

ACC

10000/143/1429
(1ST)

PUBLIC
DEC. 19

10000/143/1429
(1ST)

PUBLIC ORDER, SICILY, CATANIA INCIDENT
DEC. 1944 - JAN. 1945

C.H.S.

to 3.1 for signature please

Minute

(13)

Handwritten note
P.D.S.

2/1/50
H.M.S. 5.20.40
Ext. 104, 10 5.0

14.

Director of Public Safety

64A arrives at 52A.

C.H.S. has wires to prepare a report.

Draft reply attached.

64A over 104
Public Safety

5th Jan 1945

6.11.45

67A for signature please.

Handwritten
6.11.45

Handwritten
6.11.45

1437

To P.S.

See 7 letter at 67a. Your attention is drawn to the fact that this unnecessary correspondence might have been saved if you had informed Sicily Region that you had instructed the Italian Authorities to make

64^A arrives at 52^A.

CAS have asked us to prepare a reply.

Draft reply attached.

64^A & 52^A both
followed up.

3rd Jan 1945

C.A.D.:-

67^A for signature please.

148

4 Dec 45

Hopman
Colonel D.A.D.

To P.S.

See 7 letter at 67^a. Your attention is drawn to the fact that this unnecessary correspondence might have been saved if you had informed Sicily Region that you had instructed the Italian Authorities to make an investigation + report. Please remember in future that your agents made with the Italian Govt which affect a particular region should always be communicated to the R.C. affected. If you had sent a copy of 53^a to the R.C. the matter would have been covered.

7 Jan 44.

MINUTE SHEET V

TO : DCOS, CA Section.

1. Please summarise (a) Catania, (b) Sicilian disturbances in a note or telegram for Chief Commissioner and AFHQ giving appreciation of reasons for riots, nature of disturbances and composition of mobs, action on part of CC.RR and other Italian authorities.
2. The police in CATANIA appear to have been lamentably weak and their Commandant notably absent. It should be impossible for a crowd of 200 to get out of hand in this way. This needs immediate action on the part of Public Safety Sub-Commission who should take note of the last paragraph of Brigadier Carr's letter. (What are the ambiguous directions of the Supreme Command to which Brigadier Carr refers?) The conduct of the CC.RR has a direct bearing on the Allied war effort. It is not satisfactory. Is the Public Safety Sub-Commission satisfied that we have done all that is possible to improve matters? The matter must be represented to the Prime Minister by the Chief Commissioner. Please have a letter drafted referring to the conduct of CC.RR in CATANIA (which is not accurately reported in Page 31A).
3. What action has been taken in arming CC.RR with truncheons?

MSL/JG.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff,

PS. Please deal with para 1 at 8 first as a matter of urgency. After that has been done:-
Review still your views on para 2-3, and summarise the action proposed to be taken.

CAS

24 DEC. 1944

CAS As requested notes of Sicily disturbances
for information of Chief Commissioner

Refused
Lt Col
Public Safety

27 Dec 1944

11.

Command to which Brigadier Carr refers? The conduct of the CC.RR is direct bearing on the Allied war effort. It is not satisfactory. Is the Public Safety Sub-Commission satisfied that we have done all that is possible to improve matters? The matter must be represented to the Prime Minister by the Chief Commissioner. Please have a letter drafted referring to the conduct of CC.RR in CATANIA (which is not accurately reported in Page 31A).

3. What action has been taken in arming CC.RR with truncheons?

MSL
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff

MSL/JG.

PS. Please deal with para 1 of 2 first as a matter of urgency. After that has been done: - Please state your views on para 2 & 3, and summarize the action proposed to be taken.

CAS
24 DEC 1944

Handwritten signature
In case

10

CAS As requested notes of Sicily distribution for information of Chief Commissioner

Refused
at 6th
Public Safety

27 Dec 1944

11

PS. See 10th 6th Appendix by us (Copy to Lord Jervis)
R.A. Sec.

29 DEC 1944

12

PS. Please see 6th. Draft reply prepared

62A.

Handwritten signature
DPS.

For SCS.
30/12/44

To CAS. 10A For information

18 Dec. 44

To CAS

18 Dec. 1944

Humble Sheet

4

11A 12A 13A 14A } for information
 15A 16A 17A }
 18A 19A 20A }

John W. Chapman

Director of Public Safety

⑥

To. C.A.

Reports through C.A.R. & Charms regardinglicity disturbances are
 at the 17, 18, 19, 20. They are found to be information.

C.A.S.

14 Dec. 44

A. 608.

DEOS C.A.S.

1. Div summary of reasons for disturbance, to A.C.R. explain source of info.
2. Subject reason appears to be the unexpected call up and the fact that the authorities had no notice thereof. This should be brought to attention of A.C.R. and the Nelson Govt.

H.S. 22070

3. Coordination with the Joint Forces Sub Com. who know all

Lowell W. Hedy
 Public Safety, D.C.

18th Dec 1944

11 12A 13A 14A } for information
 15A 16A 17A }
 18A 19A 20A }
 John W. Chapman
 Director of Public Safety

②

To: C.S.

Report through C.S.R. & Charities regarding Society disturbances are at the 17th & 18th 1944. They are passed to you for information.

C.S.

14th Dec 44

X. 602.

J.C.S. C.A.S.

1. Dir summary of reasons for disturbances, AFTER explaining source of info.
2. Salient reason appears to be the unexpected call up and the fact that the authorities had no notice thereof. This should be brought to attention of AFTER and the Police Govt.
3. Coordination with the Joint Forces Sub Com. who know all about the call-up days before a cessation.

W.S. (21/12/44)

MINUTE NO. 1.

C.A. Section.

Please see 1A/2A - 3A 4th 5A. Copy Cable has been supplied to Major Fielden. P.A.O.

15th December, 1944.

300 265.

P.S.

Note: 1A/2A - 3A 4th 5A.

of the cable of 5A.

C.A.S.

16 Dec. 44.

x. 608.

TO : C.A. Section.

The position as at 1 p.m. 17 Dec 44 is:

The latest official information is contained in the signal dated 15 Dec 44, from the Regional Commissioner, Sicily (6-A)

An Italian Government Press communique announced that further demonstrations were held in various parts of the island on the 15 Dec 44. (See 8-A) This has not been confirmed from Allied Sources nor by CC.RR. HQ.

At 1230 p.m. 17 Dec 44, the Chief of Public Security, Ministry of the Interior stated that at 7 p.m. on the 16 Dec the High Commissioner for Sicily telephoned the Minister of the Interior and said that public order was tranquil. He promised to telephone again at 11 a.m. on the 17 Dec if there were any new developments. No telephone call had been received and it was presumed that public order was normal.

The Chief of Police added that the new Prefect of Catania had left Rome by plane on the morning of 17 Dec 44.

The Chief of Police stated that the situation in Sicily was under control.

The strength of police agencies in Sicily is as follows:

CC.RR.	8,272
Agents of P.S.	2,702
Finance Guards	2,218

Internal Garrison troops of the Italian Army (Chiefly Sabaudia Division)

Handwritten: P.S. Wilson M.A.

Handwritten: P.J. WILSON Major

Handwritten: P/S S/O. for C.A.S.

Handwritten: 3

Handwritten: 12.30 p.m. 16 Dec.

Handwritten: J.R. Cripps

Handwritten: 14.5

Handwritten: 3

TO : C.A. Section.

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The Chief of Police stated that the situation in Sicily was under control.

The strength of police agencies in Sicily is as follows:

CC.RR.	5,272
Agents of P.S.	2,702
Finance Guards	2,215

Internal Garrison troops of the Italian Army (Chiefly Sabaudia Division) stationed in Sicily Number :

633 Officers and 10,372 men.

Arrangements are in hand to reinforce the CC.RR. in Sicily by sending 786 troops of the Montegrano Battalion to Palermo. It is hoped these men will arrive before Christmas.

A mobile unit of 1000 CC.RR. is being equipped with 24 three ton trucks and 24 armored vehicles supplied by the Minister of War. These CC.RR. are drawn from those already serving on the island. They will be distributed throughout Sicily with HQ's at Palermo and Messina.

17/12/44
Room E-1 5th Floor
Ext 365. FS S/C.

Director Public Safety

Translation	
COL. CRISPIN	12/11
COL. WONG	2/11
LT. COL. WILCOX	
MAJ. LUCKMAN	Subject
MAJ. WILSON	
MAJ. HADLEY	To
MAJ. BALLANCE	
MAJ. FOWEL	
MAJ. CLARK	

CC.NR. Gen. HQ.

17 Jan 1945

N. 105/10

Corleone (Palermo) - Antimilitary Propaganda.

A.C. Public Safety Sub-Commission.

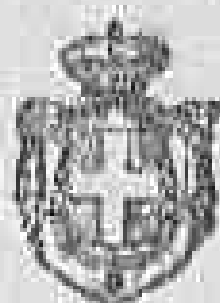
At Corleone (Palermo), in the early hours of the 8 inst., unknown persons affixed two handwritten posters carrying slogans such as:

"" Who is longing for the Army?
A clique of Officers who do not know, what to do in order to better fill their portfolio.- The hour of revenge has arrived, let us, Sicilians, prepare arms and ammunitions and shout death the officers, who betray us and our children. Nobody must present himself. - We beg the Authorities not to tear up.-

Sicily for ever "".

Commanding General 2.4.8
- Taddeo Orlando -

RV.



RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 105/13 di prot. Ris. Pers.

Roma, 17 gennaio 1945

Risposta al

dal

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Corleone (Palermo) - Propaganda antisocialista.-

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

ROMA

Nella notte sull'otto corrente, in Corleone (Palermo), sono
scelti affiggere due manifestini manoscritti, così concepiti:

“CHI VUOLE L'ESERCITO?”

UNA CRISCA DI UFFICIALI CHE NON SAPO NO CHE FARE PER FARE
RISTORARE IL TROVATO FORTAFOGLIO. - PERCHÉ A NOI SICILIANI
GIORNI ARRIVA (L'ORA DELLA RISCOSSA) PR. DANIELI ROSSI E LUNIGIA
NE E ORTANO A NOTTE GLI UFFICIALI TRA ITORI E NOI E NOI BO-
STI FIGLI.-

CHE NESSUNO SI PRESENTA - SI PREGA L'AUTORITÀ NON STRASCIAR-
RE.-

VIVA LA SICILIA!!!.-

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
- Tullio Orlando -

14.7

Translation.

CC.RR. Gen. HQ.

16 Jan 1945
N. 105/8

TO	
COL. CHAPMAN	
COL. YOUNG	
LT. COL. WILCOX	
MAJ. LUCKA	
MAJ. WILSON	
MAJ. HANDB	
MAJ. BALLANCE	
CAPE POWELL	
CHIEF CLERK	

Subject : Sicily - Antimilitary Propaganda.
To : P.S.C. Public Safety Sub-Commission.

Tortorici (Messina) -

At Tortorici (Messina) on the 22nd December 1944, type-written posters were distributed to the students, carrying slogans such as:

Juvenile Republican Front
Sicilian Revolutionary Committee
ULTIMATUM
To Allied Commission Rome
To Italian Government Rome

The Sicilian youth does not intend to be "mercenary" at the dependence of the Fascist Monarchy and of the foreigner. If Italy is considered a conquered nation and if she, by virtue of an ignominious armistice, has been sold, the young Sicilians intend to keep their proper strengths, so as to redeem honour at the opportune moment.

The Juvenile Republican Front declares itself ready to send all young men of the classes subjected to the call-up to the recruitment centres, at the following conditions:

- 1) annulment of the armistice - September 1943;
- 2) Fall of the Monarchy in Italy and institution of prosecution against monarchists and fascists responsible for the present ruin of Italy: The King, his son, Badoglio;
- 3) Restitution to the Italian people of the sense of dignity of a really free people;
- 4) Bread for the population.

If, in case that the above conditions will not be accepted, the military call-up order will not be revoked, within 10 days from the date of the ultimatum, armed bands will be formed on the mountains of Sicily and hostile activities will begin against the Allies and against the Government.

From P.R.G. Headquarters - 15 December 1944".

During the afternoon of the next day 25, same poster was found affixed in the neighbourhood of the "workers" club at Mistretta (Messina).

S. Caterina Villarmosa (Caltanissetta) -

On the 12 inst., following posters were found affixed:

" Those called-up, Sicilians, no time must be wasted, the hour to proceed has arrived. Your comrades of south-east Sicily - Gela - Vittoria - Ragusa - Modica - Comiso - Noto - Siracusa - Catania etc. have already started the revolt.

- 2 -

Put a rifle or any arm whatsoever on your arms and reunite
 on the mountains. Soon your comrades will join you. Whilst
 the power is in your hands, a government of a few puppets
 has sold you to the enemy as gun-fodder. The hour of libera-
 tion is very near. Sicilians of these Vespers to the arms
 for the holy war!"

Commanding General
 - Taddeo Orlando -

rv.

TO	DATE
COL. CHAPMAN	22/11
COL. YOUNG	22/11
LT. COL. WILSON	
MAJ. LUTHERAN	
MAJ. WILSON	
MAJ. HANCOCK	
MAJ. BAKER	
CAPT. BAKER	

145



Translate please.
RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 105/0 di prot. R. R.

Roma, li 18 gennaio 1945

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Sicilia - Propaganda antitalianista.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

Sottocommissione per la P.S. -

R O M A

Portofici (Messina) -

Il 12 dicembre 1944, in Portofici (Messina), vennero distribuiti agli studenti manifestanti dettati, così concepiti:

"Fronte Repubblicano Giovane
 Comitato Rivoluzionario Siciliano

D E I L I T A N T I

1474

Alla Commissione Alleata Roma
 Al Governo Italiano Roma

La gioventù siciliana non intende essere mercenaria al servizio delle monarchie fasciste e dello straniero. Se l'Italia è considerata una nazione vinta e se essa, in virtù di un'ignominiosa armistizio, è venduta, i giovani della Sicilia intendono conservare le proprie forze per riscattare l'onore al momento opportuno.

./...

2000

• • •

- 3 -

to al nucleo come corno da guerra. L'ora della liberazione
è vicina. Siciliani del vespro alle armi la guerra santa."

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
- Federico Orlando -

Federico Orlando

1473

Allied Force Headquarters
Information and Censorship Section
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
Italian Theatre Headquarters
P.W.B. Unit No. 12 U.S.A.P.O. 512

To : Rear Admiral Stone
Major L. Fielden.

From : Mr. L. Titchener

16th January 1945.

The following is Manley's cable No. 14 received 16th January.

"Prefect Ragusa has issued manifesto ordering that all arms in Prov must be consigned to authorities by 18th January. No action will be taken against those who hand them in. Severe measures will be taken against those found in possession arms after 18th January. CNR officer killed Naro was Lieut."

L. Titchener
Chief, Policy and Propaganda.

TO	INT	DATE
COL. CHAPMAN		
COL. YOUNG		
LT. COL. WILCOX		
MAJ. LUCKMAN		
MAJ. WILSON		
MAJ. HANBURY		
MAJ. BALLANCE		
CAPT. POWEL		
MAJ. J. J. J.		

COS DIST

18 Jan 45

1477

C.A. Sec
P.S. S/C
Legal S/C

Translation.

CC.RR. Gen. HQ.

16 Jan 1945
N. 105/2Subject : Palma Montechiaro (Agrigento) - Assault against
Courier on the part of evildoers.

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

On the 13th inst., at about 0800 hrs., along the route Licata-Palma Montechiaro, in the fraction "Portello" of Palma Montechiaro (Agrigento), about 30 masked evildoers, armed with rifles and machine-guns, after having thrown hand-grenades and fired many rifle-shots, stopped the courier Licata-Agrigento. The criminals disarmed the 3 escort soldiers and robbed the passengers of everything in their possession.

The driver LANA Antonio was slightly injured by blow of a riflestock.

The CC.RR. Lt. PETRONE Vittorio, 1 CC.RR. and a civilian travelling on the courier were wounded by shrapnels.

The official correspondence, sent by the Licata tenenza to the superior Commands and entrusted to the escort soldiers, has been destroyed.

The evildoers, after having perpetrated the crime, divided into two squads, left for the neighbouring country.

Commanding General
- Taddeo Orlando -

TO	INIT	DAY
COL. CHAPMAN	10/1	22/1
COL. YOUNG	10	22/1
LT. COL WILCOX IV		
MAJ LUCKMAN	10	
MAJ WILSON	10	23-5
MAJ HANBURY		
MAJ BALLANCE		
CAPT. POWELL		
CHIEF CLERK		

1471



Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 105/2 di prot.

Roma, li 16 gennaio 1945

Risposta al *del* *n.* *Allegati n.*
 Palma Montechiaro (Agrigento) - Assalto ad autocorriera
 OGGETTO: da parte di malfattori.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

- Sottocommissione per la P.S.

R O M A

 Il 13 corrente, verso le ore 8, sullo stradale Licata-Palma Montechiaro, in contrada "Portello" di Palma Montechiaro (Agrigento), circa 30 malfattori travisati e armati di moschetti e di fucili mitragliatori, dopo aver lanciato bombe a mano e sparato numerosi colpi di moschetto, fermarono l'autocorriera Licata-Agrigento. I malviventi disarmarono i tre militari di scorta e rapinarono i passeggeri di quanto possedevano.

Rimase leggermente ferito da colpo di calcio di moschetto l'autista LANA Antonio. 1470

Il tenente dell'Arma PETRONE Vittorio che viaggiava sull'autocorriera e un carabiniere furono colpiti da schegge. Così un civile.

Fu distrutta la corrispondenza ufficiale, dalla tenenza di Licata diretta ai comandi superiori ed affidata ai militari di scorta.

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I malfattori, commesso il delitto, divisi in due squadre,
si dileguarono per le campagne circostanti.

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
- Taddeo Orlando -

Taddeo Orlando



File 14602/6
Mod. 840
Ministero dell'Interno
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

N.555/

Roma, 16 gennaio 1945

ALL' ONOREVOLE COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
Sottocommissione per la Pubblica Sicurezza

R O M A

Nessuna segnalazione degna di rilievo
è giunta dalla Sicilia nelle testé decorse 24
ore.-

prolo.
IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

*Nothing of importance has
been reported from Sicily in
the past 24 hours*

1459

TRANSLATION.HEADQUARTERS COMMAND OF THE ROYAL CARABINIERI

No. 421/55-1944. R.P.

Rome, 7 January, 1945.

SUBJECT : Situation in Sicily.

TO : Allied Commission, Public Safety Sub-Commission.

In Sicily the situation on the whole is quiet. Only in the Province of Ragusa, by reason of the taking up of the soldiers who failed to respond to the call-up, is the situation deteriorating.

Latest news reports that 100 artillery men journeying from Comiso to Ragusa, were overcome by 200 rebels and deprived of their arms and motortransport.

Further reports will be sent.

o'o

In Ragusa on the 4th instant, a group of demonstrators, dispersed a 2nd Lt. of the 135th Regiment and two soldiers. 438
wrest a few hand-grenades, wounding one soldier.

The public forces dispersed the demonstrators, one of whom was killed and another seriously wounded. Six separatists were arrested, two of whom were armed with bombs.

Further reports will be sent.

TO	am	b
COL. CHAPMAN		
COL. YOUNG		
LT. COL. WILCOX		
MAJ. LUCKMAN		
MAJ. WILSON		
MAJ. HENRY		
MAJ. BAL		
MAJ. P. V.		

THE CHIEF OF THE ARMY FORCE
Commanding General
- Taddeo Orlando -

ll



RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 401/35-1963 di prot. R.F.

Roma, 7 gennaio 1965

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Situazione in Sicilia.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

- Sottocommissione per la Pubblica Sicurezza -

R O M A

Nella Sicilia, la situazione, nel complesso, è tranquilla. Solo nella provincia di Ragusa, a causa del rastrellamento dei militari marocchi alla consegna alle armi, la situazione è peggiora.

Ultimo notizia informava che 100 artiglieri in viaggio da Genova a Ragusa, sarebbero stati sorpresi da circa 200 rivoltosi e privati delle armi e degli autoveicoli.

Riserva di precise notizie..

1467

Il 4 corrente, in Ragusa, un gruppo di dimostranti, disarmò un sergente del 135° Reggimento e due fanti. Lanciò poi alcune bombe a mano, ferendo un soldato.

La folla pubblica accolse i dimostranti, uno dei quali rimase ucciso ed un altro ferito gravemente. Sono stati arrestati sei separatisti, due dei quali armati di uccello.

Riserva di altre notizie.

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA

COMANDANTE GENERALE

Taddeo Orlando -

TRANSLATION.

16602/6.

75

HEADQUARTERS ROYAL CARABINIERI COMMAND.

No. 421/27

Rome, 29th Dec. 1941.

SUBJECT : Disorders at Capizzi (Messina).

TO : Allied Commission, P.S. 3/3.

Subsequent to information sent with letter No. 421/19 of the 28th instant.

The following details are communicated:-

In Capizzi (Messina) at 3 o'clock on the 10th instant, about 800 persons gathered suddenly in front of the CC.MR barracks, and, with the aim of obtaining the liberty of a certain VERRONE Emanuele, arrested the previous day for desertion, broke down the door of the building by the throwing of three hand-grenades. The demonstrators further fired revolver shots, without consequence, at the Carabinieri and succeeded in disarming one of them.

Later the rebels set fire to the Municipio, the office of the Ipsea, the archives of the local tax office and devastated the premises of the law office, of the communal department's surgery and the elementary schools.

During the preceding night the rebels had cut 14.6 telegraph wires.

Public order has for the moment been restored.

Investigations are being carried out to identify the responsible parties.

Col Chapman	10/12/41
Col Young	10/12/41
Lt. Col. Wilk	10/12/41
Maj. Hickman	10/12/41
Maj. Wilson	10/12/41
M. J. Gault	10/12/41
M. J. Sullivan	10/12/41
Capt. Ford	10/12/41
CHIEF	10/12/41

THE GENERAL OF THE ARMED FORCE
COMMANDEING GENERAL
- Taddeo Orlando -



La Date

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 421/27 di prot. R.P.

Roma, 29 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Capizzi (Messina) - Disordini.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

- Sottocommissione per la F.S. -

R O M A

Fa seguito alla segnalazione inserita nel foglio n. 421/19 R.P. in data 28 corrente.

Si comunicano le seguenti precisazioni:

In Capizzi (Messina), alle ore 9 del 10 corrente, ^{14 ore} circa 800 persone si radunarono improvvisamente davanti la caserma dell'Arma, e, al fine di ottenere la liberazione di certo PERONE Emanuele, arrestato il giorno precedente per diserzione, scassinarono la porta dell'edificio mediante il lancio di tre bombe a mano. I dimostranti, inoltre, spararono colpi di rivoltella senza conseguenze contro i carabinieri, riuscendo a disarmarne uno.

Successivamente i rivoltosi incendiarono il municipio, la

./...

sede dell'Upsea, il carteggio dell'esattoria comunale e devastarono i locali della pretura, dell'ambulatorio medico comunale e delle scuole elementari.

Nella precedente notte i rivoltosi avevano tagliato i fili del telegrafo.

L'ordine pubblico é stato per il momento ristabilito.

In corso indagini per l'accertamento delle responsabilità.

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
-Taddeo Orlando-



(3) Catania, Sicily.

a. Investigation has been conducted by the commander of the Catania Legion. The report has been made through the Brigade and submitted to the High Commissioner. This investigation has been limited because the Colonel did not have the powers necessary to fully investigate the activities of all Italian citizens. The High Commissioner is reported to have instructed the new Prefect of Catania to make the full investigation.

b. The impression exists that the forces of public order were not properly employed. The trucks and cars have been replaced.

(4) Organization of Call-up.

a. The call-up included the classes 1922-23 and part of 1924, the period ending December 19.

Other classes from 1914-1924 were to have been called during periods January 3-10 and January 25-28.

b. About 2000 were anticipated from present call-up - a total of about 1000 have reported.

c. In view of the resistance a proposal has been made by the Military Commander Sicily that further call-ups be suspended and that those who have failed to report be arrested and brought before the Military Tribunal, one of which will be established in each District (each province). After being sentenced it will be possible for the Minister of War to offer them the opportunity for service in lieu of sentence.

(5) Forces.

One Battalion less 1 company of Alpine troops - or a total of about 530 men - have been assigned to Sicily to support the 53.88. and will arrive on the 21st or 22nd. One company with 200 Carabinieri will form a reserve battalion in each of the two provinces - Palermo and Messina. In addition 300 Carabinieri are being sent from the contingent. They will form a reserve battalion for the Brigade at Palermo.

Nine trucks and 12 armoured vehicles have also been

140.3

(4) Liberation of Cellino.

The only one included the classes 1912-23, and part of 1924, the period ending December 19.

Other classes from 1914-1924 were to have been called during periods January 1-10 and January 15-22.

About 8000 were anticipated from present call-up - a total of about 1500 have reported.

2. In view of the resistance a proposal has been made by the Military Commander Sicily that further call-up be suspended and that those who have failed to report be arrested and brought before the Military Tribunal, one of which will be established in each district (each province). After being sentenced it will be possible for the Minister of War to offer them the opportunity for service in lieu of sentence.

1453

(5) Paratroops.

One battalion has 1 company of Alpine troops - or a total of about 530 men - have been assigned to Sicily to support the 88th. and will arrive on the 21st or 22nd. One company with 100 Carabinieri will form a reserve battalion in each of the two legions - Palermo and Messina. In addition 300 Carabinieri are being sent from the continent. They will form a reserve battalion for the Brigade at Palermo.

Twelve trucks and 12 armoured vehicles have also been provided.

(6) Separatists.

While there seems to be a lack of violence definitely concerning the Separatists with the present demonstration it is reported that their propaganda has exerted an influence - their being being endorsement of Italian Government and refusal of aid.

R. Edmund
Russell A. Smith,
Lt. Colonel,
Regional Public Safety Officer.

To Public Safety
attention Col. Chapman.

Sir, There is a
meeting in the Chief
Commissioners office
at 15-30 hrs to-
day Monday to
discuss the attached.
The VP would like
you to attend. The
chief points the C
wishes to know are
1) the strength of the CCRs
2) the strength of armored
cars and tanks.

Reference attached; -

CA section have sent a
telegram as at 15-30 hrs.

The VP instructs me
to ask you to take
action at 15-30 hrs.

Yours faithfully
P. H. H. H.

Ref: 3618/OCS.

8th January 1945.

SUBJECT: Disturbances - SICILY.

TO : DOCS, CA Sec

1. Reference attached memorandum from the Italian Government, please take the following action:

- (a) Inform Regional Commissioner, Sicily, by telephone that ³¹⁸fighter airplanes are being despatched to report to ~~Chief~~ General Ronca ~~Commissioner, Sicily. It may be desirable to inform him~~ ~~that they should go there and report to~~ ~~General Ronca, please also with the same Sub-Commissioner.~~
- (b) Send summary by telegram of this memorandum to No. 3 District, Wtd 318 and PG. SICILY.
- (c) Instruct Public Safety Sub-Commission to keep in close telephonic touch with No. 3 District who are in turn in touch with General Ronca.

2. The telegram should go on the highest priority.

3. On the instructions of the Chief Commissioner I am asking No. 3 District that if Allied intervention is contemplated, the Chief Commissioner should be consulted before action is taken.

MRE/JT.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copy to: Public Safety 3/0

COPY.

Rome, January 8th, 1945.

R. 0455/L2.

MEMORANDUM TO CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

H.R. Serruti, Chief of Cabinet Interior, telephones to inform Admiral Stone of the following:

Since two days a seditious uprising is taking place in the Province of Ragusa, Sicily.

Apparent reason: call to arms.

Rebel armed action was taken against the town of Comiso, which is believed to be held by the rebels.

The telephone line between Ragusa and Comiso has been cut and the railroad damaged.

It appears that an artillery unit has been overwhelmed in the same zone.

Uprising appears limited within the Province of Ragusa.

The High Commissioner for Sicily has sent reinforcements of troops and Carabinieri, which are en route.

Also General Hanna has been sent from Catania to take command of the zone.

As direct information are lacking and the situation is uncertain, the High Commissioner has requested two fighting planes to support the troops.

The Air Ministry is willing to send two of the fighters stationed at Lecce Airport. The needed authorization from Air Force High-Commissioner is being requested. Will you please support the request?

(Sgd) P. APOSSOLO,
Lt. Comdr, RNR
Liaison Officer

MEMORANDUM TO CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

Rome, 8 January 1944.

N. 0451/LP

Additional information received by Ministry of Interior from Sicily.

Infantry units 200 strong which left Siracusa on the evening of 6th for Ragusa have clashed near Giarratano with the rebels. It appears that 6 Carabinieri were killed, and so were 4 soldiers, many wounded. Rebel casualties are not known. The troopers did not reach Ragusa.

Gen. Ponce has left Catania for Ragusa with 40 Carabinieri.

Col. Leonardo left Catanzetta with the only available tank in order to retrace men of his battery which started for Ragusa yesterday and that is supposed to have been disarmed near Comiso.

Brig Carr has visited Sig. Aldisio and suggested to send some fighter planes to Ragusa in support of the troops. He believes that this action should prove very useful.

11.45 hrs.

(Sgd) P. ARSIZIO.

1460

TRANSLATION.

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR.

GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC SECURITY.

No. 442/17001.

ROME, 1st Jan, 1945.

SUBJECT : Disturbances.

To : Allied Commission, Public Safety Sub-Commission.

The following signals have been received during the last 24 hours:-

SIGNIFICANCE. About 1130 hours p.m. of 28th December at Rome, about 200 people, many of whom were armed with machine guns, rifles and hand-grenades started, under a shower of rain, to fire for roughly 30 minutes on the CO.SA barracks, demanding the release of three called-up men who had been arrested that day. In order to avoid the open revolt of the population, who made common cause with the demonstrators, and in consideration of the great number present, the prisoners were released. Public order there-fore returned to normal. There were no victims or damage.

LEADS. During the night of the 30th December, unknown persons threw down several tens of propaganda cards in some streets of the city. These cards had formerly been in distribution at the "Dopolavoro" during the Fascist regime were printed in ink and contained phrases praising the Duce and heralding the return of Fascism. The cards were for the most part gathered up by the Public Force Agents on patrol duty. The Questura has made certain arrests and searches.

CRIMINALS. On the 2nd December, at about 7 o'clock in the evening, on the Monte-Celio road, roughly 20 brigands armed with muskets and machine guns assaulted a motor car and robbed the driver and the proprietor of the car of 14,350 lire in occupation money and 40,000 lire in bank notes, as well as 4 air - chambers to the value of 20,000 lire. Another person was robbed of 300 lire.

No. 442/17001.

ROME, 1st Jan, 1945.

SUBJECT: Disturbances.

To: Allied Commission, Public Safety Sub-Commission.

The following signals have been received during the last 24 hours:-

SIRACUSA. About 1130 hours p.m. of 30th December at Rosolini, about 200 people, many of whom were armed with machine guns, rifles and hand-grenades started, under a shower of rain, to fire for roughly 20 minutes on the CC.RR barracks, demanding the release of three called-up men who had been arrested that day. In order to avoid the open revolt of the population, the wife of one of the demonstrators, and in consideration of the great number of the demonstrators, the prisoners were released. Public order therefore returned to normal. There were no victims or damage.

