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10000/142/51

REPORT OF ARRE
"REGIONAL FASO
MAR., APR. 1944

00/142/51

REPORT OF ARREST OF FASCISTS IN SARDINIA (KNOWN AS
"REGIONAL FASCIST COMMITTEE")
MAR., APR. 1944

SECRET

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
HEADQUARTERS, REGION VI

APO 397

HQ/SUS/70.

3 April 1944.

SUBJECT: Arrests, Fascist Movement.

TO : Rear HQ, A.C.C., Legal Sub-Commission.

FROM : Public Safety Section, A.C.C., Region VI.

1. As a result of investigations conducted by the Inspector General of Public Safety on activities of the "Regional Fascist Committee", the following persons have been arrested and are now in custody at the prison in Sassari:

PIGLIARU Antonio, University student.

PINNA Gavino, Doctor in Law.

TAMDA Giovanni, 2nd Lt. Infantry.

SCANU Cav. Vincenzo, retired Army captain.

BERARDI Cesare, Regioniere.

CARDI-GIUA Giuseppe, Teacher.

RUSSO Giovanni, Doctor in Law, Lieut. in 40th Artillery.

BOLOGNA Carlo, Doctor in Medicine, Medical Lt. at the

Distretto Militare at Sassari.

PUTZU Giuseppe, unemployed.

MATTIONI Ugo, 2nd Lt. Parachutist.

2. This group is composed of ex-squadrists and Officers of the Army. Their plan was to provoke an uprising, taking advantage of the present political and economic situation. Early in March this group initiated an illegal underground newspaper known as "La Voce Del Giovani", (The Voice of Youth), which featured a revolt against the King, the Badoglio Government and the Allies. It was learned that an emissary was to attempt personal contact with the Mussolini Government in Italy. On Sunday 21 March, it was discovered that PUTZU Giuseppe was to leave by boat from Olbia with £ 8,000 and the attached documents. It was further learned that a 2nd Lt. TAMDA and a Medical Lt. BOLOGNA were leaving Sassari for Olbia with the above-mentioned sum of money and documents. At Olbia, the above two men were

BERARDI Cesare, Regioniere.
 CARDI-GIUA Giuseppe, Teacher.
 RUSSO Giovanni, Doctor in Law, Lieut. in 40th Artillery.
 BOLOGNA Carlo, Doctor in Medicine, Medical Lt. at the
 Distretto Militare at Sassari.
 PUTZU Giuseppe, unemployed.
 MATTONI Ugo, 2nd Lt. Parachutist.

2. This group is composed of ex-squadristi's and Officers of the army. Their plan was to provoke an uprising, taking advantage of the present political and economic situation. Early in March this group initiated an illegal underground newspaper known as "La Voce Dei Giovani", (The Voice of Youth), which featured a revolt against the King, the Badoglio Government and the Allies. It was learned that an emissary was to attempt personal contact with the Mussolini Government in Italy. On Sunday 21 March, it was discovered that PUTZU Giuseppe was to leave by boat from Olbia with £ 8,000 and the attached documents. It was further learned that a 2nd Lt. TANDA and a Medical Lt. BOLOGNA were leaving Sassari for Olbia with the above-mentioned sum of money and documents. At Olbia, the above two men were arrested. In their possession was found the money, the attached documents, and two issues of "La Voce dei Giovani", the underground sheet. Both TANDA and BOLOGNA made admissions to police, naming all the other members of the "Committee" who are now under arrest. To date, however, the arrested men have refused to give names of executive components of the party in other villages of the island nor will they disclose the location of the clandestine radio transmitter mentioned in the enclosed document.

3. PUTZU Giuseppe, in learning of the arrest of TANDA and BOLOGNA, succeeded in sailing during the night with a number of others but was apprehended several miles off the Sardinian coast by units of the British Navy, returned and turned over to the

9
Inspector General of Public Safety. All of the arrested are steadfast in their declarations that they were determined to engage in political conspiracy for the overthrow of the State and for the exchange of intelligence with the enemy because of their political convictions.

