

ACC

10000/143/577

10000/143/577

QUESTURA, VENEZIA
JUN., JULY 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

AC/14042/70/PS

24 July 1945

SUBJECT : P.S. Personnel

TO : Ministry of Interior
Direction General Public Security

Reference your Pers. Ser. 1 of 9 July 1945, there is
no objection to the assignment of the newly appointed Vice-Com-
missario Agg. Dante SCIBILLA to the Questura of Venice.

JMA
JOHN W. CHAPMAN
Colonel, J.A.G.D.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission

Copy to R.C. Venezia Region
Attn. R.P.S.C. (following our AC/14013/1/PS of 13 June)

RW/lb

1053

TRANSLATION L.S.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
General Direction of P.S.

Rome, 20 July 45

N.555

To the Allied Commission
Sub-Commission for the P.S.
R O M E

From the Prefect of Venice I have received a telegram of whom I enclose a copy concerning the Questore Lentini.

As it is noted the above mentioned Officer was sent to rule that Questura, as found his Post occupied by the Substitute Attorney for the Crown Dr. Palminteri, already appointed, in full accordance with the Prefect, *Dr. A.M.G.* and the Committee of Liberation.

Nevertheless for all that the Comm. Lentini received order from the Allied Commission to remain. Besides this reasons exposed in the upsaid telegram there is a partially possibility for incidents deduce for the allowance in Venice for a carrier Questore and that also could be attempt to his personality.

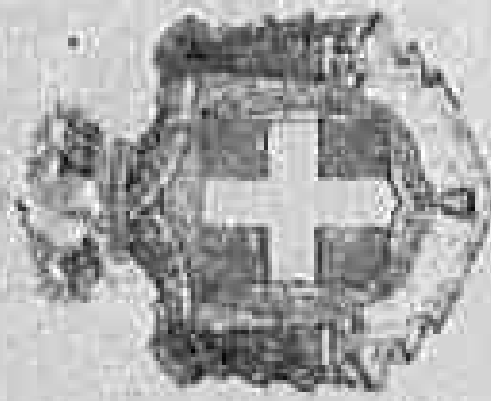
Kindly, urge and settle the question in full accordance with the Allied Military Governor of Venice.

The Chief of the Police

/s/ illegible

TO	IN	DATE
SECRETARY	Just	26/7
DEPUTY SECRETARY	Just	26/7
EXECUTIVE		
CLERK		
SEC. STAFF		
PRISON		
ADM. OFFICER		
SECURITY		
CHIEF CLERK		

102



Mod. 830

Ministero dell'Interno

Direzione Generale della Pubblica Sicurezza

n. 555/

Roma, li 20 Luglio 1945

-:-:-:-:-

On.le COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
Sottocommissione per la P.S.

= R O M A =

Mi perviene da parte del Prefetto di Venezia il telegramma di cui accludo copia, che riguarda il Questore LENTINI.

Come è noto, detto Funzionario, inviato a reggere quella Questura, ha trovato il posto occupato dal Sostituto Procuratore del Regno Dr. Palminteri, già nominato Questore di Venezia in seguito ad accordi del Prefetto, del Governatore Militare Alleato e del Comitato di Liberazione.

Ciò non ostante il Comm. Lentini ha ricevuto disposizione dalla Commissione Alleata di rimanere sul posto.

Ma poichè - oltre le ragioni esposte nel telegramma succitato - si fa intravedere la possibilità di incidenti derivanti dalla assegnazione a Venezia di un Questore di carriera e persino che si possa attentare alla incolumità del funzionario medesimo, prego voler sollecitare la definizione della questione, inteso anche il Governatore Militare Alleato di Venezia.

101

Roma, lì 20 Luglio 1945

On.le COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
Sottocommissione per la P.S.

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Come è noto, detto funzionario, inviato a reggere quella Questura, ha trovato il posto occupato dal Sostituto Procuratore del Regno Dr. Palminteri, già nominato Questore di Venezia in seguito ad accordi del Prefetto, del Governatore Militare Alleato e del Comitato di Liberazione.

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10.1

IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA,



TRANSLATION E.S.

10B

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
General Direction of P.S.

