

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NWD No. 785015

ACC

10000/136/124



10000/136/124

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, ITALY  
NOV. 1944 - JAN. 1945



## LIST OF PAPERS

227/CC

Office of the  
Chief Commissioner

Allied Commission

File under No. 227 WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, ITALY

~~SECRET~~

Page 1

| SERIAL<br>NUMBER | FROM—              | DATE      | TO—       | SYNOPSIS                                                                                            |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1                | AC VP Mtg          | 16 Nov 44 | Extract:  | Allies favor Women's suffrage                                                                       |
| 2                | AC VP Mtg          | 23 Nov 44 | Extract:  | Women's Suffrage Decree, comments<br>by Prime Minister.                                             |
| 3                | Ltr Garibaldi      |           | Stone     | Request for space in FWB papers                                                                     |
| 4                | Ltr Stone          | 29 Nov 44 | Edman FWB | Our policy favors women's suf-<br>frage. Cannot newspaper space be<br>granted to help the movement? |
| 5                | Ltr Edman          | 2 Dec 44  | Stone     | Newspaper space and FWB coopera-<br>tion assured.                                                   |
| 6                | Ltr CC 227, Stone  | 5 Dec 44  | Garibaldi | Newspaper space, FWB, personal-un-<br>official support assured.                                     |
| 7                | Ltr, Garibaldi     | 7 Dec 44  | Stone     | Tnx for ltr 29 Nov, 5 Dec; ano-<br>ther meeting being held, 8 Dec.                                  |
| 8                | Ltr Sylvia Sprigge | 4 Jan 45  | Stone     | Introducing Signorine Giunti and<br>Forti, pioneers in 'Vote for Women'                             |
| 9                | CC-227, Stone      | 31 Jan 45 | Bonomi    | Personal congrats on passing vo-<br>te on Woman's Suffrage.                                         |

3820

~~SECRET~~



CC 227

PERSONAL

31 January 1945.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

May I extend to you and your colleagues my personal congratulations for the action taken yesterday by the Council of Ministers in granting the right to vote to the women of Italy. As you know, this is a subject in which I have had keen personal interest and I am happy that you have taken this forward step which will be welcomed in all democratic countries.

The burdens of total war have been borne by women equally with men. This is as true in Italy as in any other country engaged in the struggle against Germany and Japan. It has therefore seemed to me that the least that the men of Italy could do was to recognize the women of Italy as their full partners before the war ends and the difficult years of Italy's rehabilitation begin. Thus your women could share equally in building representative government as they have in work and suffering and sacrifice. This recognition you have now given to Italian women in granting them the right to vote before your first elections.

I am certain, my dear Mr. Prime Minister, that yesterday's action will prove to be one of the outstanding acts of your administration.

Again, my personal congratulations and appreciation to you and your Ministers.

Sincerely,

ELLERY W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNA  
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi,  
The President of the Council of Ministers,  
Italian Government,  
Rome.

By Hand of Cando Apostolo 1215.

FILES A only



TEL. 478082

The Manchester Guardian

ITALIAN OFFICE  
16 VIA LUDOVISI  
ROMA

M Thursday 4.1.45.

Dear Admiral,

These two friends of mine Signorina Guanti and Signorina Forti are pioneers in the Votes for Women movement here. The former is a teacher of maths and the latter a secretary. They are organising very simple meetings in Southern Italy for Votes for Women and collecting signed petitions, + they would like to see you very much for a moment about their plans.

I am off to the partisans at Rimini early tomorrow or I would <sup>have</sup> liked to come with them to see you.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely  
Sylvia Sprigge

22/1/45



50 liters #110 Fiat  
gasoline

Unione Donne Italiane

681145 dalle 9 alle 5  
Via 4 Novembre 144

227/CC

38.2

(8)



Rome, December 7, 1944  
1, Via Pompeo Magno

Dear Commodore Stone: (4) (6)

I beg to acknowledge your very kind communication of November 29th and your letter of the 5th inst which has just reached me, also in the name of the Federation of University Women and of the Alleanza Femminile who wish me to express to you their very deep and sincere thanks for your kind help, appreciation and encouragement in our struggle for the vote.

