

ACC

10000/141/156

10000/141/156

FRANCESCO ROVELLO, LATE QUESTORE OF
CAMPOBASSO
JAN. - MAY 1944

FRANCESCO ROVELLO

QUESTORE

ACC/4/1/3/INT

Commenced 18 Feb. 44

REMARKS

PRECIS

No

- 1 To VP. dated 18 Feb. 44, stating that Sign Reale interviewed by Dir Int and that paras 10 and 11 of ACIF 1456/12/9/18of 9 Feb 44 were brought to Sign. R's notice. R. denied all knowledge of letter stating that it had been written without his cognizance.
- Requested a copy of preferable to see original letter R. wishes to make enquiries into matter and to deal with any of his subordinates who had written without authy.
- R. Gave assurance that he would, through proper channels, address a letter to Prefect of Campobasso.
- Dir. recommended that R's request to see letter be granted.
2. To M.O.I. 13 Feb. 44 asking for a copy of letter which he undertook to address to Prefect of Campobasso.
- M.O.I. if request for copy letter referred to 1 be read it will be sent to him.
- M.O.I. informed letter to Prefect should be sent thro RG & MG Section. Dir. arranged to despatch such a letter.
7. Copy letter by (Festa) M.O.I. re. Questore Rovello stating Rovello has been let free and is on his way to Campobasso to move family and put his affairs in order.
9. Memo addressed to M.O.I. re. Questore and officials of R. Questore of Campobasso. dated from Taranto 27 Jan. 44.
- Memo contains what is alleged to have taken place by the Germans and also committing to concentration Camps certain Italian Officials.
10. To Prefect of Campobasso (Copy) stating that the Ministry was not aware of the terms laid down by ACIF re. Rovello
13. To V.P. dated 23 Feb. 44 enclosing a translation of the M.O.I. letter in reply to No. 1.
- Dir. in his letter explained the facts of the Rovello case.
14. To Sign. R. dated 23 Feb. 44 acknowledging receipt of letter No. 11 and stating that letter to Prefect Salvatore of Campobasso will be forwarded; also explanation of the facts and documents which he sent were being forwarded to the correct authority.

To RG Res. V Dated 23 Feb. 44 stating that the M.O.I.

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2. To M.O.I. 13 Feb. 44 asking for a copy of letter which he undertook to address to Prefect of Campobasso.
M.O.I. if request for copy letter referred to 1 be read it will be sent to him.
M.O.I. informed letter to Prefect should be sent thro RC & MG Section. Dir. arranged to despatch such a letter.
7. Copy letter by (Festa) M.O.I. re. Questore Rovella stating Rovella has been det free and is on his way to Campobasso to move family and put his affairs in order.
9. Memo addressed to M.C.I. re. Questore and officials of R. Questore of Campobasso, dated from Taranto 17 Jan. 44.
Memo contains what is alleged to have taken place by the Germans and also committing to concentration Camps certain Italian Officials.
10. To prefect of Campobasso (Copy) stating that the Ministry was not aware of the terms laid down by A.G. re. Rovello.
13. To V.P. dated 23 Feb. 44 enclosing a translation of the M.O.I. letter in reply to No. 1.
Dir. in his letter explained the facts of the Rovello case.
14. To Sign. R. dated 23 Feb. 44 acknowledging receipt of letter No. 11 and stating that letter to Prefect Salvatore of Campobasso will be forwarded; also explanation of the facts and documents which he sent were being forwarded to the correct authority.
15. To RC Reg. V Dated 23 Feb. 44 stating that the M.O.I. had explained that Sig. Rovello was released through direct intervention of Marshall Badoglio and that M.O.I. was never informed and was unaware of the restrictions placed on Sig. Rovello movements. Dir. enclosed a letter to the Prefect from Dr. Reale putting the matter right. The wording of the last para is not completely satisfactory. It is gathered by the words "unspecified charges" the Minister meant to convey charges of which he himself had not particulars and not that the charges were not definable by us. RC asked to make it clear to Pref.
16. P Principal letter Vile No. 7 (dated 13 Jan. 44)
17. Letter from Reale to Prefect referred to in No. 15 (Copy)
Translation.

No.

Precis

REMARKS

19.

To HQ. ACIF dated 10 Mar. 44 signed by Lord Stansbury
answering their letter referred to in No. 1.
Copy of Interior letter No. 15 enclosed and a translation
of Reale's second letter for information.

42/5/19

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REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Administrative Section

ACC/42/5Int

10 Mar 44

Subject: Francesco Rovella.

To : HQ. ACME.

1 Reference your ACME/1456/12/3 (1b) of 9 Feb.

2 This matter has now been dealt with. The points raised by para 10 of your letter have all been stressed and the Minister of The Interior has written to the Prefect of Camposano (through the Regional Commission) to correct the false impression that the previous letter from his department had given.

3 A copy of Interior Sub-Commission letter ACC/42/5 Int 4/23 Feb to HQ Region 7 which more fully deals with the matter and a translation of Sqr Reale's second letter is enclosed for your information.

STANEGATE
VP Adm Sec

Copy to: Interior 42/5/Int
Public Safety 14760/2 PS

5352

447 Subject:- ROVELLA Francesco.

1 MAR 1944
Headquarters
Allied Central Mediterranean Force

A.C.C.

ACMF/1456/12/G(Ib).

29 Feb 44.

On Public Safety F.A. 14/14/44/1/85

Reference ACMF/1456/12/G(Ib) dated 9 Feb 44, para 6.

