

ACC

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PUBLIC
OCT. 19

10000/136/523

PUBLICITY & PUBLIC PRESS, GENERAL
OCT. 1944 - MAY 1945

9251/CO

LIST OF PAPERS

Office of the
Chief Commissioner

File under No. 9251 PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC PRESS, GENERAL

ALLIED COMMISSION

From: 15 Oct 44

To: 16 May 45

SECRET

Volume III

Page 18

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM	DATE	TO	SYNOPSIS
191	Prunas, 15/04624/12	6 Apr 45	Stone	Protest Stars & Stripes story on sub- scription for Slavic Red Cross.
192	100/IRB, Brown	11 Apr 45	Prunas	Stars & Stripes story on subscriptions for Yugoslav Red Cross.
193	Statement, Stone	13 Apr 45	Press	CC's statement on death of President.
194	Memo Brown PRO	28 Apr 45	CC	Poletti reported to have said he was resigning his position as Reg C Milan.
195	353/R1/IRB	28 Apr 45	Release	Poletti denies any such statement.
196	IRB/100 Brown PRO	2 May 45	Exec Comm	Public Relations in Forward Areas.
197	Cbl AC PRO, 6765	2 May 45	AMG 8 Army	It corresponds to Army areas.
197a	Ltr, APB, Radford	7 May 45	CC	Protest against Ital Press Decree of 5 Jan and request remedial action by IG.
198	Cbl AMG 8 Army, M-949	8 May 45	AC PRO	It corresponds to Army areas.
199	Memo, ELAR	11 May 45	Bonomi	Allied censor impeding broadcasts on Trieste problem. 1270
200	53/IRB, Brown	11 May 45	CC	Groce's difficulties getting his books printed.
201	CC 9251, CC	12 May 45	Macmillan	Groce's difficulties getting his books printed.
202	Memo, Lannin	13 May 45	Lush	"CC directs no change in name be made without concurrence IG and AFHQ...."
203	Memo, Lannin	13 May 45	Lush	"CC won't take responsibility change name of CORRIERE DI SERA"....
204	Memo, Quayle	15 May 45	Exc	If political censorship is being exer- cised over ELAR, it must be stopped.
205	CC 9251, Stone	16 May 45	Bonomi	APB protest Ital Press Decree of 5/1, and request remedial action by IG.

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Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

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176	Cbl S-420, Stone	12 Feb 45	SACMED	Articles in Stars & Stripes and Union Jack re Marcantonio's statements in Congress damaging to AC.
177	502/38/COS, Lush	16 Feb 45	INC, AFHQ	Attacks in It Press on serving It off and necessity of applying censorship.
178	Memo, Stone	19 Feb 45	DEF	Statement denying Sen Briges' publishing of Armistice Terms.
178a	R5c/FRB, Ex Com.	20 Feb 45	Distr 'A'	Interview with It Journalists.
179	Memo, Stone	23 Feb 45	Ex Com	Request short statement for press on AC offers w/drawn fr So....
179a	13/IRB, Stewart Brown	26 Feb 45	CC	Suggest pamphlet reviewing AC ops.
180	Ltr Luigi Barzini	2 Mar 45	Col Munro	On invite to enter name for journalists' visit to London.
180a	17/FRB, Stewart Brown	6 Mar 45	CC	Increase in T/O of FRB by 3 Officers.
181	15/FRB, Brown	16 Mar 45	Quayle	Proposed film outlining AC rels w Italy
182	17/FRB, Stewart Brown	16 Mar 45	CC	Comments/recommendations FRB Fld Staf
183	Ltr Giovanni Armenise	27 Mar ??	Stone	Complaint against sequestration of his newspapers, etc.
184	Memo, Macmillan	28 Mar 45	CC	Dr. Croce's difficulties in getting his books printed.
185	Memo, Macmillan	28 Mar 45	CC	Civitavecchia publicity proposal.
186	107/FRB, Brown	30 Mar 45	CC	Civitavecchia publicity proposal.
187	Memo, Stone	2 Apr 45	Macmillan	Civitavecchia publicity proposal
188	8271/16/EC, Stone	3 Apr 45	D/PWB, AFHQ	AC objects to PWB-released publication "Armed Forces"; PWB shd consult with Land Forces SC before issuing on It Army.
189	53/FRB, Stone (Fiske)	3 Apr 45	G-5 AFHQ	Dr Croce's difficulties in getting his books printed.
190	CC 9251, Stone	5 Apr 45	A/Pres.	Dr. Croce's difficulties in getting his books printed.

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Office of the
Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

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PART III

** Files First Series #000.7-1

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM--	DATE	TO--	SYNOPSIS
165	Ltr, Stone	22 Dec 44	Edman	Political contents of broad- casts by R.A.I.
165a 166	"Economist" Ltr Edman	23 Dec 44 30 Dec 44	Stone	"Anti-Br propaganda in U.S." Political contents of broad- casts by R.A.I.
167	Ltr Perrone Bros.	11 Jan 45	Stone	Discontinuation of 'Corriere di Rome' and need for new paper.
167a	Ltr Buscarlet	15 Jan 45	Stone	Attacks press on serving officer
168	Ltr Buscalet AFSC/R/20/Sp Int	16 Jan 45	Stone	Attacks in press on serving officers of Ital Armed Forces.
169	37/PRO, Lush	24 Jan 45	Land Forces S/C	'Off-Record' handout to Allied & Italian Press.
170	Ltr Buscarlet AFSC/R/20/Sp Int	24 Jan 45	CC	Ital version on attack on Remon- dino in Voce Repubblicana 24 Jan.
170a	Ltr Br Embassy Rome	26 Jan 45	Stone	Macmillan's message on attacks on Remondino in Voce Repubblicana 1/21
171	Aide Memoire (Lush)	27 Jan 45	Bonomi	Attacks in Ital Press on serving officers in It Navy and It Air Force SAC directs they must stop.
172	CC-9251, Quayle	27 Jan 45	1st Secy Br Embassy	Thanks for Macmillan's message on attacks on serving officers It Ad F.
172a	Gasparotto, Air SC	30 Jan 45	Air SC - COS	Press attacks on serving officers and tightening of censorship.
173	CC-9251, Stone	1 Feb 45	Macmillan	Ltr & Aide Memoire presented to Bonomi on attacks on serving offi- cers; will press for answer.
174	Ltr Bonomi 26342/ 10124.63	2 Feb 45	Stone	Attacks on serving It officers in It Press, means of stopping it.
175	CC-9251, Stone	6 Feb 45	Macmillan	Attacks on serving It Officers in It Press; Bonomi's answer.
175a	'IL GLOBO'	11 Feb 45		Defense of the AC (by an Italian

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Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

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154	Ltr, Col Munro	10 Nov 44	'Unita'	Attacks against SIM and USEISA will cease.
155	Ltr, Munro, APB	10 Nov 44	"L'Italia Libera"	Attacks against SIM by any newspaper will not be tolerated.
155a	Ltr Rusca	12 Nov 44	Henderson	Ltr to Edman, FRB, urging separation of certain ELAR personnel.
155b	Ltr Fielden 66/7	12 Nov 44	A/CC (AC Anniversary)	French complaint of anti-French books being sold by Italians.
156	Ltr Venosta 03921/36	13 Nov 44	Stone	Italian newsreels - 'Luce'.
156a	Ltr Bonohi, 3002	14 Nov 44	Stone	
157	Ltr Stone, P/743	18 Nov 44	Venosta	French complaint of anti-French books being sold by Italians.
157a	Ltr Stone 14601/PS	18 Nov 44	Actg Pres., AC	Criticism of Police Agencies.
157b	Ltr MacMillan	19 Nov 44	CC	Criticism of Police Agencies.
158	Memo, Quayle	20 Nov 44	Stone	Jackman-Quayle telephone conversation: Discussions on "Civilian News Agencies."
159	Ltr Stone 6512/CCS	20 Nov 44	Suslopárov	AC will not stop sale of Trotsky "Life of Lenin" by Italians.
160	Ltr Stone AC/14601/20/PS	25 Nov 44	Munro, APB	Criticism of Police Agencies.
161	Cbl AC FRB 7413	1 Dec 44	AGWAR for FRB, WD, CA Div WD, G-5	AC FRB now athzd accredit political correspondents cover Ital affairs exclusive of mil. operations.
162	Ltr G-5: 314.7-1	3 Dec 44	CC, AC	Survey of Years' Work: ACC/AMG
163	Ltr, Munro, (APB)	5 Dec 44	Stone	Criticism of Police Agencies.
163a	Memo Stone	11 Dec 44	COS	AC FRB Weekly Bulletin.
163b	9251/12/COS, Lush	15 Dec 44	CC	Ital Press becoming licentious.
164	Ltr Fielden 20FRB	19 Dec 44	CC	Nenni's press interview in London accuses AC of being "proFascist"

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File under No. 000.7-1 PUBLICITY & PUBLIC PRESS

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SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
143	Ltr. Fielden, FRB/20A	15 Oct 44	A/CC	Proposed Italian News Agency.
143a	Ltr. Fielden, FRB/20A	17 Oct 44	A/CC	Italian radio, cinema & press.
143b	Ltr. Lush, 6512/CO3	18 Oct 44	Soviet Rep, ACC	Distribution in Italy of Soviet films.
144	Maj Quayle	19 Oct 44	Mr. Schott	Complaint by Spanish Charge d'Affaires against article in Stars and Stripes.
145	Ltr, Mr. Caccia	18 Oct 44	Col Wilmer	Re Italian news agency, broadcasting system and film industry.
146	Ltr, Fielden, FRB/R20	21 Oct 44	A/CC via COS	Stoppage of 'Il Messaggero' not fault of AFB or PWB.
147	Ltr, Comm. Stone A/CC 000.7-1	23 Oct 44	Benoni	What will be functions of "Director General of the Press." INCL: Ltr, Fielden, FRB/R20b, 21 Oct.
148	Ltr, Comm. Stone A/CC 000.7-1	23 Oct 44	G-5 AFHQ	Request instructions on proposed reestablishment of Italian News Agencies, broadcasting and films.
148a	PC(44) 117	25 Oct 44	Pol. Committee	Policy regarding freedom of the press and private news agency-Italy.
149	Political Secre- tariat AFHQ	1 Nov 44	A/CC, AC	Policy regarding Italian news, films and broadcasting to be discussed at Political Committee Mtg.
150	Ltr, Finance SC	4 Nov 44	A/CC	Request for auth. for publishing newspaper - Sig. Arturo Girolamo.
151	Ltr, Stone P/740	6 Nov 44	G-5 AFHQ	Delegation by AFB to Italy of power re licensing publications and control of paper. INCL: Ltr, AFB Chairman 1 Nov 44.
152	Ltr Infante 611/PS	6 Nov 44	Comm. Stone	Publication of Monarchical papers.
153	Ltr Stone P/743	9 Nov 44	Venosta	Italians selling books of anti-French character.

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CC 9251

16 May 1945.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I enclose a copy of a letter which I have received from the Allied Publications Board regarding the Italian Press Decree of 5 January. With reference to paragraph 5 of the letter, may this Commission be advised what remedial action is proposed by the Italian Government in implementation of your Excellency's statement to the National Press Federation.

Yours very truly,

1268
S. 24 May 74
9251/CC
Ellery W. Stone

See 212
ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

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

DISTRIBUTION:

205
Allied Publications Board
Public Relations Branch, AC
Executive Commissioner
CC Files

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CC 9251

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Yours very truly,

See 742 Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

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

DISTRIBUTION:

Allied Publications Board
Public Relations Branch, AC
Executive Commissioner
CC Files

205

S: 24 May
74

1265

9251/CC

JAG/hjp

15 May 1945

TO: Office of the Executive Commissioner, Hq A.C. 149

1. Attached is a memorandum received by the Chief Commissioner from the President of the Council of Ministers.

2. The Chief Commissioner directs that a copy of this memorandum should be sent to G-5 Section AFHQ pointing out that it appears that political censorship is being exercised and that if this is the case, prompt action should be taken to stop it.

/s/ J. A. Quayle

J. A. QUAYLE
Major, R. A.
Staff Officer to CC

Encl.

See 206

6251/CC
126A

204

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSIO

Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

JL/jdm

13 May 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR BRIGADIER LUSH:

The Admiral does not wish to take the responsibility of changing the name of CORRIERE DI SERA which would be in violation of their Four-Party agreement; further he does not wish PWB or ourselves to originate the motion for a change but says that it should properly come from the Italians.

No word has been passed to Colonel Munro.

Chief Commissioner."

J. LAMBLEY
Lt., USNR
Aide

CC FILE

4251/cc

203

13 May 1945

MEMORANDUM TO BRIGADIER LUSH

Sir:

1. Admiral Stone's answer is that "No change in name can be made without concurrence of Italian Government and AFHQ with whom matter so far has not been discussed.
2. Passed this to Colonel Moure in Florence who is carrying it back to Milan tonight.
3. We are to inform Colonel Moure if the date set by General Crittenden of this coming Tuesday can be extended until CINAI Delegation returns.
4. Admiral Stone is waiting to discuss this with Mr. Brown as soon as we can locate him.

/s/ J. LANNIN
Flag Lt. USNR
Aide

9251/22
1945

MEMORANDUM TO BRIGADIER LUSH

Sir:

1. Admiral Stone's answer is that "No change in name can be made without concurrence of Italian Government and AFHQ with whom matter so far has not been discussed.
2. Passed this to Colonel Monro in Florence who is carrying it back to Milan tonight.
3. We are to inform Colonel Monro if the date set by General Crittberg of this coming Tuesday can be extended until CIMA/ Delegation returns.
4. Admiral Stone is waiting to discuss this with Mr. Brown as soon as we can locate him.

/s/ J. LANNIN
Flag Lt. USNR
Aide

9251/CL
1289

202

EWS/hjp

12 May 1945

CG 9251

TO: Mr. Macmillan
FROM: Chief Commissioner

184

On March the 2nd you asked me to see what could be done to help Dr. Croce out of a difficulty in getting his books reprinted.

The matter was taken up with G-5 AFHQ from whom word has just been received that a satisfactory arrangement has now been reached whereby Laterza, Dr. Croce's old publisher, is now using part of his printing equipment to reprint Dr. Croce's books.

/s/ E.W.S.
E.W.S.

4251/cc
1252

207

MAY 12 RECD
CC 0930

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

11 May 1945

53/PRB

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

184

On the 28th of March the Acting President brought to your attention certain difficulties which Dr. Croce was experiencing in getting his books reprinted by his old publisher, Laterza, in Bari.

We took up the matter with G-5 AFHQ and have just received word that a satisfactory arrangement has been reached whereby Laterza is now using part of the printing equipment to reprint Dr. Croce's books.

I assume you would like to pass on this information to the Acting President.

[Signature]
G. STEWART BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch

200 (184)

[Signature]

4261
C1251/cc

200

Translation

MAY 14 RECD
CC H 35

MIAR

Memorandum for the President of the Council

On the evening of May 10th, Prof. Gonella spoke on the radio about the Trieste problem.

The allied censor censored two lines of the comment which was nevertheless integrally published in the paper 'Il Popolo'.

The allied censorship took this opportunity to assert that the language of Radio Rome authorized the Roman press to lay a stress on the Trieste question, and asked that the comments on Trieste be submitted to censorship 24 hours in advance.

It is obvious that this order makes any comment whatever impossible.

See (204)

Rome, 11/5/1945

4251/5
1945

e.c.

(199)

RESTRICTED

M949
MAY 081620B

B/106
MAY 100700B
PRIORITY

MAIN AMO 8TH ARMY
HQ ALCOM FOR ACPRD

RESTRICTED.

Reference your 6765 of 2.

Army authorities do not want Italian correspondents either category in 8th Army
Area at the moment.

DIST

ACTION: PR Br
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
File 2
Float

198

~~RESTRICTED~~

2268

9257/02

OFFICE OF THE
ALLIED PUBLICATIONS BOARD
62 VIA VENETO, ROME
TELEPHONE 489171 EXTENSION 178

Page 2

5. The A.P.B., to which, as constituted by AFHQ Administrative Memorandum No 50, is reserved the right of intervention in cases involving undemocratic practices, feels it necessary to report this matter to the A.C. with the request that these views be forwarded to the Italian Government and that the Board be informed of the remedial action taken by the Italian Government in accordance with the promise made by Premier Bonomi.

B. A. Paley Radford
CHAIRMAN

F. Rarney
for EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

4283

1974

THE ITALIAN NATIONAL PRESS FEDERATION
Rome

The Directive Council of the Italian National Press Federation, in its meeting of 13 March 1945 examined the problems of greatest interest to the Press and to journalists at this time, and reached the following conclusions:

I. The Federal Directive Council had already passed a motion in its sitting of 24 Nov. 1944 that the Undersecretariat for Press and Information should be gradually suppressed.

During the subsequent ministerial crisis which led to the formation of the second Bonomi Ministry, the Government accepted this motion and the Undersecretariat for Press and Information was transformed into the Undersecretariat for Press, Theatre and Tourism, with the explicit declaration that the "General Directorate of the Press" would be speedily liquidated.

Later, on 18 December 1944, the Federal Directive Council was received by the Prime Minister, who confirmed the assurances recorded above.

However, it being ascertained that up to this moment the Government has not put into execution their proposals and promises, the Federal Directive Council renews the motion expressed by it and, in particular, that for the suppression of the General Directorate of the Press, an organ which, in the ambiguity of its character and the uncertainty of its functioning, has revealed itself as not being helpful to a free and democratic Press regime.

2. The Federal Directive Council refers to the motion passed on 24 November 1944, in which was demanded the reconstruction of the National Press Commission. This was presented, together with a memorandum, on 18 December 1944, to the Prime Minister, who declared his agreement with the ideas therein expressed.

1970

- 2 -

The Federal Directive Council records:

that the said memorandum, presented and explained in the presence of the National Press Commission on 20 December 1944 by colleagues Azzarita and Vernocchi, chosen for that duty by the Federal Council, was accepted by the Commission;

that on 7 July 1944, the Undersecretariat for Press and Information, in its request to the Press Federation for the appointment of three of its representatives to the National Press Commission, set out a draft decree (of which it sent a copy) in which was foreseen the institution of the said Commission with the powers of granting, suspending and revoking licenses of authorization for publications of a periodical nature;

that the Federation agreed to this request, and that the National Press Commission, right from its outset, has functioned on the basis of the powers above defined, - as is clear both from the minutes of the said Commission, and from the measures deliberated and put into execution by the Prefectural Authorities - ;

that the reduction of control on the part of the Allied authorities over the Italian Press, effective on 1 January 1945, a control which was already exercised by the Italian Commission with the participation of Allied representatives, was by those Allied authorities expressly bound up with the handing-over of that same control to the National Press Commission, (point 3 AFHQ memo. No 50, 25 November 1944) - the full powers remaining for the granting and revocation of licenses of authorizations for publications, the Allies reserving the right to request of the said Press Commission suspension or revocation of licenses for military reasons;

197a

- 3 -

that, in contrast to the resolutions of the Allies and to the constant practice referred to above, on 5 January 1944 a decree was issued by the Prime Minister, published in the Official Gazzetta of 3 February 1945 No 15, which suddenly, and for the first time, attributes to the National Press Commission a consultative function;

that on the occasion of the measures previously agreed with the Undersecretariat for the Press and deliberated by the National Press Commission on 19 February 1945, attention was drawn for the first time to the consultative character which the Commission was alleged to have, to explain the non-execution, on the part of the Government, of the measures referred to above;

noting, and calling attention to all these points, the National Press Commission reasserts its original character, with which it was instituted and which was confirmed by the expressed determination of the Allies, - who thus intended to limit governmental influence in press matters, - and declares that it is ready to participate, with its representatives, in a National Press Commission furnished with the powers originally conferred on it and uninterruptedly exercised, - recognizing in it a guarantee of the liberty of the press, notwithstanding the discipline temporarily imposed by the necessities of a time of war, - with its effective reconstruction, according to the criteria of the motion and the memorandum herein recorded earlier on.

3. The Federal Directive Council, referring to the unanimous motion passed on 5 January 1945 for the gradual reinstatement of the liberty of the press, records:

that the authorizations of new daily papers at Rome, Naples and elsewhere, approved unanimously by those present at the meeting of the National Press Commission on 22 January 1945 were granted by the Federal representatives of the Press Commission in consequence of the knowledge of the following factual

1972

- 4 -

data regarding the favourable prospects of the paper situation;

a) authorization; on the proposal of the Undersecretariat, of a weekly four page number for the dailies;

b) re-distribution, on the proposal of the Undersecretariat, among the other Rome dailies of the 105 thousand copies extra, following the cessation of the "Corriere di Roma" and the equalization of the circulation of the "Giornale del Mattino", - a re-distribution which should not have been made if the paper prospects were not favourable;

c) proposal of the Undersecretariat to assign to the new dailies a number of copies greater than that of 10.000 shown under experimental heading in the Federation's motion of 5 January 1945;

d) proposal put forward by the National Association of Newspaper Editors to the administrations of the dailies that they could choose between the ordinary and calandered papers, save for the difference in price;

that, on the contrary, the situation of newsprint was then already a matter of preoccupation, as the Federation has since been able to ascertain by enquiries from the competent Allied offices and in consequence of the well-known and deplored inconveniences in the furnishing of newsprint for the Naples papers;

that the Federation, by means of its representatives on the National Press Commission, had time and time again requested to be put in the picture with a written account of the real newsprint situation, without, however, getting satisfaction for this request, which was explicitly renewed in writing in its motion of 24 November 1944 presented to the Prime Minister on 18 December 1944 and subsequently endorsed by the National Press Commission at its meeting of 20 December 1944 and later;

1976

- 5 -

that notwithstanding this motion and the renewed assurances, the Federation has had to reiterate its request for a written account on the paper situation with letters sent 20 February, 1 and 2 March 1945, which have remained without a reply up to this moment, so that even now the Federation is completely in the dark about the real effective paper situation and of the paper allotments made by the Undersecretariat to the periodicals;

that following on the regrettable suspension of publication by the Naples papers, the directors of these, without distinction of party, and in accord with some of the Federal representatives of the National Press Commission (with which the Sicilian Press Association and the National Association of Editors associated themselves later) peremptorily demanded the revocation of the authorizations of the new Rome dailies for the reason that these should not have been authorized on 22 January 1945 in the existence of the grave paper crisis, which was affirmed to have been artfully concealed;

that the Undersecretariat, on its own initiative, had suspended the allotment of paper of two Rome dailies which were about to publish ("Libera Stampa" and "Secolo XX") and of all the other dailies authorized on 20 January 1945 and not yet publishing;

that the National Press Commission, in agreement with the Undersecretariat, after having apposed and refused the said peremptory request for the revoking of the authorizations of the new dailies, (granted 22 January 1945) voted on 19 February 1945 the measures for the suspension of the paper allotment and publication of the new dailies, forced to take that action by the paper crisis unexpectedly revealed, which morally invalidated the said authorizations of 22 January 1945; 1261

that the Commission's measures of 19 February 1945 were revoked following the intervention of Admiral Ellery Stone, Chief Commissioner of the A.C., with the Prime Minister, and that it was officially communicated to the Press Commission that the paper crisis had been overcome for the moment;

1970

- 6 -

It results that no responsibility can be attributed to the representatives of the Federation on the National Press Commission for the contradictory measures of the executive bodies, which, with their uncertain and disordered action, have embarrassed the proper functioning of the said Commission.

4280

197a

cc 1400

OFFICE OF THE
ALLIED PUBLICATIONS BOARD
62 VIA VENETO, ROME
TELEPHONE 489171 EXTENSION 178

CONFIDENTIAL

7 May 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Press Decree.
TO: Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission.
FROM: A.P.B.

1. The Allied Publications Board at its meetings on 3rd April and 7th May considered the resolution passed by the Italian National Press Federation on March 13 protesting against the Decree of 5th January (Gazzetta Ufficiale No 15) which accorded to the Italian Press Commission a consultative capacity.

2. The A.P.B. further took notice of Premier Bonomi's statement to the National Press Federation to the effect that he proposed to take remedial action.

3. The A.P.B. was of the opinion that the decree in question, though consonant with the Italian Press licensing law enacted on January 14, 1944 was contrary to the spirit of that law, to the informal instructions then issued to Prefects, to grant licenses in accordance with the decisions of the A.P.B. and to the previous practice both of A.P.B. and of the Italian Press Commission.

4. The A.P.B. was further of the opinion that the decree in question if not modified by subsequent legislation might constitute a threat to the democratic freedom of the Press.

9251/cc

See (205)

197a

OUTGOING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator do not write above this line

TO: SECRETARY ARMY

REF. No:

2765

DATE:

1 MAY 1945

PRECEDENCE:

PRIORITY

(See notes on reverse)

RESTRICTED PD

PARA ONE PD PLEASE ADVISE MILITARY AUTHORITIES WHETHER PERMISSION CAN
 BE GRANTED TO ITALIAN AGENTS AND NEWSPAPERS TO SEND CORRESPONDENTS
 INTO YOUR MILITARY AREA PD PRO ADVISE HAVE BEEN NO OBJECTION IF
 MILITARY AUTHORITIES ARE AVAILABLE PD THERE ARE TWO CATEGORIES OF
 CORRESPONDENTS COLOR PAPER AND PAPER ADVERTISED ITALIAN WAR CORRES-
 PONDENTS ONE AND PAPER TWO PAPER ADVERTISED ITALIAN CIVILIAN CORRES-
 PONDENTS PD PAPER TO SECRET ARMY AND FOR LAST CASE ALLIANCE FOR FREE
WE ALSO GIVE APPRO PAPER

PARA TWO PD WE WOULD LIKE PERMISSION FOR BOTH CATEGORIES TO GO INTO
 YOUR DISTRICT PD

PARA THREE PD PLEASE ADVISE

OFFICE OF ORIGIN:

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

TEL. No.

