

ACC

10000/143/524

10000/143/524

EX-PREFECT, GIRGENTE GIUSEPPE
JUN., JULY 1944

HEADQUARTERS

REGION 5

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

FINANCE DIVISION

REF: H.5.19 N/6

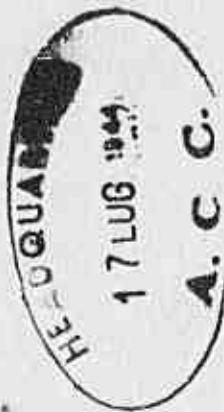
SUBJECT: Report on Investigation of Banks, CHIEMI.

TO :

Joint Directors

Finance Sub-Commission

H.C., AGC.



1. The following report on an investigation carried out in the Bank of Italy CHIEMI by the Chief Accountant sent from CARPO-BARSO may be of interest to you.

Preceded it states this : "The Ex-Prefect GIUSEPPE GIUSEPPE before his departure drew a sum of Five Million Lire which he retained for himself. Two other gentlemen VITTORIO MARTINELLI Commander of the Republic Black-shirts Legion and ROSSINI DAVID, Commander of the Carabinieri Group drew sums of 1,000,000 and 1,400,000 respectively, the major portion of which they retained".

2. The P.F.O. CHIEMI has no reason to suspect the Manager of the Bank of Italy as conniving with the gentlemen referred to; he may have lost more had he resisted.

3. I am sending a copy of this letter to the Public Safety Section of this Region.

4. I hope to make a fuller report to you on conditions in the six Provinces we have just taken over during their occupation by the Germans.

I am still awaiting reports from the P.F.Os and the Inspectors sent out by me. Communications are still very difficult, and officials of AMG do not feel any greater urge to maintain contact with their higher formations than officers commanding lower formations do on exercises.

Public Safety Sec
45587/A

W. J. L. 1914

1. The following report on an investigation carried out in the Bank of Italy CHINTI by the Chief Accountant sent from CAMPO-BASSO may be of interest to you.

Précis it states this: "The Ex-Prefect GIMBERTI before his departure drew a sum of Nine Million lire which he retained for himself. Two other gentlemen VITTONIO MARTINELLI Commander of the Republic Black-shirts Legion and ROSSELLI DAVID, Commander of the Carabinieri Group drew sums of 1,000,000 and 1,100,000 respectively, the major portion of which they retained".

2. The P.F.O. CHINTI has no reason to suspect the Manager of the Bank of Italy as conniving with the gentlemen referred to; he may have lost more had he resisted.

3. I am sending a copy of this letter to the Public Safety Section of this Region.

4. I hope to make a fuller report to you on conditions in the six Provinces we have just taken over during their occupation by the Germans.

I am still awaiting reports from the PFOs and the inspectors sent out by me. Communications are still very difficult, and officials of AMI do not feel any greater urge to maintain contact with their higher formations than officers commanding lower formations do on exercises.

K. T. HEARD, Lt. Colonel,
Regional Finance Officer.

11. July 1944

P/RA:

Copy to

Public Safety.

July 26/44 - Copy sent to General of CC & H.
informed through Group Copy
of Mr. Heald

12

Chlotz, June 28th 1944

To the Superior Finance Officer A.M.C.

Ma. for violation of

Abstract

In our report sent to A.M.G. on June 16 1940, report given by two financial experts, it is requested that the following payments of the Provincial Treasury on the special book keeping of Calcutta's Prefecture on June 7, were effectuated citing an ordinance issued by the Prefect rather than by regular ordinances.

In fact two ordinances were issued and (Attached to this report) signed by the ex-lieutenant Virgilio Giugiaro. The first ordinative N. 6758 refers to funds drawn in favor of the Prefect himself for 5 million liras. The second N. 6759 for 4 million liras drawn in favor of the Republic Black Shirts Legion and 1 million 4 hundred thousand for the Council of the "Savona Reali Carabinieri". After the payment the prefect signed the receipt of the first ordinance, while the second receipt was signed simultaneously by the C.M.B. Dr. Vittorio Turvelli and the left. Colonel of the Carabinieri Roselli avide the Carabinieri Group Commander. On the above mentioned ordinances nothing is mentioned about the reason why this money has been drawn. According to certain indications given to me by the present manager of the "Banca d'Italia" it results that while the Prefect drew the 5 millions in emergency, the Carabinieri Commander together with the C.M.R. Commander transformed a part of the money in bills of exchange carried to their own personal account. The sum was 400,000 liras in favor of the first and 300,000 liras in favor of the second.

According to previous action in regard to the Treasury Service the Prefecture could not draw any amount of money unless ordination of payment were issued from the receipt - book. Every ordination ought to have the signature of both the Chief Accountant of the Prefecture and the Prefect's or his delegate's. Before issuing the check.

