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

785016

10000/143/816

MASS MEETING ON 12/11/44
NOV. 1944

ATTN: NO. 25

11 Nov 44

TO: C.G.S.

- 1 As directed by the A/C I called on the Prime Minister at 5.30 yesterday. He was in the middle of a meeting which he left to see me. I stated that Comodorn Stone had asked me to see H.E. to ensure that the meeting on the 12 Nov 44 was having his personal attention. H.E. replied that the meeting he had just left was considering the matter now. He himself was in favour of having the meeting in an enclosed space as recommended by the Questore, but he was having difficulty with the Party Leaders at that moment. He asked my opinion and stated that in view of the serious situation that might arise if trouble ensued, it would be desirable to hold the meeting in a closed place so as to ensure better police supervision. He entirely agreed and asked whether, if there were any disturbance and the Allied Military Police were called out, there would be a danger of some being put under Military Government. I stated that there would be such a danger.
- 2 I asked him if he was going to give the necessary instructions for the meeting to be held in a closed space but he was evasive. It is quite clear that it will all depend on the result of the meeting, but I hope that my appearance was timely and I am sure that H.E. was fortified by some healthy Allied advice.
- 3 As Lazio Region are fully aware of the meeting and have the matter in hand (see para 6 of Memo No. 1) I do not think that there is anything more that we can usefully do at the moment.

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4.

"11" Govt's decision is to hold meeting on Police
 Hill. After discussion with CC, Brig Upjohn, Lt Col
 Ames, Lt Col Pellade and Maj Coxhead it was agreed
 AC would take no further action. 7

-5-

ABOS LA Section.

G. R. Chapman
C. J. Wright, Jr.
W. G. Secor, Jr.
1944

4.

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-5-

S. C. L. L. A. Section.

I dislike the situation disclosed by this file and protest it.
This was definitely a matter of interest to the subcommittee
and one in which this S/C might ultimately be held
responsible yet the S/C was bypassed in the discussion held
the only official notice we have had is the preceding minute which
came to my desk after 1000 hrs this morning. I represent
that in discussions involving public safety matters the S/C
is entitled to be represented.

Chapman
Baloul

12 Nov. 1944.

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I will raise the question
of channels at next COS meeting. GPC:ms

1. The Chief of Police

1. Information has been received in the Bureau, dated May 15, 1964, from the Chief of Police, New York City, regarding the activities of the "Black Liberation Army" (BLA) in the New York City area. It is requested that you advise the Bureau of any information received from the New York City Police Department regarding the activities of the BLA in the New York City area.
2. The Bureau is aware of the activities of the BLA in the New York City area. It is requested that you advise the Bureau of any information received from the New York City Police Department regarding the activities of the BLA in the New York City area.
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4. It is requested that you advise the Bureau of any information received from the New York City Police Department regarding the activities of the BLA in the New York City area.
5. Accordingly, the Bureau is requested to advise the New York City Police Department of the activities of the BLA in the New York City area.
6. This matter is being handled by the New York City Police Department. It is requested that you advise the Bureau of any information received from the New York City Police Department regarding the activities of the BLA in the New York City area.

John W. Chapman

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To C.O.S.

I recommend that the A.C.C. should bring this matter to the attention of the Prime Minister personally; unless he would like me to do so as this affects the P.M. in his capacity of Minister of the Interior. May I please be considered in favour of the A.C.C. decision as soon as possible.

9/11 A/CC
For consideration
To XOS-CH J.
To XOS-CH J. with Min of Int.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LANTANA REGION

141273A

cc.

Regional Public Safety H.

12th Nov. 1944.

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST-SOCIALIST MEETING ON PALATINE HILL
(Dominiano Stadium) Sunday 12th Nov. 1944.

To: Col. Charles Colletti, Regional Commissioner.
(with copies for: General Brown, Rome Commander.
AG.HQ.)

