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POLITICAL PROPAGANDA, ELECTION PERIOD  
MAY, JUNE 1946

STATO MAGGIORE DELL'ARMATA AEROMARINICA.

PROT. NO. 4101/Sg. U/2025. Coll.

To Air Vice-Marshal I.E. Brodie,  
A.F.S.C. A.C. Rome.

28th May, 1946.

Dear Air Vice-Marshal,

On my return to Rome on the 25th May after having inspected the most important Italian Air Force Detachments in Northern Italy, I found your letter AFSC/752/P of 23rd May to which I am replying.

1. From the ~~letter~~ of your letter and the order emanating from the Chief Commissioner, I have the impression that neither of you are aware of that which has been done in our Air Force in order to prepare ourselves for the future political events.
2. I must inform you that I have adhered to the wishes of the Chief Commissioner, and have issued an order of the day similar to that of General Cadorna, but I also wish to explain the initiative I have taken and of the consequences derived therefrom, so that you may pass the information on to the Chief Commissioner.

3. As will be seen from the text of the Order of the Day, everything had already been arranged with the periphrastic commanders and subsequently in other talks I gave to all ranks. In this way I could not foresee that you would wish the publication of another order of the day.

3193

4. Ever since the 4th of May 1946 in my letter 01013/Sg. V. I had solicited the Minister to Air to submit to the Government a few explicit requests in order to obtain the maximum guarantee of respect from all for the Armed Forces and for all ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> staff.

On the 11th May in another letter to the Minister for Air 202029/cd. 13, I asked that measures be taken to ensure a vote for military personnel or to relieve the Military Commands of all responsibility as we foresee that conditions of the law will not correspond to our wishes.

These letters were sent for the attention of the General Chief of the Combined Stato Maggiore, and to the Army and Navy Chiefs of Air Staff, and transmitted in brief manuscript to the Commander in Chief of the Carabinieri.

5. After the first letter the General Chief of the Combined Stato Maggiore sent a letter to the Prime Minister and for the attention of the Ministries

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the Chief Commissioner.

3. As will be seen from the text of the Order of the Day, everything had already been arranged with the peripheral commanders and subsequently in other talks I gave to all ranks. In this way I could not foresee that you would wish the publication of another order of the day.

3193

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These letters were sent for the attention of the General Chief of the Combined State Maggiore, and to the two Army and Navy Chiefs of Air Staff, and transmitted in brief manuscript to the Commander in Chief of the Carabinieri.

5. After the first letter the General Chief of the Combined State Maggiore sent a letter to the Prime Minister and for the attention of the Ministries and Heads of the War, Navy and Aeronautical State Maggiore.

In this letter the Prime Minister was asked, that which I had asked the Government through the Ministry for Air.

6. The Government, although not modifying the law concerning Military votes, consented that all military personnel be furnished with voting papers.

7. ~~And~~ <sup>And</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Order of the Day, approved by the Council of Ministers at their meeting on 23rd May, 1946, this Order of the Day appears to be based on the General arguments mentioned in my letter of May 4th to the Minister.

8. As you see and as I wish you to point out to the Chief Commissioner, I have issued orders which have been communicated to the responsible and collateral authorities, and which have produced results which are a good omen for the future.

9. I abstained from issuing a written order of the Day, as in my opinion this was a matter for the Minister and not for the State Maggiore. All the same, as General Cadorna and General Bonetti have done so without however notifying me, I adhered to your wishes and issued an order corresponding to my previous orders by word of mouth to my Comandieri.

Continued/2.....



-2-

10. I am including copies of all the documents cited in this letter for your information and that of the Chief Commissioner.

Yours etc.

(sgd)  
GENERAL M. ALMOVE-CAT,  
C. A.S.

3192

COPY:

(A)

15A

AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION, AIR COMMISSION,  
ROME.

AFSC/752/P1.

23rd May, 1946.

Dear

It has come to our notice that the Chief of the S.M.P.E. (General Cadorna), has issued to the Army an Order of the Day outlining the duties of the Army during and after the elections; a copy is attached.

2. I have been instructed by the Chief Commissioner to invite you to issue a similar Order of the Day as soon as possible, if you have not already done so.

3. I would much appreciate it if a copy of your Order of the Day is forwarded to us for information.

SGD I.E. BRODIE,  
Air Vice-Marshal,  
Director,  
A.F.S.C.

3191

General M. Amore Cat,  
Chief of Air Staff,  
Italian Air Ministry,  
Rome.

STATO MAGGIORE DELLA FORZA AERONAUTICA  
SECRETARIA.

(B)

*Proclamation*

COPY:

Rome, 27th May, 1946.

1618

Ref: 0199/Sg.V/2026.Coll.

To all Commands and Dependent Units.

Subject: Attitude of the Air Force before, during and after the Political Elections.

I will give a resumé of the instructions already given to all the personnel by their Commanding Officers on my orders and directives and also dealt with by me personally during these last weeks and at parades of Officers, N.C.O's and men, and civilians belonging to the various Commands, Units and Air Headquarters.

1. As laid down in the circular dated 22nd February 1945, the Air Force, then taking part in the War of Liberation and subsequently in the reorganisation of the Service and the reconstruction of the country - in which it is taking part in every possible way with traditional passion and dedication - has never indulged in politics within its ranks.

I have been happy to have been able to confirm all this personally, and to have had objective and willing recognition of it from political authorities and personalities in the provinces, with whom I have had occasional contact during my inspections.

We have now arrived at the institutional referendum and elections for the Constituents in the proper state of mind for carrying out the duties imposed on every individual without difficulties, uncertainty or hesitation, and this in the certainty of the esteem and trust of the nation and the upholding of our prestige by the State authorities.

3. By law, as was amply illustrated at the meeting on 2nd June, each aviator and airman will carry out his duty as a citizen with the complete liberty of conscience which is allowed him with the lifting of his oath, for the institutional side only, and with the liberty of designating the political party whose principles and programme he considers most suitable for the reconstruction of the country.

3190

Once his civil duty is done each aviator and airman will continue to carry out his duty as a soldier, carrying out my orders given him according to his oath which still operates as far as the solemn oath of loyalty to the state is concerned.



then taking part in the War of Liberation and subsequently in the reorganization of the Service and the reconstruction of the country - in which it is taking part in every possible way with traditional passion and dedication - has never indulged in politics within its ranks.

I have been happy to have been able to confirm all this personally, and to have had objective and willing recognition of it from political authorities and personalities in the provinces, with whom I have had occasional contact during my inspections.

We have now arrived at the institutional referendum and elections for the Costituente in the proper state of mind for carrying out the duties imposed on every individual without difficulties, uncertainty or hesitation. And this in the certainty of the esteem and trust of the nation and the upholding of our prestige by the State authorities.

3. By law, as was amply illustrated at the meeting on 2nd June, each aviator and airman will carry out his duty as a citizen with the complete liberty of conscience which is allowed him with the lifting of his oath, for the institutional side only, and with the liberty of designating the political party whose principles and programme he considers most suitable for the reconstruction of the country.

3190

Once his civil duty is done each aviator and airman will continue to carry out his duty as a soldier, carrying out any orders given him according to his oath which still operates as far as the solemn oath of loyalty to the state is concerned.

The law reminds us that, to our usual duty - always worthily carried out in peace and in war, of the Italian soldier - is joined today the particular duty of respecting and making respected, the results of the institutional referendum and the decisions of the Costituente Assembly.

This duty also will be scrupulously carried out by those who, being very familiar with risk, because of the eternal, silent giving up of their lives, is incapable of not carrying out these acts with a high sense of honour which, among the difficulties and miseries of present day life, is his sole true, undeniable heritage.

4. As a result of explicit requests the following has been obtained from the responsible authorities:

that the possibility of voting should be assured to all electors under arms;

that military personnel should be respected, whether in the service of public order or in the carrying out of their normal functions;

that respect should be imposed for the emblems on uniforms, trophies and military denominations in use, independently as the result of the Referendum and until new constitutional laws in this respect are issued.



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It was then requested, and granted, that imminent political events should not have the slightest influence on the normal life of the Service.

5. In the improbable but necessary provisions for the prevention of any unpleasant sporadic episodes provoked by malicious irresponsible persons of which we have had a few warnings anonymously, and threats to break the bounds of discipline at the elections, methods and responsibility for calm but firm and decisive intervention, aimed at maintaining the internal discipline of the Service without giving possible provocateurs any excuse for interference have been laid down.

6. The Italian Air Force, in spite of its past mistakes and failings which are well known to us, nevertheless has a long tradition of military glory and sacrifice which is, and must remain, the intangible heritage of the nation and a secure guarantee of its rebirth in the near future.

This precious tradition of ours must be transmitted whole and uncontaminated to the new state voted for by popular suffrage in order that, apart from those whose sense of duty has identified them with the mass of the fallen and the living, the Italian Air Force may continue, without delay and interruption, along the vivid path traced indelibly in the skies of the motherland by her heroes and her greatest men.

The Air Force, therefore, replies to the trust put in it by the whole nation and the Government by earning it, today and forever, with the most absolute and indisputable moral and material integrity, hardly tried, but never broken; not even by the tragic events of the past.

THE CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF  
Generale di Squadra Aerea.

(MARIO ADONE-OAT).

CONDENSED TRANSLATION

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STATO MAGGIORE DELLA F. AERONAUTICA.

