

ACC

10000/143/790

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

785016

10000/143/790

MOVIMENTO PARTIGIANO
DEC. 1944 - APR. 1945

1159

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AC 14103/PS

Monumento Partigiano

1160

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

785016

DECLASSIFIED

NND 897578
By LDC NARS, Date 8/16/89

10000/143/790

THIS FOLDER
CONTAINS PAPERS
FROM DEC 1944
TO APR 1945
CATALOGUE.

TRANSLATION, ea.

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

Rome, 8th April, 1945.

A.M.R. 2°
442/4161.

Enclosure 1.

SUBJECT : Partisan Movement - Reggio Calabria.

TO : A.G. P.S. o/c.

For information, copy as transmitted herewith of a report from the CC.RR Kqs Command with regard to partisans TO in the Reggio Calabria district.

For the MINISTER.
- Ferroni -

CONFIDENTIAL.

Carabinieri Headquarters Command.

No. 283/2 R.F.

Rome, 23rd March, 1945.

SUBJECT : Movement of Partisans - Reggio Calabria.

TO : H.E. The Minister of the Interior.
H.E. The Under-Secretary of State for the Interior.

The Commander of the Reggio Calabria CC.RR Group writes on the 16th instant:-

"The partisan movement of Italy, or better the partisan adherents, is assuming ever more preoccupying proportions in

No. 283/2 R.P.

Rome, 23rd March, 1949.

SUBJECT : Movement of Partisans - Reggio Calabria.

TO : H.E. The Minister of the Interior.
H.E. The Under-Secretary of State for the Interior.

The Commander of the Reggio Calabria CCAR Group writes on the 10th instant:-

"The partisan movement of Italy, or better the partisan adherents, is assuming ever more preoccupying proportions in Reggio Calabria.

It seems that they exceed 20,000 members already.

They are outlaws, armed for the greater part with guns, hand-grenades and automatic arms, which they use, contrary to their own declarations, abusively to create disturbances and incidents.

The majority support the left parties but in some cases they play up to the local heads and are always ready with reprisals.

Recently the activity of partisans around Iccri has been most noticeable, where sometimes armed groups of them may be seen apparently on police service.

Many deductions are made as regards this movement. Which, according to well-informed people, will at the right moment play the game of he who pays highest".

Some people hold that the so-called partisans will constitute the future action squadrons of the left parties and it is necessary to substitute the police organs, which are always being accused for insufficiency of personnel and lack of prestige.

Others think that the possibility of the partisan movement becoming a true and proper right movement is not to be excluded.

The provincial heads of the movement are very secondary figures and many consider that they are really cats-paws of the Directorate of the Communist Party, who wish to give to the movement, at present qualified as non-political, a turn in conformity with their ideology with a hostile intonation towards the Force.

In fact, on the occasion of the dissolution and re-formation of the partisan section of Roccaforte del Greco, at a meeting held at the Provincial Headquarters, the Communists did not fail to indicate the Force specifically as "enemy of the people and representative of the military-monarchic class".

In Rome, the movement is headed by the Secretary General Rocco Emilio, who appears to be acting for General Odono.

In present conditions the Force is not in a position to meet the situation."

I will refer to this subject again as soon as the Legion Commander has reported to me the results of his investigations in this regard.

THE CHIEF OF THE LEGION
- Brunetto Brunetti -

in Rome, and appears to be acting for General Oddone.

Rocco Emilio, who appears to be acting for General Oddone, in present conditions the force is not in a position to meet the situation."

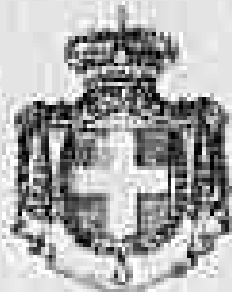
I will refer to this subject again as soon as the Legion Commander has reported to me the results of his investigation in this regard.

THE COMMANDING GENERAL

- Brunetto Brunetti -

3370

S.



Ministero dell'Interno
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

Roma 8 Apr. 1945

Mod. 872

1^a ON. COMMISSIONE
ALLEATA
SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER LA P.S.
R O M A

A.G.R. 2°
Divisione 442/4161
Prot. N. Allegato 1

Risposta al f. del
Ep. N. 1°

Oggetto: Reggio Calabria - Movimento partigiani.

Per notizia, si trasmette copia di una segnalazione del Comando Generale dell'Arma CC.RR. riguardante i partigiani esistenti nella zona di Reggio Calabria.