The two above named associations are having a meeting tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock at the Botanical Institute in the Città Universitaria and several of the women will speak. We should be very pleased and flattered if you might think it possible and feasible to have some one of the News Division present at the meeting.

Again thanking you, very respectfully,

yours sincerely,

/s/ Annita Italia Garibaldi

227/111

38.4

(1)



Ros. e. December 7<sup>th</sup> 1944

Via Pompeo Magno, DEC 7 - RECD

Dear Commadore Stone,

I beg to acknowledge your very kind communication of November 29<sup>th</sup> and your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> inst which has just reached me, also in the name of the Federation of University Women and of the Alleanza Femminile who wish me to express to you their very deep and sincere thanks for your kind help, appreciation and encouragement in our struggle for the vote.

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(7)



very pleased and flattered if you  
might think it possible and feasible  
to have some one of the News Division  
present at the meeting.

Again thanking you, very respectfully,

Yours sincerely

Luigi Storti Garibaldi

Reflected about to

Endorse

7-24-1944



EWS/dfc

CC 227

5 December 1944

My dear Signorina Garibaldi:

Recently I sent you a copy of my letter to PWB dated November 29.  
In reply I have received the following:

(S) "I agree completely in the suggestion contained in your letter of November 29th, as a result of the request made by Annita I. Garibaldi. But I go one step further. I believe there should be complete coverage which would be in keeping with our directive for the week beginning November 11th, which said:

"Demands made by the Union of Italian Women for suffrage and representation in relief and reconstruction organization will be reported fully."

"I am asking Captain Anderson of our News Division to send out the reports over the UMN network and make the news available for all newspapers in Italy, as well as PWB directed papers."

Moreover I am told in the "Corriere" today that PWB gave some space to your recent release concerning your meeting with me. From this I gather that the way is now quite clear to you to get adequate coverage for your movement, which continues, I assure you, to have my personal and unofficial active interest and support.

Sincerely yours,

ELLERY W. STONE  
Commodore, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

38.

Signorina Annita I. Garibaldi  
1, Via Pompeo Magno  
Rome

cc: CofS  
A Files

FILES A



ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
INFORMATION AND CENSORSHIP SECTION  
**PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH**  
ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS  
P.W.B. UNIT No. 12 U.S.A.P.O. 512

3 December 1944

Commodore Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner  
Allied Commission  
Rome

Dear Commodore Stone:

"I agree completely in the suggestion contained in your letter of November 29th, as a result of the request made by Annita I. Garibaldi. But I go one step further. I believe there should be complete coverage which would be in keeping with our directive for the week beginning November 11th, which said:

"Demands made by the Union of Italian Women for suffrage and representation in relief and reconstruction organization will be reported fully."

I am asking Captain Anderson of our News Division to send out the reports over the UNM network and make the news available for all newspapers in Italy, as well as PWB directed papers."

Next week I am hoping that we may get together to discuss the early turnover of news distribution to the Italians. I should like very much to bring Captain Anderson along, since he is thoroughly familiar with many details of our proposal. Will you let Major Howard, or me, know when you will be free?

Sincerely yours,

*George W. Edman*  
GEORGE W. EDMAN  
A.D.P.W.O. Italy (Lib.)

cc: Lt. Col. Mauro  
Capt. Anderson

See (6)

38.5

(5)

227/cc



EWS/afe

29 November 1944

Dear Mr. Edman:

A few days ago I was waited upon by Annita I. Garibaldi and a number of other women interested in the movement to secure the right of suffrage for the women of Italy. One of the requests which they made of me was to see if I could help them get space occasionally for reports of their activities, in the PWB paper "Corriere di Roma". I am sure that they would not abuse the privilege.

Since our policy is to ensure the widest possible democratization of Italy, the U.S. and British Governments would look with favor, I know, upon granting the right to vote to the women of Italy before the next elections are held. I think it would be entirely in keeping with this policy, therefore, if PWB from time to time could give an appropriate amount of publicity to the women suffrage movement in this country in the various papers under your control.