Copy of telegram in date 19 July 1945 from the Prefect of
Venice

- Urgent -

Minister of the Interior
Gen. Direction P.S.

R o m e

N.2540 Gab. In. apposition of what was promised verbally from Dott. Cosattini, Officer, attached to Presidency Cabinet Council, about the revocation of the Questore Lentini Giuseppe appointed to Venice and his return to Taranto.

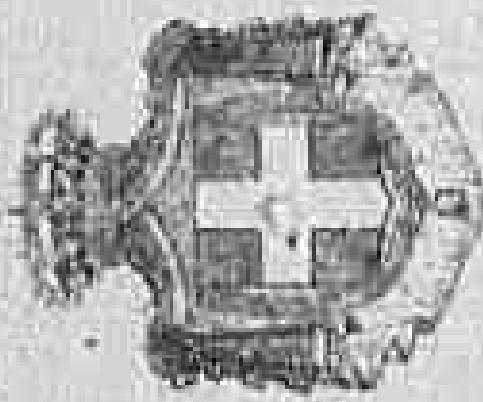
On the contrary to the upsaid Lentini was advised that the Questore of Taranto was to be ruled by Questore Benigni there transferred from Foggia, from the 15th of the present month.

Considering thus, that the nomination to Questore of Venice of Dott. Cesare Palminteri was approved even by competent Allied authority, will you kindly dispose immediately reenteer of the Questore Lentini to Taranto, to avoid him unjustly consequently damage.

I thank

Prefect Matter.

1050



Ministero dell'Interno

Direzione Generale della Pubblica Sicurezza -----

COPIA del telegramma in data 19.7.1945 del Prefetto di Venezia

Preced. ass.

MINISTERO INTERNO
Direz. Gen. P. S.

= ROMA =

n. 2540 Gab. Contrariamente at quanto assicuràtomi verbalmen-
te da dott. Cosettini Funzionario addetto Presièenza Consiglio Mini-
stri circa revoca destinazione Venezia Questore LENTINI Giuseppe et
suo ritorno at Taranto, giunge invece notizia at predetto Lentini
che sede Taranto dovrebbe essere stata occupata entro 15 corr. da
Questore Benigni colà trasferito da Foggia. Ciò premesso e conside-
rato che nomina a Questore Venezia del dott. Cesare PALMINTERI est
di già stata approvata anche da competente autorità Alleata prego
vivamente voler disporre immediato rientro Questore Lentini at Ta-
ranto per evitare at quest'ultimo ingiustificate dannose conseguenze.
Ringrazio.

Prefetto

Matter

101

TRANSLATION W.R.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
General Direction of P.S.

Office: Pers. I Section

Rome, July 9th 1945

SUBJECT : P.S. joined Vice Commissary

TO ; A.C. Public Safety S.C.

14041/70

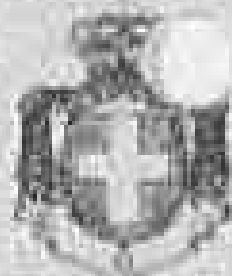
Owing to the service the Ministry intends to
send the newly appointed Vice-Commissary adjoined Scibilia
Dante to Venice.

We beg you to let us know your opinion on the
matter.

The Chief of Police.

/s/ Illegible

4010



Ministero dell'Interno
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

Roma, 9 Luglio 1945

alla Sottocommissione
per la P.S.-
Commissione Alleata-
= RCMA =

Divisione Pers. 1°
Rit. A. Allegati

Procedura del
Dir. Per 1°

Oggetto: V. Commissario Aggiunto di P.S. Scibilia
Dante.=

Per esigenze di servizio il Ministero intenderebbe destinare a Venezia il Vice Commissario Aggiunto di nuova nomina Scibilia Dante.=

Si prega pertanto codesta On. Commissione di compiacersi far conoscere il proprio avviso al riguardo.=

IL COPO DELLA POLIZIA

Scibilia

104

TRANSLATION W.R.

2/8A

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
General Direction of Public Safety

Office : Personell ISection
N. 333/2845

Rome, July 9th 1945

SUBJECT : Renato Moro P.S. joined Vice-Commissary
TO : A.C. Public Safety S.C.

1404/70

The new Questore of Venice Dr. Lentini, is applying for the transfer of the joined Vice Commissary Moro Renato from Taranto to Venice.