MESSE. During the night of the 30th December, unknown persons threw down several tens of propaganda cards in some streets of the city. These cards had formerly been in distribution at the "Dopolavoro" during the Fascist regime were printed in ink and contained phrases praising the Duke and berating the return of Fascism. The cards were for the most part gathered up by the Public Force Agents on patrol duty. The Quercetara has made certain arrests and seizures.

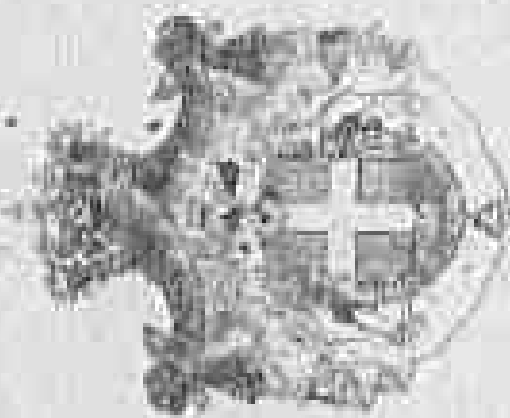
CATANICCIATA. On the 22nd December, at about 7 o'clock in the evening, on the Licenza-Gela road, roughly 20 brigands armed with muskets and machine guns assaulted a motor car and robbed the driver and the proprietor of the car of 14,350 lire in occupation money and 40,000 lire in bank notes, as well as 4 air - chambers to the value of 20,000 lire. Another person was robbed of 300 lire.

THE HEAD OF THE POLICE.
Ferrari.

cc.

lt

Mod. 839


Spandato

Ministero dell'Interno

DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA
DIVISIONE AFFARI GENERALI E RISERVATI

N. 442/I7001

Roma, li 1° Gennaio 1945

ALL'ON/LA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER LA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

R O M A

Nelle decorse 24 ore sono qui giunte le seguenti segnalazioni di rilievo:

SIRACUSA - Verso le 23,30 del 28 dicembre u.s. in Rosolini circa 200 persone, diverse delle quali armate di mitragliatrici, fucili e bombe a mano iniziarono, sotto l'imperverare della pioggia, un fuoco della durata di 20 minuti contro la caserma dell'Arma CC.RR., reclamando il rilascio di 3 richiamati arrestati nella stessa giornata. Per evitare un'aperta rivolta della popolazione, solidale con i dimostranti, ed in considerazione dell'esiguo numero della forza sul posto, gli arrestati furono rilasciati. L'ordine pubblico ritornò così normale. Non si lamentarono nè vittime nè danni.

LECCE - Nelle notte sul 30 dicembre u.s. ignoti gettavano in alcune strade della Città varie diecine di cartoline di propaganda, già in distribuzione nel 'Dopolavoro durante il regime fascista, recenti, scritte a penna ed a carattere a stampatello, frasi inneggianti al duce ed auspicanti il ritorno del fascismo. Le cartoline furono in massima parte raccolte dagli agenti della forza pubblica in servizio di pattuglia. La Questura ha operato alcuni fermi e perquisizioni.

CALTANISSETTA - Il 22 dicembre u.s. verso le ore 19 sullo stradale

N.442/I7001

Roma, 11 I° Gennaio 1945

ALL'ON/LA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER LA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

R O M A

Nelle decorse 24 ore sono qui giunte le seguenti segnalazioni di rilievo:

SIRACUSA - Verso le 23,30 del 28 dicembre u.s. in Rosolini circa 200 persone, diverse delle quali armate di mitragliatrici, fucili e bombe a mano iniziarono, sotto l'imperverare della pioggia, un fuoco della durata di 20 minuti contro la caserma dell'Arma CC.RR., reclamando il rilascio di 3 richiamati arrestati nella stessa giornata. Per evitare un'aperta rivolta della popolazione, solidale con i dimostranti, ed in considerazione dell'esiguo numero della forza sul posto, gli arrestati furono rilasciati. L'ordine pubblico ritornò così normale. Non si lamentarono né vittime né danni.

LECCE - Nella notte sul 30 dicembre u.s. ignoti gettavano in alcune strade della Città varie decine di cartoline di propaganda, già in distribuzione nel 'Dopolavoro durante il regime fascista, recenti, scritte a penna ed a carattere a stampatello, frasi inneggianti al duce ed auspicanti il ritorno del fascismo. Le cartoline furono in massima parte raccolte dagli agenti della forza pubblica in servizio di pattuglia. La Questura ha operato alcuni fermi e perquisizioni.

GALTANISSETTA - Il 22 dicembre u.s. verso le ore 19 sullo stradale Licata-Gela circa 20 malfattori armati di moschetto e fucili mitragliatori assalivano un autocarro rapinando l'autista ed il proprietario dell'automezzo di 14.350 lire di occupazione e di L.40.000 in vaglia bancario, nonché

./.

di 4 camere d'aria del valore di L.20.000. Altra persona è stata rapinata
di L.300.

IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

[Handwritten signature]

MEMORANDUM

HEADQUARTERS ROYAL CARABINIERI FORCE.

No. 421/31.

Rome, 30 Dec. 44.

SUBJECT: Sicily - anti-militarist propaganda and other disturbances.

TO : Allied Commission, P.O. 5/3. Rome.

1. Pavara (Agrigento) - 14.12.1944. About 100 people, mostly young, staged a protest demonstration going through the streets and recommending those called up to go into the "bush".

2. Arenga (Agrigento) 15.12.44. At 1800 hours many young men, who had previously received the call-up post card, made a protest demonstration through the principal streets of the village.

3. Casetel di Jodica (Gatania). On the morning of the 15th instant, at the entrance to the village, a group of persons after having set fire to the Municipio, stopped a motor car in transit with the Magistrate of Mineo as passenger and the Councillor of the Ramacca Courts. They disarmed the Magistrate of his revolver, which was later returned to him after the intervention of the Police.

4. Rayanusa (Agrigento) 16.12.1944. At 1530 hours a group of those called-up and their families made a demonstration of protest, bearing banners with the words: "Down with war - Fight for whom?" Other turbulent elements joined the demonstrators and invaded the Municipio offices, where they seized documents, registers, furniture etc. which they set on fire in the public street. A certain Stella Filippo, bank cashier, fired two pistol shots into the air, with the idea of intimidating the crowd. Then from the crowd another pistol shot was fired wounding in the abdomen a peasant named ARONICA Antonio. Stella, who had been knocked about, receiving injuries curable in 15 days, save himself up to the police, whose intervention caused the cessation of the disturbances. The Force is taking steps with regard to the responsible parties.

5. Ragusa, 16 - 17 December, 1944. Unidentified persons distributed to the population notices inciting young men not to appear on the morning of the

1. Barera (Agrigento) - 14.12.1944. About 100 people, mostly young, staged a protest demonstration going through the streets and recommending those called up to go into the "mush".
2. Arremona (Agrigento) 15.12.44. At 1800 hours many young men, who had previously received the call-up post card, made a protest demonstration through the principal streets of the village.
3. Castel di Stabia (Castania). On the morning of the 15th instant, at the entrance to the village, a group of persons after having set fire to the Municipio, stopped a motor car in transit with the Magistrate of Arremona as passenger and the Councilor of the Remessa Courts. They disarmed the Magistrate of his revolver, which was later returned to him after the intervention of the police.
4. Revanesa (Agrigento) 16.12.1944. At 1530 hours a group of those called-up and their families made a demonstration of protest, bearing banners with the words: "Down with war - Fight for whom?" Other turbulent elements joined the demonstrators and invaded the Municipio offices, where they seized documents, registers, furniture etc. which they set on fire in the public street. A certain GIULIO FILIPPO, bank cashier, fired two pistol shots into the air, with the idea of intimidating the crowd. Then from the crowd another pistol shot was fired wounding in the abdomen a peasant named ANTONIO. Stella, who had been knocked about, receiving injuries curable in 15 days, gave himself up to the police, whose intervention caused the cessation of the disturbances. The Force is taking steps with regard to the responsible parties.
5. Regusa. 16 - 17 December, 1944. Unidentified persons distributed to the population notices inciting young men not to present themselves to the call-up. On the morning of the 17th other copies of the same notice were distributed in the courtyard of the District Military Mes.
6. Tachino (Siracusa). On the night of the 17th instant unknown persons affixed to the walls of the village notices inciting young men not to present themselves to the call-up.

7. Ellenbotta (Arviento). On the night of the 17th instant, unknown persons put up notices hostile to the call-up.

8. Gambonello di Licata (Arviento). On the night of the 17th instant unknown persons put up notices in the centre of the village depicting the Regent General of the Kingdom in the act of taking the crown from H.M. the King, and bearing the inscription: "WE ARE GUN FODDER - WE WILL NOT GO".

Further, at about 1800 hours on the 17th, a group of men called-up together with the populous, staged a protest demonstration, going through the streets of the village with banners bearing the inscription: "Down with the House of Savoy". The student BASILIO VILIPPO and the peasant VINCENZI SALVATORE took the occasion to make speeches on the public square against the call-up; VINCENZI, then turned some of the call-up post-cards.

9. Parusa - 18.12.1944. Unknown persons tore down the notices put up by the High Commissioner forbidding gatherings.

10. Catania - 18.12.1944. Small printed notices of the independence of Sicily Movement were distributed by the National Committee signed "Indirizzo Finocchiaro Aprile", containing phrases of protest against the conduct of the soldiers of the "Sahaudia" division, who, as at Palermo, also at Catania, threw hand-grenades on a passive crowd. ¹⁴²⁶ Without provocation, killing several persons and wounding others.

11. Gela (Caltanissetta). On the evening of the 17th instant, about 300 persons, suddenly gathering together, went through the streets of the village protesting against the application of the curfew fixed for 1730 hours until 0600 hours. The following morning notices about the curfew and the prohibition of assemblies were thrown down by unknown persons.

12. Trivona (Arviento). At 2000 hours on the 26th instant, on the outskirts of the village a certain number of armed individuals, whose object was the firing of the public buildings as a protest against the taking of grain to the "ammasso", gathered. The police immediately intervened together with the Forest Guards and dispersed those assembled maintaining conflict at arms without consequences. DI SILVO Carmelo and BASILIO Calogero, were arrested as forming part of this group and on their persons were discovered hand-grenades

Further, at about 1800 hours on the 17th, a group of men called-up together with the population, staged a protest demonstration, going through the streets of the village with banners bearing the inscription: "Down with the House of Savoy". The student BASILIO Filippo and the peasant VINCENZI Salvatore took the occasion to make speeches on the public square against the call-up; VINCENZI, then turned some of the call-up post-cards.

9. Reggio - 16.11.1944. Unknown persons tore down the notices put up by the High Commissioner forbidding gatherings.

10. Catania - 18.12.1944. Small printed notices of the Independence of Sicily Movement were distributed by the National Committee signed "Andrea Pinocchio Aprile", containing phrases of protest against the conduct of the soldiers of the "Sabaia" division, who are at Palermo. Also at Catania, three hand-grenades on a massive crowd ¹⁴²⁶ provoked, killing several persons and wounding others.

11. Gela (Moltisassette). On the evening of the 19th instant, about 300 persons, suddenly gathering together, went through the streets of the village protesting against the application of the curfew fixed for 1730 hours until 0600 hours. The following morning notices about the curfew and the prohibition of assemblies were thrown down by unknown persons.

12. Riviera (Avriente). At 2000 hours on the 26th instant, on the outskirts of the village a certain number of armed individuals, whose object was the firing of the public buildings as a protest against the taking of grain to the "campasso", gathered. The police immediately intervened together with the Forest Guards and dispersed those assembled sustaining conflict at arms without consequent. DI SAIVO Carmelo and BASILIO Calogero, were arrested as forming part of this group and on their persons were discovered hand-grenades and pistols. Investigations are continuing for the identification of the other responsible parties.

13. Jonia (Catania) 20.12.44. Unknown persons put up notices recommending young men to go into the "bush".

14. Alia (Palermo) 24.11.44. Two handwritten notices were found in the village inciting young men not to present themselves to the call-up.

15. /.

65

15. Muro (Ammissato) 27.12.1944. Unknown persons put up notices inciting young men not to present themselves to the call-up, and if necessary to make use of guns and bombs.

16. Catania. In various centres of the province in recent days printed handbills have been distributed, prominently edited by the Sicilian Young Men's League, encouraging the women of Sicily not to allow their sons, brothers and husbands to present themselves to the call-up.

17. S. Giovanni Galermo (Catania). Trifling have appeared on the walls of the village against the House of Savoy and the King.

18. Raddusa (Catania). In recent days unknown people have written on the walls of the village phrases inciting young men to absent themselves from the call-up.

19. S. Michele di Ganzonia (Catania). In recent days notices were put up calling on young men not to present themselves.

20. Pianofreddo di Bivio (Catania). In recent days unknown persons wrote on the walls of the village on strips of paper the words: "HEAD - PEACE - WOMEN" and other phrases calling on young men not to present themselves.

21. Rizzolosi (Catania). During recent days unknown persons wrote on the walls of the village the phrase: "Down with militarism".

The General Commanding the Armed Force,
Commanding General
- Taddeo Orlando -

1455

10				
COL. CHAPMAN				

the General Commanding the Armed Force.
Commanding General
- Toledo Orlando -

1455

TO	
COL CHAPMAN	25
COL YOUNG	25
LT. COL WILCOX	5 1/2
MAJ LUCKMAN	1
MAJ WILSON	5 1/2
MAJ HANBURY	
MAJ BALANCE	
CAPT POWER	
CHIEF CLERK	

200

103/
Ministry of Interior

16602/6.

29.12.46.

442/17001

14056/5

70A

TO : Chief of Police - 1... (unintelligible)

During the last 24 hours we have received the following communications:
ROME - At about 2045 hours of the 9th inst., near the village of Bellaguarda, unknown people have exploded some gelatine without any damage. Subsequently, at 2100 hours, another bomb, of the same type, exploded near the entrance of the locality of P. S. V. Vincenzo, in Bellaguarda, causing 17 injuries and wounds to the 4 people who were inside and who have been declared curable in 10 days.

CRISTIANO - On the 9th inst., the village of Crisiano, have been found posted up, notices inciting the young people called up, to leave and to use, in case, even arms and hand-grenades.

SICILY - The High Commissioner called that the situation is still very serious and uncertain. He points out that in case that the revolt movement starts again, it is necessary to issue directions in order that the public strength be able to show that in any emergency, it can behave itself energetically. He says that it is necessary and very urgent that an indication is given to armed forces to handle hand-grenades also for P.S. services. Since in the recent riots, the population has always used such arms.

He points out too that the situation will be definitively precipitated if the Police forces will show hesitance and if the population will derive these opinions that the armed forces got broken not to fire.

At last we summarize that the means of transportation (trucks and armoured cars) which have been pre-arranged, have not yet arrived, while the same are very necessary.

A 24 trucks have left. the Chief of Police
on 6¹/₂ 5 }
on 7¹/₂ 5 } Palermo from Naples
12 on 8¹/₂ 5 }
12 on 8¹/₂ 5 } Catania from Naples.

Armoured vehicles X

on 5¹/₂ 5 from Rome
to Palermo by Rail.

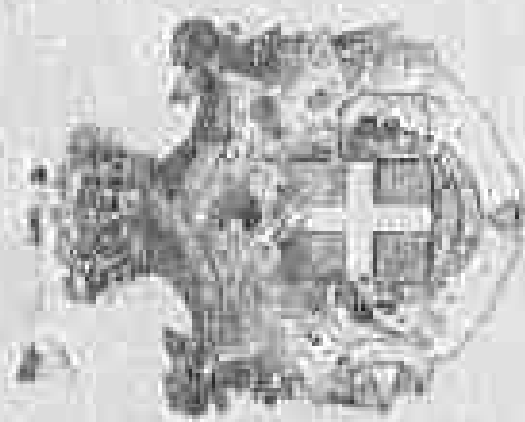
Returned when
12 arrived from Sardinia
12 " " here.

NAME	DATE	TIME
CHAPMAN	29.12.46.	11
DE YOUNG	29.12.46.	11
T. COL. WILCOX	29.12.46.	11
MAJ LUCKMAN	29.12.46.	11
MAJ WILSON	29.12.46.	11
MAJ HANBURY	29.12.46.	11
MAJ BALLANCE	29.12.46.	11
MAJ POWEL	29.12.46.	11
CHIEF CLERK	29.12.46.	11

1454

R.C. Daily informed by Cable.

Mod.839



Ministero dell'Interno

DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

DIVISIONE AFFARI GENERALI RISERVATI

N. 442/I7C01

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALBERATA
SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER LA P.S.

R O M A

Nelle decorse 24 ore sono qui giunte le seguenti segnalazioni di rilievo:

ROMA - Verso le ore 20.45 del 9 corr., nelle vicinanze dell'abitato di Bellegra, ignoti facevano esplodere della gelatina senza provocare danni. Successivamente, alle ore 21, un altro ordigno esplosivo che si presume dello stesso tipo, esplodeva sulla porta d'ingresso dell'osteria gestita in Bellegra da Pascucci Vincenzo, provocando lesioni e contusioni a quattro persone che si trovavano nell'interno del locale, le quali sono state dichiarate guaribili in 10 giorni s.c.

AGRIGENTO - Il 27 corr. nell'abitato di Nero sono state rinvenute effisse delle scritte incitanti i giovani richiamati alle armi a non partire e a fare uso, eventualmente, di armi e bombe.

SICILIA - L'Alto Commissario telegrafa che la situazione in Sicilia permane gravissima ed incerta. Fa presente che nella ^{4.3.3} eventualità che il movimento di rivolta riprenda, è necessario che siano impartite precise istruzioni affinché le forze di polizia dimostrino in ogni contingenza di essersi comportare energicamente. Saggiunge di ritenere, altresì, necessario ed urgentissimo di autorizzare le forze armate a portare bombe a mano anche in servizio di pubblica sicurezza, atteso che nelle recenti sommosse la popolazione ha fatto uso di tali or-

ALLA COMMISSIONE AUMENTATA
SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER LA P.S.

R O M A

Nelle decorse 24 ore sono qui giunte le seguenti segnalazioni di rilievo:

ROMA - Verso la ore 20.45 del 9 corr., nelle vicinanze dell'abitato di Bellegra, ignoti facevano esplodere della gelatina senza provocare danni. Successivamente alle ore 21, un altro ordigno esplosivo che si presume dello stesso tipo, esplodeva sulla porta d'ingresso dell'osteria gestita in Bellegra da Pasquoci Vincenzo, provocando lesioni e contusioni a quattro persone che si trovavano nell'interno del locale, le quali sono state dichiarate guaribili in 10 giorni s.c.

AGRICENTO - Il 27 corr. nell'abitato di Naro sono state rinvenute affisse delle scritte incitanti i giovani richiamati alle armi a non partire e a fare uso, eventualmente, di armi e bombe.

SICILIA - L'Alto Commissario telegrafa che la situazione in Sicilia permane gravissima ed incerta. Fa presente che nella ^{eventualità} che il movimento di rivolta riprenda, è necessario che siano impartite precise istruzioni affinché le forze di polizia dimostrino in ogni contingenza di sapersi comportare energicamente. Soggiunge di ritenere, altresì, necessario ed urgentissimo di autorizzare le forze armate a portare bombe a mano anche in servizio di pubblica sicurezza, atteso che nelle recenti sommosse la popolazione ha fatto uso di tali ordigni. Fa presente, inoltre, che la situazione potrebbe definitivamente precipitare se le forze di polizia continuassero a dimostrare in-

certezza e se la folla riportasse ancora l'impressione che i reparti armati hanno l'ordine di non sparare. Informa, infine, che i mezzi preannunziati (autocarri e autobluende) non sono finora arrivati, e che sono necessarissimi.

IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

Spavanti

B/M

CC.BR.Head Quarters.

No. 421/19

28-12-44.

Subject: Anti military propaganda in Sicily and other disorders.

S. Cipirrello (Palermo)-15/12/1944.

Some unknown people posted handwritten notices conceived as follows:
 "Nobody should present themselves"

Agrigento-17/12/1944.

Unknown people posted about twenty hand written notices conceived as follows: "If Colonel Di Paola does not take leave he will be killed. W Giuliani!" "Young boys think that if you go away recalled your families will remain in misery and pain." - "Do not present yourselves, Union makes Strength".

Montelepre (Palermo) 17/12/1944.

Unknown people posted on the external wall of the Municipality building a handwritten notice conceived as follows: "By order of the Colonel (Angelo Paolo) 16/12/1944! absolutely no one must present themselves to the Murrazze barracks of Palermo! Otherwise without fail you will suffer, know how to regulate yourself Angelo Paolo."

Partinico (Palermo)-18/12/1944.

Unknown people wrote on the walls in that town the following phrases:
 "W The Duce" - "W The Dux" - "W Italy" - "W Republican Fascist Italy."

Castelvetrano (Trapani)-21/12/1944.

About 200 boys went through the streets in that town protesting against the call to the arms.
 The demonstration ended without incidents.

Castelfilippo (Agrigento) 22/12/1944.

About 100 people forced the entrance door of the mill, they penetrated in, to abusively obtain the grinded wheat.
 The Brigadier of the Carabinieri Nicoletti Gabriele, promptly intervened he was wounded on the shoulder, said to be curable in 8 days. The person responsible for the violence was identified but not able to be found. Four people who promoted the disorders were arrested.

Capizzi (Messina) 24/12/1944.

About 800 people, unexpectedly reunited in front of the local barracks of the Arma, with violence they succeeded in obtaining the liberation of a young deserter, arrested the previous day.

TO	
COL. CH. P. M. N.	
COL. YOUNG	
LT. COL. WILSON	
MAJ. LUCKMAN	
MAJ. WISDOM	
MAJ. HANDBY	
MAJ. BALL	
MAJ. P. V.	
CHIEF	

145



RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 421/19 di prot. R.P.

Roma, li 28 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Propaganda antimilitarista in Sicilia ed altri disordini.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALBERTA

- Sottocommissione per la F.S. -

R O M A

S.CIPIRRELLA (Palermo) - 15/12/1944 -Sconosciuti affissero alcuni manoscritti così concepiti:
"NESSUNO SI PRESENTI".AGRIGENTO - 17/12/1944 -

Sconosciuti affissero una ventina di manoscritti così concepiti: "SE IL COLONNELLO DI PAOLA NON SI CONGEDA SARA' UCCISO. W.GIULIANI!" - "GIOVANI PENSATE CHE SE PARTITE RICHIAMATI LE VOSTRE FAMIGLIE RESTERANNO NELLA MISERIA E NEL DOLORE" - "NON PRESENTATEVI L'UNIONE FA LA FORZA".

MONTELEONE (Palermo) - 17/12/1944 -

Sconosciuti affissero sul muro esterno del municipio un manoscritto così concepito: "PER ORDINE DEL COLONNELLO (ANGELO PAOLO) 16/12/1944 PERMETTE! ASSOLUTAMENTE, CHE NESSUNO SI PERMETTE A' PRESENTARSI. ALLA CASERMA FURRAZZE, DI PALERMO! CHE ALTREMENTI SENZALTRO CI RIMETTE LA PELLE SAPPIATEVI REGOLARE! ANGELO PAOLO".

./...

PARTINICO (Palermo) - 18/12/1944 -

Sconosciuti scrissero sui muri dell'abitato le seguenti frasi: "W. IL DUCE" - "W. IL DUX" - "W. L'ITALIA" - "W. L'ITALIA REPUBBLICANA FASCISTA".

CASTELVERRANO (Trapani) - 21/12/1944 -

Circa 200 giovani percorsero le vie dell'abitato protestando contro la chiamata alle armi.

La dimostrazione ebbe termine, senza incidenti.

CASTROFILIPPO (Agrigento) - 22/12/1944 -

Circa 100 persone, forzata la porta d'ingresso del mulino, vi penetravano per ottenere abusivamente la macinazione di grano.

Il brigadiere dei Carabinieri NICOLETTI Gabriele, prontamente intervenuto, fu colpito alla spalla e riportò ferite guaribili in giorni 8. Il responsabile della violenza, identificato, si è reso irreperibile. Arrestate quattro persone promotrici dei disordini.

CAPIZZI (Messina) - 24/12/1944 -

Circa 800 persone, riunitesi improvvisamente davanti la locale caserma dell'Arma, riuscirono a ottenere, con la violenza, la liberazione di un giovane disertore arrestato il giorno precedente.

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
-Taddeo Orlando-

Taddeo Orlando

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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(2) *Expenditures*

(1) The demonstration started about 17 November when the first announcement of the military call-out was made. At first they were not reported to be of a serious nature, but the number increased as December 14, the date of presentation, approached. In that day's Chicago Tribune article occurred an item that period other students occurred. The various consequences of the Chicago incident were not the result of the resistance to the call-up - the demonstration by the students was the first out-break and it was followed by demonstrators reported to have been caused by individuals representing various of classes and subversive sentiments or movements.

Some other disorders were the result of untreated skin diseases.

(3) Index of Domesticity—

The total construction reported for the period to date are

(4) Failure of person to inform

5

(c) Dead and injured, -
Dead civilians 4, wounded civilians 22,
police injured 2.

(d) Incidents in Palermo.

(u) A brief summary of the incidents to property
with conflict follows:-

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Damage</u>
<u>Militello (Catania)</u>	Nov. 25 -	Sacking of military census office.
<u>Palazzolo Acreide (Siracusa)</u>	Dec. 11 -	Tax office burned; all of books damaged; to Municipality telephone; telegraph lines cut.
<u>Catania</u>	Dec. 14 to 15 -	Municipality, Tax Office, Bank Bldg., burned. Court- house and several other buildings damaged by fire.
<u>Palma Montechiaro (Agrigento)</u>	Dec. 14 -	Municipality burned. Pre- tural, Tax offices, Bank of Sicily sacked; Post Office damaged.
<u>Castel di Judica (Catanina)</u>	Dec. 15 to 17 -	Municipality, Tax Office, Bldg. sacked. Municipality, Tax Office burned.
<u>Solarino (Siracusa)</u>	Dec. 17 -	Municipality, Bldg. burned; home of Mayor damaged.
<u>Mazzerino (Caltanissetta)</u>	Dec. 17 -	Telephone lines cut. M- unicipality, Tax offices sacked and burned.
<u>Alcamo (Trapani)</u>	Dec. 17 -	Public buildings sacked.
(b) Without conflict:-		
<u>Syracuse (Agrigento)</u>	Dec. 14 -	Two clubs burned.
<u>Syracuse (Catania)</u>	Dec. 16 -	Sacking of public build- ings.
<u>Chiaravalle (Trapani)</u>	Dec. 17 -	Sacking of public build- ings.

Palmarola Agrícola (Agrícola)Catania

Dec. 14 to 15 - Municipio, Tax Office, Bank Bldg. burned. Court- house and several other buildings damaged by fire.

Municipio burned. Pres- bytery, Tax Office, Bank of Sicily sacked; Post Office damaged.

Dec. 15 to 17 - Municipio, Tax Office, Press Bldg. burned. Municipio, Tax Office, Bank Bldg. burned.

Municipio, Press Bldg. burned. House of Mayor damaged. Telephone lines cut. Municipio, Tax Office, Press Bldg. burned. Public buildings burned.

Palma Montebello (Agrícola) Dec. 14 -

Catania di Sicilia (Agrícola)

Dec. 15 to 17 -

Palmarola (Agrícola)

Dec. 17 -

Palmarola (Agrícola)

Dec. 17 -

Palmarola (Agrícola)

Dec. 17 -

(b) without conflict

Palmarola (Agrícola)

Dec. 14 -

Palmarola (Agrícola)

Dec. 15 -

Palmarola (Agrícola)

Dec. 17 -

Palmarola (Agrícola)

Dec. 15-16 -

Palmarola (Agrícola)

Dec. 15 -

Palmarola (Agrícola)

Dec. 15 -

Palmarola (Agrícola)

Dec. 15 -

Palmarola (Agrícola)

Dec. 15 -

tomb damage to building, telephone, telegraph lines cut. Tax Office, Bank Bldg. burned. Court- house and several other buildings damaged by fire.

Municipio burned. Pres- bytery, Tax Office, Bank of Sicily sacked; Post Office damaged.

Municipio, Tax Office, Press Bldg. burned. Municipio, Tax Office, Bank Bldg. burned.

Municipio, Press Bldg. burned. House of Mayor damaged. Telephone lines cut. Municipio, Tax Office, Press Bldg. burned. Public buildings burned.

Dec. 14 -

Dec. 15 -

Dec. 17 -

Dec. 15-16 -

Dec. 15 -

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(15)

Separation connections.

With respect to the separatist movement the sources of S.S.S. are attached.

The information received from the Italian Government indicates that separatist propaganda influenced the situation and that they hold the hope of a return of S.S.S.

(16)

Forces of Public Order.

(a) The Carabinieri Battalion is based in Sicily on December 24 at Palermo.

It is being employed as follows:

1 company used at Palermo and another with the C.C. in the Region Reserve.

(b) Two hundred Carabinieri (C.C.), for 1950 reported to be designated for Sicily) have arrived and will be employed as Reserve Reserve at Palermo.

(c) A request for contingent of vehicles was made by the S.S.S. At present it is reported to be that 31 mobile units are required, 1 in investigation for 3 months and will report, but I actually received the amount of this contingent.

(d) General SA. 1103, Commandante of the Division at Naples, was seen in Sicily for an inspection and return today.

(e) Dr. 1103, formerly Caspary to Catania (at the time of the disorder on December 1950) and was transferred to Reggio, and Dr. 1103, a doctor at Reggio 1103, the High Commissioner is assigned to Catania, Dr. 1103, the High Commissioner is transferred to Catania.

(f) Arrangements are being made for use of fire arms and against demonstrations and disorders.

(g) A decree of the High Commissioner prohibiting assemblies in public places has been published.

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U.S. AIR FORCE

SUBJECT - Demonstrations in Western Sicily 17 to 24 Dec 44.

TO - A.S.I. (4) HQ 3 Dist.

REF. 52/5/35.

FROM - 51 Field Security Section.

PART I - Summary of Incidents.

Demonstrations continued during period under review and related reports arrive of previous incidents which had not been reported. The most important of these were at ALORO (Prov. MESSINA) and at MESSINA (Prov. CALABRISIMA). Demonstrations to a matter of several degrees have been universal in the Province covered. MESSINA Prov. having as far as the public is aware a variety of these (subsequent or omitted from our last survey) is as follows:-

AGRICULTURE PROVINCE.

Castelluccio di Stabia. 15-16 Dec 44. Demonstrations and looting. Order restored.

Messina. 16 Dec 44. Demonstrations and some damage to a local club. Order restored.

Almeria. Two demonstrations (14 and 15 Dec.) public officials (including Prefetto, U.S.A.M.C., and Consolo) ransacked and documents destroyed. Order restored.

San Biagio Platani	)	
Arakona	)	
Revenaga	)	
Marci	)	
Ortella	)	
Castrofilippo	)	
Belucca	)	
Portofino	)	16 Dec. 44

An attempt to take local from village several hand grenades being thrown against it. No. Order quickly restored and 14418 damage done.

CALABRISIMA & MESSINA PROVINCES.

Castelluccio 16 Dec 44. Some 1,000 students and others publicly burned their call-up papers. Other demonstrations were reported from MESSINA, SAN CARLO, MESSINA and MESSINA.

A summary of these (subsequent or omitted from our last entry) is
 as follows:

ARMISTIZIO PROVINCE.