2757AD

ORIGINATOR'S SIGNATURE

Authenticated:

NICHOLAS PIERSON
 CAPT. U.S.A.
 ASST ADJUTANT

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSB/mew

FRB/100

2 May 1945

SUBJECT: Public Relations in Forward Areas

TO : Executive Commissioner

With further reference to your inquiry at the Vice Presidents' meeting this morning:

1. We have public relations officers, as of today, in Florence, Genoa, Milan, Bologna and, I believe, Venice.
2. Allied correspondents returning from Bologna and Milan speak well of the assistance extended them by our PR officers.
3. Dispatches of American correspondents (I have not seen the dispatches of British correspondents) contain frequent and favorable references to the work of AMG officers.
4. PRO, AFHQ has no objection to letting Italian correspondents go to the larger northern cities providing the military commanders agree. Telegrams have been sent to the PR officers concerned asking them to inquire whether this permission can be granted to correspondents accredited by A.C.

197
G. STEWART BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch

Copy for info to Chief Commissioner

196

APR 28 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 324
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

26 April 1945

353/R1/PRB

Press Release - Immediate

The Allied Commission today made the following statement:

There has appeared in the Italian press statements attributed to Colonel Charles Poletti in which he is alleged to have said that as a result of events in the North, he would renounce his position as Regional Commissioner of Lombardy and although he will go to Milan, he will only be there as an observer or advisor.

Reached by telephone en route to his post in the North, Col. Poletti vehemently denied having made any such statement or having seen any newspapermen in many days.

"I am en route to my assignment as AMG Regional Commissioner for Lombardy, which speaks for itself," he said.

Distribution A, B and C.

200

194

195

1287

925-1/CC

Copy to Exec Comm -

APR 28 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

1. The majority of the morning papers carry a statement from Col. Poletti to the effect that he has renounced his position as Regional Commissioner for Lombardia although he will go to Milan where, as he is quoted in Il Secolo "I will be only an observer or rather an adviser"

2. Apparently this statement was made to some of the Italian newspaper men after his audience with the Pope.

GWB
G. STEWART BROWN
4-28-45

9251/cc

4255

194

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

13 April 1945

TEXT OF STATEMENT:

The death of President Roosevelt has come as a great shock to the Italian Government and people and to the Allied Commission. He was personally and deeply interested in Italy and its problems. We were constantly conscious of his efforts to give assistance to the Commission's work. The American staff of the Commission mourn the loss of their Commander in Chief, and the members of all nationalities in the Commission send heartfelt sympathy to his family in their tragic loss.

MILBY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

4251/11
4255

193

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSE/mew

100/PRB

11 April 1945

My dear Sig. Prunas: (191)

Admiral Stone has asked me to thank you for your letter of April 6 to him regarding the news item in the Stars and Stripes. Your comments have been noted.

Yours sincerely,

G. STEWART BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch

Sig. R. Prunas
Ministero degli Affari Esteri
Italian Government
Rome

cc: Maj. Sterns for EC Files (with original letter to Stone returned)
PRB Files

(192)

FILE

Q

4251/100

4251

Correspondence re letter from Prunes:

DATE: 9-1-45

TO: MR. DOWLING
AND
MR. HALFORD

FROM: MR. G. S. BROWN

Re attached: do you believe this letter should be answered
and if so in what vein? Personally I can see no reason for a protest.

/s/
GSB/

Answer from Halford:

TO: MR. G. S. BROWN

DATE 10/4/45

FROM: MR. HALFORD

I agree with Dowling's comments

/s/ Halford

Answer to Brown from Dowling:

TO : MR. G. S. BROWN

DATE: 10/4/45

FROM: MR. DOWLING

I see no reason for a reply, but if one is considered necessary,
would not a non-committal acknowledgement suffice?

/s/
Dowling

(192) APP

Translation

State Department

15/04624/12

Rome, 6 April 1945

Dear Admiral,

On March 25th, the daily paper 'Stars and Stripes' published the news of a subscription made in Corsica by the 'Yugoslav and Italian' soldiers in favour of the Yugoslav Red Cross.

I take the liberty of drawing your attention on this information which, considering the way it was expressed and printed, given the impression of having been inspired by motives of propaganda unfriendly towards Italy.

I remain, my dear Admiral,

Very truly yours,

S. R. PRINCE

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner of the
Allied Commission

Rome

s.c.

E.C. DIST - 8 APR. 1945

ACTION: PR Dr.

INFO: CHIEF COMM

EXEC COMM

191

See

192

Q

9251/CC

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

Roma, 11

APR 8 RECD

6 APR 1945

15/14625
12

Caro Ammiraglio,

In data 25 marzo u.s. il quotidiano "Stars and Stripes" ha pubblicato la notizia di una sottoscrizione fatta in Corsica dai militari "jugoslavi-italiani" in favore della Croce Rossa Jugoslava.

Mi permetto attirare la Sua attenzione su questa informazione che, nel modo come è stata formulata e stampata, lascerebbe credere che essa sia stata ispirata da motivi di propaganda non amichevole nei riguardi dell'Italia.

voglio gradire, caro Ammiraglio,

Molto cordialmente

R. P.

1257

Admiral Ellery STONE
Chief Commissioner of the
Allied Commission

R O M A

191

EWS/afe

CC 9251

5 April 1945

To: A/President
From: Chief Commissioner

184
With reference to your inquiry regarding Dr. Croce's difficulty in getting his books reprinted, attached is copy of my letter to G-5, AFHQ, requesting their assistance in the matter.

189
/s/ Elery W. Stone
ELERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral
Chief Commissioner

1 Incl: Ltr 53/AFB, 3 Apr 45.
to G-5 AFHQ

See 200

9251/100

1250

190

APR 5 1945

53/PRB

3 April 1945

SUBJECT: Dr. Croce and Printer "La Terza" in Bari.

TO : C-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.

1. The attention of the Acting President, Allied Commission, has been called to the fact that Dr. Croce is having difficulty in getting his books reprinted because his printer, "La Terza", in Bari is wholly requisitioned by the Allied authorities. It was suggested that if the print plant is not working to capacity it might relinquish a certain amount of time to reprinting some of the more important of Dr. Croce's books.

2. Inquiries here indicate that La Terza is under requisition by the British Military Press which uses the plant to print forms stationery and other printed matter for the British Army.

3. It is suggested C-5 inquire into the matter to see if the suggestion in para 1 is feasible.

/s/ NORMAN E FISKE
 ELLERY W. STONE, *Com.*
 Rear Admiral, USNR,
 Chief Commissioner.

COPIES: CHIEF COMM
 EXEC COMM
 P. R. G.
 A/President

(190)

(189)

121

3 April 1945

Ref. 877/16/12

SUBJECT: Press Release

TO : MR. MAXWELL BARNES,
Director, PWS in Italy, APO 512.

1. The Allied Commission has received and read with considerable interest a publication entitled "Allied Forces" which was issued on 2 March 1945 by the Press Leading Bureau, AFM, 11th and 12th Divs, U.S. APO 512.

2. This document has been carefully reviewed by my Political advisers and the Land Forces Sub-Commission. It is their conclusion, in which I concur, that it is an opinionated essay rather than an objective summary of press comments on the specific subject. Its tone is set by the second sentence of paragraph 4. While it is realized that you in no way intentionally support such opinionated writing, I must, in fairness to the Italian Army situation as it actually exists, call this matter to your attention.

3. It will be appreciated if in the future PWS will consult with Land Forces Sub-Commission (AFM) of this Commission prior to the issuance of any documents on the Italian Army; technical and operational accuracy would thus be assured.

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

Copy to: 5-2 AFM

INTERNAL DISTRIBUTION:
Acting President
Exec. Commissioner
Land Forces S/C
PRO
CC Files ✓

158

9251/00
1275

2 April 1945

TO: Mr. Macmillan
FROM: Chief Commissioner

186

Please see Mr. Brown's note regarding action taken on your
Civitavecchia publicity proposal.

H. Ellis
E.W.S.

9251/100

127

187

CC 835-
MAR 30 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSB/mew

107/PRB

30 March 1945

SUBJECT: Mr. Macmillan's memo of 28 March

TO : Chief Commissioner

1. With reference to the attached from the Acting President you may wish to inform him we have made arrangements to send one of our writers and a photographer to Civitavecchia next week. It looks as though we might develop a good article.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director, PRB

Encl. (1)

See 187

1240

186

MAR 28 RECD
CC 815

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the President

APO 394

To: Chief Commissioner.

From: Mr. Macmillan.

I went to Civitavecchia yesterday. I was much impressed by the work done on the port since it was transferred to the control of the Italian Government. The Allied Commission officers, Major Goldsten and Captain Bowes, have done very well and seem to be carrying out their exact function of creative advice, which is the duty of Allied Commission officers in Italian territory.

I wondered whether Mr. Brown's attention could be called to the work at Civitavecchia. It would make a good story, especially with photographs of the berths, the repair of the mole, and so on. Emphasis should be laid on the work of the Italians, who are now responsible for the port.

See 186 HM

925/100

28th March, 1945.

Copy forward to DOR for immediate action

cc: EXEC. COMM'R
CC files

185

B/10
30/3
A 1215

MAR 28 RECD
CC 814

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSIO.

Office of the President

APO 394

To: Chief Commissioner.

From: Mr. Macmillan.

Count Gerandini called on me this morning. There is just one point about which I would like your help.

Dr. Croce has difficulty in getting his books which are out of print reprinted. This is due to the fact that his printers, La Terza in Bari, are wholly requisitioned by the Allied authorities - I do not know whether A.C. or P.W.B. Do you think it would be possible to make any arrangement to relinquish a certain amount of working time in order to reprint the most important of these books? If we could get assistance, I would ask Dr. Croce to give me the list of books in order of importance so that paper and working time might be made available successively in order to put them back upon the market.

No doubt this may have to be taken up through G-5, but you could perhaps let me know what is best to be done.

28th March, 1945.

See (184) Hm
Copy passed to DPK
for immediate action
Exec Commr.
CC files

42/4

B/1 30/3

SYNOPSIS TRANSLATION

PERSONAL RESERVATA

TO: Admiral Stone

Count Artemise refused to go North with the nazis; when Rome was liberated, he was head of the Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, of the Societa' del Giornale d'Italia and of the Tribuna, and of the Sicle Mines. Unita' started a campaign against him.

A. had to leave the various posts he had and Commissioners were appointed to the Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura and (this bank is a private institution so that it was arbitrary to appoint a commissioner) - and to both papers which are now serving parties instead of going on with their tradition of independence.

High Commissioner Berlinguer started penal action against A., under the charge of collaboration with the nazis.

High Commissioner Cingolani started proceedings against A., under the charge of presumed unlawful profits, sequestering all his industrial enterprises and all his property.

He was declared innocent of the charge of collaboration, and the verdict proved that he had greatly helped the Allies and the patriots.

The charge of unlawful profits is unfounded for his fortune comes from his industrial work, mainly from the sale of the 'Odol' products. His patrimony has been constituted by these benefits only. Not even the Communists can question this. The magistrates would probably have enough courage to give their verdict in this sense, but the verdict has to be given by the High Commissariat, directed by Cingolani who doesn't want to disappoint the extremists. The High Commissariat is trying to gain time by asking for the verdict of a party Commission which doesn't function yet, A.'s activity is therefore to remain paralysed for an unknown length of time.

FROM: Giovanni Armenise dell'Artemisio

NOTE TO MR. BROWN, FEB --

Will you review the attached papers forwarded by Mike Chinigo, who wants to see Bergamini appointed as editor of one of Armenise's papers - and consult with Comdr. Lawler on Armenise's banking record, and then talk to me - pls.

29/3/45

15/ Stone
CC

|| Original Italian and two copies of
|| this synopsis translation sent to
|| Mr. Brown, 29/3/45.

9254/C
123

High Commissioner Berlinguer started penal action against A., under the charge of collaboration with the nazis.

High Commissioner Cingolani started proceedings against A., under the charge of presumed unlawful profits, sequestrating all his industrial enterprises and all his property.

He was declared innocent of the charge of collaboration, and the verdict proved that he had greatly helped the Allies and the patriots.

The charge of unlawful profits is unfounded for his fortune comes from his industrial work, mainly from the sale of the 'Odol' products. His patrimony has been constituted by these benefits only. Not even the Communists can question this. The magistrates would probably have enough courage to give their verdict in this sense, but the verdict has to be given by the High Commissariat, directed by Cingolani who doesn't want to disappoint the extremists. The High Commissariat is trying to gain time by asking for the verdict of a party Commission which doesn't function yet. A.'s activity is therefore to remain paralysed for an unknown length of time.

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NOTE TO MR. BROWN, FBI --

Will you review the attached papers forwarded by Mike Chinitso, who wants to see Berlinguer appointed as editor of one of Armenise's papers - and consult with Comdr. Lawler on Armenise's banking record, and then talk to me - pls.

29/3/45

/s/ Stone
cc

|| Original Italian and two copies of
|| this synopsis translation sent to
|| Mr. Brown, 29/3/45.

e.c.

183

9254/CC
1.2.3

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2612/CC

1270

✓

JAN 21 1945
CC 0930
APR 10 1945

High Commissioner Berlinguer started penal action against A., under the charge of collaboration with the Nazis.

High Commissioner Cingolani started proceedings against A., under the charge of presumed unlawful profits, sequestering all his industrial enterprises and all his property.

He was declared innocent of the charge of collaboration, and the verdict proved that he had greatly helped the Allies and the patriots.

The charge of unlawful profits is unfounded for his fortune comes from his industrial work, mainly from the sale of the 'Odol' products. His patrimony has been constituted by these benefits only. Not even the Communists can question this. The magistrates would probably have enough courage to give their verdict in this sense, but the verdict has to be given by the High Commissariat, directed by Cingolani who doesn't want to disavow the extremists. The High Commissariat is trying to gain time by asking for the verdict of a Party Commission which doesn't function yet. A.'s activity is therefore to remain paralysed for an unknown length of time.

2612/cc

12/20

✓

E.O.

File

183

MAR 29 1960

*Giovanni Amicis dell'Ateneo*PERSONALE RISERVATA

Eccellenza l'Ammiraglio

ELIERY STONE

Commissione Alleata

R O M A

Sono costretto a disturbarVi per chiarire brevemente la mia situazione in relazione alla campagna estremista che può avere ingenerato dubbi e creato equivoci.

Alla liberazione di Roma, dopo avere rifiutato gli ordini nazisti di trasferirmi al Nord, io mi trovavo a capo della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, delle Società del Giornale d'Italia e della Tribuna e delle Miniere del Sile. Tutte aziende private, e tutte floride ed in piena attività di lavoro e di rendimento, che davano pane ad oltre 10.000 persone.

I comunisti, allo scopo di eliminarmi come esponente del settore bancario-industriale, e mettere in crisi le aziende, iniziarono subito, per mezzo del loro giornale "L'Unità" una campagna diffamatoria additandomi come un plutocrate nazifascista, profittatore ecc.

Io non potei difendermi perché il giornale dei Comunisti rifiutava di pubblicare le mie risposte, e d'altro canto non esistevano giornali indipendenti ai quali un galantuomo poteva rivolgersi. Si determinò quindi una vera e propria persecuzione, dovetti

183

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(2)

*Giovanni Amendola dell'Antemio*

lasciare tutti i posti che occupavo, e si ebbero i seguenti provvedimenti:

- 1) Alla Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura la Sotto Commissione finanziaria dell'A.C.C. nominò il 14/8/1944 il Commissario Carettoni; e poi il 24/8/1944 un altro Commissario nella persona del Prof. Varonà, (Democristiano) il quale si presentò con lettera retrodatata, ed eliminato il primo, prese possesso della Banca, ed ancora oggi ne dispone. La Banca è un istituto privato, e secondo le leggi di tutti i paesi civili, comprese quelle italiane, non poteva subire un provvedimento del genere evidentemente arbitrario e illegale.
- 2) Ai giornali furono nominati anche due Commissari, e precisamente al Giornale d'Italia l'Avv. Catalano, (Democristiano) e alla Tribuna l'Avv. De Martino, (Democrazia del Lavoro). In questo modo non solo è stata impedita la pubblicazione dei giornali indipendenti, ma è stata tolta al mio amico Senatore Bergamini la possibilità di riprendere il suo posto, nell'interesse del Paese. Oggi le due aziende che sono di proprietà della Banca ¹³²⁰ ~~serio~~ partiti, ed hanno assunto un carattere di parte mentre avevano larghe ed antiche tradizioni di indipendenza.
- 3) Fu iniziato contro di me, di ufficio, dall'Alto Commissario Berlinguer, un procedimento penale per il delitto di collaborazione con i nazisti;

(3)

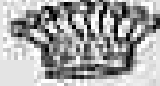
*Giovanni Amendola dell'Antimicio*

4) Fu iniziato, anche di ufficio, un altro procedimento civile dall'Alto Commissario On. Cingolani, per presunto illecito arricchimento, col sequestro ed il fermo di tutte le mie aziende industriali ed agricole e di tutti i miei beni.

In conclusione per circa un anno io ho dovuto subire tutta una persecuzione personale e patrimoniale con gravissime conseguenze, tra le quali quella di non avere potuto più lavorare, assistendo passivamente allo sfacelo delle aziende che con tanti rischi e sacrifici avevo salvato dalle distruzioni naziste! La parte più odiosa della persecuzione, e cioè l'accusa di collaborazione col nazismo, è finita con l'assoluzione " per non avere commesso il fatto ! " La mia innocenza è stata riconosciuta dai magistrati, in istruttoria, con una sentenza che mi rende piena giustizia e che sta a provare proprio il contrario dell'accusa ! Infatti dalla sentenza risulta chiaramente che io non solo non ho collaborato, ma ho fatto per la liberazione del mio Paese, e per la Causa degli Alleati, tante cose che pochi possono avere fatto ! Ho salvato le aziende; ho finanziato per milioni i patrioti; ho avuto tre fucilati tra i miei collaboratori; ho aiutato operai e militari nascosti; ed infine ho fatto trasmettere a mezzo radio clandestina agli Alleati la notizia dell'offensiva tedesca sulla testa di ponte di Anzio !

183 Ristabilita la verità sul terreno politico resta in piedi la persecuzione patrimoniale e cioè l'altro procedimento per il presun-

(4)


Giovanni Amendola dell'Atlantico

to illecito arricchimento presso l'Alto Commissario On. Cingolani.

Questo procedimento è infondato e vessatorio come il primo, e come il primo è destinato a cadere. Infatti tutti sanno, compreso l'Alto Commissariato, che il mio patrimonio è il frutto del mio lavoro industriale, e precisamente della fabbricazione e della vendita per oltre venti anni, dei prodotti " Odol ". Sono gli utili che io ho ricavato da questo lavoro - e solo da questo lavoro - che costituiscono il mio patrimonio . Si tratta quindi di una semplice constatazione di fatto, di una verità elementare che neanche i Comunisti possono discutere. Basterebbe dare atto di questa verità e sarebbe finita la persecuzione ed io potrei riprendere la mia attività nell'interesse del mio Paese. Che cosa osta? Nulla, soltanto il coraggio! Se il giudizio dovesse essere reso da magistrati il coraggio non mancherebbe; ma nel caso specifico il giudizio deve essere dato da un organo politico come l'Alto Commissariato diretto dall'On. Cingolani, e allora la cosa cambia, perchè sul terreno politico non si vogliono disilludere gli estremisti. Io ho chiesto all'Alto Commissariato che promosse gli atti ingiusti, di revocarli, ma ~~una~~ ⁴²²⁸ accertata, come è accertata, la legittimità del mio patrimonio. Ma si risponde cercando di guadagnare tempo, e pensando di rinviarli al giudizio di una Commissione di partiti che, non solo non funziona ancora, ma che, in vista di altre modificazioni alla legge, nessuno può prevedere come e quando potrà funzionare.

183

(5)

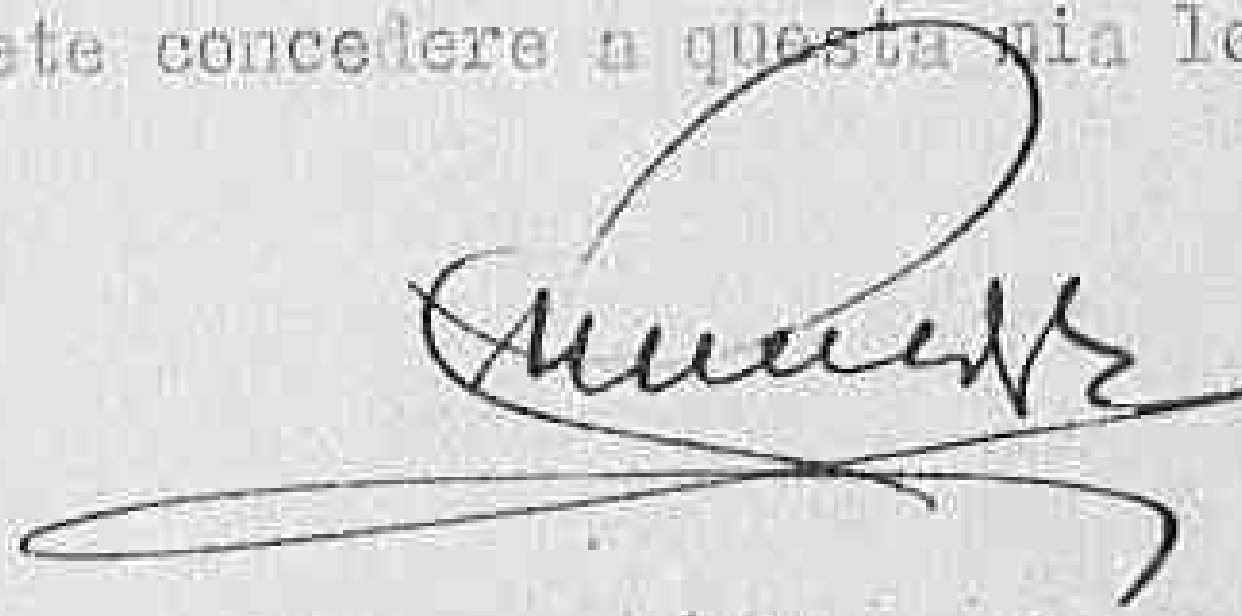

Giovanni Amunise dell'Ateneo

Per far piacere quindi ai Comunisti io dovrei restare, in attesa della giustizia, a tempo indeterminato, e così le aziende giornalistiche continuerebbero a servire i partiti, la Banca resterebbe sotto il regime commissariale, le aziende industriali ed agricole in dissolvimento, e tutta la mia attività paralizzata mentre le rovine della Patria chiamerebbero tutti a compiti tanto gravi ed urgenti.

Questa è la mia situazione, Eccellenza, e questi sono i fatti dolorosi, che io ho sentito il dovere di esporVi perchè il mio nome e la mia opera siano tenuti nella giusta considerazione, e le menzogne degli estremisti non abbiano a turbare quella serenità di apprezzamento che, comunque io mi aspetto dalla giustizia del mio Paese.

Ed è l'ansia di riprendere il mio posto di lavoro che mi ha spinto ad esporVi la mia situazione.

Grato dell'attenzione che vorrete concedere a questa mia lettera Vi porgo i miei ossequi.



I INCL

1237

(83)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
~~XX~~
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
P.W.B. UNIT No. 12 U.S.A.P.O. 512

30 December 1944

#2.

Please feel free to discuss these matters with AFHQ.

Thank you for letting me know about these complaints.