Ⓢ

Rome 4th May, 1946.

Prot N. 01013/Sg. 7.

TO THE MINISTER FOR AIR:

for the attention of:

- THE CHIEF OF THE COMBINED STATO MAGGIORE.
- THE CHIEF OF ARMY STAFF.
- THE CHIEF OF AIR STAFF.

SUBJECT: Referendum and Constituents.

1. In the course of inspections carried out by me during the last few weeks I have attempted to illustrate the contents of supplement No. 1 to the Order of the Day dated 26th March, 1946, the subject matter of which was 'votes for Military personnel', in order to eliminate eventual doubts and prevent any misunderstanding with regard to the application of the regulations which permit military personnel - as citizens - full liberty of vote in the Institutional Referendum and for the Constituents, but that they should keep them - as soldiers - to observe all the other duties of their status. I have particularly insisted on the absolute necessity to understand and to impose a definite veil between the liberty concerned for the practising of ones political right, and the peremptory recall to the observance of their Military duties, to safeguard the moral and material integrity of the Air Force and, if necessary, act as a guardian for the internal policy of the country.

2. From the impression received and from the questions asked me at my request I feel it my duty to inform you:-

- that the matter for discussion was perfectly understood by all the personnel. 3168

- that nevertheless there exists generally individually and specially in the directly responsible Commanders for the discipline and comportment of their Junior Officers and NCOs, an obvious, manifest and justified sense of preoccupation, due to:

(a) the circumstances which could determine the intervention of public

Institutional Referendum and for the other divisions of them - as soldiers - to observe and make them observe all the other divisions of their status. I have particularly insisted on the absolute necessity to understand and to impose a definite veil between the liberty conceded for the practising of ones political right, and the peremptory recall to the observance of their Military duties, to safeguard the moral and material integrity of the Air Force and, if necessary, act as a guardian for the internal policy of the country.

2. From the impression received and from the questions asked me at my request I feel it my duty to inform you:-

that the matter for discussion was perfectly understood by all the personnel. 3188

that nevertheless there exists generally individually and specially in the directly responsible Commanders for the discipline and comportment of their Junior Officers and men, an obvious, manifest and justified sense of preoccupation, due to:

- (a) the circumstances which could determine the intervention of public safety officials -
- (b) the forms this intervention could assume -
- (c) the eventual reactions more or less organised or spontaneous which could manifest themselves on the days following the elections on the receipt of the first returns, against symbols, insignias, ranks and military attire which should be respected everywhere and by everyone, until such time as the new national Government issues a new decree.

You will remember how, at the sitting of the National Defence (July 1945 - PAUL Cabinet) the Military Ministers and the Chiefs of Air Staffs, confirmed the necessity to dispense with the services of the Armed Forces for the maintenance of public order, partly because they are unskilled and untrained in this particular and delicate service, but above all in order to prevent that this intervention could be interpreted as a political subterfuge, attributing to the Armed Forces antidemocratic and reactionary sentiments and manifestations which in the past were deplored, could be repeated and which were and would be the cause of the Armed Forces and even the Country's downfall.

4. However, owing to extenuating circumstances the Government has decided to employ the Armed Forces in this painful duty, according to the orders which have been compiled and diffused by the Minister of War.



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In fact the Public Security Service has already been carried out, also by the Air Force, during the recent administrative elections without, fortunately, this precautionary measure having to be transformed into a repressive intervention.

5. There are reasons to hope that during and after the political elections, it will not be necessary for the troops to undertake repressive intervention in order to help the inadequate police forces. It is, however, necessary to prepare for such a possibility.

In this event the orders mentioned in paragraph 4 would come into force but no orders and no documents could guarantee the comprehension and respect of the public and of the political party men for these men who are carrying out duties attributed to them.

6. It is indispensable that the Armed Forces who in spite of and against their wishes have been ordered to supervise public order, should be esteemed by the citizens and taken into consideration by Allied observers, especially when their attributions are being discussed.

In short the events of 30th September 1943 must not be repeated, due to bad organization and lack of precise orders.

7. Since responsibility lies first with the highest, then major responsibility lies with the Government to preference to the best of its ability that the Armed Forces of which it is to make use should be guaranteed the highest esteem and respect on the part of everyone. This could be done by diverse means including printed propaganda and posters.

8. I am perfectly aware of the feelings in general of my men, the greater number of whom, after having generously acquitted themselves in the inauspicious and hard war against the United Nations, valorously fought in the war of liberation, and it is my duty to point out that all the Air Force will carry out all duties assigned to them by the legitimate Government in the country in a non-aggressive spirit unless they are forced to act differently.

The Air Force Commanders and their men ask only that the sacrifices and hardships they have undergone and overcome in the bitter phase during the rebirth of their service under Allied control and their hardship and misery in their present daily lives, to which they have willingly subjected in the firm hope that the future has better things in store for them, be recognised and respected by every citizen, with the help of the Government from whom they should receive prior consideration.

9. I am confident that you will propose the aforementioned to the Government for necessary action by them.

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7. Since responsibility lies with the Government to predispose to the highest esteem the Armed Forces of which it is to make use should be guaranteed the highest esteem and respect on the part of everyone. This could be done by diverse means including printed propaganda and posters.

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9. I am confident that you will propose the aforementioned to the Government for necessary action by them.

SGD. M. ALMONO CAS,  
Chief of Air Staff.

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129(4)

11th May, 1946.

TRANSLATION:

STATO MAGGIORE DELLA CARMIGNA.

Subject: Vote for the Institutional Referendum and the Costituzione by Military personnel.

For the attention of: The Chief of Staff of the Stato Maggiore.  
" " " Army  
" " " Navy

1. I must notify you that the orders issued by the Ministry of the Interior, regarding the vote for the Referendum and the Costituzione by Military personnel, will be not only unpracticable in the time allowed for the peripheric units to be informed and the date of the elections, but would give unsatisfactory and unacceptable results even if the time allowed had been far more generous, as will be readily understood by the following.

2. The Ieronautical Command of Sicily expects almost insignificant results in its letter dated 5th May, ref No. 10746, but the compliance of the orders emanating from the Minister of the Interior, in article 24 of the Lieutenant General of the Realm 10th March 1946 No. 74 (supplement C.U. No. 60 of the 12th March 1946) which demands that the Unit Commands responsible for the right to vote of their military personnel, must request the relative election certificates during a period of ten days from the date of publication of the decree calling for election meetings to the Comms Lymphates, where servicemen are registered, and proceed immediately with the distribution.

Several Communes have not yet replied, while many others have replied negatively for various reasons (Restriction of the Registering Offices) due to bombing; no substantial effort made to compile the lists; transfers to other Communes, long absence from the servicemen to residential Commune due to military service or Prisoners of war, etc.

3. A similar situation exists in all the other Commands and peripheric Units of the Air Force, the Commanders of which meeting in Rome on the 10th May 1946, for the usual monthly report have explicitly confirmed in detail 3186 results and worries reported by the Air Force Command in Sicily.

4. According to information received it must be definitely expected, if we persist with the above procedure, that 70% of the Air Force personnel will not be able to vote for the one and only reason that they are in the service and are, therefore, unable to comply in person with the official civilian rights.

5. Due to the fact that the provisions of the law known by each servicemen demands the intervention of the Commands, there is no doubt that the serious



in its letter dated 6th May, ref No. 10746, but the applicability of the orders emanating from the Minister of the Interior, in article 21 of the Lieutenant General of the Realm 10th March 1946 No. 74 (supplement C.U. No. 60 of the 12th March 1946) which demands that the Unit Commanders responsible for the right to vote of their military personnel, must request the relative election certificates during a period of ten days from the date of publication of the decree calling for election meetings to the Commune Syndicates, where servicemen are registered, and proceed immediately with the distribution.

Several Communes have not yet replied, while many others have replied negatively for various reasons (destruction of the Registering Offices due to bombing; no substantial effort made to compile the lists; transfers to other Communes; long absence from the servicemen to residential Commune due to military service or prisoners of war, etc.

2. A similar situation exists in all the other Commands and peripheral Units of the Air Force, the Commanders of which meeting in Rome on the 10th May 1946, for the usual monthly report have explicitly confirmed in detail results and carries reported by the Air Force Command in Sicily. **3186**

4. According to information received it must be definitely expected, if we persist with the above procedure, that 70% of the Air Force personnel will not be able to vote for the one and only reason that they are in the service and are, therefore, unable to comply in person with the official civilian rights.

5. Due to the fact that the provisions of the law known by each serviceman demands the intervention of the Commands, there is no doubt that the serious obstacles mentioned above would be blamed on the more or less intentional disinterest of their superiors, with disciplinary results which can be foreseen, especially in the case of nefarious outside speculations, with the scope of causing disciplinary disorder in the Armed Forces at the most delicate moment of their cohesion and integrity.

Individual Commanders justly preoccupied of this situation do not intend to assume the eventual consequences in the carrying out of their already difficult and delicate assignments.

6. But also in the case of no reactions, the grave moral repercussions which would be determined amongst military personnel of all categories would always remain.

It is certain that servicemen who observe the state laws and who must enforce them when carrying out their duties in respect of public order, would feel mortified in not being consulted in the decision which would define the destiny of their country, at a moment in which all citizens, including women, are asked to fulfill this important and responsible task.

Continued/2.....