Campobello di Mazze. 15-16 Dec 44. Demonstrations and leaflets.
 Order restored.

Acerra. 5 Dec 44. Demonstrations and some damage to a local club.
 Order restored.

Camorra. No demonstrations (to date) (see 13 Dec.). Public opinion
 regarding restoration, etc., etc., etc., etc. (see above).
 repressed and documents destroyed. Order restored.

San Maria Platani.

Ardea.

Avellino.

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CALABRIA REGION & PUGLIA PROVINCES.

Calabria. 15 Dec 44. Some 1,000 students and others
 publicly burned their calling cards. Other items stolen
 were reported from CUBA, SAN CALABRIA, BISHOP and
 MURDER.

The present Corbado public meetings and similar
 in the large towns.
 See Appendix 11.

Mezzogiorno.

TRIA REGION.

Except in the case of MANTUA (see 1 Dec. 44) little has been
 reported from this Province.

PALERMO PROVINCE.

Minor demonstrations and a vaccination in the city of Palermo of
 Fascist slogans, such as "Duce! Your soul with true liberation!"

Order strictly restored and 14-18

Order done.

SECRET

PAGE 2.

PART III - RESULTS OF THE CALL-UP.

According to the Military Mission to the Italian Army, response to the call-up in Sicily as at 23 Dec 44 is as follows:-

Due to report, - 32,000 (ex. ex.)
Actual number reported, - 3,200 (approx.)
Actual number accepted, - 1,100
Actual number released, - 8,000

These figures relate to the first phase of the call-up, the second phase being scheduled for the first week in January 45, and the third and last phase for the third week in January.

Responses from the various Provinces are as follows in this order, Catania, Messina, Palermo, Trapani, Agrigento, and the latter three provinces are practically nil. The persons who have reported are of poor peasant class, whilst better-dressed elements born of the cities have not so far presented themselves.

Italian Army authorities plan to enforce the call-up until 21 Dec 44, having already postponed the evil day from the 20th and then from the 25th.

PART III - REACTION.

As distinct from the Eastern side of the island, with the exception of the demonstrations at ALICATO, there has been little or no overt action by the Separatist Party in the western provinces. The majority of demonstrations is said to be exhibitions of social and political by economic discontent and dislike of military control, with reasons and excuses varying according to the different localities. It was learned in PALERMO, however, on 24 Dec 44 that meetings were taking place amongst leading Separatists at the party HQ there. The reasons for these meetings, it is reliably reported, is that the younger and more HQ-headed elements want militant action against the call-up.

This, it is stated, does not meet with the approval of the secretary of the movement, AV. VAVARO, whereas, PIERLUIGI LAURE is more likely to follow overt action, if he believes it to be the will of a majority. The situation, it is believed, is at the present moment tense.

Reference 21 P.B. Section report headed "Separatism - MESSINA" dated 20 Dec 44, para 5, enquiries made by this Section have not so far been able to substantiate any HQ or activity in the area of MONTA PALERMO which is regularly inspected by D.S. N.O.B.

Note. It is reported that my reports have not been given but this Section has not at present any graded maps. These have been

Paper II—A short-answer question.

majority. The present
reference 21 P.S. Section Report headed "Sensational -
Reference 21 P.S. Section Report headed "Sensational -
20 Dec 44, para 5, enquiries made by this Section have not as far be
able to substantiate any R2 or activity in the area of R2 or R3.
which is regularly inspected by P.S. E.D.B.

U.S. National Library of Medicine

7-9-74: 11011

24 Dec 44.

new to = 10: Trench

9780190714017

1994

Intel. Over 400,000.

1994-1995-93

Intel. Over 400,000.

[illegible]

1000 300000, 2000 500000

6. It is known that several young men of the regiment had 14000 have lost mesenteric and tumour has it that large numbers or about to have or have already left for the centre of the island - "to form up in

Italian army. These activities have been reported by the Italian press. (On 2 Dec 4, two student demonstrations were organized by students but subsequently postponed.)

3. There is considerable evidence suggesting the presence of a "Red" element in the population. (On 2 Dec 4, two student demonstrations were organized by students but subsequently postponed.)

4. There is considerable evidence suggesting the presence of a "Red" element in the population. (On 2 Dec 4, two student demonstrations were organized by students but subsequently postponed.)

5. The "Red" element in the population is also reported to exist in the concentration camps. (On 2 Dec 4, two student demonstrations were organized by students but subsequently postponed.)

6. It is known that several young men of the resistance were arrested by the Italian army and taken to the interior of the country. (On 2 Dec 4, two student demonstrations were organized by students but subsequently postponed.)

7. The demonstrators who were arrested by the Italian army were taken to the interior of the country. (On 2 Dec 4, two student demonstrations were organized by students but subsequently postponed.)

8. On 18 Dec 4, four young workers employed inside the Royal Dockyard who had been working the 2,000 tons of material employed to construct the dockyard were arrested by the Italian army. (On 2 Dec 4, two student demonstrations were organized by students but subsequently postponed.)

9. On 18 Dec 4, four young workers employed inside the Royal Dockyard who had been working the 2,000 tons of material employed to construct the dockyard were arrested by the Italian army. (On 2 Dec 4, two student demonstrations were organized by students but subsequently postponed.)

Sheet 2.

anti-British and anti-Allied feeling is increasing in Messina. The present state of co-belligerency is unhelpful. The Armistice terms must be published. The Armistice terms must be annulled.

A leaflet, a copy of which is attached as appendix "C", issued by the "Giovane Repubblica Siciliana" Committee, Messina, is being distributed among students at Messina on 17 Dec 44. It is known that copies of this leaflet were being distributed among students at Messina on Dec 16 Dec 44. It will be seen that the main demands of the leaflets are, -

The annulment of the Armistice of Sep 43;
Action to be taken against the King, his son, and MARIOSSO, as those responsible for the present state of affairs;
A vague claim for an improved status for Italy;
The assurance of food supplies.

Sicilian youth does not intend to be "unrecruited" in the service of the Fascist Monarchy or of the "foreigner."

If the above demands are not met, and if the present call-up is not suspended, the leaflet threatens the formation within ten days of armed bands in the mountains, and the beginning of hostile acts against the Italian Government and the Allies.

A curious feature of the present situation is that the Ustasians, formerly ardent enemies of Separatism, are now one with the Separatists in protest against the call-up. The Communists are preserving a strictly pro-Government attitude.

C M R

(Signed)

A. S. KAH

Capt.

O.S. Royal Fort Security Section.

20 Dec 44

APPENDIX "A".

Giovani delle classi 1921 non vi presentate!
Dopo essere stati abbandonati nelle mani dei tedeschi, salvati

la sera e la deportazione con rischi e sofferenze siamo arrivati alle nostre case. RINVIAMOCI!!!

I nostri libretti sono vuoti! Quando li potremo riempire?

14-44

RE. COURT OF PUBLICATIONS LIMITED.

CONFIDENTIALHEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

67A

Ref: AC/44602/6/TS

7 Jan 45

SUBJECT : Disorders in Catania

TO : RC Sicilia Region

Reference your RC/000.5 dated 30th December, 1944.

- 1 In consequence of the information received in your recent reports on the disturbances in Sicily, the Chief Commissioner directed that both the Commanding General of the CCRR and the Director of Public Security be asked to investigate the recent unsatisfactory conduct of the police in Sicily.
- 2 The necessary requests were accordingly issued and no doubt the enquiries made of you are a sequel to these requests.
- 3 Your confidential reports were not shown to the Commanding General of the CCRR and the Director of Public Security and it is not understood why you should have assumed that they might be. This HQ is fully aware of its duties and obligations in this respect.
- 4 You will be good enough to render, if they so desire, such assistance to the officers conducting the enquiry to enable them to make complete and proper reports by furnishing them with such facts as have come to your knowledge without of course disclosing your reports.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER


 G. R. UPJOHN Brig
 VF CA Section
 DCOS AC

1440

Original despatched
by CR Sec 27 JAN 1945
RL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

Folio _____ Date _____

DPS.....

DDPS.....

Ex. Officer.....

POLICE

Lt. Col. Wilcox.....

Major Wilson.....

Prisons.....

Reg. & Lic.....

A.O.....

Maj. Harvey.....

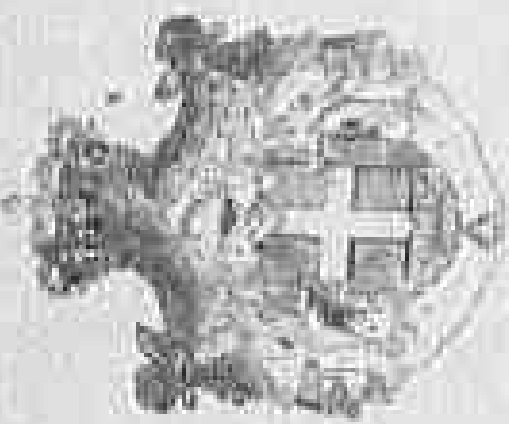
Capt. Brown.....

Security Division.....

REMARKS.....

.....

.....



Mo1839

1402/b
66A
Ministero dell'Interno

DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA
DIVISIONE AFFARI GENERALI E RISERVATI

N. 442/I7001

Roma 28 Dicembre 1944

ALL'ON/LE COMMISSIONE ALLIATA
SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER LA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

R O M A

Nelle decorse 24 ore è qui giunta la seguente segnalazione di rilievo:

MESSINA - Quel Prefetto, nel confermare quanto già segnalato col suo telegramma del 25 corrente, ha aggiunto che a Capizzi è stato incendiato il carteggio dell'esattoria comunale e sono stati devastati i locali della Pretura distaccata, l'ambulatorio medico e le scuole elementari. La manifestazione risulta preordinata essendo stati tagliati nella notte precedente i fili del telegrafo. Sul posto si trovano rinforzi diretti da un funzionario di P.S. di quella Questura.

L'ordine pubblico è stato provvisoriamente ristabilito.

IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

During the last 24 hours, we have received the following communication from MESSINA - The Prefect, confirming what was communicated with cable 14322 25th inst., states that in Capizzi the files of the communal tax office have been set fire. The premises of the detached Pretura, the medical ambulatory and of elementary schools have been devastated. It appears that the demonstration had been pre-organised, since the telegraph wires had been cut in the preceding night. Reinforcement, commanded by a P.S. official of that Questura, are on the spot. The public order has been provisionally re-established.

N. 442/17001

Roma 28 Dicembre 1944

ALL'ON/L'E COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER LA PUBBLICA SICUREZZAR O M A

Neile decorse 24 ore è qui giunta la seguente segnalazione di rilievo:

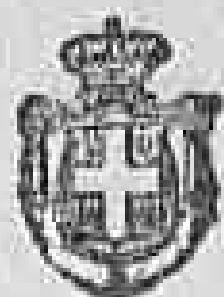
MESSINA - Qual Prefetto, nel confermare quanto già segnalato col suo telegramma del 25 corrente, ha aggiunto che a Capizzi è stato incendiato il carteggio dell'esattoria comunale e sono stati devastati i locali della Pretura distaccata, l'ambulatorio medico e le scuole elementari. La manifestazione risulta preordinata essendo stati tagliati nella notte precedente i fili del telegrafo. Sul posto si trovano rinforzi diretti da un Funzionario di P.S. di quella Questura.

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dr.



RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 832/47 di prot. S.P.

Roma, li 25 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Sicilia - Propaganda antimilitarista.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

- Sottocommissione per la Pubblica Sicurezza -

R O M A

Nella prima ora del 13 corrente, in Bisacciuolo (Palermo), furono trovati affissi manifesti invitanti i giovani delle classi dal 1914 al 1924 a non presentarsi alla chiamata e i possessori della volotta di esenzione a non versare il lg. 25 di giaro.

Nella notte del 14 corrente, in Campobello di Lione (Agrigento), sconosciuti urlarono dai tetti di quell'abitato la seguente frase:
"RIVOLUZIONE DI SOLITO NO".

Il 15 corrente, il comandante del Gruppo Interne C.C. di Palermo, ricevendo, in busta chiusa, una scritto anonima, dattilografata, di cui si acclude copia.

Sul rovescio della busta era stato indicato come mittente, evidentemente per sviare le indagini, "Giornale Sicilia Palermo S.P.A.R.".

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA

COMANDANTE GENERALE

- Felice Orlando -

1437

1436

1992, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 26

Enzo Guerri -

G. G.
 IL CAPO UFFICIO
 Francesco Ruggieri -
 Ruggieri

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 384

2 JAN 1945

FILE:RC/000.5

30 Dec 1944

SUBJECT: Disorders - CATANIA

TO : Headquarters Allied Commission
R O M E

1. The General commanding the Carabinieri in SICILY has reported to this Headquarters that he has received directions from ROME to carry out an inquiry to ascertain the responsibility for the events at CATANIA on the basis of the report made by the Regional Commissioner SICILIA Region to your Headquarters. The Commandant CC.RR has naturally asked to see the report referred to and I have informed him that under no circumstances, unless I receive special directions from higher authority, can he see or have a copy of my report.

I do not know which report is referred to - whether my RC/000.5 of 29 DEC (final report on CATANIA disturbances) or my RC/000.5 of 29 DEC (general report on disturbances).

These reports are secret and privileged documents and I trust that under no circumstances will Italian authorities be permitted to carry out inquiries based on my reports.

Even if copies of my reports have been sent to the Chief of Carabinieri in ROME, which I trust is not the case, or if they have been seen by this officer I trust that there will be no question of copies of or extracts from these reports being sent through Carabinieri channels with a view to inquiry by Italian authorities. If there is any particular aspect in this matter which in the opinion of your Headquarters requires investigation through Carabinieri channels I can see no objection to the inquiries being set on foot but I consider that under no circumstances whatever should such inquiries or investigation be in any way linked up with reports made by this Headquarters.

I should be glad if immediate steps can be taken to have this matter regularised.

M. Carr
M. CARR

Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

Copy TO: Public Safety
Subcommission

1435

63A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 394

2 January, 1945.

AS/14602/6/P.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

61A

With reference to your telegram dated 28 December 1944 concerning reinforcements of Carabinieri and troops for Sicily.

The Party of 'Alpini' referred to which has arrived in Sicily is the Montegrappa Battalion, Italian Army transferred to the Carabinieri. It comprises 36 officers and 786 men.

200 Carabinieri have also been transferred from the mainland to Palermo. A further 100 are in transit from Bari to Palermo and should arrive shortly.

800 men of the Calabria Division, Italian Army, have now arrived in Sicily.

Very truly yours,

G. J. Jones
G. J. JONES, Brig.
APO, AG.

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi,
the President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
Rome.

FJM/C.

1454

Copy on 14056/5

DRAFT

62A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

AC/110602/6/PS.
AS/14056/5/PS

30 December 1944

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

With reference to your telegram dated 28 December, 1944 concerning reinforcements of Carabinieri and troops for Sicily.

The Party of "Alpini" referred to which has arrived in Sicily is the Montegronero Battalion Italian Army transferred to the Carabinieri. It comprises 36 officers 786 men.

200 Carabinieri have also been transferred from the mainland to Palermo. A further 100 are in transit from Bari to Palermo and should arrive shortly.

800 men of the Calabria Division, Italian Army, left Cagliari on 28th December 1944, enroute by sea direct for Messina. Although they had not arrived when enquiry was made today 30th December 1944, it is expected that they will arrive very soon.

Yours very truly,

ELDERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome.

1433

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
CABINET

Telegram n. 18211 - Gab. -

Telegraph and cipher office

28th of October, 1944

TO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
ROME

The High Commissioner for Sicily informs that until now only a party of "alpini" has arrived in Sicily and that the carabinieri reinforcements which had been previously announced and the unit of troops coming from Sardinia, have not arrived yet.

As the High Commissioner points out to the urgency of having the reinforcements which had been previously announced to keep the public order I urgently ask you to see that the transport of troops from Sardinia be solicited.

Would you kindly give me an answer on the subject.

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR

BONOMI

IC/Tr.

TO	INIT	DATE
COL. GRIFFIN		
COL. YOUNG		
LT. COL. WILCOX		
MAJ. LUCKMAN		
MAJ. WILSON		
MAJ. HANBURY		
MAJ. BALLANCE		
CAPT. POWEL		
CHIEF CLERK		

1437

4532

Mod. 842

Ministero dell'Interno

GABINETTO

UFFICIO DEL TELEGAFO E DELLA CIFRA

Telegramma N. 18211-Gab.

Roma, 28 dicembre 1944

2 DEC 1944

COMMISSARIO CAPO
COMMISSIONE ALLEATA CONTROLLOR O M A

ALTO COMMISSARIO SICILIA COMUNICA CHE FINORA EST ARRIVATO
IN SICILIA SOLTANTO REPARTO ALPINI ET CHE NON SONO GIUNTI PREAN-
NUNZIATI RINFORZI CARABINIERI ET REPARTI TRUPPA CHE PROVENIENTI
DALLA SARDEGNA DOVEVANO ARRIVARE VIA CALABRIA PUNTO POICHE' ALTO
COMMISSARIO SEGNALE URGENZA POTER DISPORRE RINFORZI PREANNUNZIATI
PER TUTELA ORDINE PUBBLICO PREGOLA VIVAMENTE VOLER DISPORRE CHE
SIA SOLLECITATO TRASPORTO TRUPPE SARDEGNA PUNTO GRADIREI CORTESE
COMUNICAZIONE IN MERITO = PRESIDENTE CONSIGLIO MINISTRO INTERNO
BONOMI

Bonomi

143

Cam/

4534

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

28 Dec 44

Ref: AM/44502/6/28

SUBJECT: Demonstrations against Military Call-up in Sicily.

TO : CCG.

The following notes have been prepared regarding the recent demonstrations in Sicily against the call-up for the Italian Army:-

- 1 Italian Army Call-up
The call-up for the Italian Army effected the 1914-1924 age groups, who were to be called up in three batches: the 1923/24 classes to present themselves during the period 12-13 Dec 44, while the remaining classes to be called up during the periods 3-10 Jan 45 and 15-22 Jan 45.

- 2 Summary of Demonstrations
The demonstrations began on the 10 of December and continued for about 10 days. No incident has been reported since the 23 of December. In all, 73 demonstrations are known to have occurred, the majority dispersing without causing injury or damage. The incidents may be summarized as follows:-

Demonstrations causing conflict and damage	9
" " conflict	1
" " damage	8
" " without conflict or damage	65
	73

- 3 Casualties
Dead 4 civilians
Injured 25 " 6 police

- 4 Catania Incident
The most serious disorder and damage occurred in the city of Catania on the 14th of December 44.
a) In the morning about 500 demonstrators, led by students, gathered in front of the Italian Military District Headquarters to protest against the call-up. A hand grenade was thrown by an unknown person killing one civilian and injuring another. Two Italian Army Officers were attacked by the crowd and stripped of their uniforms. There was also some dismantling of the Carabinieri.
b) In the afternoon some Carabinieri trucks which had brought Carabinieri into the City were set alight by the mob. Several Carabinieri were disarmed by the crowd. The Town Hall was set on fire after the door had been forced by a bomb used as a battering ram. No attempt was made to extinguish the fire, the Fire Brigade, although called, failing to appear on the scene. The Law Courts and the Tax Office were also gutted, while other buildings including the military District Headquarters were damaged by fire. The damage was largely caused by a comparatively small number of youths of

Italian Army Call-up

The call-up for the Italian Army affected the 1914-1924 age groups, who were to be called up in three batches; the 1923/24 classes to present themselves during the period 12-13 Dec 44, while the remaining classes to be called up during the periods 3-10 Jan 45 and 15-22 Jan 45.

Summary of Demonstrations

The demonstrations began on the 10 of December and continued for about 40 days. The incident has been reported since the 20 of December.

In all, 73 demonstrations are known to have occurred, the majority being without causing injury or damage. The incidents may be summarized as follows:-

Demonstrations causing conflict and damage	9
" " conflict	1
" " damage	8
" " without conflict or damage	55
	73

Casualties

Dead	4 civilians
Injured	25 " 6 police

Catania Incident

The most serious disorder and damage occurred in the city of Catania on the 14th of December 44.

- In the morning about 500 demonstrators, led by students, gathered in front of the Italian Military District Headquarters to protest against the call-up. A handgrenade was thrown by an unknown person killing one civilian and injuring another. Two Italian Army Officers were attacked by the crowd and stripped of their uniforms. There was also some disarming of the Carabinieri.
- In the afternoon some Carabinieri trucks which had brought Carabinieri into the City were set alight by the mob. Several Carabinieri were disarmed by the crowd. The Town Hall was set on fire after the door had been forced by a bomb used as a battering ram. No attempt was made to extinguish the fire, the fire brigade, although called, failing to appear on the scene. The Law Courts and the Tax Office were also gutted, while other buildings including the military District Headquarters were damaged by fire. The damage was largely caused by a comparatively small number of youths of the hoodlump type.
- Further demonstrations were attempted on 15 of Dec but were repressed by the police. The total casualties in Catania on the 14 and 15 Dec were:- 4 Civilian killed and 48 injured. 3 Carabinieri were injured. 27 arrests were effected.
- On the 17 of Dec demonstrators again attacked the Town Hall in Catania. Carabinieri opened fire killing two civilians. 100 Italian troops were placed at the disposal of the Civil Authorities in case reprisals were attempted but the situation remained quiet.

Causes of the Disturbances

While the disturbances originated as a protest against the military call-up, economic and political dissatisfaction was also ventilated. Unfortunately the military call-up coincided with an order from the High Commissioner to agricultural producers to consign 25 kilos of grain per person to ease the food shortage. There is no evidence to connect the separatists with the outbreak but there can be little doubt that their past propaganda exerted an influence on the minds of the population. It is said that the call-up came as a surprise to the Sicilians who had not been prepared by suitable publicity.

The grounds of protest may be summarized as follows:-

- The Sicilians have no wish to participate in the war (such slogans as "we will not serve as gun-fodder" were carried by students).
- They do not wish to fight for the Italian Government.
- They are unwilling to bear arms against Italians in the North.
- The Italians are still treated as enemies by the Allies.
- The armistice terms have not been made public.
- The young men called up refused to abandon their families to starvation.
- Those called up were invited to bring with them blankets, shoes and clothing which they would have to buy.
- The call-up should not have coincided with the Xmas festivities.

Result of Call-up

Of the 6000 men who should have answered the call-up in Sicily between the 12 and 19 Dec, only 1600 presented themselves. The Ministry of War has stated that the military call-up both in Sicily and elsewhere will proceed and that men who failed to enlist will be arrested.

Control of the Disturbances

In general it can be said that the police failed to take energetic action to disperse demonstrators before disorders occurred. In Catania especially, it is alleged that no policemen were seen in the streets while crowds of excited people went gathering. Although Italian troops have been called on to stand by as a reserve no instances have been reported of troops having been used against the civil population.

Strength of Police, etc

The strength of the Police Agencies in Sicily is as follows:-

Carabinieri	2273
Agents of Public Security	2702
Police Guards	2218

Internal Garrison troops of the Italian Army (chiefly *Sabotia Division*) stationed in Sicily number:

633 Officers and 10372 men.

Reinforcements

- Arrangements were at once made to reinforce the Carabinieri in Sicily by sending 706 troops of the *Montegrupo Battalion* to Palermo. The majority of these have already arrived, while the others are in course of transit. The Commanding General of the Carabinieri, at the request of the Ministry of the Interior, is sending to Sicily 300 Carabinieri from the mainland (Rome, Naples and Bari).
- It has also been agreed to expedite the transfer of two battalions (800 men) of Italian troops to reinforce the Italian garrison troops in Sicily.
- A mobile unit of 1000 Carabinieri is being equipped with 24 three-ton trucks and 24 armoured vehicles supplied by the Ministry of War. These Carabinieri will be used to maintain order in the disturbed areas.

- c) The Italian army was still treated as enemies by the Sicilians.
 e) The armistice terms have not been made public.
 f) The young men called up refused to abandon their families to starvation.
 g) Those called up were invited to bring with them blankets, shoes and medicine which they would have to buy.
 h) The call-up would not have coincided with the Xmas festivities.
- 6 Result of Call-up
 Of the 8000 men who should have answered the call-up in Sicily between the 12 and 13 Dec, only 1650 presented themselves. The Ministry of War has stated that the military call-up both in Sicily and elsewhere will proceed and that men who failed to enlist will be arrested.
- 7 Control of the Disturbances
 In general it can be said that the police failed to take energetic action to disperse demonstrators before disorders occurred. In Catania especially, it is alleged that no policemen were seen in the streets while crowds of excited people were gathering. Although Italian troops have been called on to assist by as a reserve no instances have been reported of troops having been used against the civil population.
- 8 Strength of Police, etc.
 The strength of the Police Agencies in Sicily is as follows:-
 Carabinieri 8273
 Agents of Public Security 2702
 Finance Guards 2212
 Internal Garrison troops of the Italian Army (chiefly Sabotage Division) stationed in Sicily number:
 633 officers and 10572 men.
- 9 Reinforcements
 a) Arrangements were at once made to reinforce the Carabinieri in Sicily by sending 766 troops of the Montegrupo Battalion to Palermo. The majority of these have already arrived, while the others are in course of transit. The Commanding General of the Carabinieri, at the request of the Ministry of the Interior, is sending to Sicily 300 Carabinieri from the mainland (Rome, Naples and Bari).
 b) It has also been agreed to expedite the transfer of two battalions (800 men) of Italian troops to reinforce the Italian garrison troops in Sicily.
 c) A mobile unit of 1000 Carabinieri is being equipped with 24 three-ton trucks and 24 armoured vehicles supplied by the Ministry of War. These Carabinieri are drawn from those already serving on the island. They will be distributed throughout Sicily with Headquarters at Palermo and Messina.
- 10 Other measures
 a) A new Prefect of Catania left Rome by plane on the 17 Dec 44.
 b) The High Commissioner for Sicily has ordered an investigation of the conduct of the Carabinieri during the Catania riots.
 c) The Director of the Public Security, Ministry of the Interior and the Commanding General of the Carabinieri have been requested to conduct a thorough investigation of police action in Sicily. It has also been suggested to them

d) that a statement originating from the Prime Minister might be issued announcing to the Italian people that it is the intention of the Government to preserve law and order by any means in its power and by force if necessary. There is before you for submission to the CE a draft letter to the Italian Prime Minister expressing concern at the inability of the Italian Police to control the disturbances in Sicily and asking what measures will be taken to prevent a recurrence.

G.A. UNKNOWN ORIG,
 PP. OA Section,
 DOCS AD.

Copy to: Land Force Sub-Commission.

1438

Translation RV.

CC.RR. Gen. HQ.

22 December 1944.

N. 421/16

Subject : Sicily - Demonstrations against the call-up.

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

Castellammare del Golfo (Trapani) - 17 December 1944

Unknown persons affixed posters inciting young men not to answer the call-up.-

On the same day, at 1000 hrs., several hundred persons, in the majority students and workers, went through the main streets of the village, carrying banners with slogans such as: ""We are not sheeps - We are not gun-fodder - We don't want to fight - Down with the military call-up "".-

The demonstration finished with a speech held by the student MIONE Vincenzo against the monarchy and the call-up. No incidents.-

Poggio Reale (Trapani) - 17 December 1944

Unknown persons, as a protest against the military call-up exploded about 50 hand-grenades, causing no consequences, and affixed posters inciting the young men not to answer the call-up.

Tortorice (Messina) - 17 December 1944

About 100 persons went through the streets of the village shouting against the Italian Government and the Allies and against the call-up.

The CC.RR. strength dispersed the demonstrators. No incidents.

Investigations are in course for the identification and arrest of the liables.

Alessandro della Rocca (Agrigento) - 13 December 1944

Unknown persons affixed two handwritten posters inciting the young men not to answer the call-up, advising them to enroll themselves in the gang of the famous criminal "Giuliani".

Delia (Caltanissetta) - 13 December 1944

Unknown persons affixed two posters written by pencil with slogans such as: "" Don't answer the call-up - The Allies want to skin you - and your mothers are tired to cry.- Desert! - The Black Gang - Young men nobody should answer the call-up - The Americans want us to fight against our brothers - Don't answer ! "".-

S. Lucia del Mela (Messina) - 15 December 1944

Unknown persons affixed 4 handwritten posters with slogans such as: "" Soldiers don't answer the call - Down with the Monarchy - Who answers the call-up is a traitor - long life Mussolini - don't answer the call -

- 2 -

S. Filippo del Mela (Messina) - 14 December 1944

Unknown persons wrote with chalk the following sentences:
"" Soldiers don't answer the call-up - Soldiers don't be
mercenaries - Don't answer the call-up"".-

Collesano and Isdella (Palermo) - 16 December 1944

Posters inciting the young men not to answer the call-up
were found.-

Calatafimi (Trapani) - 17 December 1944

Unknown persons wrote sentences praising the ex duce and
affixed posters inciting the young men not to answer the
call-up.-

Cerda (Palermo) - 19 December 1944

Unknown persons affixed a photograph of Mussolini and a
handwritten poster against the call-up inciting the young
men not to answer the call-up.

Palermo - 19 December 1944

The CC.RR. Strength found a typed poster with the following
notices: "" Italian Republican Party B.M. Group - Brothers
. . . . Republican Italy is doing everything to free us -
Let us help them . . . with all our power - So we will con-
tribute in hastening the end of our slavery and we will redeem
ourselves for our past mistakes - Young men don't answer the
call-up "".-

lb-

Commanding General
- Taddeo Orlando -

1426

MG/ CC. RR. CONG. R.O.

14602/6

21 December 1944

45/25

TO : Allied Commission - P.S. Subcommission
 SUBJ. : Rieti (Caltanissetta)

In Rieti (Caltanissetta), on October 15, about 50 young communists, many of which armed with sticks, went through the streets of the town, shouting "Down with the Monarchy - we will make the revolution!"

On the following evening, the same people, organized another demonstration, and the CC. RR. invited the leader of them, CATUOLA Giuseppe, to the barracks in order to warn him; this gave rise to violent reaction of his friends.

Catuola was left free only after the demonstrators had dispersed, without incident.

The Commanding General
 Taddeo Orlando

21 December
 421/15

SUBJ. : Sicily - Demonstrations

The following demonstrations have taken place in Sicily, against the call up.

Catania (Caltanissetta) 17 December 1944

About one thousand people organized a demonstration against the call up. The CC. RR. intervened at once, dispersed the demonstrators without incidents.

Termini Imerese (Palermo) 18 December

Nearly 3,000 students and workers, organized a demonstration against the call up. The CC. RR. intervened at once, in collaboration with P.S. agents, dispersed the demonstrators without incidents.

Brolo (Messina) 19 December

Nearly 100 people, several of whom were armed with sticks, hand-grenades, made 25 young people called up, come down from a military truck, proceeding from Palermo. Then, they ordered another truck, going to Capo d' Orlando, in order to pick up those who were called up, to go back empty, to Messina.

The CC. RR. have started asking inquiries in order to identify and arrest the responsible persons.

The Commanding General
 Taddeo Orlando

eb

1465

ALLIED [REDACTED] COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

(57A)

SUBJECT:

FILE No.

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission.

22nd Dec. 1944.

The contents of the attached letter have been brought to the attention of the Chief of Staff, and the document is returned to you for filing in the appropriate file.

R.R. Grips et.

