

ACC

10000/141/580

SITUATION IN COMMUNE 0  
SEPT., OCT. 1945

10000/141/580

SITUATION IN COMMUNE OF ROSETO VALFORTORE (FOGGIA)  
SEPT., OCT. 1945

0513

| FILE      |   |      |
|-----------|---|------|
| DATE      | MINUTE SHEET No.  | PAGE |
| 6 oct.    | <p>miss R - <sup>(1)</sup> This commune (referred to in fo. 1, 1B) is not under cong. Please send on to Ital. Govt for any action it wants to take.<br/>RRT</p> |      |
| 6 oct 45. | <p>office note: <sup>(2)</sup> Galio IB sent to Ital. Govt; with copies of IA. R. 4/10.</p>   |      |

1565

0514

2

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AG/15/10/LG.

Tel: 478190

SUBJECT: Situation in the Commune of  
ROSETO VALFORTORE (FOGGIA)

6 October 1945

TO : Ministry of the Interior.

The attached letter has been received from one Joseph LUPO of the Commune of ROSETO VALFORTORE in the Province of FOGGIA. Since this territory is now under the administration of the Italian Government the matter is handed to you for such action as you may wish to take.

*RRT*

RALPH R. TEMPLE  
Major  
Director  
Local Government Sub-Commission.

PR/ie

Encl: 1

1564

6284

COPY

To the Allied Control Commission  
ROME. - Italy.

As there are no other means of appeal because all letters written to the Provincial Authorities and the Prefect have failed, I am taking this means to inform you of the situation created here in the Comune of Roseto Valfortore (Foggia Prov.), and the abuses which the people of this Community have to withstand, owing to fascist elements.

A Sindaco was nominated here by the Allied Control Commission a year ago, but owing to his inability for the Office, he was influenced by ex-fascists to run the town in such a way as to cause all kinds of favoritisms and misgoverning.

Many letters were written to the Prefect by members of different political parties and Patriotic Organizations for a change in the administration, and the Committee of Liberation by a majority of votes elected me to the Office of Sindaco and submitted the nomination to the Prefect for his approval, but owing to complaints by ex-fascists of this Comune to the Prefect purely of personal character, the nomination never came.

After months of patient waiting and in view of the fact that the Prefect had not taken any action on the matter, the people of the town, through their ignorance, were misled by a certain person put there by fascist propaganda and to upset Democratic ideals, to make a demonstration through the streets, (All parties represented) in an orderly way accompanied also by the Carabinieri of this station and went to close the door of the Municipio and that of the tax collectors' Office, as a protest against the unjust application of taxes (see attached petition of taxcollector to the Prefect), and that the Prefect should have taken action in changing the Comunal Administration.

The change has been made by the Prefect, but instead of nominating a Sindaco according to the peoples will, he has sent here a Fascist Commissario, putting the town under totalitarian rule.

The people of this town are law-abiding, honest, thrifty and hard working agriculturiers, and by no means have done anything to deserve a Commissario using totalitarian methods, all they asked was justice on the part of the fascist authorities, because change had been made since the war, in the ranks of the Comunal Administration, and taxes were unjustly applied on them.

The budget of this Comune is in a very bad condition, and the presence of a Commissario aggravates it, because he must be paid a monthly income, and this signifies a heavier burden of taxes for the people of this Community.

Therefore I humbly ask in the name of the people of this Comune, that the Prefect be given instructions to call back immediately the Commissario, and substitute him with the Sindaco nominated by the people. This being done, the Comune will save money on the budget, taxes will be much lighter on the people, and a Democratic form of Government will be restored.

The writer of this petition is a member of the American Legion. Has served also during this war with the Allied Military Government, Allied Control Commission in Lucera Prov. of Foggia for a period of 16 months and that is from Oct. 19 - 1943 until March 1st 1945.

Whatever statement made here in is true, and I would, with the people of this Community, appreciate your help in giving this Comune of Roseto Valfortore a Democratic form of Government which we all aspired before this war, doing away all the fascist corruption which actually exists.

I want to thank you on behalf of the people of this Community for anything you may do with regard to this matter, and will appreciate a reply as to what

- 2 -

steps will be taken.

Your obedient servant,

Joseph Lupo

Roseto Valfortore, (Foggia)

29th September 1945.

1562