Herewith the original letter from the Ministero dell'Interno to the Prefettura (CAMPORASSO) regarding the release of ROVELLA from internment.

Strawson Capt 25
Lieut-General,
Chief of General Staff.

SP.

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42/5/7

Translation

P.M. 151. 13 January 1944

Minister of Interior

No. 1672 P.S. 1

To the Royal Prefecture of Caspobasro

SUBJECT: Revello, Comm Dr. Francesco.

For your information (literally: for opportune news) it is communicated that Comm. Dr. Revella Francesco, now Questore at this Questura, stopped on 21 October of last year by Canadian troops quartered here, was put (set) at liberty, having nothing to answer for.

To the said officer, who went there to (relieve)(take over) his family and to settle his interests, was allowed one month's grant and this Ministry reserved (the right) to communicate directly with the party concerned further (orders)(dispositions)(directions).

Request the said officer be given all possible help and accommodations.

THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE

5343

Translation

P.M. 151, 18 January 1944

Minister of Interior

No. 1572 P.M. 1

To the Royal Prefecture of Campobasso

SUBJECT: Novello, Comm. Dr. Francesco.

For your information (literally; for opportune news) it is communicated that Comm. Dr. Novello Francesco, now Questore at this Questura, stopped on 21 October of last year by Canadian troops quartered here, was put (set) at liberty, having nothing to answer for.

To the said officer, who went there to (relieve)(take over) his family and to settle his interests, was allowed one month's grant and this Ministry reserved (the right) to communicate directly with the party concerned further (orders)(dispositions)(directions).

Request the said officer be given all possible help and economical one.

THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE

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1 MAR 1944

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D/L

P.M. 151, 18

Ministero dell'Interno

N. 1672 P.S. 1

Risposta alla lettera

ALLA R. PREFETTURA DI

N. del

OGGETTO

Questore ROVELLA Comm. Dr. Francesco

CAMPOBASSO

alla Direzione P.D.

Il Ministero dell'Interno ha ricevuto

Per opportuna notizia si comunica che

il Comm. Dr. ROVELLA Francesco, già Questore presso
codesta Questura, *deceduto il 21 ottobre s.a.* dalle
truppe canadesi di stanza costà, è stato posto in li-
bertà, non dovendo egli rispendere di nulla.

Al detto funzionario, che si reca costà
per rilevare la sua famiglia e sistemare i suoi interes-
si, è stato concesso un mese di congedo, e questo Ministe-
ro si riserva di comunicare direttamente all'interessato
ulteriori disposizioni.

Si prega usare al detto funzionario le
possibili agevolazioni e facilitazioni.

Si prega di far sapere al funzionario che si trova a
il prefetto Francesco
IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

Il Prefetto

il Comm. Dr. ROVELLA Francesco, già Questore presso
 codesta Questura, ~~partecipato dal 21~~ ^{fu} ottobre s.a. dalle
 truppe canadesi di stanza costà, è stato posto in li-
 bertà, non dovendo egli rispondere di nulla. ~~ma gli~~

Al detto funzionario, che si reca costà
 per rilevare la sua famiglia e sistemare i suoi interes-
 si, è stato concesso un mese di congedo, e questo Ministe-
 ro si riserva di comunicare direttamente all'interessato
 ulteriori disposizioni.

Si prega usare al detto funzionario le
 possibili agevolazioni e facilitazioni. -

*Il Com. Dr. Rovella Francesco, già Questore presso
 codesta Questura, fu partecipato dal 21 ottobre s.a. dalle
 truppe canadesi di stanza costà, è stato posto in li-
 bertà, non dovendo egli rispondere di nulla. ma gli*

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

53.9

File 42/15/15

HEAD HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB COMMISSION
APO 374

AC/42/3/Int

23 February 1944

SUBJECT: Gaetano Rovello

TO : HQ Region V

1. The Minister of the Interior has explained that Signor Rovello was released through the direct intervention of Marshal Badoglio and that he was never informed and was unaware of the restriction placed on Signor Rovello's movements and that it was in ignorance of these restrictions that an official in the Ministry granted S. Rovello leave to go to Caspoggio to arrange for the move of his family and that it was this official who in the course of his duties signed the Minister's name to the letter to which exception has been taken.

2. The enclosed letter, which you will please have conveyed to the Prefect is a personal letter from the Minister written to put this matter right. A translation of the letter for your files is attached hereto.

3. The wording of the last paragraph of the letter is not completely satisfactory. It is gathered that by the words "unspecified charges", the Minister meant to convey charges of which he himself had not particulars and not, that the charges were not definable by us. Perhaps you will cause this to be made clear to the Prefect.

4. I enclose a copy of the letter and attachment in case you care to submit them to the GA Officer handling this matter.

R. B. M. C.

R. B. M. C.
Lt Colonel
Assing Director
Interior Sub-Commission

Inclos: as above.

Copy to: Vice President, Administrative Section

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42/5/14

C O P Y .

Excellency:

In connection with our letter of 18 January, 1672 P.S.1 concerning the Q. Rovello C. Fr. I ^{you} ~~was~~ to note that this Ministry was unaware of the terms laid down by AMG according to which Comm. R. is forbidden to remain in that city beyond the necessary time to withdraw his family and his goods.

Furthermore, the statement contained in the letter cited above, to the effect that R. is not charged with anything is incorrect; we have now learned that he must answer to the Allies for unspecified charges. Hence, since we do not know his present address, we beg you to notify him in case he is still in the province of C.