R. R. GRIFFS, Col.
CSO CA Section.

1424

(6413)

FROM : Lt.Col. I.G.H. CAMPBELL

14602/6
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 394

21 December 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Colonel.

You asked me to put on paper a few personal observations on the recent riot in Catania : this I do with pleasure making it quite plain that they are entirely unofficial and based purely on my personal observations (shared with other officers) : they are in no way exhaustive as we were busy holding Court, and had no time to go around and see what was going on.

The situation, in my view, was handled lamentably. The following points struck me very forcibly :-

- (a) During the riot, there was not a single policeman of any kind (RECC PS etc) to be seen in the streets. As a result hordes of people, highly excited, flocked about the place doing damage and making the general atmosphere more "electric".
- (b) Apart from those who actually committed acts of violence, large crowds assembled everywhere: no effort was made to disperse them: as a layman in these matters I believe that when there is trouble and rioting going on, hundreds of people standing in excited groups in every street merely increase the chance of further incidents.
- (c) Various buildings were destroyed by fire, noticeably the Municipio and the Law Courts. I had the opportunity of observing this fire at the municipio as it was immediately opposite my Court. The fire raged for hours, and the building was completely gutted. No visible steps were taken to try and put it out: I never saw a fire engine there at any time. The reason for the absence of a fire engine, I was told locally, was that it was "prevented" by various citizens.
- (d) Perhaps, most serious of all, in view of possible consequences, was the conduct of the Italian Military on the following day. You will remember that the trouble started (nominally) as a demonstration against the "call up" : that a crowd assembled outside the military HQ : and that the military (in circumstances I do not know) fired and killed one or more

6413
././.

persons - i.e. feeling against the military was high. On the day following the riot, there was a very uneasy feeling in the city : shops were shut: and streets and squares were full of loitering agitated people standing about waiting to see what might happen. On this day the Italian military turned out. However, instead of patrolling the streets in small groups they drove up and down the crowded main streets in lorries, turning at some corner, then driving back again: then stopping at the roadside. In each truck there were some 15-20 men, with their rifles pointing outwards. Such conduct was highly provocative. It only required some irresponsible youth to throw a bottle or a handgrenade (plenty of both were thrown) at one of the trucks and the "shooting war" (if I may borrow from F.D.R.) would have started in earnest.

In all it was as sorry and in-ept a performance as one could imagine.

Yours Sincerely

Jan Campbell

TO: Col. J. CHAPMAN
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

REPORT No. 2.

8/122/048

Situation Report Demonstrations.

Regional Commissioner.
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

(1) Special Order 21 December 1943. Demonstrations still.

(2) Summary of Demonstrations.

1. No fresh disorders reported today. As also order re-established. Investigation proceeding.

2. Total demonstrations to date.

(1) Call-up 1 estate case.
Demonstrations without incident 22 to 10 places.

Demonstrations with damage 2
" conflict 1
" damage and conflict 1.

(2) Assessing immediate case.
Demonstrations without incidents 2
" with damage 2
" damage and conflict 2

142

3. The number of dead and injured to date.

Dead Civilians 4
Injured Police 5
" Civilians 25

4. The principal cause of the demonstrations is the call-up. But in many places grain harvesting has been the reason. The principal cause of the demonstrations is the call-up. But in many places grain harvesting has been the reason. The principal cause of the demonstrations is the call-up. But in many places grain harvesting has been the reason.

1445/1420
16602/6
Extra
56A

December 21st, 1943.

Regional Commission.
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

(1) Special Bitter 21 December 1944. Demonstration Bitter.

(2) Summary of Demonstrations.

2. 9 fresh disorders reported today. At least one order recommended- investigation proceedings.

3. Total demonstrations to date.

(1) Call-up 1 incidents cases.
Demonstrations without incident 22 in 12 places.

Demonstrations with damage 2
" " conflict 1
" " damage and conflict 1.

(2) Arresting immediate cases.
Demonstrations without incidents 1
" with damage 1
" damage and conflict 2

142

4. The number of dead and injured to date.

Dead Citizens 4
Injured Police 5
" Citizens 22

5. The principal cause of the demonstrations is the call-up. But in many places grain harvesting has been the reason - particularly the provision by the High Government to collect an additional amount of grain. After the general campaign to collect grain there has been a reaction on the part of the producers against further annexing.

6. Most of the demonstrations have been concentrated in the center of the island (provinces of O. Bismarck and New) and the South East provinces of (Borneo and Borneo).

AC/

Ministry of Interior

S

TO : Allied Commission

14602/6
copy 14602/7

25 DEC. 1944

442/17001

55A

J.

During the last 24 hours, we have received the following communications :

MESSINA - The British telegraphs : "A photo was sent from the MESSINA CO. RR. Group Commander, to the Commander of the MESSINA CO. RR. Artillery Group, informing that, following the dissolution of a popular movement took place on the 24th, in the Commune of Capizzi, of this Province. During it, the Town Hall, the Tax Office and the MESSINA office, should have been set on fire and the CO. RR. Barracks, should have been assaulted with hand-grenades. The telegraphical cable should have been cut and the population seems to be in possession of the keys of the prison. At P.M. official and the CO. RR. Military Commander, with reinforcements of CO. RR. and A.I. elements, have been sent there. I reserve to communicate further detailed informations."

- The MESSINA CO. RR. Captain, telegraphs : "Yesterday 24th, at 0900 hours, in Capizzi (Messina) nearly 500 people assembled before the CO. RR. Barracks and with the violence they were able to reach the liberation of a prisoner arrested the day before, for desertion."

REGGIO CALABRIA - In the night of the 22nd inst., in Boviano, notices have been posted up, inviting the young people to send back the cards of the call up and to refuse to fight, while we still do not know the conditions of armistice.

CATANZARETTO - On the 23rd inst., in the village of S. Maria, the following words have been found written on the walls : "Sicilians keep hidden ; for whom should we fight? - Down with war." In the same day in the commune of Russocampo, along the walls the following words have been found : "Long live the Duce & Duce we are waiting for you - Long live with fascism" - On some wall a Hitlerian cross was painted on.

1420

The Chief of Police.

eb

26/
Ministry of Interior

54A
22 December 1944
442/17001

1 : Allied Commission - I.B. Sub Commission

26000

During the last 24 hours the following communications have been received:

26000 : On the evening of the 21st inst., the flag granted by the Ministry of War to the 145 Inf. Reg., of the Garrison of the town, arrived at the railway station. At 1500 hours of the following day, the flag was received and brought to the barracks by an escort of honour, accompanied by the military band and by a procession of military and civil authorities, by the local town Mayor, by officers in leave, members of the National Liberation Committee, representatives of political parties and representatives of the Armed Forces. The people stopping along the streets, respectfully took off their hats, when the flag was passing, and they applauded at its entrance in the barracks. No incident troubled the ceremony, which has a special importance in this particular moment.

26000 : On the 22nd inst., the employees of the public offices, met in the Senate Hall. During the order of the day, voted by judges and officials of judicial chambers and secretaries of War and Peace, they assented to the wishes of that order of the day and decided to organize a meeting of all the employees, on January 3, in the Senate Hall, in order to decide the measures of a collective abstention from work, if, in the near time, provisions of the Government will not be issued. They also elected a Committee of action.

The discontent among the employees, owing to their terrible economical situation, is very big, since the recent improvements, have carried no benefits to them, owing to the high and increasing cost of life; therefore we cannot exclude that this purpose of suspending the work may be carried into effect.

the Chief of Police.

1419

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
LTC 194.

4C/14602/6/PS.

Ref. 489081 - 580.

26th December, 1944.

SUBJECT : Disturbances in Catania.

TO : Director of Public Safety, Ministry of Interior.

1. A report which I have received from the Regional Commissioner, Sicily, indicates that in the recent disturbances in Catania, the action taken by the police, i.e., the Agents of Public Security and C.C.P.R., was entirely unsatisfactory. So far as the Agents of Public Security are concerned, it is alleged that during the disturbances no policemen were to be seen in the streets and that no action was taken to disperse the comparatively few persons who were disorderly. For example, it is stated that irresponsible hoodlums were permitted to indulge in various destruction of property without opposition, and that the firing of the Municipio was the work of 400 more than six persons. The Fire Services were conspicuous by their absence and were apparently afraid to venture from their Station.
2. I am sure you will agree that, having regard to these statements, the whole incident requires thorough investigation. I should be glad therefore if, as a matter of urgency, you will let me know what are the facts and also what steps you propose to initiate to prevent a recurrence of such an unfortunate affair.

3. From time to time in recent months instances have occurred which indicate that the police have failed to take a firm stand when dealing with public disorders and I should be glad if you would consider what steps ought to be taken by your Ministry to ensure more positive action in the future. I fully appreciate the difficulties which the police are experiencing at the present time, but nevertheless I consider it imperative that definite direction on the necessity of maintaining law and order be given. You may consider that such a statement should originate from the

26th December, 1944.

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TO : Director of Public Safety, Ministry of Interior.

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Prime Minister, assuring the Italian people that it is the intention of the Government to preserve law and order by every means in its power and by force, if necessary.

4. A letter in similar terms is being sent to the Commanding General, CO.RR.

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

1416

ALY/ee

-2-

HEADQUARTERS ARMED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APG 394.

AG/14502/5/PB.
Tel. 489081 - 580.
26th December, 1944.

SUBJECT : Disturbances in Catania.

TO : Commanding General, CC.M.

1. A report which I have received from the Regional Commissioner, Sicily, indicates that in the recent disturbances in Catania, the action taken by the police, i.e., the CC.M. and the Agents of Public Security, was entirely unsatisfactory. So far as the CC.M. are concerned, it is alleged that:-

a) Major Denti was absent from his post in Catania and could not be found.

b) No policemen were to be seen in the streets and CC.M. locked themselves in their Station; the Lieutenant in charge explaining to an Allied Officer that he could not take any action as he had been forbidden to fire on the crowd.

c) Control of the situation was lost from the start by the complete ineffectiveness of the police, who allowed a comparatively small number of demonstrators to do as they pleased. It is stated, for example, that the firing of the Municipio was the work of not more than six persons.

2. Unfortunately, there have been other instances recently which indicate that complaints of this nature against the police have been made, and I am sure that you will agree that, having regard to this particular allegation, the whole incident requires thorough investigation. I should be glad therefore if, as a matter of urgency, you will let me know what are the facts and also what steps you propose to initiate to prevent a recurrence of such an unfortunate affair.

3. It would appear also that your directions, dated 28th October, 1944, are likely to lead to uncertainty in the minds of the CC.M., which might induce lack of action by them in

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a) Major Pentti was absent from his post in Catania and could not be found.

b) CC police were to be seen in the streets and CC.M. looked themselves in their Station; the Lieutenant in charge explaining to an Allied Officer that he could not take any action as he had been forbidden to fire on the crowd.

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3. It would appear also that your directions, dated 28th October, 1944, are likely to lead to uncertainty in the minds of the CC.M., which might induce lack of action by them in a time of emergency.

4. From time to time in recent months instances have occurred which indicate that the CGMR have failed to take a firm stand when dealing with public disorders and I should be glad if you would consider what steps ought to be taken by your Headquarters to ensure more positive action in the future. I fully appreciate the difficulties which the CGMR are experiencing at the present time, but nevertheless I consider it imperative that a more definite direction on the necessity of maintaining law and order be given. You may consider that such a statement should originate from the Prime Minister, assuring the Italian people that it is the intention of the Government to preserve law and order by every means in its power and by force, if necessary.

5. A letter in similar terms is being sent to the Ministry of the Interior.

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

1414

AMY/ea.

ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

FILE:RC/000.5

20 Dec 1944

SUBJECT: Disorders CATANIA

TO : Headquarters Allied Commission
ROME

1. With reference to my RC/000.5 of 15 DEC relating to the disorders which occurred in CATANIA, I am forwarding herewith a copy of a report from the Provincial Commissioner Eastern Sicily.

2. The facts as reported by my Provincial Commissioner are in agreement with those received in reports coming from other sources.

In the Port Security Section report it is stated that in the morning two Italian Army Officers were set upon by the crowd and stripped of their uniforms. It is also stated that there was some disarming of the Carabinieri. At 1430 hours it is reported that some Carabinieri, including the City Commander, arrived in the Piazza Stesicoro where their trucks were attacked and set alight by the mob. At 1500 hours 4 Carabinieri were said to have been attacked by the crowd and disarmed, the demonstrators making use of such arms to disarm other Carabinieri when they arrived. Under such circumstances it is not surprising that the police lost complete control of the situation.

The Municipio is reported to have been set on fire about 1530 hours, the door being finally forced by the use, as a battering ram, of a beam from a bombed building. During the burning of the Municipio groups of youths under the direction of self-appointed "heroes" and ring-leaders lit smaller fires in the neighbouring streets.

3. It appears that action by the Police forces was completely ineffective and control of the situation was lost from the start. Even making allowances for the fact that police morale is low and that their organization does not get the support it should, the action of the local police on this occasion seems to require very careful investigation. High Commissioner has informed me that he is sending the Commandant of the CC.RR. to CATANIA to investigate the action of the Carabinieri. I advised the High Commissioner on the importance of doing everything possible to prevent a recurrence of such a lamentable lack of action

1. With reference to my RC/000.5 of 15 DEC relating to the disorders which occurred in CATANIA, I am forwarding herewith a copy of a report from the Provincial Commissioner Eastern Sicily.
 2. The facts as reported by my Provincial Commissioner are in agreement with those received in reports coming from other sources.
- In the Port Security Section report it is stated that in the morning two Italian Army Officers were set upon by the crowd and stripped of their uniforms. It is also stated that there was some disarming of the Carabinieri. At 1430 hours it is reported that some Carabinieri, including the City Commander, arrived in the Piazza Stesicoro where their trucks were attacked and set alight by the mob. At 1500 hours 4 Carabinieri were said to have been attacked by the crowd and disarmed, the demonstrators making use of such arms to disarm other Carabinieri when they arrived. Under such circumstances it is not surprising that the police lost complete control of the situation.

The Municipio is reported to have seen set on fire about 1530 hours, the door being finally forced by the use, as a battering ram, of a beam from a bombed building. During the burning of the Municipio groups of youths under the direction of self-appointed "heroes" and ring-leaders lit smaller fires in the neighbouring streets.

3. It appears that action by the Police Forces was completely ineffective and control of the situation was lost from the start. Even making allowances for the fact that police morale is low and that their organization does not get the support it should, the action of the local police on this occasion seems to require very careful investigation. High Commissioner has informed me that he is sending the Commandant of the CC.RR. to CATANIA to investigate the action of the Carabinieri. I advised the High Commissioner on the importance of doing everything possible to prevent a recurrence of such a lamentable lack of action on the part of the police elsewhere.

As already noted in my interim report I arranged, owing to the absence at the time of the High Commissioner, a meeting on 9 DEC at Regional Headquarters with the Heads of the Services responsible for law and order in the Island and advised them that, in view of the delicate situation, the necessary plans and dispositions should be made and that all concerned should be on the alert.

4. The Prefect of CATANIA has been replaced and I presume this has been done with your concurrence. I also understand that the Questore has been transferred. I am glad to note this prompt action on the part of the Italian Authorities.

In my opinion, this incident requires immediate investigation with a view to stern action against those guilty of any neglect of duty and I am hoping that the steps taken by the High Commissioner will have this result.

I feel also that the whole question of liberty of action for the police and of the weapons with which they are armed requires consideration. In this connection the directions from the Supreme Command CC.NR. contained in a circular dated 28 OCT 44 appear to me to be vague and liable to lead to a moral uncertainty which induces lack of action among the carabinieri. Moreover, the police are armed only with a lethal weapon.

M Carr Brigadier

M. CARR
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

1 Encl-

Copy of report by Provincial Commissioner Eastern Sicily
CAT/173 of 15 DEC 44 re Disorders in CATANIA on 14 Dec 44.

141

COPY TO: Public Safety Sub-Commission

C O P Y

ALLIED COMMISSION
EASTERN SICILY

SECRET

CAT/173

Subject:- Disorders in CATANIA on 14 Dec 44.TO :- Regional Commissioner,
Sicilia Region H.Q.

About 10.30 hrs on 14 Dec 44, a crowd of about 300, largely composed of students being called to the colours, commenced to demonstrate in the Piazza della Borsa. Later they entered the Italian Army Barracks, where enrolling was being done and shouted protests against joining the Army etc. The barrack square was cleared of all except about 50 who continued to demonstrate. A bomb was thrown - it is stated by a Captain of Italian Army - and one person was killed, one seriously and two slightly wounded. Later, the demonstrators dispersed and by 1300 hours order was restored.

Tronole began again about 1430 hrs in the afternoon. Observers are in agreement that the crowd of about 200 responsible for the afternoon disturbance had little or no connection with the student rioters of the morning, and was composed of irresponsible youths and a number of criminal elements. The Provincial Recruiting Office was occupied and an attempt made to burn it, the office of the Unione Infantile Italiana and of the Corriere di Sicilia were damaged and several military cars were burned. Later, the Municipality Building was set on fire, and destroyed, the Tribunal and Taxation office were also set fire to and furniture and records burnt. Two Police Agents and two or three civilians were wounded by bomb throwing.

At 1600 hrs the Prefect asked for permission to call out the Military and his request was referred to the Area Commander. I visited the prefecture at 1700 hrs when the Prefect asked for the assistance of British troops. I explained that the use of British troops would immediately entail resumption of Allied Military Government, which the circumstances did not justify and asked why the police were taking practically no steps at all to quell the disturbances. The Questore stated that he had less than 200 men all told who were dispersed all over the city, guarding Government property, banks and etc. I then advised the Italian authorities to ask for the use of troops for guard duties and to concentrate the police to deal with the rioters and later made this proposal to the Area Commander. The C.C. Italian troops was present at this interview and agreed to provide troops for guard duties and also to place 100 in the Piazza della Borsa in the centre of the city to assist the police if required. 70 troops were also held in readiness at ACIREALI. British troops were ordered to stand to and confined to barracks.

-2-

About 1800 hrs Italian troops appeared in the streets and the rioters began to disperse without force having to be used. There were no disturbances during the night of 14/15 December.

On the morning of 15th there was a tendency for groups to form in the streets and a general atmosphere of restlessness. Some shots were fired, probably by police in the air, but no casualties have been reported. A curfew at 1800 hrs has been imposed. Italian troops are still employed on guard duties.

It is considered that the afternoon disturbances could have been avoided by energetic action on the part of the Police forces. In the event a mob of irresponsible hooligans - unarmed, except for the possession of some small bombs - was permitted to indulge in incendiarism, resulting in serious destruction of property, without opposition. It is stated that the firing of the Municipality was the work of six persons. Major Bentley, Executive Officer, A.C. who was present while this building was burning, noticed that no attempt was being made to control the fire. He visited the fire station and found the brigade there, and was told that they would not act as bombs had been thrown at them. He also visited the nearest C.C.R.R. Station, where he found that the police had locked themselves in. The lieutenant in charge stated that he could not take action as he had been forbidden to fire on the crowd.

During the whole of the 14th and 15th Maggiore DENTI, Commandante of C.C.R.R. CATANIA, was absent from his post in MESSINA. C.C.R.R. Legion H.Q., MESSINA was asked to locate him, without result.

During the morning of the 14th, some demonstrators gave voice to separatist sentiments. The afternoon riot was sheer hooliganism without political significance. There was no evidence of anti-British feeling.

/s/ H.J. Walker

/t/ H.J. WALKER Lt-Col.
Provincial Commissioner.

CATANIA.
15 Dec 44.

Copy to:- R.P.S.O.

1440

FROM : Lt.Col. I.O.E. CAMPBELL

LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION 50A

HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 394

24 December 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear General.

You asked me to put on paper a few personal observations on the recent riot in Catania : this I do with pleasure making it quite plain that they are entirely unofficial and based purely on my personal observations (shared with other officers) : they are in no way exhaustive as we were busy holding Court, and had no time to go around and see what was going on.

The situation, in my view, was handled lamentably. The following points struck me very forcibly :-

- (a) During the riot, there was not a single policeman of any kind (REGIO PS etc) to be seen in the streets. As a result herds of people, highly excited, flocked about the place doing damage and making the general atmosphere more "electric".
- (b) Apart from those who actually committed acts of violence, large crowds assembled everywhere: no effort was made to disperse them: as a layman in these matters I believe that when there is trouble and rioting going on, hundreds of people standing in excited groups in every street merely increase the chance of further incidents.
- (c) Various buildings were destroyed by fire, noticeably the Municipio and the Law Courts. I had the opportunity of observing this fire at the municipio as it was immediately opposite my Court. The fire raged for hours, and the building was completely gutted. No visible steps were taken to try and put it out: I never saw a fire engine there at any time. The reason for the absence of a fire engine, I was told locally, was that it was "prevented" by various citizens.
- (d) Perhaps, most serious of all, in view of possible consequences, was the conduct of the Italian Military on the following day. You will remember that the trouble started (nominally) as a demonstration against the "call up" : that a crowd assembled outside the military HQ : and that the military (in circumstances I do not know) fired and killed one or more

//.

persons - i.e. feeling against the military was high. On the day following the riot, there was a very uneasy feeling in the city: shops were shut and streets and squares were full of loitering agitated people standing about waiting to see what might happen. On this day the Italian military turned out. However, instead of patrolling the streets in small groups they drove up and down the crowded main streets in lorries, turning at each corner, then driving back again: then stopping at the roadside. In each truck there were some 15-20 men, with their rifles pointing outwards. Such conduct was highly provocative. It only required some irresponsible youth to throw a bottle or a handgrenade (plenty of both were thrown) at one of the trucks and the "shooting war" (if I may borrow from P.D.R.) would have started in earnest.

In all it was an sorry and inept performance as one could imagine.

Yours

TO: Col. J. CHAPMAN
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

1408

ALLIED COMMISSION

SHUTTLA REGION HEADQUARTERS

APR 30 1944

FILE:HO/000.3

23 DEC 1944

HEADQUARTERS

SUBJECT: UNREST IN SICILY

TO : HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

24 DEC 1944

ROME

A. C.

1. In continuation of my HO/000.3 of 20 DEC I am forwarding copy of a FSS report regarding the disorders at ALICHO (TRAPANI province) where it is to be noted that the damage to public buildings was as serious as if not worse than at CATANIA.

The report is made by a Sgt. King of the FSS who was not present during the disorders but was sent there to investigate. His principal sources of information are stated to have been the Carabinieri and the Head of the Pubblica Sicurezza.

2. It would appear that the primary cause of the disorders was the grain and bread situation. The closing down of certain mills was an experiment by the High Commissioner's office in order to reduce consumption of flour in producing districts and to assist in amassing more grain in view of the serious shortage with which the island is faced. The consequences were serious a large number of public buildings being damaged.

3. It is significant that it was at ALICHO that the SUPREMACY was held their last meeting which took place on December 3rd. The meeting was held in a cinema and was not a public meeting but from reports received about 1000 persons attended and it appears that there was considerable enthusiasm generally in the town on account of it.

From reports (F.V.B.) received statements on the following lines were made by Separatist leaders in their speeches:-- the Armistice must be revoked - the Separatist Movement has taken a clear position against the Badoglio and Bonomi Ministries and will maintain it against any Government that may follow in Italy - the Government must understand that we Sicilians do not joke - a great shock could occur tomorrow - there was no intention of creating trouble for the Allies.

4. Mr. Cassara of the Separatist Youth Movement who, according to the enclosed report influenced the mob, has been arrested. Leading Separatists have already interviewed the High Commissioner requesting Cassara's release on the grounds that he is innocent. I advised the High Commissioner strongly against any release until the movement was completely broken.

Public Interest
H9140384

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2. It would appear that the primary cause of the disorders was the grain and bread situation. The closing down of certain mills was an experiment by the High Commissioner's office in order to reduce consumption of flour in producing discounts and to assist in unloading more grain in view of the serious shortage with which the Island is faced. The consequences were serious a large number of public buildings being damaged.

3. It is significant that it was at about 10.00 that the disorders held their last meeting which took place on December 3rd. The meeting was held in a cinema and was not a public meeting but from reports received about 1000 persons attended and it appears that there was considerable enthusiasm generally in the town on account of it.

From reports (P.M.B.) received statements on the following lines were made by separatist leaders in their speeches:- the Armistice must be revoked - the separatist movement has taken a clear position against the Medoglio and Bogomil Ministries and will maintain it against any government that may follow in Italy - the government must understand that we Sicilians do not joke - a great shock could occur tomorrow - there was no intention of creating trouble for the Allies.

4. Mr. CAMILLA of the separatist Youth Movement who, according to the enclosed report informed the AGO, has been arrested. Leading Separatists have already interviewed the High Commissioner requesting Cassara's release on the grounds that he is innocent. I advised the High Commissioner strongly against any release until the matter has been fully investigated to determine whether there is a case for prosecution.

5. I would again draw attention to the lack of offensive action by the Carabinieri and Public Safety agencies. I consider it a matter of great urgency that some directive should be issued by the Italian Government which would give these forces proper liberty of action and would counteract the effects produced by the U.C.M. circular of 28 Oct referred to in my report on the CAMILLA disturbance DO/800.5 of 20 Dec.

Copies TO: V.I. C.A. Section
Public Safety
Sub-Division

Mr. Camilla
Mr. Cassara
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

C O P Y

SECRET

To: Capt. Oliver, 51 P.S.B.,

From: A/Sgt. King, W.J.H.

Subject: Riot at ALICANO, Trapani Province 18/12/1944.

A certain amount of discontent and unrest was occasioned at

ALICANO, Trapani Province, by the closing of certain flour mills, bakeries and bakers' shops. These essential services were closed down by order of the Alto Commissario via the Prefect for two reasons, firstly to render more difficult the activities of speculators and secondly to facilitate the accumulation of a store of grain against the threatened shortage of supplies as the season advanced. This order was put into execution on 2nd December last and on that day two of the three flour mills were closed down and on the 6th December ninety bakers' shops out of a total of 120 were likewise closed. Eight bakeries were unaffected by the order and continued to bake bread as usual.

Apparently the order played into the hands of the speculators rather than against them for the price of bread per kilo rose almost at once from approx. one hundred lire a kilo to almost two hundred lire a kilo.

The very poor, who rely on their official bread ration plus a certain quantity which they buy on the black market, were very hard hit and although there were rumours there was no demonstration.

Public opinion was in this rather unstable state of affairs when the official "call-up" for the Italian Army was announced.

Accordingly on Sunday 17th December, 1944 at about 12.40 hrs. 700 students staged an anti-"call-up" demonstration in the Piazza Ciullo, Alicano. Demonstrators carried banners bearing slogans: "Down with War!", "Down with the Monarchy!" and "Down with the Army." Crowd including students and spectators was addressed by twenty-year-old separatist-agitator, student MILAZZO.

MILAZZO cried: "We won't go to war until we know why we are going. The concentration camps of England, America, Germany and Russia are full of our prisoners-of-war and we are sick of the war. Therefore we won't present ourselves for military service." He then started to talk about the bread situation and the closing of the mills.

Whereupon crowd cried: "We want bread! Reopen the mills!"

Commissario of the Public Safety, DRAGO, tried to calm the mob and reported that he would see the Prefect and the Commissario

down by order of the Commissioner via the Prefect for the first one, firstly to render more difficult the activities of speculators and secondly to facilitate the accumulation of a store of grain against the threatened shortage of supplies as the season advances. This order was put into execution on 2nd December last and on that day two of the three flour mills were closed down and on the 6th December ninety bakers' shops out of a total of 120 were likewise closed. Eight bakeries were unaffected by the order and continued to bake bread as usual.

Apparently the order played into the hands of the speculators rather than against them for the price of bread per kilo rose almost at once from approx. one hundred lire a kilo to almost two hundred lire a kilo.

The very poor, who rely on their official bread ration plus a certain quantity which they buy on the black market, were very hard hit and although there were grumbles there was no demonstration.

Public opinion was in this rather unstable state of affairs when the official "call-up" for the Italian Army was announced.

Accordingly on Sunday 17th December, 1944 at about 12.40 hrs. 7,400 students staged an anti-"call-up" demonstration in the Piazza Cavour, alone. Demonstrators carried banners bearing slogans: "Down with war!", "Down with the hierarchy" and "Down with the army." Crowd including students and spectators was addressed by twenty-year-old separatist-agitator, student MILAZZO.

MILAZZO cried: "We must go to war until we know why we are going. The concentration camps of England, America, Germany and Russia are full of our prisoners-of-war and we are sick of the war. Therefore we must present ourselves for military service." He then started to talk about the bread situation and the closing of the mills.

Whereupon crowd cried back: "We want bread! Reopen the mills!"

Commissioner of the Public Safety, DRAGO, tried to calm the mob and shouted that he would see the Prefect and the Commissioner Prefettizio (a sort of acting sindaco) and see about the re-opening of the mills.

Shouted back MILAZZO: "O.K. we will all meet here again tomorrow, Monday the 18th December, at 12 o'clock."

And the crowd began to disperse. Commissioner DRAGO approached MILAZZO and said: "You know I can't possibly get a reply by that time."

On the evening of that day (17th December) Captain of Carabinieri, MIRABILLA, sent panic message by phonograph to R.Q. Trapani asking for reinforcements if the mills were not immediately re-opened as there was grave danger of violent public disorders.

-8-

Subject: Riot at ALICAMO, Trapani Province 18/12/1944.

On the morning of the 18th December Commissioner DRAGO and the Commissario Prefettorio BULFIA set off by car for Trapani to confer with the Prefect. It was now 7 o'clock.

By 09.00 hrs. a crowd of five or six thousand thronged the Piazza Giulio. Captain of Carabinieri MIRACCHI went about the crowd trying to quieten it and pleading with individuals to await the Prefect's reply.

At 10.30 hrs (approx.) a phonogram arrived from Trapani saying that the Prefect agreed to the unconditional re-opening of the mills.

But it was too late. From balconies of RISTORANTE STILLA, twenty-seven (approx.) year old AVV. CASARA, Chief representative of separatist youth, started to harangue the mob about "the taxes."

This night have been a signal for the crowd almost at once started to shout "Burn down the tax offices!" and they did.

Captain of Carabinieri MIRACCHI says that he appealed to AVV. CASARA to stop the riot. AVV. CASARA seems to have been frightened by the forces he set in motion and tried but no one would listen and rioters proceeded to the following places which they sacked and burned. A bonfire of papers and furniture was made in the Piazza Giulio.

- (1) Ufficio Pario (Municipal taxes on wine etc.);
- (2) Esattoria Comunale (Taxes on land, factories etc.);
- (3) Ufficio Discretoriale delle Imposte (Stamps etc.);
- (4) Pretura (Magistrates' offices);
- (5) U.C.S.E.A. (Ufficio Comunale Statistico, Economico Agricoltura) (Grain statistic etc.);
- (6) Municipio (Town Hall);
- (7) Ufficio di Pubblica Sicurezza (Police Offices);
- (8) The residence of Commissioner DRAGO (which is attached to the Public Safety Offices);
- (9) Circolo del Civili (Club premises of rich landowners and people popularly supposed to be connected with the black market).

In addition to burning all the records, furniture and other movable objects at the above stated offices and doing enormous damage, the rioters looted the following two places:-

(1) Magazzini Granai del Polesio, where seventy-five quintals of grain, a quantity of chemical fertilizers and a quantity of American tinned foodstuffs were pilloled.

(2) Genesario Agrario Succursale where the mob pillaged a considerable quantity of American tinned foodstuffs and burnt out the premises.