4. Charges have been filed against each of those arrested in his own capacity for violation of Articles 241 and 244 of the C.P.V., and Articles 247, 257, 262, 265, 268, 282, 283, 286 and 305 of the Penal Code covered by Article 310.

FOR THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER,

JEH/wld.

James E. Hughes
J. E. HUGHES, Capt.,
Regional Public Safety Officer,
A.C.C., Region VI.

Encl.

- 1 copy, Memorandum on the situation in Sardinia up to March 17th, (Translation).
- 1 copy, Code taken from person escaping by fishing boat at Olbia 21 March 1944. (Translation).
- 1 copy, Letter to General Barraccu. (Translation).

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 copy, Rear HQ, A.C.C., Public Safety Sub-Commission.
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 BERNARDI Cesare, Legioniere.
 CAROLI-GIUA Giuseppe, Teacher.
 RUSSO Giovanni, Doctor in Law, Lieut. in 40th Artillery.
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MEMORANDUM (6) THE SITUATION IN SARDINIA JP TO MARCH 17TH.

In the name of the Fascist Republican Government - having at last found a way of communicating with the Centre - in order to inform the competent political and military organs as to the present political situation in Sardinia, as it has slowly developed, we precise the following points:

Forward on facts after July 25th and pertaining to Sept 8th.

The situation of Sardinian Fascism at the date of the State's collapse was absolutely negative. Lack of news - besides other factors which showed up and are supposed to be in common with the rest of Italy - lack of initiative with all leaders at the head of Fascist organizations (including the most important political, military and militia leaders) left organizations and members completely abandoned, therefore determining that general confusion which brought to the disbanding of all those units which could - even if not on July 26th - have at least later determine an efficient restart even in this Island. It can be observed though that all this is due to the fact that Sardinia is an island, which was clearly demonstrated as negative at the time of the Armistice. The Armistice caught us in complete disorganization, therefore allowing the anti-Fascists and anti-Nationals to be superior, in favor of the "Liberators".

It is evident that only an action of armed units could have had an effective weight on the rapid development of events. It is evident that such units could only have been of the Militia, and, eventually, of the "Nembo" Division. We must, though, admit that the latter was placed in the impossibility of acting by its high command (General RONCO and his personal friend, Mr. PIO AMBROGIETTI, and all the commanding colonels responsible for the arrest of his superior officers who had prepared the passage of the division to the Germans; these men were Col. TANTILLO and Lt. Col. D'INVREA), whereas the Militia cannot give such a good opinion because it was in a tactically better position; the causes must be looked for mostly in the attitude taken by Lt. General BERTOLDI and Gen. BOLLARIO with all the other commanding consuls who gave the order to the Sardinian Militia to take no steps and passively wait, while many were in favor of acting differently. On the persons and facts, we can give, when it's time (for fright of responsibilities) a very interesting analysis of these days of

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- About the attitude of the people. -

Dazed by propaganda (this did not only happen in Sardinia), helped by the already said absentism - hoping to start life in an easier way, and mostly hoping for immediate comfort, the Sardinian people at first (really for only the first 24 hours) welcomed the news of the Armistice with joy. Later, they remained for some days in a state of strong and confused worry of thought (only selfish) that destruction was over. Then the "Liberators" came, welcomed in certain well known houses with sympathy! But with them did not come what the Sardinians selfishly expected.