To - S.E. Salvatore,
Pref. of Campobasso.

53.3

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB COMMISSION
APO 394

ACG 42/5/Int

23 February 1944

SUBJECT: Rovello, Francesco, late Questore of Campobasso

TO : His Excellency, Signor Reale, Minister of Interior

Your Excellency:

1. I am in receipt of your letter 733/AMF of 19th February for which I am grateful.

2. Your letter which you enclosed addressed to Prefect Salvatore of Campobasso is being forwarded. Further, your explanation of the facts and the documents which you enclosed, are being forwarded to the correct authorities.

3. I am grateful to your Excellency for the prompt manner in which you have dealt with this matter.

R. G. B. Spicer

R. G. B. SPICER
Lt Colonel
Acting Director
Interior Sub-Commission

13042/5/13

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB COMMISSION
APO 394

ACC/42/5/Int

23 February 1944

SUBJECT: Rovello, Francesco, late Questore of Campobasso
TO : Vice President, Administrative Section

1. Further to my report ACC/42/5/Int of 18 February, 1944, the Minister of Interior has now communicated with me.

2. I subjoin, for your information, a copy of a translation of the Minister's letter made by Major J. Bergen (A):

"2. Questore Rovello of Campobasso. I shall explain the facts briefly and the enclosed documents.

a. Marshal B. made a direct plea for the liberty of Rovello and the Ministry of Interior was not informed of the correspondence between him and AMG; hence it was ignorant of the condition set by the Allies (that R. should not return to Campobasso) and of his being charged with serious (unspecified) offenses.

b. Rovello, freed from the Concentration Camp at Taranto Jan 15 last, reported on the 18th to the Ministry of Interior at Lacco (his superiors) and deposited the enclosed note which we beg you to read with care. (Enc 1). - P. 9

c. R. applied for a month's leave before returning to the ministry, for the sole purpose of transferring his family and personal effects from Campobasso. Since it was a human request, the Ministry official consented and gave him the letter (of which we include a copy) which he signed himself, not thinking it worth while to trouble his Excellency Reale for such a minor matter. (Enc. 2) - P. 7.

3. I have written to the Prefect of Campobasso to take note that R. is forbidden to remain there beyond the time necessary to move his family, and goods, since the information that he is under no charge is inaccurate, that he has been released only for reasons of humanity but he must answer to the Allies for unspecified transgressions.

4. In order that the Allied Command may not base its information on men of doubtful morality we attach herewith the penal certificate of Acille Lopez, with the sole purpose of preventing inaccurate information from jeopardizing our excellent relations."

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Pages 2 to 6.

3. The original Italian documents I am retaining in my relevant files, but are at your disposal, should you require them. I attach copy of the document referred to in 2, above (Incl 1) — P. 8

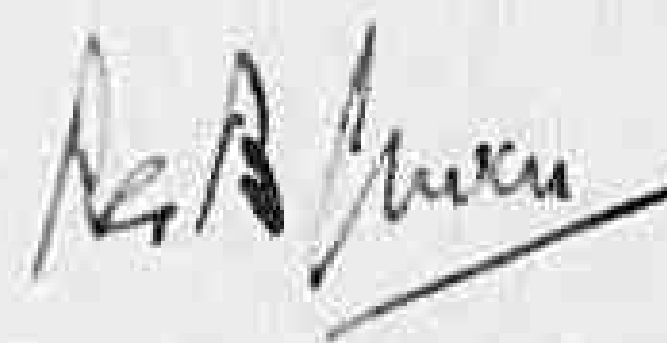
4. I further enclose (Incl 2) a translation of the letter referred to and complained of, and again hold the original document should you wish to see it. P. 7.

5. I further enclose letter in original, together with translation, (incls 3 and 4 respectively) which has been asked for. P. 11.

6. It is not possible for me to ascertain at this time as to whether ex-Questore Rovello is in Campobasso, but it would appear to me that if he is, he is liable to re-arrest by the military authorities there in spite of the letter now forwarded. You will note that the Minister of Interior, although he states that it is incorrect that Rovello is not charged with anything, makes what is to my mind, an inappropriate statement when he adds that Rovello must answer to the Allies for unspecified charges.

7. Signor Reale forwards a certificate in regard to a witness, Achille Lopez, which shows that this individual had a large number of convictions, by which Signor Reale wishes to establish his point that the evidence, or some of the evidence, against Rovello, is suspect.

8. I recommend, therefore, that the letter addressed by Signor Reale to Prefect Salvatore should be delivered, provided his remarks to the effect that Rovello must answer to the Allies for unspecified transgressions is not regarded as an improper statement.



R. G. B. SPICER
Lt Colonel
Acting Director
Interior Sub Commission

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42/5/14

C O P Y

Excellency,

In connection with our letter of 13 January, 1672 P.S.1 concerning the G. Rovella G. Fr. I beg you to note that this Ministry was unaware of the terms laid down by AMG according to which Comm. R. is forbidden to remain in that city beyond the necessary time to withdraw his family and his goods.

Furthermore, the statement contained in the letter cited above, to the effect that R. is not charged with anything is incorrect; we have now learned that he must answer to the Allies for unspecified charges. Hence, since we do not know his present address, we beg you to notify him in case he is still in the province of C.