PEL MINISTRO

[Handwritten signature]

3369

C O P I A

SERVATO PERSONALE

COMANDO GENERALE DELL'ARMA DEI CARABINIERI REALI
Ufficio Servizio - Situazione e Collegamenti

N. 283/2 di prot.R.P.

OGGETTO: Reggio Calabria - Movimento Partigiani.
ROMA, 23 Marzo 1945

A S.E. IL MINISTRO DELL'INTERNO
A S.E. IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO
PER L'INTERNO
ROMA
ROMA

Il Comandante del Gruppo CC.RR. di Reggio Calabria, in data 16 corrente, scrive:

“ Il movimento partigiani d'Italia, o meglio di aderenti partigiani, va assumendo nella provincia di Reggio Calabria forme sempre più preoccupanti.

Pare che essi sorpassino già i 20.000 iscritti.

Sono dei fuori legge, armati in buona parte di moschetti, di bombe a dichiarazione, di sordini, abusati e incidenti.

Prevalentemente si appoggiano ai partiti di sinistra, ma, in qualche centro fanno il giuoco dei capi locali, sempre pronti a rappresentarle.

In quest'ultimo periodo di tempo, più notata l'attività dei partigiani nel circondario di Locri, dove, a volte, si notano gruppi di armati, in apparenza servizio di polizia.

Molte illazioni si fanno su questo movimento che, secondo voci autorevoli, farà al momento opportuno “il gioco di chi pagherà meglio”.

Alcuni ritengono che i cosiddetti partigiani potranno costituire le future squadre d'azione dei partiti di sinistra e sostituire, al caso, donale e menomazione di prestigio.

Altri pensano che non è da escludere la possibilità che il movimento partigiani possa divenire un vero e proprio movimento di destra.

I capi provinciali del movimento sono figure secondarie: molti ritengono che essi, in atto, siano delle pedine in mano a...

mano, di armi automatiche, i quali apportano, con variamente

dichiarano, disordini, abusi e incidenti.

Prevalentemente si appoggiano ai partiti di sinistra, ma, in qualche centro fanno il gioco dei capi locali, sempre pronti a rappresaglie.

In quest'ultimo periodo di tempo, più notata l'attività dei partigiani nel circondario di Locri, dove, a volte, si notano gruppi di armati, in apparenza servizio di polizia.

Molte illazioni si fanno su questo movimento che, secondo voci autorevoli, farà al momento opportuno "il gioco di chi pagherà meglio".

Alcuni ritengono che i cosiddetti partigiani potranno costituire le future squadre d'azione dei partiti di sinistra e sostituire, al caso, anche gli organi di polizia, sempre più esautorati per deficienza di personale e menomazione di prestigio.

Altri pensano che non è da escludere la possibilità che il movimento partigiani possa divenire un vero e proprio movimento di destra.

I capi provinciali del movimento sono figure secondarie: molti ritengono che essi, in atto, siano delle pedine in mano dei dirigenti del partito comunista, i quali vorrebbero dare al movimento, che si qualifica apolitico, un indirizzo conforme alle loro ideologie, con intonazione ostile all'Arma.

In occasione, infatti, dello scioglimento e ricostituzione della sezione partigiani di Roccaforte del Greco, in una riunione tenuta presso la sede provinciale, non mancarono, ad opera di esponenti comunisti, incitamenti contro l'Arma definita "nemica del popolo e rappresentante della casta monarchico-militare".

In Roma il movimento fa capo al segretario generale Rocco Emilio, il quale pare che agisca per conto del generale Oddone.

Nelle condizioni attuali, l'Arma non è in grado di fronteggiare la situazione".

Mi riservo di tornare in argomento non appena il comandante della legione mi avrà riferito le risultanze dei suoi accertamenti al riguardo.

IL GENERALE COMANDANTE

Brunetto Brunetti

HEADQUARTERS ARMED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
AFU 394

Tel : 489081 - 365

12 January 1945.

AC/14103/PS

SUBJECT : Major Giacomo JUCCI, Pescara.
TO : R.P.S.O. Abruzzi-Marche Region.

1. With reference to your letter RE/507/20 dated 10 December 1944, attached for your information is a translation of a letter from the Commanding General of the Carabinieri agreeing to the replacement of Major JUCCI.

