

G.R. UPJOHN. Brig.
VP CA Sec.
D.C.O.S.

4067

3166

C O P Y

56

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SICILY REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

FILE No : RTS/814.1

DATE: 25th October 1944

SUBJECT : Report of incident in Palermo, 19 October 1944.

TO : Headquarters Allied Control Commission.

(1) In continuation of this Headquarters' letter RC/000.5 of 21st Oct 1944, there is submitted herewith more detailed report of the facts immediately preceding, during and following the incident of 19 October at Palermo based on information received from the Italian Authorities.

EVENTS PRECEDING INCIDENT

(2) On October 16, three days prior to the incident, public employees went on strike. The strike continued on October 17th and 18th. The employees were asking for an increase of pay. On October 18th they were given certain promises and on October 19th returned to work. During these 3 days the employees had on at least 2 occasions, gathered in front of the Municipio, but on these occasions there were no disorders and the demonstrations were under proper police surveillance.

EVENTS OF OCTOBER 19TH

(3) About 8,30 a number of private employees went on strike to obtain the same concessions promised to the public employees. This was not a general strike and accurate information on the number and identification of the strikers is not known. The strikers entered various stores and banks asking the employees working there to join the strike. The strikers were joined by a number of persons of low class who took advantage of the situation.

A number of stores were raided in principal sections of the city, but the crowd was not particularly violent. A great many boys and young men could be seen in the crowd who gave the impression of being "mischief makers".

The police (Agents of Public Security and Carabinieri) were present and by persuasive measures endeavored to prevent violence.

The confusion continued during the morning and at about 1130 hrs a crowd began to gather in front of the Prefettura which is also the Headquarters of the High Commissioner for Sicily.

The High Commissioner was away in Rome at the time and the Prefect was on a visit to Trapani Province.

Considering the number of people participating and the number of police (Agenti Pubblica Sicurezza and Carabinieri) employed, the Prefettura called for assistance of Italian troops. The call was made by the "Capo di Gabinetto" of the Questura to the XII Corps Hq.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 185020

based on information received from the Italian Authorities.

EVENTS PRECEDING INCIDENT

(2) On October 16, three days prior to the incident, public employees went on strike. The strike continued on October 17th and 18th. The employees were asking for an increase of pay. On October 18th they were given certain promises and on October 19th returned to work. During these 3 days the employees had on at least 2 occasions, gathered in front of the Municipio, but on these occasions there were no disorders and the demonstrations were under proper police surveillance.

EVENTS OF OCTOBER 19TH

(3) About 8,30 a number of private employees went on strike to obtain the same concessions promised to the public employees. This was not a general strike and accurate information on the number and identification of the strikers is not known. The strikers entered various stores and banks asking the employees working there to join the strike. The strikers were joined by a number of persons of low class who took advantage of the situation.

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Considering the number of people participating and the number of police (Agenti Pubblica Sicurezza and Carabinieri) employed, the Prefettura called for assistance of Italian troops. The call was made by the "Capo di Gabinetto" of the Questura to the XII Corps Hq. The request was referred to Hq. AOSTA Division Palermo from which it was referred to the 139th Regt. Lieut. LO SARDO Calogero with 36 men, some of whom were armed with rifles and others with rifles and hand-grenades, was detailed. The Lieutenant reported to the "Capo di Gabinetto" at the Questura with the 36 men in trucks and received instructions to proceed to the Prefettura. The precise instructions given are not available.

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 78528

The troops immediately proceeded in their trucks to the Prefettura ans stopped in front of the building at about 1215 hrs. The facts at this point are not fully established. The crowd at this time is estimated to have numbered about 1200. The entrance to the Prefettura abuts onto a main street which at this point is about 12 yards wide.

In general, it is reported that when the trucks halted a hand-grenade was thrown from the crowd wounding 11 soldiers and immediately thereafter, allegedly without orders from the Commander, the troops returned the fire with 7 hand-grenades and about 40 rounds of rifle fire. The crowd immediately disbanded. The casualties " at first reported to be 14 dead and 20 injured, are now fixed at 26 dead and 156 injured.

EVENTS FOLLOWING INCIDENT

(4) Troops were withdrawn during the afternoon of the 19th.

Following the incident there was considerable confusion and excitement in the city. The report that the troops fired on the crowd without provocation was widely circulated. Police activities continued in the city that day and no other serious demonstrations were reported.

