

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

ACC

10000/141/812

COMPLAINTS ON ELECTIO
JUN. 1946

10000/141/812

COMPLAINTS ON ELECTIONS, DELIVERED TO CLO PALERMO
JUN. 1946

FILE	MINUTE SHEET NO.	PAGE
DATE		

(cont.)

(e) The complaints as we have them are not in proper form for consideration by the Italian authorities.

6. In the special circumstances of this case therefore I submit that the third course is preferable and that the documents at folios 4 and 5 (together with the electoral certificates) should be sent back to CLO Palermo with an instruction to return them to the head of the deputation.

7. It may be--though I do not think it likely--that the objectors, on receiving the documents back and understanding that this HQ will take no action, will not then have sufficient time in which to lodge their complaints with the Provincial Secretariat if they should want to do so. I do not attach great importance to this. Firstly, these people knew or could have ascertained the proper procedure; and if they choose to take the irregular step of approaching AC instead of the proper Italian authority, it is their own fault if they are out of time. Secondly, the objectors would not lose anything, because I do not think the complaints on their merits have any substance. In view of the somewhat special nature of this case and also as an example of the unsubstantial character of many of the other complaints I have received, I have had an analysis made of these particular ones, which will be found at folio 7.

8. Draft letter according to CLO Palermo is submitted herewith at folio 8.

9. I recommend returning the documents to the senders in this instance only because of these special circumstances. In general I feel that the course most consistent with AC policy is to take no action.

CCPM/rbe

R. R. Temple, Major
RALPH R. TEMPLE, Major
Director, Local Govt SC

Note :-- VP CAS consulted Ex Cam on about ^{yesterday} today
The Liaison Office at Palermo is being closed & all personnel withdrawn as of 0001 hours of June 16.
Draft letter at p. 8 approved. Ex Cam. suggested CLO to stay in Palermo & await receipt. Special plane to bring personnel from Palermo cancelled by Ex Cam.

16 June

5868

at folios 4 and 5 (together with the electoral certificates) should be sent back to CLO Palermo with an instruction to return them to the head of the deputation.

7. It may be--though I do not think it likely--that the objectors, on receiving the documents back and understanding that this HQ will take no action, will not then have sufficient time in which to lodge their complaints with the Provincial Secretariat if they should want to do so. I do not attach great importance to this. Firstly, these people knew or could have ascertained the proper procedure; and if they choose to take the irregular step of approaching AG instead of the proper Italian authority, it is their own fault if they are out of time. Secondly, the objectors would not lose anything, because I do not think the complaints on their merits have any substance. In view of the somewhat special nature of this case and also as an example of the unsubstantial character of many of the other complaints I have received, I have had an analysis made of these particular ones, which will be found at folio 7.

8. Draft letter according to CLO Palermo is submitted herewith at folio 8.

9. I recommend returning the documents to the senders in this instance only because of these special circumstances. In general I feel that the course most consistent with AG policy is to take no action.

CCRM/rbe

R.R. Temple, Major
RALPH R. TEMPLE, Major
Director, Local Govt SC

16 June

②
Note: - VP CAS consulted Ex Com on about ^{yesterday} today
The Liaison Office at Palermo is being closed & all
personnel withdrawn as of 0001 hours of June 16.
Draft letter at fo. 8 approved. Ex Com. equalled CLO
to stay in Palermo & await receipt. Special plane to
bring personnel from Palermo cancelled by Ex Com.
Letter signed by VP late yesterday & de l'd Message
Centre 10.00 hours to-day. Fos. 4 & 5 & specimen
electoral certificate attached to fo. 7A removed for
return to CLO. *[Signature]*