Will you let me know if you agree?

Sincerely,

/s/

Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE  
Commodore, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

Mr. George W. Edman, A.U.P.W.O.  
Psychological Warfare Branch  
Italian Theatre Headquarters  
PWB Unit No. 12  
APO 512, U.S. Army

Copy to: Signorina Annita I. Garibaldi

Personal - Not for quotation or publication.

④

cc: CofS  
A Files

E.W.S.



## ALLEANZA PER I DIRITTI DELLA DONNA

Memorandum

To : Comm. E. STONE  
A.C. High Commissioner

The "Alliance for Women's Rights", which already displayed a great activity before Fascism, has the intent of maintaining and obtaining the parity of rights with men, including the right of voting and being elected both in the administrative and political ballots.

The Alliance is unpolitical and is associated with the "International Women's Alliance".

It has seats and correspondents in several towns of Italy.

V. Fantanella & Borghese 48

Dott. Teresita SANDESKY SCELEBA, President -

Teleps 62815

Ing. Rice CROVA, Secretary  
Dott. Lucia MAGLIANO, Coun.  
Romana ANTONELLI, Coun.

Italia GARIBALDI, Councillor  
Princ. Lydia DE LIGUORO, Coun.  
Elma VERCELLONI, Coun.

File  
"Women's Suffrage"

Annita J. Garibaldi

381

32375

1, Via Pompea Magna



## ALLEANZA PER I DIRITTI DELLA DONNA

Memorandum

To : Comm. E. STONE  
A.C. High Commissioner

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V. Fantanelli  
Dott. Teresa  
Te

Ing. Bice CROVA, Secretary  
Dott. Lucia MAGLIANO, Council  
Romana ANTONELLI, Council

LYDIA DE LIGUORO DEI PRINCIPI DI PRESICCE

File  
"Women's Suffrage"



TranslationItalian Federation of Women Graduates of Superior

In 1920, the Federazione Italiana tra le Superiori ('Fildis'), was founded in the Italian Federation of University Women (I.F.U.W.) London (Grosby Hall) and gathers the representatives also with the Institute for Intelligence

Besides helping the members to study making known the progress of women's culture, the Federation is to participate to all the work of women all over the world. Therefore the Federation communicated reports of and congresses, such as the Congresses for the scientific organization of work, libraries and regulating plans, etc...

The 'Fildis' always collaborated with that of the I.F.U.W., especially with that for collecting experts and lists of books; it participated in meetings (Paris, Oslo, Madrid, Geneva), it

Ten delegates participated to the Congress on intellectual unemployment and on organizations and an order of the day promoting labour exchanges for the women graduates.

The Italian members benefited of competitions for scholarships, and won them in many cases; the 'Fildis' founded scholarships for foreign members. The first was given to a Swiss; this activity was then interrupted because of the events.

The activity of the Hospitality Committees of the 'Fildis' was efficient and very much appreciated. These committees were founded in the 11 cities, from Turin to Palermo; they introduced the members to the local intellectual groups, helping their studies and researches by introductions, invitations, visits, to institutes and excavations, under the guidance of connoisseurs and specialists.

trans. E.O.

Spencer  
PWTB

for Space

in Noel Chas

10. 11. 45  
TO CONSIDERED  
W. H. S. S.

38.



TranslationItalian Federation of Women Graduates of Superior Institutes.

In 1920, the Federazione Italiana tra Laureate e Diplomate di Istituti Superiori ('Tildis'), was founded in Italy; in 1922 it joined the International Federation of University Women (I.F.U.W.) which has its seat in London (Grosby Hall) and gathers the representatives of 33 nations, collaborating also with the Institute for Intellectual Cooperation of Paris.

Besides helping the members to study in the country and abroad, and making known the progress of woman's culture in Italy, the chief aim of the Federation is to participate to all the various forms of the intellectual life of women all over the world. Therefore, in its orders of the day, the Federation communicated reports of and sent delegates to international congresses, such as the Congresses for Domestic Economy, Agriculture, Scientific Organization of Work, Libraries and Bibliography, Habitations and regulating plans, etc...