But it was too late, from a balcony of a private house twenty-seven (approx.) year old avv. CASSARA, Chief Representative of separatist youth, started to harangue the mob about "the taxes."

This might have been a signal for the crowd almost at once started to about "burn down the tax offices!" and they did.

Captain of Carabinieri MIRABELLA says that he appealed to avv. CASSARA to stop the riot, avv. CASSARA seems to have been frightened by the forces he set in motion and tried but no one would listen and riots proceeded to the following places which they sacked and burned: A bonfire of papers and furniture was made in the piazza Giulio.

- (1) Ufficio Nazio (Municipal taxes on wine etc.);
- (2) Fabbrica Comunale (taxes on land, factories etc.);
- (3) Ufficio Distrettuale delle Imposte (Stamps etc.);
- (4) Pretura (Magistrates' Offices);
- (5) U.G.S.S.A. (Ufficio Comunale giudiziario, Economico Agricolo etc.);
- (6) Municipio (Town Hall);
- (7) Ufficio di Pubblica Sicurezza (Police Offices);
- (8) The residence of Commissario DRAGO (which is attached to the Public Safety Offices);
- (9) Circolo del Villai (Club premises of rich landowners and people popularly supposed to be connected with the black market).

In addition to burning all the records, furniture and other moveable objects at the above stated offices and during ensuing damage, the rioters looted the following two places:-

- (1) Magazzino Granai del Popolo, where seventy-five quintals of grain, a quantity of chemical fertilizers and a quantity of animal manure were pilloaged.

- (2) Consorzio Agrario Guercusano where the mob pilloaged a considerable quantity of American flamed foodstuffs and burnt out the premises.

In addition to all the foregoing the mob attempted to burn down the Ufficio Interprovinciale di Pollina but were felled by the Carabinieri and subelios Sienese agents. Shots were exchanged with the crowd and one man was wounded in the leg, he remains, however, unidentified, being removed from the scene of the action by his friends. Two guns were taken away from the crowd and confiscated.

At the Municipio Captain of Carabinieri MIRABELLA tried to reason with the mob but the only answer was the throwing of a number of handgrenades, one of which slightly wounded five of the carabinieri and another of which landed at the feet of MIRABELLA but fortunately failed to explode. The time was now about 12.00 hrs and elements of the crowd began to shout: "Pro the Carabinieri station, burn it down!" Captain of Carabinieri MIRABELLA immediately made his way with his men to the station and arrived just in time to pre-

SECRET.

Subject: Riot at Palermo, Trapani Province, 18/12/1944.

went the crowd from destroying the building.

The time was now between 13.00 and 14.00 hrs and the crowd began to disperse.

At about 14.00 hrs. Commissario of Public Safety DRAGO returned from Trapani bringing with him twenty carabinieri and ten Public Safety Agents as reinforcements.

At about 15.00 hrs. the Prefect, the Questore and Commandant of the Carabinieri of Trapani Province arrived on the scene.

At about 18.00 hrs. 100 soldiers of the Compagnia di Formazioni 5 Reg. Fanteria 3.I. arrived from Palermo.

Soldiers, carabinieri and Public Safety Agents patrolled the streets all night and interrogated citizens. No curfew was imposed. Numerous arrests were made.

S.S.P. made a personal inspection of the damage done, which was considerable. The whole of the interior of the Municipio is burned out and parts of it were still smoldering and the fire brigade was still playing a hose on the embers at 14.00 hrs. 18th December. In the other offices everything of value has been either removed or burned, burnt papers littered the streets and idlers stood about in groups watching.

There are few slogans painted on the walls of the town and most of them of an ordinary character, such as "WE SMILE" and "WE SMILE."

The arrests made up to 14.00 hrs. 18th December, totalled forty but it is emphasised that there will probably be more and at least some of these are thought to be innocent. Up to 15.00 hrs the interrogations had not been carried out and the responsibility remains a matter of conjecture. The Commissario of Public Safety, DRAGO, suspects the Separatist Movement of being at the bottom of the riot and to lend support to this it is noted that neither AVV. CASSANO nor Student MILANO have been arrested and a search made of their names elicits the information that they have fled.

A list of the arrests to date is attached hereto.

In the field,
18th December, 1944

AF35C. 7573894

HEADQUARTERS GENERAL COMMAND ROYAL CANADIEN
Situation and Coordination
Office.

No. 421/13 R.C.

ROME, 20th Dec. 1944.

SUBJECT : Meetings - Demonstrations against the call-up
of 1942-43-44 classes.

TO : Allied Commission, Public Safety Sub-Commission.

In Messin, at 1100 hours on the 19th instant, a
Committee of students of the called-up classes (1942 - 43
and the first three months of 1944) went to speak to the
Rector of the University and asked his intervention in
preventing those called-up from being destined to any other
front than the Italian. They invoked for Italy equality
of rights with the Allied nations.

Then another 200 students, mostly adherents of the
Sicilian separatist movement went to the Garibaldi Square
carrying a banner which read : "We will not leave". At
the corner Via Camiciotti, Viale D. Martino, they whistled
after two English cars in transit.

There was no further incident.

THE GENERAL COMMANDING THE ARMED FORCE.
COMMANDING GENERAL
- Station Orlando -

1403

cc.

TRANSMISSION.

474
W.D.R./b.

HEADQUARTERS CENTRAL COMMAND ROYAL CARABINIERI

Situation and coordination office.

NO. 40/64 R.P. ROME, 21st Dec. 1944.

SUBJECT: Sicily - Spirit of unrest and state of public order in the district of the Palermo Region.

TO : Allied Commission - Public Safety Sub-Commission.

I refer to the signals and communications already made on the subject of the spirit of unrest and the state of public order in Sicily, provoked by the recent military census, the call-up of certain classes and the scarcity of flour.

A considerable number of young men did not present themselves for the census, of these young men, still fewer presented themselves for the call-up, for which a definite failure may be predicted.

Discontent is rife among the masses, who in general do not appreciate the advantages which might accrue to the country from total, active participation in the war, side by side with the Allies.

This discontent seems to be most general among the University students of the Palermo Athenaeum.

The attempt made by R.I. Professor Montalbano, local representative of the Communist Party, recently nominated Under Secretary of State for the Merchantile Marine, to explain, in a conference for this purpose, to the students of the University of Palermo, the reasons of a normal and political order which should induce in these young people a very different valuation of things in general, was not crowned with success; the meeting closed in noisy demonstrations and reproaches on the part of the students.

It is commented throughout the island and in the student class that:

- with the expected unfavorable terms of the armistice, the uncertain future of our country in tragic conditions and the extremely vague possibilities that she might be raised to the position of

I refer to the signals and communications already made on the subject of the spirit of unrest and the state of public order in Sicily, provoked by the recent military census, the call-up of certain classes and the scarcity of flour.

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The attempt made by R. D. Professor Montalbano, local representative of the Communist Party, recently nominated Under Secretary of State for the Merchantile Marine, to explain, in a conference for this purpose, to the students of the University of Palermo, the reasons of a moral and political order which should induce in these young people a very different valuation of things in general, was not crowned with success; the meeting closed in noisy demonstrations and reproaches on the part of the students.

It is commented throughout the Island and in the student class that:

- with the expected unfavorable terms of the armistice, the uncertain future of our country in tragic conditions and the extremely vague possibilities that she might be reduced to the position of ally of the United Nations;
- with the recent past strewn with losses and deep suffering caused by the war;
- with the scarcity of foodstuffs and the present enormous cost of living;
- with the mortification felt, above all, in being still treated by the Allies as conquered people.

after all that Italy has already contributed to their cause; a state of inertia and moral weakening has resulted which affects even patriotism.

It is pointed out that those called-up were invited to bring with them, blanket, spoon and mess-tin (which they would have to buy) which does to show how the Allies - themselves in possession of great equipment possibilities - are disappointed in the whole thing, so that our young men are placed in the position of having to serve in the war under the hardship of scanty means.

Among the less young, who have families, the argument is put forward that it would be an unbearable preoccupation to leave their dear ones for the war in this difficult moment of food crisis during which so many live on the margin of the law (black market dealers) and with the anticipation of an even blacker future.

The grain situation may be considered disturbing; there is grave risk, especially in the province of Palermo, of being unable, from one moment to another, to distribute bread to the population.

The competent authorities, in order to provide for 10 - 15 - 20 days in the most needy provinces, arranged for commitments from other provinces and for the gathering of a certain quantity of grain requested of the producers, by appropriate decree of the High Commission, the application of which is encountering strong resistance.

The arrival, in the near future, of a large shipload of grain from the Allies for the population is anticipated. But it does not seem that this will solve the situation. Knowledge of the gravity of which percolates through the population and is a grave preoccupation to the poorer classes.

All these negative elements, which lend themselves to exploitation by any reactionary political current and which are useful in nourishing the separatist movement, work to great harm in the public spirit and are loathsome to every possible, even serious, disturbance to public order.

To all this should be added, that following on the presumable non-presentation to the call-up of several thousand men, the events which in consequence should be

position of having to serve in the war under the hardship of country means.

Among the less young who have families, the argument is put forward that it would be an unbearable preoccupation to leave their dear ones for the war in this difficult moment of food crisis which so many live on the margin of the law (black market dealers) and with the anticipation of an even blacker future.

The grain situation may be considered disturbing; there is grave risk, especially in the province of Palermo, of being unable, from one moment to another, to distribute bread to the population.

The competent authorities, in order to provide for 10 - 15 - 20 days in the most needy provinces, arranged for commitments from other provinces and for the gathering of a certain quantity of grain requested of the producers, by appropriate decrees of the High Commission, the application of which is encountering strong resistance.

The arrival, in the near future, of a large shipment of grain from the Allies for the population is anticipated. ¹⁴⁰ But it does not seem that this will solve the situation, knowledge of the gravity of which percolates through the population and is a grave preoccupation to the poorer classes.

All these negative elements, which lend themselves to exploitation by any reactionary political current and which are useful in nourishing the separatist movement, work to great harm in the public spirit and are leaven to every possible, even serious, disturbance to public order.

To all this should be added, that following on the presumable non-presentation to the call-up of several thousand young men, and the arrests which in consequence should be made, it is to be expected that many will go into hiding in the bush, probably swelling the bands of delinquents which infest the Island and thus aggravating the already abnormal conditions of public security.

Urgent provisions on the part of the central Government would be indicated, assuring the grain needs and adjusting to the situation which has arisen, the orders relative to the call-up.

THE GENERAL OF THE ARMED FORCES

Commanding General

- Taddeo Orlando -

TRANSLATION.

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR.

General Directorate Public Safety - General and Personal
Affairs Division.

No. 442/17112.

ROME 23 December, 1944.

URGENT.

TO/ Allied Commission - Public Safety Sub-Commission.

The following signals have been received on the situation during the past 24 hours:-

MESSINA. At 1130 hours on the 17th instant in the Commune of S. Agate Militello, about 150 peasants staged a demonstration against the oil search party claiming their immediate departure. As a result of the prompt intervention of the force the demonstrators dispersed at 1200 hours and there were no incidents. The demonstration was staged on account of previous repressive action taken by the above-mentioned oil search party against the proprietors of the oil presses. The local district heads and the Directorate of the Consortium backed the hostility of the proprietors.

NAPLES. At 1800 hours on the 21st instant a group of 5 Italian parachutists followed some girls, who were accompanying Allied soldiers, in order to cut off their hair, and they endeavoured to seize one of them in Via Tereza, Naples.

The Allied soldier who was with the girl offered resistance, upon which one of the parachutists fell back and threw a handgrenade wounding the Allied soldier and the following civilians: Penna Oreste, Alvino Alfonso, Palmieri Oreste, Valle Carmela, Margherilli Oreste, Colletti Amadeo who were subsequently received into the Pilgrims Hospital. Allied Police intervened, providing transport for the wounded.

Political instigation is excluded.

TRAPANI. During the night of the 17th instant in the village of Poggioreale unknown persons exploded about 50

46A

1462/16

cc.

URGENT.

TO/ Allied Commission - Public Order - Sub-Commission.

The following signals have been received on the situation during the past 24 hours:-

REGGIO. At 1130 hours on the 17th instant in the Commune of S. Agata Militello, about 150 peasants staged a demonstration against the oil search party claiming their immediate departure. As a result of the prompt intervention of the Force the demonstrators dispersed at 1200 hours and there were no incidents. The demonstration was staged on account of previous repressive action taken by the above-mentioned oil search party against the proprietors of the oil presses. The local district heads and the Directorate of the Consortium backed the hostility of the proprietors.

MARINO. At 1000 hours on the 21st instant a group of 5 Italian parachutists followed some girls, who were accompanying Allied soldiers, in order to cut off their hair, and they endeavoured to seize one of them in Via Garzia, Naples.

The Allied soldier who was with the girl offered resistance, upon which one of the parachutists fell back and threw a handgrenade wounding the Allied soldier and the following civilians: Leonis Oreste, Alvino Alfonso, Palmieri Oreste, Valle Carmela, Ingrerilli Oreste, Colletti Amadeo who were subsequently received into the Filadelfia Hospital. Allied Police intervened, providing transport for the wounded.

Political investigation is excluded.

GRIPANTI. During the night of the 17th instant in the village of Doggioreale unknown persons exploded about 50 bombs without consequences and posted up notices inciting those called-up not to present themselves, as a protest against the call-up.

TRATTARI. During the night of the 17th instant in the village of Calatufimi writings on the walls expressed praising the Duce and some notices were put up inciting soldiers not to join the columns.

THE HEAD OF THE POLICE
(Sgd.) Ferrari.

14602/6/PS 1735
INCOMING MESSAGE
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: CITE RPS-71
Date/Time of Origin: DEC 220920A

Message Centre No: C/5216
Date/Time Rec'd: DEC 231650A
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: ALCOM SICILIA REGION (CAPR)
TO: ALCOM HQ ROME (R) PUBLIC SAFETY S/C 204 SUB AREA AND NOB PALERMO

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

1. Special sitrep SICILY 21 December situation calmer.
2. No fresh disorders reported.
3. In places where disorders have occurred order reestablished.

DIST

ACTION: Pub Safety 2
INFO: Chief Commissioner
C.O.S.
C.A. Sec
File 2
Flot

ACTION

HEADQUARTERS

23 DEC 1944

A.C.C.

1359

RESTRICTED

0 4 7 1

Feb

11/10/66 44A

WFO 2-5

3658

11/10/66

PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL PD

PARA ONE PD SPECIAL INVESTIGATION UNIT FROM INVESTIGATION REPORTS ALLEGED AND
REMARKS PD

PARA TWO PD REPORTED AT WILSON REPORTED TO BE PROTEST AGAINST GULF WARSHIPING AND
NOT CALL UP PD

PARA THREE PD 8-1 FROM EL ALON PARK PD

PARA THREE PD OTHER BIRTH DOCUMENTS BE OBTAINED BUT DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE PD
PARA FOUR PD REQUESTED TO CALL UP POLICE DEPARTMENT TWO AFTER TO DATE FOUR THREE
THIRTEENTH STREET INCIDENT AT THREE FOUR EIGHT SEVEN PLACES DEMONSTRATIONS WITH
DAMAGE AND DISTURBANCE CONFLICT WITH PLACES DEMONSTRATIONS WITH DAMAGE FIVE PD
PARA FIVE PD DEMONSTRATIONS THERE HAVE BEEN REQUESTS TO OBTAIN REMAINS AS FOLLOWS
GULF DEMONSTRATION WITHOUT INQUIRY THESE DEMONSTRATIONS WITH DAMAGE TWO
DEMONSTRATIONS FIVE DAMAGE AND CONFLICT TWO PD

PARA SIX PD TOTAL CASUALTIES APPROXIMATE CIVILIANS DEAD FOUR POLICE DEAD NINE
CIVILS INJURED TWO FIVE POLICE INJURED SIX PD

PARA SEVEN PD REQUESTED THAT FURNISHING TWO MORE DECEMBER FORCE WILL BE USED TO
PROTECT THERE NOT WAS WILSON TO CALL UP PD

1338

PUBLIC SAFETY 6/3

1st 302

P.F. LINDENHAY MAJOR

0472

14-60216

ALLIED DEMONSTRATION
SOUTH PACIFIC HEADQUARTERS
PO BOX 584

SECRET

434

FILE:RC/000.5

30 Dec 1944

SUBJECT: URGENT IN SICILY

TO : Headquarters Allied Commission
SECRET

1. I am sending herewith a general report on the present situation in Sicily and on the causes and effects.

I would point out that this region has (except for the islands) provincial officers only in Catania province and that therefore in general has no sources of information of its own. Moreover, with the existing small staff it is not possible adequately to sift and collate all the information including voluminous P.M.S. reports which are transmitted to this office.

At this stage, therefore, the following views must be taken more as personal opinions rather than those based on weighed evidence.

2. Widespread demonstrations and disturbances have occurred throughout the island during the period from approximately 15 May to date. So far demonstrations with or without damage and conflict have been reported at approximately 55 places. Damage to public buildings at Catania was serious. There have been various other reports about damage to property but, although this may be comparatively considerable, approximate details are not available. Casualties so far have not been serious and to date might be estimated as 4 dead and 31 injured, mainly civilians.

At Catania police action was completely ineffective. In Sicily province it is reported to have been effective. I have not sufficient information to express an opinion. Police conduct generally. Italian troops have been moved to various centres of disturbance but I have not had any reports of their being actively engaged in quelling disorders. There has been a tendency on the part of the local administration to apply to an Allied Headquarters, if one is nearby, for intervention or assistance e.g. with transport. By far the greater part of the demonstrations have taken place in the eastern part of the island.

3. The demonstrations have been directed mainly

I would point out that this region was (except for the islands) provincial officers only. In Catania province and that therefore in general has no sources of information of its own. Moreover, with the training staff it is not possible adequately to alert and collect all the information including voluminous P. S. reports which are transmitted to this office.

At this stage, therefore, the following views must be taken more as personal opinions rather than those based on weighed evidence.

2. Widespread demonstrations and disturbances have occurred throughout the island during the period from approximately 10 PM to dawn. So far demonstrations with or without damage and conflict have been reported at approximately 53 places. Damage to public buildings at Catania was serious. There have been various other reports about damage to property but, although this may be comparatively considerable, approximately 80 details are not available. Casualties so far have not been serious and to date might be estimated as 4 dead and 31 injured, mainly civilians.

At Catania police action was completely ineffective. In Catania province it is reported to have been good. I have not sufficient information to express an opinion on police conduct generally.

Italian troops have been moved to various centers of disturbance but I have not had any reports of their being actively engaged in quelling disorders. There has been a tendency on the part of the local administration to apply to an allied headquarters, if one is nearby, for intervention or assistance e.g. with transport. By far the greater part of the demonstrations have taken place in the eastern part of the island.

3. The demonstrations have been directed mainly against the present call-up of military classes. In a few cases the question of grain and bread may have been the sole or a partial cause, and I feel that the difficult economic conditions are an underlying contributory cause to all these disorders.

In my opinion the primary reason for the resistance to the call-up is that the Sicilian does not want to fight. Secondary reasons are that the terms of the armistice have not been made known, that the Sicilian does not want to fight to free the island or the Germans, he does not wish leaving his family on a small allowance when food is scarce and prices prohibitive, he does not wish to fight for the existing Italian government and so forth.

...has been ... to ... the ...
 ... are directly ... for ...
 ... it will be quite obvious, however, that the object
 of the ... movement must have a very considerable bearing
 on the situation not to mention in particular their ...
 ... violent ... the Italian Government and the
 local administration and their ...
 ... of the lines of ...
 ... of an ...
 ... in the ...
 ... to ...
 ... the ...
 ... of which ...

... has not ... confined to those
 directly affected by the ...
 ... always been the ...
 ... at ...
 ... of these ...
 ... the ...
 ... call-up, ...
 ... soon when ...
 ...
 ... the lack of ...
 ... at ...
 ... with the ...
 ... whether any ...

 ... I have not ...
 ... may wish the ...
 ... although there have been the usual ...
 ... no concrete evidence of any ...

were ...
 ...

A

... As regards ...
 on two factors, the extent to which the call-up is going to
 be enforced, and the ...
 response to the call-up has been very ...
 some of those affected ...
 that they have ...
 grain was imported ...
 and ...
 toward to those who ...
 but where prices might ...
 my opinion would ...
 As regards the forces of law and order, I feel that those at
 present on the ...
 to maintain order if there is no ...
 as it stands at the moment. But this depends very much on the
 methods, if any, to be employed in the arrest of those who fail
 to present themselves and on whether or not ...
 reported to maintain the present ...
 been of the opinion that the forces of law and order have
 been reduced to a dangerous level and I am therefore supporting

the High Commissioner in his request for some reinforcement. Moreover my present instructions from your Headquarters are that force is to be used to collect grain which policy in existing circumstances is quite impossible. The High Commissioner considers it imperative that reinforcements should be sent at an early date.

McLarr Brigadier

H. OSM
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

Encls-

Copies to: Vice President Civil Affairs Section
Public Safety Sub-Commission

1305

ANNUNCIO A

GIOVANI SICILIANI.

Ancora una volta dopo lunghi anni di guerra, di sciagure e di miseria, ci si chiede contro la volontà di un popolo; di spargere il nostro sangue.

Come ieri il vile monarca ci impone di morire per la conquista di altri imperi, oggi con la stessa viltà, ci impone di conservargli col nostro sacrificio quella corona che non ha il diritto di temere, per il suo alto tradimento al popolo tutto.

A noi giovani si uniscano le nostre madri ed i nostri padri. Il popolo tutto formi un blocco compatto per difendere questa gioventù vanamente destinata al macello.

noi non impugneremo le armi.

GIOVANI DI SICILIA,
siate tutti solidali nell'esprimere la vostra volontà non presentandovi. Pace Pace e Lavoro: ecco quello vogliamo!

1334

ANNUNZIO 2

MOVIMENTO PER L'INDIPENDENZA DELLA SICILIA

COMITATO NAZIONALE

Palermo 13 dicembre 1944

A S.E. L'ALTO COMANDANTE PER LA SICILIA

- PALERMO -

e per conoscenza:

Al Generale M. Carr capo della commissione Aliata

- PALERMO -

A.S.E. DI INTERETTO DI

- PALERMO -

"Mora solita" gli avversari di questo Movimento diffondono in mala fede, la voce che i movimenti giovanili contro il richiamo alle armi verificatisi in questi giorni siano da attribuire, in tutto o in parte, al Movimento per l'indipendenza della Sicilia.

A scanso dei malizi equivochi, dichiaro nella forma più esplicita ed ufficiale che questo Movimento è perfettamente estraneo alle dimostrazioni di questi giorni, non avendo alcun interesse che il richiamo alle armi sia coronato da successo o da insuccesso.

Questo Movimento per l'indipendenza della Sicilia prosegue nella sua propaganda legalitaria con la osservanza delle leggi e la protezione della libertà; ma non intende subire deviazioni dell'opinione pubblica intesa a mettere in attività luce o a farlo oggetto di persecuzione.

Occorre che l'Ucc. V. indaghi con scrupolo e severità.

con ossequi.

IL SEGRETARIO GENERALE
/t/ (antonino varvaro)

/s/ A. Varvaro



14602/4 (42A)
RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 432/43 di prot. R.F.

Roma, li 20 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Salemi (Trapani) - Propaganda antimilitarista.
 - Antimilitarist propaganda

ALLA COMMISSIONE ARMA

- Sottocommissione per la Pubblica Sicurezza -

R O M A

In Salemi (Trapani), il 15 corrente furono rinvenuti manifesti
 di dattiloscritti, incitanti i giovani a non presentarsi alle ar-
 mi, e a darsi alla macchia.

In Salemi (Trapani) on the 15th inst., notices typewritten, instigating
 young people not to answer to the call up and to get hiddd, have been
 found.

IL COMANDANTE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
 COMANDANTE GENERALE
 - Taddeo Orlando -

130

Taddeo Orlando

ME/ TRANSLATION

CO. RE. Generalissimo Command

12/15/44 15 December 1944

232/42

TO : Allied Commission P.S. Subcommission
 SUBJECT : Sicily - Anti-militarist propaganda

Salerno (Fraganti) 15 December 1944

Unknown people have past up typewritten notices instigating young people to desert and to hid them selves.

Villalba (Caltanissetta) 15 December 1944

Unknown people have past up notice signed "the Red army", inciting called up not to answer to the call, their relatives not to let them leave, threatening with serious reprisals those who will answer the call and injuring the Italian government.

Partanna (Trapani) - 15 December 1944

Notices printed in Palermo in December 1944 have been affixed, instigating the young people not to answer to the call up and injuring the Italian Government.

Milano (Caltanissetta) 15 December

Unknown people wrote on the walls of the village the following phrases: "NO ONE WILL LEAVE, WRITING WITH RED LEAVES, LONG LIVE THE LIBERTY, LONG LIVE THE DEER".

Valledoria (Caltanissetta) 15 December

It has been found a notice manuscript, saying: "The people has decreed that all young people who have received the order to leave will not leave since the chief of the delinquency is already arrived".

Castelluzzo (Trapani) - 15 December

Unknown people wrote on the walls, the following words: Down with war - House Devoy - Desert and hid your selves."

the Commanding General
 Taddeo Orlando

1391

TRANSMITTER

Gen. RR. Gen. Command

K60246

40A

19 December 1944

42.

To : Allied Commission - P.S. Subcommand on

subj. : Vizzini (Catanis) - Public order

The CC.RR. Catanis Group, at 1900 hours of the 18th inst, has informed: "In Vizzini too, the public order has improved. No attempt of reaction against the CC.RR. barracks. The reinforcements have regularly arrived. The acting Commander of Galtagorosa CC.RR. Compagnia is on place. The public order conditions, in those place where it had been troubled, can be deemed tranquillizing, following provisions adopted. "

the Commanding General
Agadaco Orlando

1390

RESTRICTED
RESTRICTED

14602/6

P. SAFETY

39A

11926 SITE: RRB-676
DSG 21/1749

ON INFORMATION ONLY

C/5010
DSG 28/0849

PRIORITY

ALCOA SIGILLIA REGION (CAER)
HEADQUARTERS ALCOA FOR ALBAUGH

RESTRICTED.

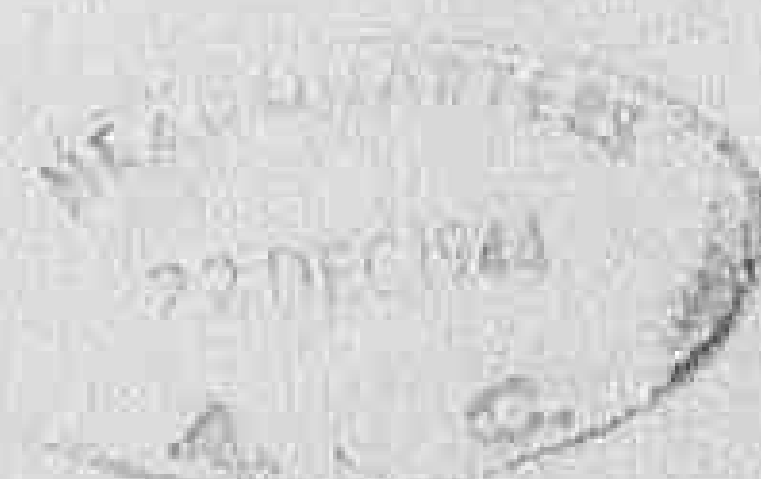
1. To prevent more threatened disturbances in the island any block on distribution of superxposgate be removed.
2. Reply is requested urgently 21 December 1944.

DIST.

Action: Agric S/O (2)
 Info: Chief Commissioner
 Econ Sec
 P Safety
 File (2)
 Float

13.9

RESTRICTED



ALCON STUDLY REGION

8392

19/12/14

ROUTER

CONFIDENTIAL PD

PAGE ONE PD SUBJECT IS PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER FOR PROVINCIAL HEADQUARTERS EASTERN
 STUDLY PD

FROM TO ALCON STUDLY REGION FROM HQ ALCON PAREN PD

PAGE TWO PD CAPT J E HUGHES (A) WILL LEAVE HERE BY AIR FOR PARAMO ABOUT
 THURSDAY TWO ONE DECEMBER FOUR FOUR FOR TEMPORARY DUTY PD

PUBLIC SAFETY #/0

Ext 502

D. FOWELL Capt.

13-8

Copy on 14 00 41/12

14502/6/PS
4 file
381A

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: CITE REF 363

Date/Time of Origin: DEC 17/1240

Message Centre No. 9/4542

Date Time Rec'd: DEC 18/0900

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: ALCOM SICILIA REGION (CHH)

TO: HQ ALCOM INFO: PUBLIC SAFETY SIDE-COMMISSION AND ALCOM CATANIA

RESTRICTED**RESTRICTED TEE.**

1. In view present unrest request if available that one public safety officer not above rank Captain be sent for temporary duty with provincial Headquarters Eastern SICILY.
2. Mainly required for liaison duties regarding calling out of Italian Troops in aid to civil power

ACTIONAC JIST

Action - Pub Safety (2)
 Info - Chief Commissioner
 CAS
 EST SEC
 FILE (2)
 FLOAT

13.7

TO	
LT. CO. PMEN	
CO. F. N. G.	
LT. CO. W. C. X	
MAJ. LUCKMAN	
MAJ. WILSON	
MAJ. HANCOCK	
MAJ. BALLANCE	
MAJ. P. WEL	
MAJ. G. F. K.	

RESTRICTED

SECRET

ALBINO COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

27 DEC 1944

FILE:BO/000.6

BO DEC 1944

SUBJECT: Disorders Catania
TO : Headquarters Allied Commission
SECRET

23A

1. With reference to my BO/000.6 of 15 Dec relating to the disorders which occurred in Catania, I am forwarding herewith a copy of a report from the Provincial Commissioner Eastern Sicily.

2. The facts as reported by my Provincial Commissioner are in agreement with those received in reports coming from other sources.

In the Port Security section report it is stated that in the morning two Italian Army Officers were set upon by two crowd and stripped of their uniforms. It is also stated that there was some disarming of the Carabinieri. At 1400 hours it is reported that some Carabinieri, including the City Commander, arrived in the Piazza Steleoro where their trucks were attacked and set alight by the mob. At 1500 hours 4 Carabinieri were said to have been attacked by the crowd and disarmed, the demonstrators making use of such arms to disarm other Carabinieri when they arrived. Under such circumstances it is not surprising that the police lost complete control of the situation.

The Municipio is reported to have been set on fire about 1630 hours, the door being finally forced by the use of a battering ram, of a beam from a bombed building. During the burning of the Municipio groups of youths under the direction of self-appointed leaders and ring-leaders lit smaller fires in the neighbouring streets.

3. It appears that action by the police forces was completely ineffective and control of the situation was lost from the start. Even making allowances for the fact that police morale is low and that their organization does not get the support it should, the action of the local police on this occasion seems to require very careful investigation. High Commissioner has informed me that he is sending the Commandant of the CC.RR. to Catania to investigate the action of the Carabinieri. I advised the High Commissioner on the importance of doing everything possible to prevent a recurrence of such a lamentable lack of action on the part of the Police.

136

1. With reference to my HC/000.3 of 18 Nov relating to the disorders which occurred in Catania, I am forwarding herewith a copy of a report from the Provincial Commissioner or Eastern Sicily.

2. The facts as reported by my Provincial Commissioner or are in agreement with those received in reports coming from other sources.