4.5

7A

5868

FILE	DATE	MINUTE SHEET NO.	PAGE
14 June 46	TO: CA Section	1. At folio 6 and 6A is the Report of CLO Palermo as to the deputation which visited him on 7 June and lodged certain election complaints, with inclosures as at folios 4 and 5. 2. As CLO agreed to receive these complaints and undertook to forward them to this HQ, it is necessary to consider what action AC should now take. There appear to be 3 courses available: - (a) Merely to file the papers and take no action. (b) To forward the complaints to some Italian authority. (c) To return them to the sender. 3. The first course--no action--is for many reasons to be preferred, were it not that the deputation will be expecting some action to be taken from the mere fact that CLO undertook to forward their complaints. In expectation of some move from this HQ the objectors may be led to take no action themselves through the appropriate Italian channels. As CLO has to some extent committed AC, to take no action would be hardly fair to the objectors. 4. As to the second course--forwarding the objections to an Italian authority--it is to be noted that insofar as the objection is related to the Referendum, the time for delivery expired on 8 June, and there is no action that any Italian authority could have taken. Insofar however as they relate to the election of Deputies, objections can still be lodged with the Provincial Secretariat of the Constituent Assembly until 20 days after the formal proclamation of the results in the election district whence the complaints originated. This time limit will expire around about 28 June. 5. Points for consideration in connection with this second course are: - (a) AC deals with the Italian Government, i.e. the Executive and could not properly forward these complaints direct to either the Provincial Secretariat (which is a subordinate office of the Legislature) or to the Court of Cassation. (b) In any event it does not seem proper for AG to constitute itself the attorney, as it were, for would-be objectors by presenting their complaints to the authority empowered to adjudicate upon them. (c) If the complaints were forwarded to some Italian Ministry, all the Ministry could do would be to forward them in turn to the authority empowered to adjudicate. We should in effect therefore be asking the Ministry to...	5867

5867

2. As CIO agreed to receive these complaints and undertook to forward them to this HQ, it is necessary to consider what action AC should now take. There appear to be 3 courses available:-

- (a) Merely to file the papers and take no action.
- (b) To forward the complaints to some Italian authority.
- (c) To return them to the sender.

3. The first course--no action--is for many reasons to be preferred, were it not that the deputation will be expecting some action to be taken from the mere fact that CIO undertook to forward their complaints. In expectation of some move from this HQ the objectors may be led to take no action themselves through the appropriate Italian channels. As CIO has to some extent committed AC, to take no action would be hardly fair to the objectors.

4. As to the second course--forwarding the objections to an Italian authority--it is to be noted that insofar as the objection is related to the Referendum, the time for delivery expired on 8 June, and there is no action that any Italian authority could have taken. Insofar however as they relate to the election of Deputies, objections can still be lodged with the Provincial Secretariat of the Constituent Assembly until 20 days after the formal proclamation of the results in the election district whence the complaints originated. This time limit will expire around about 28 June.

5. Points for consideration in connection with this second course are:-

(a) AC deals with the Italian Government, i.e. the Executive and could not properly forward these complaints direct to either the Provincial Secretariat (which is a subordinate office of the Legislature) or to the Court of Cassation.

(b) In any event it does not seem proper for AC to constitute itself the attorney, as it were, for would-be objectors by presenting their complaints to the authority empowered to adjudicate upon them.

(c) If the complaints were forwarded to some Italian Ministry, all the Ministry could do would be to forward them in turn to the authority empowered to adjudicate. We should in effect therefore be asking the Ministry to constitute itself a sort of attorney for the objectors.

(d) For AC to forward complaints of this kind to any Italian authority weakens to some extent the clear and precise attitude of non-intervention hitherto taken. The mere fact that the complaints reached the Italian Government under cover from AC will give them an added weight. Moreover, would-be objectors would thereby be encouraged to send their complaints to AC in order to obtain that reinforcement (however slight) which the mere act of forwarding the complaints would give.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 794

21 JUN 1946

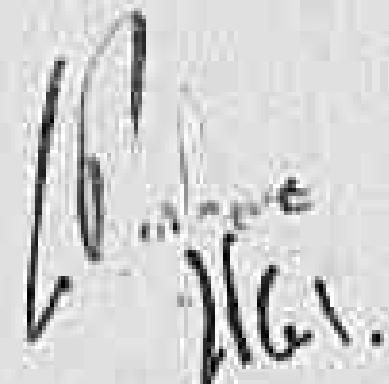
To: CA Section

Subject: Election complaints

Date: 21 June 1946

Ref your AC/45/41/1/LG dated 15 June 1946

1. The papers have today been returned to Count Perrier, the leader of the deputation that lodged them, in Rome, together with letter of which a copy is attached.


L. MONTAGUE,
Lt. Col., GL.,
late AC CLO Palermo.

5866

9390

Headquarters Allied Commission
Sicily Liaison
Group

10.
21 JUN 1946

T: Count Perrier

Subject: Election complaints

Date: 18 June 1946

1. The papers which you handed to me on 7 June 1946 are returned herewith.
2. It is the policy of the Allied Commission not to intervene in the conduct of the elections which is entirely a matter for the Italian authorities.
3. It was, therefore, incorrect for the deputation to have presented these complaints to me and the papers are returned for such action as may be open to the interested parties according to Italian law.



