

ACC

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ARCHPRIEST OF SATRIANO
FEB. - JULY 1944

Minute sheet No. /

Page

Date

June
29

Director

Please see aide-memoire at # 5 + draft letter herewith. AGD ✓

HEADQUARTERS
ARMED CONFLICT COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

AGC/13/1/Int

21 July 1944

SUBJECT: Archbishop of BAHIA

TO : His Excellency the Minister of the Interior

Your Excellency:

1. I refer to your letter no. 3239 Gabinete dated 29th May.
2. The matter has been carefully examined and it has been decided not to press for the removal of Don Antonio Cascardella.



R. G. E. SPYER
Colonel
Director
Interior Sub-Commission

CCM/3ct

Copy to: RE, Region II - reference your AS/11/64 of 15th July

619

1631

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2

Ref: AS/ 11/ 64

28 JUL 1944

15 July 1944

SUBJECT- Archpriest of Satriano

TO : Rear Headquarters
A.C.C. Int. Sub-Commission
APO.394

Reference ACC/13/4 Int. of 26 June 1944.

It was hoped that 418 F.S. Section would be able to make an exhaustive report, but their withdrawal rendered this impossible and there now seems little likelihood of anyone else doing it. Up to that time the only concrete evidence it was possible to obtain against the priest was that he was the father of two children by one of his parishioners. In the circumstances there does not seem to be any point in pursuing the matter further.

As regards para 3 it was the possibility of the priest having indulged in pro-Fascists and anti-Allied activities, as much as anything else, that induced AMG, as it then was, to interest itself in the question and the decision was made before the hand over on 11 Feb, though the date of the first letter to the Bishop of Campagna is 23 Feb.

In my opinion this whole matter is of small importance.

John T. Zellars
JOHN T. ZELLARS
Col. Inf.
Regional Commissioner

HEAD HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB COMMISSION
APO 394

66 6

ACC/13/Int

29 June 1944

SUBJECT: Archpriest of Satriano

TO : RC, Region II

1. Reference your AM/11/27 of 12 June and the papers enclosed which were forwarded to you by the RC, Potenza.
2. I am unable to discover from the papers sent to me the precise nature of the objection to the Archpriest CAMARIELLA of Satriano. Allegations are made in general terms about meddling in petty political disputes, of fomenting discontent, and so on, but no specific instances are given.
3. I feel the action of the RC in communicating direct with the Bishop of Cragagna and requesting the removal of the Archpriest is to be deprecated. This is Italian Government Territory. Provincial officers of ACC are there to advise the local Italian organs of government. Disputes between a parish priest and the local mayor appear to be matters entirely for the Italian local administration.
4. On the papers before me, I cannot support to the Minister of Interior the request for CAMARIELLA's removal.
5. I shall be glad to have your further observations, if you so desire to make them.

CCM/3gt

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

AOC/13/4/Int

SUBJECT: Archpriest of Satriano - AIDE MEMOIRE

FOR : Colonel R. G. B. Spicer, Director

FROM : Captain C. G. R. Williams, Ass't Executive Officer

1. Precis of papers on file.(a) Complaint by Minister - see no. 1 and 1A.

- (i) One CARLONI is Commissario Prefettizio of 2 communes near Satriano.
- (ii) One CAMARDELLA is archpriest (i.e. parson of the parish) of Satriano.
- (iii) Minister states CARLONI has slandered CAMARDELLA to the PC Potenza.
- (iv) The PC has asked the Bishop of Campagna to remove CAMARDELLA from the diocese.
- (v) The Bishop give a good report of CAMARDELLA.
- (vi) The Minister says CARLONI was a Squadrista - "confined for dishonorable conduct" - dismissed by AOC from post of Commissario Prefettizio Satriano, though left as Commissario of the other 2 communes.

(b) Report of PC, Potenza - see no. 4 m and n - 4 f to j - 4 e - 4 c - 4 a. He alleges that CAMARDELLA

- (i) Meddles in local political disputes.
- (ii) foments discontent among the population, especially discontent at the scarcity of food.
- (iii) is of bad moral conduct.
- (iv) that he read out of his ^{book} ~~book~~ on Palm Sunday the letter from the Bishop to the PC at nos. 4 f to j.