1. The Communist-Socialist Meeting to commemorate the XVII Anniversary of the Russian Revolution was held at the Dominiano Stadium on the Palatine Hill on Sunday 12th Nov. 1944. Processions began to arrive with banners and slogans from 8.30 a.m. onwards.

2. By 10 a.m. there were about 5000 present and by 11 a.m. 14,000 persons.

3. The meeting commenced at 11 a.m. and Pietro XXIII, Socialist leader spoke first, followed later by Mr. Togliatti, the Communist leader. Both had enthusiastic receptions.

4. During their speeches hundreds of leaflets were distributed with "Abbasso la Monarchia" (Down with the Monarchy) and "Viva il Proletariato" (Long live the Proletariat) thereon.

5. The meeting was quiet and orderly throughout and terminated at 1 p.m. There was no clash, no incidents, and no disorder of any kind. The organisers of the meeting had arranged for about 500 stewards and marshals with armbands, red or white, to assist in controlling the crowds and acting as marshals at the meeting. The armbands read: "Partito Comunista Italiano - Servizio d'Ordine" (Italian Communist Party - Order services). I had an opportunity of having a chat with the organisers and the principal stewards before the meeting commenced, and they worked excellently throughout in the preservation of good order.

6. In view of these arrangements by the Communist leaders, it was deemed unwise to have a show of Police strength around the meeting and I advised Mr. Questore accordingly. As a result there were no CC.HQ. or Metropolitan anywhere near the meeting, and

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOV. - ROME
INFORMATION SECTION

Regional Public Safety HQ.

11th Nov. 1944.

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST-SOCIALIST MEETING ON PALATINE HILL,
(Dominiano Stadium) Sunday 12th November, 1944.

TO : Col. Charles Poletti, Regional Commissioner
(copy to: General B. von, Rome Commander
AC. HQ.)

1. Approval was finally given during the evening of 10th November, 1944, at 6.30 p.m. for the Communist-Socialist Meeting to be held at the Dominiano Stadium on the Palatine Hill on Sunday 12th Nov. 1944, commencing about 10 a.m. Between 10,000 and 15,000 persons are expected to attend the Meeting.
2. Earlier in the day application had been made to the Questore by the above parties for the meeting to take place at Piazza Maron. The Questore was of considered opinion that this place was unsuitable for a large concourse of people, from a police point of view, and he recommended to the Italian Government that the Meeting, if approved, should be held inside the Adriano Theatre or the National Stadium.
3. The Italian Government refused the request to hold the meeting at the Piazza Savona, and the Communist-Socialist leaders applied immediately for permission to hold their meeting (in commemoration of the XVII Anniversary of the Russian Revolution) on the Palatine Hill. This was approved by Mr. Bonomi on behalf of the Italian Government and communicated to the Communist-Socialist leaders direct.
4. In company with Maj. Corhead, I attended the Questore's Office at 6.30 p.m. 10 Nov. 1944, when Col. Terinetti, Chief of CC. HQ. in Rome was present. Both the Questore and Col. Terinetti were of the opinion that the Palatine Hill was no ideally suited from a Police point of view, and in fact not so suitable as Piazza Savona.
5. I thereupon advised the Questore, Mr. Bonomi and Mr. Terinetti, and placed on record the view of himself and Col. Terinetti, and that Mr. Terinetti, Chief of Police, be also informed.

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2. Earlier in the day application had been made to the Questore by the above parties for the meeting to take place at Piazza Navona. The Questore was of considered opinion that this place was unsuitable for a large concourse of people, from a police point of view, and he recommended to the Italian Government that the Meeting, if approved, should be held inside the Adriano Theatre or the National Stadium.

3. The Italian Government refused the request to hold the meeting at the Piazza Navona, and the Communist-Socialist leaders applied immediately for permission to hold their meeting (in commemoration of the XVII Anniversary of the Russian Revolution) on the Palatine Hill. This was approved by Mr. Scelmi on behalf of the Italian Government and communicated to the Communist-Socialist leaders direct.

