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Public Opinion
JAN - MAY 1944

TRANSLATION

Letter from Italian to the Allied Control Commission:

Pontecagnano (Salerno)
20 May 1944

The undersigned has the honor to report the following:

Italy has lived for centuries on cordial and friendly terms with Great Britain. Italy has given birth to the two immortal discoverers of America: Cristopher Columbus and Amerigo Vespucci, and to Flavio Gioia, born in Salerno, who invented the naval compass.

Italy was driven to war not against Great Britain, but against wicked France, which holds territories that God destined to Italy. Who can ever forget Daladier's famous dagger with which he promised he would have stabbed Italy if she asked to get back her sacred territory, as he stated in his speech on Italian Corsica.

Our great King, in order to avoid useless bloodshed, abolished the Fascist regime which brought Italy into this war and he had Italy capitulate in order to make victory easier--victory that God intended for you.

We have, therefore, become brothers and allies against the Germans, who were once our friends, but who really were the greatest enemies of the Italian fatherland.

I am the exponent of the great majority of the Italian people, who would want that in the coming peace treaty it should be stated that the Eternal and Sacred City of Rome should not be considered any more as Italy's capital, but as a city belonging to the whole world. The Creator of the Universe has wanted Rome to be the seat of Christ's Vicar and the Center of Christianity: He has not wanted Rome to be the seat of a Fascist government which levied Nero's and not Caesar's taxes.

Rome was not intended to be the seat of that elective and legislative chamber, where the honorable doctors in political science, elective members of Parliament, transformed her into a seat of pigs acting in an obscene performance.

We want a Christian, Democratic Monarchy. God made Italy the mother of Kings and Emperors, for who has been used to live in the splendor of the Savoy Family.

King Victor Emmanuel II freed the sacred Italian soil from the German invader and founded the Italian State with the help of Garibaldi. Victor Emmanuel III proclaimed at Peschiera that our present enemy had to be expelled and he won him at Vittorio Veneto.

In the war of 1916-18, when we were Allies, we achieved a great victory, which displeased the Communists and at that time officers were compelled to dress in civilian dress in order not to be insulted. People who had been wounded in the war were beaten and outraged. All the life of the Country was passing through a period of anarchy. Deserters like Misiano were honored. The country was going to ruin, until the Fascist stick put things in order again. If these things had not happened, Fascism would never have been born. In this case the foolish foreign policy followed by Italy would not have been followed and our Country would not have passed through such great disasters.

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(Solerno) Pontecorviano Maggio 1944 - AG

Traduzione No. 484
On. Commis. in. Alleanza di Controllo
p. il Governo Naz. Italiano - Solerno -

Il sottoscritto ha l'onore di esporre alla
L.S.S. quanto segue:
L'Italia da secoli, a partire in cordiali
e fraterni rapporti di amicizia e

commerciali con la Gran Bretagna
e l'Inghilterra, che sono i volti immortali
e capifitolo del nuovo Mondo d'America
Britannica e America Vesputica e
di Solermitano, l'America, l'America
loro della Puntalea nautica -

All'Italia gli fu imposta la guerra
contro la Gran Bretagna, ma contro
la propria Francia che debba tenerla
che Dio destino all'Italia, e l'Inghilterra

gio del famoso pugna di Voladici
che avrebbe 1922 la l'Italia se si
e vecchi per mezzo di chiedere il suo
tutto la l'Italia - tutto la l'Italia

nella guerra Italiana -

Il nostro augusto Sovrano per

Totale L.

e violare inutilmente il giuramento di sangue
 e di fratria, prima di sopprimere il Reame
 francese che ha coinvolto l'Italia
 nella presente guerra, e ulteriormente
 a farlo deporre l'armi, per far esistere
 ed a rivendicare la sua Vittoria che Dio
 vi ha destinata ad impadronirla -
 E ora uomo divenuti da Nemici a fra-
 telli d'armi - ed alleato contro quel
 umero tedesco, che è nostro comune
 e tenace nemico ed in odio a
 più di uno di Italia -
 Mirando inteso da molti dei
 doli della tripla e maggiore guerra
 del popolo di Italia, che nel prossimo
 fronta lo di Pace, vorrebbe che la
 città eterna e Santa di Roma, non
 sia più città d'Italia ma di tutto il
 Mondo civile e religioso, e non la
 capitale d'Italia, per il celeste
 bicchiere dell'Universo, volle che
 Roma sia la sede del Vicario di Cristo
 sul mondo e la capitale della Cristianità.

E non la sede di un governo, spogliata
 d'un popolo - di applausi, tanto di Noia
 e non quella di berare - come adattare
 al punto legittimo faccende.

E la sede di quella Camera eletta
 legislativa degli onorevoli Dottori
 di scienze politiche ed economiche
 eletti dai Voti, la rappresentano

Un Centro di Studi e Ricerche
 di architettura un Monumento
 d'onorevoli opere, per il bene della
 rappresentazione ed eccitazione

Vogliamo la Monarchia Democratica
 Cristiana. Che Dio creò l'Italia
 la prima madre di Re e Imperatori
 ed attuale di un nobile splendore
 eletto, coronato di tanta gloria.