7. This must absolutely be prevented. If not understood by the servicemen it will be necessary to authorize the Commanders of the peripheral units to clearly explain to them the true reasons for which they would be excluded from the right to vote, pointing out also the true and sole source of the responsibility.

8. There is a way of avoiding this displeasing and dangerous situation.

Circular No. 800/930 of the Ministry of the Interior stated that pending a new legislative decree which is in preparation, members of the Armed Forces should be given the right to vote, through the use of special electoral voting papers marked 'For Military' distributed by the Communes at which units were based. The Commanders were to be responsible for sending a nominal roll of all personnel serving in their units to the Communes.

It is not understood why a further telegraphic circular (No. 7310 of 20/1/46) originating from the same Ministry, revoked these orders and arranged for the original plan to be put into force, although the difficulties and slowness of the postal services and the anagrafical disorders in most of the communal offices must not be forgotten.

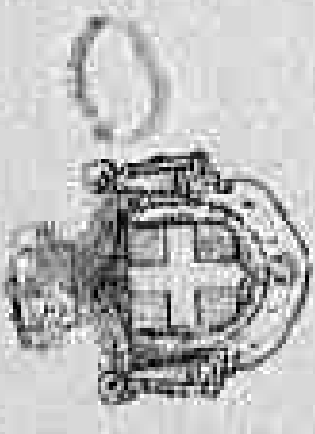
9. This matter should be clarified in order to prevent the duplication of votes.

10. I am confident that you will emit as soon as possible precise orders so that what has been predisposed by the Ministry of the Interior in its circular 800/930 be carried out, or failing this a ministerial circular which removes all responsibility from the Commanders.

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STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA



Roma 11 maggio 1946

Prot. n. 202029/od. 13

AL SIGNOR MINISTRO DELL'AERONAUTICA = SEDE =

OGGETTO: Voto dei militari per il Referendum istituzionale e per la  
Costituente.

e per conoscenza:

- AL SIGNOR GENERALE CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE = SEDE =
- AL SIGNOR GENERALE CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE DELL'ESERCITO = SEDE =
- AL SIGNOR AMMIRAGLIO CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE DELLA MARINA = SEDE =

1. - Notifico con tutta urgenza alla S.V. che le disposizioni im- partite dal Ministero degli Interni, circa il voto dei militari per il Referendum e per la Costituente, non solo non potranno ave re pratica applicazione nei termini di tempo che intercorrono fra la data della loro emanazione agli Enti periferici e la data delle elezioni, ma darebbero risultati molto scadenti e quindi insoddisfa centi ed inaccettabili, anche se i termini di tempo fossero molto maggiori, come risulta da quanto segue.-

2. - Con la lettera n. 10746 in data 6 maggio c.a. il Comando Aéro- nautica della Sicilia prospetta i risultati pressochè insignifican- ti dell'applicazione delle disposizioni emanate dal Ministero dello



AL SIGNOR GENERALE CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE

= SEDE =

AL SIGNOR GENERALE CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE DELL'ESERCITO

= SEDE =

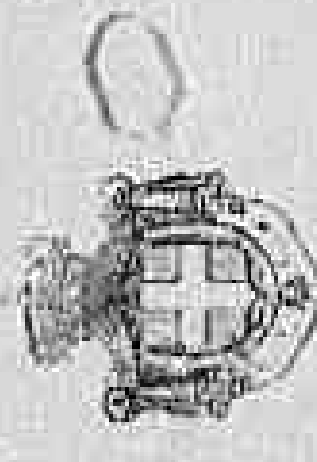
AL SIGNOR AMMIRAGLIO CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE DELLA MARINA

= SEDE =

1. - Notifico con tutta urgenza alla S.V. che le disposizioni impartite dal Ministero degli Interni, circa il voto dei militari per il Referendum e per la Sostituente, non solo non potranno avere pratica applicazione nei termini di tempo che intercorrono fra la data della loro emanazione agli Enti periferici e la data delle elezioni, ma darebbero risultati molto scadenti e quindi insoddisfacenti ed inaccettabili, anche se i termini di tempo fossero molto maggiori, come risulta da quanto segue.-

2. - Con la lettera n. 10746 in data 6 maggio c.a. il Comando <sup>3184</sup> Aeronautica della Sicilia prospetta i risultati pressochè insignificanti dell'applicazione delle disposizioni emanate dal Ministero dello Interno, all'Art. 21 del D.L. Luogotenenziale 10.3.1946 n. 74 ( supplemento G.U. n.60 del 12.3.1946 ) il quale stabilisce che i Comandi dei Reparti per l'esercizio del diritto al voto dei militari dipendenti, debbono richiedere entro 10 giorni dalla data di pubblicazione del Decreto di convocazione dei comizi elettorali, ai Sindaci dei Comuni nelle cui liste elettorali sono iscritti i militari stessi, i relativi certificati elettorali, curando subito la conse-

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STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

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gna agli interessati.-

Numerosi Comuni non hanno ancora risposto e moltissimi altri hanno risposto negativamente per motivi vari ( distruzione uffici Anagrafe in seguito a bombardamenti; scarsa diligenza nella compilazione delle liste; emigrazioni in altri Comuni; lunga assenza per servizio militare e per prigionia dai Comuni di abitua le residenza; ecc.).-

3. - Identico fenomeno si verifica in tutti gli altri Comandò ed Enti periferici dell'Aeronautica, i cui Comandò<sup>andi</sup> riuniti in Roma in data 10 maggio c.a., per il consueto rapporto periodico, hanno singolarmente esposto in forma esplicita e documentata gli stessi risultati e le medesime preoccupazioni del Comandante Aeronautica della Sicilia.-

4. - Secondo gli elementi raccolti è da prevedere in modo sicuro che, persistendo nella procedura di cui sopra, il 70% dei militari dell'Aeronautica rimarrà privo dell'esercizio del diritto di voto, per il solo fatto di essere alle armi e di non avere quindi potuto provvedere personalmente al riconoscimento ufficiale dei propri diritti civili.-

compilazione delle liste, (aggiornate senza per servizio militare e per prigionia dai Comuni di abitua le residenza; ecc.)-.

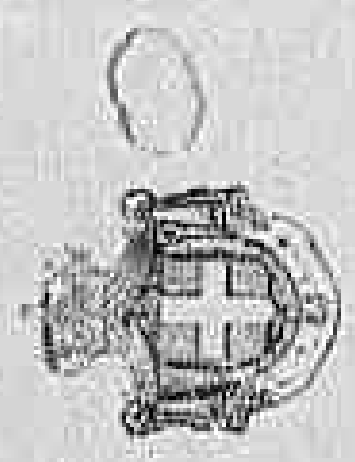
3. - Identico fenomeno si verifica in tutti gli altri Comandò ed Enti periferici dell'Aeronautica, i cui Comandi <sup>andi</sup> riuniti in Roma in data 10 maggio c.a., per il consueto rapporto periodico, hanno singolarmente esposto in forma esplicita e documentata gli stessi risultati e le medesime preoccupazioni del Comandante Aeronautica della Sicilia.-

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5.- Dato che il disposto di legge, noto naturalmente anche ai singoli militari, chiama in causa l'intervento dei Comandi, è fuor di dubbio che il grave inconveniente sopra esposto sarebbe logicamente imputato dai colpiti, alla incuria più o meno intenzionale dei propri superiori, con quei risultati disciplinari che possono e debbono essere previsti, specie in caso di nefaste speculazioni dall'esterno, allo scopo di scuotere la disciplina e l'ordine delle FF.AA., proprio nelle circostanze più delicate per la loro coesione ed integrità.-

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STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

I singoli Comandanti giustamente preoccupati di questa situazione non intendono subirne l'eventuali conseguenze, nell'esplicazione delle loro già difficili e delicate attribuzioni.-

6. - Ma anche prescindendo da ogni possibile reazione, rimarrebbe pur sempre la gravissima ripercussione morale che si determinerebbe fra i militari delle diverse categorie; specialità e gradi, per la esclusione dall'esercizio del massimo diritto politico, senza altra valida ragione che l'imperfezione, l'imprevidenza e l'inattuabilità delle disposizioni ministeriali.-

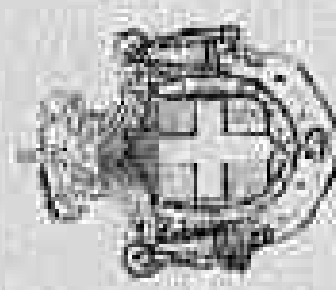
Ed è certo che i militari che osservano le leggi dello Stato e sono tenuti a farle osservare nel servizio di ordine pubblico al quale devono concorrere, sarebbero oltremodo mortificati di vedersi esclusi dalla consultazione popolare che dovrà decidere le sorti del Paese, nel momento in cui tutti i cittadini, donne comprese, sono tenuti a compiere questo alto, importantissimo dovere.-

6. - Ma anche prescindendo da ogni possibilità, sarebbe pur sempre la gravissima ripercussione morale che si determinerebbe fra i militari delle diverse categorie; specialità e gradi, per la esclusione dall'esercizio del massimo diritto politico, senza altra valida ragione che l'imperfezione, l'imprevidenza e l'inattuabilità delle disposizioni ministeriali.

Ed è certo che i militari che osservano le leggi dello Stato e sono tenuti a farle osservare nel servizio ai <sup>31.12</sup> ~~31.12~~ pubblico al quale devono concorrere, sarebbero oltremodo gratificati di vedersi esclusi della consultazione popolare che dovrà decidere le sorti del Paese, nel momento in cui tutti i cittadini, donne comprese, sono tenuti a compiere questo alto, importantissimo dovere.