2. No reply has yet been received from the Ministry of the Interior regarding the Questore.

Chapman
JOHN B. CHAPMAN
Colonel, J.A.C.D.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

AFU/C.

3367

Translation RV.

CC.RR. Gen. HQ.

13 January 1945

N. 227/14/1944

Reply AC/14103 dated 6 inst.

Subject : Major (r) TUCCI Giacomo.

To : A.C. Public Safety Sub-Commission - Rome.

I have taken note of the kind communication of the Commission regarding the CC.RR. Major TUCCI Giacomo, commander of the Pescara Group.

The particulars kindly given to me on the situation of the mentioned city are precise and convincing and therefore I have provided for the immediate removal of mentioned officer from that seat, who is placed at the disposal of the Abruzzi Legion.

A superior Officer particularly energetic and capable will be assigned to Pescara.

Commanding General
(Taddeo Orlando)

Please initial received side

RISERVATO

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SEGRETERIA E RISERVATO

227/14
N. 1944

di prot. Ris.

Roma, 10 gennaio 1945

Risposta al foglio del 6 corrente n. AC/14103/PS Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Maggiore (r) IUCCI Giacomo.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA - Sottocommissione per la P.S. -

R O M A

Ho preso atto della cortese comunicazione di codesta Sottocommissione relativa al maggiore dei CC.RR. IUCCI Giacomo comandante del gruppo di Pescara.

Gli elementi gentilmente fornitimi sulla situazione di quella città sono precisi e convincenti per cui ho disposto che il predetto ufficiale sia allontanato immediatamente da quella sede e passato a disposizione della legione degli Abruzzi.

Mi riservo destinare a Pescara un ufficiale superiore particolarmente energico e capace.=

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
(Taddeo Orlando)

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5A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 3/4

Tel : 489061 - 365

6 January, 1945.

AG/14103/FS

3A

SUBJECT : Dott. DI BENEDETTI, Questore of Pescara.

TO : Director General of Public Security, Ministry of Interior

1. Reports have been received through the Provincial Public Safety Officer in Pescara regarding the inefficiency of Dott. DI BENEDETTI, Questore of Pescara and also of the Major commanding the CC.RR. Group. This letter is concerned with the Questore, a separate communication having been addressed to the General Commanding the CC.RR. regarding the CC.RR. Group Commander.

2. A recent investigation by the Allied Field Security Service in Pescara revealed that an organization known as "Movimento Partigiano" existed in Pescara, led by a certain Capt. Egidio ZOLISI. The Field Security Service raided the Headquarters of this organization on 11th November 1944, arresting ZOLISI on security grounds.

3. A member of the movement was Antonio GICANTE, who was wanted for a murder committed in November 1933, but who had been walking about openly in Pescara. This man was arrested by the Field Security Service and handed into the custody of the CC.RR. The police were not able to offer any explanation for failing to arrest GICANTE previously.

Another member of the movement was Nevio SETTEMBRINI, who was arrested by the Field Security Service and given into the custody of the CC.RR. on charges of illegally possessing firearms and of using firearms as a threat of violence.

4. Among the activities of ZOLISI and his organization were :

- (a) Illegally seizing motor cars, furniture and office accommodation.
- (b) Organising a so-called "Servizio Segreto di informazione"
- (c) Demanding information of a political nature from officials in Pescara
- (d) Ordering the dismissal of employees on political grounds.
- (e) Publishing an unauthorized Party newspaper "Corriere di Pescara"

3364

- 2 -

(f) Collecting subscriptions for the organization
(Zolesi himself taking 1000 lire or more a day and paying
a staff of six employees 20,000 lire a month)

(g) Storing handgrenades at the Headquarters of the
organization.

(h) Issuing travel passes.

There can be no doubt that the Questore was aware of these
activities.

5. To sum up, the organization led by Zolesi usurped the functions
of the Civil police in Pescara and the CC.RR. and Questore submitted
to this state of affairs which was only ended by the intervention of
the Allied Police, who took the following action :

- (a) Arrested Zolesi on security grounds.
- (b) Arrested Gigante and Settembrini for civilian offences.
- (c) Dissolved the "Movimento Bertigliano".
- (d) Banned the publication of the "Corriere di Pescara"
- (e) Blocked the banking accounts of the organization

6. It is the opinion of the Public Safety Officer in Pescara
that Pott. DI BENEDETTI should be removed and his position filled
by an officer possessing more initiative and vigor who will restore
the prestige of the Civilian Police. You will no doubt wish to
investigate the efficiency of the Questore of Pescara.