4. In company with Maj. Conhead, I attended the Questore's Office at 6.30 p.m. 10 Nov. 1944, when Col. Ferinetti, Chief of C.S.M. in Rome was present. Both the Questore and Col. Ferinetti were of the opinion that the Palatine Hill was no ideally suited from a Police point of view, and in fact not so suitable as Piazza Navona.

5. I thereupon advised the Questore, Mr. Morazzini to ring his Government and place on record the view of himself and Col. Ferinetti, and that Mr. Ferrant, Chief of Police be also informed. This Mr. Morazzini did in my presence. He spoke personally to Mr. Scelmi. The latter's reply was that the Italian Government had approved this, and that the approval had already been communicated to the Communist-Socialist leaders, and the Italian Government were against any change in the arrangements.

6. At 2.15 a.m. 11 Nov. 1944, I visited the Palatine Hill, and although it is not really suitable in my opinion for a large assembly, I do not think the Allies should interfere.

- 2 -

7. Col. Perinetti expresses a strong view that there might possibly be trouble and bloodshed on this occasion. The feelings of a few extremists were high following the recent shooting of one of their party. Further, some are out for revolution. Col. Perinetti said his men were ready to meet the situation.

8. The necessary police arrangements are in hand. Over 1000 civil police and CC. 22. will be on duty. About 100 police (mounted) will be available. All police are being instructed carefully in their duties and to avoid any incident that might lead to a serious clash.

9. I will be in the vicinity of the meeting myself all the time. Maj. Coxhead will also be on duty. Every effort will be made to avoid any ugly incidents. There are rumors that some may have bombs or hand grenades, but there is nothing concrete at the moment. I am causing certain enquiries to ascertain the truth of this or otherwise. Any information received will be immediately reported.

10. The speakers are: Pietro Nenni (Socialist) and Palmiro Togliatti (Communist) and the meeting will last to about 12.30 p.m.

11. Arrangements are in hand for a good telephonic communication between a point on the Palatine Hill and Regional H. also to the Rome Commander. In addition I have arranged with Provost Marshal for the provision of a wireless transmitting set, near the meeting place so that urgent messages can be transmitted both to Regional H. and Rome Commander.

12. Rome Commander will be kept in touch with the situation at all stages, through his representative in the vicinity.

13. Over 200 Military Police (British and American) will be held in reserve at strategic places out of sight. A certain number of Allied military will also be at the disposal of Rome Commander at a certain place out of public view.

14. The weather is quite clear on the procedure he must follow if the situation gets completely out of hand, and the civil police unable to maintain order.

15. At 10 a.m. with Nov. 1944, in company with Col. Ames and Maj. Coxhead, the situation was discussed with Col. Pike and Brigs. Upjohn at 2000 hrs patrols will be on duty in the streets leading to *St. Mark*

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15. At 10 a.m. 11th Nov. 1944, in company with Col. Ames and Maj. Coxhead, the situation was discussed with Col. Fiske and Brile. Urgent messages will be on duty in the streets leading to the Palatine Hill to prevent any possibility of looting shops etc.

J. A. POLLOCK

Lt. Colonel

Chief, Public Safety
Lazio-Umbria Region.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LATIO-UMBRIA REGION

Public Safety, Rome.

7th November, 1944.

TO: Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission, A.C.HQ. ✓
(thru' Regional Commissioner).

1. I submit for your information copies of a communication made by the Questore of Rome to the Chief of Police and the Prefect of Rome. (A.A. attached)

2. It will be seen that information has been received that during the night of the 6th Nov. 1944, several notices were to be posted throughout Rome, translations of which are attached to the Questore's report.

3. The following action has been taken by the Questore in this matter:

-H.E. Ferrari, Chief of Police has been seen with the request that in view of the subversive and seditious nature of the posters, that it be immediately brought to the attention of the Government for action at that level.