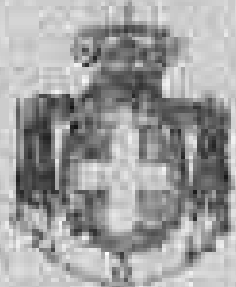
As the Ministry is willing to comply this request we beg you to let us know your opinion on the matter.

TO		
FROM		
SUBJECT		
REMARKS		
DATE		
TIME		
PLACE		
SECURITY		
CHIEF CLERK		

For the Ministry
Illegible

1040

Ricc.



Roma, 9 luglio 1945

Ministero dell'Interno
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

Alla Sottocommissione P.S.
Commissione Alleata
R O M A

Passaporto personale n. 1°

Fut. 1333/2845. Allegato

Risposta al f. del

Dir. In. 1°

OGGETTO MORO Renato

Vice commissario aggiunto di p.s.

Il nuovo questore di Venezia Dr. Lentini ha chiesto il trasferimento del vice commissario aggiunto Moro Renato da Taranto a Venezia.

Poichè il Ministero intenderebbe aderire alla richiesta si prega codesta On.le Commissione di compiacersi manifestare il proprio avviso al riguardo.

PEL MINISTRO

[Handwritten signature]

1049

YA

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

Tel : 489081

AC/11041/70/PS

17 July 1945

SUBJECT : Questore for Venezia

TO : Regional Commissioner Venezia
Attention WFO

1A

1. References your RX11/PS/4.1 dated 14 June 45.
2. Information has been received from the Director of Public Security Ministry of Interior that when Questore Lombini arrived in Venice objections were raised to his taking office.
3. Will you please reply giving the present position.

John V. Lynam
JOHN V. LYMAN
Colonel, U.S.A.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

FJV/g

Copy to Director of P.S. Ministry
of Interior
(Your 133/1445 dated 12 July refers)

1044

6A

No. 785016

1404170
AGENT
6A

TRANSLATION S.D.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

General Directorate of Public Safety

No. 333/1445 Div. Pers. Sez. I 12 July 1945

SUBJECT : Questore Lentini Giuseppe

TO : A.C. Public Safety S.C.

Reference to verbal agreements.

We are in receipt of a telegram from Questore Lentini. Arrived to Venice to assume the direction of that Questura, he was forbidden to take duty there on account of the same objections which had been raised in previous circumstances of the kind.

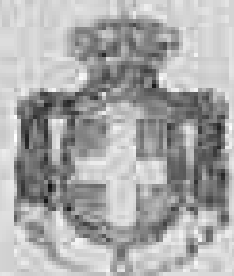
The a/m official was ordered to remain at Venice, awaiting for the dispositions your Commission will issue.

Chief of Police
sgd Ferrari.

	Chief
	sgd
Director	
Assoc. Dir.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Ident.	
Intell.	
Lab.	
Legal Coun.	
Plan. & Insp.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Serv.	
Training	
Off. Liaison & Int. Affs.	
Public Affs.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

103

ri.

URGENTE

Roma, 12 luglio 1945

Ministero dell'Interno
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

alla Commissione
Allenta-Sottocommissione
per la P.S. R O M A

Inviato Pers. La 1^a
Aut. V 333/1445 Allegato

Risposta al f. del
D. La 1^a

OGGETTO: Questore Lentini Giuseppe

A seguito delle verbalì intese si comunica che il questore Lentini Giuseppe presentatosi come è noto, a Venezia per assumere la direzione di quella Questura ha riferito telegraficamente che gli è stata impedita tale assunzione per le stesse ragioni sollevate in altre simili occasioni.

Nel partecipare quanto sopra, si soggiunge che si è disposto che il predetto funzionario rimanga a Venezia, in attesa di disposizioni che cote sta On. Commissione vorrà cortesemente impartire al riguardo.-

IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

10461

Translation E R

Rome 28th June 1945

5A

Ministry of Interior

Ref.No. 333.9018-11

Subject: The Questore of Venice

To : Allied Commission P.S. S.C.

Ref. your A.C./14041/70/P.S. of 23. June 1945; we inform you that the Questore LENTINI GIUSEPPE assigned to take over the direction of the Questura in Venice; has been informed by cable to leave immediately for Venice, also by sea.