7. - Tutto questo è da evitare in modo assoluto.- Ove si persistesse nell'errore, bisognerebbe autorizzare i Comandanti periferici a notificare chiaramente ai propri dipendenti, le vere ragioni per le quali essi sarebbero esclusi dal diritto di voto indicandò anche il vero e solo responsabile di questo fatto.

./.



STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

8. - Senonchè vi è il modo di evitare questa spiacevole e pericolosa situazione.-

La circolare n.800/580 del Ministero dell'Interno, successa a quella indicata, aveva stabilito che in attesa di un nuovo provvedimento legislativo in corso, gli appartenenti ai Corpi militari, fossero ammessi all'esercizio del diritto di voto, mediante l'esibizione di certificati elettorali speciali, recanti la dizione stampigliata " per militari ", che sarebbero stati rilasciati dai Comuni, sedi attuali dei Reparti.- I Comandanti avrebbero dovuto trasmettere ai Sindaci dei Comuni della loro sede gli elenchi del personale in forza di età oltre gli anni 21 al 31 Dicembre 1945 ed avente requisiti per l'elettorato attivo, ai sensi delle ultime disposizioni di legge: i certificati elettorali normali, già consegnati, sarebbero stati ritirati dai Comandanti e restituiti annullati ai Comuni di rilascio.-

Non si capisce perchè un'ulteriore circolare telegrafata ( n.731C del 29.4.1946) dello stesso Ministero, abbia revocato queste ultime disposizioni per riportarsi alle precedenti, pur non dovendo certo ignorare:

- le difficoltà e lentezze del servizio postale;

3181



pi militari, fossero  
mediante l'esibizione di certificati elettorali speciali, recan-  
ti la dizione stampigliata " per militari ", che sarebbero sta-  
ti rilasciati dai Comuni, sedi attuali dei Reparti.- I Comandan-  
ti avrebbero dovuto trasmettere ai Sindaci dei Comuni della lo-  
ro sede gli elenchi del personale in forza di età oltre gli an-  
ni 21 al 31 Dicembre 1945 ed avente requisiti per l'elettorato  
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cati elettorali normali, già consegnati, sarebbero stati ritira-  
ti dai Comandanti e restituiti annullati ai Comuni di rilascio.-

3181

Non si capisce perchè un'ulteriore circolare telegrafata  
( n.7310 del 29.4.1946) dello stesso Ministero, abbia revocato  
queste ultime disposizioni per riportarsi alle precedenti, pur  
non dovendo certo ignorare:

- le difficoltà e lentezze del servizio postale;
- il disordine anagrafico nella maggior parte degli uffici comu-  
nali.-

9. - Basterebbe ripristinare d'urgenza l'efficacia della circo-  
lare 800/980, abolendo qualsiasi altra <sup>diversa</sup> disposizione, perchè fos-  
se eliminato ogni inconveniente senza alcun pericolo di doppia  
votazione da parte di singoli, in quanto il personale autorizza-  
to fino ad ora è in numero molto limitato; le pratiche dei cer-  
tificati già pervenuti dai Comuni, consentono in modo sicuro

./.



STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

- 5 -

L'immediato ritiro del certificato già dato contro la consegna del certificato nuovo; in ogni modo potrebbe sempre essere agevolmente escogitato ed applicato qualsiasi severo e sicuro controllo a questo fine.-

- 10. - Io confido che la S.V. vorrà emanare al più presto istruzioni precise perchè:
  - o si provveda come richiesto, e prima disposto dal Ministero degli Interni con circolare 800/980;
  - o sia emanata una circolare ministeriale che scarichi i Comandanti da ogni responsabilità nei confronti dei propri dipendenti.-

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE  
 f/to: ( Generale di Squadra Aerea )  
 ( Mario AJMONE - CAT )

3130

10. - Io confido che la S.V. vorrà emanare al più presto istruzioni precise perchè:
- o si provveda come richiesto, e prima disposto dal Ministero degli Interni con circolare 800/980;
  - o sia emanata una circolare ministeriale che scarichi i Comandanti da ogni responsabilità nei confronti dei propri dipendenti.--

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE

f/to: ( Generale di Squadra Aerea )

( Mario AJMONE - CAT )

3180



11A(1)

FROM : STATO MAGGIORE (II OFFICE)  
TO : STATO MAGGIORE R. ARMY  
STATO MAGGIORE R. NAVY  
STATO MAGGIORE R. AIR FORCE  
DATE : 14TH MAY 1946  
REF : R.P. 205

EMPLOYMENT OF ARMED FORCES MEMBERS  
FOR PUBLIC ORDER PURPOSES

For your information attached is a copy of a letter sent from the Chief of Staff to the President of the Council of Ministers and the Ministers of the different military Ministries.

BY ORDER OF THE  
CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF  
/s/ Gen. di Brigata P. Raccardi

*S.O. [Signature]*  
*for inf & files*

3179

*JRS*  
*7/6*

Allegato 4  
10A

Roma 14 Maggio. 1946

STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE

Ufficio II°

.....=

N° 205 di Prot.R.P.

- AL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE DEL R. ESERCITO.-
- AL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. MARINA
- AL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA.-

.....

OCCETTO: Impiego delle M.A.A. per ordine pubblico.

.....

Si trasmette, per conoscenza, copia della  
 lettera che il Capo di Stato Maggiore ha inviato al  
 Presidente del Consiglio dei Ministri ed ai Ministri  
 Militari.-

3178

D'ORDINE

UFFICIO DEL

OGGETTO: Impiego delle FF.AA. per ordine pubblico.

\*\*\*\*\*

Si trasmette, per conoscenza, copia della lettera che il Capo di Stato Maggiore ha inviato al

Presidente del Consiglio dei Ministri ed ai Ministri

Militari.-

3178

D'ORDINE  
IL CAPO DELL'UFFICIO DEL  
CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE  
(Gen. di Brig. P. Riccardi)  
f/to Riccardi.



FROM : STATO MAGGIORE

TO : THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS and for information  
 WAR MINISTRY  
 ADMIRALTY  
 AIR MINISTRY

DATE : 13TH MAY 1946

REF : R.E. 204

EMPLOYMENT OF ARMED FORCES PERSONNEL  
FOR PUBLIC ORDER PURPOSES

In July 1945, at a meeting on defense, the Ministers of the different Military Ministries jointly agreed on the necessity of dispensing with the use of personnel of the Armed Forces to keep public order, mainly to avoid the possibility that such use, being easily subject to political speculation, may lead to the Army being accused of anti-democratic and reactionary sentiments that will cause disruption between soldiers (natural representatives of the people) and officers (accused of constituting a sect) and may in short become the cause of defamation, bewilderment and disorganization in the Armed Forces and in the Nation.

I learn from the press that for highly justifiable reasons of which I am fully aware, Army Personnel are to be used to keep order during the forthcoming elections.

In addition to the serious moral repercussions outlined above which are to be feared mainly in the Army, there is the possibility of uncentrated reactions following the first announcements of the final result of the referendum, against distinctions marks, superiority of rank or military orders, matters of a high moral value and it is of the utmost importance that they should be respected until law provisions are issued by the Government.

I feel it my duty to point out to your Excellency that an event of nature might have consequences seriously affecting not only the organization of the Army and its laborious reconstruction

3177

10A(1)

the different Military Ministries jointly agreed on the necessity of dispensing with the use of personnel of the Armed Forces to keep public order, mainly to avoid the possibility that such use, being easily subject to political speculation, may lead to the Army being accused of anti-democratic and reactionary sentiments that will cause disruption between soldiers (natural representatives of the people) and officers (accused of constituting a sect) and may in short become the cause of defamation, bewilderment and disorganization in the Armed Forces and in the Nation.

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I feel it my duty to point out to your Excellency that an event of <sup>such</sup> nature might have consequences seriously affecting not only the organization of the Army and its laborious reconstruction but also the future of the whole nation.

II - I do not doubt that all sections of the Armed Forces will do their duty if each soldier feels that the impartial discipline governing his actions is recognized by the whole population.

I therefore deem it necessary that the Government take strong measures to safeguard the Armed Forces from any serious consequences which their presence may lead to. The measures I suggest are:-

- detailed instructions to the responsible authorities, aimed at providing the whole nation with rules governing the use of Army units, and above all restricting such employment to exceptional cases only as a last means to be resorted to when all other means of keeping order have failed.

*Handwritten signature*

- Notices, press articles and radio announcements urging the people to pay the fullest respect to military personnel during the performance of their duty, in the understanding that the purpose of their presence is to guard with absolute impartiality the people's freedom of expression.

Moreover, the Government's measures should be supported by precise obligations in harmony with those of the principal party leaders (at least those parties represented in the Government). Such obligations should take the form of orders to all branch organizations and proper instructions published in the Government news-papers.

I trust that Your Excellency will fully realize the gravity of this problem and the necessity of taking immediately such steps as will enable the Armed Forces to carry out their unpleasant task with confidence and to the advantage of the whole nation.

Will you kindly let me know your opinion and decision, if any, on this matter.