To - S. E. Salvatore
Pref of Campobasso

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733/ Gep

Salerno, 19 Feb

In view of the meeting with you yesterday and of communications made to me I wish to make the following statement:

PREFECT TAMBURRO OF MATERA

1. I was sorry to hear the decision of the ACC, rejecting our proposal to substitute for the present prefect Tamburro another official who might legally (regolarmente) assume the post. I must protest against this incomprehensible decision which is at odds with our administrative system and which sanctions a serious moral disorder. (disorder in morale of officials is probably what is meant.)

The question brought up by this Ministry is not concerned with individuals but with the principle of justice which allows no official to infringe upon the right of other officials superior in rank and merit.

2. Questore Rovella of Campobasso. I shall explain briefly the facts and the enclosed documents.

- a. Marshal B. made a direct plea for the liberty of Rovella and the the Ministry of Interior was not informed of the correspondence between him and AMG; hence it was ignorant of the condition set by the Allies (that R. should not return to Campobasso) and of his being charged with serious (unspecified) offenses.

- b. Rovella, freed from the Concentration Camp at Tarento Jan 15 last, reported on the 18th to the Ministry of Interior at Lecce (his superiors) and deposited the enclosed note which we beg you to read with care (Encl 1)

- c. R. applied for a months leave before returning to the ministry, for the sole purpose of transferring his family and personal effects from Campobasso. Since it was a human request, the Ministry official consented and gave him the letter (of which we include a copy) which he signed himself, not thinking it worth while to trouble his Excellency Reale for such a minor matter. (Encl. 2)

3. I have written to the Prefect of Campobasso to take note that R. is forbidden to remain there beyond the time necessary to move his family and goods, since the information that he is under no charge is inaccurate, that he has been released only for reasons of humanity but he must answer to the Allies for unspecified transgressions.

4. In order that the Allied Command may not base its information on men of doubtful morality we attach herewith the penal certificate of Acille Lopez, with the sole purpose of preventing inaccurate information from jeopardizing our excellent relations.

b. Rovella, freed from the Concentration Camp at internment (his superiors) reported on the 18th to the Ministry of Interior at Lecce (his superiors) and deposited the enclosed note which we beg you to read with care (Encl 1)

c. R. applied for a months leave before returning to the Ministry, for the sole purpose of transferring his family and personal effects from Campobasso. Since it was a human request, the Ministry official consented and gave him the letter (of which we include a copy) which he signed himself, not thinking it worth while to trouble his Excellency Reale for such a minor matter. (Enc. 2)

3. I have written to the Prefect of Campobasso to take note that R. is forbidden to remain there beyond the time necessary to move his family and goods, since the information that he is under no charge is inaccurate, that he has been released only for reasons of humanity but he must answer to the Allies for unspecified transgressions.

4. In order that the Allied Command may not base its information on men of doubtful morality we attach herewith the penal certificate of Acille Lopez, with the sole purpose of preventing inaccurate information from jeopardizing our excellent relations.

5. Ordinance for Provincial and Communal administration.

The general lines of the ordinance are laudable.

Only the duration is lacking, and I should advise fixing it for the duration of the war, save in cases of serious incapacity.

Under our system this ordinance may be adopted only by a decree. Such a measure will shortly be adopted.

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42/5/9
Enclosure 1

Memo for Ministry of Interior

Taranto 17 Jan 1944

Questore and officials of R. Questura of Campobasso

At the time of the armistice, 8 Sept. 1943, the city and the province of C were immediately invaded by German troops, mostly armored divisions which were shifting from the Adriatic to the Tyrrhenian coast or viceversa. These, with ever increasing savagery, gave themselves over to acts of pillage and violence without any resistance from our troops since there was available in C only a small garrison of a few hundred men and these, in view of the absolute impossibility of resistance, were immediately discharged by the Commandante, Col. Narducci.

There remained in charge of the city only we of the Questura and the Carabinieri. Together with the Precet Excellency Salvatore Alfredo we resisted more than 40 days, courageously saving what could be saved, continually tempo rising before the increasingly pressing and menacing demands of the German soldiers, committing on several occasions real acts of sabotage at the risk of our lives (as can be illustrated and documented) until after ten days of bombardment the city was occupied by Canadian troops, 14 Oct. 1943.

On the same morning certain turbulent elements, making up a so-called party of action (ringleaders being among others Eng. Vittorio Collitto, Rossi Attilio, Lopez Achille and one Rag. DeSantis), and supported by irresponsible elements from outside the town, i. e. evacuees and soldier refugees (deserters) passing through, attempted a revolt against the authorities, that is against the Prefettura and the Questura. The movement was quickly and ably suppressed and without violence. Indeed we succeeded in having some fascists (held by the so-called committee for uncertain purposes) turned over to the Questura for safeguarding. (Among these the first, one Francesco Lombardi) was the victim of a tragic episode.)

Subsequently excellent relations developed between us and the Canadian occupation troops and the personnel of the AMGOT. But suddenly the 21 Oct without warning the undersigned and all officials of the Questura (Commissionario Rolleri Michele, Comm. Aggiunti Dell'aria Salvatore, Pelosio Leopoldo and Della Volpe Antonio and V. Commissari Sanzo Carmine and Arcese Michele) were arrested by the Canadian Police and without being permitted to open our mouths in our defence we were thrown into jail and later passed on, in company of other prisoners, German civilians and military, from one Concentration Camp to another, finally arriving at Taranto. The writer in particular has made repeated and often vigorous protests, asking to be interrogated, pointing out that he and his officials could not be charged with any offence since their activities were always worthy of praise and that therefore there must be at the source of their treatment some calumnious accusation, or perhaps

of bombardment the city was occupied by Canadian troops, 14 Oct. 1943.

