

Subject:- La Guardia di Finanza

1029/P8

AGCOM HQ, SICILY

3 Sep 42

To:- ALL SCAGOs

(With copies sufficient for distribution to CAGs, CAPCs, FOC and ROCs.)

1. La Regia Guardia di Finanza is constituted under Italian Law for the performance of the following duties:-

(a) Supervision at source of yield of the following revenues:-

Customs Duties
Production Taxes.
Taxes on beer, wines, and spirits
State Monopolies
Direct Taxation and taxes on affairs

(b) Guarding and patrolling, in the Revenue interest, the coast-line and adjacent territorial waters; frontiers, lakes, lagoons and ports, including airports, and all points at which revenues are charged or liable to be charged.

(c) Special Investigation of Revenue offences, prevention, detection and repression of smuggling and tax evasion.

2. The Corps is organised in Zones, Legions, Circuits (Circoli), Companies, Platoons, Sections, and Brigades, to which are assigned certain areas of territory for supervision and executive duties. In addition to, but under the administrative control of the higher of these formations are two specialised sub-divisions, viz,

(a) Squadrons, normally provided with sea-craft, for Revenue services afloat, wearing naval uniform.

(b) Uscari di Polizia Tributaria, specially selected personnel for observation, investigation, research, and verification in all cases of suspected Revenue offences, a plain-clothes force

3. In the general dislocation of services and communications since the occupation of Sicily, the Corps may have been employed on duties other than those set forth above. This is provided for, in a state of emergency, in the Regulations of the Corps. It should be borne in mind, however, that the primary function of the Corps is a Revenue one.

4. In existing circumstances, concealment of liability and evasion of tax-paying on the part of the population may be anticipated on an abnormal scale.

5. You will therefore ensure that the activities of the Corps in your area are especially directed towards the tightening of the law in so far as Revenue charge and collection are concerned also "Black Market" and control of merchandise, and that no laxity is permitted. Please contact the senior of the Corps in your district and impress this matter upon him, and

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5. You will therefore ensure that the activities of the Corps in your area are especially directed towards the tightening of the law in so far as Revenue charge and collection are concerned also "Black Market" and control of merchandise, and that no laxity is permitted. Please contact the senior officer of the Corps in your district and impress this matter upon him, and satisfy yourself by visit and test-check, if necessary, that he and his subordinates are in fact carrying out their Revenue duties to the utmost.
6. Any instance of neglect of duty or lack of zeal by units or members of the Corps should be reported to this H.Q. without delay. Similarly all offences by members of the public brought to notice by the Corps should be prosecuted by either Allied Military Court procedure or Civil Authority according to the nature of the offence.

A.P. GRANTLEY-SMITH,
Colonel,
Chief Financial Officer.

File	Date	Reference	Subject
1A	29 Nov 43		from R.C.A.O. Memorandum No. 38
2A	5 Dec 43	14055/PS	Internal Security - Reg. 1
3A		14053/PS	Internal Security
4A	6 Dec 43		HQ. I.B.S. Notes on meeting of HQ. I.B.S. sat. 2 Dec 43 re Security West Hill

4013

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HEADQUARTERS ISLAND BASE SECTION
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO 550 U.S. ARMY

6 December 1943

SUBJECT: Notes on meeting held in HEADQUARTERS ISLAND BASE SECTION on 3 December 1943, to discuss SECURITY IN THE WESTERN PART OF SICILY.

TO : See Distribution.

1. Present at the meeting were:

Name	Representing
Colonel P.C. Kirk	Public Safety, Hq AMG
Colonel M. Meaney	Public Safety, Hq AMG
Colonel A.E. Young	Intelligence, Hq AMG
Lt. Col. R.A. Snook	Public Safety, Region I
Lt. Col. J.J. Smy	Provost Marshal, IBS
Major Collingswood	Provost Marshal, #1 District
Major A. Coventry	G.S.2, I, #1 District
Major J.V. Hinkel	Security Committee, Hq. AMG
Major R.C. Snowden	CIC, IBS
Lt. Correa	Public Safety, Hq AMG
Lt A.C. Spialman	Intelligence, IBS
Mr B. Warner	PWB, Palermo.

2. Major Coventry stated that the Commanding General, #1 District desired information of intelligence and security character covering western Sicily from AMG and IBS.

3. Lt. Col. R.A. Snook, in order to supply the necessary background for the conference, gave a brief estimate of the situation, outlined as follows:

- a. The main threat to security is the lack of food. This lack of food leads to general unrest and is exploited by criminal and political factions.
- b. At present the Carabinieri have the people under control. The Carabinieri are being strengthened and prepared for possible serious uprisings. It is not contemplated to call for the assistance of troops against unruly crowds unless the Carabinieri can no longer cope with a situation.
- c. The two main problems in organizing the Carabinieri are:
 - (1) restricted communication facilities.
 - (2) limited transportation.