THE HEAD OF THE STAFF MAGGIORE  
/s/ Claudio Trezzani

3176



STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE

1946  
Roma 13 Maggio. 1946

N° 204. R.E. di prot.-

Al Sig. PRESIDENTE DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI.

e, per conoscenza  
\*\*\*\*\*

- Al Signor Ministro della Guerra.-
- Al Signor Ministro della Marina.-
- Al Signor Ministro dell'Aeronautica.-

\*\*\*\*\*  
OGGETTO: impiego delle FF.AA. per ordine pubblico.-

\*\*\*\*\*

I Fin dal luglio 1945, in sede di Comitato Difesa, i Ministri Militari afferma-  
 rono concordemente la necessità di dispensare le FF.AA. dai servizi di ordine  
 pubblico, soprattutto per evitare che tale intervento, facile oggetto di specu-  
 lazione politica, potesse fare attribuire alla FF.AA. sentimenti antidemocratici  
 ci e reazionari, provocare tentativi di scissione fra soldati (assunti quali  
 espressioni del popolo) e quadri (accusati di costituire una casta) e creare  
 in sostanza nuove cause di denigrazione, disorientamento e disgregazione nel-  
 le FF.AA. e nello stesso Paese.-

Motivi di forza maggiore, di cui mi rendo pienamente conto, impongono,  
 come apprendo dalla stampa, che le FF.AA. siano impiegate in servizio di ordi-  
 ne pubblico in occasione delle prossime elezioni.-

3175

Alle gravi ripercussioni morali soprainfocate, e che possono temersi  
 soprattutto nei riguardi dell'Esercito, sono da aggiungere inconsulte reazioni  
 soprattutto alle prime notizie sull'esito del re-

0 2 7 0

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Notivi di forza maggiore, di cui mi rendo pienamente conto, impongono, come apprende dalla stampa, che le FF.AA. siano impiegate in servizio di ordine pubblico in occasione delle prossime elezioni. -

3175

Alle gravi ripercussioni morali sopraindicato, e che possono temersi soprattutto nei riguardi dell'Esercito, sono da aggiungere inconsulte reazioni che potrebbero manifestarsi in seguito alle prime notizie sull'esito del referendum, contro simboli distintivi, gradi, e istruzioni militari, tutte entità d'alto valore morale che pertanto debbono essere da tutti rispettati fino a che non interverranno regolari provvedimenti di legge da parte del Governo. -

Sento il dovere di richiamare l'attenzione di V.S. sulle possibili gravi conseguenze che avvenimenti del genere avrebbero sulla compagine delle FF.AA. sulla loro faticosa ricostruzione e sulle stesse sorti del Paese. -

II- Sono sicuro che tutti i reparti delle FF.AA. assolveranno serenamente il gravoso e delicato compito cui saranno chiamati, se avranno la sensazione che, da parte di tutta la popolazione, è compresa e riconosciuta ./. .

(2)

L'imparziale disciplina che in ogni caso impronterà la loro azione.-

Ma ritengo indispensabile che da parte del Governo siano presi provvedimenti atti a garantire le FF.AA. contro le possibili gravose conseguenze del loro intervento.- Tali provvedimenti potrebbero concretarsi :

- in precise disposizioni alle autorità responsabili, nel senso sia di uniformare in ogni parte del territorio nazionale i criteri di impiego dei reparti militari, sia soprattutto di prescrivere che l'intervento di questi debba essere richiesto solo in casi eccezionali quale "ultima ratio", dopo esaurito ogni altro mezzo per la tutela dell'ordine pubblico;

- con invito alla popolazione a mezzo manifesti, comunicati stampa e radio al piu' assoluto rispetto dei militari nell'adempimento delle loro mansioni, in quanto tendono a garantire con assoluta imparzialità la libera espressione della volontà nazionale.-

I provvedimenti del Governo dovrebbero inoltre essere affiancati da precisi impegni nello stesso senso delle Direzioni dei Principali Partiti (almeno di quelli rappresentati nel Governo); impegni che dovrebbero prendere forma di ordini e tutte le organizzazioni periferiche e di una opportuna campagna svolta attraverso i propri organi di stampa.-

Sono certo che la S/V vorrà compenetrarsi della gravità del problema prospettato, e della necessità di provvedere tempestivamente affinché le FF.AA. possano affrontare serenamente, per il vantaggio del Paese, - questa spiacevole e forse pericolosa prova.-

Sarò grato se mi verrà fatto conoscere quanto in proposito si potrà creare.-



0 2 7 2

della volontà nazionale.-

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Sarò grato se mi verrà fatto conoscere quanto in proposito si farà con-  
cretare.-

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE

- f/to. Claudio Trezzani. -

Per copia conforme all'originale

L'UFFICIALE ADDETTO

(Col. Valente)

f/to Valente.

AIR MINISTRY

SUPPLEMENT TO BULLETIN NO. 5 DATED 25TH MAY 1946

For your information and guidance are herewith forwarded copies of the following two documents:-

- 1) - Text of the daily bulletin approved by the Council of Ministers in the meeting held on 23rd May 1946, relating to the Armed Forces and the forthcoming institutional referendum.

The Council of Ministers, having considered the situation of the Armed Forces in relation to the forthcoming institutional referendum and to the elections for the Constituent Assembly which will ascertain the political maturity of the nation:

- wishes to express once again its faith ~~in~~ the Commanders of the Armed Forces and ~~in~~ all the officers, non-commissioned officers, and enlisted men who devoted themselves to the just fulfillment of a generous task very often under intricate circumstances;
- stress that, while no limits have been established on the freedom of opinion and vote for the military personnel, their responsibilities to the Nation as well as the observance of the laws of the State remain unchanged.
- confirm once again the duty of all members of the Armed Forces to strictly observe the disciplinary measures, by remaining at their post in order to ensure at every moment and particularly after 2nd June, within the limits of their duties, the defence of the Country and of the institutions which shall be chosen and the maintenance of order in accordance with the instructions given by the Government.
- decides that flags and banners, as symbols of honor and fidelity to the future of the Country, as well as the badges and stars (rank) and any other insignia of the military uniform of the Armed Forces shall be fully respected by all citizens; any eventual modification shall be decided upon by the Government only; any illegal initiative shall be suppressed at once;

- warns all citizens to keep the highest respect towards the Armed Forces and instructs all Parties to carry out a serious and impartial political activity to this effect.

90(7)

and enlisted men who are under intricate circumstances;

- stress that, while no limits have been established on the freedom of opinion and vote for the military personnel, their responsibilities to the Nation as well as the observance of the laws of the State remain unchanged.

- confirm once again the duty of all members of the Armed Forces to strictly observe the disciplinary measures, by remaining at their post in order to ensure at every moment and particularly after 2nd June, within the limits of their duties, the defence of the Country and of the institutions which shall be chosen and the maintenance of order in accordance with the instructions given by the Government.

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- warns all citizens to keep the highest respect towards the Armed Forces and instructs all Parties to carry out a serious and impartial political activity to this effect.

- wishes to assure the military members that the Government, while demanding their scrupulous discipline, shall guarantee in all cases the integrity and dignity of the Armed Forces.

2) Letter received from the Ministry of the Interior dated 20th May 1948 dealing with Political Elections.

"From information received by this Ministry it is reported that very often members of the Armed Forces wearing the uniform, participate in public assemblies, parades and political manifestations making themselves conspicuous with immoderate and excessive acts which led to disturbances and incidents of a considerable importance.

9/11/48



Episodes of this kind which were caused by the very members of the Government Armed Forces, who have to be called upon to control the public order in the forthcoming popular assemblies, and to see that the results of the same be observed with impartiality, have had grave repercussions on the public.

I therefore request your Ministry to examine the above and see that any strong action which you may deem advisable, be taken in order that incidents of this kind will not be repeated.

THE MINISTER /s/ Romita

MINISTER CEVOLOTTIO

3172



# MINISTERO DELL'AERONAUTICA

Supplemento N. 5 al

Art.	Ente scrivente
1	Gabinetto

## FOGLIO D'ORDINI

25 Maggio 1946

Per conoscenza e norma si trascrivono i seguenti due documenti :

1 — *Testo dell'ordine del giorno approvato dal Consiglio dei Ministri nella seduta del 23 maggio 1946, relativo alle Forze Armate e all'imminente referendum istituzionale.*

Il Consiglio dei Ministri, esaminata la situazione delle Forze Armate in relazione con l'imminente referendum istituzionale e con le elezioni per l'Assemblea Costituente che saranno la grande prova della maturità politica della nazione :

— rinnova l'espressione della sua fiducia nei Comandanti delle FF. AA. ed in tutti gli Ufficiali, Sottufficiali e militari, impegnati in condizioni spesso difficili nell'adempimento imparziale di un nobile dovere;

— ribadisce che, mentre nessun limite è stato posto alla libertà di opinione e di voto dei militari, rimangono fermi i loro impegni di fedeltà alla Nazione e di osservanza delle leggi dello Stato.