On the same morning certain turbulent elements, making up a so-called party of action (ring-leaders being among others Eng. Vittorio Cellitto, Rossi Attilio, Lopez Achille and one Reg. DeSantis), and supported by irresponsible elements from outside the town, i. e. evacuees and soldier refugees (deserters) passing through, attempted a revolt against the authorities, that is against the Prefettura and the Questura. The movement was quickly and ably suppressed and without violence. Indeed we succeeded in having some fascists (held by the so-called committee for uncertain purposes) turned over to the Questura for safeguarding. (Among these the first, one Francesco Lombardi) was the victim of a tragic episode.)

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While all officials were sent away from the concentration camp at Taranto on 10 Dec (Rolleri, Pelosio and Arece; Dell'aria, Della Volpe and Sanzo on the 18) apparently to be sent to N. Africa, the writer, as a result of earnest intercession on the part of the head of the government was discharged the 15th of the present month.

The arrest of the undersigned is the more unjustified and inexplicable in view of the following: before the coup d'etat (i.e. Mussolini's downfall) he had carried on a long struggle of several months, supported by the prefect of the time (Cocuzza, placed on retired list by the Fascists and later restored and sent to Trieste) against the "squadrismo" of Campobasso

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42/5/8

and the command of the V.S.N. militia (U.P.I.) because of refusal to consent to some of their irregularities. He had the courage to break openly with them, among other things by arresting on 14 June 1943, one of the most hot headed Roman squadrista, a certain Guidi Mario, director of the Casse Mutue in C. This act aroused the anger of the party leaders; they sent to Sampotasso an inspector, one Pignatelli to investigate me and the Questura (The Prefect Cocuzze had already been retired). The inspector ended by qualifying the undersigned as an antifascist and asking the Ministry to take appropriate action. The action was late in coming and instead the undersigned had the satisfaction of receiving personal commendation from the new Chief of Police, Ecc. Sevisse, after the coup d'etat had taken place.

42/5/7

P. 151, 18 Jan 1944

C O P Y

1672 P.S. 1

To the R. Prefettura of Campobasso

Questore Rovella, etc.

We beg to pass on to you the opportune information that Comm. Dr. Rovella, Pr., formerly Questore of your Questura, seized 21 October by Canadian troops stationed there, has been set free, not being charged with anything. (Held responsible for anything).

The aforesaid official who is on his way to your city to move his family and put his affairs in order, has been given a month's leave. This Ministry reserves the right to communicate directly to the interested party all further instructions.

We beg you to give the aforesaid official all possible help.

(signed) Festa

(for the Under-Secretary of State)

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42/5/6

SALERNO, 19 FEBBRAIO 1944

COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO
Sottocommissione Interni
Lt. Col. R. G. S. SPICER

= S A L E R N O =



Il sottosegretario di Stato per l'Interno

422/206... di prot.

Allegati. n: 2

A seguito della riunione avuta ieri presso di voi, e alle comunicazioni fattesi, mi prego precisare quanto segue:

1) = Prefetto CAMBORSO di Matera = Ho ascoltato con dispiacere la decisione della Commissione di Controllo, che respinge le nostre proposte di sostituire l'attuale Prefetto Tamburro con altro funzionario di ruolo che rivesta regolarmente la carica. Non posso che protestare contro questa inespugnabile decisione in contrasto con il nostro ordinamento amministrativo, che sanziona un disordine morale assai grave.

La questione sollevata da questo Ministero non ha alcun riferimento alla persona, ma al principio di giustizia cui non può essere consentito ad alcun funzionario di ledere i diritti degli altri funzionari superiori di grado e di valore.

2) = Questore ROVELLA di Campobasso = Espongo brevemente i fatti ed i documenti allegati.

a) - Il Maresciallo Badoglio ha chiesto direttamente la libertà per il Sig. Rovella, e della corrispondenza avvenuta tra lui ed il Governo Militare Alleato non è stata data comunicazione al Ministero dell'Interno, che non era quindi a conoscenza della condizione posta dagli Alleati che il Sig. Rovella non dovesse tornare a Campobasso, e che era accusato di gravi colpe (non specificate).

b) - Il Sig. Rovella, liberato dal Campo di Concentramento di Taranto il 15 gennaio scorso, si presentò il 16 gennaio al Ministero dell'Interno a Lecce, ai suoi superiori, e consegnò l'accluso memoriale che vi preghiamo di leggere attentamente (All. 1).

c) - Il Rovella chiese al Ministero dell'Interno un mese di congedo, prima di rientrare al Ministero, e al solo scopo di far venire da Campobasso la propria famiglia e i suoi effetti personali. Poiché la richiesta era umana, il funzionario del Ministero, a cui il Rovella si indirizzò, accondiscese e gli consentì.

rivista regolarmente la carica. Non posso che protestare contro questa inaspettabile decisione in contrasto con il nostro ordinamento amministrativo, che sanziona un disordine morale assai grave.

La questione sollevata da questo Ministero non ha alcun riferimento alla persona, ma al principio di giustizia¹ cui non può essere consentito ad alcun funzionario di ledere i diritti degli altri funzionari superiori di grado e di valore.