Both these factors delay the movement of Carabinieri in force to any one spot to meet an emergency.

d. AMG is now setting up machinery to collect data on crimes, political movements and other factors leading to unrest.

e. The accessibility of explosives in the form of hand grenades etc. to civilians complicates the security enforcement.

4. Collection of information

- a. #1 District must have an up-to-date overall picture of the security

- 1 -
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situation in the entire Island in order to discharge its security responsibilities. Only a complete picture permits the timely meeting of brewing unrest at otherwise unpredictable locations. (Major Coventry)

5. Undesirable civilian office holders under AMG

a. Two types:

- (1) those who were and still are fascists and use their office to organize fascist opposition to the Allied cause.
- (2) those who were fascists, but have now opportunistically thrown their lot with the Allies.

b. Type (1) should be removed for their anti-allied activities. Type (2) should be removed because they antagonize the population, even if they are efficiently discharging their duties as capable public servants.

c. The removal of undesirable office holders is of immediate importance, second only to the food shortage.

d. Only CIC and FS channels of information can be considered reliable for the removal of undesirable office holders. Carabinieri records and black lists are necessarily of no value against fascists. Some SCAO's have not taken advantage of information when given to them by CIC and FS personnel which proved that an office holder fell into one of the categories in par. 5a (Major Coventry, confirmed by Major Snowden).

e. Concrete policy on undesirable office holders is being worked out by AMG and machinery to carry out the policy is being established. (Lt. Col. Snook)

f. The most efficient way to enable SCAO's to take action against undesirable office holders is to let CIC or FS agents transmit information in individual cases direct to SCAO's and keep Region I current on all information and action taken.

6. Political groups

a. The following are in existence:

- Social Democrats
- Christian Democrats
- Socialists and Communists
- Independent Sicily Party
- Ex-fascist groups,

the Christian Democrats are attracting the wealthy and professional classes as well as absorbing a large number of ex-fascists. This party stands in best with AMG. (Major Coventry). The Christian Democrats have not been officially accepted by AMG and civilian officials and advisors continue to be chosen on the basis of individual merit rather than on their party affiliations.

b. The basic policy toward political parties, as set forth in proclamations, virtually prohibits all political activity, this is being adhered to and enforced. Data are presently being collected by Region I to clarify AMG's stand on the individual parties. (Lt. Col. Snook)

c. The political picture is very complicated. There is little or no subversion under political guise. Politics are in a child-like stage. Politicians are coming to AMG for help and information. All parties, except the Independent Sicily Party, have issued manifestoes to rally around AMG and to keep calm. When the contemplated turnover of Region I to the Italian government has been effected it is assumed that more freedom will be given to political expression. 4641

7. Newspapers

a. FWS may grant authority for publication, but has granted it to only three papers: those in Palermo, Catania and Messina. No other papers have been authorized because of scarcity of newsprint. The authorized papers are

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Supervised by military censors. (Mr Warner)

b. Unauthorized papers are being published under the sanction of local SCAO's in Ragusa and Galtanissetta. These papers are being printed in violation of orders by the Regional Civil Affairs Officer. (Mr Warner)

c. Military press censors permit the printing of constructive criticism. Any matter that may hinder the war effort is forbidden. Agitation for independent Sicily is considered to fall into the latter censorable category. (Mr Warner)

6. Civil unrest

a. Military forces will be called upon only after it has been demonstrated that the Carabinieri cannot cope with a situation.

b. Since Public Safety, Region I is the first line of defense against civil unrest their estimate of the situation should be used in cases of emergency calling for the use of troops. (Lt. Col. Snook)

c. The Commanding Officer IBS, has been requested, by the General Officer Commanding No. 1 District to be responsible for the direction of troops in the provinces of Palermo, Trapani and Agrigento in case of an emergency; #1 District is responsible for direction of troops in the remainder of the Island.

9. Use of CIC Section, IBS

a. CIC is attached to IBS for the use of that Headquarters in carrying out its security mission. Since IBS intelligence responsibility now includes only the security of its Headquarters, its troops and installations, CIC is assigned the mission of investigating cases involving these. Any information arising from CIC investigations which affects the security of the Island as a whole will be transmitted to #1 District and, if applicable, to Region I. (Lt. Spielman)

b. The CIC Section, IBS, in carrying out its mission must also keep itself informed of the general security picture in western Sicily. Complete exchange of information with local SCAO's will be continued whenever possible. Special requests by AMO agencies for complete investigations can be honored, provided time and available personnel permit it, but such requests will take secondary priority after the detachment's assigned mission. (Major Snowden)

ALAN G. SPIELMAN

1st Lt. C.E.