L. MONTAGUE,
Lt. Col., GL.,
CLO.

Copy to Local Govt. Sub. Commission

5863

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AC/45/41/1/1G

15 June 1946

SUBJECT : Election Complaints

TO : AC CLO Palermo

1. Reference is made to your letter of 7 June 1946 and to the inclosures which are returned herewith.
2. These papers should be returned personally to the leader of the deputation that lodged them with you, who appears to be Count PERRIA. He should be informed in writing that the conduct of the elections is entirely a matter for the Italian authorities--that it is the policy of AC not to intervene in the matter-- that it was therefore incorrect for the deputation to have presented these complaints to you--and that the papers are returned for such action as may be open to those interested according to Italian law.
3. A copy of your letter returning the documents should be sent to this Section.

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE :

M. Carr

M. CARR, Brig.
VP CA Section

CGRW/rbe

5864

9086

DRAFT

AC/45/42/1/1G

SUBJECT: Election Complaints

TO : AC CIO Palermo

1. Reference is made to your *letter of 27 June 1946* and to the

inclosures which are returned herewith.

2. These papers should be returned to the leader of the deputation that lodged them with you, who appears to be Count *personally* ~~PERIA~~. He should be informed that the conduct of the elections is entirely a matter for the Italian authorities--that it is the policy of AC not to intervene in the matter--that it was therefore incorrect for the deputation to have presented these complaints to you--and that the papers are returned for such action as may be open to those interested according to Italian law.

3. A copy of your letter returning the documents should be sent to this Section.

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE:

CGRM/rbe

M. CARR, Brig.
VP CA Section

5863

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AG/45/43/1/LG

Tel: 314

14 June 1946

SUBJECT: Election Complaints Made
to CLO Palermo

TO : Director, LG S/C

1. According to your instruction of yesterday I have examined the Report of CLO Palermo at folio 6 and the annexed papers at folios 4 and 5. The following is an analysis of the complaints therein made as to the irregular conduct of the elections in Sicily.

2. As CLO says in paragraph 7 of his Report, the charges group themselves under five headings.

3. The pro-memoria at folio 5. This consists of four assertions--paragraph 5 of the pro-memoria is merely in support of paragraph 1 of it. These assertions are not supported by any evidence except in one respect. Two of them are assertions which this S/C has investigated in Rome and in Naples, i.e., the assertion that (a) electoral certificates were deliberately withheld from presumed Monarchists and that (b) presumed Monarchists were deliberately assigned to sections distant from their homes. We know that in Rome and Naples the assertion of deliberate intent is without foundation.

The one fact which the signatories of the pro-memoria attempt to give us consists of the figures whereby they attempt to prove their assertion that in the Monarchist South there was a deliberate attempt to register a small number of electors. Unfortunately for them the figures they offer are those of the total votes cast (instead of the total electors registered), which has no bearing on their point.

4. Statement by certain soldiers at folio 4. These complain that they applied for leave to go home and vote and their Colonel refused to let them go. It is of course quite unnecessary for soldiers to go home to vote. The law allows them to vote at any polling place in the Commune where they are stationed on production of the electoral certificate.

CLO states in paragraph 12 of his Report and quite correctly that the soldiers' electoral certificates should have been delivered to their units and not to their homes. But there is no suggestion in folio 4 that the soldiers had not got their certificates in the proper way.

The statement by these soldiers that they would have paid the fare themselves is in itself enough to make me disbelieve the whole allegation. It is a little difficult to imagine an Italian soldier making such an offer, and certainly not if he was really entitled to leave. I agree with Lt Col Montague that this is probably a somewhat ingenuous attempt to get an extra bit of leave.

5. The statement that the electoral certificates were being bought for

5862

TO : Director, IG S/C

1. According to your instruction of yesterday I have examined the Report of CLO Palermo at folio 6 and the annexed papers at folios 4 and 5. The following is an analysis of the complaints therein made as to the irregular conduct of the elections in Sicily.

2. As CLO says in paragraph 7 of his Report, the charges group themselves under five headings.

3. The pro-memoria at folio 5. This consists of four assertions--paragraph 5 of the pro-memoria is merely in support of paragraph 1 of it. These assertions are not supported by any evidence except in one respect. Two of them are assertions which this S/C has investigated in Rome and in Naples, i.e., the assertion that (a) electoral certificates were deliberately withheld from presumed Monarchists and that (b) presumed Monarchists were deliberately assigned to sections distant from their homes. We know that in Rome and Naples the assertion of deliberate intent is without foundation.