(c) Bishop's defense of CAMARDELLA

- (i) denies all charges against CAMARDELLA.
- (ii) says they are slanders by the local officials.
- (iii) says CAMARDELLA stopped a riot in Satriano some time in April or May 1939.
- (iv) precise charges have never been laid before the Bishop.
- (v) the charge of immorality comes from a woman who was bribed to make it.

(d) As to CARLONI, PC says

- (i) he can find no proof of him having been a Squadrista.
- (ii) so far from being a Fascist, he was confined for anti-Fascist activities in September 1942.
- (iii) his resignation from Satriano was not at the request of AMG.

2. Comments

- (a) All charges against CAMARDELLA are in the most general terms. No factual evidence has been produced.

616

- (b) The PC merely forwards the report and correspondence received from the PC and makes no comment himself.

In

(5A)

- 2 -

- (c) The disagreement between CARLONI, the local Mayor, and CAMARDELLA, the local parson is surely entirely a matter of the Italian Government's.
- (d) The PC seems to have misconceived his position entirely. In my judgment, he should never have approached the Bishop directly on this matter - and certainly he should not have requested CAMARDELLA's removal. The PC is there to advise the Prefect. He could make reports to the Prefect on the matter, and that is all.
- (e) If the Prefect did nothing, the PC could report the case to the RC if he could show that CAMARDELLA's activities were actually obstructive to the Allies or detrimental to the war effort. I do not see any evidence of this: the allegation at the foot of 4a is not good enough.

3. Recommendations.

- (a) I do not see how any request for the removal of CAMARDELLA can be supported.
- (b) As the RC has not commented, his attention should be drawn to a consideration in 3, above.
- (c) Draft letter accordingly herewith.

C. G. R. Williams
Capt.

C. G. R. WILLIAMS
Captain
Ass't Executive Officer
Interior Sub-Commission

CCRA/jgt

615

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2

Ref: AS/11/27

12 June 1944

SUBJECT: - Archbishop of SATERIANO

TO : - Interior Sub-Commission

1. Reference your ACC/13A/INT dated 31 May 1944 with attached copy letter from Minister of Interior, No 3239 dated 29 May 1944.

2. Attached reports from Provincial Commissioner, Potenza, are forwarded for your information.



for *Abinsnell Capt*
P. H. McCLEARY, Lt. Col.
Executive Officer

014

S/Lt 194/ 4A
6A

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POTENZA PROVINCE

Pr/ N
Potenza, 9 June 1944..

To : HQ, Region 2.

From : Major H.H. NICHOLS - Provincial Commissioner - POTENZA -

SUBJECT = Archpriest of SATRIANO.

Ref your AS/11/21 of 4 June 44.

In my Pr/1 of 2 June 44 I mentioned that the question of the Archpriest has been worrying this HQ for some time and I am glad to be able to have the opportunity of forwarding some correspondence that has taken place with the Bishop of CAMPAGNA, in whose diocese Satriano lies.

From this correspondence you will gain some idea of the character both of priest and Bishop.

In the Bishop's last letter, that of 23 May, he says that he has asked the Bishop of Potenza to deal with the question, but when I applied to Mons. Bertazzoni he said that the matter was far too delicate to discuss before he had made a full inquiry. As, from the geographical situation of SATRIANO, the Bishop of Potenza is in a better position to know the affairs of the village than the Bishop of Campagna, this is significant.

To reply to the charges of the ex-Minister of the Interior, Aldoio, against Corrado Carloni, it is quite untrue to say that Carloni is conducting any campaign against Cammardella. Since his resignation as mayor of Satriano he has not occupied himself with the affairs of that Comune.

If any campaign is being conducted against Cammardella it would appear to be by the woman who claims to be the mother of two children by him, a subject which is now under investigation by the Questore, as mentioned in my letter of 16 May to the Bishop of Campagna.

The Bishop, moreover, is badly misinformed about Carloni.

I can find no proof of his having been squadrista, which, in fact, is extremely unlikely as he was confined for anti-fascist political activity in the ex-Yugoslavian province of Lubiana in December 1942. His resignation as mayor of Satriano was not at the request of A M G (as it then was) and as mayor of S. Angelo and Savoia he has shown himself an energetic head of the communes.