Sincerely yours,

George W. Eiman
GEORGE W. EIMAN
A.D.P.W.O. Italy

cc: Mr. Barnes
Mr. Rayner

166

4213

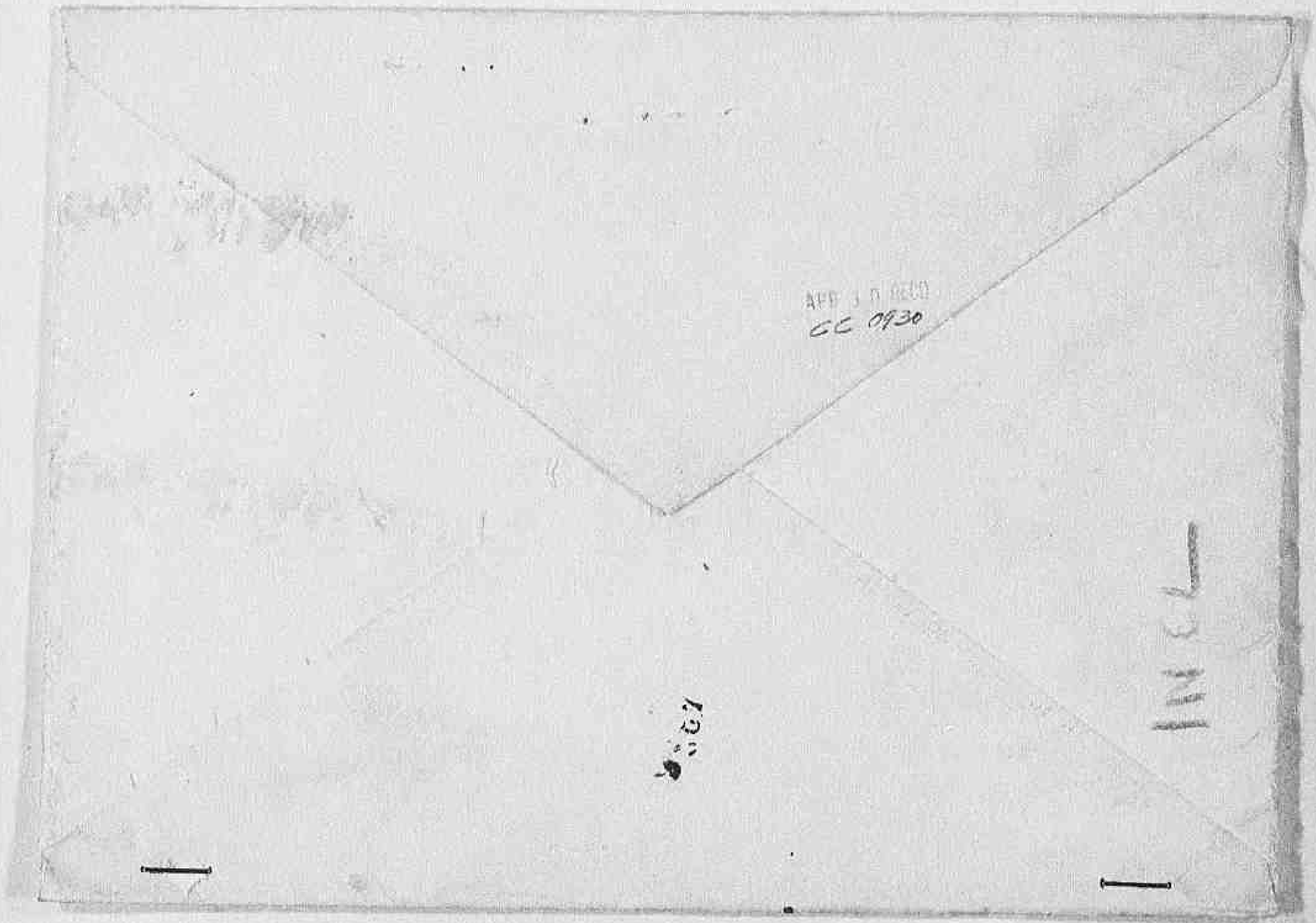
PERSONALE RISERVATA

Eccellenza L'Ammiraglio

WILKINSON STONE

ROMA

Commissione Alleata



1

GIOVANNI ARMENISE

imputato del delitto di cui agli art. 5 D. L. L.
27-7-1944 N. 159 e 81 C. P.

REQUISITORIA

del Procuratore Generale del Regno presso la
Corte di Appello di Roma

e

SENTENZA

del Consigliere Istruttore del Tribunale di Roma

IL PROCURATORE GENERALE DEL REGNO
presso la Corte d'Appello di Roma;

Letti gli atti del *procedimento penale* n. 39252/44
P. M. Roma;

contro

ARMENISE GIOVANNI fu Giuseppe e fu Milella Adriana,
nato a Bari il 24 maggio 1897 e domiciliato in Roma, la-
titante,

imputato

del delitto, di cui agli art. 5 D. L. L. 27 luglio 1944,
n. 159, e 81 C. P., per avere, in Roma, dall'8 settembre
1943 al 4 giugno 1944 con più azioni esecutive, di un me-
desimo disegno criminoso, collaborato con il tedesco in-
vasore, ponendo, nella sua qualità di Presidente ed Am-
ministratore delegato delle Società Anonime « Il Gior-
nale d'Italia » e « La Tribuna » e di massimo finanzia-
tore delle Società medesime, i quotidiani « Il Giornale
d'Italia », « La Tribuna » e « Il Piccolo » al servizio del-
la propaganda tedesca (in relazione all'art. 58 del C. P.
Mil. di guerra, pg. 16)

Osserva :

Il 12 settembre 1944 il Ten. Domenico Novelli del
Nucleo di Polizia Giudiziaria dell'Alto Commissariato
per le sanzioni contro il fascismo riferiva con dettagliato

rapporto a S. E. l'Alto Commissario Aggiunto che, durante l'oppressione nazi-fascista, fra i giornali della Capitale, i quali avevano dato risalto ai comunicati, ordinanze, discorsi, allettamenti e minacce delle autorità tedesche e di quelle repubblicane fasciste, nonché agli articoli di propaganda della Agenzia « Stefani » e della cosiddetta « Corrispondenza repubblicana », ai resoconti degli inviati ai fronti di guerra presso i comandi tedeschi, ed, inoltre, avevano commentato i comunicati e i provvedimenti dei nazi-fascisti, e avevano svolta campagna propiziatrice per la presentazione dei giovani alle armi ed al servizio del lavoro, si erano particolarmente distinti due quotidiani: « Il Giornale d'Italia » e « La Tribuna ».

La lettura dei detti giornali dal 12 settembre 1943 al 4 giugno 1944, nonché quella de « Il Piccolo », edizione quotidiana di mezzogiorno de « Il Giornale d'Italia », ne dava piena e convincente dimostrazione, tanto che l'ufficiale di Polizia Giudiziaria concludeva che in fondo « emergeva in essi lo spirito di volere dare, come effettivamente davano, mediante suggestione dell'opinione pubblica, *piena collaborazione al tedesco invasore* ». E poichè risultava al suo ufficio: che proprietario dei due giornali era Giovanni Armenise; che dall'8 settembre 1943 al 18 dello stesso mese egli era stato Direttore politico de « La Tribuna »; che « il vero responsabile dell'indirizzo politico dei due giornali era lo stesso rappresentante della proprietà, rag. Giovanni Armenise, dal quale i direttori politici o i redattori-capi ricevevano ordini ed istruzioni », il denunziante traeva la conclusione che « l'Armenise era da ritenersi responsabile di collaborazione col tedesco invasore ai sensi dell'art. 5 D. L. L. 27 luglio 1944, n. 159 ». Per precisare meglio la personalità dell'accusato ricordava i rapporti che egli aveva avuti con alti gerarchi del fascismo, fra cui i fra-

telli Buffarini Guidi; che, durante il periodo 25 luglio-8 settembre 1943 egli era stato direttore de « La Tribuna » e, che era stato in quell'epoca un sostenitore responsabile dell'alleanza italo-tedesca: ciò alla stregua delle dichiarazioni dei redattori-capi dei suddetti due giornali, Luigi Chibbaro, Bernardo Lorecchio, Gerardo Puja e di tale dott. Franco Faggiana (vol. II pg. 1-2).

Su tale denuncia il Sost. Procuratore del Regno Dr. Saverio Gabriotti, addetto all'Alto Commissariato, spiccava, a' 13 dell'ottobre successivo, ordine per la cattura dell'Armenise, imputandolo del delitto enunciato nell'epigrafe della suddetta requisitoria, dopo che erano stati assunti come testimoni alcuni componenti delle famiglie redazionali dei tre giornali, e dopo aver tratto il convincimento, dalle loro deposizioni, che l'accusato, Presidente ed Amministratore delegato delle Società Anonime « Il Giornale d'Italia » e « La Tribuna », e massimo finanziatore delle Società medesime, per tale sua duplice qualità aveva messo i quotidiani a servizio della propaganda tedesca (II pg. 16).

Successivamente, con rapporto del 26 ottobre, il già ricordato tenente comandante il nucleo di P. S. riferiva che i quotidiani incriminati venivano stampati da Società Anonime, aventi per Presidente ed Amministratore Giovanni Armenise: la S/A « Il Giornale d'Italia » aveva un capitale sociale di L. 1.125.000 in 900 azioni di L. 125 cadauna; la S/A « La Tribuna » un capitale di L. 5.100.000 fino al 26 aprile 1944 e di L. 3.400.000 successivamente, diviso dapprima in 85.000 azioni e poi in 3.400; che quasi tutte le azioni delle due Società erano in possesso della « Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura », della quale ancora, Giovanni Armenise era Amministratore delegato.

Dalla suddetta constatazione il verbalizzante argomentava che Armenise, « quale rappresentante della pro-

prietà delle imprese editrici innanzi cennate e della Società proprietaria delle imprese medesime, *aveva rappresentato, nel periodo dell'oppressione, la volontà unica che poteva decidere ed influire sulla vita dei giornali...* ». E, per meglio ribadire il sillogismo accusatorio, rilevava, per ultimo, che « sostanzialmente l'Armenise era oltre che il rappresentante della proprietà l'effettivo proprietario, perchè maggiore azionista della Società anonima « Stabilimento Minerario del Siele », a sua volta maggiore azionista della « Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura ». Dimostrava matematicamente, il verbalizzante, che la S/A SIELE possedeva il 29 % delle azioni della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura; che l'Armenise a sua volta possedeva il 30,82 % delle azioni della S/A SIELE, senza contare qualche altro apporto azionario di persone amiche dello stesso Armenise, e che, quindi, data la difficoltà di concentrazione finanziaria di tutti gli altri azionisti, sia della S/A SIELE che della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, l'Armenise era indubbiamente il despota della situazione finanziaria della Società e della Banca e, pertanto, padrone dell'orientamento politico dei giornali editi dalle Società da lui amministrare (II pag. 21, allegato 23 e 38).

Le suddette notizie erano state desunte da particolari diligenti indagini, rivolte per procedersi a carico di Armenise come persona illecitamente arricchitasi durante il periodo fascista e in virtù delle sue relazioni con gerarchi. Comunque esse non avevano relazione con la specifica accusa, eccetto le deduzioni sopra ricordate, dirette ad offrire il presupposto di fatto del reato ipotizzato contro l'accusato.

Accurata indagine fu rivolta dal magistrato istruttore all'accertamento giuridico delle qualifiche di Armenise in seno alla Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura e alle due Società editrici; furono sequestrati tutti i numeri

dei giornali, editi durante il periodo della dominazione nazi-fascista; furono con intelligente accuratezza intesi tutti i componenti delle redazioni dei due giornali e, per ultimo, una lunga teoria di testimoni, indicata dall'imputato. Questo, sottrattosi all'arresto (II fol. 228), aveva avuto cura di far giungere all'Alto Commissariato un memoriale, nel quale: respingeva la gravissima accusa mossagli; dimostrava l'infondatezza delle argomentazioni, per le quali si era penalmente proceduto contro di lui; escludeva di avere, comunque, dato indirizzo politico ai giornali e d'averli messi al servizio dei nazi-fascisti; palesava tutta la sua attività di cittadino e buon patriota durante il periodo calamitoso, attività che era in assoluto contrasto non solo con la tesi accusatoria e costituiva titolo di benemerenzza, degno del riconoscimento della patria (II fol. 155 a 219).

L'imponente documentazione, assunta attraverso le testimonianze di persone di tutti i ranghi sociali e di tutti i partiti politici (vedi vol. I), il rintraccio (vol. IV) di documenti preziosi quale la raccolta di tutti gli ordini emanati dal Ministero della Cultura Popolare al fine di coordinare, dirigere, imbeccare la stampa quotidiana nazionale, la precisazione delle cariche sociali, della portata di esse, delle attribuzioni, del comportamento di Armenise in seno all'amministrazione dei giornali, determinarono l'Alto Commissario Aggiunto per le sanzioni contro il fascismo, a rimettere, in data 18 dicembre 1944, il voluminoso processo (n. 13 fascicoli) al Procuratore del Regno di Roma per l'eventuale completamento dell'istruzione e le determinazioni di sua competenza.

Disposta la formale istruzione, gli atti, addì 22 gennaio c. a., sono stati trasmessi a questa Procura Generale per le conclusioni definitive.

Osserva il requirente che la formale istruzione deve dichiararsi chiusa, perché compiuta in tutte le parti e, ormai, non proficua di migliori risultati.

La pregiata e coscienziosa istruzione sommaria, svolta presso l'Alto Commissariato, aveva, del resto, fatto acquisire agli atti elementi tali da offrire la consapevolezza che la gravissima ed infamante accusa, mos- sa al conte Giovanni Armenise dell'Artemisio, Cavaliere del Lavoro, era infondata e che la denuncia, nata così da indagini non legittimate da un'origine giudiziaria- mente conosciuta, si manifestava palesemente persecu- toria di un innocente.

Appariva strano, infatti, che lamentandosi il com- portamento, tenuto dalla stampa quotidiana di Roma durante i nove mesi dell'oppressione nazi-fascista, incri- minabili e incriminati soltanto fossero i giornali editi dalle Società presiedute ed amministrate dall'Armenise, e non tutti i giornali, (non meno di otto erano i quoti- diani romani oltre i settimanali) i quali avevano identi- camente pubblicato le notizie, i comunicati, i commenti, diretti a tutta la stampa ufficiale, e aumentato con cor- seri, posille, articoli di fondo e con identici clamorosi titoli e convenute impaginature, i fatti o gli argomenti preferiti dal governo repubblicano e dalle autorità ger- maniche.

La scelta dei tre quotidiani appariva quindi, di per sé iniqua (cioè non equa), come del pari appariva la in- criminazione del preteso direttore politico dei tre gior- nali e preferenza dei direttori politici di tutti i giornali confratelli e a preferenza dei redattori responsabili e de- gli estensori degli articoli di propaganda.

Queste osservazioni si deducono non tanto dalla con- statazione diretta e dal controllo di tutti i giornali se- questrati (Vol. 5 a 13) e dal confronto di essi con tutte le collezioni dei giornali, editi in Roma durante lo stes-

so periodo di tempo, bensì dall'espressiva compilazione dei verbali di assunzione delle deposizioni dei componenti delle redazioni dei giornali « La Tribuna » e « Il Giornale d'Italia », i quali, specialmente i redattori-capi e quelli responsabili, hanno palesemente dimostrata più che la velleità di accusare Armenise o il desiderio di difenderne l'opera, l'angosciata preoccupazione di preventivamente discolarsi da una accusa, che li avrebbe potuti esporre a giudiziale persecuzione.

Sotto questo aspetto, se pur giustificabile, è semplicemente penoso il memoriale offerto da Gerardo Puja (fol. 40-41 I) a conforto della sua dichiarazione (fol. 37 a 38 I) — era egli redattore responsabile de « La Tribuna » —, e conturbate sono le testimonianze di Luigi Chibbaro (I fol. 16 a 18 + 19 a 33), Bernardo Lorecchio (I fol. 1-3), Vezio Vincenzotti (I fol. 12). Comunque, appare evidente che l'autorità inquirente nella sua sensibilità dovette, fin dalle prime battute dell'eccezionale istruttoria, comprendere che la giuridica persecuzione di una collaborazione morale con il nemico, quale la ipotizzata attraverso la persona di Armenise contro tutta la stampa periodica, o doveva generalizzarsi in una colossale architettura della stessa fragilità di quella sperimentata in confronto dell'unico accusato, l'attuale imputato, ovvero, opportunamente, doveva circoscriversi a qualche cosa di diverso da quello che logicamente poteva apparire dalla lettura dei quotidiani, tutti asserviti alle direttive del Ministero della Cultura Popolare e degli altri organi politici fascisti e germanici nonchè schiavi degli ordini perentori loro diretti. Per questo, rispetto ad Armenise, di già soggetto passivo di un procedimento penale, la imputazione che logicamente l'avrebbe dovuto gravare e che con lui avrebbe dovuto colpire tutti i giornalisti redattori dei quotidiani di Roma, fu enun-

ciata sotto un profilo singolarissimo ed affatto personale.

Il Conte Armenise, così si affermò, si era reso responsabile di collaborazione col tedesco invasore perchè, essendo egli l'amministratore e, pertanto, il finanziatore dei giornali, se avesse interrotte le linfe vitali che mantenevano in efficienza i tre quotidiani, avrebbe tolto ai tedeschi ed ai fascisti repubblicani tre mezzi di propaganda a loro favore: il non avere agito in questo modo era stato riprovevole, delittuoso, degno di stigmatizzazione e di persecuzione.

Anche sotto questo aspetto l'accusa, mossa all'imputato, era vana, perchè l'argomento che conduceva all'ipotesi delittuosa era caduco e perchè la fattispecie induceva in partenza a presagire che l'imputato non aveva commesso reato con il comportamento contrario a quello che si sarebbe preteso da lui.

Da quanto si è sopra detto, relativamente alla enunciazione della imputazione ascritta al Conte Giovanni Armenise, si evince che i presupposti dell'accusa, originata dalla denuncia, avevano ormai un semplice riflesso indiretto sul fatto delittuoso della pretesa collaborazione: il riflesso relativo alla circostanza che la vita dei tre quotidiani forniva un mezzo di propaganda ai tedeschi; altresì che questa propaganda era attuata in virtù della direzione politica di Armenise. Questo, poi, era cervello propulsore della propaganda nazi-fascista, ordita e sviluppata dai giornali, perchè era il vero padrone, il proprietario dei giornali, e con la potente leva del suo finanziamento asserviva la penna se non lo spirito dei redattori e dei collaboratori e imponeva le direttive più conformi ai suoi voleri, ch'erano, così diceva la accusa, in perfetta identità di vedute con quelle del comando germanico e del governo repubblicano fascista.

Circa l'indirizzo politico, dato ai giornali « La Tribuna », « Il Piccolo » e « Il Giornale d'Italia », è da rilevare che, eccetto l'affermazione che il Conte Armenise era « proprietario » di essi, come direzione lo stesso aveva virtualmente assunta quella de « La Tribuna » dall'8 al 18 settembre 1943. Qualora non esulasse dai limiti di tempo prefissati nel capo di imputazione, si potrebbe pure ricordare che durante il periodo del governo badogliano, circa dal 25 luglio all'8 settembre, Armenise era stato pure direttore de « La Tribuna », circostanza questa che fu messa in rilievo come demerito, senza tenersi presenti le ragioni per cui egli aveva assunto quella carica e quale concetto avessero allora i fascisti di lui e della sua eventuale influenza sulla redazione dei quotidiani.

Per la storia valga ricordare soltanto che il 23 ottobre 1943 Roberto Farinacci in « Regime Fascista » scriveva: « Noi mettiamo Armenise nel numero dei traditori, perchè i suoi giornali furono, dopo il 25 luglio, *schifosissimi* » (fol. 189 II). L'apprezzamento di uno dei più facinorosi gerarchi del fascismo verso colui che, oggi, si considera il miglior servitore del nazi-fascismo, appare veramente sintomatico, se non altro per una evidente preconstituzione di prova avvenuta in epoca non sospetta contro le accuse così di recente formulate!

Per l'esatta intelligenza dell'organizzazione gerarchica dei quotidiani è bene ricordare che nel 1943 a capo di ogni azienda era un direttore amministrativo, il quale, come rappresentante della Società editrice rispetto alle sue funzioni amministrative, era da considerarsi superiore al direttore politico del giornale (o semplicemente direttore del giornale). A questo era demandato il cosiddetto indirizzo politico del giornale. Succedevano il redattore capo, i redattori capi servizio e i redattori semplici.

Il redattore responsabile non aveva alcuna ingerenza nella compilazione del giornale, pur essendo gravata giuridicamente sulla sua persona l'eventuale persecuzione, dipendente dalle azioni determinate dal contenuto della pubblicazione (fol. 40 II).

Successivamente, il 26 aprile 1944, il Ministero della Cultura Popolare, in vista della palese ostilità della Stampa Ufficiale, dispose che «in considerazione delle particolari difficoltà del momento si rendeva indispensabile che in seno allo stesso giornale si fosse stabilita una perfetta unità politica e amministrativa»; pertanto, il *direttore politico* doveva essere completamente e a tutti gli effetti *unico e direttore responsabile* dell'attività del giornale affidatogli, non potendosi consentire che la sua azione fosse infranta o ritardata da eventuali difficoltà. Il *direttore amministrativo* doveva, quindi, considerarsi gerarchicamente alle dipendenze del direttore politico (fol. 10 II).

Questa immutazione a carattere generale era avvenuta allorché il Ministero della Cultura Popolare, non più soddisfatto di imporre indirizzi, argomenti, direttive tecniche ai direttori politici dei giornali, aveva ritenuto opportuno imporre, in sostituzione dei titolari, persone di assoluta fiducia e servilismo, disposte a potenziare col personale fanatismo, quanto a malincuore veniva stampato e diffuso in virtù del cosiddetto «ordine superiore». Il Conte Armenise fu, quindi durante il periodo badogliano, direttore de «La Tribuna» e per *dieci giorni ancora* dopo l'armistizio dell'8 settembre: gli succedette Vittorio Curti — imposto dal Ministero — il 27 dicembre 1943, dopo una lunga cronaca, (derivata dall'ostruzionismo di Armenise, che non volle consentire l'esoso stipendio, preteso dal direttore), durante la quale resse la direzione del giornale il comm. Bernardo Lorecchio.

Se si dovesse prendere in esame la personalità del Conte Armenise, rispetto alla grave accusa di collaborazionismo alla propaganda germanica per il solo periodo di dieci giorni della suddetta direzione, sembra al requirente questo esame così meschino e sproporzionato nella sostanza e negli effetti da ricordare l'oraziano «*parturiunt montes nascetur ridiculus mus*» (art. pot. 139). Il Conte Armenise, che rappresentava in seno alla amministrazione delle Società editrici la Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, proprietaria delle aziende, per impedire l'arrembaggio alla direzione dei giornali, avvenuto subito dopo la caduta del regime fascista, mentre presso «Il Giornale d'Italia» si insediava il vecchio senatore Bergamini affiancato dal direttore amministrativo comm. Anastasio Alliegro, per evitare che persone irresponsabili potessero giustificare la violenta occupazione del giornale «La Tribuna» per mancanza di direttore, di intesa con il Duca Acquarone si decise ad assumere la direzione del giornale in via affatto provvisoria per aver tempo e modo di provvedere alla nomina regolare del vero direttore, e riunire, frattanto, nella stessa persona, sempre in linea provvisoria, la rappresentanza della proprietà e della direzione del giornale.

Durante i 45 giorni del governo badogliano il Conte Armenise svolse trattative prima con l'Avvocato Giacinto Bullio poi con il Conte Della Torre per la accettazione della carica di direttore de «La Tribuna» e, durante il detto periodo di tempo, egli, come risulta dalle concordi testimonianze di redattori ed operai del giornale, non mise mai piede al giornale, non scrisse articoli di nessun genere, non si interessò dell'andamento politico del giornale, lasciò ogni iniziativa e responsabilità ai redattori sotto l'effettiva direzione del redattore capo comm. Bernardo Lorecchio, fece presente in modo categorico che il giornale doveva ispirare la sua condot-

ta esclusivamente a sentimenti di italianità, al disopra e al di fuori di ogni settarismo» (I fol. 1-2-34-35-36-42 a 44-55 a 60).

Questa condotta fu seguita dai redattori oltre che de «La Tribuna» pure de «Il Giornale d'Italia» e de «Il Piccolo» come si desume dalle raccolte dell'epoca, riscuotendo il plauso del governo Badoglio, i consensi della pubblica opinione e la rimostranza dei fascisti, conclusasi nell'apprezzamento farinacciano, già ricordato.

Dopo l'8 settembre, a seguito dell'occupazione di Roma da parte dei tedeschi e della creazione del governo fascista repubblicano con la conseguente nuova costituzione del Ministero della Cultura Popolare, si determinò la prevedibile gravissima situazione nuova per tutti i giornali. La stampa italiana, ritornata dalla fugace libertà alla costrizione, dopo essersi mostrata restia ad obbedire sull'imposizione del succennato Ministero, il 14 settembre, su richiesta del comando tedesco, *passò tutta sotto il controllo diretto* del Ministero della Cultura popolare per Roma e delle Prefetture nelle altre città: «i direttori in carica venivano sostituiti da un redattore responsabile la cui nomina sarebbe stata confermata dal Ministero anzidetto».

Defenestrati tutti i direttori, la stampa cadeva sotto il pieno diretto ed assoluto controllo del Ministero: aveva termine la direzione provvisoria de «La Tribuna» da parte del Conte Armenise, il quale venne, il giorno 15 settembre, sostituito dal redattore capo comm. Lorecchio.

Nei sei giorni di pseudodirezione ufficiale del giornale, unica pubblicazione degna di rilievo, imposta dal generale tedesco Von Stahl con la minaccia del rigore della legge marziale, fu quella relativa al discorso di Hitler per gli avvenimenti italiani.

Anche nell'obbedire a detto ordine la redazione de

«La Tribuna» (II fol. 180) non mancò di dimostrare il proprio risentimento e l'insofferenza con la stampa di un titolo, nel quale l'importanza del discorso era palesemente diminuita, e con la compilazione di un corsivo di introduzione, cappello, che dimostrava come la pubblicazione fosse avvenuta per esclusivo volere del comando superiore tedesco del sud.

E qui ha termine la «carriera professionale del Conte Armenise quale direttore politico de «La Tribuna».

Non sembra al requirente che proprio per la pubblicazione del testo del discorso di Hitler, discorso che fu riprodotto in tutti i giornali dell'Italia invasa, con pubblicità più vasta di quel che non appaia nel numero 221/1943 de «La Tribuna» possa muoversi censura al Conte Armenise ovvero possa trarsi la giuridica illazione che si abbia con questo la prova documentale di collaborazione al nemico. Se il Conte Armenise anziché direttore politico provvisorio de «La Tribuna», per sei giorni soltanto e in conseguenza degli avvenimenti del 25 luglio, fosse stato direttore politico di tutti i giornali editi in Roma e per tutta la durata dei nove mesi dell'oppressione nazi-fascista, basterebbe leggere la raccolta degli ordini, sequestrata al colonnello Ripamonti, direttore amministrativo de «La Tribuna» e quella delle disposizioni emanate dal Ministero della Cultura Popolare (raccolta che Umberto Guglielmotti, direttore imposto a «Il Giornale d'Italia» voleva fosse bruciata) occultata dal redattore impaginatore Vittorino Arcangelo (I fol. 35-36), per escludere la responsabilità del direttore politico: «manichino» acefalo, supinamente costretto a subire quotidianamente la coattiva imposizione di comunicati, commenti, notizie, somministrate pure con l'indicazione del tipo dei caratteri, della impostazione dei titoli, della durata della pubblicazione.