4. In connection with this report, I refer you to a further report received from the Questore at 3.A. attached, wherein attention is brought to the fact that on the occasion of the XXVII Anniversary of the Russian Revolution, a Mass Meeting in the Piazza Savona is to be held on 12th Nov. 1944.

5. The Questore brings to the notice of the Chief of Police the danger to public order if this meeting is allowed to take place, and it is suggested that the responsible parties organising the meeting should hold it in some theatre or other closed place, where the police at disposition can more readily control the people should any adverse situation arise.

6. Submitted; any further information to hand will be immediately transmitted to you.

E.L. CORNHEAD
Major
Public Safety Officer
ROME

7 Nov 44
H. L. J. P. C. S.

Deals
with on
A.C.C./11/26
HS

AM
14127
HS

4970

ROYAL QUESTURA OF ROME2^A ~~1A~~

Rome, 7th Nov. 1944.

For the information of Col.
Pollock.VERY URGENT MESSAGE BY HAND.TO H.E. THE CHIEF OF POLICE
TO H.E. THE PREFECTROME

In the early hours of yesterday evening, I received reliable information, that during the night, there would have been posted up on the walls of the city, notices printed in hiding, inciting the people to riot.

Having given explicit orders to the patrols on night duty, to watch and arrest those posting up these notices, the various services were able to tear off and destroy a great number of notices, which, assisted by the darkness, had since the very early evening been posted up, especially in the popular districts of the city.

The notices were accompanied by numerous inscriptions on walls with paint, mostly of an anti-monarchical tone, the same as those which determined the incident of yesterday evening, in Via Ravenna, regarding which I have reported separately.

The notices, of which I enclose a sample, are of four types, headed:

"P.S. AGENTS" (a) ✓

"TO CARABINIERI" (b)

"TO SOLDIERS" (c)

"CC.RR. PUBBLICA SICUREZZA, MONARCHICAL INSTITUTIONS" (d)

The notices incite hate against the institutions and against public force, and come within the systematic campaign of breaking up the remaining statal powers, with the distinct aim of being seditious and revolutionary.

THE QUESTORE
MORAZZINI

68.~

TRANSLATION

②

AGENTS OF P.S.

You, who till the 25th July, with the most barbaric ways, sustained fascism. With you Fascism created for itself a fortress which gave it power for over 20 years.

You committed all the crimes against those who saw the ruin of Italy in Fascism. You were the scarecrow for the people. Your authority knew no limits. It was ~~easy~~ enough for an agent to say "yes", that it was yes. You cannot deny all the harm you did to the population, forcing it not to speak with the threaten of beating, prison or confinement. You reigned until your leader was betrayed by his ^{UC} complice.

The 25th July the population, if it had wanted to, could have made you pay for all your misdeeds as you would have deserved. But the good population did not want to stain itself with crimes like those you committed in 20 years. From the 25th July to the 8th September you protected the complice of your first master. Then you were using more diplomatical ways, you used fascist elements, to stop any popular movement. You needed the pay. The King continued to give it to you. And you continued to serve the new master, with the hope that one day he would have brought the old one back to you, under a different form, and you were certain that he would have given you that authority you so desired.

The 8th September came. Your first thought was to desert the Barracks to hide your selves. You were afraid that the people might have been the winners and that, this time, they would have made you pay for all your crimes. But it was not like this. Once again the people were betrayed by your master. He let his old ~~accomplice~~ accomplice return, protect by German bayonettes, to martyrize with more ferocity than before, us sons of Italy. Your new, but old master, the one who made you omnipotent, called you back, and he did not have to do it with force. An only appeal was necessary and the streets saw you again, "the good ones" of Mussolini. What did you do till the 4th June? How many patriots did you give over to the claws of the barbaric Hun? How many executions? How many homes without their beloved, because you gave them over to be transfered to Germany?

You all were accomplices of Caruso, and you all deserve his end.