On the other hand at Satriano Cammardella has always been a disturbing element. From his file lodged with the Questore 613 appears that various requests have been made for his removal since as far back as 1933. More recently he has utilised the pulpit to make political sermons, more than once reported to be against the Allies, while on Palm Sunday this year he read the letter of his Bishop to us with his exaggerated praise of himself.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POTENZA PROVINCE

- 2 -

After the departure of CARLONI he endeavoured to interfere in the affairs of the commune through Carloni's successor, and in spite of our remonstrances is still said to be stirring up trouble in the country round about, if not in Satriano itself.

Although all previous investigations, including a personal visit of the Questore himself to Satriano, have redounded to the discredit of Cammardella, I am instructing 418 F S Section to make a further enquiry which I hope will prove definitive. The investigation of this Section recently in connection with the denunciation of Carloni by a so-called Francesco Canonico (see my Pr/1 referred to above) resulted in the discovery that no such person existed and goes to show that it is Carloni rather than Cammardella who is the subject of a defamatory campaign.

H. B. Smith

MAJOR
PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER
POTENZA

Enc.

F.S. As 418 F.S. Section have now received instructions to move it will be impossible to make the enquiry proposed above.

As/11

ve/AEH

612

4C

THE BISHOP OF CAMPAGNA (SALERNO)

23 May, 1948

File No. 45142

TO: MAJOR H.H. NICHOLS of the A.C.C.
POTENZA

In reply to your letter of the 16th. of this month, I wish to say that I see that it is necessary to treat in person the matter of the charges made against the Archipresbyter Cammardella of Satriano di Lucania. However, since I cannot come personally I have asked his Excellency Mons. Bertazoni, Bishop of Potenza, who knows me and said Archipresbyter, to treat the matter with you, Major.

I hope that the case may be clarified after it has been treated orally and I will make my decision on the matter subsequently.

Cordially yours

Giuseppe Maria Palatucci
Bishop

611

C O P Y

IL VESCOVO
di
CAMPANIA (Salerno)

23 Maggio 1944. *HC* *4D*

Sig. Maggiore E.M. NICHOLS
della Commissione Alleata di Controllo

N. 4514 prot.

=====
F O T O C O P Y
=====

Il risposta alle Sue del 16 corr. vedo che è necessario di trattare a voce l'oggetto delle accuse contro l'Arciprete CAMERELLA di Satriano di Lucania. Ma, poichè non posso venire io di persona, ho pregato S.E. Mons. Bertozzoni, Vescovo di Istenza, - che conosce bene me e detto Arciprete - di trattare lui la cosa con lei, sig. Maggiore.

Nella speranza che la cosa risulti chiara dopo che sarà trattata a voce, mi riservo di decidere in merito.

Con distinti ossequi.

fto. Giuseppe Maria Balatucci
Vescovo

CAMPAGNA (Salerno)

Sig. Maggiore H. E. NICHOLS
della Commissione Alleata di Controllo

N. 4514 prot.

SECRET

Il risposta alla Sua del 16 cour. vedo che è necessario di trattare a voce l'oggetto delle accuse contro l'Arciprete CAMMARIELLA di Satriano di Lucania. Ma, poiché non posso venire io di persona, ho pregato S. E. Mons. Dertezioni, Vescovo di Potenza, - che conosce bene me e detto Arciprete - di trattare lui la cosa con lei, sig. Maggiore.

Nella speranza che la cosa risulti chiara dopo che sarà trattata a voce, mi riservo di decidere in merito.

Con Distinti ossequii.

fto. Giuseppe Maria Palatucci
Vescovo

610

C O P Y

(Original sent in its own)

A O C - POTENZA Province

Potenza, 16 May 1944.

To : H. E. The Bishop of CATANIA.

From : Major H.H. NICHOLS - Provincial Commissioner - POTENZA -

SUBJECT - Archpriest of CATRIANO DI LUCANIA.

Your Excellency,

I should have liked to bow before such a long and spirited defence as that which you made on behalf of the Archpriest of Catriano about whom I had occasion to write to you on 23 Feb.

Unfortunately an event has happened which in my mind confirms only too well the character of the priest in question.

I am informed on the authority of the R. Questura of this province that the very letter which your Excellency addressed to me - and which I had naturally assumed to be a private communication - was on Palm Sunday publicly read from the pulpit by this priest.