The one fact which the signatories of the pro-memoria attempt to give us consists of the figures whereby they attempt to prove their assertion that in the Monarchist South there was a deliberate attempt to register a small number of electors. Unfortunately for them the figures they offer are those of the total votes cast (instead of the total electors registered), which has no bearing on their point.

4. Statement by certain soldiers at folio 4. These complain that they applied for leave to go home and vote and their Colonel refused to let them go. It is of course quite unnecessary for soldiers to go home to vote. The law allows them to vote at any polling place in the Commune where they are stationed on production of the electoral certificate.

CLO states in paragraph 12 of his Report and quite correctly that the soldiers' electoral certificates should have been delivered to their units and not to their homes. But there is no suggestion in folio 4 that the soldiers had not got their certificates in the proper way.

The statement by these soldiers that they would have paid the fare themselves is in itself enough to make me disbelieve the whole allegation. It is a little difficult to imagine an Italian soldier making such an offer, and certainly not if he was really entitled to leave. I agree with Lt Col Montague that this is probably a somewhat ingenuous attempt to get an extra bit of leave.

5. The statement that the electoral certificates were being bought for 20,000 lire. This assertion is entirely unsupported by any evidence, and the promise to produce it later does not impress me. This assertion has been made to this S/C time and again in the last 4 weeks, but we have never come across any evidence. In any case it is a rather puerile maneuver, as the elector could always get a duplicate.

6. Statement that electoral certificates were deliberately withheld by the authorities. This again is entirely unsupported, and from our experience elsewhere I see no reason to believe it.

5862

7. 128 electoral certificates bearing the "Republican stamp" on the back.
One of these certificates is attached as a specimen.

The stamp is not the "Republican stamp": it is the official stamp of the polling station. As you know, there is an instruction from the Italian Government that electoral certificates should be so stamped, after the elector has voted, so that the elector who has had to travel in order to vote can produce the certificate to the transport authorities as proof that he has in fact voted and thus obtain repayment of the reduction in fares authorized by the Government. Since we have this reasonable and proper explanation of the presence of the polling station stamp on the certificates, it seems very unlikely (in the absence of clear proof) that the certificates were so stamped before voting or that anyone in the polling station tried to deceive the elector as to the meaning of the stamp. It is true that the stamp is very similar to the Republican symbol on the ballot paper: it will be remembered that this S/C drew attention, at the time, to the possibility of confusion. However, as CIO points out, there are 10 scrutineers in the polling station, all from different parties, and any attempt of this kind to mislead the elector by one of them would in the nature of things be promptly detected by the others. Moreover, personally I am inclined to think rather better of the intelligence of even the illiterate Italian voter.

It is not to be excluded of course that attempts may have been made outside the polling station to deceive electors by telling them to "vote for the queen as well as the king" and so on. Even if it should be proved however that this maneuver had been attempted, I have to observe that it would afford no ground for annulling one single vote, let alone the election. The elector forms his judgment on what he reads, hears, and thinks. At every election the voters read or hear a certain number of misleading statements, but they must be free to believe them or not. This is the very meaning of free elections.

8. In my opinion, therefore, none of the charges submitted to CIO Palermo can be considered as substantiated or even as disclosing a prima-facie case for inquiry.



C.G.R. WILLIAMS

Major

Executive Officer

Local Government Sub Commission

CCRM/rbe

ALLIED COMMISSION
Sicily Liaison
Group

Confidential.

To: HQ AG

Subject: Post-election complaints

Ref:

Date: 7 June 1946

Rec'd 13 June 1946
923

1. At approximately 1000 hours today, 7 June 1946, I was informed telephonically by Guido CASTAGNOLI DE GRACIORIO, of Sparta, Messina, that a delegation would be bringing me a protest about irregularities in the recent elections at about 1500 hours today.
2. At about 1130 hours I had been unable to contact the Questore of Palermo, but saw his capo-gabinetto and informed him of the proposed visit. He in turn informed me that during the morning agenti had picked up in the city a number of small pamphlets bearing the words "tutti i monarchici in via Libertà oggi alle 1500" (our office is in via Libertà). He arranged to have a group of agenti handy to our office in the afternoon, and I agreed that if there was no illegal disorder I would accept any document and acquaint the Italian authorities with the contents.
3. At about 1215 hours I discussed the matter with the High Commissioner for Sicily and his capo-gabinetto. He asked me to receive the delegation and promemoria if good order prevailed, and fully approved the police arrangements.
4. At about 1300 hours I returned to my office and found awaiting me CONTE PERRIA, of via CALMANISSETTA 2, Palermo, the leader of the anticipated delegation. He reported to me that he had heard that contrary to the delegation's wishes many monarchists wanted to be present to see the document consigned because they would not believe it had been consigned unless they had seen this done. I told him that demonstrations were illegal at present and I could not be party to one, and that I had already informed the questore and the high commissioner. He undertook personally to guarantee that there would be no demonstration and to do his best to send home at once any crowds that might gather.
5. At about 1330 hours a small crowd of women began to assemble and informed the guard that they had come to hear a speech by me; they were gently disillusioned by the officer in charge and withdrew quietly.
6. At about 1500 hours there was a well-behaved gathering of about three hundred persons, mostly women, on the footpaths of the road outside this office, and some fifty agenti were available. No attempt was made to interfere with traffic, show banners, or shout slogans, and the police were quite happy about the situation.
7. A delegation of six awaited on me and after Conte Perria had told the crowd to go home and they had begun to disperse I received from him:
 - a) The attached promemoria
 - b) One hundred and twenty eight electoral certificates, irregularly stamped with the republican stamp
 - c) Written statement, attached, from Italian soldiers in hospital here who claim to have been prevented from voting by their officers.

5889

by Guido CASARABELLO, of Sparta, Messina, that a delegation would be bringing me a protest about irregularities in the recent elections at about 1500 hours today.

2. At about 1130 hours I had been unable to contact the Questore of Palermo, but saw his capo-gabinetto and informed him of the proposed visit. He in turn informed me that during the morning agenti had picked up in the city a number of small pamphlets bearing the words "tutti i monarchici in via Libertà oggi alle 1500" (our office is in via Libertà). He arranged to have a group of agenti handy to our office in the afternoon, and I agreed that if there was no illegal disorder I would accept any document and acquaint the Italian authorities with the contents.

3. At about 1215 hours I discussed the matter with the High Commissioner for Sicily and his capo-gabinetto. He asked me to receive the delegation and promemoria if good order prevailed, and fully approved the police arrangements.

4. At about 1300 hours I returned to my office and found awaiting me CONTE PERRIA, of via CALATANIBETTA 2, Palermo, the leader of the anticipated delegation. He reported to me that he had heard that contrary to the delegation's wishes many monarchists wanted to be present to see the document consigned because they would not believe it had been consigned unless they had seen this done. I told him that demonstrations were illegal at present and I could not be party to one, and that I had already informed the questore and the High Commissioner. He undertook personally to guarantee that there would be no demonstration and to do his best to send home at once any crowds that might gather.

5. At about 1330 hours a small crowd of women began to assemble and informed the guard that they had come to hear a speech by me; they were gently disillusioned by the officer in charge and withdrew quietly.

6. At about 1500 hours there was a well-behaved gathering of about three hundred persons, mostly women, on the footpaths of the road outside this office, and some fifty agenti were available. No attempt was made to interfere with traffic, show banners, or shout slogans, and the police were quite happy about the situation.

7. A delegation of six awaited on me and after Conte Perria had told the crowd to go home and they had begun to disperse I received from him:

- a) The attached promemoria
- b) One hundred and twenty eight electoral certificates, irregularly stamped with the republican stamp 5580
- c) Written statement, attached, from Italian soldiers in hospital here who claim to have been prevented from voting by their colonel
- d) Verbal statement, which they propose to substantiate tomorrow, that official and known republican representatives were going round buying electoral certificates for 20,000 lire each.
- e) Verbal statement, which they propose to substantiate, that many electors were fobbed off and not given their certificates deliberately until the hour after their polls closed when very many were given out to the public.

8. The certificati elettorali wrongly bear a republican stamp on the back; they claim that the owners, usually persons who cannot read or write, are prepared to state that when they went to the sezioni the certificates were stamped so and they were told that if they wanted to vote for the king they should vote for the symbol shown in the stamp, alternatively that they were told that ^{was the} queen's sign and that if they wanted to vote for the queen as well as the king

Page two

they should put a cross on the right hand sign, the crown, and another on the left hand sign, the woman, thus automatically "spoiling" their paper.