The 'Tildis' always collaborated with the various International Commissions of the I.F.U.W., especially with that for Intellectual Collaboration, indicating experts and lists of books; it participated in all the international meetings (Paris, Oslo, Madrid, Geneva), it gave books to the social sect etc.

Ten delegates participated to the Geneva meeting; they produced a memorandum on intellectual unemployment and on the efficacy of corporative organizations and an order of the day promoting the creation of national labour exchanges for the women graduates.

The Italian members benefited of competitions for scholarships, and won them in many cases; the 'Tildis' founded scholarships for foreign members. The first was given to a Swiss; this activity was then interrupted because of the events.

The activity of the hospitality committees of the 'Tildis' was effusions and very much appreciated. These committees were founded in the 11 seats, from Turin to Palermo; they introduced the members to the local intellectual groups, helping their studies and researches by introductions, invitations, visits, to institutes and excavations, under the guidance of connoisseurs and specialists.



## Federazione It. Laureate e Diplomate

The "Federazione Italiana Laureate e Diplomate di Istituti Superiori" (F.I.L.D.I.S.), born in 1920, was associated since 1922 to the "International Federation of University Women" (I.F.U.W., in London), which grouped round itself the representatives of 35 Nations and collaborated with the Institute for Intellectual Cooperation in Paris. (See all report).

The Federation, suppressed in 1935 by fascism, resumed its activity in July 1944, with the members who had constituted, in the intervening period, a group round the memory of the deceased President Dr. Isabella Grassi, and is now reorganizing its life in the liberated part of Italy.

For the present and for the future the Federation intends to take an active part to any initiative for the revival of the Country, connected with intellectual and women's problems. One of the most important factors for this scope is the participation of women, especially of the cultured sector, to national life and to this end the administrative and political vote is essential. The Federation stands for it with the "Alleanza Pro Suffragio Femminile".

Acting President  
dr. Libera Levi-Civita  
Via Sardegna 50  
Tel. 481920



FEDERAZIONE ITALIANA  
TRA LAUREATE E DIPLOMATE DI ISTITUTI SUPERIORI

Nel 1936 è sorta in Italia la Federazione Italiana tra Laureate e Diplomate di Istituti Superiori, detta "Fildis", confederata sin dal luglio 1934 con la Federazione Internazionale delle Donne Universitarie (I.F.U.W.), che ha sede a Londra (Crosby Hall) e riunisce intorno a sé le rappresentanze di 30 nazioni, collaborando anche con l'Istituto di Cooperazione intellettuale di Parigi.

Scopo precipuo della Federazione, oltre al facilitare lo studio alle socie nel Paese e all'estero, al far conoscere sempre più largamente il progresso della cultura femminile in Italia, è quello di partecipare a tutte le forme di vita intellettuale femminile internazionale. La Federazione ha perciò partecipato con ordini del giorno, relazioni ed invio di delegate a congressi internazionali quali quello per l'Economia Domestica, quello per l'Agricoltura, per l'Organizzazione scientifica del lavoro, per le Biblioteche e la Bibliografia, per l'Abitazione e i piani regolatori, ecc.

La Fildis ha sempre collaborato con le varie Commissioni Internazionali della I.F.U.W., tra cui principalissima quella per la Cooperazione intellettuale, segnalando esperte e elenchi di libri ecc.; ha partecipato a tutte le assemblee internazionali (Parigi, Oslo, Madrid, Ginevra), ha fatto dono di libri alla sede sociale ecc.

Alla riunione di Ginevra intervennero dieci delegate, con una relazione sulla disoccupazione intellettuale e sull'efficacia degli ordinamenti corporativi e con un ordine del giorno auspicante la costituzione di uffici nazionali di collocamento e di orientamento professionale per le laureate.

Le socie italiane profittarono dei concorsi a borse di perfezionamento, riportando la vittoria in molti casi, e borse di scambio si cominciavano ad istituire dalla Fildis stessa per socie straniere. La prima fu assegnata ad una svizzera, dopo di che questa attività fu troncata dalle vicende del nostro Paese.