Sotto questo riguardo tutti i numerosi testimoni assenti, giornalisti di ogni rango, sono stati concordi nel deprecare il periodo dell'oppressione germanica, come il periodo più umiliante, più triste, più misero della loro professione: e fautori della libertà del pensiero, della spregiudicatezza, della indipendenza, costretti ad obbedire in servitù morale e materiale sotto la minaccia della persecuzione.

In quel tristissimo periodo il Conte Armenise aveva enunciato non come direttore di giornale ma come italiano, che, « quale rappresentante delle Società editrici pensava che nelle tragiche condizioni in cui l'Italia viveva, si imponeva il solo indirizzo diretto a fare risorgere la patria nella concordia degli spiriti, al disopra e al di fuori dei partiti » (vedi dep. Chibbaro).

Senonché il compilatore della denuncia, che aveva dato origine al presente gravissimo e voluminoso processo, nel verbale aveva affermato qualche cosa, che era motivo dominante della accusa:

« Il Conte Armenise era il *proprietario* dei giornali, il *proprietario* della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, il finanziatore, l'alimentatore dei tre quotidiani. Se egli non avesse sovvenzionato la pubblicazione, i tedeschi non avrebbero avuto a loro disposizione quel potente ed autorevole mezzo di propaganda ».

Prima di esprimere qualche modesta osservazione in merito alla sopra accennata conclusione, affermazione fuori di ogni realtà politica e logica, il requirente esprime l'avviso che la conclusione medesima sarebbe sempre da disattendere quand'anche fosse stato e fosse vero che nel Conte Armenise dovesse vedersi il plutocrate organizzatore padrone di banche, Società Anonime, giornali, ecc. Ciò non immuterebbe le argomentazioni logiche e

giuridiche, che avrebbero condotto e conducono all'esclusione della responsabilità penale dell'incriminato.

Dalla lettura degli atti del processo, dalla concorde testimonianza pure di quanti avrebbero potuto essere eventuali accusatori del Conte Armenise, dai cenni contenuti nei verbali degli accertamenti finanziari e, per ultimo, dalla lettura dei verbali sociali dei vari consigli di amministrazione delle Società Anonime Editrici dei tre giornali, risulta in modo concorde che il Conte Armenise è in materia finanziaria un vero maestro, in cui la competenza si accoppia ad un senso suo personalissimo, di chiaroveggenza tecnica (II fol. 39 a 131).

Gli effetti di queste sue doti eccezionali trovano riprova nella circostanza che egli, piuttosto che proprietario della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura e delle varie Società anonime presiedute ed amministrate, fra cui quelle editrici dei giornali, dovrebbe essere chiamato il creatore illuminato, il padre delle medesime: sopra tutto perchè di esse ha formato centri di fecondo lavoro e di economia interessanti l'industria e la finanza nazionali.

Questa sintesi è sempre impari alla realtà giudiziariamente accertata, però legittima, sotto qualche riguardo, la *communis opinio* che egli fosse il famoso proprietario, segnalato nel verbale di denuncia.

L'imputato in modo esplicito lamenta (II fol. 158) che per questa voce tendenziosa si sia creata proprio l'accusa di collaborazione con il tedesco invasore e insorge contro quella che egli chiama «campagna diffamatoria a carattere di malvagia persecuzione».

E' risultato che il 30 agosto 1938 la Confederazione degli Agricoltori, debitamente autorizzata, acquistava le due aziende S/A «Il Giornale d'Italia» e «La Tribuna» e per fare fronte al capitale necessario, il 31 dicembre 1938 contraeva con la Banca Nazionale d'Agricoltura

ra un debito di parecchi milioni, che fu estinto mediante i contributi sindacali, pagati a rate semestrali.

Nel marzo 1942 la Banca suddetta, che era stata potenziata esclusivamente per la saggia e oculata amministrazione del Conte Armenise, il quale vi aveva portato il contributo della sua esperienza e fattività in epoca in cui essa era più che ridotta, sull'orlo del fallimento, nel marzo 1942 la Banca, per coprire un altro debito della Confederazione, acquistava la maggioranza azionaria della S/A «Il Giornale d'Italia» e l'intero pacchetto della S/A «La Tribuna», impiegando così le riserve di utili.

Risulta che, quale Amministratore Delegato della Banca, il Conte Armenise, occupatosi del risanamento delle due aziende, che, non ostante la vetustà degli impianti, non avevano mai provveduto a costituire, pure ai fini fiscali, adeguati ammortamenti e riserve, e rappresentavano ogni anno da otto a nove milioni di deficit, a distanza di poco più di un anno non solo erano risanate ma addirittura attive (1943).

Le due aziende ritraevano i mezzi di sussistenza rispettivamente da canoni pubblicitari e da contributi, che alcuni enti pagavano per pubblicità tecnica fatta a mezzo di periodici articoli.

E malgrado il 6 marzo 1942 la Confederazione degli Agricoltori, a seguito della vendita dei pacchetti azionari, avesse cessata la corresponsione dei contributi, «Il Giornale d'Italia» continuò ad avere fino al luglio 1943 i contributi della Confederazione degli Industriali e della Confederazione del Credito, mentre «La Tribuna» visse soltanto con i suoi mezzi.

La Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura né prima né dopo l'acquisto ebbe a dare contributi. Il Conte Armenise né direttamente né indirettamente, né prima né dopo il 25 luglio, diede il minimo aiuto finanziario, di

cui, per altro, le aziende non sentivano il bisogno. I rapporti fra le aziende e la Banca furono sempre normali come comuni clienti: le aziende beneficiavano d'aperture di crediti e lavoravano in conto corrente con versamenti degli incassi e prelevamenti per le spese. Il credito serviva, come suol dirsi, da volano per i bisogni transitori di liquido, bisogni particolari, data la natura del prodotto e la categoria dei rivenditori, ai quali veniva concesso largo credito con conteggi periodici.

Quando la guerra, nel 1943, investì il territorio nazionale, aumentarono le necessità di liquido, perché cessarono le spedizioni dei giornali per l'Italia meridionale, andarono perduti tutti i crediti verso i rivenditori, la vendita si ridusse alla sola città di Roma e, al contrario, crebbero paghe, stipendi, costo di tutti i materiali.

La solidità della situazione amministrativa, preconstituita dal Conte Armenise, permise di sopportare questi imprevisti aggravii e le due gestioni chiusero ancora in utile, mentre la rivalutazione delle merci in magazzino assicurava il pareggio economico di fronte agli oneri del 1944 e al divieto di pubblicazione dei periodici, editi dalle stesse Società (« La Tribuna Illustrata », « Il Travaso », ecc.).

Il comm. Anastasio Alliegro per « Il Giornale d'Italia » (I fol. 51 a 54) e il colonnello Marco Aurelio Ripamonti per « La Tribuna » (I fol. 6-8), direttori amministrativi dei due giornali, hanno riferito che le due aziende non avevano nessuna necessità d'essere finanziate da chicchessia, potendo considerare sempre in attivo al 4 giugno 1944, con particolare riguardo ai propri impianti tipografici.

Dai suddetti elementi si deduce che il Conte Armenise non è stato mai proprietario dei due giornali (anzi dei tre giornali con « Il Piccolo ») e soltanto si occupava

dell'amministrazione delle due aziende nella qualità di Amministratore Delegato della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, la quale, in realtà, ne era la proprietaria.

A questo punto vien fatto di rilevare che se presupposto della ipotesi delittuosa per cui fu promossa la azione penale, è la circostanza che il Conte Armenise fu « massimo finanziatore delle Società Editrici » e ciò al fine di mettere i propri giornali a servizio del nemico, escluso che finanziamento da Armenise sia stato dato mai alle dette aziende, escluso che egli ne fosse proprietario, si deve concludere che proprio il Conte Armenise deve andare prosciolto dal grave delitto per non avere commesso mai il reato attribuitogli.

* * *

Ma c'è di più.

In connessione con la sopra accennata circostanza costitutiva del reato si è ipotizzato, come elemento di reato, il fatto che il Conte Armenise era Presidente ed Amministratore Delegato delle Società Editrici.

Esclusa la proprietà dei giornali, discriminata la eventuale responsabilità come direttore politico, fare assurgere la qualità tecnica dell'Armenise ad elemento di reato per avere egli con saggezza amministrato e non fatto perdere e dispendere un patrimonio ingente, quale l'attrezzatura industriale di due Società Editrici, sembra al requirente una chiara deformazione giuridica.

Nel senso che proprio il contrario si sarebbe potuto o dovuto ritenere collaborazione col tedesco invasore: il contrario; cioè, se il Conte Armenise, venendo meno ai suoi doveri di amministratore e di capo responsabile della gestione delle due Società anonime, nel periodo già tanto calamitoso dell'oppressione, avesse fatto precipitare nel baratro del fallimento due industrie così importanti e che costituirono punto d'appoggio per il lavoro di tanta gente.

Del resto, la caducità dell'accusa non teneva presente che non può costituire elemento di reato la circostanza di una particolare qualifica, se questa non sia diretta alla consumazione di una azione giuridicamente apprezzabile come contraria alla legge: la circostanza soggettiva di essere l'accusato presidente o amministratore di una società può valere rispetto a quei reati la cui commissione essa qualifica è prevista dal legislatore come elemento costitutivo del reato o eventualmente circostanza aggravante; ma non mai può essere arbitrariamente invocata come presupposto di quanto non possa essere giuridicamente rilevato materia di persecuzione penale. In vero, escluso che il Conte Armenise non aveva finanziato durante i nove mesi dell'oppressione le due Società editrici, consegue che le stesse, in quel periodo, vivevano di vita autonoma, in quanto avevano preconstituito riserve patrimoniali sufficienti allo scopo. E poichè tali riserve di fatto esistevano in virtù di una amministrazione saggia ed oculata, svoltasi prima dell'insorgere dell'epoca incriminabile, sembra al requirente che non possa muoversi addebito per dei fatti reali positivi, e encomiabili, verificatisi in epoca diversa di quando — e per motivi di verità non giuridicamente rilevabili — senza alcun criterio di diritto si è voluto riprovare la suddetta attività e definirla addirittura delittuosa. Si afferma ciò senza timore di confutazione o smentita perchè, proprio per disposizione del comando tedesco e del governo repubblicano fascista, nel periodo dell'oppressione e del terrore, al fine di controllarsi dagli organi politici oltre che la stampa la coscienza dei giornalisti, come si è detto imposti i direttori fascisti ai giornali, la preesistente vecchia gerarchia fu investita antepponendosi all'amministratore il direttore politico: segno evidente che questo anzichè il primo veniva considerato

ed era il vero responsabile dell'andamento e della vita del giornale.

Ma il Conte Armenise, come si è detto pure, non si era trovato in tale poco felice condizione.

Osserva che la critica delle prove nel distruggere a poco a poco gli elementi dell'accusa che, però, come la remora che si attacca alla nave deve essere strappata a pezzi, fa conoscere che la denuncia, attribuita al Conte Armenise se non la *proprietà diretta* delle due Società editrici, la *proprietà indiretta* (finzione giuridica) sostenendo con precisa argomentazione che egli è il *padrone* della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura.

E' indubbio che colui il quale emerge nella vita per cultura, saggezza, capacità in un determinato ambiente, ancorchè non materialisticamente concepito, può considerarsi *padrone*, e, se alle doti sue personali aggiunge quelle dell'attività e del prestigio, può anche ritenersi *proprietario* in senso metaforico o simbolico. Sotto questo aspetto il Conte Armenise, ricostruttore e potenziatore della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, ben potrebbe dirsi il « padrone e proprietario » della Banca.

Ma siffatti riconoscimenti morali non sono apprezzabili allorchè debbono essere considerati elementi di fatto costitutivi di reato.

Il Conte Armenise, qualunque sia la sua potenza patrimoniale e l'importanza della sua figura morale come amministratore intelligente e capace della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, non è affatto fra i maggiori azionisti della Banca segnalati dal rapporto della Tributaria (Il fol. 24-25). Egli è stato considerato tale — come fu riferito — in quanto possiede un considerevole numero di azioni della Società Siele (meno di un terzo), la quale Siele, a sua volta è detentiva di un cospicuo pacchetto azionario della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricol-

tura, mai tale, però, da costituire una maggioranza. Pertanto è chiaro che l'Armenise non era né il padrone delle aziende giornalistiche « Il Giornale d'Italia » e « La Tribuna » né, tanto meno, il proprietario della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura che conta migliaia di azionisti sparsi su tutta l'Italia.

Il Conte Armenise come amministratore delegato della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, come sollecito tutore degli interessi di una azienda a vastissima ripercussione economica, per la capillare diffusione in tutta l'Italia agricola del suo credito e dei suoi finanziamenti, nel momento di disordine, che imperversò durante i nove mesi di occupazione tedesca e i cui effetti perdurano, mantenne come suol dirsi la barra del timone delle aziende, affidate alla sua competenza al fine di ridurre al minimo o evitare i danni, che, nuocendo agli istituti, avrebbero parimenti nociuto ai singoli e alla collettività.

Questa azione naturale di colui che è solito presiedere i cosiddetti posti di comando contrasta con la pretesa, accennata nel già ricordato verbale di denuncia, per la quale si muoveva censura al Conte Armenise di non avere distrutto, per lo meno, l'organizzazione giornalistica dei suoi quotidiani onde sottrarre ai tedeschi il cennato mezzo di propaganda.

A parte la considerazione che non può affatto consentirsi che siffatto proposito si sarebbe dovuto esclusivamente osservare proprio dal Conte Armenise, numerosi altri quotidiani essendo in Roma, si ricordi come una simile affermazione presuppone anzitutto una libera disponibilità padronale delle aziende che Armenise non aveva, e appare in contrasto con la realtà vissuta: il sacrificio delle aziende, il sacrificio della struttura giornalistica, si sarebbe risolto in esclusivo danno delle aziende, dei collaboratori e delle maestranze dei giornali, nella certezza che il comando tedesco e il go-

verno repubblicano avrebbero saputo subito riparare un momentaneo rallentamento dell'apporto quotidiano giornalistico.

Sono vivi i ricordi dell'analogo comportamento della polizia tedesca in occasione di uno sciopero, soltanto di un tentativo di sciopero del 1° maggio 1944, delle maestranze de « Il Messaggero ».

Senza pensare che l'abbandono da parte di Armenise delle aziende al loro destino, significava la distruzione del macchinario o il suo trasporto al Nord, dove del resto già si meditava di fissare le nuove sedi redazionali.

« La chiusura degli stabilimenti tipografici — giustamente rilevò l'Armenise nel suo memoriale (II fol. 178) — sarebbe durata qualche ora: gli stabilimenti sarebbero stati occupati immediatamente, inevitabili sarebbero state le feroci rappresaglie, i giornali sarebbero stati pubblicati alla meglio e sarebbero caduti definitivamente nelle mani dei tedeschi tutti i macchinari, che sarebbero stati di conseguenza avviati facilmente al Nord. Redattori, operai, impiegati, avrebbero perduto pane e protezione. Forse gli stessi accusatori di oggi mi avrebbero addebitato di aver consegnato i macchinari ai tedeschi ed avere messo sul lastrico le maestranze, di avere abbandonato redattori, impiegati, operai alle rappresaglie e alle persecuzioni dei nazifascisti! ».

Nè la sopra ricordata critica delle prove, offerte dalla istruzione, si arresta a questo punto, ancorchè svanita come nebbia al sole sia l'accusa formulata contro il Conte Armenise.

Se di collaborazione la denuncia ha parlato, secondo criteri logici particolarmente formulati per colpire chi giuridicamente era innocente; se un ordine di cattura

per collaborazione con i nazi-fascisti è stato emesso contro chi dai fascisti medesimi era stato chiamato « traditore » e tendenziosamente diffamato nei giornali dell'alta Italia come badogliano e degno pertanto di galera; contro questi due dati di fatto, proprio dall'istruzione sommaria, compiuta dall'Alto Commissariato, sono risultati elementi imponentissimi, che dimostrano a luce meridiana quale sia stato il vero comportamento dell'imputato durante i nove mesi, quale l'apporto alla Patria, quali i suoi sentimenti, quali i rischi a cui espose sé e la propria famiglia.

Imperocchè, proprio il Conte Armenise che, nel momento del disorientamento prodotto dagli avvenimenti del settembre 1943, mantenne particolare compostezza di spirito e chiarezza di visione nel futuro, proprio egli, esortò tutti i dipendenti delle aziende a rimanere ai loro posti per salvaguardare gli interessi del personale, della Società, della Banca e per svolgere assieme quell'opera di vera italianità, che si era sempre in comune attuata; non esitò a palesare pubblicamente la sua intenzione di non trasferire al Nord gli stabilimenti tipografici e di aiutare in tutti i modi quanti si sarebbero dati alla macchia per non obbedire ai bandi di presentazione alle armi o al servizio del lavoro, qualora gli ordini avessero riguardato i mobilitati civili delle aziende.

Si è, così, accertato che, disposto il trasferimento di parte del macchinario tipografico al Nord, a Venezia, simulando adesione all'ordine, si erano nascoste linotype, rotative, radio riceventi e trasmittenti, materiale tecnico di valore; non si era fatto partire nulla nè si era consegnato nulla a tedeschi e fascisti repubblicani; si erano appostate difese armate per eventualmente rintuzzare l'opera dei guastatori tedeschi; si erano soccorsi in vario modo tutti i redattori e gli operai che erano stati

costretti a darsi alla macchia, or sussidiandone le famiglie, or mantenendo loro lo stipendio, or liquidandoli per riassumerli a liberazione avvenuta.

A questa opera di soccorso e di italianità, svolta in periodo di tempo in cui i tedeschi e i repubblicani minacciavano la deportazione in qualità di ostaggio e di traditore, il Conte Armenise aggiunse il suo personalissimo contributo come cittadino: sovvenzionò largamente il Fronte Clandestino di Resistenza e molte bande di patrioti per parecchi milioni; provvide ad aiutare la famiglia di S. E. il Maresciallo Messe, ricercata dai tedeschi quale prezioso ostaggio (II fol. 217-218); fornì informazioni preziose agli alleati (I fol. 95); proteste e nascose ufficiali alla macchia... svolse insomma, tutta una attività patriottica e cautamente conclusiva più vantaggiosa per gli interessi della Patria che non quella congetturata per dimostrare la sua pretesa criminalità (I fol. 67 a 101).

Ritenuto, pertanto, che nel chiedere il proscioglimento dell'imputato, deve provvedersi altresì alla revoca dell'ordine di cattura.

P. Q. M.

Visto l'art. 369 capv. C.P.P.

Chiede che il Sig. Consigliere Istruttore di Roma, chiusa la formale istruzione, dichiararsi di non doversi procedere a carico di *Giovanni Armenise fu Giuseppe*, imputato di collaborazione col tedesco invasore, secondo l'enunciazione del capo di imputazione, per non avere commesso il fatto addebitatogli.

Chiede la revoca dell'ordine di cattura emesso il 13 ottobre 1944.

Roma, 1° febbraio 1945

Il Sost. Procuratore Generale del Regno
f. lo G. LOSCHIAVO

IL CONSIGLIERE ISTRUTTORE DEL TRIBUNALE
DI ROMA

ha emesso la seguente

SENTENZA

nel procedimento penale a carico di

ARMENISE GIOVANNI FU GIUSEPPE

Imputato

del reato di cui agli art. 5 D. L. L. 27-7-1944 n. 159 e
81 C. P. perchè in Roma, dall'8 settembre 1943 al 4 giu-
gno 1944 con più azioni esecutive di un medesimo di-
segno criminoso collaborava col tedesco invasore, ponendo,
nelle sue qualità, di Presidente ed Amministratore
Delegato delle S. A. « Il Giornale d'Italia » e « La Tri-
buna » e massimo finanziatore delle Società medesime,
i quotidiani « Il Giornale d'Italia », « La Tribuna » e
« Il Piccolo » al servizio della propaganda tedesca.

Fatto

Con rapporto del 12 settembre 1944 il Tenente No-
velli del Nucleo di Polizia Giudiziaria addetto all'Alto
Commissariato per le sanzioni contro il fascismo denun-
ziava che « durante l'oppressione nazi-fascista, fra i
« giornali della Capitale che avevano dato risalto ai co-
« municati, ordinanze, discorsi, allettamenti e minacce
« delle autorità tedesche e di quelle repubblicane fasci-

«ste, nonché agli articoli di propaganda dell'Agenzia «"Stefani" e della così detta "Corrispondenza Repubblicana", ai resoconti degli inviati ai fronti di guerra presso i comandi tedeschi ed inoltre avevano commentato i comunicati ed i provvedimenti dei nazi-fascisti ed avevano svolto campagna propiziatrice per la presentazione dei giovani alle armi ed al servizio del lavoro, si erano particolarmente distinti i due quotidiani "Il Giornale d'Italia" e "La Tribuna", che la lettura di detti giornali dal 12 settembre 1943 al 4 giugno 1944, nonché quella de "Il Piccolo" edizione quotidiana, ne dava piena e convincente dimostrazione sì che emergeva in essi lo spirito di voler dare, come effettivamente davano mediante suggestione dell'opinione pubblica piena collaborazione al tedesco invasore»; che proprietario dei due giornali era «Giovanni Armenise, il quale dall'8 al 18 settembre 1943 era stato anche direttore politico de «La Tribuna»; che il vero responsabile dell'indirizzo politico dei due giornali era «lo stesso rappresentante della proprietà Armenise Giovanni, dal quale i direttori politici ed i redattori capi ricevevano ordini ed istruzioni».

Pertanto denunciava l'Armenise sotto la imputazione di collaborazione col tedesco invasore e produceva dichiarazione dei redattori capi L. Chibbaro, Bernardo Lorecchio, Gerardo Puja e del Dottor Franco Faggiana (vol. 11 pag. 1-2).

In seguito a tale denuncia fu dall'Alto Commissario emesso ordine di cattura a carico dell'Armenise, ordine di cattura che non potette eseguirsi. Con successivo rapporto il denunziante riferiva che l'Armenise, quale rappresentante della proprietà delle imprese editrici de «Il Giornale d'Italia» e de «La Tribuna» e della Società proprietaria delle imprese medesime, aveva rappresentato, nel periodo dell'oppressione la volontà unica che

poteva decidere ed influire sulla vita dei giornali; che era, oltre che il rappresentante della proprietà, l'*effettivo proprietario* perchè maggiore azionista della S. A. Stabilimento Minerario del Siele, a sua volta maggiore azionista della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura.

L'Armenise — che si era reso irreperibile — faceva pervenire all'Alto Commissariato un lungo memoriale: respingeva la gravissima accusa mossagli, negava di avere comunque dato indirizzo politico ai giornali e di averli messi al servizio dei nazi-fascisti, esponendo invece, la sua intensa attività di cittadino e di patriota durante il periodo clandestino. Fu espletata una larga istruttoria; indi gli atti furono trasmessi alla Autorità Giudiziaria per competenza.

Diritto

Dall'esame degli atti processuali, dei documenti e delle collezioni dei giornali alligati al processo, si rileva la infondatezza dell'accusa mossa all'imputato.

Invero dall'esame specifico delle accuse, si rileva in primo luogo, che « Il Giornale d'Italia » e « La Tribuna » — contrariamente a quanto si è affermato nella denuncia — non sono mai state di proprietà dell'Armenise. Risulta, infatti, dai documenti alligati che il 30 agosto 1938 la Confederazione degli Agricoltori acquistò le due aziende S. A. « Il Giornale d'Italia » e « La Tribuna » e il 31 dicembre stesso, per procurarsi il capitale necessario, contrasse con la Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura un debito di L. 21.926.500 rimborsabile con versamenti bimestrali di L. 1.500.000 ognuno, che furono eseguiti con puntualità fino alla totale estinzione. Il 6 marzo 1942 la Banca stessa acquistò le due aziende, cioè la maggioranza azionaria della S. A. « Il Giornale d'Italia » e l'intero pacchetto della S. A. « La Tribuna » e l'Armenise, che era Amministratore Delegato della Ban-

ca, si occupò subito del risanamento delle due aziende, le quali non solo non avevano costituito adeguati ammortamenti e riserve, ma presentavano un deficit complessivo di circa nove milioni l'anno.

Nel 1943 ambedue le aziende già risanate erano attive, nè la Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura dovette dare contributi di sorta. Neppure quando la guerra — nel 1943 — si estese al territorio nazionale e le due aziende ebbero necessità di ingenti somme disponibili perchè cessarono le spedizioni dei giornali per l'Italia Meridionale, andarono perduti tutti i crediti verso i rivenditori, crebbero contemporaneamente gli stipendi agli impiegati, le retribuzioni agli operai ed il costo di tutto il materiale, neppure allora le due gestioni ebbero bisogno di ricorrere al credito della Banca od a finanziamenti estranei per sopportare tali imprevisti aggravii.

Da ciò che si è detto si deduce che l'Armenise non fu mai proprietario delle aziende giornalistiche, e che si occupò di esse soltanto perchè era amministratore delegato della Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, che ne era la vera proprietaria; si deduce ancora che nè direttamente nè indirettamente finanziò i due giornali i quali non ne avevano alcun bisogno.

Si è anche affermato che se l'Armenise non è proprietario della Banca è proprietario della Società SIELE, alla quale appartiene la maggioranza delle azioni della Banca.

Risulta, invece, che la Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura ha un capitale di 80 milioni di lire, diviso in 800 mila azioni di cui il SIELE possiede 234.671 azioni; il SIELE ha un capitale di L. 32.947.200 diviso in 329.472 azioni e l'Armenise è proprietario di 109.302 azioni e cioè di *meno di un terzo del capitale stesso*.