2) = Questore ROVELLA di Campobasso = Espongo brevemente i fatti ed i documenti allegati.

a) - Il Maresciallo Badoglio ha chiesto direttamente la libertà per il Sig. Rovella, e della corrispondenza avvenuta tra lui ed il Governatore Militare Allentato non è stata data comunicazione al Ministero dell'Interno, che non era quindi a conoscenza della condizione posta dagli Alleati che il Sig. Rovella non dovesse tornare a Campobasso, e che era accusato di gravi colpe (non specificate).

b) - Il Sig. Rovella, liberato dal Campo di Concentramento di Taranto il 15 gennaio scorso, si presentò il 18 gennaio al Ministero dell'Interno a Lecce, ai suoi superiori, e consegnò l'accoluso memoriale che vi preghiamo di leggere attentamente (All. 1).

c) - Il Rovella chiese al Ministero dell'Interno un mese di congedo, prima di rientrare al Ministero, e al solo scopo di far venire da Campobasso la propria famiglia e i suoi effetti personali. Poiché la richiesta era umana, il funzionario del Ministero, a cui il Rovella si indirizzò, accondiscese e gli consegnò a mano la lettera, di cui accludiamo copia, e che inviò lui stesso, non credendo che fosse il caso, per una cosa così semplice, di sottometterla a S.E. Reale (All. 2).

3) = Ho scritto al Prefetto di Campobasso di prendere nota che al Rovella è proibito di fermarsi in quella città oltre il tempo indispensabile di ritirare la famiglia e le sue masserizie, che l'affermazione che il Rovella non è di nulla responsabile non è esatta, che il Rovella solo per ragioni di umanità è stato rilasciato, ma deve rispondere agli Alleati di imprecisate responsabilità.

49 = Ad evitare che il Comando Alleato possa far capo ad uomini di dubbia moralità nelle sue informazioni, uniamo il certificato penale del Sig. LOPEZ ACUNILLI al solo scopo di non far turbare i nostri ottimi rapporti

da informazioni inesatte. (All.3).

b) = Ordinanze per le Amministrazioni Provinciali e Comunali - Le linee generali dell'ordinanza con cui si provvede all'amministrazione dei Comuni e delle Provincie sono encomiabili.

Manca soltanto la durata della nomina ed lo consiglio di fissarla sino alla durata della guerra, salvo la revoca in caso di grave inadempienza.

Per il nostro ordinamento questa ordinanza non può essere adottata che a mezzo di decreto legge, ed un simile provvedimento sarà presto adottato.

IL MINISTRO

R. Rada

Taranto, 11 IV Gennaio 1944

42/5/5

PRO-MEMORIA DEL MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO

Allegato N. 1

Questore e funzionari della R. Questura di Campobasso.

Avvenuto l'8 Settembre 1943 l'armistizio, la città e la provincia di Campobasso furono subito invase da truppe tedesche, in maggioranza Divisioni corazzate che si spostavano dal versante Adriatico a quello Tirreno e viceversa, che si diedero con crescente accanimento ad atti di prepotenza e di violenza, senza alcuna resistenza da parte di truppe nostre, non disponendosi in Campobasso che di un presidio di poche centinaia di militari, i quali dal Comandante Colonnello Narducci -vista l'assoluta impossibilità di agire- furono subito sciolti.

Si rimase a tutela della città solo noi della Questura ed i CC. NN., col Prefetto ecc. Salvatore Alfredo, a resistere per oltre 40 giorni, salvando coraggiosamente il salvabile, tergiversando in tutti i modi e temporeggiando alle sempre più pressanti e minacciose pretese delle soldataglie tedesche, commettendo più volte veri e propri atti di sabotaggio a rischio della vita (come può meglio illustrarsi e documentarsi), finché le truppe Canadesi, dopo 10 giorni di bombardamento, il 14 Ottobre 1943 occuparono la città.

Nella stessa mattina vi fu da parte di elementi turbolenti, sedicenti costituenti un comitato d'azione, tra i quali in prima linea tali ing. VITTORIO CILITTO, ROSSI ATTILIO, LOPEZ ACHILLE e certo Mag. DE SANNAIS seguiti da elementi forestieri irresponsabili -cioè sfollati e militari fuggiaschi di transito- un tentativo di rivolta contro le Autorità (Prefetto e Questura), che fu prontamente ed abilmente stroncato, senza però alcuna violenza. Si riuscì, anzi, ad ottenere che alcuni fascisti da tale comitato fermati con fini non chiari -del quali infatti il primo, tale FRATELLO LOMBARDI, maggiore di aviazione, rimase vittima di un tragico episodio- fossero consegnati alla Questura a fine di tutela delle loro persone.

Si ebbero in seguito con le truppe Canadesi di occupazione e col loro personale dell'Angot e della polizia cordiali rapporti, quando il giorno 21 Ottobre, inaspettatamente ed all'improvviso, sia il sottoscritto che tutti i funzionari della Questura (Commissario ROLLERI Michele, Commissari Aggiunti DELL'ARIA Salvatore, Felosio Leopoldo e Della Volpe Antonio e V.

della vita (come può meglio illustrarsi e documentarsi), finchè le truppe Canadesi, dopo 10 giorni di bombardamento, il 14 Ottobre 1943 occuparono la città.