The Head of the Police

13		
DIRECTOR		
DEPUTY DIRECTOR		
CHIEF OF POLICE		
P.C. & P.T.		
PRISON		
ADJ. ATTORNEY		
SECURITY		
CHIEF CLERK		

13/45

1041

Sal.



Ministero dell'Interno
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

Roma 28 giugno 1945

Mod. 872
ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER
LA P.S. = COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
ROMA

Personale I^a
Rel. N.° 333.9018-21

Proposta al f. del 23-6-945
Inc. Inc. N.° A.C./14041,
70/P.S.

OGGETTO Questore di Venezia.

In relazione alla lettera sopradistin-
ta si comunica che il questore LENTINI Giu-
seppe designato per la direzione della que-
stura di Venezia è stato già invitato tele-
graficamente a raggiungere subito Venezia,
anche per via mare.

IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

Lenzi
10310

10

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

AC/14041/70/PS

7 July 1945

SUBJECT : Questore for Venezia

TO : R.C. Venezia Region
(Attn. R.P.S.O.)

Reference telephone conversation Lt. Col. Wilson
and Lt. Col. Rowlerson, attached is biographical note of The
proposed Questore for Venezia, Giuseppe Lentini.

JOHN W. CHAPMAN
Colonel, J.A.G.D.
Director Public Safety Sub-Commission

FJW/lb

4A
1039

18

7th July 1945 - Rome

TRANSLATION E.S.

SUBJ. Lantini Giuseppe, vice-questore, born in Mottola 27th July 1891-A.F.I.
entered the administration the 14th April 1914 -Excellent service.

He gave his services from 1914 to 1915 at Lecce, from 1916 to 1916 at Taranto,
from 1926 to 1937 at Chiasso, from 1937 to 1941 in Naples, from 1942 to 1943
in Taranto, from 1943 to 1944 at Lecce, and the 3rd of February again in Taranto
as acting questore.

His qualifications in 1943 were described excellent tact and efficiency. At
Taranto, when he worked under difficult circumstances, he gave proof of energy and
promptness in maintaining order and giving the needed relief. Again at Taranto, when
public order was disturbed by demonstrations and strikes he gave proof of order and
sound judgement.

He possesses no fascist qualifications.

Served in I(14-1918 war.

LENTINI Giuseppe

vice-questore

Nato a Mottola il 27.7.1891 - A.T.I. - Entrato in Amministrazione il 14.4.1914 - Ottimo.

Ha prestato servizio dal 1914 al 1915 a Lecce, dal 1916 al 1926 a Taranto, dal 1926 al 1937 a Chiasso, dal 1937 al 1941 a Napoli, dal 1942 al 1943 a Taranto, dal 1943 al 1944 a Lecce e dal 3 febbraio nuovamente a Taranto, quale reggente la questura.

Nelle note di qualifica per l'anno 1943 è definito funzionario di tatto e professionalmente ben preparato e si soggiunge che resse la questura di Taranto in circostanze rese difficili dai bombardamenti aerei provvedendo con energia e rapidità nei servizi d'ordine e di assistenza. A Taranto ancora in momenti in cui l'ordine pubblico era turbato da agitazioni e scioperi ha dimostrato qualità di diligente equilibrio e piene di buon senso. Venne promosso vice-questore il 1.1.1941. Non ha qualifiche fasciste.

Ha prestato servizio dal 1914 al 1915 a Lecce, dal 1916 al 1926 a Taranto, dal 1926 al 1937 a Chiasso, dal 1937 al 1941 a Napoli, dal 1942 al 1943 a Taranto, dal 1943 al 1944 a Lecce e dal 3 febbraio nuovamente a Taranto, quale reggente la questura.

Nelle note di qualifica per l'anno 1943 è definito funzionario di tatto e professionalmente ben preparato e si soggiunge che resse la questura di Taranto in circostanze rese difficili dai bombardamenti aerei provvedendo con energia e rapidità nei servizi d'ordine e di assistenza. A Taranto ancora in momenti in cui l'ordine pubblico era turbato da agitazioni e scioperi ha dimostrato qualità di diligente equilibrio e piene di buon senso.