— riafferma il dovere di tutti i componenti delle FF. AA. di rispettare nel modo più rigoroso le norme disciplinari, rimanendo al proprio posto, per assicurare in ogni momento, e specialmente dopo il 2 giugno, nell'ambito delle proprie attribuzioni, la difesa del Paese e delle istituzioni che esso avrà scelto ed il mantenimento dell'ordine in conformità alle disposizioni del Governo;

— stabilisce che le bandiere e gli emblemi, quali espressioni di onore e di fedeltà alla continuità della Patria, nonché i fregi, le stellette, ed ogni altro particolare delle divise dei militari delle FF. AA., dovranno essere integralmente rispettati da tutti i cittadini; ogni eventuale mutamento potrà essere deliberato soltanto dal Governo; ogni iniziativa illegale dovrà essere immediatamente troncata;

— rivolge invito a tutti i cittadini per il più assoluto rispetto verso le FF. AA., impegnando tutti i Partiti a svolgere una seria e rettilinea azione politica in tale senso;

— assicura i militari che il Governo, mentre richiede da essi una cosciente disciplina, garantirà in ogni caso la integrità e la dignità delle FF. AA.

2 — *Lettera pervenuta dal Ministero dell'Interno, datata 20 maggio 1946, all'oggetto: Elezioni Politiche.*

« Da segnalazioni pervenute a questo Ministero risulta che frequentemente militari in divisa intervengono a comizi, cortei o manifestazioni politiche in genere facendosi talvolta notare per gravi atti di intemperanza che hanno provocato perfino disordini ed incidenti di non trascurabile entità.

Episodi del genere, dei quali sono stati protagonisti proprio elementi delle Forze Armate dello Stato che dovranno essere chiamati a tutelare l'ordine nelle imminenti consultazioni popolari ed a fare osservare con imparzialità il risultato di esse, hanno prodotto nel pubblico dolorose ripercussioni.

Richiamo, pertanto, l'attenzione di codesto Ministero su quanto sopra, affinché esami quali energiche misure siano più opportune al fine di evitare il ripetersi di incidenti del genere. Il Ministro: F. TO: ROMITA ».

Il Ministro: CEVOLOTTO

FROM :- Air Forces Sub-Commission,  
Allied Commission, Milan.

TO :- S.I.O.  
Air Forces Sub-Commission,  
H.Q. Allied Commission, Rome.

DATE :- 25th May 1946.

REF :- AFSC/M/1/INT.

The enclosed translation of a cutting from  
the newspaper "Mattino d'Italia" dated 18 May 1946 is  
forwarded for your information.



*[Handwritten signature]*  
D.H.G. SMITH S/LDR  
Commanding  
A.F.S.C. MILAN.

3170

28/5  
N 588



forwarded for your information.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
8  
F10

D.H.G. SMITH S/IDR  
Commanding  
A.F.S.C. MILAN.



3170



TO THE TEMPORARY ARMY

Attention, Attention.

To all, servicemen.  
the moments we are going through can mean LIFE OR DEATH.

Why?

You have to choose between maintaining the present monarchist Army or to make the republican one.

You know very well the monarchist army. Your Officers and N.C.O.s (the ones that on the 8th September 1943 had no honour or dignity) want to keep their privileges and comforts, they sacrifice you under the pretext of a silly and unuseful discipline.

You must ~~submit~~ <sup>withhold</sup> yourselves from their power. A monarchist army would reconfirm the privileges of these officers, The Republican Army gives you freedom life, honour because it will abolish conscription.

After the 2nd of June 1946 (after the political elections) you could leave your barracks free to return to your homes. You have not sworn loyalty to anybody.

LONG LIVE THE REPUBLIC  
DOWN WITH MONARCHY

=====

The above advice has been given to the servicemen in Milan in the form of a leaflet. **3169**  
We hope that Italians have not forgotten what happened in 1919, it was just the same thing, the left parties insulted the officers, wounded people and soldiers, they tore away their medals, and instigated them against their own country.

... will never change

Army gives for  
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We hope that Italians have not forgotten what happened in 1919, it was just the same thing, the left parties insulted the officers, wounded people and soldiers, they tore away their medals, and instigated them against their own country.

The good citizens can clearly see that communists will never change, yesterday they insulted physically, today they are morally insulting the soldiers. The soldiers of the Italian Army, who after having fought for this country an unlucky war reconquered with their arms their fame and valour, the soldiers of this Army know that such an insult is a most shameful act.

This leaflet which is an evident instigation to revolution, so desertion, amounts to nothing but threats. These are the methods favoured by the communist agents.

But our soldiers know that for those who betray there is no honour neither in the monarchist Army or in the republican one, and so they will not follow the invitation emanating from people who have no honour and no love for their country.

=====



7A

From: Air Forces Sub Commission, H.Q. Allied Commission, ROME.

To: 276 Field Security Section, ROME.  
(Attention Capt. Spencer).

Date: 1st June, 1946.

Ref: AFSC/1122/INT

Enclosed herewith are translations of  
propaganda directed at causing disorders in the Italian  
Air Force during the election period for your information  
and any action which you may wish to take.

M.E. REID W/CDR  
for AIR VICE MARSHAL,  
DIRECTOR,  
A.F.S.C. ROME.

3168

6282

6A(7)

APPENDIX 6.

2ND TECHNICAL Z. A. T.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF AIR STAFF, REGIA AERONAUTICA.

Information received by the Chief of Air Staff from the 2nd AIT indicates that the following propaganda is being interspersed among Italian aircraft hand's general duties personnel.

1. To desert before June 2nd as no measures have been taken against those who resisted the call to arms after the liberation, and in view of the certainty that an amnesty will follow the elections for the Costituente and the Referendum.
2. If the referendum is favourable to the republic all soldiers will be free to leave the service and return home without having to wait for orders to leave camp, because with the advent of the Republic the Armed Forces will be released and reconstituted by voluntary service.
3. If the Referendum is favourable to the Monarchy, Officers will oppress their soldiers with the strictest discipline and in order to prevent this it would be opportune to eliminate the officers.

Padova  
21st May, 1946.

3167

SIC

*Handwritten note:* The mark left in the margin

the referendum.

- 2. If the referendum is favourable to the republic all soldiers will be free to leave the service and return home without having to wait for orders to leave camp, because with the advent of the Republic the Armed Forces will be released and reconstituted by voluntary service.
- 3. If the Referendum is favourable to the Monarchy, Officers will oppress their soldiers with the strictest discipline and in order to prevent this it would be opportune to eliminate the officers.

Padova  
21st May, 1946.

3167

S 10

*I think copy of this & the other attachment should be shown to Security for advice on action which should be taken - if any - rather late now.*

*MA 30/5-*



11/1/56  
6A

2ª ZONA ANFILA TERRINO LIM

PRO-MEMORIA PER IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. ARMATA AEREA.

Informazioni pervenute al Capo di Stato Maggiore della 2ª Z.A.F. riferiscono che fra il personale di truppa della categoria governo viene svolta propaganda sui seguenti tre punti:

1º - Disertare ancora prima del 2 giugno, dato che nessun provvedimento è stato adottato a carico dei renitenti alla chiamata alle armi dopo la liberazione e deve la certezza di un'amnistia che seguirà le elezioni per la Costituente e il Referendum.

2º - Se il Referendum sarà favorevole alla repubblica tutti i soldati saranno liberi di abbandonare il servizio e tornare a casa, senza bisogno di attendere provvedimenti di congedo o altro, perché con la repubblica le Forze Armate saranno sciolte e rimpiazzate con reclutamento volontario.

3) - Se il Referendum sarà favorevole alla monarchia gli Ufficiali opprimeranno i soldati con la disciplina più esosa ed allora, per evitare ciò, è opportuno eliminare gli Ufficiali.

Padova, li 21 maggio 1946.

3166

APPENDIX 7 SA(r)

TO THE MILITARY PERSONNEL OF THE PRESENT ARMY.

ATTENTION, ATTENTION !!!

Military personnel of all the Armed Forces,  
this very moment may mean LIFE or DEATH TO YOU!!!

WHY?

Because it means that we can either conserve the present Monarchic State of the forces, or replace it by a republican one.

The Monarchic one is known and has been tested by you. The Officers and N.C.O.'s who Command you (we mean the Officers and N.C.O.'s who on the 8th September did not know the meaning of 'honour and dignity' and who are now returning to the ranks) hide themselves under the cloak of a stupid and useless pretence at discipline in order to conserve their privileges, their comfort, through your over-taxed sacrifices, and be able to submit you to their egoistical capricious needs. They are leading you ~~into a war~~ <sup>to submit you to their wishes; as they led</sup> you into a war against your wishes which has recently torn to shreds and ruined our Italy.

It is up to you to refuse to satisfy their egoism and to make them understand that their game and their false aims are evident. A Royalist Army means a confirmation of their egoistical privileges, which are useless and damaging to us and to the people for the sake of a small number of individuals at the head of whom are the officers.

The Republican one gives you liberty, life, honour because enrolment would be voluntary and not obligatory.

Officers don't want a Republic because it would abolish 'swanky' ranks with which they could 'show off' and because it would place them in a position in which they would really have to work conscientiously to support and guide those persons whom Italy would confide to them.

The Officers who should have treated their appointment as a mission, a sacred mission, have only thrown you a chain which binds you and which reduces you to slaves and even prevents you from thinking for yourselves.

pretence at discipline in order to conserve their privileges, their comfort, through your over-taxed sacrifices, and be able to submit you to their egoistical capricious needs. They are leading you ~~to~~ <sup>to their</sup> wishes, as they led you into a war against your wishes which has recently torn to shreds and ruined our Italy.

It is up to you to refuse to satisfy their egoism and to make them understand that their game and their false aims are evident. A Royalist Army means a confirmation of their egoistical privileges, which are useless and damaging to us and to the people for the sake of a small number of individuals at the head of whom are the officers.