In the Port security section report it is stated that in the morning two Italian Army officers were set upon by the crowd and stripped of their uniforms. It is also stated that there was some burning of the Carabinieri. At 1430 hours it is reported that some Carabinieri, including the City Commander, arrived in the piazza where their trucks were attacked and set alight by the mob. At 1500 hours a Carabinieri were said to have been attacked by the crowd and disarmed, the demonstrators making use of such arms to disarm other Carabinieri when they arrived. Under such circumstances it is not surprising that the Police lost complete control of the situation.

The Municipio is reported to have been set on fire about 1530 hours, the door being finally forced by the mob, as a battering ram, of a beam from a bombed building. During the burning of the Municipio groups of youths under the direction of self-appointed "heroes" and ring-leaders lit smaller fires in the neighbouring streets.

3. It appears that action by the Police force was completely ineffective and control of the situation was lost from the start. Even taking allowances for the fact that police morale is low and that their organization does not get the support it should, the action of the local police on this occasion seems to require very careful investigation. High Commissioner has informed me that he is sending the Commander of the CC.MR. to Catania to investigate the action of the Carabinieri. I advised the High Commissioner on the importance of doing everything possible to prevent a recurrence of such a lamentable lack of action on the part of the Police elsewhere.

As already noted in my interim report I arranged, owing to the absence at the time of the High Commissioner, a meeting on 9 Dec at Regional Headquarters with the Heads of the Services responsible for law and order in the Island and advised them that, in view of the delicate situation, the necessary plans and dispositions should be made and that all concerned should be on the alert.

4. The Prefect of CATANIA has been replaced and I presume this has been done with your concurrence. I also understand that the questore has been transferred. I am glad to note this prompt action on the part of the Italian authorities.

In my opinion, this incident requires immediate investigation with a view to stern action against those guilty of any neglect of duty and I am hoping that the steps taken by the High Commissioner will have this result.

I feel also that the whole question of liberty of action for the Police and of the weapons with which they are armed requires consideration. In this connection the directions from the Supreme Command C.C.M., contained in a circular dated 28 OCT 44 appear to me to be vague and liable to lead to a moral uncertainty which induces lack of action among the carabinieri. Moreover, the Police are armed only with a lethal weapon.

M. Care Brigadiere

M. CARE
Brigadier
Regional Commissioner

1 Encl.

Copy of report by Provincial Commissioner Eastern Sicily CAT/173 of 15 DEC 44 re disorders in CATANIA on 14 Dec 44.

eh.

135

Copy to: Public Safety sub-commission —

COPY

ALLIED COMMISSION
EASTERN SICILY

SECRET

CAT/173

subject:- Disorders in CATANIA on 14 Dec 44.

To :- Regional Commissioner,
Sicilia Region H.Q.

About 10.30 hrs on 14 Dec 44, a crowd of about 300, largely composed of students being called to the colours, commenced to demonstrate in the Piazza della Borsa. Later they entered the Italian Army Barracks, where enrolling was being done and shouted protests against joining the Army etc., The Barrack Square was cleared of all except about 50 who continued to demonstrate. A bomb was thrown - it is stated by a captain of Italian Army - and one person was killed, one seriously and two slightly wounded. Later, the demonstrators dispersed and by 1300 hours order was restored.

Trouble began again about 1430 hrs in the afternoon. Observers are in agreement that the crowd of about 300 responsible for the afternoon disturbance had little or no connection with the student rioters of the morning, and was composed of irresponsible youths and a number of criminal elements. The Provincial recruiting office was occupied and an attempt made to burn it, the office of the Balone Infantile Italiana and of the Corriere di Sicilia were damaged and several military cars were burned. Later, the Municipality Building was set on fire, and destroyed, the Tribunal and Taxation office were also set fire to and furniture and records burnt. Two Police Agents and two or three civilians were wounded by bomb throwing.

At 1600 hrs the Prefect asked for permission to call out the Military and his request was referred to the Area Commander. I visited the Prefecture at 1700 hrs when the Prefect asked for the assistance of British troops. I explained that the use of British troops would immediately entail resumption of Allied Military Government, which the circumstances did not justify and asked why the police were taking practically no steps at all to quell the disturbances. The Questore stated that he had less than 200 men all told who were dispersed all over the city, guarding government property, banks and etc. I then advised the Italian authorities to ask for the use of troops for guard duties and to concentrate the police to deal with the rioters and later made this proposal to the Area Commander. The O.C. Italian troops was present at this interview and agreed to provide troops for guard duties and also to place 100 in the Piazza della Borsa in the centre of the city to assist the police if required. 70 troops were also held in readiness at ACIREALE. British troops were ordered to stand to and confined to barracks.

-2-

About 1800 hrs Italian troops appeared on the streets and the rioters began to disperse without force having to be used. There were no disturbances during the night of 14/15 December.

On the morning of 15th there was a tendency for groups to form in the streets and a general atmosphere of restlessness. Some shots were fired, probably by police in the air, but no casualties have been reported. A curfew at 1800 hrs has been imposed. Italian troops are still employed on guard duties.

It is considered that the afternoon disturbances could have been avoided by energetic action on the part of the Police forces. In the event a mob of irresponsible hooligans - unarmed, except for the possession of some small bombs - was permitted to indulge in incendiarism, resulting in serious destruction of property, without opposition. It is stated that the firing of the Municipality was the work of six persons. Major Bentley, Executive Officer, I.C., who was present while this building was burning, noticed that no attempt was being made to control the fire. He visited the fire station and found the brigade there, and was told that they would not act as bombs had been thrown at them. He also visited the nearest CC.RR. station, where he found that the police had locked themselves in. The Lieutenant in charge stated that he could not take action as he had been forbidden to fire on the crowd.

During the whole of the 14th and 15th Maggiore DENTI, Commandante of CC.RR. CATANIA, was absent from his post in MESSINA. CC.RR. Region H.C., MESSINA was asked to locate him, without result.

During the morning of the 14th, some demonstrators gave voice to separatist sentiments. The afternoon riot was sheer hooliganism without political significance. There was no evidence of anti-British feeling.

/s/ H.J. Walker

/t/ H.J. WALKER Lt-Col.
Provincial Commissioner.

CATANIA.
15 Dec 44.

Copy to:- R.P.S.O.

W.

136

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: cite REG 70
 Date/Time of Origin: 20/Dec/1944

Message Centre No: C/4991
 Date Time Rec'd: DEC 21/2015
 Precedence: PRIORITY

FROM: ALCOM SICILY REGION (CARR)

TO: HQ ALCOM ROME FOR PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION 204 SUB AREA LF NOB PALERMO

SECRET

INFO - ACTION

SECRET.

Special Sitrep.

1. General situation SICILY fresh demonstrations reported ALCAMO and MAZZARINO.
2. Disorder at ALCAMO reported to be protest against grain amassing and not call up.
3. Other minor demonstrations occurring but details not available.
4. Resistance to call up period November 27 to date 43 demonstrations without incident at 34 different places; demonstrations with damage and situation conflict 9 places; demonstrations with damage 5.
5. Concurrently there have been reactions to grain amassing as follows: demonstrations without incident 3; demonstrations with damage 2; demonstrations with damage and conflict 2.
6. Total casualties approximate civilians dead 4, police dead nil, civilians injured 25, police injured 6.
7. Understand that commencing 20 December force will be used to arrest those not responding to call up

INFO - ACTION

SECRET

DIST

INFO-ACTION : PUBLIC SAFETY (2)
 INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
 CoS
 CA SEC
 FILE (M)



40

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
IDEAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Date 18 DEC 1944 File

Please read attached & initial

TO :

☒	Col SPICER	/
☒	Col THOMPSON	/
☒	Col WILLIAMS	/
☒	Col SHAW	/
☒	Col JONES	/
☒	Col. <i>Amph...</i>	/

REMARKS

PRT

Mr. L. G. B. PS

Yes - but I suppose
they get copies also
from the British school

PRT

Chief Clerk

File

HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

CONFIDENTIAL
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUPROME (T)
ITA 6452-44
STATION
RECORD No. 3736

From:

MAMMONE (2nd Lt. Carabinieri)
Palermo, Sicily

To:

MINISTERO GUERRA
(Ministry of War)
Rome, Italy

Give place of Postmark where there is no address

Date of communication or post-
mark if letter is undated13 December 1944
0930 hours

Type mail

Telegram

Ref. No.

Language

Italian

Previously
censored by

Enclosures

Previous relevant record

Station allocation

C. C. G. Allocation
G-2 (CG) AFHQ.
AC HQ.
GSI #3 District
FileDisposal of original
communicationField
Excluded
Photographed
Sent with
comment to:
P
Packed
Censored
Return
to sender

COMMENT

ANTI-CONSCRIPTION RIOT IN PALERMO PROVINCE

"From 2200 hours onwards on the 11th December an undetermined number of rioters at PALAZZO ADRIANO set fire to the municipal tax office and the office of the U.P.S.E.A. Many of the papers and documents were destroyed. Hand grenades were thrown against the Town Hall and the circolo intellettuale without causing serious damage. Telephonic and telegraphic communications were interrupted. Rifle shots were fired at the barracks of the Carabinieri. The disorders continued until the early hours of the morning of the following day. Five Carabinieri fought against the rioters and tried to disperse them and prevent greater damage. The disorders caused no casualties. The purpose of the riot was to demonstrate against army draft registration of the 1924 and 1925 classes, against measures granting 25 kgs per person to holders of grinding permits, and against the "ammasso" of olive oil. Public order was reestablished through the intervention of the Carabinieri. Necessary steps are being taken. The Ministries of War, Interior, and Communications have been notified."

ll-

13 December 1944 0930 hours	Telegram	Italian	---
Previous relevant record	Station allocation	C. C. G. Allocation 3-2 (CC) APHQ. AC HQ. CSI #3 District File	Disposal of original communication Field Excluded Photographed Sent with comment to: P Passed Condemned Return to sender
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ll

14 December 1944

EXAMINATION DATE

A.V.

REVIEWER

Italian Censor

EXAMINER

SPECIAL NOTICE - The attached information was taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confined only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Civil Censorship Officer, Allied Commission.

CONFIDENTIAL

A. G. Nov. 1944

TRANSLATION.

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
General Directorate of Public Security,
A.S.E. Division.

URGENT.

ROME 21st December, 1944.

No. 442/17001.

To the Allied Commission - Public Safety Sub-Commission.

During the last 24 hours the following signals have been received here:-

CALTANISSETTA. On the 14th and 15th instant, at Pisci di Caltanissetta, about 50 young Communists, many armed with sticks, went through the streets of the town shouting "Down with the Monarchy" - "We will have Revolution", and singing their hymns. On the evening of the 16th the same demonstration was repeated. The local Force, identifying the communist ringleader in the person of CATULLA Giuseppe, sulphur worker, invited him to come to the Command, in order to warn him and avoid further disturbances. His companions, interpreting this as an intention to arrest him, repeatedly demanded his release. appealing also to the exponents of the Party. Catania's release took place after warning, and after the dispersal of the gathering.

CALTANISSETTA. On the 19th instant, at Gela, about 300 people staged a demonstration against the application of the curfew. The local police controlled the demonstration which provoked no incidents.

1380

PALERMO. On the 14th instant, in the district of Termini Imerese, from a height dominating the road, an unknown person threw a hand-grenade against a military truck, going towards Palermo, wounding six soldiers of the 13th Infantry Co.

PALERMO. On the 18th instant, groups of students and workers by blocking the exit from the inhabited part of Termini Imerese, prevented the workers from passing forth as a protest against the call-up. Several groups challenged forming a mass of about 3,000 people. The P.S. Force intervened and

To the Allied Commission -- Public Safety Sub-Commission.

During the last 24 hours the following signals have been received here:--

CATANISCIATA. On the 14th and 15th instant, at Riese di Gattoliscetta, about 50 young Communists, many armed with sticks, went through the streets of the town shouting "Down with the monarchy" -- "We will have revolution", and singing their hymns. On the evening of the 14th the same demonstration was repeated. The local force, identifying the communist ringleader in the person of GIUSEPPE GIUSEPPE, sulphur worker, invited him to come to the Command, in order to warn him and avoid further disturbances. His companions, interpreting this as an intention to arrest him, repeatedly demanded his release, appealing also to the exponents of the party. Catascia's release took place after warning, and after the dispersal of the gathering.

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1350

PALESTRO. On the 14th instant, in the district of Termini Imerese, from a height dominating the road, an unknown person threw a hand-grenade against a military truck, going towards Palestro, wounding six soldiers of the 13th Infantry Co.

PALESTRO. On the 18th instant, groups of students and workers by blocking the exit from the inhabited part of Termini Imerese, prevented the workers from passing forth as a protest against the call-up. Several groups and groups formed a mass of about 3,000 people. The P.S. Force intervened and effected the dispersal of the various groups without incident.

TRAPANI. On the night of the 17th instant, in the inhabited section of Castellammare del Golfo, unknown persons pasted up notices inciting soldiers called-up not to present themselves. The following morning at 10 o'clock, students, followed by a crowd, went through the principal streets, carrying banners reading: "We are not sheep -- we are not butchers' meat -- we do not wish to fight -- Down with the call-up".

The demonstration ended with a speech by the student
MINE Vincenzo, against the call-up and the activities of the
Regent Lieutenant General.

URAPPAI. On the 10th instant, in the inhabited part
of Camporeale, about 200 persons with banners bearing the
inscription: "Long live the Duce" - Down with the Italian
Army", and armed with sticks, went through the principal
streets, shouting against the call-up.

THE HEAD OF THE POLICE.

(signed) FERRARI.

ea.

-379

TRANSLATION.

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
General Directorate of
Public Security.

Div. A.S.R. Sec. 2°
Prot. No. 442/16985.

ROME, 20th December, 1944.

SUBJECT : Disturbances and disorders in Sicily.

TO : The Allied Commission: Public Safety Sub-Commission.

With reference to the disturbances of public order which have taken place during recent days in the Sicilian Provinces, I wish to bring the following to the attention of the Allied Commission:--

The military call-up of the classes 1922-23-24, fixed by the Ministry of War for the 10th instant, formed the excuse for the disturbances and disorders which have taken place in Sicily during recent days.

The first signs of protest against the military call-up occurred at Enna on the 11th instant: a procession of a great number of people; young men called up and ordinary citizens, wound along the streets of the city, going first to the District Military Headquarters and then to the Prefecture, asking, with a good deal of noise, that the Government should be informed of the intention of those called up not to respond to the order received.

Other clamorous disturbances took place directly afterwards at the Universities of Messina and Palermo.

In Catania, the protest disturbances, reported, in the first instance, by students and those called up, quickly assumed the characteristics of seditious disturbances: as is borne out by the attack on the Enlistment Office, and on the Young Peoples' Union Office, and 13 more on the Town Hall and the Law Offices.

The devastation, burning and destruction of the Archives of the above-mentioned offices are the culminating features of the decisive action of the crowd on the occasions of disturbances in Catania.

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In Catania, the protest disturbances, limited, in the first instance, by students and those called up, quickly assumed the characteristics of seditious disturbances: as is borne out by the attack on the Enlistment Office, and ¹³⁰⁰ on the Young Peoples' Union Office, the Corriere di Sicilia, the Town Hall and the Law Offices.

The devastation, burning and destruction of the Archives of the above-mentioned offices are the culminating features of the decisive action of the crowd on the occasions of disturbances in Catania.

Other serious disorders took place in the Provinces of Salernisetta, Agrigento, Trapani, Ragusa, and Siracusa; all, of nearly all, consisting in the taking of temporary possession of the Town Halls, Register and Tax Offices and also of grain deposits and the Head Offices of certain Banks.

Military motor trucks were assaulted and set on fire; several soldiers were wounded, some garrisons were overcome, dispersed or put to flight.

If it is true that in no province the demonstrators were able to take possession of the Public Offices and to substitute themselves for legitimate authority, it is equally true that disorder has been and still is great, and that the disturbances often changed into a form of real rebellion against established authority.

The activity of the Public Force, numerically small, has been extremely cautious, it has been particularly concerned with the control of seditious activities, the limitation of damage, and with the avoidance of greiver issues. No repressive action has been carried out, not even in cases where the violent action of the rebels was employed against the centres of Public Power (firing and devastation of Town Halls) or against grain deposits and stocks.

There is no doubt, however, that the work of the Public Force, its presence, its spirit of sacrifice, its sense of duty, prevented greater harm and more serious incidents.

According to the most recent news, the situation in the Island appears to have improved, especially in the provinces of Enna, Ragusa, Messina and Syracuse. In others, especially Catania, the situation is still very delicate and the state of revolt is, so to speak, latent.

From a telephone communication received this morning from the Questura of Palermo, the situation in that province would appear to be calm.

The immediate excuse for the disturbances, as has been pointed out, was the call-up of the classes mentioned, 3.7 further cause in some cases (Alcamo, Trapani, Agrigento) may be said to be the order issued by the High Commissioner for Sicily for the consignment of 25 kilos of grain per head by the producers.

These, however, are pretexts which have no real consistency. Rather it is necessary to remember that since May last, the head of the Sicilian Separation movement, Innocenzo Aprile, has given an order

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These, however, are pretexts which have no real consistency. Rather, it is necessary to remember that since May last, the head of the Sicilian Separatist movement, Vincenzo Apicella, has definitely declared that no Sicilian should obey an order from the National Government calling men to arms.

Further, it appears to have been ascertained that at the Separatist Congress, held recently at Mesorima, an armed revolt in all the island was decided upon.

This news was transmitted to the Government, to the High Commissioner for Sicily as well as to the Chief Commissioner

of the Allied Commission.

All the prefects of Sicily are in agreement in stating that the seditious activities have been formulated and led by separatist agitators.

These activities are, according to the public demonstrations, the banners carried in procession and the numerous writings which have appeared on buildings, directed against the Government and against the Allies. Many of the writings praise Fascism, Mussolini and Hitler.

Not one of the recent seditious disturbances has its origin in the food situation: in this connection it is useful to point out that the Allied Commission has had 5 thousand tons of grain brought to Sicily (13th instant) while another 6 thousand tons of grain will be unloaded at Palermo on the 20th instant.

In Sicily the call-up has given completely negative results: 175 young men had presented themselves up to the 17th instant, inclusive; in some cases the District Military Commands were obliged to send away the young men who presented themselves in obedience to the call-up order.

THE HEAD OF THE POLICE.

(Signed) ZERRARI.

MB.

1376

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Not one of the recent seditious disturbances has its origin in the Food situation: in this connection it is useful to point out that the Allied Commission has had 3 thousand tons of grain brought to Sicily (17th instant) while another 8 thousand tons of grain will be unloaded at Palermo on the 20th instant.

In Sicily the call-up has given completely negative results: 175 young men had presented themselves up to the 17th instant, inclusive; in some cases the District Military Commands were obliged to send away the young men who presented themselves in obedience to the call-up order.

THE HEAD OF THE POLICE.

(Signed) FERRARI.

2/3.

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ea.

Translation EV.

CC.RR. Gen. HQ.

20 December 1944

N. 421/14 R.P.

Subject : Sicily - Demonstrations against the call-up.
To : A.C. Public Safety Sub-Commission - Rome.

MAZZARINO (Caltanissetta) - 17/12/1944 -

Several hundred young men made a demonstration against the military call-up. The demonstrators, little by little increased to the number of about 4000. Many of them were armed with rifles, pistols and handgrenades. They pillaged and set fire on the Town-Hall, the telephonic and telegraphic offices, the tax office, municipal Guards, pretura, Upsea, collector's Office, the invalid section and some private homes. Procedures are in course for the identification and arrest of the liables.

RAGUSA - 17/12/1944 -

In several Communes of the Province of Ragusa, demonstrations against the call-up took place. In Chiaromonte Gelfi, the demonstrators damaged several public Offices. Steps are taken against the liables.

SERRADIPALCO (Caltanissetta) - 17/12/1944 -

About 2000 persons went through the main streets shouting: "We will not leave" - "Down with the Army and the Government".

ALCANO (Trapani) - 18/12/1944 -

Several hundred persons attempted to assault the public offices. The CC.RR. Force assisted by P.S. agents succeeded at first to calm the demonstrators, but a certain CASSARA instigated the demonstrators to protest against the tax increase and the mob throwing handgrenades and employing automatic arms invaded the tax Office, the district collector's Office, the Upsea Office and the prisons, from where 29 prisoners escaped. In the meanwhile, another group invaded, employing handgrenades, the Communal Seat, injuring slightly 4 soldiers of the Force. The intervention of the CC.RR. hindered the pillage of the CC.RR. Barracks and that of the P.S. interprovincial Office.

GELA (Caltanissetta) - 18/12/1944 -

About 200 young men went through the main streets of the village carrying slogans as: "We will not leave."
No incidents.

Commanding General
- Taddeo Orlando -

HB.

Re: / Translation

C.C.R.R. General P.C.

19 December 1944
421/1029A
cc.TO / Allied Commission - P.S. Subcommission
SUBJ. : Sicily - DemonstrationsSciacca (Agrigento) 17 December

A police investigating young man not to answer to the call up, has been found.

On the same day, at 1100 hours, nearly 2000 people with slogans anti-militarist, went through the streets of the town and reached the Town - hall, asking to have a talk with M.S. Montalbano, sub-secretary of the Merchant Service.

Then they went to the barracks, where called up had been collected and asked them to be released. A N.C.O. attached to the collection center, having made several shots fired, exasperated with demonstrators, who having forced the door of the barracks, dispersed them.

The prompt intervention of the C.C.R.R. saved the N.C.O. from the anger of the crowd. The public order was reestablished at once.

The result of the call has been negative.

Palizzolo Agroide (Siracusa) 16 December

Several evil-minded, with threatening to explode hand-grenades, have prevented the transfer of grain to other places of the province. Then, with the intervention of several hundred people, they set on fire the Tax office, the Prefecture and the Rationing Office.

The C.C.R.R., although in a very small number, intervened immediately and have been able to save the Town-hall and avoid more damages. Reinforcements of soldiers and C.C.R.R. have been sent there.

Canicattì (Agrigento) - 15 December

Groups of people, guided by students, went through the streets of the town, shouting and bearing slogans protesting against the call up. No incident.

The Commanding General
Taddeo Orlando

20 December 1944
35/27

1374

SUBJ. : Prigenti di Aoto (Siracusa) demonstration

I transcribe the following cable, dated 19th, of the Aoto C.C.R.R. Compagnia, received today :

On the 15th inst., nearly 500 people, set on fire the rationing office, pillaged the corn ware-house, robbing 36 ql. grain, 7 ql. barley and 2.500 li- re belonging to the store-keeper. Then they assaulted the local mill, set fire to registers and milling licences, compelling the proprietor to mill grain without licence. Reinforcements, arrived there, are carrying out actions the liable and trying to recover the caloric robbed.

For the Commanding General - The Col. Romano della Chiesa

0303
AG/ Translation

CC.RR. General Command

14602/6 28A
19 Dec. 1944

421/II

To : Allied Commission - P.S. Subcommission
 SUBJ: Sicily - Demonstrations against the call up.

The following demonstrations have taken place in Sicily, against the recent call up:

Palma Montechiaro (Agrigento) - 14 December 1944

I transcribe the following cable of the Commandant of the Agrigento CC.RR. Group, dated 14th, but received only today:

"... Nearly 300 young people belonging to classes called up, organized a demonstration against the call up. About 600 hundred evil-minded people, with red flags, Tommy-guns and hand-grenades, joined the demonstrators and ran the streets of the town. Having stopped up the entrance of the village, they set on fire the Town Hall and the Prefecture, robbing all weapons preserved there as corpus delicti. Then, they set fire to the Communal Tax Office, Income Office, to files of the Banco di Sicilia, and damaged the Post Office.

After this, several evil-minded stopped a bus and robbed the passengers; then they robbed 30 gl. of pasta arrived a littel before with a truck and allotted for the population and 30 gl. of grapes. The first reinforcement of CC.RR. and P.S. Agents, was not able to face the demonstrators. The second reinforcement, including 40 CC.RR. and 40 soldiers with a CC.RR. office, and to fight for several hours. At 10 a.m. of the 15th, the Police forces were able to enter the town of Palma Montechiaro, made the targets of shots and of showers of Tommy-guns.

Up to now, 2 killed people and 2 wounded among the civil population, have been ascertained; one wounded among the P.S. Agents. The action of CC.RR. is still being carried out, to identify the liars and to recover the arms. ...

Trapani - 16 December

About 1500 young people, coming from several fractions of the Comune, organized a demonstration, before the seat of the Military District and of the Prefecture, protesting against the call up. The demonstrators have tried unsuccessfully to have the young people released, and on invitation of the Prefect went away. 13/13

Selinunte (Syracusa) - 17 December

A group of evil-minded people, acting with a pre-established plan, began a volley of fire and hand-grenades, against the CC.RR. barracks, advancing with concentric movements, in order to avoid the going out of the CC.RR., who, although being only 6, answered to the fire and supported the siege for more than an hour. In the mean time other groups, assailed the Town-hall, set on fire the building, destroying the Registrar of Births, deaths and marriages, the rationing office and the USRA. Then, they invaded the Mayor's house, devastating it completely.

Reinforcements have been sent. A strong activity for the identifi-

RR

- 2 -

cation of liables, arrest of them, and attachment of arms, is being carried out.

Mazzeno (Caltanissetta) 17 December

About 500 called up and other people have organised a demonstration against the call up. - The demonstrators, having increased such as to reach the number of 4000, armed with guns, pistol and hand-grenades, went to the Town-hall; they overpowered the few G.C.M. and interrupted the telephonical and telegraphical communications, pillaged and set on fire the Municipality, the Tax Office, the registrar office and several private house of rich proprietors.

The intervention of the Commandant of the Station, was sufficient to avoid more damage.

Reinforcements have been sent and they are identifying the liable and seizing the arms.

Mazza (Trapani) - 17 December

About 400 people, mostly students, have organised a demonstration to protest against the call up. The demonstration dissolved without incidents.

Neto (Siracusa) 17 December

While P.S. agents were detaching some notices against the call up, posted on the walls, several young people threw against them two hand grenades, one of which exploded wounding the P.S. Brigadiere Macceri Michele and a boy Lena Giuseppe. The responsible of the crime have been arrested by P.S., which later was compelled to release them, in order to avoid violence of the crowd, which was claiming their liberation. The liables have been identified: Diamante Ignazio and Italicano Corrado.

Neto (Caltanissetta) - 17 December

About 2000 people ran the streets of the town, protesting against the call up. The demonstrators dissolved with no incident.

for the Commanding General
the Col. Romolo della Chiesa

421/3

1373

.....

JUBJ. The following demonstrations against the call up, have taken place in Sicily:

Palermo - 12 December 1944

Nearly 300 university students, organised a demonstration, bearing two banners "Do not answer the call up" - Down with the call up - Down with the war - we want to know the reason of the call up."

These demonstrators, running the streets of the town, went to the seat of the "Giornale di Sicilia" and protested for the article "Return to the Colours". The procession dissolved with no incident.

Caltanissetta - 13 December

Nearly 600 young people, belonging to classes called up, went to the

- 3 -

cent of the Military District H.Q., protesting for the call up. No incident here (Agrigento) 14 December

Nearly 1000 people organised a demonstration against the call up.

The demonstrators, accompanied with several thousand or others, invaded the seat of the club "Progress" and "of Farmers" damaging the furnitures.

The prompt intervention of the G.C.R. was sufficient to avoid damages to the Town-hall and to others public offices.

Delia (Sulmona) 14 December

About 200 people ran the streets of the town, protesting against the call up. No incident.

Campofelice Rosella (Palermo) 14 December

About 500 young people organised a demonstration against the call up. With the prompt intervention of G.C.R. the demonstrators dispersed without damages.

Reggio - 15 December

In the six most important communes of the province, demonstrations against the call up have been carried out.

Caccamo (Palermo) 14 December

Unknown people have posted up notice against the call up and inciting the young people not to answer.

Caltanissetta - 14 December

The G.C.R. have found notice instigating the young people not to answer to the call up.

Piazza Armerina (Cuneo) 15 December

Several unknown people, in order to protest against the call up, prevented 300 students to enter the school.

While the G.C.R. was dispersing the meeting, some one threw a hand-grenade without any consequence.

The Commanding General
Taddeo Orlando

1371

14 December
59/65 - 6

Subj. : Catania - Disorders

The H.Q. of Catania Group, communicated, with to day's date:
During the demonstration of the 14th inst., near the Military District H.Q., which has been followed by the well known disorders, among the demonstrators the presence of Giuseppe CARACCI, Chief of the Young Separatists and of AVV. CALABRINI Salvatore, leader of the local movement, has been ascertained.

Inquiries are being carried out to ascertain the responsibility of these people and of their fellows, in the disorders.

The Commanding General - Taddeo Orlando

Translation RV.

CC. RR. Gen. HQ.

18 December 1944

N. 421/8 R.P.

Subject : Sicily - demonstrations against the call-up.

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

The following demonstrations took place in Sicily against the military call-up.

ALIBONE (Enna) - 15/12/1944 -

About 300 young men on the classes 1922, 1923 and 1924 went through the streets, protesting against their call-up. No incidents.

GCLA (Caltanissetta) - 14/12/1944 -

About 50 young men went through the main streets of the village shouting "we will not leave". At the arrival of a truck for the transportation of those called-up, a group of about 60 young men made a demonstration at the replacement centre.

The CC.RR. Force dispersed the demonstrators, no incidents. The result of the call-up is entirely negative.

CALTANISSETTA

On the 15 inst, a group of called up burned on the main square of the town the call-up cards, protesting against the call-up.

On the next day another group of those called-up repeated the demonstration tearing up posters, affixed by the local Committee of Liberation, which advised to answer the call-up. Public Order normal.

PALERMO - 16/12/1944

About one thousand students went through the main streets carrying banners with slogans against the answering to the call-up.

The demonstrators invaded the main call-up office, removing and destroying about 1000 schedules of the class 1923.

Public Forces succeeded in dispersing the demonstrators, no further incidents.

SCORDIA (Catania) - 16/12/1944

At the arrival of a truck for those called-up, the population invaded the premises of the pretura, Town-Hall, Upsea offices, damaging furniture and partly destroying files.

CC.RR. force succeeded in re-establishing order. No called-up have answered, not even from the neighbouring centres.

Commanding General
- Taddeo Orlando -

File 14602/6 26A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

18 December, 1944.

Dear General

In connection with the disturbance at Catania, Sicily on 14th December 1944, a written report of the circumstances was received at this office from your Headquarters on the following morning.

I should like to thank you for the prompt manner in which this matter was handled, and to congratulate you on the organization that made this possible.

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

H.E. General T. Orlando,
Commanding General CC.NR.

FJW/C.

1359

Re/ Translation

18 December 1944
39/65-5

25A

To Allied Commission- P.S. Subcommission
Subj. : Catania - Disorders

Following letter 39/65 - 3, of the 17th inst., I transcribe the following cable, dated 18, of the Catania Group:

"The CC.RR. officer Lt. De Stefano, sent to Castel di Iudica with 40 soldiers, to reestablish the order, arrived there at 1400 Hours of the 17th, being made target of shots of hunting-guns and war arms, by about 500 rioters, which he put to flight with a strong action and with the employment of automatic arms.

Up to now, 5 wounded, of which one- serious have been ascertained.