Venne promosso vice-questore il 1.1.1941.

Non ha qualifiche fasciste.

1037

- - - -

compagna di guerra 1915-1918.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 393

AC/14041/70/PS

23 June 1945

SUBJECT : QUESTURA - Venezia

TO : Ministry of Interior
Direction General Public Security

A request has been received for the Questore of Venezia. Will you please have your nominee informed and on his way as soon as possible.

Handwritten signature: Frank Wilson
JOHN W. CHAPMAN
Colonel, J.A.I.D.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission

FJW/lb

1020

2A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
A.P.O. 394
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION
SECURITY DIVISION

14041/70. pl

Ref : SD/140.10

23 June 1945

Subject : LENTINI Giuseppe

To : Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission

There appears to be no objection to subject's
appointment as Questore for Venice.


C.F. HAYES,
Captain,
Security Division

OCH/an

1035

AWR/wsm

1A

HEADQUARTERS
VENEZIE REGION
Allied Military Government
APO 394

14041/70 pl
New file 14 June 45.

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission,
Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394. ✓

SUBJECT : Questura - Venezia

FILE NO. : RXII/PS/4.1

1B

1. Reference attached copy of report from P.P.S.O. Venezia, on the Questura situation there.
2. The present Rome nominee is LENTINI Giuseppe, Questore of Taranto. Nothing is known in this Region in regard to this man and before making a decision in regard to appointing him to the Questorship of Venezia it is requested something in nature of his history be made known to this Region.

A.W. Rowler

A.W. ROWLERSON
Lieut. Colonel,
Regional Public
Safety Officer.

TO	DATE	
1. DIRECTOR		
2. DEPUTY DIRECTOR	19-6	19-6
3. ASST. DIR.	19-6	19-6
4. CHIEF CLERK	19-6	19-6
5. ADJ. GEN.		
6. ADJ. SEC.		
7. ADJ. LOG.		
8. ADJ. MED.		
9. ADJ. VET.		
10. ADJ. CHIEF		
11. ADJ. CLERK		
12. ADJ. CLERK		

1034

VENEZIA PROVINCE
VENEZIE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
A P O 394

Public Safety
9th June 1945

SUBJECT: Questura, Venice.

TO : Provincial Commissioner, Venice Province

1. The appointment of Quastore and Vice-Quastore in this Province has occasioned much difficulty since our arrival and in order to reach an understanding the following facts are submitted for decision :

The former Quabore, CONTESS, had been arrested prior to our arrival for political offences and is now in prison awaiting trial. The former Vice-Quabore JACSONI suffered a similar fate.

The C. N. L. had appointed one BATTISTELLO, an accountant by profession to the post of Questore, a position he has occupied ever since. This BATTISTELLO is, in my opinion, a sincere type of man, but is unfitted to the position because of his lack of knowledge of the peculiarities of Italian Questura Agents. I am of the opinion that they are playing with him and with his lack of previous experience he cannot respond because he does not know the answers. In any case, he has recently informed me that he will be resigning his position at the end of this month, because he knows that various political parties are undermining his efforts to clean up the Questura.

When I first interviewed him in the early days, acting on instructions of 8th Army, I informed him that his appointment must be considered only as a temporary one subject to confirmation or otherwise.

2. The position of Vice-Questore, I have found this morning, is now filled by a Dr. CRISTALLO who has been in U.S. service for 20 years. He formerly occupied the position of Commissario and up to July 1943 was head of the political section. He is spoken of as a man who helped people in trouble for political offences during the past 2 years, but equally so, as he said to have been responsible for severe treatment to prisoners during his term as political chief. In either case I have no proof, but it does occur to me that if he is to remain as Vice-Questore then perhaps it would be better if he were removed elsewhere. News of this appointment was received by me only this morning. I understand that the appointment was made by C.I.M. without previous

1. The appointment of Questore and Vice-Questore in this Province has occasioned much difficulty since our arrival and in order to reach an understanding the following facts are submitted for decision:

The former Questore, CORTESE, had been arrested prior to our arrival for political offences and is now in prison awaiting trial. The former Vice-Questore JASSONI suffered a similar fate.