Your Excellency will remember in what fulsome terms you praised the character of Camisafella, and the idea that a man should repeat a eulogy of himself openly before a congregation strikes me as little short of revolting, especially in one in whom one would expect humility to be one of the leading qualities.

In view of this I must state to your Excellency that this Rev. Archpriest is not "persona grata" to this Command and request you again to transfer him out of the province.

As regards his possible moral delinquencies I do not wish to reopen the question as I believe that this will be dealt with through the normal channels of the law, when he will have the opportunity of exonerating himself or submitting to the prescribed penalties.

A. E. Howell, Major
for PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER
POTENZA

Interior Sub-Comm. Room 114

4F

Translation No. 645 - Pfc. Bonanni -

10 March, 1944

The Bishop of Campagna (Salerno)

TO: Maj. H.H. Nichols

File No. 4397

Provincial Commissioner of the A.M.G.
POTENZA

To-day I received your letter dated 23rd. February and I hasten in answering it.

Regarding the Reverend Archipresbyter of Satriano di Lucania, D. Antonio Cammardella, I can assure you that he has always been an excellent priest, and in the twelve years that he has been in charge of the Parish in that town, he has taken to heart, with zeal and love, the welfare of the populations. Indeed, he has brought about a religious and social improvement of the town, which before left many things to be desired in the way of religion and civic life. The population of Satriano di Lucania have given my predecessors testimony of the work of religious and civic improvement performed by Archipresbyter Cammardella, and also to me in my Episcopalian visits to Satriano.

I must add, however, that the presence of Cammardella in Satriano has from time to time been a discomfort to some heads and officials who, because of the work he was doing, were not always ready to do whatever they pleased at the expense, moral and material, of Satriano's citizens, for the simple reason that these good people were always put by him on their guard against deceits, violence and insolence. And because of this zeal and firmness of his, ^{he was demanded to me,} once ~~accused~~ with the obvious purpose of having him expelled from Satriano. However, real and founded charges against him have never been presented to me, so that I ~~am~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~position~~ ^{position} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~so~~ ^{so} ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~expel~~ ^{expel} ~~him~~ ^{him} ~~from~~ ^{from} ~~Satriano~~ ^{Satriano} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~therefore~~ ^{therefore} ~~am~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~position~~ ^{position} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~so~~ ^{so} ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~expel~~ ^{expel} ~~him~~ ^{him} ~~from~~ ^{from} ~~Satriano~~ ^{Satriano} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~therefore~~ ^{therefore} ~~am~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~position~~ ^{position} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~so~~ ^{so} ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~expel~~ ^{expel} ~~him~~ ^{him} ~~from~~ ^{from} ~~Satriano~~ ^{Satriano} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~therefore~~ ^{therefore} ~~am~~ ^{am} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~position~~ ^{position} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~so~~ ^{so} ~~as~~ 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believed in his innocence and knew that the accusations were lies, pure and simple, emanated by a low and wicked soul. Indeed, I must add that he, while fighting vice and sin, ^{while} and safeguarding the rights and the interests of the people, has always respected and supported the local Authorities in everything that was good for the town. In 1939 a rebellion arose against the local Authorities, ^{and} it was he who, with his authoritative persuasion and firmness, saved the Authorities from serious injuries and prevented great damage. His Excellency the Prefect at that time, count Ballero, praised him in my presence and gave us a dinner on 17 May 1939.

His accusers have never, absolutely never, dared or been able to find evidence against his moral conduct, since he has always had the purest habits. It is the first time, that, as in your letter, Major, a charge of this kind has been made to me against him. It is clear that the accusers, having been unable to make any impression on our Authorities in the past, have attempted to use you to slander Cammardella.

Regarding the charge of immorality I can assure you, Major, that I know its source, for only the other day I was told by ^{the "Vicario Jovane"} Bishop France of the ecclesiastic zone which includes Satriano, that a woman of bad habits who was pregnant was promised an allowance by an Authority, provided she affirmed that Archipresbyter Cammardella had made her pregnant. On the whole I must maintain that this time too, the Archibresbiter has been slandered, and even more than in the other occasions, and therefore, is not to be punished with a transfer. On the contrary, he deserves praise for the very reason that he continues to perform the mission entrusted to him with firmness, ~~and~~ dignity, and

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a good conscience. I feel it my duty to defend him; I would indeed commit an error if I were to punish him by sending him elsewhere, and I would be playing into the hands of his accusers who have little conscience, if any at all. It goes without saying that they would fight against his successor, too, even if he were a saint.