Non si può fare alcun addebito politico all'Armenise perchè dopo il 25 luglio e durante i 45 giorni del

Governo Badoglio fu direttore de «Il Giornale d'Italia» il Senatore Bergamini. L'Armenise, per evitare che «La Tribuna», posteriormente, in quel difficilissimo e delicato periodo, cadesse nelle mani di qualche sconsigliato vampiro, come successivamente avvenne con la nomina di Vittorio Curti che fu imposto dal Governo repubblicano con l'esoso stipendio di L. 30 mila mensili, al quale l'Armenise si rifiutò di aderire, assunse anche la direzione del detto giornale; però risulta in modo evidente che non mise piede al giornale, che non scrisse articoli di nessun genere; non si interessò dell'andamento politico del giornale, lasciando l'iniziativa e responsabilità ai redattori sotto la direzione effettiva del redattore capo Bernardo Lorecchio; anzi ad essi parlò per confermare che il giornale doveva ispirare la sua condotta esclusivamente ad un sentimento di italianità al di sopra e al di fuori di ogni settarietà (vedi testimonianze Lorecchio Vol. I fol. 1-4, Ripamonti fol. 6, Vincenzotti fol. 12, Chibbaro fol. 16, Puja fol. 37).

Dopo l'8 settembre con l'occupazione di Roma da parte dei tedeschi e del nuovo governo repubblicano fu creato anche il nuovo Ministero della Cultura Popolare, che agiva ed ubbidiva agli ordini dei tedeschi. I giornali il 12 settembre ebbero l'ordine di pubblicare il discorso di Hitler; ma non avendo ciò eseguito fu dal detto Ministero ordinato che i direttori in carica venissero sostituiti da un redattore responsabile, la cui nomina doveva essere confermata dal Ministero.

In tal modo tutta la stampa passava sotto il controllo diretto, assoluto e rigoroso del Ministero (copia documento fol. 27 Vol. 11).

Ma non basta. Nello stesso giorno 14 settembre il generale tedesco Stahl — alla presenza del rappresentante del Ministero della Cultura Popolare — riunì all'Ambasciata germanica tutti i rappresentanti della

stampa, ai quali comunicò gli ordini da eseguire, le disposizioni da attuare e le rigorose minacce contro ogni indisciplina, stabilendo che « disposizioni e decreti tedeschi dovevano essere pubblicati dai giornali in primo posto e con rilievo tipografico » (fol. 28-29 Vol. II).

In seguito a tale ordine la direzione de « Il Giornale d'Italia » fu assunta dal redattore Luigi Chibbaro, il quale fu costretto ad accettare tale carica in un momento così difficile « a sacrificarsi » per salvare l'azienda ed assicurare il pane a varie centinaia di persone — operai ed impiegati —.

Prima di accettare tale immane fardello, il Chibbaro ebbe un abboccamento con l'Armenise per assicurarsi che il giornale non avrebbe dovuto riprendere l'indirizzo seguito sotto la direzione del Gayda. L'Armenise lo tranquillizzò assicurandolo che nelle tragiche condizioni in cui si trovava l'Italia, vi era un solo indirizzo da seguire, quello diretto alla risurrezione e alla ricostruzione della Patria, nella concordia degli spiriti al di sopra di tutti i partiti (deposiz. Chibbaro fol. 19-33 Vol. II).

Furono infatti pubblicati vari appelli alla concordia, ma essi non riuscirono graditi nè al comando tedesco, nè al Ministero della Cultura Popolare, nè ai fascisti repubblicani, i quali, comandati dal famigerato Bardi, invasero la direzione del giornale che era ritenuta un covo di antifascisti, ed aggredirono il direttore ed i redattori (Chibbaro fol. 19-33 Vol. II).

Fin dal primo giorno, riferisce ancora il Chibbaro (fol. 22 Vol. II) fu una pioggia di ordini e di contrordini dai comandi germanici, dalla Presidenza del Consiglio (Barracu), dal Comando della Milizia (Ricci), dalla direzione del partito (Pavolini), da Palazzo Braschi (Bardi e Franquinet), dal Ministero della Cultura Popolare

(Mezzasoma) ordini perentori e categorici tra i quali si riportano i seguenti:

14 settembre: Tutti i comunicati delle autorità tedesche vanno pubblicati di rigore in prima pagina.

24 settembre: Altissimo rilievo alla costituzione del nuovo Ministero Mussolini — Pubblicare biografie e ritratti dei nuovi Ministri.

30 settembre: «Il Giornale d'Italia» deve pubblicare l'articolo «Il giuramento e l'onore».

6 ottobre: E' trascorso un mese dalla firma della capitolazione conclusa dal governo dei traditori. La data va ricordata a vergogna del Re e dei generali che hanno tradito l'Italia e gli italiani — L'appello di Kesselring va pubblicato *tre volte* di seguito.

Contemporaneamente il Ministero della Cultura Popolare inviava tutti i giorni articoli, note, scritti, ecc., con ordini di pubblicarli subito. lo stesso giorno, sempre in prima pagina con l'indicazione del corpo e della colonna e con l'avvertimento che la censura non avrebbe licenziato il giornale se l'ordine non fosse stato eseguito a puntino.

Anche «La Tribuna» e tutti gli altri giornali che si stampavano a Roma dovevano ubbidire agli ordini del Ministero della Cultura Popolare ed al comando tedesco per cui i giornali, perduta ogni parvenza di indipendenza, erano ridotti a bollettini ufficiali per i nazisti ed i fascisti.

Perciò vari redattori, che non poterono né vollero subire tale onta alla loro volontà, per evitare rappresaglie, si diedero alla macchia, ma, pur non prestando servizio, fu loro pagato lo stipendio e poi regolata la liquidazione come se fossero stati presenti; e ciò per di-

sposizione tassativa dell'Armenise (deposiz. D'Amico fol. 55 Vol. I, Bellonci fol. 60, Crucilla fol. 77, Ronci fol. 79, Zanaboni fol. 67 Vol. I, Alliegro fol. 51-54 Vol. I, Sarazani fol. 58 Vol. I, ecc. ecc.).

Anzi risulta che l'Armenise aggiunse la concessione di speciali gratificazioni, un contributo di lire 127.000 allo spaccio aziendale per acquistare viveri, dispose prestiti ad impiegati ed operai per circa lire 500 mila senza che sia stata fatta finora alcuna ritenuta.

Senonché il 9 dicembre 1943 (fol. 31 Vol. II) furono nominati dal Governo repubblicano i nuovi direttori Guglielmotti a « Il Giornale d'Italia », Santamaria a « Il Piccolo » e Curti a « La Tribuna », nomine che furono aspramente osteggiate dall'Armenise e redattori; poco dopo, d'accordo con i tedeschi, fu ordinato il trasferimento al Nord delle aziende, del personale, dei macchinari ed impianti.

L'Armenise non solo si rifiutò di partire, ma d'accordo con tutto il personale simulò così bene lo smontaggio e l'imballaggio del macchinario, che i tedeschi ebbero fiducia nell'opera del personale delle aziende; furono, perciò, nascoste in posti sicuri macchine linotype, radio riceventi e trasmittenti; anzi fu stabilito un vero e proprio progetto per deviare i trasporti eventuali per il Nord (teste Sala fol. 95, Alliegro fol. 51, Nava fol. 92, Palmieri fol. 75, Ercoli fol. 76). Palmieri, Ercoli e Nava capitanarono le squadre di sorveglianza ed ebbero in premio lire trentamila.

Ma non basta.

L'Armenise era ritenuto antifascista e la radio di Monaco del 19 ottobre comunicò l'avvenuto arresto di lui (vedi « Gazzetta del Popolo » del 28 ottobre, fol. 32 Vol. II) anzi Farinacci sul « Regime Fascista » del 23 ottobre 1943 metteva l'Armenise nel numero dei traditori, additandolo al disprezzo e alle rappresaglie dei fa-

scisti oltre che dei tedeschi perché i giornali « La Tribuna » e « Il Giornale d'Italia » erano stati « schifosissimi » (fol. 34 Vol. II).

Come si possano conciliare le accuse di collaborazione con i tedeschi da parte dell'Armenise non si concepisce, se si tengono presenti i fatti, episodi e documenti innanzi riportati.

Il giudicante che, durante ore di studio e di tormento spirituale, si è sforzato di indagare a fondo su articoli di giornali, su documenti e su deposizioni di numerosi testimoni, per trovare l'*ubi consistem* della gravissima accusa, alla fine ha rivolto a se stesso le seguenti due domande:

1) Per quale motivo si è denunciato il solo Giovanni Armenise per il reato di collaborazione col nemico e non anche i direttori politici, i redattori capo, redattori responsabili e gli estensori degli articoli di propaganda dei due, anzi dei tre giornali?

2) Perché è stata denunciata solamente l'attività dei giornali editi dalle Società presiedute ed amministrate dall'imputato Armenise e non anche gli altri non pochi giornali stampati a Roma durante i nove mesi dell'occupazione della Capitale da parte dei tedeschi, giornali che, *volenti o nolenti hanno* pubblicato notizie, commenti, comunicati, ecc., che venivano imposti dalle autorità militari tedesche o dalla federazione o dal governo fascista?

La risposta alle due domande è intuitiva. L'Armenise si è dimostrato un geniale organizzatore d'aziende, un finanziere di grandi vedute ed iniziative, un amministratore sagace ed accorto; aveva, si può dire, *creato* un organismo finanziario, solidissimo, quale la Banca Nazionale dell'Agricoltura, che aveva salvato da sicu-

ro fallimento, nonché due aziende giornalistiche (quella de « Il Giornale d'Italia » e quella de « La Tribuna ») che aveva potenziato al massimo grado, portandole a floridezza economica e ai primi posti della stampa italiana. Tutto ciò non poteva non destare gelosie, risentimenti e propositi di... conquista da parte di uomini senza scrupoli, senza sentimenti di amor patrio e di dignità nazionale e solo desiderosi di godere e sperperare il frutto di nobile lavoro e di immensi sacrifici compiuti in tanti anni di silenziosa e proficua fatica dall'Armenise.

Ma gli accusatori implacabili insistono nell'affermare che l'Armenise avrebbe dovuto disporre la chiusura delle due aziende e non pubblicare i giornali per allontanare da sé ogni responsabilità.

Ma tali affermazioni sono illogiche ed in mala fede sia perchè l'Armenise non era il proprietario delle due aziende, ma il solo amministratore; sia perchè le stesse erano civilmente mobilitate (fol. 35) con decreto 21 luglio 1940 e quindi i dirigenti erano sottoposti alle sanzioni di legge; sia perchè le aziende stesse erano rigorosamente controllate dai tedeschi e dai fascisti repubblicani ed essi avrebbero con un qualsiasi pretesto occupato i locali, compiuto rappresaglie contro i dirigenti, impiegati ed operai, avrebbero requisito macchinari e personale, avviandoli al Nord, gettando nel lutto e nella miseria le numerose maestranze.

In questo caso gli accusatori avrebbero, sempre con la stessa mala fede gridato alla collaborazione col tedesco per avere consegnato macchinari al nemico e di avere denunciato le maestranze.

Invece quale fu la condotta dell'Armenise in favore del fronte clandestino e contro i nazi-fascisti?

Occultò e protesse molte persone perseguitate dai nazi-fascisti e si cooperò perchè non fossero arrestati noti antifascisti (occultò la famiglia del Maresciallo Ecc. Mes-

se Giovanni (fol. 36 Vol. II) e fece avvertire l'On. Di Vittorio per farlo allontanare essendo ricercato e fu in seguito a tale avvertimento che l'On. Di Vittorio riuscì a sfuggire all'arresto (deposiz. Sala fol. 95 Vol. I); occultò parecchi ufficiali (maggiore Guarini ed altri) nonché numerosi Carabinieri, cui fornì vitto ed alloggio.....; sovvenzionò generosamente le iniziative dei patrioti e ciò per vari milioni!..... (testi Sala fol. 95-I, Carignani 84-I, Cappa 85, Candelotti 86, Jansen 87, Grassa 88, Martelli Castaldi 89, Monticelli 90).

Escluso quindi come, la dimostrazione fatta, che l'Armenise fosse proprietario della Banca, e delle aziende giornalistiche; escluso, per deposizioni di tutti i redattori capo e redattori responsabili che avesse potuto influire anche indirettamente sull'indirizzo politico dei giornali; escluso che abbia in qualsiasi momento ispirato, fatto scrivere o sottoscrivere articoli di propaganda a favore dei nazi-fascisti; risultando invece che esplicò una attività positiva in favore della liberazione della Patria sia resistendo alle imposizioni nemiche, sia nascondendo e non facendo partire per il Nord Italia macchinari preziosi, sia sovvenzionando redattori, impiegati ed operai alla macchia, sia porgendo sovvenzioni ed aiuti ai patrioti, agli sfollati per somme ingenti, non si immagina come mai possano sussistere gli estremi del reato di collaborazione col nemico invasore.

L'Armenise non limitò la sua attività patriottica alle sovvenzioni e agli incoraggiamenti, ma cooperò in modo efficacissimo comunicando agli alleati, tramite il dottor Teramo ed una radio clandestina, quanto aveva appreso da due ufficiali tedeschi, i quali gli comunicarono che l'offensiva tedesca sarebbe stata iniziata sulla testa di ponte di Anzio. Ciò è stato riferito dal teste dottor Sala (a foglio 95 *retro* in fondo).

Pertanto deve concludersi che l'Armenise fu un fi-

nanziere accorto, prudente e geniale, un amministratore competente, saggio e rettissimo, che aveva portato gli istituti finanziari da lui amministrati all'altezza di veri centri di lavoro e di economia, interessanti non un limitato settore, ma le industrie e la finanza nazionale; fu anche un patriota ed un italiano purissimo, che seppe, in momenti così tragici per la nostra Patria tanto straziata, mettere tutta la sua opera a contrastare ed a neutralizzare l'attività faziosa e deleteria dei nazi-fascisti ed a potenziare quella dei patrioti per affrettare la liberazione e la ricostruzione della Nazione.

In conseguenza deve dichiarare non doversi procedere a carico dell'imputato per il delitto rubricato per non avere commesso il fatto ed ordinare la revoca dell'ordine di cattura emessa dall'Alto Commissario.

P. Q. M.

Visto l'art. 378 C. P. P.

In conformità della richiesta del Procuratore Generale

Dichiara non doversi procedere a carico di Armenise Giovanni fu Giuseppe per il delitto di collaborazione con i tedeschi rubricato per non avere commesso il fatto.

Revoca l'ordine di cattura emesso dall'Alto Commissario per le sanzioni contro il fascismo addì 13 ottobre 1944.

Roma, 15 febbraio 1945

Il Consigliere Istruttore
/to R. RICCIARDI

MAR 21 RECD

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSB/new

16 March 1945

17/PRB

SUBJECT : PRB Field Staff

TO : Chief Commissioner
(Through Executive Commissioner)

1. To meet the PRB field staff and to determine its adequacy and competence, the Director, PRB spent March 11-15 in the north. March 12 was spent with the 5th Army and March 13 with the 8th Army. I was accompanied by Maj. Floyd Weidman, PRO, G-5. Following are my observations and recommendations.

2. Major T.L. Bullock (B), is Deputy Director of PRB in charge of the field staff. He has been with AMG since its earliest days. He is energetic, competent and fairly well liked both by the Americans and British. He knows his job but has been handicapped by lack of support from headquarters. He has correspondence on file dated November and December 1944 asking to be relieved of his post unless support in the way of direction, qualified staff and sufficient transport were forthcoming.

3. Captain E. Ellison (B), is PRO, 8th Army. He only began his assignment a few weeks ago. He is young and comparatively inexperienced but is anxious to make good. He has gained the confidence of his regional superiors and will, I think, do a creditable job. As a result of our visit he has a much better idea of what is expected of him.

4. Rock Ferris, American civilian on loan from PWB, is PRO, 5th Army. He is a pleasant young man of artistic temperament but entirely unsuited to the job, either by training or personality. He is more of a personal aide to the Commanding General, AMG, 5th Army, than a PRO for AMG, 5th Army. Instead of being located at the Press Camp, 5th Army, to maintain contact with the correspondents he lives with the General in the city. The job of PRO, 5th Army, is one of the most important field positions we have and it is vitally important that we put a strong man in this job. It should be someone who can go straight through to the final destination of the 5th Army and keep the

- 2 -

correspondents constantly advised of AMG activities in his Army's territory. To make the change (and I strongly recommend it be done) will require delicate handling on high levels. I shall be glad to discuss my ideas on this subject with you.

5. Transport facilities for the PRO field staff are entirely inadequate and cripples operations. To move around with the correspondents and to develop their own material, the field staff must be mobile. At present we have one jeep for PRO, 8th Army, which is adequate, and a pick up for Major Bullock, which is inadequate as these cars are not allowed on roads controlled by 5th Army. PRO, 5th Army, is entirely without transport. What is needed are two jeeps, one for the Deputy Director, who must travel into both army territories, and one for PRO, 5th Army. I strongly recommend two jeeps be made available immediately.

6. Major Bullock needs an experienced clerk-writer to help him in his office and to keep it running while he is in the field. He would like to have S/Sgt. Cash (B), now in PRB. I would be agreeable if a suitable substitute can be found for Cash at headquarters. Cash, incidentally, is anxious to move north to the final destination of the 5th Army.

G. STEWART BROWN,
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

NOTE TO:

Mr. Brown:

Have instructed Estab. Section
to increase your T/O by 3 officers.
Let me know if you need any
push on the attached - with all
of which I concur.

15/ EWS
CC

182

2/3

CC File copy

MAR 16 RECD

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSB/mew

15/ PRB

16 March 45

SUBJECT: Proposed Film Outlining AC's Relations with Italy

TO : Major J. A. Quayle

1. Mr. Read, a motion picture photographer of the National Film Board of Canada, a Government agency which distributes films to 7,000 theaters including some in the United States, would like to make some scenes, with sound, of Admiral Stone talking with some of his staff.

2. These scenes would serve as an introduction to a fairly complete motion picture story he has made of Italy and the work of AC.

3. Mr. Read would like to make the picture in the Admiral's office in the early evening when street traffic would not interfere with his sound apparatus.

4. We recommend that the Chief Commissioner grant this request. It will help tell the story of AC to movie audiences. It would be appreciated if you would discuss this with the Admiral and set a date at which the film can be taken.

GJB
G. STEWART BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch

4239

9251/ce

181

When?

~~Major Gale.~~

gub

	Admiral	A
	Antoni	A,
domitor	(Puck)	A,
Wm Waver		? (att: B. B.)
Vogel		?
Brown.		???

181

ALLIED COMMUNICATION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GGB/maw

CONFIDENTIAL AND PERSONAL

17/ PRB

6 March 45

SUBJECT: Increase in TO of PRB

TO : Chief Commissioner
(Through Executive Commissioner)

1. You recently asked whether the PRB staff was adequate in quantity and quality. You will recall I said "no" to both parts of your question, but said that I was not in a position to make any recommendations at that time.
2. I have completed a study of the personnel and find that additional strength is required if we are to carry out a proper public relations program.
3. With the departure of Maj. Fielden, the transfer of Lt. (jg) Robbins from Navy PRO to our office, and the proposed transfer of Capt. Collins, Chief Archivist, from my staff to the Executive Commissioner's office, my table of organization will stand at nine, its authorized ceiling. Of these three are stationed in the field, one is a mess officer (Capt. Braydon), one is librarian (Lt. Cashman) of the Information Division, one a professor (Maj. Bergin). Of the six officers stationed here, therefore, three are assigned to duties, which although important, are not directly related to relations with the press.
4. I recommend therefore that a minimum of three additional allied officers be added to the strength of PRB. They are required for the following positions: (a) Deputy Director (British); (b) Executive news editor; and (c) a PRO-writer who would be available for field work.
5. In addition, I would appreciate authority to bring in a limited service enlisted man who has had some reportorial experience, to act as a general clerk and handy-man in the news room.
6. I would like to discuss the position of Maj. Leacacos with you. I would like to have him transferred out of PRB, and replaced by another officer, not because he is not a hard and conscientious worker, but because he does not get along very well either with the American correspondents or with the staff in PRB.
7. Your approval or comment would be appreciated.

1802
Passed to Col. Jones to C.C.'s instructions
that from 4 was to be put into effect forthwith.
He said that Col. Fiske would wish to speak to
to Admiral. *S.A. Quamph*
21-3-45

4231
G. STEWART BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch

A

SI

CopyMAR 2 RECD
CC 621

SERVIZIO INFORMAZIONI PER LA STAMPA

VIA SAN BASILIO, 45 - ROMA - TELEF. 41746 - 43380

March 2, 1945

LIEUT. COL. IAN MUNRO.
PWB
VIA VENETO, ROMA.

Dear Munro,

I accept with pleasure your invitation to enter my name among those newspapermen who will be invited to London. I had not offered myself before because I was under the impression that I was not persona grata to P.W.B. and the British Embassy. The continuous persecutions of which you know something about, the slandering campaigns from P.W.B. headquarters (they even tried to stop a speech I was to give to the American Red Cross because I am a "fascist"), the opposition I found in my work at every step had convinced me that less I saw of Allied authorities the better for me. The British Embassy has refused Il Globo's request for British newspaper copies, P.W.B. refuses to send Il Globo clippings of American newspapers which are flown to Rome for the use of the local press as "Il Globo is connected with SI and that would be an unfair advantage". You know what underhanded, unfair, "fascist" methods P.W.B. used against me and my men in order to equip and encourage ANSA. You know what to-day, March 2, 1945, I am not recognized as an independent newspaperman by AC, by P.W.B., by the authorities in general, which makes me laugh because my name is synonymous with journalism all over Italy. Requests for recognition were refused insistently until I got tired of asking. I have nothing to say to all this: among the smaller wars waged in the bigger war the Allies have thought fit to wage war on me relentlessly for the last eight months. I don't know why. I am sure they must know.

Your latest invitation puzzled me. Of course You and I know what an anti-fascist I have always been; You and I know that the Anglo-Saxons had no better, and no more tried friend than I. You and I know I am a pretty good newspaperman and an honest one. How can I go to London when I am not even allowed to enter AC headquarters, Via Veneto, Rome? How can I be included in a list of newspapermen when I am not considered even a free lance journalist

180

925/11c

ALLIED [REDACTED] COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Attachment
TO : Maj. Quayle

MAR 5 RECD
CC 621

3 March 1945

This is a very long and involved story and I
would prefer to speak personally to the Admiral, if
he cares to hear it.


G. STEWART BROWN
D. PRE

(180)

Brown will speak to
Admiral today.
5/3

File

Mr Stewart Brown.

I wonder if you have
any comments to make
on this letter before I
shows it to the Admiral?

J.A. Quayle.
2-3-45.

SI

SERVIZIO INFORMAZIONI PER LA STAMPA

VIA SAN BASILIO, 45 - ROMA - TELEF. 41746 - 43380

Copy

by the Allied Authorities? How can I visit MPs in Westminster when I have never been invited to a Press Conference in my own land?

I am sure you are misinformed, and if offered, my name will be refused. However all this does not change my friendship for you which goes back a few years and my love of your country, of which I have given you ample and dangerous proofs.

Sincerely yours,

Luigi Barzini jr.

See (1152)

4228

C.C. Copy
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSB/adm

13/PRB

26 February 1945.

FEB 27 1945

SUBJECT : Pamphlet reviewing A.C. operations.

TO : Chief Commissioner

1. There is real need for an informal printed pamphlet or booklet summarizing, in a popular form and perhaps with photographs, the achievements of the Allied Commission since its inception.

2. Such a document would be very helpful to new members of the A.C. staff, to newspapermen and visitors from Allied countries who wish easily digestible material on the work of the A.C.

3. I recommend that PRB be authorized to prepare such a review and, after approval of the contents, to have it printed in sufficient quantity for fairly wide distribution.

179a
92511/cv
APB
G. STEWART BROWN,
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

Cc : Mr. Macmillan
Brigadier Lush

ORIGINAL ON EXEC COMMS FILE

23 February 1945.

MEMORANDUM TO: Executive Commissioner.

1. Please give me a short statement showing the number of AC officers being withdrawn by 1 April from each of the regions under Italian Government control and a statement showing how many specialist officers will be left, including the number in AMG territory.

2. Also any other details which might be useful to the Acting President or to me in replying to questions which may be asked at the press conference tomorrow.

/s/ EMERY W. STONE

EMERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

cc: CC files only ✓

9251/cc

1028

179

Chief Commissioner

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref. R5c/PRB

20 February 1945

SUBJECT: Interviews with Italian Journalists

TO : Distribution 'A'

1. As various responsibilities are handed over to the Italian Government, the Italian press tends to get more and more information from Italian sources, and such information may not always coincide with the views of the Allied Commission. Unless the Allied Commission is willing to extend to Italian press correspondents as much patience, explanation, and information as they obtain from other sources, the Allied Commission is bound to be ignored or misrepresented by the Italian press. It is therefore felt that responsible AC officers should now make it a part of their business to interview Italian journalists when this is requested by PRO. Such interviews will no doubt occasion some misunderstandings and possibly misinterpretations, but these must be regarded as offset by the increased goodwill and understanding which should result from a better knowledge of AC subcommissions and their work by the Italian press. With a view to avoiding difficulties as far as possible, the following procedure is laid down.

2. Journalists will first approach the Public Relations Branch for permission to obtain an interview, and will submit to the PRO a list of the questions they propose to ask.

3. Subjects to be discussed will be carefully screened by the Public Relations Branch and will be kept within the strict purview of the relevant subcommission. In their interviews officers will be careful to confine themselves to factual statements as to what has been done and what is being done, but will not deal with future policy.

4. Articles written by journalists on the basis of the interviews granted will be submitted to the officer interviewed and to the PRO for review before publication.