9. I agreed to forward any further evidence to what I considered the proper authorities and the delegation left.

10. At about 1815 hours I again visited the High Commissioner's office and informed his capo-gabinetto of what had happened, the HC himself being occupied with a member of the royal family. We discussed the points raised and he endorsed as correct the complaint about many persons having been told by opponents of the monarchy to mark the crown for the king and the woman for the queen simultaneously. For the rest he, like me, wanted proofs and thought the document by itself small beer.

11. As regards the republican stamp on the election certificates I am loathe to accept the suggestion that it was put on before election day. These stamps were delivered under seal against receipt from the prefecture to the presidents of *sezioni*; they were unwrapped in the presence of representatives of all parties in the two hours before voting began so that voting papers, not certificates, might be stamped up ready for voting. The only way in which the capo-gabinetto could explain the irregular stamping was that the presidents stamped them in error at the time of voting; that the presidents made any remarks about how the electors should vote is absolutely excluded by the fact that he was surrounded by representatives of all parties, not one of whom has reported a complaint of this nature yet.

12. As regards the soldiers' complaint their certificates should have been delivered to the unit not to their homes, and any soldier could vote anywhere provided he had his certificate; both I and the authorities feel that the colonel was almost certainly right and was squashing an attempt to get leave to which they were not entitled.

13. Altogether although there is evidence of irregularities I cannot think that these produced seriously effective the result in favour of the republic or that the monarchists themselves refrained from similar tricks ^{like} in a zone where they had an enormous majority.

14. Copies of the information given to me are being given to the High Commissioner by the delegation, and his staff will be investigating. Any further evidence brought to my notice will be forwarded to you.

15. I made a telephone report of the occurrence to the Executive Commissioner's Office at about 1730 hours today.

16. Tonight just before dusk I watched a procession of some two thousand monarchists making a fairly quiet but illegal demonstration in the main streets and squares of Palermo; they included to my own observation soldiers, sailors, dukes, counts, cigarettesellers etc and were shouting for Umberto.

17. During the day there have been rumors among republicans that ^{the} ~~the~~ great bandit, was coming into town tonight to cut the throats of ^{the} ~~the~~ communists and republicans; among the monarchists that two brigades of Tito's partisans had arrived in the island from Yugoslavia; News of the shooting at Naples has not helped to calm people. In fact temperatures are going upward I am

and the woman for the queen simultaneously. For the rest he, like me, wanted proofs and thought the document by itself small beer.

11. As regards the republican stamp on the election certificates I am loathe to accept the suggestion that it was put on before election day. These stamps were delivered under seal against receipt from the prefettura to the presidents of sections; they were untrapped in the presence of representatives of all parties in the two hours before voting began so that voting papers, not certificates, might be stamped up ready for voting. The only way in which the capo-gabinetto could explain the irregular stamping was that the presidents stamped them in error at the time of voting; that the presidents made any remarks about how the electors should vote absolutely excluded by the fact that he was surrounded by representatives of all parties, not one of whom has reported a complaint of this nature yet.

12. As regards the soldiers' complaint their certificates would have been delivered to the unit not to their homes, and any soldier could vote anywhere provided he had his certificate; both I and the authorities feel that the colonel was almost certainly right and was squashing an attempt to get leave to which they were not entitled.

13. Altogether although there is evidence of irregularities I cannot think that those produced seriously effected the result in favour of the republic or that the monarchists themselves refrained from similar tricks in a zone where they had an enormous majority.

14. Copies of the information given to me are being given to the High Commissioner by the delegation, and his staff will be investigating. Any further evidence brought to my notice will be forwarded to you.

15. I made a telephone report of the occurrence to the Executive Commissioner's Office at about 1730 hours today.

16. Tonight just before dusk I watched a procession of some two thousand monarchists making a fairly quiet but illegal demonstration in the main streets and squares of Palermo; they included to my own observation soldiers, sailors, dukes, counts, cigarette sellers etc and were shouting for Umberto.

17. During the day there have been rumours among republicans that Cigliano, the great bandit, was coming into town tonight to cut the throats of the communists and republicans; among the monarchists that two brigades of Tito's partisans had arrived in the island from Yugoslavia. News of the shooting at Naples has not helped to calm people. In fact temperatures are going up and I am not sure that the monarchist leaders will have full control of their own supporters much longer.