AFW
JOHN W. CHAFFAN
Colonel, J.A.C.D.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

Copy to : Regional Public Safety Off.
Abruzzi-Marche Region.

AFW/G.

3363

4A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
No 394

Tel : 489081 - 365

6 January, 1945.

AC/11103/PS

SUBJECT : Major Giacomo JUCCI, Pescara.

TO : Commanding General Royal Carabinieri

1. Reports have been received through the Provincial Public Safety Officer in Pescara regarding the inefficiency of Major Giacomo JUCCI commanding the CC.RR Group in Pescara, and also of the Questore. This letter is concerned with Major JUCCI, a separate communication having been addressed to the Ministry of the Interior regarding the Questore.

2. A recent investigation by the Allied Field Security Service in Pescara revealed that an organisation known as "Movimento Partigiano" existed in Pescara, led by a certain Capt. Egidio ZOLESI. The Field Security Service raided the Headquarters of this organisation on 11th November 1944, arresting ZOLESI on security grounds.

3. A member of the movement was Antonio GIGANTE, who was wanted for a murder committed in November 1933, but who had been walking about openly in Pescara. This man was arrested by the Field Security Service and handed into the custody of the CC.RR. The CC.RR. were not able to offer any explanation for failing to arrest GIGANTE previously.

Another member of the movement was Nevio SETTEMBRINI, who was arrested by the Field Security Service and given into the custody of the CC.RR. on charges of illegally possessing firearms and of using firearms as a threat of violence.

4. Among the activities of ZOLESI and his organisation were :

(a) Illegally seizing motor cars, furniture and office accommodation.

(b) Organising a so-called "Servizio Segreto di informazioni"

(c) Demanding information of a political nature from officials in Pescara

(d) Ordering the dismissal of employees on political grounds.

(e) Publishing an unauthorized Party newspaper "Corriere di Pescara"

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- 2 -

(f) Collecting subscriptions for the organisation
(Zolesi himself taking 1000 lire or more a day and paying
a staff of six employees 20,000 lire a month)

(g) Storing handgrenades at the Headquarters of the
organisation.

(h) Issuing travel passes.

There can be no doubt that the CC.RR. were aware of these
activities.

5. To sum up, the organisation led by Zolesi usurped the functions
of the Civil police in Pescara and the CC.RR. and Questore submitted
to this state of affairs which was only ended by the intervention of
the Allied Police, who took the following action :

- (a) Arrested Zolesi on security grounds.
- (b) Arrested Gigante and Settembrini for civilian offences.
- (c) Dissolved the "Movimento Partigiano"
- (d) Banned the publication of the "Corriere di Pescara"
- (e) Blocked the banking accounts of the organisation

6. It is the opinion of the Public Safety Officer in Pescara
that Major JUCCI should be removed and his position filled by an
officer possessing more initiative and vigor who will restore the
prestige of the CC.RR. You will no doubt wish to investigate the
efficiency of the CC.RR. in Pescara.

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

Copy to : Regional Public Safety Off.
Abruzzi-Marche Region.

AFN/A.

3361

1176

TO :- HQ. AC. Public Safety Sub Commission.
 FROM :- HQ. A/G/AC. Abruzzi-Marche Region.
 SUBJECT :- Movimento Partigiano - PESCARA.
 REF :- RS/507/20.
 DATE :- 30 December, 1944.

3A
 See 7A

2A

1. Reference your AC/14013/13, dated 16 Dec./44 on the n/m subject.
2. The observations of P.P.S.G. Chieti and criticism of the Questore Dott. DI BENEDETTI and Group Commander CC.RR. Maj. JUCCI Giacomo are submitted for your information in the attached copy of report.
3. There is no doubt that both, the Questore and the Major CC.RR., have been lacking in the execution of their duty and they should, at least, be relieved of their present appointments.

3B

FOR REGIONAL COMMISSIONER:

TO		
COL. CHAPMAN	101	111
COL. YOUNG		
LT. COL. WILCOX		
MAJ. LUCKMAN		
MAJ. WILSON	al	
MAJ. HANBURY		
MAJ. BALLEWIDE		
CAPT. BOWEN		

[Signature]
 S. FISHING,
 Lt. Colonel,
 P.P.S.G.

31 Dec 1944

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COPY

Subject :- MOVIMENTO PARTIGIANO - PESCARA

IS/SEC/CYT.