5. Public Relations representative who will be regularly assigned to the task of arranging interviews of Italian journalists with subcommissions and of ensuring that the written articles are submitted for review in accordance with paragraph 4 above, will be Mrs. DOLORETA ORSILIA, Italian civilian. The location is Room 22, 3rd floor, tel. ext. 591.

DISTRIBUTION

'A'

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

178a

Q

19 February 1945.

TO : Mr. G. Stewart Brown,
Director, Public Relations Branch

1. I have issued Bria of Associated Press the following statement:

"The contents of the dispatch received by you today bear no relation whatsoever to the Italian Armistice Terms."

2. He was authorized to quote me as making the statement.

3. If any other correspondents call up with a similar story, you should quote me in the language set forth above, which was specifically approved by Mr. Macmillan and AFHQ.

W. E. Stone

WILLY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

7-251/cc

178

FAST				RCA		DIRECT																					
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;">FOREIGN</th> <th style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;">DOMESTIC</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">FULL RATE</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">FULL RATE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">CDE</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">DAY LETTER</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">URGENT</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">SERIAL SERVICE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">DEFERRED</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">NIGHT MESSAGE</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">RADIO LETTER</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">NIGHT LETTER</td> </tr> </table>				CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED		FOREIGN	DOMESTIC	FULL RATE	FULL RATE	CDE	DAY LETTER	URGENT	SERIAL SERVICE	DEFERRED	NIGHT MESSAGE	RADIO LETTER	NIGHT LETTER			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;">NO.</td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;">CASH OR CDD.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">NUMBER OF WORDS</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">TIME FILED</td> </tr> </table>		NO.	CASH OR CDD.	NUMBER OF WORDS		TIME FILED	
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RADIOGRAM R.C.A. COMMUNICATIONS, INC. A RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA SERVICE																											
TO ALL THE WORLD — BETWEEN IMPORTANT U. S. CITIES — TO SHIPS AT SEA																											

Send the following Radiogram *"Via RCA"* subject to terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

CF/

FEB 19 1945 4:48 AM

RMT885 NEW YORK 67/65 18 2158

FRS ASSOCIATED ROME =

INFORMATIVELY SENATOR BRIDGES PUBLICS ITALIAN ARMISTICE TERMS QUOTING GENEVA
 INTERNATIONAL LAW REVIEW PROVIDING SENDING TWO MILLION WORKERS TO VICTORS FOR
 RECONSTRUCTION INCLUDING 800000 RUSSIA 200000 EACH BRITAIN UNISTATES AUSTRALIA
 SOUTHAFRICA BRAZIL PLUS ALLIED POSTWAR CONTROL ITALIAN BANKS HEAVY INDUSTRIES
 MERCHANT FLEET CIVIL AVIATION CEDING PANTELLARIA LAMPEDUSA BRITAINWARDS AEGEAN
 ISLES GREECEWARDS ISTHIA FIUME ZARA TO YUGOSLAVIA AND CREATION ALLIED FREE PORTS ITALY

ASSOCIATED

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 Phone: Superior 2861

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 (Not to be transmitted)

SECRET

AFHQ FOR
SACRED

S-420

12 February 1945

PRIORITY

SECRET PD

222 1011/CC
1011/CC

THE PUBLICITY GIVEN IN QUOTE UNION JACK UNQUOTE OF ELEVEN FEBRUARY AND
QUOTE STARS AND STRIPES UNQUOTE OF TEN AND ELEVEN FEBRUARY TO THE ALLEGED
STATEMENTS OF MR. MARCANTONIO IN CONGRESS CAN DO NO GOOD AND IS EMPLOYED
BY BOTH AMERICAN AND BRITISH OFFICERS IN THIS COMMISSION PD
PARER TO AFHQ FOR SACRED FROM ALGOM FROM STONE CITE AGSEC PARER
I SHOULD BE GLAD IF THE EDITORS OF THE PAPERS COULD BE INSTRUCTED BY
THEIR SERVICE CHIEFS TO REFRAIN FROM GIVING PUBLICITY TO SUCH MALICIOUS
AND INACCURATE STATEMENTS AFFECTING THE ALLIED COMMISSION PARTICULARLY
SINCE IT IS A FORMATION OPERATING UNDER YOUR COMMAND PD IT IS ALSO
RECOMMENDED THAT WAR DEPARTMENT OR CHARLIE CHARLIE SUGAR BE REQUESTED
TO CORRECT MARCANTONIO'S STATEMENT THAT ABLE CHARLIE HAS RECEIVED CMA
AND FAILED TO CARRY OUT CMA ANY DIRECTIVE TO INCREASE RATION TO THREE
HUNDRED GRAMS

DISTRIBUTIONCC
COS

Chief Commissioner

222

176

SECRET

ELIERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

9251/CC

1234

PLEA FOR ITALY
AS "FULL ALLY"

Mr. Vito Marcantonio has introduced a resolution in Congress calling on President Roosevelt to recognize Italy as an Ally in the war and extend lend-lease to the Italians, it is learned in Washington.

The resolution also asked the President to urge other United Nations to recognize Italy as "a full and equal Ally."

Marcantonio, saying that Americans should insist upon the Allied Commission carrying out the President's directive that the Italian bread ration be increased, recalled that Mr. Roosevelt last October asked the Commission to raise the daily ration from 200 to 300 grams.

He alleged that the Commission did not include a single US representative whose authority was equal to the British representative. "Children are dying daily for lack of bread. We ought to insist that the directive of the President be carried out despite the alibi and excuses of the Allied Commission," Marcantonio said.—UP.

UNION JACK
11 FEB 45

1220

176 APP.

The Commissioner:

I.N.S wrote a
mail story about it &
AP and U.P. carried
brief extracts
Didn't check the
Times and N.Y. Herald-
Tribune x

PB x

✓ 3

Mr. Brown - Do you plan on doing anything with this story in the U.S. when the Italians defend us, elements to me from 'IL GLOBO' 11 Feb (written though not signed by Salvi Editor)

The Allied Commission has a very bad press abroad. The brightest journalists, the most famous women of daily literature, have deplored the scandalous failure of the A.C.

American magazines have whole pages full of photographs of our children dying of hunger, notoriously through the fault of A.C.

English newspapers, which in their leading articles take away from us the old colonies of Rubatino and of Giolitti and which want to see our prisoners treated as they deserve, in another column deplore the inefficiency and the bad results of the A.C.

Vito Marcantonio, New York representative in Washington, in yesterday's papers deplored one more the fact that the A.C. in Italy had blocked the distribution of 300 grams of bread North of Naples.

Even Don Sturzo, in an article appearing yesterday in the "National Catholic Monthly Magazine" wrote: "The A.C....being in two hands - British and American - like all two-headed animals has no clear ideas, no directives, no rapidity of action".

The A.C. is the victim of a great misunderstanding, without being able to defend itself.

The Commission is a military control organism, composed of officers, commanded by Generals and Admirals. It has a military functioning. Papers follow the hierarchic scale, and have no value unless they are signed and countersigned and stamped like all papers in all military administrations.

The Commission is not a perfect organism. It is largely composed of competent men who have a good knowledge of the problems which they have to deal with; serious, capable, intelligent men. There are, as in all Administrations, also mediocre men, who have little interest in what they are doing. It is composed of functionaries who come from two different worlds and who have a different concept of business and of bureaucratic practices, but who unfortunately speak the same language. Furthermore, they have to deal with men belonging to a third nation and who speak another language; Italians, who have different ideas on the conduct of business and on the carrying out of practices. Difficulties of coordination are very great. Not even the office hours between

9251/cc

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It is true, as the ladies of Anglo-Saxon journalism say, that tuberculosis is reaping its harvest among the population, that the lack of essential raw materials and means of transport paralyzes the little economic life that is left to us, that our last remaining means (a few old ships, sailing boats, automobiles, railway lines) are to a great extent requisitioned, that many factories that could be put to use again are occupied and used as warehouses.

9251/cc

-2-

It is true that the provisions that the Allies found at Naples and elsewhere have been put to their service with catastrophic effect on our rehabilitation. It is true that the bills for every expense are sent to the Italian government. It is true that it is impossible to find the necessary tonnage for the three hundred grams of bread and even for linking us with our islands and the countries of the Mediterranean that might be able to supply us with useful products. It is true too that we are unable to carry on trade with neutrals.

No one can deny that all these decisions, or absence of decisions, have had serious political repercussions with influences on the future. The prestige of the Allies, whom the Italians truly consider their liberators (only we know what it is like to see the Germans in flight and the sinister terror of occupation disappear) has been diminishing from day to day. Weariness and lack of confidence have paralyzed even those Italians who had fought in the maquis, who had published the clandestine journals who had looked forward to the arrival of the Anglo-Americans as one looks forward to the dawn after a night of nightmares. The testing ground of the new Atlantic world, the world of human collaboration, has given very bad results.

All this is obvious. Nobody denies it.

But it is too easy to say that it is the A.C.'s fault. If things did not go as the Italians had hoped meanwhile, it is not Admiral Elcomy Stone's fault. The A.C. had to obey orders; orders as precise as military orders are. They have been obeyed and the Italians know now often and with how much comprehension, all ~~their~~ corners have been smoothed by the men who are in the provinces or in the small offices in direct contact with the public. How often orders arriving from London or from Washington received no publicity whatever, were not even confessed, in the hope that they might be modified.

The A.C. is not to blame.

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The A.C. is not to blame.

1764

128

JAN 27 1945

A

24 January 1945.

Ref: 37/490.

SUBJECT: "Off Record" Handout to Allied
and Italian Press.

TO : GAC, Land Forces Sub-Com.

1. The Chief Commissioner has had brought to his notice your letter 6/103 of 20 Jan 45. While not wishing to restrict the normal publicity concerning the Italian Army, he does not consider the "off record" handout attached to your letter a suitable document for issue to correspondents nor does he feel that the present time is suitable for a press conference on the subject.

2. The Chief Commissioner directs that any press releases concerning the Italian Army should be made through the PRO, RM 40, with the exception of operational releases which will follow normal military channels.

M. S. LUSH

Commissioner,
Chief of Staff.

MIL/TC.

Copy to: 303

9251/cc

C

1217

169

Translat n

perrone - Corso Umberto, 337

Chief Commr

11 January 1945

To His Excellency,

We want to submit to your kind examination the enclosed letter which we sent to P.W.B., about the 'Corriere di Roma'.

Truly yours,

S. Pio Perrone

Mario Perrone

Rear Admiral Wilsey Stone

A.O. H.Q.

R o m e

O.O.

✓
Co S Dist - 12 JAN 45

ACTION: P.R. B. 1216

INFO: Chief Commr

Co S

9251/ccc

File
-3

167

Translation

C O P Y

11 January 1949

T.: Psychological Warfare Board

P O M E

through the *Corriere di Roma* and official informations, we have heard that the decisions about the *Corriere di Roma* were being examined.

The hypothesis that the paper would no longer be issued would mean the disappearance of a tradition which is now very favorably established; at the same time, it would throw three hundred families on the pavement and endanger the fate of the property because of the unexpected burden of the mortgage and important liquidations, and because of the stoppage of every productive activity.

The continuation of the *Corriere di Roma* would, on the contrary, keep up a political and journalistic initiative, which, for public opinion, is linked with the liberation of Rome, and the going back of Italy to its traditions of 1941-48.

In homage to the allies, and trusting in the guarantees it has been given, the Societa Editrice has employed all its activity in supporting the *Corriere di Roma*; when the *Quotidiano* was suspended, it ceased on to it all its technical and industrial organization, refusing to take other arrangements, fearing it might have unfavorable consequences for the affirmation and affirmation of the *Corriere di Roma*.

We think it is therefore our right that the continuation of the publications of the *Corriere di Roma* should go over to the Societa Editrice.

Considering the present circumstances, we repeat what we have already declared to the Italian Government: to be ready to adhere to whatever proposal directed to guarantee the political, democratic and popular character of the newspaper, and its character of big organ of international informations, supporting the new European policy of the allies.

If required, we can also make definite proposals: in accordance with our spirit and with our traditions of the past which culminate in our concrete collaboration to the victory of 1942-45 with the decisive industrial production of the Ansaldo plants.

Trusting that the decision of the allies will avoid the above mentioned serious and unfair damages, and will be inspired by a sense of justice, we remain,

S. Pio Corrado
MARIO PERONE

P.S. We deem it unnecessary to answer to the personal attacks of the Roman press, for we have already communicated the matter to the Council of State, as from the enclosed appeal.

same time, it would throw three hundred millions on the Government and endanger the fate of this party because of the increased burden of the printing and important liquidation, and because of the stoppage of every productive activity.

The continuation of the 'Corriere di Roma' would, on the contrary, keep up a political and journalistic initiative, which, for public opinion, is linked with the liberation of Rome, and the going back of Italy to its traditions of 1941-45.

In homage to the allies, and trusting in the guarantees it has been given, the Societa Editrice has employed all its activity in supporting the 'Corriere di Roma': when the 'Messaggero' was suspended, it passed on to it all its technical and industrial organization, refusing to make other arrangements, fearing it might have unavoidable consequences for the affirmation and diffusion of the 'Corriere di Roma'.

We think it is therefore our right that the continuation of the publications of the 'Corriere di Roma' should go over to the Societa Editrice.

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S. Pio Ferrone
MARIO FERRONE

P.S. We deem it unnecessary to answer to the personal attacks of the Roman Press, for we have already communicated the matter to the Council of State, as from the enclosed telegram.

e.c.

161

(COPY)

cc 145
to file
JAN 1 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

3/PRB

15 January 1945.

SUBJECT : Il Giornale Radio
TO : Colonel J.L. Henderson, Director, Communications
Sub-Commission, A.C.

This seems to be a matter for you to answer as
the original request was sent to you. I don't think we can
do much more than pass on the PWB explanation.

LIONEL FIELDEN
Major
Public Relations Director.

9251/cc

17-1-45

Spoke to Cols Henderson & Judder who say
that they have taken the action proposed by Major
Fielden.

FILE.

No further action.

(166)

①

M/A 16 C.C.

I think the G.C. should
see the references to
Mr. Kirk and Signor Bonomi

all
n/2

EXTRACT FROM "THE ECONOMIST"
OF DECEMBER 23, 1944.

GIANT LEAKER

Mr. Drew Pearson, the widely syndicated Washington journalist, was recently adjudged by his colleagues in the Press to be the most influential of the daily columnists. He helps to mould the opinions and reinforce the prejudices of many millions of Americans. His popularity and his influence are based, to a large degree, on what appears to be a unique access to the sources of news. One of the features of his column in recent weeks has been the publication of what purport to be secret telegrams sent to the United States Government. Mr. William Phillips' reports to the President on India, and a dispatch by Mr. Kirk, the U.S. Ambassador in Rome, detailing Mr. Churchill's instructions to General Scobie on the Greek crisis, are among the forbidden fruits Mr. Pearson has collected for his readers. The latest pippin from the official orchard is the alleged text of Signor Bonomi's grievances against the British Government as privately addressed to Mr. Roosevelt. There is much head-shaking in Washington over Mr. Pearson's leaks. Leak, incidentally, seems a pallid description; if the disclosures are really authentic it looks as if a pipe had burst somewhere. Mr. Pearson evidently has not been unduly discouraged- or perhaps he has only been put upon his mettle- by President Roosevelt's reference to him last year as an habitual liar. If there is a bootleg traffic in secret papers- all of them, curiously enough, anti-British- the U.S. Administration will have to take some more effective action to reassure other Governments that it can protect their confidences if not its own.

165a

7251/16
1219

EXTRACT FROM "THE ECONOMIST"
OF DECEMBER 23, 1944

TAIL-TWISTING CARNIVAL

One of the liveliest of the Liberal columnists, Mr. Samuel Grafton, has drawn attention to the torrent of anti-British propaganda which is now flooding the United States, "pronouncements, manifestos, declarations, cartoons and wisecracks." Some are put out, he says, by the Liberals who object to British policy in Italy and Greece, but some come from former isolationists who see an opportunity to get in their own particular anti-British blows. The New York correspondent of the Daily Telegraph has suggested that some of this stream of criticism has been officially inspired. Mr. Raymond Gram Swing counsels the British public not to take these attacks too tragically, as they are "a demonstration of intimacy" and "their very lack of restraint arises from a sense of the fundamental security of the association between the two countries". That is uncommonly like the classic defence of the Cockney wife-beater who said "he clipped her on the jaw regularly every night to show his affection". The sum total of the anti-British feeling in the United States is built up out of the activities of many groups who individually would angrily disavow any intention of breaking the alliance or alienating the two peoples. These doubtless include those Zionists who pay for full page advertisements in the newspapers attacking the British Government vehemently on Palestine; the liberal journalists who berate the British as the agents of international reaction; the conservative commentators who denounce them as the partners of Bolshevism; the business men who profess to fear that the British will outwit them in the world's markets; the good Senators who spread the alarm that the British are waxing fat on the illicit profits of Lend-Lease; and the Army newspaper that suggests that US troops are going short of cigarettes because the British are getting them. Each separate tug at the lion's tail may be no great matter, but the cumulative effect of many tuggers is a subject for the RSPCA. The political consequences would seem worth the attention of the White House and State Department. It is all very well to disassemble your love, but it is poor policy in wartime to kick a faithful partner and ally downstairs.

✓
Royal Society for the
Prevention of Cruelty to
Animals.

165a

BUCK SLIP

DATE

14 Feb. '45.

HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED COMMISSION

FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION

From

To

☒	Col. A. P. Graffey-Smith	
	Comdr. J. J. Lawler, USCGR	
	Col. H. G. Crawshaw	
	Lt-Col. J. H. Penick	
	Lt-Col. P. D. Banning	
	Lt-Col. E. P. Waters	
	Lt-Col. A. J. Baxter	
	Major B. E. L. Timmons	
	Major J. Osmon	
	Major E. J. Gits	
	Major W. E. Price	
	Major J. R. H. Hall	
	Major M. M. Daugherty	
	Capt. G. H. Tipping	
	Property Control Division	
	SSM Angibault	
	Chief Commissioner	
	Economic Section	
	Message Centre	

FOR:

☒ Recommendations & Remarks... Necessary Action and return
☒ Information & Retention... Perusal & Return
☐ Approval or Disapproval... Filing
☐ Investigation & Report... Despatch
☐ Necessary Action and retention

REMARKS:

A. C. - Gen. 1945

165a

3/PRB

22 December, 1944.

Dear George,

I attach a copy of a letter received from the Minister of Communications regarding the political programme allotments made by the organisers of IL GIORNALE RADIO, and of a further letter regarding programmes broadcast by Radio Sardegna and Radio Roma.

Before transmitting the Italian Government's complaint to AFHQ I should be glad to have your comments, particularly in respect of the time allotted to the Parties now represented in the Government. You will doubtless realize the complexities of a situation in which the political commentary of a radio monopoly is restricted - as would appear from this letter - to parties in opposition, while representatives of a Government which has received Allied support and congratulation are excluded.

Yours sincerely,

G. Edgar W. Stone

Mr. George Edman,
A.D.P.W.O. (Lib).,
62 Via Veneto, Roma.

FILES A

Translation by De Vignani.

Prot.no. S/10/4526.

Attachment: One.

Subject : Political contents of radio transmissions broadcast by the R.A.I.

To : Allied Commission - Posts and Telecomms.
Sub-Commission - APC 394 -

Further to the verbal information already given to you, I consider it to be my duty to pass on to you for information a copy of the letter sent by the "Commissario" of the R.A.I. to Mr. Gnudi, Chief of the political service of P.W.B. It is pointed out at the meantime that:

- The organization of the "Giornale Radio", has been entrusted by the Allies to Sig. Murialdi, editor of the "Avanti", and until July 25th ~~was~~ political correspondent from Rome of the "Secolo" and editor of the "Messaggero". The well known incidents which happened during the creation of the second Bonomi Cabinet (owing to the transmission of inexact or false news) are undoubtedly to be ascribed to partialities of him who compiles the "Giornale Radio", and, in addition, to the lack of preparation and confusion in the editing of the newspaper.
- The "Rassegna della Stampa Romana" which takes place every day from 1405 to 1415 hours, gives preference to the discussion of articles extracted from the newspapers of the extreme left.
- Every night from 2110 to 2120 hours, the Radio comments the facts of the day, alternating at the microphone are the following:

Umberto Calosso	(Socialist)
Aldo Garosci	(Action Party)
Ruggiero Orlando	(Sympathizing with the communist party)

The tone of course of all these commentaries is of only one tendency. But above all the public is not able to determine who is responsible - that is, whether the commentators speak in the name of the Allies in the name of their parties or in their own names.

The transmission "Parole di una donna", which is held three times a week from 1850 to 1900 hours, has been much criticised by the "Osservatore Romano" and by the Catholic newspaper, for the

= 2 =

loose morals on which it is shaped.

Upon the whole, it is my opinion that, even if the P.W.B. ^{way} reserve for themselves the task of organizing and directing the spoken transmissions of the Italian Radios, it would be opportune if not necessary, that in the compilation of this programme they could consult or enter into proper agreements with a representative of the Italian Government or with an Official of the R.A.I. appointed by this Ministry or by the Presidency of the Council.

This to the end of avoiding the inconvenience above mentioned which in our opinion might assume larger political importance than foreseen.

In view of the grave political situation which the ~~country~~ ^{wants} country is going through, it is my opinion that the problem ^h the most attentive examination and most careful consideration.

The Ministry.

4307

Res. 11/11/44

Translation by Petrianni.

15 December 1944.

R.A.I.
The Commissioner.

Dear Mr. Gnudi,

I inform you that Radio Sardinia, during a broadcast of December 12th, at 2100 hours, organized by the Communist Party, carried out an acrimonious invective against the leading reactionist class of the island, the large proprietors, stating the situation of the workmen, of the farmers etc. etc., to be "unsustainable", and that a new adjustment is urgently to be given to the island, without expecting the "Constituent" and giving the Sardinian autonomy new social contents.

It is furthermore pointed out that Radio Rome, also on date of December 12th at 2110 hours, broadcast a conversation by Aldo Garosci about the Roatta process, very serious in respect of the Army, which "does not represent the Country anymore."

This morning I have been visited by the Deputy Commander of the "Cremona" Gruppo di Combattimento, who has stressed to me the necessity that the radio broadcasting of the Italian Stations may take into account that they are heard by the soldiers who are about to fight on the front, and that every imprudent word in the political field they hear, has a very demoralizing effect on their morale.

Dr. Luigi Rusca.

5246

(165) INCL 'B'

cc. 1189
19/12/44.HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

19 December 1944

20/PRB

SUBJECT : ITALIAN PRESS
TO : The Chief Commissioner, A.C.

The interview given by Nenni to the London Press and published in AVANTI this morning contains the following passage:

"..... the Italian Government should be permitted to re-organize its internal administration. Nearly every prefect in charge of administration in the liberated provinces is still a career official of the Fascist regime. During the first Bonomi Government the Socialist Canevari, Under-Secretary for the Interior, put forward the names of 57 antifascists carefully selected to replace these career prefects. At the time of the Government's resignation, only three of these had been approved by the Allied Commission, without whose consent no such replacement is possible. This failure to give a democratic character to the administration was one of the main causes of the Government crisis."

I raised this matter at the Chief of Staffs meeting today since it will obviously bring up all the old "pro-Fascist" accusations against the A.C. I am inclined to think that A.C. should issue a statement if Nenni's facts are inaccurate. Do you agree?

Lionel Fielden
LIONEL FIELDEN
Major
Public Relations Director.

Copies to : Chief of Staff
Colonel Fiske
Colonel Spicer
Political Section.

FILES

Action taken by CofS.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref: 5251/12/COS.

15 December, 1944.

Chief Commission.

1. We discussed at your Chief of Staff's Meeting this morning the degree of licence which should be allowed to the Italian press in the name of liberty of speech.

2. The matter came up as a result of the publication on 10 December in "Avanti" of the attached article. The tone of this article oversteers the mark of liberty and becomes licence.

3. The situation with regard to control of the press appears to be that if military security is jeopardized, then, and then only, can the Allied authorities take direct action. Such action would include, I presume, the prohibition of the paper and the punishment of the proprietors and the editor. As usual it is difficult to define military security. It can be argued that freedom of speech includes attacks on Allied statesmen. On the other hand it can be fairly said that any newspaper article which provoked resentment against the Allies is a definite menace to good relations and therefore to the war effort.

4. Many people consider that to allow such licence to continue unchecked is lowering the good name of the Allies in what after all is a co-belligerent country recently defeated in war, and is therefore deleterious to the Allied cause. I think this is a reasonable view and action of some kind, in my opinion, and in the general opinion of the meeting this morning, should be taken.

5. It remains to consider what form this action should take. Any action should, I think, be taken by the Italian Government on Allied representation. It could take the form either of a representation or demand made by yourself to the Prime Minister that the paper should be (a) warned; (b) prohibited; or the British Ambassador could make representations on behalf of H.M. Government suggesting that the Italian Government act as in (a) or (b) above. Still better, as it seems to me, the action should be taken both by yourself and the British Ambassador.

6. Freedom of speech is one thing, licence is another. I cannot agree that it is right in time of war and in the circumstances in which this country finds itself that licence in the newspapers should be allowed. With two of the political parties outside the Government such licence is likely to increase for the newspapers are their main medium of expression. It should be checked now and I suggest that you should formally demand that Bonomi should take action with regard to this article and that H.M. Ambassador should make the same approach to the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

MSL/JC.

File -
Discussed with
Bonomi.

EWS

MSL
Brigadier
Chief of Staff.

