

ACC

10000/143/1504

REGION
JULY -

10000/143/1504

REGIONAL DIRECTORATE, P.S. SICILY
JULY-DEC. 1944

Translation.

13 September 1944.

Subject : Criminality in Sicily - its increase & causes.
The P.S. Regional HQ. - Proposals.

To : H.E. Chief of Police and for information
To : A.C.C. Public Safety Sub-Commission - Rome.

The Sicilian criminality has always called the attention of the Governments for its special character. Exceptional provisions were often needed, as for instance in the first years of Fascism, when Mori was Prefect.

We also mention the special organisations directed by the same Mori at the beginning of this century and then by General Inspector Battioni and more recently by Comm. Gueli. But even when there were no special organisations, the Questori of the Island always had at their disposal exceptional means to fight local criminality.

This problem is connected with other minor ones; therefore the principal problem must be solved, before all.

In the years 1939-1940 P.S. conditions in Sicily appeared better, so that the Ministry of Interior deemed it possible to suppress the R. Inspectorate (then directed by Comm. Gueli) and also to abrogate the exceptional law of 1926.

But, the Island, becoming war territory, favoured the conditions for the increase of criminality.

This situation was caused by bombing and consequent evacuations, even among the Police, unemployment of all activities, lack of transportation means and among sulphur-workers, escape of many civil prisoners. The collapse of the Army and the consequent abandon of great quantities of weapons, rendered everything more serious. When I was Questore at Palermo, in June 1943, I informed the Ministry about the matter in question.

Said situation, though serious, is not as bad as that, which occurred after the last war and can be settled in a short time, if energetic measures are taken. The well organised gangs are few and excepting the arms of which they dispose, they do not represent a solid and large organisation. Some have already been dissolved.

At present the most dangerous are the one headed by a certain Russo Giuseppe operating in the neighbourhoods of the Catania and Enna Provinces, the one headed by a certain Giuliano, operating in the Palermo Province (particularly in the Partinico zone) and a third operating always in this last Province. This one was headed by the brothers Ignazio and Giuseppe Ciambra, killed in a conflict with the Public Force in July 1944.

Statistics given to me by the Regional P.S. Director, Dr. Medica, prospects of which I herewith attach (quarterly for the period August-October 1943, and monthly

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Statistics given to me by the Regional P.S. Director, Dr. Modica, prospects of which I herewith attach (quarterly for the period August-October 1943, and monthly for the following period up to July 1944), deserve special attention.

Referring to the crimes that mostly strike the public opinion, and to those most characteristic of the Island, I find that during the year August 1943 - July 1944, 252 murders were committed; 12% of which for robbery; also committed were: 1748 robberies, 9390 aggravated thefts, 8104 simple ones, 370 cattle-stealings, 74 extorsions and 13 sequestrations of persons. The Trepani Province comes first in the robberies list, with 456, next Palermo with 441.

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All the crimes, which had at times increased and diminished, have augmented again in July and August because P.S. Forces, during these months, had been employed for requisitioning of wheat.

The activities of the Police should have been greater - nothing appears on the statistics until January 1944. In this month they detected 14 murders out of 32, 27 robberies out of 162, 3 extorsions out of 8, 1 cattle-stealing out of 35, 80 aggravated thefts out of 326, 130 simple thefts out of 465. The only sequestration of person carried out in the Province of Agrigento, still remains a mystery.

In February they discovered 12 murders out of 31, 32 thefts out of 167, 3 extorsions out of 7, 4 cattle-thefts out of 35, 167 aggravated thefts out of 500, 194 simple ones out of 707. This time too, the only sequestration of person performed in the Agrigento Province remains unsolved.

In March they discovered 12 murders out of 34; 48 robberies out of 166; 4 extorsions out of 15; 5 cattle-thefts out of 30; 236 aggravated thefts out of 721; 249 simple ones out of 910. In March no sequestration of person was carried out.

In April they discovered 17 murders out of 36; 40 robberies out of 172; 5 extorsions out of 11; 4 cattle-thefts out of 55; 305 aggravated thefts out of 779; 211 simple ones out of 734 and 3 sequestrations of person out of one, committed always in the Agrigento Province.

In May: 17 murders out of 38; 39 robberies out of 155; 2 extorsions out of 4; 4 cattle-thefts out of 27; 345 aggravated thefts out of 851; 363 simple ones out of 929. Two sequestrations of persons denounced in the Agrigento Province, have not been discovered.