(5) On the 20th the feeling against the Italian Troops continued. The Italian, British and American Commands had restricted liberty. Police patrols were intensified. Public funerals for the victims were not held.

Two minor incidents occurred during the day, but were satisfactorily dealt with.

(6) On the 21st and 22nd the excitement diminished. Although some youths attempted to start demonstrations on the 21st no serious disorders occurred.

On the 23rd public order was almost normal, but intensified police patrols were continued.

(7) On the 20th leaflets referring to the incident were distributed on streets. The leaflets were anonymous, but definitely of a Separatist nature and were reported to have come from Separatist Headquarters; and appeared to be an overt attempt to exploit the incident.

On the 21st the Separatist Headquarters in Palermo was raided by the police and 3 persons were arrested on the street for the distribution of unauthorized leaflets; about 8 were arrested inside the building and have since been released. The Separatist Headquarters was closed and placed under guard pending judicial investigations into the documents, etc, found there.

(8) As of the 24th, there was no evidence of disorder as the result of this incident. But the unsettled state of affairs with respect to economic and social conditions may give rise to other incidents not connected with this one.

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC No. 185020

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(8) As of the 24th, there was no evidence of disorder as the result of this incident. But the unsettled state of affairs with respect to economic and social conditions may give rise to other incidents not connected with this one.

(9) The official inquiry is being conducted by the Italian Government and the results of this inquiry will be forwarded if and when they become known.

(10) Based on the information at my disposal, my views are as follows :

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NND No. 765020

(a) It seems extremely doubtful as to whether matters had approached a stage at which it was necessary to call in the aid of the troops.

(b) Troops employed in aid of the civil forces should not be armed with hand-grenades. If hand-grenades must be available, it is considered they should be in possession only of the officers, or Senior NCO's present. This matter has been raised in a separate communication and arrangements have been made by the local military authorities forbidding the carrying of hand-grenades on such occasions.

(c) In accordance with accepted practice as I know it, the troops should have halted some distance from the crowd and alighted from their vehicles and then moved under proper control to the crowd in accordance with the prevailing situation.

(d) In my opinion if the troops had not been called out, or if, when called out, they had been equipped and had acted as under (b) and (c) above this serious and most unfortunate occurrence might never have occurred.

s/ M. CARR.
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

Copies to :

P.S. Sub-Commission
Labor Sub-Commission
Area Commander, 70 Sub Area.

4064

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 185020

COPY

SECRET

473

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

FILE: R3/000.5

21 Oct 1944

SUBJECT: Civil Disturbances in PALERMO.

TO : H.Q. A.C.C. ROME.

COPY TO: Public Safety Sub Commission
Labour Sub Commission.

1. With reference to the serious incident which occurred at PALERMO city on the morning of 19 Oct, the following interim report is forwarded based on information at present available to this Headquarters.

2. During early part of week there were sporadic strikes and demonstrations against high cost of living, low rate of wages and unfulfilled expectations regarding cost of living bonus which has been discussed in the Press. On the morning of 19 Oct some strikers endeavoured to call out on strike other elements. There was some raiding of food shops and many youths and boys joined the demonstrations. About mid-day crowd collected outside the Prefettura which is in a main street but the street at this point is narrow. Present information is that an official at Questura then called for assistance of Italian military to protect the Prefettura building which request was met by dispatch of one officer and 36 men to the Prefettura.

3. On arrival at the Prefettura, it is alleged that two hand grenades were thrown by the mob and that they exploded under the trucks conveying the troops, wounding 9 soldiers. The troops replied with hand grenades and some rifle fire. The high casualty rate appears to have been due to the use of hand grenades in a confined area which was crowded. At no other point in PALERMO city was any major force used and casualties elsewhere in the city have been very small and of a minor nature.

Posters and leaflets, believed to be of Separatist origin, of a definitely inflammatory nature have since been appearing in the city. One line of this propaganda is that the troops employed belonged to the Sabauda Division, thus giving the impression that the Monarchists are behind the employment of troops against Sicilian liberties.

4083

3. The High Commissioner has arrived back in SICILY and I have discussed all aspects of the situation with him and I have supported his proposal that Headquarters of the Separatist movement in PALERMO should be raided to obtain, if possible, evidence as to the printing and distribution of illegal posters and pamphlets.