Nella stessa mattina vi fu da parte di elementi turbolenti, sedicenti costituenti un comitato d'azione, tra i quali in prima linea tali ING. VITTORIO COLITTO, ROSSI ATTILIO, LOPEZ ACHILLE e certo RAG. DE SANTIS seguiti da elementi forestieri irresponsabili - cioè sfoliati e militari fuggiaschi di tranaito- un tentativo di rivolta contro le autorità (Prefet tura e questura), che fu prontamente ed abilmente stroncato, senza però alcuna violenza. Si riuscì, anzi, ad ottenere che alcuni fascisti da tale comitato fermati con fini non chiari - dei quali infatti il primo, tale FRATELLO LOMBARDI, maggiore di aviazione, rimase vittima di un tragico episodio- fossero consegnati alla questura a fine di tutela delle loro persone.

Si ebbero in seguito con le truppe Canadesi di occupazione e coi loro personale dell'Angot e della polizia cordiali rapporti, quando il giorno 21 Ottobre, inaspettatamente ed all'improvviso, sia il sottoscritto che tutti i funzionari della Questura (Commissario Rollieri Michele, Commissari Aggiunti Dell'Aria Salvatore, Pelosio Leopoldo e Della Volpe Antonio e V. Commissari Sanzò Carmine ed Arace Michele) furono fermati dalla stessa Polizia Canadese e senza alcuna contestazione di addebito, senza che ci fosse permesso assolutamente di aprir bocca, incarcerati e passati poi, in compagnia di altri prigionieri borghesi e militari tedeschi, da un campo di concentramento all'altro, ultimo quello di Taranto. Il sottoscritto in particolare ha sollevato ripetute, talvolta energiche proteste, chiedendo di essere interrogato, avvertendo che egli ed i suoi funzionari di ~~SSA~~ dovevano e potevano rispondere, in quanto il loro operato era stato invece sempre degno di elogio e che si era dovuto trattare indubbiamente di accuse calunniose, ovvero di errore diabolicamente architettato, per rappresaglia, da parte di elementi amorali ed esaltati, quali i sopraindicati. Ma da nessuno si è stati ascoltati, continuandosi a sottoporci al duro trattamento dei campi di concentramento istituiti per prigionieri militari, cioè

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Giovani adunati ai disagi di guerra e per giunta soltanto di transito per pochi giorni in detti campi.

Mentre tutti i funzionari sono stati allontanati dal campo di concentramento di Taranto. (Mollari, Pelosio ed Arace il 10 Dicembre u.s., Dell'Arta, Della Volpe e Sansò il giorno 10 detto) pare per essere imbarcati per l'Africa Settentrionale, il sottoscritto, in seguito ad intervento e premure del Capo del Governo, ne è stato dimesso, sera del 15 corrente.

Il fermo del sottoscritto appare ancora più ingiustificato ed in spiegabile, in quanto egli prima ancora del colpo di Stato, dopo una lotta di vari mesi sostenuta insieme al suo Prefetto di allora (Ecc. Cocuzza collocato a riposo dal Governo fascista e dal nuovo risanato e destinato a Trieste) contro lo squadrismo Campobasso e quel comando della Milizia V.S.N. (U.P.I.) per non aver voluto aderire ad alcune loro deviazioni, aveva avuto il coraggio di romperla apertamente con loro, arrestando fra l'altro il 14 Giugno 1943 uno dei più accesi squadristi romani, tal Giulio Di Mario direttore delle Casse Mutue in Campobasso. Ciò sollevò le ire della direzione del partito, che inviò in Campobasso un suo ispettore, tal Fignatelli, per una inchiesta a carico mio e della Questura (il Prefetto Cocuzza era stato già collocato a riposo), ispettore che concluse qualificando il sottoscritto antifascista e chiedendo al Ministero dell'Interno provvedimenti a carico. Ma questi ritardarono ed il sottoscritto ebbe, invece, in seguito, avvenuto intanto il colpo di Stato, la soddisfazione di essere personalmente elogiato dal nuovo Capo della Polizia Ecc. Serise.

R.to Francesco ROVELLA

PER COPIA CONFORME

Di Mario direttore delle Casse Rube in Campobasso. Ciò sollevò la
della direzione del partito, che inviò in Campobasso un suo ispettore, tal
Pignatelli, per una inchiesta a carico mio e della Questura (il Prefetto
Cocuzza era stato già collocato a riposo). Ispettore che concluse quali-
ficando il sottoscritto antifascista e chiedendo al Ministero dell'Inter-
no provvedimenti a carico. Ma questi ritardarono ed il sottoscritto ebbe,
invece, in seguito, avvenuto intanto il colpo di Stato, la soddisfazione
di essere personalmente elogiato dal nuovo Capo della Polizia Eec. Sen-
se.

F.to Francesco ROVELLA

PER COPIA CONFORME

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12/21

P.M. 191, 18 Gennaio 1944

1972 P.S.1

ALLA R. PREFETTURA DI CAMPANIA

Questore ROVELLA Comm.Dr. Francesco. =

Per opportuna notizia si comunica che il Comm. ROVELLA Francesco, già Questore presso codesta Questura trattenuto il 21 Ottobre s.a. dalle truppe Canadesi, è stato posto in libertà, non dovendo egli dare di nulla.

Al detto funzionario, che si reca costà per rilevare la sua famiglia e sistemare i suoi interessi, è stato concesso un mese di congedo e questo Ministero si riserva di comunicare direttamente all'interessato ulteriori disposizioni.

Si prega usare al detto funzionario le possibili agevolazioni e facilitazioni.

P. IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

R.to Festa

Al detto funzionario, che si reca costà per rilevare la sua famiglia e sistemare i suoi interessi, è stato concesso un mese di congedo e questo Ministero si riserva di comunicare direttamente all'interessato ulteriori disposizioni.

Si prega usare al detto funzionario le possibili agevolazioni e facilitazioni.

P. IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

R.to Resta

5334

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Abstract

4/6/902 = Pr. Campobasso
 5/5/926 = id.
 7/7/1933 = Trib. id.
 14/11/34 = id. id.
 27/2/934 = id. id.
 16/4/935 = Pret. id.
 1/10/35 = id. id.
 5/1937 = Pret. Benevento
 6/11/37 = Pr. Campobasso
 id. id.
 17/11/37 = id. id.
 16/11/37 = id. id.
 8/2/1938 = id. id.
 29/11/38 = O. App. Napoli
 23/1/940 = O. I. Chiusi
 5/6/1941 = Pr. id.
 7/10/942 = G. I. id.
 27/10/42 = Pr. Campobasso

= recl. 8.12 = lesioni
 = multa 4.125 = lesioni vol. assolto ind. prova
 da minacce; ass. per compensazione: ingiurie
 pena ammissibile
 = ammissibile = ratto a fine di libidine;
 id. = maltrattamenti;
 = fatto non costituisce reato inadempienza
 contratti pubbliche forniture
 = non punibile per lesioni diffuse = lesioni
 personali (due reati);
 = remissione = lesioni pers.
 ammissibile = autossione degli incanti;
 = am. 4.150 = art. 11, 14 L. 29/3/28 n. 1003 = ammiss.
 = ind. prove = idem
 id. = idem
 = am. 4.50 = idem
 = am. 4.25 = contr. regolamento petroli = ammiss.
 = recl. 8.12 = oltraggio; ammissibile =
 ind. prove = falsa testimonianza
 = prescrizione = eccesso versamento contr. assicurat.
 = fatto non costituisce reato = falso, truffa =
 am. 2.100 = art. 12 L. 6-7-941 n. 645 =

IL SEGREARIO

S. L. C.



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HEAD HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO. 394.

4/16 42/5/2

ACC/42/5/INT.

13th February, 1944.

SUBJECT: Rovello, Francesco, late Questore of Campobasso.

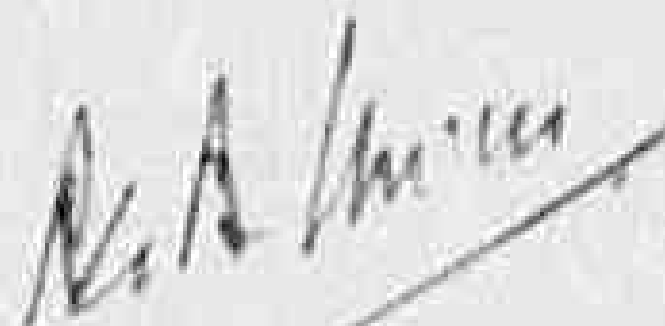
TO : Minister of Interior.

Your Excellency,

1. With reference to the above individual, whom we discussed today, I shall be glad to receive a copy of the letter which you undertook to address to the Prefect of Campobasso in order to correct the false impression created by the circumstances which were explained personally.

2. I have applied for the letter, or a copy of the letter, which you asked to see, and if this request is approved, I will undertake to let you see it at the earliest possible moment.

3. The letter referred to in para. 1 above, should be sent through the Executive Commissioner, E.C. and E.C. Section, for the Prefect of Campobasso, and I shall be pleased to arrange its expedition despatch if you send it direct to me for transmission.



E. G. S. SMITH,
Lt. Colonel,
Acting Director,
Interior Sub-Commission.

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File 4251

FROM HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB-COMMISSION

ACC/42/5/INT

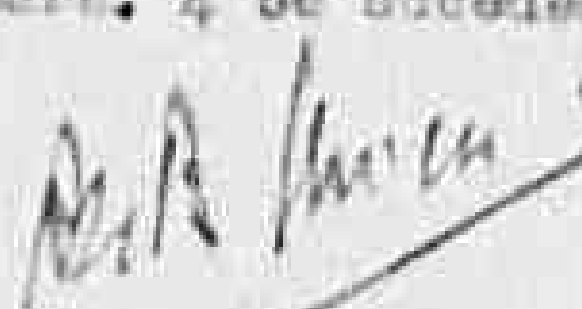
15th February, 1944.

SUBJECT: Rovella, Francesco, late Questore of Campobasso.

TO : Vice President, Administrative Section.

1. Signor Reale was interviewed by me personally this morning.
2. Paras. 10 and 11 of ACC/1456/12/3/12 of 9th February, were brought clearly to Signor Reale's notice.
3. Signor Reale denied all knowledge of the letter, stating that it had been written entirely without his cognizance.
4. He requested that he might through me, be given a copy of the letter, or preferably be allowed to see the original letter in my presence.
5. He wished to make inquiries in the matter, and to deal with many of his subordinate staff who had written such a letter without authority from him.
6. He gave me his assurance that he would, through the proper channels, address a letter to the Prefect of Campobasso, in accordance with the terms of para. 11 of the original ACC letter under review.
7. I recommend that the request in para. 4 be acceded to.

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R. G. B. SPICER,
Lt. Colonel,
Acting Director,
Interior Sub-Commission.

Returned file ACC/14760/2/PS 18/2/44

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INCOMING MAIL