In June: 16 murders out of 32; 24 robberies out of 111; 1 extorsion out of 2; 3 cattle-thefts out of 38; 165 aggravated thefts out of 506; 202 simple ones out of 902.

In this month no sequestrations of person were performed. In July, though an increase was noticed in almost all crimes and especially in thefts (which since the war have augmented enormously), while other crimes have remained more or less stationary, the Police Forces have no success in the discovery of the above crimes. They have however detected 13 criminal associations, 7 of which in the Palermo Province, 4 in that of Trapani, 2 in the Catania and 2 in the Messina one and 1 in each of the three Provinces of Agrigento, Siracusa and Ragusa.

Other 110 criminal associations have been denounced between December 1943 and July 1944. In the same period, there have been about 50 skirmishes, in which 11 criminals and 1 P.S. Agent were killed.

In August, though we have yet no statistics, we believe all crimes to be increased, especially thefts. The repressive action of the Police Forces appears less efficacious. Some actions, however, from which we expect good results, are at present in course.

To summarise: in one year, August 1943 - August 1944, 88 murders were discovered out of 352; 211 robberies out

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To summarise: in one year, August 1943 - August 1944, 88 murders were discovered out of 352; 211 robberies out of 1748; 21 cattle stealings out of 370; 18 extorsions out of 74; 3 sequestrations of person out of 13; 1265 aggravated thefts out of 9390 and 1350 simple ones out of 8104. Moreover 112 criminal associations, comprising about 1,000 members, were denounced. Above operations have mostly been carried out by local units (Questure and CQ.PP. Commands) and in part by interprovincial offices which, during the month of May, had only discovered 7 thefts.

As I have already pointed out, this Police activity is still far from being sufficient.

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How the Regional P.S. HQ. was formed

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When Sicily had been occupied by Allied Forces and when the first confusions and esitations were over, the bad P.S. conditions which had already preoccupied the Questori, were notified to the Allied Authorities and more especially to Col. Poletti. They immediately gave their attention to the problem, and, through Lt. Col. SNOOK, chief of the regional Police, all the Questori of the Island were called to Palermo, in September 1943. At this meeting, Lt. Col. Snook being present, they formed a Commission which should have studied provisions necessary to face the situation. This Commission was formed by the Palermo Questore Garbo, by the Siracusa Questore Guggino, by the director of the Messina Questura Giammarco, by the Questore of Caltanissetta Reina and by the Ragusa Questore D'Elia.

The P.S. Commissario Capo Dr. Vittorio Modica, then chief of the Cabinet of the Palermo Questore, was appointed secretary of said Commission. He is an intelligent official, well educated, with good professional qualities, but very ambitious and presumptuous. In his quality as secretary of the above Commission, he was frequently in contact with Col. Poletti and Lt. Col. Snook, and succeeded in gaining in a short time their sympathy.

When, on the 6/10 Questore Garbo, who had till then, been specially in contact with the two American officers, had to go to Reggio Calabria for private businesses, Modica was left alone and so he was in still closer relations with the Allied Authorities.

On the 16th of October, when Garbo had returned, the second and last meeting of the Questori was decided. During this meeting Modica submitted to the persons present, the regulation prepared for the institution of the P.S. Regional HQ. But this regulation did not meet general approval and especially the Questore Garbo was against it; but in spite of this, on the 9/11/1943 the decree, instituting the P.S. Regional HQ. of Sicily was published. At the same time the promotion of Dr. Modica (V Grade) from commissario capo to 1st class General Inspector was announced, so he received at once three promotions, a fact which had never occurred before.

I am pointing out, that Modica, though having brought no original ideas in a/m decree, deserves to be praised for the actions he took in that particular moment. At least, though with limited means, some services to fight the delinquency could start and show the population, that Authorities were watchful.

But he, having succeeded, in opposition with all rules of the Italian Administration, to receive powers superior to all local Authorities, gave immediately up this duty. He transferred to the Questori the responsibility and the management of the services of repression of delinquency, the 13 Interprovincial

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But he, having succeeded, in opposition with all rules of the Italian Administration, to receive powers superior to all local Authorities, gave immediately up this duty. He transferred to the Questori the responsibility and the management of the services of repression of delinquency, placing under their direct dependence the 13 Interprovincial offices (ex sections), constituted for this purpose. He kept for himself, and for all the other Police activities, the control and the superior direction.

He took to himself other powers as P.S. Regional Director, in fact he claimed to have authority of putting people on the retired list, of promoting them, of transferring P.S. officials and agents, of publishing competitions, of deciding enlistments and of assuming employees, assigning them salaries, which do not appear on the State's list.