To :- HQ AG/AS Abruzzi-Marche Region
(att. RESC.)

26 Dec. 44.

From :- HQ AC Chieti, Pescara & Teramo Provinces.

Reference to correspondence AG/14103/13 dated 16 Dec. 44, HQ AC Public Safety Sub-Commission and former correspondence from this Office of even reference, 2 Dec 44

Criticism of (a) The Questore, Dott. DI EMMEDELLI, (b) Group Commander CORR Major TUCCI Giacomo, is based on the following :-

1. It must have been well known to both that a number of the Party members were men who were former ardent Fascist and that their Partisans membership dated as from the day they paid a subscription to the Movimento Partigiano - since June 44. GIGANTI Antonio is an example, wanted for murder, yet talking about quite openly in Pescara.

2. Several threats were made towards the Prefect. Without doubt they were made by the Partisan Movement. The Questore and CORR sidetracked the responsibility of their offices in the matter by declaring lack of proof of instigation by ZOLESI or members of the Party.

3. The Movimento Secret Information Service. Following is the form of "warrant" signed by ZOLESI and issued to his agents :-

"Comrade. living at belongs to the Servizio Segreto di informazioni of this HQ of the Movimento Partigiano. The authorities are requested in their interests to assist to the utmost the work of our agents.

(Signed) Capt. ZOLESI"

4. The Questore and Major CORR were informed of this service by correspondence from Zolesi dated 2nd October 1944. No action was taken by either. The Questore denied all knowledge of the service, though he did in fact request information through it in connection a man named GIANNANTONIO (interned July 1944) and DI MARZIO, a member of the "M" Battalion. Correspondence dated 3rd Oct to this effect with the information asked was received by the Questore.

5. Without doubt the Major CORR and Questore countenanced Zolesi and his gang "requisitioning" motor cars, furniture and office accommodation. There is every reason to believe that in some cases it was "authorised" by one or the other. No Allied Authority was informed of this illegal practice by the Major CORR or

signed by ZOLESI and issued to his agents :-

"Corrado. living at belongs to the Servizio Segreto di Informazione of this HQ of the Movimento Partigiano. The authorities are requested in their interests to assist to the utmost the work of our agents.

(Signed) Capt. ZOLESI"

4. The Questore and Major CCR and Questore countenanced Zolesi and his gang from Zolesi dated 2nd October 1944. No action was taken by either. The Questore denied all knowledge of the service, though he did in fact request information through it in connection a man named GIANNI TONIC (interned July 1944) and DI MARZIO, a member of the "1st Battalion". Correspondence dated 3rd Oct to this effect with the information asked was received by the Questore.

5. Without doubt the Major CCR and Questore countenanced Zolesi and his gang "requisitioning" motor cars, furniture and office accommodation. There is every reason to believe that in some cases it was "authorised" by one or the other. No Allied Authority was informed of this illegal practice by the Major CCR or Questore.

6. Information of a political character was demanded from the officials of the Principal Offices and Banks in Pescara. In other words Zolesi was over-riding the offices of the Major CCR, and Questore, who must have both known the fact.

7. On Sept 1. Zolesi accompanied by CCR presented himself at a village ^{3.3 km NW of} NO, Pescara Province, and demanded a number of articles of furniture. This was only a more subtle way of looting. It seems the Major CCR and the Questore detailed his man to accompany Zolesi.

8. Summarising it would seem that Zolesi was the power of the "law and order" and that both the Major CCR and the Questore operated more or less at his dictation.

9. The standards of efficiency of both men cannot be said to be very high. Both are on a par so far as initiative is concerned. Co-operation was there but only in so far as one had to continually prod. From the ZOLESI investigation it is obvious that most important facts touching on Allied and Public Security were withheld from AC, IS and FSS. It cannot be said that it was co-operation in the rear sense. The Questore can only be described as an old plodder, better employed in some small town.

Pescara Province in its present state requires Questore younger and more active. The Major CCR does know his job. Pescara city and the Province generally needs

- 2 -

a great responsibility for CORR. JUCCI, however, appears to have fallen down on it, and as events have proved, taken the line of least resistance.

10. ZULESI took advantage of the circumstances due to the combined weakness of both the Destora and the Major CORR to further his own ends.

/s/

for

T. Cotton,
Major,
Provincial Commissioner,
AC Chieti, Pescara & Teramo Provinces.

TFC/CP
Chieti.