Two inquiries into the incidents on 19 Oct are taking place. One of these is a judicial inquiry and the second is being carried out by representatives of the local authorities and of the local Committee

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6. Two inquiries into the incidents on 19 Oct are taking place. One of these is a judicial inquiry and the second is being carried out by representatives of the local authorities and of the local Committee of Liberation. Findings are expected in about two days time.

7. A full and detailed report will be rendered as early as possible.

H. CARR
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

COS DIST:
Army Sub-Commission.

4063

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. T85020

K294 2

Till

6/8

GOC

IMMEDIATE

1121

LROF V LACE NR 83 OP OP

OVR 3-4

FROM DISTHREE 201935A

TO AFHQ (G3 OPS BR)

INFO 52 AREA - (FOR GOC 3 DIST) -

ACC ROME - MMIA

CCX GR 54 BT

0 734 (.) RESTRICTED (.) REF OUR 726 OF

26 OCT (.) 7TH SUB AREA REPORT FURTHER

INCIDENT PALERMO TODAY (.) MOB APPROX 1000

ATTACKED ITALIAN GD AT US NAVAL BASE WITH

STONES (.) ITALIAN GD REPLIED BY THROWING

HAND GRENADE AND FIRED SHOTS (.)

NO SERIOUS CASUALTIES (.) LOCAL ANTI

ITALIAN TP FEELING HIGH AS RESULT INCIDENT

YESTERDAY (.) ITALIAN GDS ON BRITISH INSTALLITIONS

RETURNED TO BARRACKS AND REPLACED BY BRITISH

UNIT PERSONNEL (.) US NAVY TAKEN SIMILAR

4062

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC, NO. 785020

IMMEDIATE

1/21

FROM V LAEE NR 83 OP OP

CVR 3-4

FROM DISTHREE 201935A

TO AFHQ (G3 OPS BR)

INFO 52 AREA - (FOR GOC 3 DIST) -

ACC ROME - MMIA

GRX GR 94 BT

O 734 (.) RESTRICTED (.) REF OUR 726 OF

20 OCT (.) 70 SUB AREA REPORT FURTHER

INCIDENT PALERMO TODAY (.) MOB APPROX 1000

ATTACKED ITALIAN GD AT US NAVAL BASE WITH

STONES (.) ITALIAN GD REPLIED BY THROWING

HAND GRENADE AND FIRED SHOTS (.)

NO SERIOUS CASUALTIES (.) LOCAL ANTI

ITALIAN TP FEELING HIGH AS RESULT INCIDENT

YESTERDAY (.) ITALIAN GDS ON BRITISH INSTALLITIONS

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UNIT PERSONNEL (.) US NAVY TAKEN SIMILAR

ACTION EXCEPT FOR GDS WITHIN PORT PERIMETER (.)

FEARED FUNERAL CIVILIANS KILLED

YESTERDAY WILL OCCASION FURTHER INCIDENTS (.)

FOR ACC OUR O 723 OF 20 OCT REFERS

THI 1935

SENT AT 202 LS B

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Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 135020

Unclassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDG NO. 785020

8364 N84/20 1/4
25/20
G/8 D 25/10
20 10

LMKB V LAEE NR 11 "P . P"

FROM DISTWREE 201155

TO ACN ROME

INFO NMIA MMIA LO 5 DISTRICT

QQX GR 73 BT

0723 RESTRICTED . 70 SUB AREA

REPORT DISORDERS TOOK PLACE

PALERMO APPROX 1200 HRS 2// 19 OCT .

CASUALTIES KILLED 16 WOUNDED·104

OF WHCH 38 HOSPITAL CASES . DISTURBANCE CAUSED

THROUGH STRIKE OF MUNICIPAL

EMPLOYEES OVER WAGE

ITALIAN TPS CALLED OUT AND REPLIED BY

FIRE WHEN STRIKERS THREW TWO BOMBS AT PREFECTS OFFICE .

BR PERSONEL CONFINED BARRACS .

SHORE LEAVE U S NAVY AND MERCHANT NAVY CANCELLED .

A C C AND ITALIAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES

INSTITUTING FULL AND IMMEDIATE ENQUIRIES

BT

SENT NR 11 20/1418A FW (AR)

RECD NR 11 20/1418 A AAA AR

HEADQUARTERS
20 OCT 1944
A.C.C.

4061

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