5251/12/C

163b

C O P Y

"AVANTI" - 10 December 1944

STRONG WORDS

Very strong words have been said against Sforza, the Italians, and against the Greek and Belgian Patriots on Friday by Churchill at the House of Commons. A Democrat has mocked Democracy, and the young Italian Democracy has been despised. Churchill said that the Parties which represent the Italian Democracy cannot count because they have not been regularly elected, but are not confinement, exile, and blood sufficient to consecrate an ideal? Such words have been rarely heard in the Parliament. However, the Italians are accustomed to injuries and menaces and don't bother them anymore. We prefer to convince people with arguments other than with strong words. It would be rather sad to see some persons who were known for their self control lose it, and become profiteers of countries.

The Belgian and Greek patriots are bandits, Sforza and the Italian anti-Fascists intriguers, and to morrow the Hollanders, the Danes and the Norwegians will be considered in the same way. Why? Because they are not enough obedient to the will of Downing Street and Whitehall.

Shall we have to repeat that Downing Street and Whitehall are always right? The Italians said so because they have been obliged by Monarchy and by those generals now protected by CHURCHILL and Eden; and if they want to find it out by themselves, they would see the repetitions of the facts which happened in Brussels and Athens. Many people have tired nerves at present, and we don't want to take CHURCHILL's words too tragically, because otherwise it would be very sad for us to see him become the champion of a European reaction. Europe would not follow him, and he would only prepare for the Continent and his own Country a very sad future.

It is obvious that the other deputies wanted to leave him time to calm his anger. In fact, the House of Commons is composed of 628 members, 279 voted for Churchill, 30 against him, and the other 319 left the room in order not to disagree with him because of his great past, but also because they could not agree with him.

S/ZIMARGAS

308

1636

NOTE OF DISCUSSION ON THE ITALIAN PRESS AT CHIEF OF STAFF'S
MEETING DEC. 15.

Mr Hopkinson raised the issue by complaining of an article in 'Avanti' which alluded to "the protection of generals by Mr Churchill and Mr Eden" : and asked whether such attacks could be permitted.

PRO said that there was a specific direction on this point in the general directive issued to all Editors by the APB : but that was purely an advisory directive and was now perhaps out dated by the "retention of the right of authority to intervene in matters of military security or undemocratic practices" which figured in the Administrative Memorandum transferring responsibility (in areas under Italian jurisdiction) to the Italian Press Commission.

Mr Hopkinson said that the Italian Press was irresponsible because there was no electorate or House which it represented, and it was pushing the public into anti-Allied opinions.

PRO said that it must be remembered that the PWB paper 'Corriere di Roma' had by far the largest circulation in Rome, more than twice that of any other paper, and that all papers took their news from the UMB. It could not be said that the public was getting undiluted anti-Allied propaganda.

Brigadier Perkinson said that he thought a strong line should be taken and the Avanti suppressed.

Colonel Campbell agreed with this view.

Colonel Pike also favoured strong action : he said that anti-Allied comments resulted in casualties at the front.

Mr Cleveland disagreed. He pointed out that we had promised Italy a free press, and a free press was bound to have divergent views and lively criticism. We should be strong enough to ignore these pinpricks, for they were really no more than that. He thought that the Allied Commission should keep right out of actions such as the suppression of newspapers or the admonishing of editors : if Governments or statesmen were attacked, the Embassies or representatives of the country in question should take up the matter with the Italian government who should be the authority to take whatever steps were necessary.

163a

1302

PRO said he agreed with Mr Cleveland, and that that was in fact more or less the policy at which the APB was aiming in transferring responsibility.

The Chief of Staff asked Mr Hopkinson whether he thought that on occasions like this there should perhaps be two approaches, one by the Chief Commissioner to the Prime Minister, and another by the representative of the country concerned to the Foreign Minister.

Mr Hopkinson agreed.

Mr Cleveland maintained that AC should keep out.

PRO took the opportunity of raising the points made to Mr Cleveland by Maj. Tooby who had said that PWB was always inaccurate and that AC should hold regular press conferences for the Italian press. PRO said that this was a very old story: PWB maintained that they had "control and direction of propaganda" and when he (Major Fielden) had wished to hold Press Conferences in the early days in Rome, Mr Rayner had told him that he had no right to communicate with the Italian Press. Colonel Munro had then started weekly Press Conferences which had not been a success: but it would be unwise, in PRO's opinion, for PWB and AC to hold rival press conferences at which different things might be said. AC certainly should hold Press Conferences, but more control over PWB was needed.

Mr Cleveland said that he thought that Ministers might be encouraged to hold Press Conferences with AC participating. PRO agreed that this would be in most cases the best solution of all.

301

1630

Chief of Staff.

I must again point out the danger from such irresponsible releases now that we know it is widely distributed. Either this paper must be proof read by responsible officials of A.C., or it must be discontinued.

11. DEC.

(Sgd) STONE.

11. Dec. (SEE PRB Weekly Bulletin # 36 10 Dec 44 re Scirceimarru separation) (Sgd) STONE.

11

Political Section.

I understand that as usual you cleared this. Is this so? If so, may I have comments for the Chief Commissioner.

11 Dec.

(Sgd) N.S. LUSH.

2

C.O.S.

I did clear this and I support it because it is an echo of what was said in the press. The question of epuration was one of the largest factors in the crisis and after Scoccimaro attacked certain members of the Government in an interview, the press, save that of the Left, put him in the vortex of the hurricane.

Major Fielden says he has shown you some of the pertinent press statements.

12. Dec.

(Sgt) W.W.Schott.
Political Section.

Chief Commissioner.

2 and 3 above are submitted in reply to your minute at 1. 9 am
discussing a complete alteration in the presentation of the
12. Dec. bulletin which will avoid these misdeeds

11/5/12/20

File

163a

9251
~~1-7-1~~

5 - DIR RECD

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

5 December 1944

Ref: ACC/14601/20/PS

Commodore Ellery W. Stone, USNR,
Chief Commissioner,
Headquarters Allied Commission,
Rome.

Dear Commodore Stone:

I was very glad to get your letter of 25 November, concerning the unfair criticism of the Italian police forces, to communicate to the editors of the Italian Press. I had a meeting of all the Rome editors as usual last Monday and took that opportunity to bring the injustice of some of their comments before them once more. It was pointed out that of course all editors were not guilty of vicious comment but that it seemed a pity that the efforts to restore order and night time security in the city streets should be carried out in an atmosphere calculated to undermine the confidence of the public.

The general build-up of the Italian police has been emphasized at several of my meetings with the editors during the past month. Great assistance was given when Colonel Young, on 30 October, gave his authoritative support and answered questions. The successful organization of night transport and police patrols by Lt. Col. Pollock also did much to bring the press and the Allied authorities into practical cooperation for the good of the community. A similar campaign has been pursued by the CORRIERE DI ROMA with instructions to all other PWB papers to re-print such material. Reports from Sicily reveal that these references have contributed something to a situation which sometimes is not too settled. I only wish that I could more often receive an indication from you about any point on which immediate and Italy-wide emphasis should be given.

Yours sincerely,

I. S. Munro
4761
I. S. MUNRO,
Lt. Colonel,
Chief Press Officer.

1000

A¹¹
Q

163

200.7-1

'A' File

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TRH/TBJ/als

G-5: 314.7-1

3 December 1944

SUBJECT: Survey of Work of the Allied Control Commission.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.
(Attention: Chief Commissioner).

The suggested survey of ACC has now been studied at this Headquarters in detail. The general consensus of opinion however is that it should not be published in present circumstances and authority to do so must therefore be withheld.

TRH

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

1st Ind.
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, HQ ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394, 5 Dec 44.

TO: Chief of Staff, Hq Allied Commission, APO 394.

The above is passed to you for information and necessary action.

For the Chief Commissioner:

/s/ J. A. Quayle
J. A. QUAYLE
Major, R. A.
Staff Officer to CC

162

FILES A

AGWAR FOR BUREAU OF PUBLIC RELATIONS CMA WAR DEPARTMENT CMA CIVIL
AFFAIRS DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT RPTD INFO AFHQ GEORGE DASH FIVE

7913

1 Dec 44

URGENT

UNDER ARRANGEMENTS WITH AFHQ PRO CMA ALCON PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
NOW AUTHORIZED TO ACCREDIT AND SERVICE LIMITED NUMBER OF POLITICAL
CORRESPONDENTS TO COVER ITALIAN AFFAIRS EXCLUSIVE OF MILITARY OPERATIONS PD
PAREN TO AGWAR FOR BUREAU OF PUBLIC RELATIONS WAR DEPARTMENT CMA CIVIL
AFFAIRS DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT RPTD INFO AFHQ GEORGE DASH FIVE FROM HQ
ALCON PAREN REQUEST YOU NOTIFY ALL AMERICAN PUBLISHERS OF THESE ARRANGE-
MENTS PD DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH CMA ALCON CMA
ON SUBJECT OF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENTS IS AUTHORIZED PD

Public Relations Br
478719

LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major, DPH

161

7
385
4297

1-6000

Ref: 105/11501/20/15

25 November 1944.

Dear Colonel Mauro:

I shall be obliged if you will communicate the gist of the following to the Editors of the Italian Press at one of your weekly meetings:

"The Supreme Allied Commander has noticed with grave concern the continued vicious and unfair criticism of the Italian Police Forces, and in particular the Carabinieri, which appears in a section of the Press. Such criticism has in one case extended so far as to incite the Police Force to disobey orders.

The Supreme Allied Commander does not for one moment desire to curb or stifle fair and just comments and criticism on the actions of the Police Forces, but it is considered that the criticism to which reference has been made goes far beyond any such fair or just criticism.

The Allied Forces rely on the Italian Police Forces to maintain law and order in the rear of the fighting line. The continuance of these criticisms will, in the opinion of the Supreme Allied Commander, severely prejudice our military security in Italy by encouraging the populace to believe that the Carabinieri and other police agents are incapable of carrying out their duties. Such is emphatically not the case, and the Supreme Allied Commander will have no hesitation in taking repressive measures against the newspapers concerned and their editors, in the interests solely of the military security of the Allied Forces, if such criticism continues.

Attention is also drawn to the deplorable effect on public opinion, both in the United States and in England, that these criticisms will have just at the time when Italy desires to resume to the greatest possible extent friendly relationships with those nations."

Thanking you for your co-operation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

10/ E-W-S-

ELMER W. STONE
Commodore, USN 705
Chief Commissioner

Lieut. Colonel I. S. Mauro,
Executive Secretary,
Allied Publications Board.

See 157a-157b

See 163

c.c. C.A. Section
P.R.O.

160

1-2000

EAS/afe

Ref: 6512/44/COS

20 November 1944

Dear General Susloparov:

On the 21st October General Vasiliev had an interview with me and drew my attention to a translation of the biography of Lenin written by Trotsky, which is now being distributed for sale in Rome. He asked that steps should be taken to prevent further printing and distribution, on the grounds that it was insulting to Lenin and that Trotsky was a Fascist.

Unless some threat is made to military security, or it appears that a publication is designed to impair or impede the war effort, or to create civil disturbances, it is not the policy of the Allied Commission to prevent the publication of books and pamphlets. It is not considered that the biography of Lenin falls within the above categories.

The Allied authorities are guided by the principle that Freedom of Expression is one of the benefits which it is their task to assure to the Italian people. Censorship and control of the press is, therefore, regarded as undesirable for purposes unrelated to military security.

Very truly yours,
/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Major General I. A. Susloparov
Soviet Representative to
Allied Commission

cc: C of S
'A' Files
COS Float

(59)

200.7-1
in 200.7-1

4995

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

JA4/sfe

20 November 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR: Commodore Stone

a
Colonel Jackson of G-5, AFHQ, phoned to say that the Conference had been held on Saturday the 18th at Caserta on the subject of "civilian news agencies". All parties were represented with the exception of AC. At the meeting G-2 and PNB agreed that they must insist on their attitude but decided that they had possibly not put forward sufficiently strong arguments. They have formulated their ideas and will present them to Commodore Stone when he goes to Caserta tomorrow, Tuesday.

Should the matter come up at SACMEB's Conference, the Secretary has been notified that AC have not yet been able to state their views and that the matter will have to wait until the next political conference for an agreed plan between the two conflicting points of view.

J.A.Q.
J. A. QUAIL
Major, R. A.
Staff Officer to CO

cc: PRO
C of S
'A' Files ✓

000.7-1

4791

FILES (A)

158

ALLIED COMMISSION,
ROME.

To: Chief Commissioner.

From: Acting President.

Subject: Press Comments and Criticisms of the
Royal Carabinieri.

You are much more experienced in these matters than I am. But for my part I hate committing myself in writing on this sort of question.

Why don't you send for the Prime Minister and give him a good talking to?

HM

19th November, 1944.

0007-1

1993

FILES A

1572

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

Ref: ACC/14601/20/PS

18 November 1944

SUBJECT: Press Comments and Criticisms of the Royal Carabinieri.

TO : Acting President.

1. For some time now certain sections of the Press have been carrying on a campaign of adverse criticism of the Police agencies in this country, in particular of the Carabinieri. Much of this criticism is grossly unfair and, at times, unfounded. There is no doubt it is having its effect upon public opinion, and has affected the morale of the Carabinieri and other police forces which this Commission is at pains to build up.

2. Steps have been taken with various Ministers concerned, and with the Press in particular, to cause this criticism to cease; in fact Colonel A. E. Young of the Public Safety Sub-Commission recently addressed the editors of the Italian Press on the question of this particular adverse publicity. Within a very short period after this address two articles appeared in the papers "Unita" and "Avanti" which deliberately went out of their way to undermine the authority and prestige of the Carabinieri, and to incite them to disobedience.

3. The Legal Sub-Commission has considered the possibility of prosecution of both these papers but, in the opinion of the Chief Legal Adviser, as the cases will have to be heard in Italian courts, not only may there well be some delay, but also the possibilities of success are somewhat meagre.

4. I therefore submit for your approval the draft of a letter which I propose to address to the Prime Minister, and as you will see from the last paragraph I also propose to have its contents communicated to the Press editors.

ELMER W. STONE
Commodore USNR
Chief Commissioner

cc: Public Safety S/C
(who have action file)

157a

157a

160002

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SECRET

226

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
100 594

Ref:- Acc/11.501/20/10

18 Nov '44

My dear Prime Minister,

The Supreme Allied Commander has noticed with grave concern the continued vicious and unfair criticisms of the Italian Police Forces, and in particular the Carabinieri, which appears in a section of the Press. Such criticism has in one case extended so far as to incite the Police Force to disobey orders.

I am directed to say that the Supreme Allied Commander does not for one moment desire to curb or stifle fair and just comments and criticism on the actions of the Police Forces, but it is considered that the criticism to which I have referred above goes far beyond any such fair or just criticism.

The Allied Forces, as you are no doubt well aware, rely on the Italian Police Forces to maintain law and order in the rear of the fighting line. The continuance of these criticisms will, in the opinion of the Supreme Allied Commander, severely prejudice our military security in Italy by encouraging the populace to believe that the Carabinieri and other police agents are incapable of doing out their duties. ^{that such} If most emphatically state, is not the case, and the Supreme Allied Commander will have no hesitation in taking repressive measures against the newspapers concerned and their editors, in the interests solely of the military security of the Allied Forces, if such criticisms continue.

I must also draw to your attention the deplorable effect on public opinion, both in the United States and in England, that these criticisms will have just at the time when Italy desires to resume to the greatest possible extent

1000.7-1

My dear Prime Minister,

The Supreme Allied Commander has noticed with grave concern the continued vicious and unfair criticism of the Italian Police Forces, and in particular the Carabinieri, which appears in a section of the Times. Such criticism has in one case extended so far as to incite the Police Force to disobey orders.

I am directed to say that the Supreme Allied Commander does not for one moment desire to curb or stifle fair and just comments and criticism on the actions of the Police Forces, but it is considered that the criticism to which I have referred above goes far beyond any such fair or just criticism.

The Allied Forces, as you are so much well aware, rely on the Italian Police Forces to maintain law and order in the rear of the fighting line. The continuance of these criticisms will, in the opinion of the Supreme Allied Commander, severely prejudice our military security in Italy by encouraging the populace to believe that the Carabinieri and other police agents are incapable of fulfilling their duties. ^{that such} I must emphatically state, it is not the case, and the Supreme Allied Commander will have no hesitation in taking repressive measures against the newspapers concerned and their Editors, in the interests solely of the military security of the Allied Forces, if such criticisms continue.

I must also draw to your attention the deplorable effect on public opinion, both in the United States and in England, that these criticisms will have just at the time when Italy desires to resume to the greatest possible extent friendly relationships with those nations.

I must ask you therefore my dear Prime Minister to take appropriate steps to ensure that these unfair criticisms are discontinued forthwith.

I am proposing to request the Allied Publication Board to communicate the contents of this letter to the Press editors when you have received it.

Read to
157a PM Pinner

VINCENT W. STONE
Commander USMR.
Chief Commissioner

FILES A

785015

"A"

Ref: P/743

18 November 1944

Dear Marchese Visconti Venosta: 153 136

This is to acknowledge your letter No. 03927/36 of November 13 in reply to my communication No. P/743 of November 9 regarding the dissemination of Fascist literature which the Representative on the Allied Commission of the French Provisional Government had found to be definitely anti-French in category.

I note that you have instigated necessary enquiries in this matter and I thank you for your prompt action of which I had informed General De Gaulle.

Very truly yours,

EDWARD P. WHITE
Commodore, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Marchese Giovanni Visconti Venosta
Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs
Italian Government
Rome

cc - Pol. Sec.
COS.
"A" files

157

FILES A

11-2000

Translation

The Undersecretary of State
for Foreign Affairs

03927/36

Rome, 13 November 1944

Dear Admiral,

Reference your letter of November 9th, n. 17743.
I communicate to you that since November 1943, by means of a circular
to the Prefects, the Badoglio Government ordered that all the publica-
tions printed during the fascist regime, and hostile to the United
Nations, and France should be withdrawn from circulation.

A law decree will probably soon be made to settle this
question, in a way conform with the liberty of the press.

As for the publications on I have on which you draw my
attention, I shall immediately make the necessary inquiries.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

/s/ C. Visconti Venosta

See also (157-)

Admiral Ellery S. Stone, U.S.N.R.
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission

R O M E

trans. E.C.

(136)

This refers to a *Proclama-
zione* and the original
is being sent to them.

E. 16/11

0007-1-6000

IMMEDIATE

Tel: 368

Ref: 6512/00818 November 1944

SUBJECT: Withdrawal from circulation of Fascist publications.
 To : Political Section.

1. I refer to a letter from the Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Italian) reference 03927/36 dated 13 November 1944, addressed to the Chief Commissioner. The original was sent to you, since it was in reply to your letter p/743 of 9 November.

2. The Chief Commissioner now enquires as to what action has been taken, and I shall be obliged if you will immediately inform me of what you have done in the matter.

Chief Staff Officer,
 To the Chief of Staff.

Copy to: 50 to 50.

156

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

12 November 1944.

66/7/PRB

Subject: AC/AMG Anniversary Survey.

To: Acting Chief Commissioner.

With reference to the alterations which you have made in the history, may I make the following suggestions:

1. You have altered the word AMGOT to read AMG. This is historically incorrect, and it seems a pity that we should make this mistake. The word AMGOT was known the world over and was the official designation at the time of which we are writing. The change came, as we noted, in October. May we not make this plain? The dropping of the OT for Occupied Territory is surely important.

2. I would suggest that your alteration on p.7 which makes patriots "return to their peace-time occupations" needs modification. It is simply not true, and any critic will jump on it. That is why I put "or at any rate to obscurity for the time being." I advise some qualifying phrase in view of possible future repercussions.

3. Surely the Military Mission to the Italian Army is known as MMIA and not as AMMIA. I will put in "Allied" if you want it there, but I do not see the reason for it, and people will muddle it up with the Allied Military Mission of earlier days.

4. I would like you to reconsider your alteration from "the ACC arranged for the importation of" to "the ACC had not been able to arrange for the importation of more than" This is very bad publicity and surely it is not true? Why put the blame on the ACC? The paragraph as altered reads as a confession of weakness or inefficiency.

Lionel Fielden
LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major,
Public Relations Director.

1550

S-1 Dec

Q
FILES A
FILE

R.A.I.
The Commissioner

Rome, 12 November 1944.

To : Colonel J.L. Henderson.

I beg to address to you a copy of a letter sent to Mr. Edman of P.W.B., which I think you will be interested in.

Yours

Signed L. Rusca

To : Mr. EDMAN etc, etc.

1) I call your attention to the "Review of the Roman Press" transmitted daily at 14.10 by Radio Rome.

One talks only of articles published by the "Unità" (Comunist) by the "Avanti" (Socialist) and by the "Italia Libera" (Action Party)

This situation has arisen due to the fact that the editors of the Radio News are chosen from members of the Comunist Party (Mr. Murialdi, Sella, Greci etc.)

2) The Radio personnel working for P.W.B. could not be subject to epuration ? Dont you think that this creates a precedent as R.A.I. personnel are subject to epuration? In this case ~~there~~ the three above mentioned journalists would be more cautious and would not cause the reaction of the non-extremist personnel.

As a matter of fact Mr. Vezio Murialdi has been until the 25 July 1943 political correspondent of the Genoa newspaper "Il Secolo XIX". Is it just that, after having occupied such a high position as Fascist journalist, he is now head of the Rome Radio News ?

Also Mr. Luigi Greci, now one of the agitators of Radio thanks to P.W.B., took part on June 1940 together with other Fascist journalist (Ansaldo, Guglielmotti) at the publication of a volume in honour of Costanzo Ciano (I could hand you over a copy if you want it).

Mr. Greci was also Editor of the "Corriere Padano", Balbo's newspaper and one of the few newspapers owned by the Fascist Party.

Should we then epurate R.A.I. personnel only because they have been inscribed in the Fascist Party for many years, and see entrusted with high responsibilities people far more guilty?

You told me you dont want to see active in journalism anyone of the former collaborators of the E.I.A.R., but in so doing your desire will not be fulfilled.

BEST REGARDS

Signed L. Rusca.

1286

155a

FILES A

12 novembre 1944

Mr. EDMAN

P.W.P. - Via Veneto 62

P O M A

1) Richiamo la Sua attenzione sulla "Rassegna della Stampa romana" che viene trasmessa ogni giorno, alle ore 14,10 circa, dalla Radio di Roma. Non si parla che di articoli apparsi sui giornali "L'Unità" (comunista), "L'Avanti" (socialista) e, raramente, "L'Italia libera" (partito d'azione). E si capisce che le cose se siano così, quando i redattori del giornale radio sono scelti fra appartenenti al partito comunista (Murialdi, Sella, Greci ecc)

2) I dipendenti della Radio, che lavorano con il P.M.B. non possono essere soggetti ad epurazione? Non lo sembra questo un ingiusto privilegio rispetto ai dipendenti della R.A.I.? Se i predetti tre giornalisti non sapessero di godere di una simile impunità, si comporterebbero in modo diverso nei confronti del sottoscritto che attacca sui giornali ed in pubbliche assemblee, provocando la reazione da parte degli impiegati non estremisti.

Il sig. Vezio Murialdi è stato fino al 25 luglio 1943 corrispondente politico da Roma del quotidiano di Genova. "Il secondo PN". E' giurato che egli, che ha occupato un sì importante posto nel giornalismo fascista, sia oggi a capo del giornale Radio di Roma?

Ed il sig. Luigi Greci, che oggi è diventato, grazie alla nomina avuta dal P.M.B., uno degli agitatori del personale della Radio, partecipava nel giugno 1940 (assieme ad altri noti giornalisti fascisti, quali Anselmo, Buglielmo ecc.) ad una manifestazione di scritti in elogio di Costanzo Ciano. (Se le interessa di vederla, io ne possiedo una copia).

Egli era, del resto, redattore del "Corriere padano", già giornale

Mr. EDMAN

P.W.B. - Via Veneto 62

R.C.F.A.

1) Richiamo la Sua attenzione sulla "Rassegna della Stampa romana" che viene trasmessa ogni giorno, alle ore 14,10 circa, dalla Radio di Roma. Non si parla che di articoli apparsi sui giornali "L'Unità" (comunista), "L'Avanti!" (socialista) e, raramente, "L'Italia libera" (partito d'Azione). E si capisce che le cose siano così, quando i redattori del giornale radio sono scelti tra appartenenti al partito comunista (Murialdi, Sella, Greco ecc.)

2) I dipendenti della Radio, che lavorano con il P.W.B. non possono essere soggetti ad epurazioni? Non le sembra questo un ingiusto privilegio rispetto ai dipendenti della R.A.I.? Se i predetti tre giornalisti non sapessero di godere di una simile impunità, si comporterebbero in modo diverso nei confronti del sottoscritto che attacca quei giornali ed in pubbliche assemblee, provocando la reazione da parte degli impiegati non estremisti.

Se il sig. Vezio Murialdi è stato fino al 25 luglio 1943 corrispondente politico da Roma del quotidiano di Genova "Il Secolo XIX". E' giusto che egli, che ha occupato un sì importante posto nel giornalismo fascista, sia oggi a capo del giornale Radio di Roma?

Ad il sig. Luigi Greco, che oggi è diventato, grazie alla nomina avuta dal P.W.B., uno degli agitatori del personale della Radio, partecipava nel giugno 1940 (assieme ad altri noti giornalisti fascisti, quali Ansaldo, Pugliesemotti ecc.) ad una pubblicazione di scritti in elogio di Costanzo Ciano. (Se le interessasse di vederla, io ne posseggo una copia).

Egli era, del resto, redattore del "Corriere padano", già giornale

153a

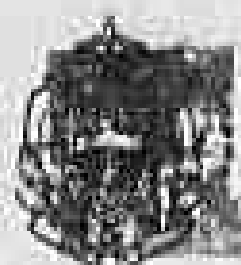
di Balbo e poi uno dei pochi quotidiani di proprietà del Partito Fascista.