Montague

L. MONTAGUE,
Lt. Col., G.L.,
C.I.C.

JUNE 8 1700 46Z

HQ ALCOM

ALCOM LIAISON OFFICER PALERMO SICILY

UNCLASSIFIED

3588

IT IS REPORTED THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED DELEGATION AND ARE FORWARDING
PETITIONS REGARDING IRREGULARITIES AT ELECTIONS PD ON NO ACCOUNT
SHOULD THIS BE DONE PD YOU WILL REFRAIN FROM ANY ACTION CONNECTED
WITH THE RESULTS AND MAKE IT PERFECTLY CLEAR THAT THESE ARE MATTERS
FOR THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE IN SICILY BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
PD ACK

Copy to: - CA Sec
Local Govt.

OF PRIORITY

EX COMMISSIONER

289

M. S. LASH, BRIGADIER,
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

5888

9301

45/8/5
45/14/1
2
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A P O 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 2805/23.

7 June 1946.

8 GIU. 1946

Telephone message received by Chief Staff Officer to Executive Commissioner from Allied Commission Chief Liaison Officer, REEMC, at 1730 hrs, 7 June.

"Between 1430 and 1530 hrs on 7 June 1946 a crowd of about 300 monarchists protested outside the HQ at RUMBAT against irregularities during the elections. After consulting the High Commissioner, I received a delegation of 6, who gave me 128 apparently irregular electoral certificates and other evidence. I am showing these to the High Commissioner and forwarding to you by plane tomorrow. The crowd went home peacefully and the police had no trouble."

N. W. HIND-SMITH

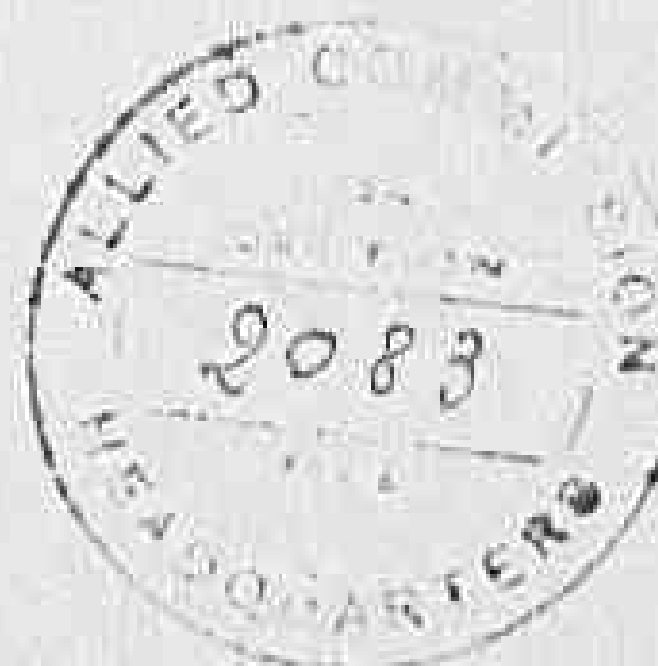
Chief Staff Officer,
To the Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

ACTION: Civil Affairs Section (2) (Local Government Sub-Commission)
Info: to (Public Safety Sub-Commission)

WAC : Chief Commissioner

Executive Commissioner



5823

9315

45/204
C O P Y

HQ ALCOM

JUNE 18003 46B

ALCOM LIAISON OFFICER PALERMO SICILY

5690

SECRET

REFERENCE YOUR TELEPHONE MESSAGE TO THIS HEADQUARTERS TODAY REGARDING
DEMONSTRATIONS PD ON NO ACCOUNT WILL YOU RECEIVE DELEGATION OR CONNECT YOURSELF
IN ANY WAY WITH APPARENT ELECTION IRREGULARITIES PD ALL SUCH MATTERS MUST BE
REFERRED TO HIGH COMMISSIONER OR PREFECT PD ALLEGED IRREGULAR CERTIFICATES WILL
NOT REPEAT NOT BE FORWARDED BY YOU PD ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO THIS HQ SIGNAL THREE
FIVE ONE EIGHT OF FIVE JUNE PD ACK

Copy to: CA Sec
Local Govt.

NOT FOR HQ FLOAT FILE.

OP PRIORITY

EX COMMISSIONER

289

M.S. LUSH, BRIGADIER
EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

5816

9316

0 2 4 8