Do you remember the day the Allied troops entered Rome? How many of you were disarmed in your own barracks, and cowardly thinking that the P.S. was practically dead, you asked for pity, promising that the Police agents would from then on collaborate with the people, as also they were sons of the people. To-day the population sees in you the same tyrants, the same slaves of the fascist Monarchy. But remember that the day is not far when you will pay for your misdeeds, if you don't stop to protect that murderer, who on the golden throne revels, laughing over the sufference of the people.

Agents! Get yourselves a clean conscience, turn your force against those beings which made you do nothing else but hate.

CARABINIERI.

(4)

You are unconsciously not doing anything but bringing back fascism to Italy, that fascism which in september 1943, gave you to the mercy of the Germans, humiliated you, despised you in the most base manner.

Remember how many of you were badly treated. Remember that carabinieri who in Piazza Guglielmo Pepe was stopped by two German soldiers, disarmed, clothes taken away and left in his drawers.

It was fascism that backed up the Germans in these acts. But the real person responsible was the king, that king for whom today with so much zeal you try to consolidate his falling throne, that king that calls your Arm the "Fedelissima" (the most faithful) but who did not hesitate one second to betray, and with it betray the People also. Have you not got a family? Are you not the sons of the peasants and workers in the factories?

Remember when you were disarmed in your barracks and held as criminals awaiting to be transferred to Germany for forced labour? Many of you were able to escape by climbing over the barracks' walls. Who gave you clothes? Who gave you hospitality? Who helped you to escape the watch of the nazi-fascist sentinels? Was it not the people? That People who does not want the king who has betrayed it, and on whose conscience thousands of victims lie. That king who only for his ambition has brought destruction to our country!

That People wants to revenge its sacred rights of equality.

No. You sons of the people cannot collaborate for an unjust and infamous cause. Your mothers, your dear one will curse you if you attempt to obstruct the course of history and history

CLEAR OUT THE S VOIAS FROM ITALY

From centuries these base beings have exploited the Italian People.

CARABINIERI, PUBBLICA SICUREZZA
MONARCHICAL INSTITUTIONSd

The day is near in which from the fields, from the factories, from each house, that Great mass of people will break through, which for generations has been bearing the weight of monarchical-burgess. Nothing will be able to stop this Mass! Because behind it there is another, numerous, swarming, invisible one. It is the Mass of the Martyrs which is making its way to find that liberty, that light for which it has sacrificed its life.

Remember, protectors of tyranny! Whoever will attempt to defend those persons, whose intelligence has never acted for anything humane, summary justice will be made in the squares, in the name of the People, by the Will of the People.

ROYAL QUESTURA OF ROMEMEMORANDUM

for H.E. the Chief of Police.

copy for the confidential
information of Col.
Pollock.

I have been informed that on the occasion of XVII Anniversary of the Russian Revolution, there will take place, in Piazza Navona, on the 12th inst., a great meeting of people.

It is my duty to pre-advise Your Excellency that I deem it unfit and dangerous for public order that this proposition go into effect, in view of the largeness of the square, the uncontrollable entrance of the public, in which inevitably the worst elements will mix, and the incurable numerical deficiency and quality of the public force at disposition.

In addition to the above just preoccupations for the maintenance of public order, one must add the renewed campaign of extremist parties, through the press, of public abusive postings and slogans, exciting hate against the public force, of which yesterday evening we have had the first warning example; an irresponsible campaign, and not held in by Government powers, which discourages the public force and places it in a position of inferiority.

The above manifestation could take place, with greater guarantee for public order, in a theatre, or in some other closed place, without losing its greatness, and gaining in seriousness.

It is noted to Your Excellency, that if it is insisted in having the meeting in the open, that between G.C.R.R. and P.S. Agents, only a few hundred men could be employed, leaving at the same unguarded other important objectives of the City.

Rome, 7th November, 1944,

THE QUESTORE
Morazzini.

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