He also called two questori, both his superiors, putting them under him and giving them the qualification of General Inspectors; up till then only Ministries could dispose of those officials.

State this, it appears evident, that this Regional P.S. HQ. for Sicily, which replaced the General HQ. would immediately meet the dislike of the saner and better part of the Islanders, who see in that organization an experiment and, perhaps, even the prelude of separatism. It also meets the dislike of the Prefect's, who though being by laws in force, P.S. chiefs of the Province, are excluded, if not even submitted; of the CC.AA., who do not tolerate such a severe dependence; of the questori, who though being personally responsible of the services, are obliged to give an account of their doings and to receive orders and even instructions from an official, who ^{up} to yesterday at their dependence, cannot have the prestige and the necessary authority for such a high position.

Modica immediately understood this and tried to put at the head of the questura of the Island, officials, who had an inferior grade, compared to his own, or at least the same. So it happened, that the direction of the Agrigento questura has been given to a commissario aggiunto, also deaf; that of Enna to a commissario; the important one of Catania to a commissario capo and the direction of the Trapani questura to a commissario capo, promoted by Modica to Vice Questore. It even happened, that the director of the Enna questura, refused to consign the office to the questore there assigned by the Ministry.

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Conclusion - proposals

Concluding : the criminal manifestations in Sicily present, to-day, serious symptoms of increase and must therefore be adequately faced. The most alarming crime, also because the most frequent, is robbery. In one year there have been 1748 cases, next comes cattle-stealing, in number of 370; extorsions in number of 74, sequestration of persons in number of 13; thefts between aggravated and simple ones pass the number of 17.000. These last are not much higher, than in pre-war statistics. Instead, the quality and quantity of arms, of which the gangsters dispose, cause great trouble.

13 interprovincial offices, corresponding to the ex-sections have been constituted. The same offices, existing in the Gueli period, are directed by a P.S. official and dispose of 30 men, between agents and carabinieri. They are the following: Corleone and Partinico, in the Palermo Province; Canicattì and Sciacca in the Agrigento Province; Riesi and Mussomeli, in the Caltanissetta Province; Paternò in the Catania Province; Mistretta in the Messina Province; Leonforte in the Enna Province; Palazzolo Acreide in the Siracusa Province; Vittoria in the Ragusa Province.

Every interprovincial office must have at its disposal at least one small car and one truck. At present almost all have these means, but generally they are not in efficiency and lack especially of tires and tubes. Every office should possess six horses, (or, Modica asks for ten), two motorcycles

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Every interprovincial office must have at its disposal at least one small car and one truck. At present almost all have these means, but generally they are not in efficiency and lack especially of tires and tubes. Every office should possess six horses, (Mr. Modica asks for ten), two motorcycles and six bicycles. An adequate number of machine guns (at least 20) with relative ammunition is needed, in view of the fact, that the criminals are armed with guns, hand-grenades, and, it is said, even with machine-guns. Also sheets are necessary (about 200), blankets (about 400), mattress-cases (about 400) and above all, hundreds of pairs of shoes are urgently requested.

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Vehicles and especially tires and tubes must be asked from the Allies.

The a/m interprovincial offices, if well equipped, seem to my opinion, sufficient. But in the Palermo Province, it would be advisable, to institute a third office, in view of the vastity of this area. It would be also advisable to institute sections in those localities, where the criminality is mostly operating. But an exceptional law, like that of July 1926, would bring quicker and more tangible results.

I deem sufficient and even useful, that the a/m interprovincial offices remain at the direct dependence of the respective questores, as is the case, at present, under decree instituted by the Regional HQ. Interferences, waste of time and eventual contrasts would be avoided and the services would so gain in rapidity.

For a/mureesons, the so-called Regional P.S.HQ., should be immediately demobilised.

Simplifying this institution, dr. Modica and the 2 questori, Molina and Giannone, could be restored to the direction of some of the vacant questore. Also other officials could be employed otherwise. Modica himself recognises, that the Regional Administration, which he had deemed necessary, when the Ministry could not directly provide, is now a useless institution.

I propose that the matter of allowances ^{to be} assigned to the personnel of Regional and Interprovincial offices, be benevolently examined.

The High Commissioner would like to have a liaison official at his disposal. For this position dr. Modica is especially recommended by Lt. Col. Snook.

I am of the opinion, that a recompense may be given to Modica, whose work deserves consideration. Modica is also appreciated by Allied Authorities.