Having entered the village and re-established the order, he liberated the CC.RR. of the local station, who has bravely faced the siege, since 1500 Hours of the 15th.

The 10 soldiers, who had been sent before as re-inforcement and had been attacked with a sudden explosion of hand-grenades, have been liberated, too.

Strong nuclei of CC.RR. and soldiers, researched until the evening of the 17th, the rioters who had taken refuge in the mountain, bringing as hostages, the Prefecture Commissioner, the Commandant of CC.RR. and 3 Carabinieri.

In the fraction Carubba, 15 people have been stopped and in the same evening, the Lt. De Stefano, by means of a fiduciary, was able to obtain the liberation of the hostages. Since 2230 Hours of the yesterday, another re-inforcement of 50 soldiers with heavy and light machine-guns, is on place.

Operations are still being carried out in order to compel the rioters to surrender and to seize the arms.

As a result of the coming cable strong intervention of the officer and of the soldiers.

The Commanding General
Taddeo Orlando

1308

RE/ Translation

Col. Reg. General H.Q.

17 December 1944

22/156

TO : Allied Commission - P.S. Subcommission
 SUBJ. : Naples - Demonstration of university students.

In Naples, on 16th inst., at 1200 hours, about 200 university students, at the end of a lesson in which a professor, taking a line from Cicerone incident, invited them to conduct in keeping with democratic liberty and pointed out the necessity of taking up arms for the complete liberation of the country, gathered together in the inside court of the University, shouting "Long live with the duke" and singing Fascist songs.

For the Commanding General
 The Col. Romano della Chiesa

17 December 1944
 421/5 - I

Subj. : Sicily-Antimilitarist propaganda

Delia (Caltanissetta) 14 December 1944

The following notice has been found posted up: "Citizens of Delia, the citizens of the other villages have give the word of order not to leave. Perhaps is it antepatriotic to go on fight for a foreigner country? Any one who having received the card for the call up, will leave, it threatened with death. You make rather, a great demonstration against the Allies and the new government. The black gang, caution those who want to desert from the army, that they can join the black gang, which will save our Country from the oppression of the foreigner english, american, french etc. The black gang 33"

Erice (Trepani) 15 December

Unknown people have posted up many copies of the following notice: "To go to arms is a dishonour, not to go is the duty. We beg those who read this notice to understand it. Let the personal notice. We have begun this war against the English and our traditions are under their domination. Therefore they deem advisable to pour Italian blood on the battle fields. Italian soldiers You must refuse it."

1307

Alghero (Caltanissetta) 15 December

On several walls have been found posted up the same notices, instigating the called up not to leave and hostile to democracy, which is charged to wish the destruction of the workers class. No one of the called has answered red.

Trepani - 16 December

Notices have been found inciting the population not to answer to the call to arms.

For the Commanding General
 Col. Romano della Chiesa

NO/
CO. RA. General H. Q.

17 December 1944
39/55 - 3

TO : Allied Commission - F.S. Subcommission
SUBJ. : Castel di Iudice S. Leone (Catania) - Disorders

I transcribe the following cable of Catania CO. RA. Group, to day's date "Catania to assist. Castel di Iudice (Catania), since 1400 hours of the 15th is it in tumult owing to riotous people, arrived by an unknown place on trucks, passing through the districts of Pizzolunga and Cinquegrani; they have organized popular demonstrations in order to obtain the restitution of the grain aliquot part, already delivered by holders of grinding milling tickets and to avoid the departure of called up soldiers. The inhabitants of Castel di Iudice organized in big groups, with machine-guns have stopped up the entrance in the village to CO. RA. reinforcements sent there on the 15th morning and have surrounded them with hand grenades. The soldiers of the local barracks are only 8 and the barracks are surrounded. The riotous crowd has invaded the municipality, the tax office and the U.S.M. office destroying the furniture and setting fire to files.

This morning, at 4,30 a reinforcement of 40 soldiers composed by an officer and with three machine guns left Catania for Castel di Iudice.

The application of reinforcements, arrived now, informs that the above reinforcement is trying to compel to surrender the rioting crowd. I am going to the Prefecture to ask and send there further reinforcements of troops. On 17th morning, in Padusa (Catania) unknown people have thrown 5 hand grenades and a grenade of mortar of 60 mm., on the main square. Only three of the grenades have exploded without consequences. The public order is normal.

According to news received now, it is felt that in Ramacca (Catania) is happening something similar than in Castel di Iudice. Above mentioned CO. RA. on motorcars have left at 1300 hours. We will examine the possibility of sending further reinforcements.

For the Commanding General
The Col. Romano Della Chiesa

1356
421/5

Subj. : Sicily - Manifestation against the call up -

It should have happened the following manifestations, against the recent call up. ~~Sicily~~

Serra di Falco (Salermitana) 14 December 1944

At about 1730 hours, almost one thousand demonstrators, the most part called up, ran the streets of the town, shouting "We will not leave". The demonstration ended in an hour without incidents.

Facece - (Trapani) 14 December

About 1,000 people met in the Vittorio Emanuele Square and protested against the call up. After having run the streets of the town they dissolved without incidents.

Gela (Salermitana) 14 December About 50 young people run the streets of the village, shouting "We will not leave". Shortly after they dispersed

At about 1300 hours of the same day, having arrived several trucks for the conveyance of the called up, about 50 young people remained in the local collection center, in order to prevent eventual answers to the call. The CC.RR. have dissolved the demonstration.

Salerno (Naples) 15 December

About 20 students protested against the call up. No incident.

Patti (Messina) 15 December

About 150 students made a demonstration trying to prevent the departure of a truck called up. They did not succeed for the intervention of CC.RR.

Capodifondo (Naples) 15 December

Nearly 50 called up compelled two trucks which should have conveyed called up to Messina, to go back empty to the District H.Q. The chiefs of the demonstration, not yet identified will be committed to courts.

Comastrello (Catania) 15 December

About 100 young men ran the streets of the town protesting against the recent call up. The demonstration dissolved in an hour without incidents.

Medica (Ragusa) 15 December

Several demonstrators hit and treated two soldiers, guarding a truck for the collection of called up. They damaged the enlistment office, the one of telephones and the Town-hall.

Scicli (Ragusa) 15 December

Demonstrations protesting against the call up, have wounded with stones a CC.RR. and 3 P.S. agents.

Giarretto (Ragusa) 15 December

Young people called up have organized a demonstration against the call up. The set fire to a military truck. The intervention of CC.RR. prevented the situation to get more grave. In all commands of the Ragusa province, demonstration took place against the call up. No called up was able to go to the Military District H.Q.

S. Cataldo (Catania) 15 December

About 700 young people, assembled before the Municipality, protested against the call up, pronouncing hostile words against the Government. After two hours they dissolved with no incident.

Termini Imerese (Palermo) 15 December

Nearly 100 students ran the streets of the village protesting against the war and the call up. No incident.

1355

for the Commanding General
the Col. Romano della Chiesa.

RR.

TO	INIT	DATE
COL. CHAPMAN	WJ	10/17
COL. YOUNG		
OFFICE: REGIONAL COMMISSIONER		
MAJ. LUCKY	PHONE: 15557	EXT. 1
MAJ. WILSON	FILE: RC/000.5	
MAJ. HANBURY		
MAJ. BRIDGEMAN		
SUBJECT: Public Disturbances - Sicilia Region		
TO	Headquarters Allied Commission	

ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

14602/6.
 15 Dec 1944

R O M E

1. With reference to the disturbances which took place at CATANIA on 14 DEC I am sending the following interim report. In view of the length and difficulties of communication, it is requested that this report should be taken with due reserve as regards the actual events at CATANIA as details of the incidents are not yet available.

2. During the period 11 - 13 DEC the students of the University of PALERMO were demonstrating against the new call-up of military classes. They were parading the streets carrying such notices as "Down with the call-up" and "No one should present themselves". There has been no disorder in PALERMO.

A secret cable notifying this situation was sent to the Public Safety sub-commission of your Headquarters on the morning of 14 DEC.

3. From the information at my disposal the following is a summary of events at CATANIA on 14 DEC. A group of students from the University, in protest against the call-up, went to the Italian Military Headquarters. There was some use of offensive weapons and there were casualties reported to be approximately 1 killed and 2 or 3 injured. Nothing much more happened during the morning.

In the afternoon there were further demonstrations but by this time the trouble was mainly caused by criminal and disruptive elements of the population. Public buildings were attacked and it is understood that the Municipio has been seriously damaged by fire, possibly gutted, the Tribunale and Tax-collecting Office were also damaged and the office of the newspaper "Corriere di Sicilia" attacked.

There were casualties but, so far as it is known, they have not been serious.

A telephone message received from my Provincial Commissioner at CATANIA stated that he had toured the city at

ALLIED COMMISSION
SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO 394

OFFICE: REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
PHONE: 15535 EXT 1

1900 hours and that it was quiet with very few people in the streets, that there were still some fires burning but that the situation was then in hand.

A secret cable notifying these disturbances was sent to your Headquarters on the evening of 14 DEC.

4. I saw the High Commissioner on the evening of 14 DEC after receiving the above outline report. His information coincided generally with what was known to me. The High Commissioner appeared to consider that the present call-up at this particular time may have been ill-advised and not well planned and I gathered that he might be speaking to his Government on these lines. I advised him that it seemed to me that even if mistakes had been made it was not now a time to make concessions and to show weakness.

My cable reports regarding the situation have so far been sent in secret cipher because I considered that disturbances against the call-up of military classes demanded secrecy from a Military Intelligence point of view. I learned, however, in my discussion with the High Commissioner that his office had been speaking on the open telephone to ROME about the situation. If, therefore, your Headquarters receives information through Italian Government channels before receipt of the cables from this Headquarters this is explained by the foregoing. All future reports will be sent by the quickest possible means permitted by Military Security.

5. On 9 DEC, in view of the general delicate situation on the Island particularly as regards bread for the population and as the High Commissioner was away in ROME, I requested the Commander of the XII Italian Army Corps, The Commander of the RR.CC. and the Ispettore Generale della pubblica Sicurezza to come to my Headquarters. I reviewed the situation with them and advised them that, in my opinion, it was essential that all concerned should be prepared and the necessary dispositions made and that the Armed Forces should be properly armed and correctly employed in the light of the circumstances which might prevail.

M. Carr

M. CARR
Brigadier

COPY TO: Public Safety
Sub-Commission

Regional Commissioner

1303

22A

HEADQUARTERS A LIND COMMISSION,
Public Safety Sub-Commission,
APO 394.

20th December, 1944.

AC/14602/6/13.

SUBJECT: Transport of CC.RR.

TO: Director Transportation Sub-Commission.

1. It is urgently necessary to transport CC.RR. to Palermo, Sicily. The numbers concerned are as follows:-

100	Bari
100	Naples
100	Rome.

2. It is asked that the 100 CC.RR from Rome be sent to Naples by the "Military Train", and that the forwarded move from Naples of 200 CC.RR be arranged.

3. It is understood that rail facilities are not available from Bari. Can truck transport be provided please.


JOHN W. O'FARRELL,
Colonel, J.A.G.D.,
Director, Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

TJW/ea.

23

Recd 21A ac.
Public Safety Co.
1300 W. 25/12
2A

No 90/15
19 Dec. 1944

STARTED BY GENERAL ORLANDO.

TO	DATE	DAY
CHAPMAN		
YOUNG		
WILSON	20	1900
CAPT. POWELL		
CHIEF CLERK		

1361

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: CITE: RPS-69
 Date/Time of Origin: DEC 181730

Message Centre No: C/4659
 Date Time Rec'd: DEC 190955
 Precedence: IMPORTANT

FROM: ALCOM SIELIA REGION (CARR)

TO: HQ ALCOM RPTPUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION AND HQ 204 SUB AREA AND US NOB
PALERMO

RESTRICTED

ACTION 1047.

RESTRICTED.

Para 1. Disorders at following places reported under control by use of Police Carabinieri and Italian troops in CASTEL DIJUDICA 5 civilians wounded VIZZINI 2 civilians dead PALMA MONTE HIAO 2 civilians dead 2 civilians and 1 policeman wounded.

Para 2. Fresh disorders reported today at ALCAMO order not completely restored at VIZZINI RAMACCA and CASTEL DI JUDICA but situation reported to be under control.

Para 3. Situation in PALERMO and CATANIA normal

NO	DATE	INIT
	DEC 1944	

DIST

1360

ACTION PUBLIC SAFETY (2)
 INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
 CoS
 C A SEC
 FILE

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS COMMAND ROYAL CARABINIERI FORCE
Establishment and coordination.

No. 421/7 R.D. ROME. 18 Dec. 1944.

SUBJECT: Sicily - Hostile manifestations to call-up.

TO: Allied Commission, Public Safety Sub-Commission.

The Command of the VI Brigade of Carabinieri, Palermo, communicates: -

"Unexpected call-up of classes 1914-1924, of which this command was only informed on the 11th instant, following closely upon the taking of the military census of these classes who had been assured unlimited leave, the census concluded, has brought about the liveliest ferment throughout the entire island and serious manifestations at Catania and in other Communes, reported by the Commands affected.

The call-up was to have been effected in three batches respectively, on the 15th December, 1944, the 3rd January, 1945 and the 12th January, 1945, and has not yet had any effective result.

While in the provinces of Enna, Catania and Caltanissetta, there has been almost total disaffection, in other provinces so far 200 have presented themselves.

Ferment continues in all the towns of the Island and more violence and disorders are anticipated. The resistance, which has as its chief mainstay the separatist movement but which finds supporters even among the non-separatists of the various parties, seeks its justification in the call-up coinciding with the Christmas festival, with the uncertain political situation with the repulsion of having to fight the Italians of the north, with the fact that the Allies still now consider as enemies the Italian people who have been suffering too long and who must soon know the future armistice conditions. But above all, it is affirmed that to abandon families in the present difficulties of living, with a daily subsistence allowance which is laughable, is equivalent to leaving them to die of hunger.

On account of the unexpectedness of the call-up the authorities directing the Unitarian party have only now been able to initiate propaganda favourable to the measure.

With the situation

the command was only informed on the 11th instant. It was closely upon the taking of the military census of these classes who had been assured unlimited leave; the census concluded, has brought about the liveliest ferment throughout the entire island and serious manifestations at Catania and in other Communes, reported by the Commande affected.

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On account of the unexpectedness of the call-up the authorities directing the Unitarian party have only now been able to initiate propaganda favourable to the measure.

Measures have been adopted to cope with the situation which all the same remains delicate and disturbing and is aggravated by the difficulties of communication within the Island.

It should be added that the call-up coincided with the High Commissioner's order to agricultural producers to consign 25 kilos of grain per person to deal with the grave alimentary situation which also has caused ferment and proposed resistance among the peasants. Enquiries are being made into the Catania incidents. Further communications will follow."

The General of the Armed Force
Commanding General
-Taddeo Orlando-

ea.

052
TRANSLATION.

14602/PS 18A
CONFIDENTIAL.

HEADQUARTERS COMMAND OF ROYAL CARABINIERI FORCE.
Establishment of coordination office.

No. 321/2 R.P.

ROME, 16th Dec. 1944.

SUBJECT : Messina - Hostile manifestations to military call-up.

TO : Allied Commission, Public Safety Sub-Commission, Rome.

On the 12th instant, in Messina, about 600 persons, comprising university students and separatists, staged a manifestation with the aim of ensuring that the young men called up should be destined solely for the Italian front.

Equality of rights for Italy with the Allied Nations was invoked. No incidents.

The General of the Armed Force
Commanding General
- Taddeo Orlando -

SK

ca.

1358

HEADQUARTERS COMMAND ROYAL CARABINIERI
Establishment office - situation and coordination

No. 39/55-4 R.P.

ROME, 13 Dec. 1944.

SUBJECT : Catania - Disturbances.

TO : Allied Commission - Public Safety Sub-Commission.

The Command of the Catania Group sends the following communication, dated 18th instant:-

" Catania continues calm.

In Ramacca (Catania), during the night just passed, in the inhabited suburbs, 4 hand-bombs were thrown without causing victims or damage. Numerous group of inhabitants of the district are in a state of ferment: reason, prevention of transport of grain Catania and departure of soldiers called up. Further, to obtain substitution of present Prefectorial Commissioner. The Commander of the Carabinieri station has obtained possession of the keys of the peoples' grain warehouses which the authors of the demonstration had seized.

It is further reported that at 1800 hours on the 17th, demonstrators devastated and burnt the Town Hall and Offices. Carabinieri who intervened fired on, and mortally hit, two civilians. Reprisals against the barracks of the Force are anticipated. The Prefecture was immediately advised and has obtained despatch of 100 soldiers from the Caltagirone Artillery Group."

The General of the Armed Force
Commanding General
- Taddeo Orlando -

ea.

TRANSLATION.

GENERAL COMMAND OF THE ROYAL CARABINIERI FORCE.
Establishment office - situation and co-ordination.

No. 39/65-2 R.P. 16A
ROME, 15 Dec. 1944.

SUBJECT: Disturbances in Catania.

TO : Allied Commission, Public Safety Sub-Commission. 12A

Further to our letter 39/65-1 R.P., dated 15th instant, we transcribe the following message received from the Catania Group, dated 15th December: -

"Disturbances which took place in Catania on the 14th instant were not repeated on the 15, although excitement still continued to be manifested in the morning by small groups of demonstrators, at once dispersed in different quarters of the city, by Carabinieri and agents.

At 1100 hours nucleus of demonstrators, confronted by members of the Public Order Force near Piazza Sericaro, recommended the use of arms against them, one ill-advised individual at the moment attempted to throw a bomb which exploded in his hand, killing him.

The assembly was promptly dispersed.

Among the demonstrators there were two others wounded.

All told, between the 14th and 15th:
one civilian killed (explosion of stessid bomb); 18 wounded by fire-arms and bomb splinters, of whom only two in grave condition; 10 slightly injured; 3 Carabinieri, one P.S. Official and 4 Agents slightly injured.

27 arrests so far effected.

Damage suffered on the 14th by different buildings in the city may be summarised as follows:-

Seriously damaged: the Communal Palace, by fire, nearly all the rooms, furniture and papers were destroyed and there was partial destruction of the roof; the offices of the King's Procurator were partly sacked and partly burnt, with the destruction of trial documents; the offices of the General Procurator and the 1838 of Appeal; the Bank of Italy, which was fired on the ground floor; the tax office, the Communal Call-up Office, the Provincial Call-up Office and the Headquarters of the Italian Young Peoples' Union, with categorical destruction and damage to furniture; Head Office of the newspaper, "Corriere Sicilia" with the burning of 400 copies of the paper and damage to the entrance door.

The afternoon passed in perfect tranquillity.

Information just received from Castel di Indica Comune

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All told, between the 14th and 15th: one civilian killed (explosion of aforesaid bomb); 18 wounded by fire-arms and bomb splinters, of whom only two in grave condition; 10 slightly injured; 3 Carabinieri, one P.S. Official and 4 Agents slightly injured.

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The afternoon passed in perfect tranquillity.

Information just received from Castel di Iudica Comune that demonstrators have devastated local Town Hall and another public office."

Handwritten signature

The General in Command of the Force
Commanding General
- Eddico Orlando -

ea.

14602/6. 15A

AFRL

0374

18/12/14

PRIORITY

SECRET PD

PARA ONE PD QUESTION IS URGENT IN SHORTLY PD

PARAS TO AFRL FROM HQ ALONG PAKISTAN PD

PARA TWO PD THE FOLLOWING REPORT HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM REGIONAL COMMISSIONER CM
ALLIED COMMISSION CM SHORTLY PD BEING

SITUATION ELEVEN HUNDRED HOURS ONE SEVEN DECEMBER PD REPORTS CONTINUE

TO COME IN OF WINDSPLANNING DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST CALL UP PD SOME DISORDERS AND
CASUALTIES REPORTED DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE PD CONSIDER SITUATION HAS DANGEROUS
POSSIBILITIES PD UNDERSTAND HIGH COMMISSIONER IN CONJUNCTION WITH ITALIAN CORPS
COMMANDER HAS REQUESTED REINFORCEMENTS PD MARCH IS MAINLY ONE OF MILITARY POLICE
NOT FROM PUBLIC SAFETY POINT OF VIEW STRONGLY ADVISE SOME IMMEDIATE REINFORCEMENTS
ESPECIALLY AS REINFORCEMENTS LONG UNDER CONSIDERATION HAVE NEVER BEEN SENT HERE PD
CATANIA QUOTE PD ENDS PD

PARA THREE PD AS REPORTS REINFORCEMENTS PD IS REQUESTED THAT THE MONTEMARMO
BATTALION OF THE ITALIAN ARMY COMBATING THREE SIX OFFICERS AND SEVEN EIGHT ¹⁰³⁰⁰⁰
BE DETACHED IN THE QUICKEST POSSIBLE MANS TO PAKISTAN AS REQUESTED IN OUR SIGNAL
REFERENCE EIGHT THREE TWO NINE DATED SEVENTEENTH DECEMBER FORTY FOUR PD

Public Safety S/C

Ext. 502

A.P. WILSON Lt. Col.

AMTR

8374

18/12/14

PRIORITY

SIGNEP 20

PARA ONE PD ENJOY IS UNREST IN SICILY PD

PAPER TO AMTR FROM HQ ALGER FAVOR PD

PARA TWO PD THE FOLLOWING REPORT HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM REGIONAL COMMISSIONER ON ALLIED COMMISSION ON SICILY PD 20/12/14

SITUATION ELEVEN HUNDRED HOURS ONE SEVEN DECEMBER PD REPORTS CONTINUE TO COME IN OF VIOLENCE DISSEMINATING AGAINST CALL OF PD SOME DISORDERS AND CASUALTIES REPORTED DETAILS NOT AVAILABLE PD CONSIDER SITUATION HAS DANGEROUS POSSIBILITIES PD UNDERSTAND HIGH COMMISSIONER IN CONJUNCTION WITH ITALIAN CORPS COMMANDER HAS REQUESTED REINFORCEMENTS PD MATTER IS MAINLY ONE OF MILITARY POLICE NOT FROM PUBLIC SAFETY POINT OF VIEW STRONGLY ADVISE SOME IMMEDIATE REINFORCEMENTS ESPECIALLY AS REINFORCEMENTS LONG UNDER CONSIDERATION HAVE NEVER BEEN SENT HERE PD GADANIA QUITE PD 20/12/14

PARA THREE PD AS REGARDS REINFORCEMENTS IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE MONTENEGRO BATTALION OF THE ITALIAN ARMY COVERING THESE SIX OFFICERS AND SEVEN EIGHT ⁴³ ~~43~~ BE DESPATCHED BY THE QUICKEST POSSIBLE MEANS TO PALERMO AS REQUESTED IN OUR SIGNAL MESSAGE EIGHT THREE TWO NINE DATED SEVENTEENTH DECEMBER FORTY FOUR PD

Public Safety S/C

Int. 502

A.F. WILSON Lt. Col.

Copy to Ch. Commission
C. S.
C A S.

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: CITE REQ-362
 Date/Time of Origin: DEC 171540A

Message Centre No: C/4562
 Date Time Rec'd: DEC 181230A
 Precedence: OP PRIORITY

FROM: ALCOM SICILY REGION (CARR)
 TO: HEADQUARTERS ALCOM HEPAT TO PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMISSION AND HEADQUARTERS
 204 SUB AREA AND 2 TO NOE PALERMO

SECRET.

1. Special sitrep.
2. Situation 1100 hours 17 December.
3. Reports continue to come in of widespread demonstrations against call up. Some disorders and casualties reported details not available.
4. Consider situation has dangerous possibilities.
5. Understand High Commissioner in conjunction with Italian Corps Commander has requested reinforcements.
6. Matter is mainly one of military police but from Public Safety point of view strongly advise some immediate reinforcements especially as reinforcements long under consideration have never been sent here.
7. CATANIA quiet.

DIST

ACTION: Pub Safety 2
 INFO: Chief Commissioner
 C.o.S.
 C.A. Sec
 File 2
 Float

HEADQUARTERS

19 DEC 1944

A. I. C.

ACTION
SECRET

0528

Translation V.

CC.RR. Gen. HQ.

14602/6
13A
15 December 1944
N. 39/66 R.P.

Subject : Ionia (Catania) - Attempt to set on fire to the Town-Hall.

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

In Ionia (Catania) at 20,30 hrs of 14 inst., unknown persons attempted to set on fire to the town-hall where on 15 inst. the military call-up operations should take place. Two straw-bales were burned.

Public Order is normal.

Commanding General
- Taddeo Orlando -

MR

1357

0 3 2 9

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

785016

19 A

Translation W.

CC.HR. Gen. HQ.

15 December 1944
N. 39/65-114602/b 12A
See 16A

Subject : Popular demonstration.

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

Following letter n. 39/65 R.P. dated 14 inst.
I repeat the following letter from the Group of Catania;

*** At 1800 hrs. continuing disorders, the political authorities not able to meet with Police Forces said disturbances, asked for the intervention of troops in order to defend public and financial offices of most importance.
At the same time demonstrators set on fire to the collector's office and at 1900 hrs. to the central seat of "Banco Sicilia".
Damage not yet ascertained.
Public Force did everything to repress disorders, but did not succeed due to actions of big nuclei of demonstrators in different parts of the city, at the same time.
No victims.
Excitement continues.

Commanding General
- Taddeo Orlando -

Translation - V.

CO.BR. Gen. HQ.

15 December 1944.
N. 321/1

Subject : Sicily - Demonstrations against the military call-up.

To : A.C. - Rome.

The following public demonstrations took place in Sicily against the recent military call-up:

Palermo - 11/12/1944

Demonstrators set fire to the Communal Collector's Office U.P.S.E. destroying great part of the files. Besides the demonstrators threw handgrenades against the municipal Offices and the intellectual Club. They cut off the telephonical and telegraphical communications and fired rifle shots against the barracks of the Arma. The disorders, lasting till the next morning, were the consequence of the protest against the recent census of soldiers born in 1914 - 1924. The Arma tried to disperse the demonstrators and to prevent greater damages.

Valguarnera (Enna) 12/12/1944

About 50 young men formed themselves into procession and passing along the streets of the town, protested against the military call-up. No incidents.

Palermo - 12/12/1944

In the entrance-hall of the University, several hundred students made a demonstration against the military call-up. At about 1100 hrs. the demonstrators, about 1200, after having ^{overcome} the posse of CO.BR. guarding the entrance of the University, went to Via Macqueda with posters bearing the following inscriptions: "No longer arms but bread and work" - "We are no longer willing to serve as ^{agents} ~~spies~~ for guns" - "For whom have we to fight for?" - "We wish to be informed of the conditions of the armistice" - Enough with the militarism" and "We want to live in peace".

The Arma and Public Security ^{agents} disbanded the demonstrators, who returned to the University. About 200 students, who had succeeded in going away, formed themselves into procession and passed along Via Roma and Corso Emanuele, dispersing themselves at about 13,30 hrs. Disturbances occurred between the Public Forces and the students. 5 arrests were effected.

Ragusa 12/12/1944

About 2000 persons, the majority young people, passed along the streets of the town, protesting against the military call-up. The Public Forces dispersed the demonstrators. No incidents.

- 2 -

Vittoria - 12/12/1944

About 200 young men made a demonstration against the recent military call-up. On the next day the demonstration was repeated. The demonstrators broke into the Town-Hall and into some local Clubs, causing damages. They were disbanded by the Arma.

Castelvetro - (Trapani) 13/12/1944

About 200 students and young workers passed along the streets of the town carrying posters with the inscription : "Down with the war and those who wanted it." No incidents.

Comiso - Scicli - Monterosso - Alba - Ragusa - 13/12/1944

In said Communes, demonstrations against the military call-up took place - no incidents occurred.

Calascibetta (Enna) - 13/12/1944

About 150 persons, the majority young people, made a demonstration against the recent military call-up, tearing up the call-up cards. The Arma re-established order. No incidents.

✓ *Adm*
Commanding General
- Taddeo Orlando -

1350

AFHQ

PRIORITY

8352

17/12/44

CONFIDENTIAL PD

PARA ONE PD THE FOLLOWING REPORT DATED ONE FIVE DECEMBER FOUR FOUR HAS BEEN RECEIVED
FROM REGIONAL COMMISSIONER ALLIED COMMISSION SICILY PD
FAREN TO AFHQ FROM HQ ALCOM FAREN PD

PARA TWO PD SITREP CATANIA ONE FIVE DECEMBER ONE SIX ZERO ZERO HOURS SITUATION UNDER
CONTROL PD

PARA THREE PD CROWDS ON STREETS THIS MORNING BUT NO DISORDERS PD

PARA FOUR PD FIRES STARTED DURING DEMONSTRATION YESTERDAY GUTTED MUNICIPIO
TRIBUNALE AND TAX OFFICE PD

PARA FIVE PD REPORTED THREE OTHER OFFICES DAMAGED BY FIRE PD

PARA SIX PD REPORTS INDICATE THAT FIRES WERE STARTED BY FEW AGGRESSIVE DEMONSTRATORS
OF CRIMINAL CLASSES WITHOUT AN/VIGOROUS PREVENTIVE ACTION BY POLICE PD

PARA SEVEN PD CASUALTIES ARE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN LIGHT ESTIMATED 1 DEAD AND 8
INJURED PD

PARA EIGHT PD RESISTANCE TO CALL UP HAS BEEN WIDESPREAD PD

PARA NINE PD MANIFESTS OR WRITING ON WALLS HAVE APPEARED ABOUT TWENTY
PLACES PD

PUBLIC SAFETY S/C

Ext 365

A.F. WILCOX Lt Col.

1349

PARA TEN PD OTHER DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE OCCURRED IN MISTELLO (CATANIA) MODICA (RAGUSA)
PALEZZO ADRIANO (PALERMO) PALMA MONTECHIARO (AGRIGENTO) PALERMO AND MESSINA PD
PARA ELEVEN PD IN PALERMO MESSINA AND CATANIA STUDENT-S HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE IN
OTHER PLACES MEN AFFECTED BY CALL UP PD
PARA TWELVE PD EXCEPT CATANIA NO SERIOUS DISORDERS REPORTED PD
PARA THIRTEEN PD PALERMO SITUATION UNCERTAIN PD
PARA FOURTEEN PD REPORT DATED ONE SIX DECEMBER FOUR FOUR FROM REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
SICILY IS AS FOLLOWS PD
PARA FIFTEEN PD DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST CALL UP HAVE BEEN WIDE SPREAD PD
PARA SIXTEEN PD SITUATION IN CATANIA QUIET TODAY PD
PARA SEVENTEEN PD STUDENTS IN PALERMO DEMONSTRATED AGAIN THIS MORNING PD
PARA EIGHTEEN PD NO FRESH DISORDERS PD
PARA NINETEEN PD HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR SICILY INFORMED ITALIAN
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AT SEVEN P M ON ONE SIX DECEMBER FOUR FOUR THAT PUBLIC ORDER IN
SICILY WAS QUITE PD ITALIAN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR IS SATISFIED THAT THE SITUATION IN
SICILY IS UNDER CONTROL PD

COPY TO :

INFO: CHIEF COMMISSIONER

C O S

C A S

1348

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

P SAFETY 9A

Originator's Reference: RES 68
 Date/Time of Origin: 16/15 35/A

Message Centre No: C/4478
 Date Time Recd: 171655
 Precedence: IMPORTANT

FROM: ALCOM SICILIA REGION (GARR)
 TO: HQ ALCOM ROME 204 SUB AREA US NOB PALERMO
 ALCOM PUB SAFETY S.C.