Efficace ed assai apprezzata è l'attività dei Comitati di ospitalità della Fildis, fondati in tutte le undici sedi, da Torino a Palermo, con lo scopo di introdurre le socie negli ambienti culturali locali, agevolandone gli studi e le ricerche mediante presentazioni, inviti, visite ad istituti, scavi ecc., sotto la guida di conoscitori e specialisti.



S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
Office of the Chief Commissioner  
APO 394

CC 321-6

23 November 1944

M I N U T E S

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 0930 hours, 23 November 1944,  
Office of the Chief Commissioner, Hq Allied Commissio, Rome.

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10. Women's Suffrage

The Chief Commissioner said that he had a discussion with the Prime Minister on this subject and was informed that while the parties of the extreme left and right favored it, the other parties were waiting to see what the feeling in the North would be. It was, therefore, rather unlikely that a decree would be adopted at an early date.

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S E C R E T

38\*

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COPY

JAQ/dfe

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
Office of the Chief Commissioner  
APO 394

CC 321-6

16 November 1944

M I N U T E S

Vice Presidents' meeting, 1000 hours, 16 November 1944,  
Office of the Chief Commissioner, Hq Allied Commission,  
Rome.

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17. Women's Suffrage

On the question of women's suffrage Mr. Macmillan  
suggested that the Chief Commissioner should mention  
informally to the Italian Government tha the Allies would  
view with favour the extension of the vote to women in this  
country.

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381-

16 Nov.

Q. M. C. Form 353 (Old No. 400)  
Revised July 20, 1918

## LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. 000.1

POLITICS (5).

| SERIAL NUMBER              | FROM—                  | DATE            | TO—                                       | SYNOPSIS                                                                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 225) —                     | —                      | 6 JULY 44       | —                                         | COMPOSITION OF BONOMI CABINET.                                                        |
| 226) A/C 000.1.            | CPT. STONE             | 9 JULY 44       | AFHQ (ATT. G5).                           | ENCLOSING LIST OF CABINET (RE. 225)                                                   |
| 229) FK-10763              | AFHQ. SQW. SACRED      | 10 JUL.         | A/C. COMMISSIONER.                        | INSTIT. PROBLEM OF 14 JULY SUBMITTED TO CHIEFS OF STAFF.                              |
| 233) REC ADV. 454          | CAPT. STONE.           | 13 JULY.        | AFHQ. ACTION. G5.                         | DATH FOR MEMBERS OF ITAL. GOVERNMENT REPAIRED TO IN NP 230.                           |
| 234) ALL ADV. 513          | CPT. STONE.            | 14 JULY 44.     | AFHQ. FOR D. R. TUNICER<br>ATT. REL. ADV. | CROCE DECIDES TO WITHDRAW FROM GOVT. ON MARSHAL IN ROME. PROBABLY REPLACED BY SOLDAI. |
| 235) REC 589               | CPT. STONE.            | 14 JULY.        | AFHQ. FOR G-5.                            | CROCE'S RESIGNATION NOT ACCEPTED.                                                     |
| 236) REC 1026              | CAPT. STONE.           | 27 JULY         | AFHQ FOR G-5.                             | CROCE INSISTS ON RESIGNING.<br>CARADINI TO TAKE HIS PLACE.                            |
| 237) REF. 530<br>A/C 000.1 | CARADIA<br>CAPT. STONE | 15 AUG.<br>16 " | AFHQ, G5, BRM, USPA.<br>AFHQ, G5          | ITALIAN POLITICAL PARTY TENDENCIES-<br>FUSION OF OF SOCIALISTS + COMMUNISTS,<br>ETC.  |
| 238) AA/86581/86           | HIRSCH<br>CAPT. STONE  | 15 "<br>18 "    | CAPT. STONE<br>POL. SEC. & EX. COMM.      | REPORT BY S.M. RE COMMUNIST<br>ACTIVITIES IN ITALY DURING ALLIED<br>OCCUPATION.       |

INSTRUCTIONS.—When papers on a subject become numerous they will be numbered serially and brief entries made on this form.

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