Noi governemmo pure dei dipendenti della R.A.I. che risultano iscritti al fascio con una vecchia anzianità, magari per essere stati nelle formazioni giovanili, e dovremo invece veder messi in posti di tanta responsabilità, persone che hanno avute ben più gravi compromissioni fasciste? Ella mi ha detto che vuole, nel settore del giornalismo, non valersi di nessuno dei molti disoccupati dell'ex P.I.A.A., perché intende che questo settore sia "rinnovato". Mi consente di dirle che tale suo desiderio mi pare sia stato tradotto in atto solo per metà.

Mi abbia cordialmente

(Dr. Luigi Ruesca)

785015



E.I.A.R.

ENTE ITALIANO AUDIZIONI RADIOFONICHE

R.A.I.
La Direzione Generale

IL COMMISSARIO

ROMA, 12 novembre 1944
VIA-ASSAGO-TO
Telef. 34.883

Col. HENDERSON
A.C. - Communication sub Commission
Via Veneto

R O M A

Mi permetto inviarLe copia di lettera
indirizzata a Mr. Egan del P.W.B., per
Sua opportuna conoscenza.

duh

Luigi Rusca

(Dr. Luigi Rusca)

155a

1 ell.

155a

10 November 1944

Bruno Pincherle
Redattore Capo Responsabile
L'ITALIA LIBERA
Rome.

This is to confirm my statement of this morning, when, in accordance with instructions received from competent Allied authorities, I informed you that attacks on S.I.M. must be stopped; and told you that S.I.M. is a strictly military organization, free from all political ties, so that further discussion of S.I.M. by L'ITALIA LIBERA or any other newspaper -- in view of the military and non-political character of its work -- will not be tolerated.

I. S. MUNRO
Lt. Colonel
Chief Press Officer, Italy.

CC:
Commodore Ellery W. Stone, A.C. ✓
Col. Wm. A. Wedemeyer, RAAC
Col. John W. Fischer, G-2, RAAC
Major Alexander
Mr. Rayner
Mr. Edman
AFB

155

1-61000

INFORMATION

10 November 1944

Dott. Velio Spano
 Direttore Responsabile
 "UNITA"
 Via IV Novembre 149
 Rome.

In accordance with instructions received from the competent Allied authorities, I hereby inform you that the printing operations carried on in the U.S.E.I.S.A. are of a military character and that any observations published in your paper calculated to obstruct that work directly or indirectly will not be tolerated and must be stopped. Any question concerning the economic position of the workers can be presented by the workers themselves, or their delegates, to this office for presentation to the competent authorities.

At the same time, the attacks on S.I.M. must be stopped. S.I.M. is a strictly military organization, free from all political ties, and further discussion of S.I.M. by newspapers, in view of the military and non-political character of its work, will not be tolerated.

I. S. MUNRO
 Lt. Colonel,
 Chief Press Officer, Italy.

CC:
 Commodore Ellery W. Stone, A.C.
 Col. Wm. A. Wedemeyer, RAAC
 Col. John W. Fischer, G-2, RAAC
 Major Alexander
 Mr. Rayner
 Mr. Edman
 ATB

154

File Contrary Press ←

FILES A

1-600

SWS/hjp

9 November 1944

Ref: P/743

Dear Marchese Visconti Venosta:

The representative on the Allied Commission of the French Provisional Government has drawn my attention to the fact that several bookshops in Rome have displayed books which date back to Fascist times and which are definitely anti-French in character. In particular, the "Modernissima" Bookshop in the Via delle Mercede 42-43, has on sale a number of books on France, Corsica and Tunisia which display anti-French tendencies, and among which are the following:

- L'oro della Francia
- Il crollo della 3^a Repubblica,
- Questa Francia,
- Francia in Scorpilastro
- Ritorno dall'Impero
- La Francia e l'opinione mondiale
- Quando i nostri erano amici
- Corsica nostra
- Gli italiani in Tunisia

I should be grateful if Your Excellency would be so good as to cause these allegations to be investigated, and, if it proves that books based on Fascist doctrines of hostility to France are, in fact, being offered for sale to the public, to advise me what steps your Government feel might be taken to have them withdrawn as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

Ellery W Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Marchese Giovanni Visconti Venosta
Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs
Italian Government
Rome

cc: Political Section
Chief of Staff
"A" Files

File
HJP

Translation

The First Aide to Camp General of F.R.R.
the Lieutenant General of the Kingdom

611/P.S.

Rome, 6 November 1944

Dear Ellery,

Following our conversations, I send you the copy of a letter
I sent to Major Fielden, and of another one I sent to the General Director
of the Italian Press.

As you will see, it is about a very important question.

I also asked Barney to concern himself with this matter.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ A. Infante

(Gen Adolfo Infante)

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief of the Allied Commission
R o m e

trans. E.C.

(152)

3 1980
No action

Place in A file. No distribution.

Q

1-1000

translation

6 November 1944, Rome

Dear Major,

The Italian Press Commission will probably discuss on Nov. 9th whether they will authorize the publication of some monarchical newspapers.

I recommended to the undersecretary for the press the daily paper 'Democrazia' and the weekly paper 'L'Indipendente', and I communicate to you a copy of the letter I wrote to him on the subject.

I hope that the Allies will consider it just and necessary that some kind of a monarchical voice at least could be heard through the press; I hope too that the paper required for the requested circulation will be granted without difficulty.

Thanking you, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

THE FIRST AIDE DE CAMP GENERAL OF R.F.H.
THE LIEUTENANT GENERAL OF THE KINGDOM

(Gen. Adolfo Infante)

Major Fielden
Director of the Public Relations Branch
R o m e

trans. E.C.

152 mcl

1009

Translation

Rome, 6 November 1944

Dear Advocate,

Referring to the communications made by Comandante Montezemolo, I confirm that many monarchical groups have asked us to back up their requests for being authorized to publish newspapers.

Among the groups which seem worth being taken in consideration (also because of the important number of its members) is the Unione Monarchica, who asked to be allowed to publish 'democrazia', which ought to be a daily paper with a large circulation (30.000 copies).

Among the groups which asked to publish a weekly paper, the group led by Prof. Mancuso seems worthy of special consideration; it asked to be allowed to publish 'L'Indipendente'.

I communicate to you these two requests for it seems they deserve to be granted without delay.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

(Gen. Adolfo Infante)

To Advocate Armando Rossini
General Director of the Italian Press

trans. P.C.

152, NCL

1778



IL PRIMO AIUTANTE DI CAMPO GENERALE
DI S.A.R. IL LUOGOTENENTE GENERALE DEL REGNO

611/P.S.

Roma 5 Novembre 1944

Caro Ellery,

a seguito delle nostre conversazioni, ti mando copia di una lettera inviata al maggiore Fielden e di altra lettera inviata al Direttore Generale della Stampa Italiana.

Come vedrai, si tratta di una questione molto importante. Ho interessato in merito anche Barney.

Molto affettuosamente

Adolfo Infante
(Gen. Adolfo Infante)

~~~~~  
Ammiraglio Ellery W. Stone  
Capo della Allied Commission  
ROMA

1944

152

Roma, 6 novembre 1944

Caro Maggiore,

La Commissione Italiana della Stampa discuterà probabilmente il 9 corr. la questione della concessione di pubblicazione di alcuni giornali monarchici.

Ho raccomandato al Sottosegretariato della Stampa il quotidiano "Democrazia" e il settimanale "L'Indipendente"; e Le mando - per conoscenza - copia della lettera scritta in merito.

Spero che da parte degli Alleati sarà considerata con equità la necessità di concedere che almeno qualche voce monarchica possa farsi sentire attraverso la stampa; e possa essere concessa senza difficoltà la carta occorrente per le tirature domandate.

Con i miei ringraziamenti Le invio i miei migliori saluti.

IL PRIMO AIUTANTE DI CAMPO GENERALE  
DI S.A.R. IL LUOGOTENENTE GENERALE DEL REGNO

(Gen. Adolfo Infante)

~~~~~  
Maggiore L. Fielden

Direttore della Sottocommissione Public Relations Branch

R O M A

1946

153, INC

Roma 6 Novembre 1944

Egregio Avvocato,

In relazione alle comunicazioni fatte dal Comandante Montezemolo, Le confermo che da parte di numerosi gruppi monarchici sono giunte sollecitazioni intese ad ottenere di appoggiare la loro domanda di pubblicare dei giornali.

Fra i gruppi che appaiono meritevoli di considerazione, (anche per l'entità numerica dei consociati) è l'Unione Monarchica, che ha chiesto l'autorizzazione di pubblicare "Democrazia", che dovrebbe essere un quotidiano a grande tiratura (50.000 copie).

Fra i gruppi che hanno chiesto di pubblicare un settimanale, appare meritevole di speciale considerazione il gruppo che fa capo al Prof. Mancuso, che ha chiesto l'autorizzazione di pubblicare "L'Indipendente".

Le segualo pertanto queste due richieste, in quanto esse sembrano degne di essere rapidamente accolte.

Colgo l'occasione per inviarle l'espressione della mia alta considerazione.

(Gen. Adolfo Infante)

~~~~~  
All'Avvocato Armondo Rossini  
Direttore Generale della Stampa Italiana

152 - NCA

WGS/dfe

6 November 1944

P/740

Subject: Delegation by Allied Publications Board to Italian authorities  
of certain powers respecting the Licensing of Publications and  
Control of Paper.

To: G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters, AF 512.

1. The proposals for the delegation of the above powers are con-  
tained in the attached communication addressed to Allied Force Headquarters  
by the Chairman of the Allied Publications Board.

2. I concur in the recommendations made and would appreciate an  
early expression of your views in the matter so that, should you also  
concur, the recommendations can be made effective.

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE  
Commander, JCHS  
Acting Chief Commissioner

cc: U.S. Political Advisor, AFHQ  
British Resident Minister, AFHQ  
U.S. Ambassador  
British Ambassador  
Allied Publications Board

Political Section  
Chief of Staff  
'A' Files

(151)

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ALLIED PUBLICATIONS BOARD

62, Via Veneto,  
ROME.

1st November, 1944.

To: Allied Force Headquarters,  
APO 512.

Subject: Delegation of Powers.

1. The Allied Publications Board recommends the further delegation to the Italian authorities of certain powers respecting the licensing of publications and control of paper now exercised by APB under Administrative Memorandum 89 as amended.

2. The present licensing and paper procurement procedure under the above memorandum is as follows:

Local AP Boards composed of Allied personnel in AMG territory and of Italian personnel with an Allied observer in territory under Italian Government jurisdiction, grant and revoke licences, subject to ratification by the AP Central Board.

Procurement and distribution of paper to enable these licences to become effective in all of Liberated Italy is at present channelled by APB through AC.

3. After studying the position in the light of APB's established policy, the procurement and supply of paper, and the progressive restoration to the Italian authorities of administrative powers, APB makes the following recommendations for further delegation of APB powers:

a. The Allied Publications Board in conformity with its established policy of progressively delegating its powers to the Italian authorities, proposes to delegate full powers to the Italian Press Commission to grant and suspend in territory under Italian Govern-

Subject: Delegation of Powers.

1. The Allied Publications Board recommends the further delegation to the Italian authorities of certain powers respecting the licensing of publications and control of paper now exercised by APB under Administrative Memorandum 89 as amended.

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3. After studying the position in the light of APB's established policy, the procurement and supply of paper, and the progressive restoration to the Italian authorities of administrative powers, APB makes the following recommendations for further delegation of APB powers:

a. The Allied Publications Board in conformity with its established policy of progressively delegating its powers to the Italian authorities, proposes to delegate full powers to the Italian Press Commission to grant and suspend in territory under Italian Government jurisdiction press licences without reference to or need of ratification by the Allied Publications Board.

b. The Naples area will be regarded for APB purposes as territory under Italian Government jurisdiction.

c. Procurement of paper after the end of the year either from abroad or from local resources will be agreed upon between the Economic Section, AC, and the Italian Press Commission so far as Italian needs in

151  
1942

-2-

Government Italy are concerned, and between the Economic Section, AC, and APB for the needs of AMG territory.

d. Responsibility for the distribution of paper for use of the Italian Press in Italian Government territory will be assigned to an agency to be designated by the Italian Press Commission.

e. The Allied Publications Board reserves the right of intervention in territory under Italian Government jurisdiction at the request of the Allied authorities in matters concerning military censorship or undemocratic practices, including the right to suspend or revoke licences through the channel of the Italian Press Commission.

f. Nothing in this delegation of powers shall be construed to affect the existing status of PWB controlled, or to be controlled, papers in the territory under Italian Government jurisdiction.

g. The Allied Publications Board will continue to exercise its full powers in all territory not under Italian Government jurisdiction.

4. Your concurrence to the proposals set forth in para. 3 above is requested.

*Ray W. Edman*  
 GEORGE W. EDMAN,  
 Chairman, Allied Publications Board.

2042

designated by the Italian Press Commission.

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g. The Allied Publications Board will continue to exercise its full powers in all territory not under Italian Government jurisdiction.

4. Your concurrence to the proposals set forth in para. 3 above is requested.

*George W. Edman*  
GEORGE W. EDMAN,  
Chairman, Allied Publications Board.

246

151, N/A

A/CC 814  
NOV 4 - 1944

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION

Ref : 13115/F

Tel. 553 & 417

4 November 1944

SUBJECT: Letter from Sig. Arturo Giordano.

TO : Acting Chief Commissioner.

1. With reference to the attached letter, the Finance Sub-Commission has given no encouragement to Giordano. He undoubtedly still hopes that we will write his articles for him, in spite of our having made it abundantly clear that we have no such intention.

2. I understand that Economic Section is issuing an instruction to all its Sub-Commission that in no case may an officer submit a statement for publication in the Italian press without specific approval of Economic Section.

3. I would advise making no reply to Giordano's letter.

*A. J. Grassie Smith*  
Coe.

Joint Director,  
Finance Sub-Commission.

Copy to: Economic Section (Attn: Mr. Cleveland).

See (135)  
(137)

A

(150)

NOV 11

2 1-1000

Col. Grafton - 3rd

SEEN

13116/P

L'ECONOMISTA

ROMA - P. Poli, 37

NAPOLI - Via Costantinopoli 104

Rome, October 11, 1944

11, 1944

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Now that the weekly "L'Economista", definitively authorized by the Allied and Italian offices, is going to start its activity, I feel the duty of expressing to you my thankfulness for your interest on my initiative and on the aims that "L'Economista" pursues in all the branches of the Italian economic reconstruction, studying its various problems and promoting their objective discussion.

As "L'Economista" is the first publication with pure economic character in liberated Italy, I hope that our difficult work will be assisted and supported by the friendly cooperation of the offices of the Allied Commission. In fact "L'Economista" through its articles and concrete proposals will be able to point out the exact terms of the Italian economic problems and to give to the interested categories useful suggestions for their solutions, taking into special consideration the industrial, commercial and financial experience of the Allied countries.

Let me hope, therefore, that your authoritative interest for the said paper shall continue also in the future and I beg you to receive the expression of my best regards.

1940

Atene Liodano

RECEIVED  
3 NOV 1944  
FINANCE  
COMM

Now that the weekly "L'Economista", definitively authorized by the Allied and Italian offices, is going to start its activity, I feel the duty of expressing to you my thankfulness for your interest on my initiative and on the aims that "L'Economista" pursues in all the branches of the Italian economic reconstruction, studying its various problems and promoting their objective discussion.

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1970

Attilio Liodano151  
APR 8

3 NOV 1944

RECEIVED  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

CONFIDENTIALALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

PC (14) 127

25th October 1944

CONFIDENTIAL  
REF NO 42POLITICAL COMMITTEEPOLICY REGARDING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND  
PRIVATE NEWS AGENCIES IN ITALYNote by SecretaryAFHQ Policy regarding the Press

1. Briefly, present aims are :-

- (a) Not to abuse military censorship.
- (b) To continue without political censorship.
- (c) To ensure that editors develop, but do not abuse, the limited freedom given them.
- (d) By allocating suitable priorities, to make newsprint available as widely as possible.

2. Long term policy is to ensure conditions favourable to the eventual establishment of complete freedom of the press in ITALY;

- (a) By stimulating among both editors and readers understanding of and desire for freedom of the press.
- (b) By obtaining a satisfactory expression in Italian law of the provisional nature of present restrictions and of the rights and responsibilities of the press after the war.
- (c) By providing for all papers in ITALY access to uncensored or unbiased news.

Non-Governmental News Agencies

3. At present all news distributed in ITALY is brought in and disseminated by FNB. Private news agencies, such as Reuters, however, have been exerting considerable pressure to obtain the right to start up business in ITALY.

300-7-1  
(Copy to 1002-2/1)  
59253/cc

Note by SecretaryAPHC Policy regarding the Press

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  - (b) To continue without political censorship.
  - (c) To ensure that editors develop, but do not abuse, the limited freedom given them.
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  - (c) By providing for all papers in ITALY access to uncensored or unbiased news.

Non-Governmental News Agencies

3. At present all news distributed in ITALY is brought in and disseminated by RAI. Private news agencies, such as Reuters, however, have been exerting considerable pressure to obtain the right to start up business in ITALY.
4. The Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee feel that it would cause considerable embarrassment in censorship and possibly elsewhere if private agencies were allowed to bring in and disseminate news while fighting continues in ITALY.

148a

OUTSIDE

200.7-1  
 (Copy in 202.2/2)  
 89283/cc

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

Recommendations

5. PWB desire endorsement of the policy outlined above and the Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee accordingly recommend that :-

- (a) Private news agencies should not be allowed to start up in Italy so long as ITALY remains a theatre of operations.
- (b) PWB should endeavour to promote the long term policy at 2 above by preparing the ground for the establishment of an Italian co-operative and non-monopolistic news agency to be ready to function when privately owned agencies begin to operate. This co-operative agency would be owned and operated by member papers and be in competition with private agencies such as Reuters, Associated Press, etc.

/s/ ? ?

for J.H. LASCELLES,  
COLONEL,  
SECRETARY.

DISTRIBUTION

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| Air Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean | 5-11  |
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| Deputy Chief of Staff                 | 16    |
| U.S. Political Adviser                | 17-19 |
| British Resident Minister             | 20-22 |
| Director, PWB                         | 23    |
| Secretary, General Staff              | 24    |
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| G-1 (B)                               | 26    |
| G-2                                   | 27-28 |
| G-3                                   | 29-30 |

1748

-(a) Private news agencies should not be allowed to start up in ITALY so long as ITALY remains a theatre of operations.

(b) FMB should endeavour to promote the long term policy at 2 above by preparing the ground for the establishment of an Italian co-operative and non-monopolistic news agency to be ready to function when privately owned agencies begin to operate. This co-operative agency would be owned and operated by member papers and be in competition with private agencies such as Reuters, Associated Press, etc.

/s/ ? ?

for J.M. LASCELLES,  
COLONEL,  
SECRETARY.

# DISTRIBUTION

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| COMNAVSTA                             | 12-13 |
| Chief of Staff                        | 14    |
| Chief Administrative Officer          | 15    |
| Deputy Chief of Staff                 | 16    |
| U.S. Political Adviser                | 17-19 |
| British Resident Minister             | 20-22 |
| Director, FMB                         | 23    |
| Secretary, General Staff              | 24    |
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WES/cfe

A/CC 000.7-1

23 October 1944

(147) APP

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I understand that at the meeting of the Council of Ministers on the 20th of this month Avv. Rossini was appointed "Director General of the Press". I should be grateful if you would enlighten me as to what responsibilities and functions this appointment will entail.

Yours very truly,

ELBERT W. STONE  
Commodore, USNR  
Acting Chief Commissioner

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

cc: C of S Section  
Major Fielden  
VP, Civil Affairs Section  
'A' File ✓

147

(147)

File  
HGP

A/cc 699  
21/10PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

21 October 1944.

PHB/R20b

SUBJECT: Director General of the Press.

TO : Acting Chief Commissioner.

(Auc:) The Council of Ministers at its meeting yesterday appointed Rossini "Director General of the Press". This, I understand, is a post which existed only under Fascism: it seems to me absolutely opposed to the idea of a free democratic press. I should like to know whether the Italian government can make such an appointment and how far we should, or can, oppose it.

*Lionel Fielden*  
LIONEL FIELDEN,  
Major,  
Public Relations Director.

Copy to: Chief of Staff  
Political Section  
Vice President, Civil Affairs Section  
Director, Legal S/C

H.C.R.

→ Major Q -  
Please prepare letter to Braxton  
asking nature of D.G.P.'s duties.  
Em

(147) APP.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R20

October 21st, 1944

SUBJECT : " Il Messaggero "

TO : Acting Chief Commissioner.  
(through Chief of Staff)

I have made the most careful enquiry about the exact position of "Il Messaggero" application, and I can assure you that its publication has not been stopped or even discouraged by APB or PWB. Rossini himself had said this and I know that the Italian Press Commission is now absolutely divided in its views as to whether "Il Messaggero" should be published or not and what its name should be : and has reached no decision. Colonel Munro tells me that he has always encouraged in principle the issue of "Il Messaggero" and still takes that view.

*Lionel Fielden*

LIONEL FIELDEN,  
Major,  
Public Relations Director.

1-6000

1945

✓  
(146)

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
INTER OFFICE MEMO

From: Office of COS

SUBJECT:

TO: Maj'n Quayle.

FILE No.

21 .10 1944

I am directed by COS to pass this  
inward to you in H/CC File

✓  
Encl'd Major  
in C.S.O.

1963

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
Office of the Acting Chief Commissioner  
APO 394

JAQ/afe

19 October 1944

144  
APC  
Mr. Schott:

I have not put your note before the A/Chief Commissioner, as I felt you might like to see attached correspondence on an identical case which dropped up a month ago. On this occasion I spoke to the FIO of AFHQ, who told me in effect that only military censorship was exercised over the "Stars and Stripes" and that if the Spanish Ambassador (as it was in this case) did not like the line of talk therein publicised -- he could do the other thing.

I don't think it would be any good addressing a letter to General Brown.

J. A. QUAYLE  
Major, R. A.  
Staff Officer to A/C

1-2000

144

COPYA/CCFor Commodore Stone -

The Spanish Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy to the Quirinale called to-day to protest against the article marked in the attached "STARS AND STRIPES" of October 17.

Since this is a purely U.S. Army newspaper and the article was supplied by ARMY NEWS SERVICE, I suggest that a letter be addressed to General Brown, advising him of the protest made and inviting him to comment, in order that we may replay to the Spanish Chargé d'Affaires if that is deemed necessary.

If you agree to this procedure, I shall draft the letter for your signature.

/s/ SCHOTT

Oct 18, 1944

144 APP

FILE UNDER NO. 000.7 - 1

**INDEX SHEET  
SYNOPSIS**

Ltr from Brig Lush, 6513/COB

18 Oct 44

to Soviet Representative, ACC

in liberated Italy

Subject: Distribution of films produced by Soviet Cinematographic

Industries in liberated Italy.

**DOCUMENT FILED UNDER NO. 000.1-1**

000.1-1

2761

INSTRUCTIONS - Under «Synopsis» make brief entry showing date of communication and from whom received and synopsis sufficient to identify the papers. When these index sheets become numerous under a subject they will be entered on the consolidated index sheet and then destroyed.

(143) *h*

Q. M. C. Form 353 (Old No. 400)  
Revised July 26, 1918

## LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. 250

Morale &amp; Conduct.

(4)

| SERIAL NUMBER                                    | FROM—                                    | DATE                                     | TO—                                         | SYNOPSIS                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 74) A/c 014.D<br>388/24/c<br>146/4A              | Stone<br>Denmore<br>CA Br.<br>3 District | 8 July<br>8 July<br>5 July<br>3 July     | Prunha<br>Ex. Court.<br>A/c<br>RC + MG Sec. | Searching of Minister<br>MANCINI's car by MPO. |
| 75) 4002/10/L                                    | Legal Sec                                | 21 June                                  | Obvious                                     | Instructions for AM Courts.                    |
| 76) 5010/6A0                                     | Gen. Alexander                           | 2 July                                   | AFHQ                                        | Behavior Moroccan troops.                      |
| 77) —<br>5022/6A0<br>CL/G/391<br>AQ/L            | Stone<br>CAO, AAI<br>MCC 7.<br>MMIA      | 24 June<br>19 June<br>12 June<br>7 June  | MMIA<br>ACC<br>AAI<br>AAI (than Acc)        | BEHAVIOR OF ITALIAN<br>MILITARY.               |
| 78) 4083/34/L<br>A/c 250<br>4083/34/L<br>A/c 250 | Legal<br>Denmore<br>Stone Legal<br>Stone | 1 July<br>4 July<br>13 July<br>18 July   | A/c<br>Legal<br>ACC<br>Legal                | Case of SERRA Evodio                           |
| 79) A/c 250<br>F 72649<br>S-295<br>A/c 250       | Stone<br>AFHQ<br>A/c<br>Stone            | 11 July<br>15 July<br>17 July<br>18 July | AFHQ<br>ACC<br>AFHQ<br>Cerabona             | Case of Count Ugo<br>PELLEGRINI                |
| 80) A/c 250                                      | Stone                                    | 1 July                                   | 3 District                                  | Case of DONNARUMMO FELICIA vs.<br>MP at Nola.  |
| 81) A/c 250                                      | Denmore                                  | 4 July                                   | Ex. Court.                                  | ARRESTS By AMG in Rome.                        |
| 82) A/c 250                                      | Denmore                                  | 5 July                                   | Mr. Riber.                                  | Behavior of Moroccan Troops.                   |

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