2A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394.

AC/14103/PS.

Tel. 489981 - 365.

16th December, 1944.

SUBJECT : Movimento Partigiano, Pescara.

TO : R.P.S.O., Abruzzi-Marche, Region.

1A

1. Reference is made to your letter R/5/507/20, dated 13th December, 1944, enclosing a report from the R.P.S.O. of Chieti, Pescara and Teramo Provinces and a covering report from the Provincial Commissioner.

2. It is noted that the Provincial Public Safety Officer expressed the view that the Questore and the CC.RR "are not free from criticism" for allowing COLLESI's organisation to operate. The Provincial Commissioner recommends that both the Group CC.RR (not named) and the Questore be relieved from their appointments immediately. No opinion is expressed in your minute.

3. Before approaching the Commanding General of the CC.RR and the Ministry of the Interior, this Sub-Commission would like to have a report setting out the degree of responsibility attributed to those concerned in this matter and also giving information as to their standard of efficiency and their past records (including co-operation with the Allies).

4. Your observations and recommendations are awaited.

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

3358

APW/ca.

new file 14103/PS

COPY

CONFIDENTIAL ^{1A}SUBJECT : Movimento Partigiano, PESCARA

CPT/CONF.

9 Dec. 44.

TO: HQ. AMG/AC. Abruzzi-Marche Region
(For RPSO)

1. The attached copy of a report from the RPSO regarding the activities of the above named organisation, is forwarded.

2. In view of the fact that the CCRR and Questura failed to report the activities of the organisation and take the necessary steps against it, I consider that both the Group CCRR and Questore are unsuitable to hold their positions. I therefore recommend that they both be relieved from their appointments immediately.

/s/ ? ? ?

Major,
Provincial Commissioner,
AC CHIETI, PESCARA & TERAMO PROVINCES.

Chieti
RP

Copy to:- PPSO - Prov 6ffr PESCARA

CONFIDENTIAL

TO : HQ. AC. Public Safety Sub Commission
FROM : HQ. AMG/AC. Abruzzi-Marche Region
SUBJECT : Movimento Partigiano - Pescara.
REF : R5/507/20
DATE : 13 December 1944. 113

The above copy of letter together with copy of report of Capt. T. COTTON P.P.S.O. Chieti, Pescara, and Teramo Provinces, and copies of threats sent to the Prefect of Pescara are forwarded for your information.

FOR THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER :

[Signature]
J. PICKERING
Lt. Colonel
R.P.S.O.

3351

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COPY 1B

PS/SEC/CPT.

CONFIDENTIAL

2 Dec. 1944

Subject: Political Parties. Movimento Partigiano, Pescara.

To : Provincial Commissioner, Chieti, Pescara, and Teramo Provinces.

From : P.P.S.O., AC; Chieti, Pescara and Teramo Provinces.

1. Arrest of ZOLESI, Egidio, Capt. Leader of Movimento Partigiano, Pescara.
2. Dissolution of Movimento Partigiano, Pescara.
3. Banning of Movimento Publication, "CORRIERE DI PESCARA"
4. Blocking of Movimento Bank Accounts.

1. On 9 Nov. 44, at Via Palestra 17, Pescara, SETTEMBRINI, Nevio di Giovanni of Via Palestra 33, Pescara, produced a pistol and threatened a woman for having an Allied soldier as a friend of the family.

2. This was reported to P.S.S. Pescara who ordered the detention of SETTEMBRINI, pending enquiries. As a result, it was admitted by SETTEMBRINI that he was a member of the Partigiano Movimento, Pescara and one of the Party's Secret Police. This information was imparted to me by Capt. Burns, P.S.O.

3. On 10 Nov., Following a meeting with Capt. Burns and members of his Section, it was decided to raid the HQs of the Movimento at Pescara. This was carried out on the 11 Nov, with the result that proof sufficient was found, not only to arrest (1) the leader, Capt. ZOLESI, but gave sufficient grounds for (2) dissolving the Party, (3) the banning of Movimento publication "Corriere di Pescara" and (4) the blocking of all accounts held by ZOLESI.

4. In addition to documentary evidence on the working of the party, several hand grenades were found on the building, since that date pistols have been deposited with P.S.S.

5. Documents found gave proof of (a) a secret information service. This was known to both Questore and CCR, although denied by both, correspondence was found which bears out the authority to issue

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Movimento, Pescara and one of the Party's Secret Police. This information was imparted to me by Capt. Burns, P.S.O.