Before issuing the above mentioned ordinances the ex-Prefect intended to the Chief Accountant of the Prefecture Cav. De Luca Giovanni, affirming to have received instructions from the Central Authority, authorizing him to draw all the cash money existing in the Provincial Treasury under the Prefecture's special account; then, he said, a payment ordinance should be issued in his favor. The chief accountant ~~ordered~~ ^{advised} that the could not issue whatever ordinance of the kind not being able to assume the responsibility of drawing such an exceptional sum of money without specifying the reason for it. After this argument the Prefect decided to issue the ordinances. In the meantime the Chief Accountant alarmed by the Prefect's had intentions closed immediately the accounts - made an agreement with the Bank of Italy which declared and proved in both registers that the amount of the Cash money belonging to the Prefecture's account was much inferior to the effective one.

As soon as the Prefect received the money he left immediately. In order to

vincial Treasury on the special book keeping of Chieti's Prefecture on June 7, were effectuated obeying an ordinance issued by the Prefect rather than by regular ordinatives.

In fact two ordinances were issued and (Attached to this report) signed by the ex-Prefect Virgilio Cusani. The first ordinative N.6758 refers to funds drawn in favor of the Prefect himself for 5 million lire. The second N.6759 for 1 million lire drawn in favor of the Republic of Salento Legion and 1 million 4 hundred thousand for the Command of the "Gruppo Isole Caribinarie".

After the payment the Prefect signed the receipt of the first ordinative, while the second receipt was signed simultaneously by the C.M.E. Dr. Vittorio Martelli and the Left. Colonel of the Carabinieri Donelli while the Carabinieri Group Commander. On the above mentioned ordinances nothing is mentioned about the reason why this money has been drawn. According to certain information given to me by the present manager of the "Banca d'Italia" it results that while the Prefect drew the 5 millions in currency, the Carabinieri Commander together with the C.M.E. Commander transformed a part of the money in bills of exchange payable to their own personal account. The sum was 400,000 lire in favor of the first and 300,000 lire in favor of the second.

According to previous rules in regard to the Treasury Service the Prefecture could not draw any amount of money unless ordinatives of payment were issued from the receipt book. Every ordinative ought to have the signature of both the Chief Accountant of the Prefecture and the Prefect's or his delegates.

Before issuing the above mentioned ordinances the ex-Prefect Virgenti went to the Chief Accountant of the Prefecture Cav. Le Luca Giovanni, affirming to have received instructions from the Central Authority, authorizing him to draw all the cash money existing in the Provincial Treasury under the Prefecture's special account; thus, he said, a payment ordinative should be issued in his favor. The Chief Accountant understood that the could not issue whatever ordinative of the kind not being able to assume the responsibility of drawing such an enormous sum of money without specifying the reason for it. After this argument the Prefect decided to issue the ordinances. In the meantime the Chief Accountant alarmed by the Prefect's had intentions closed immediately the accounts - made an agreement with the Bank of Italy which declared and proved in both registers that the amount of the cash money belonging to the Prefecture's account was much inferior to the effective one.

As soon as the Prefect received the money he left immediately; in other words he ran away. The C.M.E. Legion Commander followed him together with his officers. The Left Colonel of the C.M.E. remained and was arrested the day the allied troops entered Chieti. According to information received from the actual Commander the ex-left Colonel had spent the whole amount of 1 million lire for the Carabinieri's needs. A complete report on the use of the money will be presented to the Prefecture.

The Manager of the Bank of Italy could have refused the payment of the above mentioned sum because, according to my opinion the ordinatives issued by the Prefect can be subjected to a long discussion as far as legality is concerned, in spite of the special privileges attributed to Prefects on Art. 19 of the Central Provincial Law mentioned on the ordinance themselves. But above any juridical question one must take in consideration the tragical moment in which the financial transactions were made. It was just when the Germans were about leaving and the Allies entering Chieti. Briefly, the ex-Prefect protected and helped by the Germans could have disposed of all the money existing in the Bank of Italy together with the personnel employed in the Bank.

7310

- 2 -

In fact the very same day, few hours after the above mentioned money had been drawn, officers of the German Police entered the Bank of Italy and with a pistol in hand obliged the Manager to consign to them ~~one~~ 4 millions. The Manager had nothing to defend himself from such an aggression.

It has been referred to me by the Commander of CC.M. that the total of the sum paid by the Group was only 300,000 liras although the total sum drawn by the Colonel was 1 million one hundred thousand.

The Group will soon have to pay to the S. Provincial Treasury the difference of 800,000 liras.

GERHARDY FRANCESCO
Chief Accountant (Inspector)
Signed: Grimaldi.

7312

2470

20