The Republican one gives you liberty, life, honour because enrolment would be voluntary and not obligatory.

Officers don't want a Republic because it would abolish 'swamy' ranks with which they could 'show off' and because it would place them in a position in which they would really have to work conscientiously to support and guide those persons whom Italy would confide to them.

3165

The Officers who should have treated their appointment as a mission, a sacred mission, have only thrown you a chain which binds you and which reduces you to slaves and even prevents you from thinking for yourselves.

We implore you, after June 2nd, 1946, (on completion of the Political elections) to abandon your barracks and return free to your homes. You are safeguarded by the fact that you have not sworn allegiance to anyone. Meditate and decide! The hour is near. Long live the Republic. Down with the Monarchy. Vote for the Republic.



0 2 8 7

Allegato 3 SP

AI MILITARI - SULL'ATTUALE ESERCIZIO DI FUNZIONAMENTO

ATTENZIONE, ATTENZIONI!!!!

Militari di tutte le Armi e Corpi,  
il momento che stiamo attraversando  
può significare per voi VITA o MORTE!!

P E R C H E'?

Perché si tratta conservare lo stato attuale dell'eser-  
cizio monarchico o di forgiare quello Repubblicano;

( - quello monarchico è da voi conosciuto e provato. Gli ufficiali  
e sottufficiali che vi sommano (intendiamo gli Ufficiali Sottuf-  
ficiali che l'8 settembre non conobbero l'onore e la dignità e che  
ora ritornano fra i ranghi) per poter mantenere e conservare i loro  
privilegi, le loro comodità, e per poter, dai posti a loro conservati  
dai vostri sacrifici angariarvi e sottoporvi ad i loro capricciosi  
voleri egoistici si mascherano sotto il pretesto di una stupida  
quanto inutile disciplina. Essi vi stanno trascinando in un conflitto  
civile e militare contro la vostra volontà, come contro la vostra  
volontà hanno voluta la guerra che recentemente ha straziata e rovi-  
nata la nostra Italia. -

A voi sta il sottrarvi ai loro voleri egoistici, nel far sentire  
che il loro giuoco e le loro false mire sono ormai palesi. Un eserci-  
to monarchico significa riconfermare nei loro privilegi egoistici,  
inutili e dannosi a noi ed alla massa, ad un ristretto numero di indi-  
vidui a capo dei quali stanno precisamente gli Ufficiali. -

( - quello repubblicano vi dà la libertà, la vita, l'onore perché lo  
arruolamento avverrebbe volontariamente e non per coscrizione oboli-  
gatoria. -

Gli ufficiali non vogliono la Repubblica perché essa abolisce  
senz'altro i titoli altisonanti di cui amano fregiarsi e perché li  
metterebbe in condizioni di dover veramente lavorare con coscienza  
nel sorreggere e guidare quella parte di popolo che l'Italia affida  
a loro. -

3106

... per loro una missione, una

e sottufficiali che vi sommano (intendendo gli ufficiali che l'8 settembre non combattero l'onore e la dignità e che ora ritornano fra i ranghi) per poter mantenere e conservare i loro privilegi, le loro comodità, e per poter, dai posti a loro conservati dai vostri sacrifici angariarvi e sottoporvi ai loro capricciosi voleri egoistici si mascherano sotto il pretesto di una stupida quanto inutile disciplina. Essi vi stanno trascinando in un conflitto civile e militare contro la vostra volontà, come contro la vostra volontà hanno voluta la guerra che recentemente ha straziata e rovinata la nostra Italia.--

A voi sta il sottrarvi ai loro voleri egoistici, nel far sentire che il loro giuoco e le loro false mire sono ormai palesi. Un esercito monarchico significa riconfermare nei loro privilegi egoistici, inutili e dannosi a noi ed alla massa, ad un ristretto numero di individui a capo dei quali stanno precisamente gli Ufficiali.--

( - quello repubblicano vi dà la libertà, la vita, l'onore perché lo arruolamento avverrebbe volontariamente e non per coscrizione obbligatoria.--

3184

Gli ufficiali non vogliono la Repubblica perché essa abbasserebbe senz'altro i titoli altisonanti di cui amano fregiarsi e perché li metterebbe in condizioni di dover veramente lavorare con coscienza nel sorreggere e guidare quella parte di popolo che l'Italia affida a loro.--

Gli Ufficiali, di ciò che doveva essere per loro una missione, una sacra missione, ne hanno fatto invece una catena che vi avvince e che vi ha ricotti in schiavitù impedendovi persino di pensare sanamente.--

Vi esortiamo, dopo il 2 giugno 1946 ( ad elezioni politiche fatte) ad abbandonare le caserme ritornando liberi alle vostre case! La vostra incolumità è già salvaguardata dal fatto che non avete prestato giuramento di fedeltà a MUSSOLINI.

MEDITATE E DECIDETE! L'ORA E' VICTIMA!

VIVA LA REPUBBLICA! = ABBASSO LA MONARCHIA!

VOTATE PER LA REPUBBLICA!

1  
: Air Forces Sub Commission.

To: Chief Commissioner,  
(Through Executive Commissioner).

Date: 28th May, 1946.

Ref: AFSC/1102/INT

Reference our 1122/INT dated 25th May, 1946,  
herewith a translation of a further wall-poster entitled  
"Open Letter to all Ministers" and drawn up by the  
Confederazione Italiana della Gente dell'Aria.

M.E. REID W/CDR  
for AIR VICE MARSHAL  
DIRECTOR  
AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION. 3163



ITALIAN CONFEDERACY OF AIR PERSONNEL.

## OPEN LETTER TO ALL MINISTERS

Convention Air Ministry - T.W.A. for the operation of Italian Air lines.

This Confederacy have been informed that during the next meeting of the Council of Ministers, 10 days before the elections for the Constituency, will take place a discussion concerning the agreement between the Air Ministry and T.W.A. for the operation of Italian civil air lines and request that the discussion be postponed until after the elections for the following reasons:

1. The National Congress for Civil Aviation which took place simultaneously at Rome and Milan (which the participation of Associations, Companies as well as of the Confederacy and private concerns, in addition to leading representatives of the aeronautical world) has approved unanimously a motion against the agreement, which has been defined against the national interest and dignity.
2. The agreement binds for ten years the Italian policy connected with air transport, a policy which has been laid down by a Minister and a General Director of the Italian Civil Aviation and Air Traffic (Col. Luigi GALLO) who, as it results from the first paragraph, have met with the unanimous disapproval and lack of faith of all the experts and people interested in this field. It would therefore be more opportune and more honest that the policy of the air transport should be established of the Constituency.
3. Even the American State Department which is competent in this matter has declared itself opposed to the agreement terms laid down by a private concern, as this would establish an effective monopoly contrary to the deliberations of the Chicago International Conference and all previous international practice which forbids members to acquire privileged positions in the internal affairs of the various countries.
4. Even the Code of Air Navigation prescribes that in any Italian Air Company the portion of Italian capital must be no less than two thirds of the total stock.
5. Up to date the cost for the maintenance of Air Companies, notwithstanding their operational inactivity, has been borne by the Government, awaiting the Allied Permission for the reopening of the service:  
Now that permission has been obtained, the largest Italian Company, employing 95% of the civil aviation personnel, is being liquidated in order to form a new Company, and this without any sound and justified motive.

- 2 -

This confederacy being aware of the present delicate situation which requires tranquility and discipline before the imminent elections, confides in the consciences and the know ability of the Ministers addressed, asking them to obtain the postponement of the above mentioned agreement and remains at their disposal for eventually needed explanations.

Expressing their highest regards

The Director Council.

3161

ITALIAN CONFEDERACY OF AIR PERSONNEL.

## OPEN LETTER TO ALL MINISTERS

Convention Air Ministry - T.W.A. for the operation of Italian Air Lines.

This Confederacy have been informed that during the next meeting of the Council of Ministers, 10 days before the elections for the Constituency, will take place a discussion concerning the agreement between the Air Ministry and T.W. A. for the operation of Italian civil air lines and request that the discussion be postponed until after the elections for the following reasons:

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Now that permission has been obtained, the largest Italian Company, employing 95% of the civil aviation personnel, is being liquidated in order to form a new Company, and this without any sound and justified motive.

5160

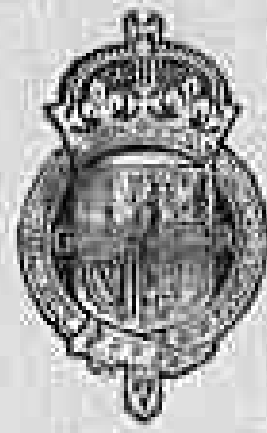


- 2 -

This confederacy being aware of the present delicate situation which requires tranquillity and discipline before the imminent elections, confides in the consciousness and the know ability of the Ministers addressed, asking them to obtain the postponement of the above mentioned agreement and remains at their disposal for eventually needed explanations.

Expressing their highest regards

The Director Council.



SI.O. 3A

Personal.

*With the compliments of*

*His Majesty's Ambassador at Rome*

25<sup>th</sup> May 1946  
Air Vice Marshal Brodie  
Air Forces Sub-Commission  
Atheis Commission

MR 25/5

0295

*Sheet*  
Translation of Poster

SCANDAL SCANDAL SCANDAL TO THE DETRIMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION  
(Above repeated 3 times in large type)/

Only 10 days before elections a Minister and a Colonel who have been earmarked by the unanimous lack of confidence of all persons and experts interested in the aeronautical field are committing the future of the nation in the air for 10 years against the interests of a large class of labourers at a time when the resumption of air traffic has been permitted.