The C.F.L. had appointed one BATTISTELLO, an accountant by profession to the post of Questore, a position he has occupied ever since. This BATTISTELLO is, in my opinion, a sincere type of man, but is unfitted to the position because of his lack of knowledge of the peculiarities of Italian Questura Agents. I am of the opinion that they are playing with him and with his lack of previous experience he cannot respond because he does not know the answers. In any case, he has recently informed me that he will be resigning his position at the end of this month, because he knows that various political parties are undermining his efforts to clean up the Questura.

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VENEZIE REGION

A. M. G.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Rec'd Date 13/6/45

File No

Init

HQ. VENEZIE REGION

Doc. No. 2149 B

Date Rec'd 13 JUN 1945

3. Correspondence has now been received here from C.L.N. suggesting the appointment of a second Vice-Questore, a Dr. PALMISTO, a lawyer acting as Prosecuting Officer at the Corte d'Assise. I enclose translations of various correspondence on this matter. I know nothing respecting the qualities or abilities of this man.

4. It is clear from the correspondence that the C.L.N. are not satisfied with their original appointment of BATTISTELLO. At the same time, they apparently realize that all emblems at the head is not the best policy, hence their appointment of a career man in CRISTALLO as Vice-Questore. They now wish to appoint a second Vice-Questore which is, so far as my experience goes, an entirely new departure from established custom.

5. The request for A.M.S. consideration of the latter appointment is the result of instructions issued from these Headquarters that various appointments are matters of consideration and confirmation by A.M.S. and that the C.L.N. were to consider themselves as more in an advisory capacity and not the first and last word respecting appointments in this area.

6. The position, however, has been and remains most unsatisfactory. I am strongly of the opinion that a strong man, preferably one of I.S. experience be appointed here irrespective of what the C.L.N. think or say. I have a poor opinion of this service in Venice and a firm hand is much to be desired to bring these Agenti back to a reliable and responsible force.

7. I submit the above for consideration and directions before any further appointments are made or entertained. The fact that BATTISTELLO is desirous of leaving his office at the end of this month may help matters.

8. The allegations made against M. PEO are lacking in proof but will be investigated later.

4. It is clear from the correspondence that the C.M.B. are not satisfied with their original appointment of BATTISTELLO. At the same time, they apparently realize that all amateurs at the head is not the best policy, hence their appointment of a career man in ORTIZALLO as Vice-Questore. They now wish to appoint a second Vice-Questore which is, so far as my experience goes, an entirely new departure from established custom.

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8. The allegations made against M. PEO are lacking in proof but will be investigated later.

Copies to : D.P.S.C., Venice Region ✓ M.S. HARRIS, Mayor
C.A.C., Venice Province P.P.S.O., Venice Province
File



1022

TO THE ALLIED MILITARY COMMAND

V E N I C E

1st of June 1945

The Committee is acquainted with the situation respecting the Questura of Venice.

The lack of collaboration on the part of some members of the technical staff, together with the political elements which are part of the Questura, and the lack of consideration which they receive from the population, renders very difficult the intelligent and strenuous work done by Questore.

In order to put over the high Officials of the Questura a man who, while supervising them would still be under the orders ~~xxx~~ of the Questore, the Committee of Liberation has decided to nominate as Vice-Questore (Questore Aggiunto) a person who, while being quite new to the Questura, enjoys the greatest consideration of the Committee of Liberation and of the Questore himself. At the same time this man possesses those technical requisites which will render his work more profitable and through those qualities he will enjoy the greatest prestige in front of the Officials who will work under his orders. This man is Dr. CESARE PALMINTERI, a Judge by profession, actually Prosecuting Officer at the Corte Straordinaria d'Assise.

We now ask that this decision, approved by the Prefetto, be also approved by the Allied Military Command.

Committee of Liberation
V e n i c e

The Committee is acquainted with the situation respecting the Questura of Venice. The lack of collaboration on the part of some members of the technical staff, together with the political elements which are part of the Questura, and the lack of consideration which they receive from the population, renders very difficult the intelligent and strenuous work done by Questore.