If he said anything to foment the displeasure of the population, then I am not aware of it. However, this much I will say, he was the only person who in these hard years of war has kept the morale of the people of Satriano high. Despite this, some of his accusers tried to distort some words of his, in as much as he was accused at one time of antifascism and defeatism, while he was the only one truly and sincerely helping the people: I am sure to-day they would be ready to accuse him of being a fascist. At any rate, this very day I am going to write to him and instruct him to be more discreet in his speech, in order to prevent even the shadow of displeasure from arising, and give ~~no~~ grounds for further charges and malignities: this of course can be done to a certain extent, for evil-disposed ^{people} are always ready to say things against good people.

I am sure, however, that when they see that this time, too, they have not succeeded in having Cammardella transferred, they will cease in all their attempts, as they will understand that they cannot deceive the Allied Authorities.

This is why I beg you, Major, to support this excellent priest, ^{as} ~~like~~ he was ~~was~~ supported in the past by our Authorities of the Province, when they learned the truth and understood that the charges sprung from the cowardly heart of people with ^{no} dignity, ^{not} ~~and~~ conscience.

I turn with this request to you particularly at this time when
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many people take liberty to mean licence, instead of the greatest gift to

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men of dignity and integrity.

Very cordially yours
/s/ Giuseppe Maria Palatucci
Bishop

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IL VESCOVO
di
CAMPANIA (Salerno)

10 Marzo 1944.

Sig. Magg. H.E. NICHOLS
Commissario Provinciale dell'A.M.G.

N. 4397 prot.

P O T E N Z A

Mi arriva oggi la Sua del 23 febbraio u.s. e rispondo subito.

In quanto al Rev.mo Arciprete di SATRIANO DI LUCANIA, D. Antonio CAMMARDELLA, posso assicurarlo che egli è stato sempre un ottimo sacerdote e sempre, in codici anni da che ha la cura di quella Parrocchia, si è occupato del bene di quella popolazione con non comune zelo e amore, tanto che è stato proprio lui a portare un vero miglioramento religioso e sociale in quel paese, che prima lasciava molto a desiderare in fatto di religione e in fatto di convivenza civile. E di questa opera di miglioramento religioso e civile compiuto dall'Arciprete Cammarrella ha dato ampia testimonianza quella popolazione ai miei predecessori e anche a me nelle varie visite Episcopali a Satriano.

Debbe, però aggiungere che la presenza del Cammarrella a Satriano, di tanto in tanto, ha ostato la suscettibilità di certi capi o funzionari che, di fronte all'opera di lui, non hanno potuto sempre fare il conto loro e danno spirituale e materiale dei satrianesi, appunto perchè quei buoni fedeli da lui sono sempre stati messi in guardia e difesi dalle insidie e dei soprusi e prepotenze. E per questo suo zelo e fermezza di apostolo, il Cammarrella è stato accusato qualche altra volta a me con l'evidente scopo di tentare di farlo allontanare da Satriano. Ma, però, mi sono state presentate accuse vere e fondate contro di lui, tanto che io ho dovuto sempre riconoscere la di lui innocenza e constatare che quelle accuse erano vere e proprie calunnie mosse da animo basso e maligno. Anzi aggiungo che egli, mentre ha combattuto i vizi e il peccato e tutelato i diritti e gli interessi del popolo, ha sempre rispettato ed appoggiato le Autorità locali in tutto ciò che è bene del paese. Così, per esempio, nel marzo 1939, quando vi fu una sommossa contro le Autorità locali, fu proprio lui che, con la sua opera autorevole di persuasione e di fermezza, salvò le Autorità da gravi offese ed evitò gravi rovine in quella occasione, tanto che S.E. il Prefetto del tempo, conte Ballo, ebbe a lodarlo alla mia presenza e lo trattenne a pranzo con me il 17 marzo 1939 stesso.