3. On 10 Nov., following a meeting with Capt. Burns and members of his Section, it was decided to raid the HQs of the Movimento at Pescara. This was carried out on the 11 Nov, with the result that proof sufficient was found, not only to arrest (1) the leader, Capt. ZOLESI, but gave sufficient grounds for (2) dissolving the Party, (3) the banning of Movimento publication "Corriere di Pescara" and (4) the blocking of all accounts held by ZOLESI.

4. In addition to documentary evidence on the working of the party, several hand grenades were found on the building, since that date pistols have been deposited with P.S.S.

5. Documents found gave proof of (a) a secret information service. This was known to both Questore and CCR, although denied by both, correspondence was found which bears out the facts. (b) "Capt. ZOLESI took unto himself the authority to issue travel passes of some sort which were evidently recognised by CCR, etc., another feature was the right to demand information from Banks, Industrial and Labour Organisations, all of a political nature. In other cases, ZOLESI, has given orders to employers to dismiss certain persons on political grounds. 335b

6. There is evidence to support the belief that ZOLESI had usurped the authority of CCR and Questura. He also passes himself off on occasions as a Field Security Officer.

7. ZOLESI collected information of all incidents in which allied personnel were concerned with Italians. Evidently this was collated and passed to some other organization, probably at Rome. No good reason was offered for this practice.

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His right hand men can only be considered as hoodlums.
 (1) GIGANTE, Antonio in Concerzio, Via Palestina 33 Pescara. (a) wanted for murder of LACONTI Carmine at Collecervino, 11 Nov. 33, and illegal possession of a firearm on that date. (b) threatening to shoot another DI CLAUDIO Benvenuto at above date and place. The CCRR cannot explain why he was not arrested as it was by all accounts well known that he was in Pescara as a right hand man of ZOLESI. The Questore is not free from responsibility in this respect.

(2) SUTTORBAINI, Nevio di Giovanni, Via Palestina, 33 Pescara.
 (a) Illegal possession of a firearm on Nov. 9, 44 and (b) using the firearm as a threat of violence on that date at Pescara.

Both men have been handed over to the CCRR for necessary action and subsequent trial by Italian Courts.

9. Publication of Party Newspaper. Without authority, ZOLESI published a newspaper, the "Corriere di Pescara". Formes application was refused by A.M.C. On the changeover to ACC, he immediately commenced a weekly publication without reference to ACC. The paper was banned on my orders, 14 Nov. 44.

Party Bank Accounts. ZOLESI had two current Bank Accounts: (1) from the publication of the "Corriere di Pescara", (2) Movimento Partigiano Fund, both with the Bank of Naples. The accounts were blocked on my order, 18 Nov. 44. In connection with the Party Fund ZOLESI stated that it was supported by sympathisers of the Partisan movement who made subscription. No documents were found to support the statements. Documents were found though, showing ZOLESI as signing unto himself 1,000 lire or more per day as expenses. A staff of six was employed at a cost of approximately 20,000 lire per month.

10. Attached are documents purporting the ZOLESI Band as originatore and addressed to the Prefect of Pescara. ZOLESI, when questioned on the documents denied all knowledge and pleaded complete ignorance. He promised at the time to investigate and

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11. The opinion formed after careful investigation of all documents seized and statements made by private individuals is:

- (a) The so-called Movimento Partigiano di Pescara is nothing more than a gang of hooligans, over which ZOLESI has little or no control.
- (b) That ZOLESI was running a racket which was bringing in sufficient money to enable him to live comfortably at 2,000 lire per day. The means was probably by making a demand for "protection money" and bringing pressure to bear upon employers to give work to certain persons, those who gained by his "influence" to pay a remuneration. It is highly probable that many were holding their jobs in return for a consideration to ZOLESI.

12. The CORR and Questore of Pescara are not free from criticism in their neglect to report to Allied Security Sections, the practices and demands made by ZOLESI and his men on influential members of the Community. Certain correspondence was found which clearly indicated that he made demands upon the Questore and his Office for information.

13. CCRN were will aware of the "ZOLESI Secret Police" or "Secret information Bureau" because it was proved that between the CCRN and the movement, a system of liaison was installed. Every move made by the CCRN must have been well known to ZOLESI beforehand. There is no good reason for such an arrangement by CCRN with an organization.