In order to put over the high Officials of the Questura a man who, while supervising them would still be under the orders of the Questore, the Committee of Liberation has decided to nominate as Vice-Questore (Questore Aggiunto) a person who, while being quite new to the Questura, enjoys the greatest consideration of the Committee of Liberation and of the Questore himself. At the same time this man possesses those technical requisites which will render his work more profitable and through those qualities he will enjoy the greatest prestige in front of the Officials who will work under his orders. This man is Dr. CESARE PALMINTERI, a Judge by profession, actually Prosecuting Officer at the Corte Straordinaria d'Assise.

We now ask that this decision, approved by the Prefetto, be also approved by the Allied Military Command.

Committee of Liberation
V e n i c e

1031

THE COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION OF THE PROVINCE OF VENICE

Expression of the forces which have collaborated
in the struggle for the liberation of the Nation

By the will and decision of the people

Acting after the power conferred by the Democratic Italian Government to the Comitato di Liberazione per l'Alta Italia (C.N.I.A.I.) as the legitimate representative of the Government of Italy, and recognised as such by the Allied Authorities

Finding it necessary and urgent to provide at once for the better functioning of the Questura of Venice, through the nomination of a person politically sound and technically expert,

N O M I N A T E S

DR. CESARE PALMINTERI

Judge, acting up to this moment as Prosecuting Officer Vice-Questore (Questore Aggiunto) at the Questura of Venice.

Venice, 1st of June 1945

Committee of Liberation
V e n i c e

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Committee of Liberation
V e n i c e

1030

Al Governatore Civile, Cap. Braybrook,

V e n e z i a

Referring to our conversation of to-day with Capt. Braybrook we here state :

The Questura of Venice, in the past month, has shown a remarkable lack of energy, which has serious consequences on every side of the life of this city. Such a lack of energy has an almost criminal origin, as it arises from competition between groups of Officials and a kind of coalition against the Questore.

Avv. Orlandini, as Prosecuting Officer at the Corte d'Assise in Venice, reports that only 30 dockets have reached his Office, when over 1000 people have been arrested. The list of names has been requested over and over, through the highest authority : the Procuratore Generale del Re (Counsel for the Crown).

About the episode, already reported, of the embezzlement on DE FEO's part in respect of WIDMAR, it appears without any doubt that DE FEO himself received 25000.- of the 50000.- Lire which had been asked.

This strengthens the suspicions which, although a concrete proof has not been received, are subsisting against DE FEO for other matters. One circumstance which cannot be denied is that DE FEO is leading a very expensive life, and the fact that he possesses paintings of great commercial value in his home. It appears that those paintings were taken from Jews.

The behaviour of DE FEO, even during the past Fascist Regime, was so outrageous that he was dismissed as director of the investigating squad, on very serious charges, if not actually for crimes. DE FEO is accused of having subtracted a large quantity of gold coins which were thrown out of a window of the Calle Larga San Marco, when Questura Agents made a perquisition in the Hotel all'Angelo.

It was the last Fascist Questore, CORTESE, who dismissed DE FEO from his office. CORTESE is actually detained.

What is difficult to explain is why he should, later, receive a nomination to an even more delicate post, that of Director of the Political Office of the Questura.

This Committee has reached the conclusion that, on the side of the Questore should be placed a man with rare energy, unpeachable character, and at the same time a man with technical knowledge.

Such a person could be Dr. PALMINI, actually Prosecuting Officer at the Corte d'Assise. A most energetic man, he would give every guarantee of excellent work in the Questura, should he receive support. The support will be gladly given him by this Committee in order to obtain that the most delicate Office in the City may function well and

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We also wish to observe that at the actual moment we see men who were fascist and anti-British only a few days before the arrival of the Allied Forces, and who collaborated with the Germans up to the point of bringing food and ammunition as far as the front line, and wrote on the newspapers long articles exalting fascism and nazism, we now see those men pretend they are, and always were, friends of the Allies.

Among those men are to be found a large quantity of Officials and particularly Questura Officials, the same who before your arrival were most intent in persecuting those men who loved their country and wished only for its liberation.

The Allied Command will be able to find out the truth of what is here stated through close and continued contact with this Committee, who will be always most happy to collaborate with the Allied

Authorities as only through a sincere collaboration we shall be able to glimpse the future of this unhappy Nation.

The Committee of Liberation
(Cerutti) President