Assistant Intelligence Officer

Distribution:

Commanding General Seventh Army

Commanding General #1 District

Commanding General AMO

Commanding Officer IBS

A.C. of S. G-2, MATOUSA

Regional Civil Affairs Officer, Region I, AMO

Each officer present at the meeting.

4640

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Public Safety Division

AMG/14053/YS

INTERNAL SECURITY

PA. 14055 3A
Notes on Internal Security at IBS Conference, 1945

District No. 1 responsible for internal security of Island. Closer liaison desired and exchange of information.

Desired :-

Military reports from C.I.C. on West of Island via Major Snowden (weekly reports) - Proforma.

American Officer as liaison with District No. 1. Where to be assigned from.

A.M.G. fortnightly situation reports.

CC.RR. Black lists, usually anti-Fascists Lists.

Provincial S.C.A.O's not giving due consideration to District No. 1 reports re Fascists in Office etc.

Major Snowden passes on to A.M.G. War Department investigation.
fare

Newspapers :- only Psychological War/branch can authorise; but some C.A.O's have authorised them. Only Palermo, Catania and Messina are authorised. Psychological Warfare Branch feels should be one in each Province. Military censor in Palermo and Catania; one detailed in Messina (AMG Officers have disobeyed Lt. Col. Poletti's instructions; caused papers to be printed) Has Lt. Col. Poletti been advised of violations. On mainland, in Reggio, other papers being published.

Parties:-

Christian Democrats include many ex-Fascists. Anti Fascists do not get much encouragement and are excluded. Major (B) thinks anti-Fascists should be encouraged.

Curfew (Catania - District Provost Marshall)

Not enforced. CC.RR. does nothing. Order flaunted by people. Either change it or enforce it. Now 11 o'clock. CC.RR. now not working at job.

7/4635
B. 4/12

HEADQUARTERS
ARMED MILITARY SERVICES
Public Safety Division

File 2A
PSS/ab

5 December, 1943

AMV/14055/PJ

SUBJECT : Internal Security Conference.

TO : ARMO Region I.

1. On Friday, December 2, 1943, I accepted an invitation to attend a conference on Internal Security of Sicily, at 1300 Hq. The principal spokesman was G-2 of GAO No. 1 District. Certain statements were made regarding security violations in Region I. Inquiry was made by me if you had been invited to be present, and I inferred that no direct invitation had been tendered to you.

2. Lt.-Col. Brock, your Public Safety Officer, was present. Undoubtedly he will advise you on the proceedings. If you desire any further information, I shall be pleased to give it to you.

WALTER G. KING
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief, Public Safety
Division.

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new file
14055

Internal Security
Regional

PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

ROUTING SLIP.

TO SEE :-

PSK

C.P.S.....

/// D.C.P.S. *min 7/2/53*.....

~~PRISON SECTION~~.....

CIVIL POLICE SECTION..... *Ben*

Special Police
FIRE AND CIVIL DEFENCE
SECTION..... *Phyllis*

> LICENSING AND REGISTRATION
SECTION..... *4637*

AO

As

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ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
SICILY REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

SECRET

AUTH RCAC
INITIALS E.W.V.
DATE 30 NOV. 1943

29 November 1943.

MEMORANDUM:

NO 38:

SECURITY REPORTS

- (1) The following is a copy of communication received from Major General G. Clark, Commanding No. 1 District;

"This Headquarters is responsible for the general security of the whole of SICILY. To carry out this duty efficiently it is essential that reports on incidents and general conditions as a whole be sent direct to this Headquarters by S.C.A.O.'s of Provinces. At present such reports are sent either to your Headquarters or to I.E.S., and it is only when a situation is thought to be grave that this Headquarters is informed.

In order to assess the gravity of a situation, it is essential to know first the circumstances which appertained before the crisis arose. This cannot be done on the present system.

Will you therefore please instruct the S.C.A.O.'s of all Provinces to forward direct to this Headquarters on 10th and 25th of each month, a report on conditions generally in their Provinces. This will be supplemented as necessary by reports of particular incidents, of which this Headquarters must know, if it is to carry out its role.

This is not to be confused with the Military Security Reports which are the responsibility of the C.I.C. and T.S. Section who work in close touch with S.C.A.P.O.'s and whose reports are forwarded direct to 7 Army, I.E.S. and No. 1 District."

- (2) A report will be submitted by each S.C.A.O. direct to Commanding General No. 1 District on 10th and 25th of each month a copy will be furnished Sicily Region Headquarters.

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PH 206 11A

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DISTRIBUTION

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Reg PS Div. 3
Sec EC 3

CHARLES POLETTI

Lt. Colonel

Regional Civil Affairs Officer

SECRET

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