14. Capt Burns, O.C. 409 FSS, CMF has been wholeheartedly co-operative in affording every assistance in the furnishing of all documents relating to this report. Such documents are held by Capt. Burns, as it has been recommended that ZOLESI be interned as a danger to Allied security.

15. G.S.I. (B) HQ NO. 3 District, CMF are in possession of all the facts.

/s/ Capt. T. COTTON,
P.P.S.O.
AC Chieti, Pescara and
Teramo Provinces.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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COPY

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EXCELLENCY !

It's too much now! We assisted until now to the double game that you're playing. It's useless to try to save your position and that of your companions, because they will follow the lot of all the betrayers, and with them who tries to save them.

We are one with Capt. Zelesi Egidio. We love and respect him because he shared with us joy and grief, dread, hunger and sacrifice. It's been Zelesi to lead us on the way of the honour and not a DI CLEMENTE, or a MOSCIA or a MERU, etc. Who ever knew these wicked individuals? They appeared on the stage only when the Allied troops liberated the zone. Are these the patriots? or those who actually fought?

EXCELLENCY !

If you still have the intention to form a fascist committee, you'll be wrong a lot. We have sufficient arms and we are a whole people of partisans decided to everything. We are young, like our commander and full of enthusiasm and faith.

Yesterday our homeland asked blood of martyrs and we didn't deny it, today instead, she's asking that of the rogues, and we will not say no. We are decided, and we give you a bit of time to decide. Try to avoid the catastrophe which seems to be unavoidable. Let's say clearly: We give five days of time to eliminate from their positions those who are not worthy of it and that until yesterday have been fascists.

If on the expiring of the fifth day, which is Wednesday 17 inst. you will have not actuated our advice, you will see Pescara invaded by thousand of true partisans, who, with the arms in the hands, will make justice of blood. Decision taken, we sign: Moscufo, Scafa, Manoppello, etc, etc.

P.C.C.

L'Archivista of P.C.

1189

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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P.C.C.
L'Archivista of P.C.

3350

TO : S.E. The Prefect, PESCARA.

Excellency. Well impressed in our mind is the 8 Sept. 43, date in which every true Italian, specially in Abruzzo, the partisan, took the arms in order to enterprise the daring march that Italy enterprised to liberate itself after 22 years from the oppressor fascism.

Ecc. We, the partisans, are still well armed and we like to tell you this. We know that you have as follower DI CLEMENTE, DI RAVO and company. We even know that you are playing a double game. You want to complete the destruction of Pescara, but you will not do it. We will let you disappear together with your followers as DI RAVO, LOMBARDI, DI CLEMENTE, CAMORRA, etc. We dont want people substituted by a defunct king. The suppliers of castor oil are not liked; we dont want heroes that courageously marched on Rome.

With the double game, if you and your retinue care of your and their life, eliminate the above mentioned subjects, otherwise we will eliminate you and them. We want men who are really worthy to be at the head.

We, partisans of Abruzzo, know only one true partisan and he's called if you like to know it, Capt. Egidio Zolesi, a young man, an animator, an organizer of the people, a man who gave everything and asked nothing a man worth to be enumerated among the most pure patriots of Abruzzo.

We, partisans of all Abruzzo, are tied to him for life and death, as we were on the mountains of Abruzzo, and all the enemies will clash against this man and against an army of partisans which is ready to retake the arms and make justice. But before this catastrophe will happen try to make some repair, otherwise many families will cry included your fascist gang.

Ecc. Pay attention, you still have some time to decide. We dont want the capitalists. We even know that you are fighting Capt. Zolesi, but you will not succeed and we are sure of this; remember only that all the people is with him, and that at his signal the people will spring up and spread blood. It is time to finish it, and if you will not we will.

Partisans of Abruzzo.

Partigiani d'Abruzzo.

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Partisans of Abruzzo.

Partigiani d'Abruzzo.

Catignano
Rosciano
Carpineto Nora
Cepagatti
Pianella
Alanno
Spoltore.

Civitella Casanova
Montesilvano Spiaggia
Elice
La Maiella
Cerratina

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P.C.C.
L'Archivista di P.S.

TO	DATE
COL. CHAPMAN	16/1/44
COL. YOUNG	
LT. COL. WILCOY	
MAJ. LUCKMAN	
MAJ. WILSON	
MAJ. HANFORD	
MAJ. BALLANCE	
CAPT. POWELL	
CHIEF	

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