Ma poi, assolutamente mai, i suoi accusatori hanno osato o potuto trovare appigli per attaccarlo sulla condotta morale, poichè egli ha serbato sempre costumi illibati, anzi illiberalissimi. Ed è la prima volta, in questa sua lettera, che si vede chiaro che i signori accusatori, non avendo potuto spuntarla con le nostre Autorità in passato, hanno tentato di servirsi di lei per spuntarla contro il Cammarrella.

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In quanto al Rev.mo Arciprete di Satriano, posso assicurare che egli è stato sempre un ottimo sacerdote e sempre, in dodici anni da che ha la cura di quella parrocchia, si è occupato del bene di quella popolazione con non comune zelo e amore, tanto che è stato proprio lui a portare un vero miglioramento religioso e sociale in quel paese, che prima lasciava molto a desiderare in fatto di religione e in fatto di civile convivenza. E di questa opera di miglioramento religioso e civile compiuta dall'Arciprete Cammarrella ha dato ampia testimonianza quella popolazione ai miei predecessori e anche a me nelle varie visite episcopali a Satriano.

Debbò, però aggiungere che la presenza del Cammarrella a Satriano, fin tanto in tanto, ha usato la suscettibilità di certi capi o funzionari che, di fronte all'opera di lui, non hanno potuto sempre fare il loro dovere a darlo a darlo spirituale e materiale dei satrianesi, appunto perché quei buoni fedeli da lui sono sempre stati messi in guardia e difesi dalle insidie e dai soprusi e prepotenze. E per questo suo zelo e fermezza, l'apostolo, il Cammarrella è stato accusato qualche altra volta a me con l'evidente scopo di tentare di farlo allontanare da Satriano. Ma, però, mi sono state presentate accuse vere e fondate contro di lui, tanto che io ho dovuto sempre riconoscere la di lui innocenza e constatare che quelle accuse erano vere e proprie calunnie mosse da animo basso e malvagio. Anzi aggiungo che egli, mentre ha combattuto i vizi e il peccato e tutelato i diritti e gli interessi del popolo, ha sempre rispettato ed appoggiato le Autorità locali in tutto ciò che è bene del paese. Così, per esempio, nel marzo 1939, quando vi fu una sommossa contro le Autorità locali, fu proprio lui che, con la sua opera autorevole di persuasione e di fermezza, salvò le Autorità da gravi offese ed evitò gravi rovine in quella occasione, tanto che S.E. il Prefetto del tempo, conte Ballo, ebbe a lodarlo alla mia presenza e lo trattenne a pranzo con me il 17 marzo 1939 stessa.

Ma poi, assai più tardi, i suoi accusatori hanno osato o potuto trovare appigli per attaccarlo sulla condotta morale, poichè egli ha servito sempre costumi ilibati, anzi ilibati, che Ed è la prima volta, in questa sua lettera, che si vede chiaro che i sin mi viene accennata un'accusa del genere. Si vede chiaro che le nostre Autorità accusatori, non avendo potuto spuntarla con le nostre Autorità in passato, hanno tentato di servirsi di lei per spuntarla contro il Cammarrella.

Ma anche riguardo all'accusa di immoralità posso assicurarela, Signor Maggiore, che ne conosco l'origine, poichè proprio in l'altro ho saputo dal Vicario Foraneo della zona ecclesiastica in cui è compreso Satriano, che a una donna di cattivi costumi e incinta fu promesso da un'Autorità il sussidio, a patto che essa affermasse di essere resa incinta dall'Arciprete Cammarrella.

Tutto sommato, debbo ritenere che anche questa volta l'Arciprete è stato volgarmente calunniato anche più delle altre

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volte, e che, quindi, egli è degno non di punizione, quale sarebbe l'invocato trasferimento di lui, ma è degno di lode, appunto perchè egli continua a compiere con fermezza e con vera coscienza e dignità l'alta missione affidategli, e, per conseguenza, io non il dovere di difenderlo, e commetterei una mancanza io, se lo punissi col trasferirlo altrove, e farei il gioco dei poco coscienti o peggio niente coscienti accusatori di lui; senza dire che lo otterrebbero anche il successore, anche se santo.