Vittorio Emanuele II° espulso dal
 suo trono d'Italia l'invasore
 tedesco, fondò l'Italia Nuova con
 l'aiuto di Garibaldi e Vittorio
 Emanuele III° a Roma in un'epoca
 l'espulsione dell'attuale nemico
 tedesco o lo scoprì in Vittorio Veneto

nella Guerra del 1914 al 1918 che

in questo conflitto ci videro gli italiani
fedeli al loro Re, ma in questo Viterbo
disprezzare da parte di comunisti e
socialisti al tempo del Ministro Nitti
che gli oppositori politici costretti a fuggire
da Perugia per non essere uccisi o
da questi e legami con i partigiani, ed i
mutilati di guerra, bastardo e russo.

La per loro, ed i fatti e come a Perugia
portati in vista, la guerra in Italia
alla causa dei ferrovieri, le industrie
ed altri servizi pubblici, i rapporti
alla loro economia e alla loro - e per

questo fatto spetta loro, dove il partito
con il Ministro Nitti lo portavano
in vista, e la Nazione e la Repubblica
rappresentava. In che a Montemarte di
Sforzismo per i fatti e fatti.

Le questi avvenimenti causati non si
possono deplorare per delusione del Governo
Nitti e per questo non avrebbe nato
e si avrebbe nato la politica e stata e stata
che da oggi modo di capitale della
del Italia, ma la di Ciriaco de Balle
di Viterbo e Montemarte. Osservare

A chi se la boccia

TO MAKINS

Italian-British relations
Civiltà proletaria Commun. Ref.

RSC/Am

6 January 1944

My letter of 27 December to the Minister I drew attention to the contrast between the expectations originally entertained and the hard realities now facing the Italian Government and people in North Italy.

An article has since appeared in the hard Communist newspaper, "Civiltà Proletaria", which illustrates the point clearly. I enclose a translation. There are two main grounds: the attributed success of our propaganda and the fact that for good reasons we have emphasized different things in our news and foreign services. In the case of Italy we have not little difficulty on the new side in grasping concepts mixed with a degree of hatred. On the Italian, Allied declarations such as the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms have had more prominence and the inference certainly has been that we stood not only for liberalism in politics but liberalism in supply. The results of the first contact between us and Italians has therefore been one of mutual surprise. We have a frame of mind not perhaps wholly altered to expressions of good will to all men such as the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms. The Italians expected not a conquering army who had for four years been through blood and sweat and tears, but a race of knights errant. We wonder therefore that the last months have been a somewhat confusing experience in North Italy on both sides.

We shall get over this more without too many broken heads. But I think that it may be worth pointing the moral; for on this I imagine that Italy will not be the exception but the rule. I confess I see no solution. But perhaps Bruce Lockhart and his assistants will be able to think of ways of tiding over a little less abruptly the difference between our home and foreign propaganda. Otherwise other Europeans may be as surprised at the twentieth century Englishmen as the Italians have been. And vice versa.

Roger Makins, Esq.
Office of the British Resident Minister
at Allied Forces Headquarters,
Algiers

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Civiltà Proletaria

2 - n 1944

We and the Allies

The Allied armies were everywhere enthusiastically received; the liberating armies have had concrete aid from the armed masses.

Perhaps this was due, rather than to the promises made, to the fact that the Italians looked to the Allied armies as the restorers of their old democratic liberty. They looked for restoration of order (in the democratic, not fascist sense), and an alleviation of their suffering from famine. Above all they expected from the Allies the decisive liquidation of Fascism and the creation of a really healthy social and political climate in Italy.

Now it can be observed that many Italian hopes at that time were unfulfilled, many hopes aroused have been so far in vain.

We revolutionaries have not forgotten the many responsibilities of our people nor have we forgotten the sufferings of other people who are much less responsible for us. The Germans, Poles and French. As we are especially sensitive to the argument that "the war has to be fought," we understand very well that we must do everything to help the Allies in all ways that might assist them.

We do not understand very well why the need for fighting the war obliges one to forget the war also waged by the Allied nations. We understand even less how their need of winning the war can justify the absence of measures that would help to win it; e.g. purge of administration, army and police and so on. We understand at all how this necessity can justify the fact that certain Allied authorities continue to be oriented by a spirit hostile to the Atlantic Charter and the Moscow Conference.

We know that the Allies owe us nothing and we ask for no special privileges. But as the antifascists, as we who have fought Fascism for years, it is our clear duty to tell the Allies, to whom we wish to give our sincerest collaboration, political and military, that war against Fascism needs a consistent policy which should have the following concrete manifestations, both urgent and feasible:

a vigorous purge
aid in the creation of an army which can fight on equal terms with a well armed foe
reasonable plans for supply and provisioning and hence a struggle against the black market and bringing wages and pay in line with increased living costs.

6435

Letters from Officers in Naples, 17 Jan 44.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF MILITARY COMMANDS

Officers and Non-coms of Italian Army at
mess hall in Naples are asked:

"Are you in favor of the monarchy?"
Basso distributes the form, and those who
refuse to answer can't eat.

Same transmitted to ACC.

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booklet

Nov 43-Jan 44
(10 Feb. 44)

SURVEY OF PUBLIC OPINION HELD IN SICILY

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