RESTRICTED.

- Para 1. Demonstrations against call up have been wide spread.
 pPara 2. Situation in CATANIA quiet today.
 Para 3. Students in PALERMO demonstrated again this morning.
 Para 4. No fresh disorders.

ACTION

AC DIST
 ACTION PUB SAFETY (2)
 INFO Chief Commissioner
 C o S
 C.A.S.
 File (2)
 Float

CO. 1	
CO. 2	
LT. COL. W.	17 th
MAJ LUCKMAN	
MAJ WILSON	
MAJ HANBURY	
MAJ BALANCE	
MAJ FOWEL	
MAJ CLARK	

HEADQUARTERS
 17 DEC 1944
 A. C.

1347

RESTRICTED

8A

STARS AND STRIPES 17 DEC 44

11 Injured In 2nd Day Of Sicily Disturbances

ROME, Dec. 16—Following Thursday's rioting when one man was killed and three were wounded, there were fresh disturbances yesterday in Catania, east coast city of Sicily.

According to reports received here, 11 were injured yesterday when police agents fired on the crowd, shooting downward and wounding the victims in the legs and feet. Hand grenades, it was said, were tossed at police from the crowd.

An official communique issued here yesterday by the press office of the Italian Government said that the disorders occurred as a protest against the recruiting of men for the armed services.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

155/R1/PRE

15 December 1944.

Press Release - Immediate.

A protest demonstration against the recent Italian call-up for military service in Catania, Sicily, has resulted in one person being killed and one wounded and some damage to property, reports to the Allied Commission from Italian sources said to-day.

A crowd estimated at 500 persons and believed led by students on Thursday morning, December 14, was reported to have gathered in front of the Italian military district headquarters in Catania to protest against the call-up. A hand grenade was thrown by persons unknown and one demonstrator was killed and one injured. Police dispersed the throng which then scattered in small groups over the city.

Military trucks were stopped and several burned. The provincial call-up office was occupied and set afire. The town hall was attacked in the afternoon, furniture and files were thrown out of the windows and a fire started. Also damaged were buildings housing the Young People's Association and the Corriere di Sicilia and the Palace of Justice.

Demonstrations against the call-up are also reported at Enna and Palermo but no casualties are reported from either.

TO	
COL. CH. PM-N	
COL. YOUNG	
LT. COL. W. COX	
MAJ. CUCKMAN	
MAJ. WILSON	
MAJ. HANBURY	
MAJ. BALLANCE	
CAPT. POWELL	
CHIEF CLERK	

1345

RESTRICTED

Pub Safety
6A

CITE RPO-67

DEC 151734A

C/1387

DEC 161400A

IMPORTANT

ALCOA SIGILLI REGION (CAMP)

HEADQUARTERS ALCOA REPORT TO PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMISSION HEADQUARTERS 204

SUI AREA NOB PALERMO

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

RESTRICTED.

1. Sitrep CATANIA 15 December 1600 hours situation under control.
2. Crowds on streets this morning but no disorders.
3. Fires started during demonstration yesterday gutted Municipio, Tribunale and Tax Office.
4. Reported 3 other offices damaged by fire.
5. Reports indicate that fires were started by few aggressive demonstrators of criminal classes without any vigorous preventive action by police.
6. Casualties are reported to have been light estimated 1 dead and 8 injured.
7. Resistance to call up has been widespread.
8. Manifests or writings on walls have appeared about 20 places.
9. Other demonstrations have occurred in MILITELLO (CATANIA), MORTIC (MAGUSA), Salemo Adriatico (MILITELLO), Palma Montechiaro (MORICENTRO) PALERMO and MESSINA.
10. In SALEMO MESSINA and CATANIA students have been responsible, in other places men affected by civil up.
11. Except CATANIA no serious disorders reported.
12. PALERMO situation uncertain.

1344

LIST
ACTION: C.A. Sec
INFO: Chief Commissioner
C.O.S.
Pub Safety
File

RESTRICTED

5A

Major Wilson spoke to
Col Snook RPSO
Sicily at 4-45pm
15th Dec.

Col Snook intimates

'No serious disorder
he will keep us
advised'.

15¹²/₄₄.

(Name of Wilson not J.)

Col Shipp (for C.O.S.)
informed as above.

Shw.

0540

14602/8
INCOMING MESSAGE
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

4A

Originator's Reference: CITE RFS 66
Date / Time of Origin: DEC 142030A

Message Centre No: C/4216
Date Time Rec'd: DEC 151258A
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: ALCOM SICILY REGION(CARR)
TO: HEADQUARTERS ALCOM

3A

CONFIDENTIAL

need 1600 hrs

ACTION

CONFIDENTIAL.

1. Reaction in SICILY against the military registration is widespread and hostile.
2. Demonstrations by students have been reported at CATANIA ENNA and PALERMO without serious public disorders but possibility of disturbances exists.

DIST

ACTION: Pub Safety 2
INFO: Chief Commissioner
C.o.S.
C.A. Sec
File 2
Float

1343

TO		
COL CHAPMAN		
COL YOUNG		
LT COL WILCOX		
MAJ BUCKLEY		
MAJ WILSON		
MAJ HANBURY		
MAJ BALLANCE		
CAPT POWEL		
CHIEF CLERK		

ON 15/12/44

CONFIDENTIAL

3A
~~4A~~

AFHQ

8261

15/12/44

PRIORITY

See 2A-1A

RESTRICTED PD

PAGE ONE PD THE FOLLOWING REPORT HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM COMMANDING GENERAL CHARLIE CHARLIE ROGER ROGER

PAGES TO AFHQ FROM AK HQ ALCOM PAGES PD

PAGE TWO PD AT ELEVEN HUNDRED HOURS FOURTEENTH DECEMBER FOUR FOUR AT CATANIA ABOUT FIVE ZERO ZERO PEOPLE LED BY STUDENTS WENT TO THE MILITARY DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS TO PROTEST AGAINST THE RECENT CALLUP PD WHEN THEY ARRIVED THERE A HAND GRENADE WAS THROWN AGAINST THEM BY SOME PERSON UNKNOWN PD ONE DEMONSTRATOR WAS KILLED AND ONE SLIGHTLY INJURED PD THE DEMONSTRATORS THEN BROKE UP AS A RESULT OF POLICE INTERVENTION BUT MET AGAIN IN SMALL GROUPS IN SEVERAL PARTS OF THE TOWN PD LATER THEY ASSAULTED MILITARY TRUCKS AND BURNED THEM PD THEY OCCUPIED THE PROVINCIAL CALLUP OFFICE WHICH THEY TRIED TO BURN AND ALSO DAMAGED THE OFFICES OF THE ITALIAN YOUNG PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION ON THE BUILDING OF CORRIERE DI SICILIA ON AND THE PALACE OF JUSTICE PD AT ABOUT FIFTEEN HUNDRED HOURS THEY ATTACKED THE TOWN HALL CM TOWN TOWN THREW THE FURNITURE AND FILES FROM THE BALCONIES CM AND SET THE BUILDING ON FIRE PD THE DEMONSTRATION IS STILL GOING ON PD FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE FORWARDED

PAGE THREE PD CONFIRMED BY ALCOM SICILY THAT A DEMONSTRATION IS TAKING PLACE AGAINST MILITARY CALLUP PD FURTHER REPORT WILL FOLLOW PD

PUBLIC SAFETY S/C

EXT. 502

F.J. WILSON Maj.

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: CITE: RPS 66
 Date/Time of Origin: DEC

Message Centre No: 0/4181
 Date/Time Rec'd: DEC 150930
 Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: AICOM SICILY REGION (CARR)
 TO: HQ AICOM PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION

SECRET

ACTION

SECRET.

Para 1. Demonstration by students at CATANIA against military call up is somewhat serious.

Para 2. Full details not known at present further report will follow

TO	INFO
COL. CHAPMAN	
COL. YOUNG	
LT. COL. WILCOX	
MAJ. LECHEMAN	
MAJ. WILSON	
MAJ. HATHOR	
MAJ. BALLANCE	
CAPT. POWELL	
CHIEF CLERK	

SECRETDIST

1341

ACTION PUB SAFETY (2)
 INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
 CoS
 C A SEC
 FILE (2)
 FLOAT



0543

CC.RR. General H. C.

14602/ps December 1944
39/63

1A

TO : Allied Commission - P.S. Subcommission
SUBJ: Catania - Regular disturbance

I transcribe what has been, to day, communicated by the Catania CC.RR. group:

On the 14th inst., in Catania, about 1100 a.m., nearly 500 people, commanded by students, went to the local Military District, to protest against the recent call to arms. - When they arrived there, some people still in -identified, threw a hand-grenade against them, which killed one of the demonstrators and wounded lightly another one.

After this horrible incident, with the intervention of public strength, the demonstrators disbanded and ^{met} again, in small groups, in several places of the town, where, excited by agitators, assaulted military trucks and burned them.

They occupied the provincial enrollment office, which they tried to burn, and damaged the seat of the Italian Youngpeople Association, the building of the "Corriere di Sicilia" and the Justice Palace.

At about 1500 p.m., they assaulted the town-hall, threw from the balcony, the furniture and files and then, set the building on fire. The demonstration is still going on. We reserve further informations.

Please sign your name

The Commanding General
Freddo Orlando

1340



Public Safety
RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 321/1 di prot. R.F.

Roma, li 15 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Sicilia - manifestazioni ostili al richiamo alle armi.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

R O M A

050. *****

In Sicilia si sono verificate le seguenti dimostrazioni di pacellione ostili al recente richiamo alle armi:

PALERMO - 11/12/1944

Numero imprecisato di rivoltosi appiccò il fuoco all'assessoria comunale e all'ufficio C.A.S.A., distruggendo gran parte del carteggio. I dimostranti lanciarono inoltre bombe a mano, senza conseguenze, contro le sedi municipale e del circolo intellettuali. Interruppero le comunicazioni telefoniche e telegrafiche, e spararono colpi di moschetto contro le caserma dell'Arma. I disordini, protrattisi sino alle prime ore del mattino successivo, furono placati per protesta contro il recente consimento dei militari nelle classi 1314-1924. L'Arma tentò disperdere i dimostranti e impedire danni maggiori.

VALDARREDA (CNR) 12/12/1944

Una cinquantina di giovani percorsero le cortee le vie

./...

dell'abitato, protestando contro il loro richiamo alle armi, nessun incidente.

PALEMO 12/12/1944

Varie centinaia di studenti, nell'atrio dell'Università, attuano una manifestazione di protesta contro la chiamata alle armi. Verso le ore 11 i dimostranti, che avevano raggiunto il numero di circa 1200, forzano il cordone di carabinieri posto dinanzi l'ingresso dell'Università al momento in cui si accingeva ad entrare nel cortile. Le scritte: "non più armi ma pane e lavoro" - "non vogliamo più servire da carne da cannone" - "per chi dobbiamo combattere" - "vogliamo conoscere le condizioni d'arruolamento" - "basta col militarismo" e "vogliamo vivere in pace".

L'Arma e la pubblica sicurezza sciolsero i dimostranti che si ritirarono nell'Università. Circa 200 studenti, rimasti all'aperto, si riunirono in corteo percorrendo via Roma e corso Vittorio Emanuele, sfilandosi verso le ore 13,30. Avevano sfilagli tra la folla pubblica e gli studenti. Operati cinque fermi.

RAAGUA 12/12/1944

Circa 2000 persone, in maggioranza giovani, percorsero le vie della città protestando contro il richiamo alle armi. La folla pubblica sciolse i dimostranti senza incidenti.

VITTORIA 12/12/1944

Circa 200 giovani improvvisarono una manifestazione ostile al recente richiamo alle armi.

La manifestazione fu ripetuta il giorno successivo. I dimostranti irrupero nel municipio e in alcuni circoli locali arrecando danni. Furono scolti dall'Arma.

VERONA 12/12/1944

Circa 200 studenti e giovani operai percorsero le vie dell'a-

- 3 -

bitato recando cartelloni così concepiti: "Abbasso la guerra e la cricca guerrafondaia". Nessun incidente.

COMISO - SICILI - MONTEROSSO - ALBA - RAGUSA 13/12/1944

Nei comuni ebbero luogo manifestazioni di protesta contro il richiamo alle armi, senza conseguenze.

GALASCIBETTA (ETNA) 13/12/1944

Circa 150 persone, in maggioranza giovani, improvvisarono una dimostrazione ostile alla recente chiamata alle armi, strappando le cartoline precetto. L'arma ristabilì l'ordine. Nessun incidente.-

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
- Gaetano Orlando -



1338



N. 1337
RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali
UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 1337-1 di prot. S. S.

Roma, li 12 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Catania - dimostrazione popolare.

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

R O M A

seguito nel foglio n. 1337-1. Dal 10 corrente ten-
scrivo la seguente del gruppo da Catania:
"Nella IV autorità politica, perdurando disordini non potè
si fronteggiare con forza, giacchè, anzichè intervento tras-
se per assicurare uffici, pubblici e finanziari necessari in
portuale.

tesa ora dimostrati inaccessibili agenzie e poste di
città e ora in sede centrale Banco Sicilia.

Non ancora accertati danni.

Forza pubblica prodigata a contenere circa 1337 con rin-
citravi causa contemporanea azione grossi nuclei dimostrati
in diverse parti città.

Evitate vittime.

Continua agitazione.

Il Comandante dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali
- Guido Triandò -

Guido Triandò

0548

Scusate



RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali
UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 39/66 di prot. T.P. Roma, li 15 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Ionia (Catania) - Tentativo di incendiare il Municipio.

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

R O M A

In Ionia (Catania), alle ore 20.30 del 14 corrente igno-
ti tentavano incendiare il municipio dove dovevano svolger-
si il 15 detto le operazioni di richiamo alle armi. Parene
bruciato due balla di paglia ivi esistenti.
Ordine pubblico normale.

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
-Taddeo Orlando-

Taddeo Orlando

1336



RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 39/65 di prot. R.P.

Roma, li 14 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Catania - Dimostrazione popolare.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA -

Sottocommissione per la P.S. -

R O M A

Trascrivo la seguente del Gruppo CC.RR. di Catania
in data odierna:

"In Catania, il 14 corrente, verso ore 11, circa 500
persone capitanate da elemento studentesco, si recarono
locale Distretto Militare per protestare contro recente
chiamata armi. Giunta luogo venne lanciata contro essi,
da elementi non ancora individuati, una bomba che uccise uno
dei dimostranti ferendone leggermente un altro. Dopo tale
increscioso incidente, anche per intervento forze pubblica,
dimostranti si sbandarono adunandosi in piccoli nuclei
in diverse località della città ove aizzati 1336
elementi assalterono alcuni automezzi militari bruciandoli.
Occuparono l'ufficio provinciale leva che tentarono dare
alle fiamme ed danneggiarono sede Unione Giovanile italia-
na, edificio "Corriere Sicilio" ed palazzo Giudiziaria.
Verso ore 15 assalterono Municipio dal cui balconi lancia-

./...

rono mobili et incartamenti dando infine fuoco all'edificio
che tuttora sta bruciando. Dimostrazione continua; Riserva
di ulteriori comunicazioni."

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
- Taddeo Orlando -

Taddeo Orlando



RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 39/65-2 di prot. R.P.

Roma, li 16 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Catania - Disordini.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

-Sottocommissione per la I.S.-

R O M A

A seguito del foglio 39/65-1 R.P. in data 15 corrente, trasmetto la seguente del gruppo di Catania in data 15 detto:

""Disordini verificatisi in Catania il 14 corrente non ripetutisi oggi 15, pur perdurando eccitazione manifestata da nuclei dimostranti mattinata, subito dispersi vari quartieri città da carabinieri ed agenti.

Ore 11 nuclei dimostranti, affrontati da forze polizia presso piazza Sericaro, imponevano uso armi contro uno sconsigliato momento in cui tentava il lancio di una bomba che essi avevano in mano, uccidendolo.

Assembleamento disperso prontamente.

Tre dimostranti altri tre feriti.

Complessivamente tra il 14 e il 15:

un civile morto scoppio predetta bomba; 18 feriti da arma fuoco e schegge bombe di cui solo due grave stato; 10 contusi; 3

./...

carabinieri, un funzionario P.S. et 4 agenti contusi.

Operati finora 27 fermi.

Danni arrecati giorno 14 vari edifici città possono così riassumersi:

danni gravi: palazzo comunale per incendio quasi tutti locali, mobili et carteggio et crollo parziale tetto; in parte devastati ed in parte incendiati: Procura del Re, con distruzione processi somari, Procura Generale et Corte Appello; Banco Sicilia che subi incendio esattoria piano terreno, ufficio agenzia imposte, Leva comunale, Leva provinciale et sede Unione Giovanile Italiana con distruzione carteggio et danneggiamento mobili; sede giornale "Corriere Sicilia" con incendio 400 copie giornali et danneggiamento porta ingresso.

Pomeriggio trascorso perfetta calma.

Giunge questo momento notizia che comune Castel di Iudica dimostranti avrebbero devastato locale municipio et altro ufficio pubblico"".

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
-Taddeo Orlando-





RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 39/55-4 di prot. R.P.

Roma, li 15 dicembre 1944

Risposta al del n. Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Catania - Ricordi.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

- Sottocommissione per la Pubblica Sicurezza -

R O M A

Il comando del Gruppo di Catania in data 15 corrente comunica:
 "Catania continua a mantenersi calma.

In Catania (Catania), nelle diverse periferie abitate sono state lanciate
 4 bombe a mano senza causare vittime né danni. Numerosi gruppi silenziosi
 ma con in fermento scopo evitare trasporto grande Catania di partenza milita-
 ri richiamati. Tendo alcuni ottenere sostituzioni attuali commissario pro-
 fattizio. Sottostante stazione carabinieri ha ottenuto consegna chiave magica
 e in grandi popoli di cui autori dimostrazioni erano imponenti.

Viene segnalato anche che ore 15 giorno 17 dimostranti hanno devastato
 ed bruciato municipio ed caserma. Carabinieri intervenuti ¹³⁵³ fatto
 fuoco colpendo mortalmente due civili. Provvedesi reazione contro enorme
 arma. Prefettura subito informata ha ottenuto invio n. 100 militari gruppo
 artiglieria da Collagirona."

IL COMANDANTE DI COMANDO D'ARMATA
 COMANDANTE GENERALE
 - Rodolfo Orlando -

Mod. 839



Ministero dell'Interno

DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA P.S. = DIVISIONE A.S.R. = SEZ. 2^a

N. 442/17001

Roma, li 26 dicembre 1944-

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

Sottocommissione per la P.S.

R O M A

Nelle decorse 24 ore sono qui giunte le seguenti segnalazioni di rilievo:

MESSINA - Quel Prefetto telegrafa: "Un fonogramma odierno diretto da Comandante Gruppo Carabinieri Reali Enna avvisa Comandante Gruppo Ester no RR.CC. Messina che nel Comune di Capizzi di questa provincia at seguito diserzione sarebbero verificato 24 corrente movimento popola= re durante il quale sarebbero stati incendiati Municipio Ufficio Im= poste Consumo - Uffici Upsea e sarebbe stata assalita con bombe a ma= no anche Caserma.Arma.- Sarebbero stati tagliati fili telegrafici e popolazione sarebbero impossessata chiavi magazzini ammasso grano. Inviati sul posto Funzionario sicurezza e comandante compagnia RR.CC. Mistretta con rinforzo Carabinieri e Agenti. Riservomi notizie det= tagliate".

- Capitano CC.RR. di Mistretta telegrafa: "Ore 9 ieri 24 dicembre in Ca= pizzi (Messina) circa 800 persone radunavansi improvvisamente Cavan= ti quella Caserma Arma con violenza riuscivano ad ottenere liberazio= ne detenuto arrestato giorno prima per diserzione".

REGGIO CAL. - Nella notte sul 22 corrente in Bovalino sono stati affissi manoscritti incitanti i giovani a respingere le cartoline pregetto e a rifiutarsi di combattere, non conoscendo finora le condizioni di armistizio.

CATANISSETTA - Il 20 corrente nell'abitato di Sutura sono apparse iscri= zioni murali del seguente tenore: "Siciliani alla macchina per chi combattere? - abbasso la guerra".

Lo stesso giorno nel comune di Mussomeli sono apparse iscrizioni mu= rali del seguente tenore: "Viva il Duce - Duce vi aspettiamo- Viva il fascismo". In qualche mura è stata anche disegnata la croce unci= nata.

IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

1333

Roma, 14 26 dicembre 1944-

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

Sottocommissione per la P.S.

R O M A

Nelle decorse 24 ore sono qui giunte le seguenti segnalazioni di rilievo:

MESSINA - Quel Prefetto telegrafa: "Un fonogramma odierno diretto da Comandante Gruppo Carabinieri Reali Lina avvisa Comandante Gruppo Ester no RR.CC. Messina che nel Comune di Capizzi di questa provincia at seguito diserzione sarebbero verificato 24 corrente movimento popola= re durante il quale sarebbero stati incendiati Municipio Ufficio Im= poste Consumo - Uffici Upsea e sarebbe stata assalita con bombe a ma= no anche Caserma.Arma.- Sarebbero stati tagliati fili telegrafici e popolazione sarebbero impossessata chiavi magazzini ammasso grano. inviati sul posto Funzionario sicurezza e comandante compagnia RR.CC. Mistretta con rinforzo Carabinieri e Agenti. Riservomi notizie det= tagliate".

- Capitano CC.RR. di Mistretta telegrafa: "Ore 9 ieri 24 dicembre in Ca= pizzi (Messina) circa 800 persone radunavansi improvvisamente d'avvan= ti quella Caserma Arma con violenza riuscivano ad ottenere liberazio= ne detenuto arrestato giorno prima per diserzione".

REGGIO CAL. - Nella notte sul 22 corrente in Bovalino sono stati affissi manoscritti incitanti i giovani a respingere le cartoline precetto e a rifiutarsi di combattere, non conoscendo finora le condizioni di armistizio.

CATANISSETTA - Il 20 corrente nell'abitato di Sutera sono apparse iscriz= zioni murali del seguente tenore: "Siciliani alla macchia per chi combattere? - abbasso la guerra".

Lo stesso giorno nel comune di Mussomeli sono apparse iscrizioni mu= rali del seguente tenore: "Viva il Duce - Luce vi aspettiamo - Viva il fascismo". In qualche mura è stata anche disegnata la croce unci= nata.

IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

1333

giovani



RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 421/16 di prot. Ris. Pers.

Roma, li 22 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Sicilia - Dimostrazioni contro il richiamo alle armi.-

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA - Sottocommissione per la P.S.

ROMACastellammare del Golfo (Napoli) - 17 dicembre 1944

Ignoti affissero dei manifestini incitanti i giovani richiamati a non presentarsi.-

Alle ore 10, dello stesso giorno, diverse centinaia di persone, in maggioranza studenti ed operai, percorsero le vie principali del paese recando dei cartelloni con le seguenti scritte: "Non siamo pecore - Non siamo carne da macello - Non vogliamo combattere - Abbasso la chiamata alle armi".-

La dimostrazione ebbe termine con un discorso tenuto dallo studente NICOLO' Vincenzo contro la Monarchia e contro il richiamo alle armi.-

Nessun incidente.-

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Poggio Reale (Trapani) - 17 dicembre 1944

Ignoti in segno di protesta contro il richiamo alle armi esplosero, senza conseguenze, circa 50 bombe a mano ed affisero dei manifestini incitanti i giovani a non presentarsi.-

Tortorice (Messina) - 17 dicembre 1944

Circa 100 persone percorsero le vie del paese gridando parole ostili all'indirizzo del Governo Italiano e degli Alleati e contro il richiamo alle armi.-

L'Arma, prontamente intervenuta, sciolse, senza incidenti, i dimostranti.-

Sono in corso accertamenti per la identificazione e l'arresto dei responsabili.-

Alessandro della Rocca (Agrigento) - 13 dicembre 1944

Ignoti affisero due manifestini, scritti a mano esortanti i giovani a non presentarsi alla chiamata alle armi consigliandoli ad arruolarsi nella banda del noto criminale "Giuliani".-

Belle (Caltanissetta) - 13 dicembre 1944

Sconosciuti affisero due manifestini scritti a matita così concepiti: ""Non presentatevi - Gli alleati vogliono la vostra pelle e le vostre madri sono stanche di piangere.- Disertate - La Banda Nera - Gioventù nessuno si presenti alla chiamata - Gli americani ci vogliono mandare a combattere contro i nostri fratelli - Non presentatevi"".-

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S. Lucia del Mela (Messina) - 15 dicembre 1944

Ignoti affissero 4 manifestini scritti a mano così concepiti: ""Militari non vi presentate - Abbasso la Monarchia - Chi si presenta è traditore della Patria - Viva Mussolini - Non presentatevi alla chiamata - Chi si presenta è un traditore"".-

S. Filippo del Mela (Messina) - 14 dicembre 1944

Conoscciuti scrissero, con colore liquido, le seguenti frasi: ""Militari non vi presentate - Militari non fate i mercenari - Non vi presentate al richiamo"".-

Collesano e Infella (Palermo) - 16 dicembre 1944

Furono rinvenuti dei manifestini incitanti i giovani a non presentarsi alla chiamata alle armi.-

Calatafimi (Trapani) - 17 dicembre 1944

Da ignoti furono scritte delle frasi inneggianti l'ex duce ed affissi alcuni manifestini incitanti i giovani a non presentarsi.-

Geyda (Palermo) - 19 dicembre 1944

Ignoti affissero una fotografia di Mussolini ed un manifesto scritto a mano contro il richiamo alle armi incitando

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i giovani a non presentarsi.-

Falerno - 19 dicembre 1944

L'Arma rinvenne un manifestino dattilografato così concepito: ""Partito repubblicano fascista gruppo B.M. - Fratelli ... l'Italia repubblicana si accinge a produrre il suo sforzo per venire a liberare - Aiutiamoli ... con tutte le nostre forze - Contribuiremo ad accelerare la fine della nostra schiavitù e riscatteremo il nostro spavento passato - Giovani non presentatevi"".-

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
- Taddeo Orlando -

Taddeo Orlando



RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 421/15 di prot. R.P.

Roma, li 21 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Sicilia - Dimostrazioni.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

- Sottocommissione per la P.S. -

R O M A

In Sicilia si sono svolte le seguenti manifestazioni ostili al recente richiamo alle armi.

S. Cataldo (Caltanissetta) - 17-12-1944

Circa un migliaio di persone improvvisarono una dimostrazione di protesta per il recente richiamo alle armi.

L'Arma, prontamente intervenuta, sciolse, senza incidenti, i dimostranti.

Termini Imerese (Palermo) - 18-12-1944

Circa 3.000 persone fra studenti ed operai improvvisarono una dimostrazione di protesta contro il richiamo alle armi.

L'Arma, prontamente intervenuta, in collaborazione con la P.S., sciolse i dimostranti, senza incidenti.

./...

Brolo (Messina) - 18-12-1944

Circa 100 persone, alcune delle quali provviste di bombe a mano, fecero discendere da un autocarro militare, proveniente da Palermo, 25 giovani richiamati alle armi. Indi imposero il ritorno a Messina di altro autocarro, diretto a Capo d'Orlando (Messina) per rilevare richiamati.

L'Arma ha iniziato indagini per l'identificazione e l'arresto dei responsabili.

Camporeale (Trapani) - 18-12-1944

Circa 300 persone percorsero le vie del paese recando cartelli con scritte incitanti a non presentarsi alle armi.

Nessun incidente.

IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
- Taddeo Orlando -

RISERVATO PERSONALE

Comando Generale dell'Arma dei Carabinieri Reali

UFFICIO SERVIZIO - SITUAZIONE E COLLEGAMENTI

N. 46/26 di prot. R.P.

Roma, li 21 dicembre 1944

Risposta al

del

n.

Allegati n.

OGGETTO: Riesi (Galtanissetta) - Dimostrazione.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

Sottocommissione per la P.S. -

R O M A

In Riesi (Galtanissetta), il 15 corrente, circa 50 giovani comunisti, dei quali molti armati di randello, percorsero le vie del paese al grido di "Abbasso la monarchia, si farà la rivoluzione".

Poiché la sera successiva gli stessi elementi improvvisarono altra dimostrazione, l'Arma invitò in caserma il promotore di esse, CATANIA Giuseppe, per affidarlo; ne derivò viva reazione da parte dei suoi compagni. Il Catania fu però fatto uscire dalla caserma dopo che i dimostranti si sciolsero, senza incidenti.

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IL GENERALE DI CORPO D'ARMATA
COMANDANTE GENERALE
- Taddeo Orlando -



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Ministero dell'Interno

DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA P.S. - DIVISIONE A.G.R.

N. 442/I7001

Roma, 23 dicembre 1944

URGENTE

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER LA P.S.

ROMA

Nelle decorse 24 ore sono qui giunte le seguenti segnalazioni di rilievo:

SIRACUSA - Nella sera del 21 volgente arrivava in quello scalo ferroviario la bandiera assegnata dal Ministero della Guerra al 145° Fanteria di stanza in quella città. La bandiera, rilevata alle ore 16 del giorno successivo da una compagnia d'onore, veniva portata alla Caserma Benito Mussolini accompagnata dalla musica militare e da corteo delle Autorità civili e militari e locale Tow Major, vari ufficiali in congedo, componenti del locale Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale, esponenti dei vari partiti politici, nonché rappresentanze dei reparti armati. Il pubblico, sostante lungo il percorso, si scopriva deferentemente al passaggio della bandiera che veniva applaudita all'ingresso della caserma. Nessun incidente turbava la riuscita cerimonia che riveste speciale importanza dato l'attuale particolare momento.

LECCE - Il 22 volgente, nella sala Dante, gli impiegati degli Enti pubblici si adunavano in assemblea. Presa visione dell'ordine del giorno votato da magistrati e funzionari cancellerie e segreterie (giustizia) di Bari e Lecce, aderivano ai voti espressi in detto ordine e stabilivano di indire una riunione plenaria degli impiegati per il giorno 8 gennaio, nella stessa Sala Dante, per decidere sulle misure da adottare per l'estensione collettiva del lavoro se nel frattempo non dovesse

URGENTE

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER LA P.S.

ROMA

SIRACUSA - Nella sera del 21 volgente arrivava in quello scalo ferroviario la bandiera assegnata dal ministero della Guerra al I45° Fanteria di stanza in quella città. La bandiera, rilevata alle ore 16 del giorno successivo da una compagnia d'onore, veniva portata alla Caserma Be-la accompagnata dalla musica militare e da corteo delle Autorità civili e militari e locale Tow Major, vari ufficiali in congedo, componenti del locale Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale, esponenti dei vari partiti politici, nonché rappresentanze dei reparti armati. Il pubblico, sostate lungo il percorso, si scopriva deferentemente al passaggio della bandiera che veniva applaudita all'ingresso della caserma. Nessun incidente turbava la riuscita cerimonia che riveste speciale importanza dato l'attuale particolare momento.

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L'agitazione fra gli impiegati, per la loro critica situazione economica è vivissima in quanto i recenti miglioramenti non hanno apportato

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to alcun sensibile beneficio di fronte al sempre crescente rincaro del costo della vita, per cui non è da escludersi che il proposito di sospendere il lavoro possa tradursi in atto.

IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

Garner

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