Se poi egli abbia detto qualche parola atta a fomentare il malcontento della popolazione, non mi risulta. So questo, però, che, in questi duri anni di guerra, è stato proprio lui l'unica persona che ha sostenuto alto il morale delle popolazioni di Catrignano, e, ciò nonostante, qualche suo accusatore tentò di interpretare male qualche parola detta da lui tanto che una volta lo accusarono di antifascismo e di disfattismo, mentre egli era l'unico ad aiutare veramente e sinceramente il popolo; e son sicuro che oggi sarebbero pronti ad accusarlo di fascismo. Comunque, oggi stesso gli scrivo e gli impongo di essere più prudente nel parlare, in modo da evitare anche l'ombra del malcontento e qualsiasi appiglio a ulteriori malintenzionati son pronti sempre a trovare a dire e ridire contro i buoni. Son sicuro, però, che quando vedranno che anche questa volta non sono riusciti nello scopo di veder trasferito il Cammar della, la smetteranno, poichè capiranno che non possono ingannare l'Autorità Alleata.

Ecco perchè la prego, Sig. Maggiore, di approvare questo ottimo sacerdote, come nel passato lo approvai le nostre Autorità di cotea Provincia, quando conobbero la verità dei fatti e capirono che le accuse movevano da animo vile di gente senza dignità e senza coscienza. E questa preghiera Le rivolgo ora specialmente che tanti intendono la libertà come licenza e non come il più grande dono di uomini di dignità e di ordine.

Con deferenti ossequi.

Fto. Giuseppe Maria Palatucci
Vescovo.

A.C.C. Potenza Province

File No. 4 F

Potenza, 23, February, 1944

From: Major H.H. Nichols

TO: HIS EXCELLENCY THE BISHOP OF
CAMPAGNA.

Provincial Commissioner - Potenza.

Your Excellency, I am obliged

I am obliged to submit to you a case deserving your
attention.

Disparaging information concerning the priest of Satriano
di Lucania, Don Antonio Cammardella, come to me from reliable sources
(otherwise I would not considered the case).

It seems that this priest, instead of devoting himself
completely to the high mission entrusted him as spiritual father of
the people of Satriano, meddles in petty local disputes of a political
nature, thus accentuating grudges and spites which unfortunately are
very much diffused in small towns.

It has also been reported to me that, instead of maintaining
the morale of the inhabitants with words of comfort and faith in times
which are of great duress for all humanity, this priest ^{increases} ~~summits~~ the
malcontent of the population, malcontent which already exists as a
result of the scarcity of food etc., that is, from causes out of the
control of the local Authorities and due to difficulty of transport
and of the general critical state of things.

To this it must be added that the moral conduct of Don
Cammardella is not entirely behind reproach. However, in this regard
I am not able to give you exact details.

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At any rate, since so many coinciding accusations are made against this representative of the Church, I turn to your Authority with the object of having him transferred out of the Province.

Thus an element of discord would be eliminated and could be replaced by a person whose pacifying work would be doubly beneficial to the people and those that govern it.

I regret that I come to you with such an unpleasant matter,

Accept my thanks in advance for what you will do in compliance with my request.

MAJOR
PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER
POTENZA

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COPY

A.C.C. - POTENZA PROVINCIALE

Fr/N

Potenza, 23 February 1944.

A : S. E. IL VESCOVO DI CAMPANIA.

Dal : Maggiore H.H. NICHOLS - Commissario Provinciale - POTENZA -

Eccellenze,

devo rivolgermi a Lei per segnalare un caso degno della sua attenzione.

Mi giungono da fonti sicure (altrimenti non avrei presa la cosa in considerazione), informazioni non buone sul conto del parroco di SATRIANO DI LUCANIA, Don Antonio Camardella.

Sembra che questo Parroco, invece di dedicare interamente la sua attività all'alta missione affidatagli, di padre spirituale della popolazione di Satriano, s'impadronisca di piccole beghe locali a sfondo politico, acuendo gli astii e i rancori purtroppo già tanto diffusi nei piccoli centri.

Mi è stato riferito anche, che invece di sostenere il morale degli abitanti con parole di conforto e di fede, in momenti che sono di dura prova per tutta l'umanità, questo prete fomenta il malcontento della popolazione, malcontento causato da scarsità di cibo ecc., quindi da cause indipendenti dalle autorità locali e dovute a difficoltà di trasporti e al momento critico ovunque.