At present, discontent among common people grows day by day. The first signs were had after disorder which took place in many

in January: manifestations calmed by troops armed with machine guns and even with medium tanks (French). Such manifestations were started by the food situation; different from those promised at first by the foreign and internal propaganda, (such manifestations were organized by the Communist Party). For example: in Iglesias, in February, 30 died of starvation! The people feel once more betrayed by the false, shameful enemy propaganda. Prices increase alarmingly most necessary items are absolutely missing on the market, in many towns bread has been missing for some days; the bread ration, with all the propaganda, has remained the same (150 grams), the flour mixture is getting worse, pasta rations was missing for many months, and now they give 1 kg. a month. Wheat has been confiscated or requisitioned from farmers, taking their food ration away even. No corn, or very little has been given for sowing, and the crops are expected to be very scarce. All this determines always greater discontent especially among factory and farming classes, also because the "Allies" are preparing still worse things for the people, because in June-July they shall not even bring a crumb over here, as everything has to be used for the second front! Therefore we do not hesitate in saying that the people, realizing the promises so generously given, to be false, now turn decidedly towards us; all this is helped by the "Voice of Youth" - "Resurgo" - "Hurray for Italy" and by the "Alert", just published by the Fascist Republican Government. (Note - Why doesn't Barraccu periodically take care of the "Alert" as a Sardinian paper in the Continent? It would be well, in such a case, to dictate articles to the Radio for us to print.)

- About the Party -

1. There is a Fascist Republican Party.
2. Under the 1 are three C.E.F.
3. There is an X move, with large number of members.
4. The X move can effectively take control of the situation; it needs leaders and help from outside.
5. The C.R.F. and the C.E.F.'s have centres in all most important towns, as well as in most of the minor towns.

Needed - Arms (in second order); finances; printing material.

Needed - Much observation, alarms, leaflets, to give the sensation of your presence here also.

Needed - Emisseries.

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2473

A few thousand people are waiting. In order to establish communications, we attach the conventional + names. Help us!

At present, it is not advisable for us to move on our own. Too many Badoglio troops - too much U. S. Air Corps - small action is not advisable - today guerilla is impossible - individual incidents shall be provoked in time to create a psychological state: information should be sent a few days before by radio.

The arrival of an emissary must always be communicated by radio after or during the news of 2000, using messages: "Special Message for Black Orchid". Be careful of Radio Sardinia (wave lengths on Bologna; M. ----).

Important - Badoglio troops look for officers and NCO's experts of peninsula zones (mostly Istria - Venezia Giulia - Tuscany Romagna) for espionage.

Important - High U.S. officer has made plan for Europe invasion. We do not know if the rumor is true. It should be combined action, next April, in Holland, Belgium, France, Cote d'Azur. We should have sent a map if there was no hurry.

About news on Radio Rome about arrest of Fascist leaders, it seems that they are 18, among which are Militia General MARTINI, Inspector of Fascist Party OFFEDDU, Federal MACCARI, Col. CHIAMA (3 silver and two bronze medals), MARIO GIUA (3 times wounded, silver medal), MARNUZZU (Vice Federal, mutilates of war), GUSTAVO SCARU and others.

Others, young, for other reasons, many officers, NCO's (Badoglio press complains that there are too many people in prison).

Beware of propaganda, precise facts or nothing! Insist on the problem of seriousness and honesty.

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COPYSECRET

CODE TAKEN FROM PERSON ESCAPING BY FISHING BOAT AT OLBIA 21 MARCH 44

Provisional Convention

1. Emissary shall land
Between Porto Conte and Porto Ferro
In 4 (three, two, etc.) days time
Horses 4 Men 40
At Naples
In 4 (three, two etc) moons
2. He shall bring arms
Bells will ring
3. He shall bring transmitting radio
Our bugles will blow
set
4. He shall bring printing material
We'll listen to your com-
plaints.
It will be a sunny day
5. Prepare reception
6. Emissary already working in prov-
ince of Nuoro
Frascati
Bologna
Foggia
7. Establish contact with emissary,
who already has orders regards
Work must be done during the
hours of the night
8. We need information on Allied Air
Corps
We need potatoes
9. Inform of ship movements in Sard
Ports
Never get tired
10. For the moment, keep up propaganda
Sow your corn
11. Carry out acts of sabotage
Gather fruits
12. Get military information of any
kind
Wait for the sun to rise
Our men shall collect it
All is fine when clouds drift
away
He shall use the following pass-
word
Wait for the child
My cousin is called Bobby
The father of the child
I have relatives in London answer
to password
13. Your conventional is not sufficient April sweet sleep