22/5/46

*I showed this & the manifesto of 20/4 to Sir Pinner & told him that I had nothing whatever to do with this kind of thing.*

*[Signature]*  
22/5

*[Signature]*  
22/5

3159



# Federazione Italiana della Ente dell'Avia

Roma, 20 maggio 1946  
Via Boncompagni 19

## Lettera aperta a tutti i Ministri

Convenzione Ministero dell'Aeronautico - Soc. I. W. A. per la Gestione delle linee aeree italiane

Questa Federazione è venuta a conoscenza che nella prossima tornata del Consiglio dei Ministri, a dieci giorni dalle elezioni per la Costituente, verrà portata in discussione la convenzione Ministero dell'Aeronautica - Società T. W. A. relativa alla gestione delle linee aeree civili italiane, e ne richiede l'aggiornamento e dopo le elezioni per i seguenti motivi:

1. Il Congresso Nazionale dell'Aviazione Civile, svoltosi contemporaneamente a Roma e Milano (al quale hanno partecipato tutti gli Enti e Società, nonché Federazione e privati interessati, oltre ad eminenti esponenti del mondo culturale aeronautico) ha approvato all'unanimità una mozione contro l'accordo in parola, definendolo contrario agli interessi ed alla dignità nazionale.
2. L'accordo impegna per ben dieci anni la politica italiana dei trasporti aerei, politica fissata da un Ministro e da un Direttore Generale dell'Aviazione Civile e Traffico Aereo (Col. Luigi Gallo) che, come risulta dal punto primo hanno incontrato presso tutti indistintamente gli interessati e gli esperti in questo settore, l'unanime sfiducia e disapprovazione. Sarebbe quindi più opportuno e più onesto che la politica dei trasporti aerei venisse stabilita con quei metodi democratici che i cittadini italiani attendono dalla Costituente;
3. Perfino il Dipartimento di Stato Americano competente in materia si è dichiarato contrario alla Convenzione in parola stipulata da una Società privata, perchè con essa si istituirebbe un vero e proprio monopolio in contrasto con le deliberazioni della Conferenza Internazionale di Chicago e di tutta la precedente prassi internazionale che vietava ai diversi membri di accaparrarsi posizioni di privilegio nelle reti interne dei vari paesi;

158

1411. Navigation Aeronautics - prescrive che in qualsiasi Società di Navigazione

guenti motivi:

1. - Il Congresso Nazionale dell'Aviazione Civile, svoltosi contemporaneamente a Roma e Milano (al quale hanno partecipato tutti gli Enti e Società, nonché Federazione e privati interessati, oltre ad eminenti esponenti del mondo culturale aeronautico) ha approvato all'unanimità una mozione contro l'accordo in parola, definendolo contrario agli interessi ed alla dignità nazionale.

2. - L'accordo impegna per ben dieci anni la politica italiana dei trasporti aerei, politica fissata da un Ministro e da un Direttore Generale dell'Aviazione Civile e Traffico Aereo (Col. Luigi Gallo) che, come risulta dal punto primo hanno incontrato presso tutti indistintamente gli interessati e gli esperti in questo settore, l'unanime sfiducia e disapprovazione. Sarebbe quindi più opportuno e più onesto che la politica dei trasporti aerei venisse stabilita con quei metodi democratici che i cittadini italiani attendono dalla Costituente;

3. - Perfino il Dipartimento di Stato Americano competente in materia si è dichiarato contrario alla Convenzione in parola stipulata da una Società privata, perchè con essa si istituirebbe un vero e proprio monopolio in contrasto con le deliberazioni della Conferenza Internazionale di Chicago e di tutta la precedente prassi internazionale che vietava agli diversi membri di accaparrarsi posizioni di privilegio nelle reti interne dei vari paesi;

4. - Lo stesso Codice della Navigazione Aerea prescrive che in qualsiasi Società di Navigazione Aerea Italiana il capitale deve essere in misura non inferiore ai due terzi di proprietà italiana;

5. - Fino ad oggi lo Stato si è accollato la spesa del mantenimento di Società di navigazione aerea, per quanto queste fossero inattive, in attesa del permesso alleato di riprendere il volo. Al momento attuale, a permesso ottenuto, si liquida la più grande società italiana, nella quale lavora il 95% del personale dell'aviazione civile per crearne una nuova, SENZA ALCUN FONDATO E GIUSTIFICATO MOTIVO.

Questa Federazione conscia della delicata situazione attuale che richiede calma ed ordine alla vigilia delle elezioni, mentre si tiene a disposizione per eventuali schiarimenti, si rimette alla coscienza ed alla riconosciuta capacità della S. V. per ottenere l'aggiornamento della Convenzione sopra menzionata.

Con i sensi della più alta considerazione.

IL CONSIGLIO DIRETTIVO



10 2 9 8  
11  
Italiana

Now that the permission has been obtained, the largest Italian Company, employing 95% of the civil aviation personnel, is being liquidated in order to form a new Company, and this without any sound and justified motive;

This confederacy being aware of the present delicate situation which requires tranquility and discipline before the imminent elections, confides in the consciousness and the known ability of the Ministers addressed, asking them to obtain the postponement of the above mentioned agreement and remains at their disposal for eventually needed explanations;

Expressing their highest regards

The Directory Council

3157



ITALIAN CONFEDERACY OF AIR PERSONNEL

## OPEN LETTER TO ALL MINISTERS

Convention Air Ministry - ~~the~~ T.W.A. for the operation of Italian Air Lines;

This Confederacy have been informed that during the next meeting of the Council of Ministers, 10 days before the elections for the Constituency, will take place a discussion concerning the agreement between the Air Ministry and T.W.A. for the operation of Italian civil air lines and request that the discussion be postponed <sup>until</sup> after the election for the following reasons :

- 1) The National Congress for Civil Aviation which took place simultaneously at Rome and Milan ( with the participation of Associations, Companies as well as of the Confederacy and private concerns, in addition to leading representatives of the aeronautical world) have approved unanimously a motion against the agreement, which has been defined against the national interest and dignity;
- 2) The agreement binds for ten years the Italian policy connected with air transport, a policy which has been laid down by a Minister and a General Director of the Italian Civil Aviation and Air Traffic (Col. Luigi Gallo) who, as it results from the first paragraph, have met with the unanimous disapproval and lack of faith of all the experts and people interested in this field. It would therefore be more opportune and more honest that the policy of the air transport should be established by the democratic methods that the Italian people expect of the Constituency.
- 3) Even the American State Department which is competent in this matter has declared itself opposed to the agreement in terms laid down by a private concern, as this would establish an effective monopoly contrary to the deliberations of the Chicago International Conference and all previous international practice which forbids members to acquire privileged positions in the internal affairs of the various countries .
- 4) , Even the Code of Air Navigation prescribes that in any Italian Air Company the portion of Italian capital must be no less than two thirds of the total stock;
- 5) Up to date the cost for the maintenance of Air Companies, notwithstanding their operational inactivity, has been borne by the Government, awaiting the Allied permission for the reopening of the service;

From: Air Forces Sub Commission.  
To: Chief Commissioner.  
(Through Executive Commissioner).  
Date: 25th May, 1946.  
Ref: AFSC/1107/INT

On the instructions of the Director, Air Forces Sub Commission, the attached translation of a poster is passed for information.

2. The poster was stuck up at many points in Rome on the morning of 22nd May.

*Subegant*  
JAM.E. REID W/ODR  
for AIR VICE MARSHAL,  
DIRECTOR,  
AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION.

3155



2A

From: Air Forces Sub Commission.  
To: Chief Commissioner.  
(Through Executive Commissioner).  
Date: 25th May, 1946.  
Ref: AFSC/1107/INT

On the instructions of the Director, Air Forces Sub Commission, the attached translation of a poster is passed for information.

2. The poster was stuck up at many points in Rome on the morning of 22nd May.

*Reid*  
M.E. REID W/CDR  
for AIR VICE MARSHAL,  
DIRECTOR,  
AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION.

3154



SCANDAL SCANDAL SCANDAL

TO THE DETRIMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION.

At a distance of only ten days from the Costituente a Minister and a Colonel, branded with the mistrust of all the experts and interested parties in the Air Force, have pledged the Nation's future in aviation for 10 years, compromising the interests of a vast category of workers just at a moment when the resumption of air traffic is permitted.

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3153

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## SCANDAL SCANDAL SCANDAL

## TO THE DETRIMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION.

At a distance of only ten days from the Costituente a Minister and a Colonel, branded with the mistrust of all the experts and interested parties in the Air Force, have pledged the Nation's future in aviation for 10 years, compromising the interests of a vast category of workers just at a moment when the resumption of air traffic is permitted.

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3152



1A  
SCANDALO AI DANNI DELL'AVIAZIONE CIVILE.

A soli 10 giorni dalla Costituente un Ministro ed un Colonnello, bollati dall'unanime sfiducia di tutti gli interessati ed esperti del settore aeronautico impegnano l'avvenire aviatorio della Nazione per 10 anni compromettendo gli interessi di una vasta categoria di lavoratori proprio oggi in cui la ripresa dei traffici aerei è consentito.

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Manifesto affisso il mattino del 22 maggio 1946

3151



0305