A ciò si aggiunge che la condotta morale di Don Camardella sembra non del tutto ineccepibile, ma non potrai darle dati precisi in proposito.

Comunque, dato che tante voci concordi, hanno degli appunti da fare a questo ministro della Chiesa, mi rivolgo alla Sua autorità perchè egli venga trasferito fuori provincia.

Sarebbe così eliminato un elemento di discordia e si potrebbe sostituirlo con persona la cui opera pacificatrice sarebbe doppiamente benefica al popolo ed a chi lo governa.

Sinciente di rivolgermi a Lei in un'occasione non grata, La ringrazio in anticipo per quanto farà per accogliere la mia preghiera.

ECO

MAJOR
PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER
POTENZA

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB COMMISSION
APO 394

ACC/13A/Int

SUBJECT: Archbishop of SANTIAGO

TO : His Excellency, Dr. S. Aldisio Minister of the Interior

Your Excellency:

I have received your letter no. 3239 dated 29 May as to which I am making inquiries and will write to you again.

R. G. B. Spicer
R. G. B. SPICER
Colonel
Director
Interior Sub-Commission

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REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB COMMISSION
APO 394

ACC/13A/Int

SUBJECT: Archpriest of SAEUANO

TO : RC, Region II

12 May 1944

1. Herewith in duplicate copy letter from the Minister of Interior,
No. 3239 dated 29 May and copy English translation, for favour of your
observations, please.

Encls: as above

for [signature] [signature]
R. G. B. SPICER
Colonel
Director
Interior Sub-Commission

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SUBJECT: ARCHPRIEST OF SATRIANO

TO : ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB COMMISSION

TRANSLATION

Starting by the exPrefectorial Commissary of Satriano, CARLONI Corrado at the moment Prefectorial Commis sary of the neighbouring Communes of Sant'Angelo Le Fratte and Savoia di Lucania, is enacting a defamatory campaign against the Archpries of Satriano, Don Antonio Cammardella, at the Allied Authorities of Potenza, who asked the Bishop of Campagna for the priest's removal from the Diocese.

As regards the Archpriest, the Archbishop of Campagna gives me good information and assures me that the accusations against him, are a consequence of CARLONI's personal hatred.

He does not gi ve me such good information about CARLONI ,who, it appears, is a "SQUADRISTA" confined for undecorous activity and who did not give good proof to the Allied Authorities, who discharged him from the Prefectorial charge of Satriano. But he stial remained Commis sary of the other two above mentioned Communes. I will be very glad if your Commission in view of those facts, will reexamine the request of the removal of the above mentioned Archpriest.

The MINISTER:

557

30 MAY 1944

MOD. 174

Salerno, li 29 MAGGIO 1944



Ministero dell'Interno

Gabinetto

Divisione

Seg.

Prot. N° 3239 Allegati

Alla COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI

CONTROLLO - Sottocommissione

Interni

SALERNO

Risposta al P.° del

Dir.

Seg.

N.

OGGETTO Parroco di Satriano di Lucania.-

Da parte dell'ex Commissario Prefettizio di Satriano, CARLONI Corrado, ora commissario prefettizio dei paesi vicini S. Angelo le Fratte e Savoca di Lucania, si sta svolgendo una campagna diffamatoria contro l'arciprete di Satriano, don ANTONIO CARMADELLA, presso le Autorità Alleate di Potenza che hanno chiesto al vescovo di Campagna l'allontanamento dell'arciprete dalla Diocesi.

Mentre nei riguardi dell'arciprete, l'Arcivescovo di Campagna mi dà buone informazioni, assicurandomi che le accuse mosse contro di lui sono dettate da astio personale del CARLONI, non altrettante buone informazioni ho di quest'ultimo che pare sia uno "squadrista" confinato per attività poco onesta e che abbia dato finora non buonaprova tanto da essere sostituito dalle Autorità Alleate nella carica di Commissario Prefettizio di Satriano, ma restando Commissario degli altri due suindicati Comuni.

Sarei vivamente grato se codesta Commissione volesse alla luce dei fatti anziesposti e di quegli accertamenti che vorrei disporre, far riesaminare la richiesta di allontanamento del suddetto arciprete.-

IL MINISTRO

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IL MINISTRO

J. M. M.