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12. Get military information of any
kind
Our men shall collect it
He shall use the following pass-
word
My cousin is called Bobby
I have relatives in London answer
to password
13. Your conventional is not sufficient
14. We await fresh orders
15. Airfield of Alghero
" " Vena Fiorita
" " Villacidro
" " Milis
" " Decimomannu
" " Capoterra
" " Elmas
" " Serramanna
16. Port of Olbia
" " Cagliari
" " Porto Torres
" " La Maddalena
" " Alghero
- Work must be done during the
hours of the night
- We need potatoes
- Never get tired
- Sow your corn
- Gather fruits
- Wait for the sun to rise
- All is fine when clouds drift
away
- Wait for the child
- The father of the child
- April sweet sleep
- We sing an old song
- City of Palermo
" " Avellino
" " Bari
" " Savona
" " Benevento
" " Taranto
" " Salerno
" " Augusta
- City of Siracusa
" " Enna
" " Messina
" " Agrigento
" " Pescara

SECRET

Port of San Antonio

17. 50 (10, 30 etc.) bomber planes
50 (10, 20, 30 etc) fighter planes
- 50 (10, 20, 30 etc) Flying Fortresses
- 18 (6, 5, 3 etc) transport ships
18 (6, 5, 8 etc) warships
18. Bad Anti-Aircraft defence
19. Good anti-aircraft defence
20. Defence of field left to Padoglio Troops
21. Allied anti-aircraft artillery
22. Police on our heels
23. Police have arrested our comrades
24. We cannot fulfill your desire at present
25. We cannot use the usual way
We cannot continue transmitting

Ci. of Città Catania

- 50 (10, 30 etc) red flowers
50 (10, 20, 30 etc) yellow flowers
- 50 (10, 20, 30 etc) wild orchids
- 18 (6, 5, 8 etc) sacks of flour
18 (6, 5, 8 etc) barrels of wine
- Work is tiring
- Dancing is amusing
- Mid-August, my wife and I do not know you
- Live, horse, that the grass grows
- We've got your jackass
- We intend moving
- The river has flooded
- Do not forget my words
Star Dust

NOTE - We are waiting for a complete code to use instead of the present one, which is not sufficient.

We hope to transmit with a clandestine radio set which has already functioned other times and probably was not intercepted by you.

23. Police have arrested our informant
24. We cannot fulfill your desire at present The river has flooded
25. We cannot use the usual way Do not forget my words
We cannot continue transmitting Star Dust
- NOTE - We are waiting for a complete code to use instead of the present one, which is not sufficient.
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2

DEAR BARRACCU:

The writer is an old friend of yours, who, since November 1940, appealed to you - in your role of Federal of Bengasi - in order to be called for military service and sent to units in front lines in Cirenaica. I got your answer, assuring me that you'd be interested in the case, and saying that for you also it had been difficult to be enlisted, even though you had battled against a congregation of doctors (these are your words). I am repeating such words so that you can have faith in the person writing and in the holder of this letter.

I shall also remind you that our friendship goes back to an early date, as we were together for many years in Bengasi and th during the 1915 - 1918 war.

You shall therefor treat the messenger with this letter with utmost faith, and give him your necessary help for everything he'll say to you.

I have much faith in your interested action and feel that your help is necessary and urgent for our sainted cause and for our Island.

I kiss you as a friend and beg you to assure the Duce that the squadrista and the pure Fascists of the first hour have remained faithful to him, and work with faith. Your comrade.

Important. In order to be sure that this letter has reached you, be careful to announce over the radio at 2000 that the "Black Orchid" has arrived well.