Respectfully

P.S. General Inspector

Sgt. Lantaffi

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MINUTE.

Director of Public Security.

The Ministry of the Interior proposed to establish the Regional HQ of Public Security in Sicily, established by A.M.G., and revert to direct control of the Quattro by the Ministry.

The Regional Public Safety Officer, Sicily, was strongly in favour of retaining the Regional HQ with Dr. Modica in charge.

Accordingly the Ministry dispatched an Inspector to examine the position in Sicily. His report is at 6 A.

Since the responsibility rests with the Ministry of the Interior I do not feel that we should oppose them, as long as an Italian Public Security Liaison official is kept at the HQ of the High Commissioner.

Col. Snick, who has read this report suggests that a copy might be sent to him to enable him to discuss it with his Regional Commissioner.

26th September 1944.

Lt. Col. A.E. Wilcox,
Public Safety.

Approved

Regional Order creating Regional HQ of Public Security (Italian) because ineffective when territory was handed over to Italian Govt. Prepare letter advising the above and agreeing that if Ministry of Interior desire to establish the agency it is O.K.

W. J. A.

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Accordingly the Ministry dispatched an Inspector to examine the position in Sicily. His report is at 6 A.

Since the responsibility rests with the Ministry of the Interior I do not feel that we should oppose them, as long as an Italian Public Security Minister official is kept at the HQ of the High Commissioner.

Col. Snook, who has read this report suggests that a copy might be sent to him to enable him to discuss it with his Regional Commissioner.

by 12/20/

25th September, 1944.

Lt. Col. A. V. Wilcox,
Public Safety.

*Regional Order creating Regional HQ of Public Security
(Italian) because ineffective when Ministry was headed
by a man to Italian Govt.
Papene better advising the Govt and agreeing
that if Ministry of Public Security is abolished the
agony of the Govt*

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ALLIED COMMISSION

SICILIA REGION HEADQUARTERS

APO. 394

(PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION)

FILE NO: RPS/42/RAS

DATE December 14th, 1944.

SUBJECT: Inspectorate General Public Security.

TO: Allied Commission, Headquarters.
 For the attention of,-
 Public Safety Sub-Commission.

1. I desire to confirm what Dr. MODICA, Inspector General of P.S. for Sicily, states in the letter to the Ministry of Interior (copy of which is attached.)
2. The Regional Directorate of P.S., established by AMG, played an important part in the preservation of law and order during the period of its existence, and the services of such an organization are still necessary in combatting the crime problem in Sicily.
3. The Directorate in the form of an Inspectorate is now recognized and Dr. MODICA as Inspector General has been appointed to head this service.

In order that the prestige of this service may be maintained, and for the purpose of giving some recompense to the said functionary for the work he has done in the interests of the Allies and of the Italian Government, it seems that Dr. MODICA's request should be given due consideration.

For the Regional Commissioner.

Russell A. SNOOK,
 Lt. Colonel,
 Regional Public Safety Officer.

WB The Ministry of
 the Interior is dealing
 with this matter which is
 entirely within his jurisdiction
 Enclosure as above.

21 Dec 1944

Please initial reverse side.

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Translation RV.

(c)

To : Ministry of Interior
P.S. General Hqs.

R o m e .

The Ministry by telegraphic order has suppressed, beginning from 1st Dec., the Regional P.S. Hq. for Sicily, entrusting the undersigned with the squadron service, with functions as P.S. General Inspector.

In this regard, independently to the provision re the suppression of the P.S. Regional Hq., to which the undersigned has no objection to make, he allows himself to point out, that having been appointed by A.M.G. 1st class General Inspector (V grade) and this in order to meet during the period of the occupation of the Island, the serious and exceptional situation of the Police, caused by war reasons, he deems to be entitled to the acknowledgement of the grade by the Italian Government under the art. I. of R.D.L. dated 11/12/1944, n. 31, containing provisions on the juridical regime of the liberated territories, being his a real and proper appointment (besides the appointment for an Office of new formation and of a grade not inferior to that of 1st class Questore V grade).

In fact, the provisions referring to his case are three.-

By the first, n. 20, issued on 9/11/43, by the Chief of the Civil Affairs for Sicily, orders were given for the institution of an office - P.S. Regional Director - as chief of the service for the whole Island.

By the 2nd, n. 21, even issued on 9/11/43, the undersigned was discharged from his task as chief of Cabinet of the Palermo questura and appointed P.S. Regional Director.

By the 3rd, n. 66, issued on 23/12/43, the undersigned was promoted to the V grade of the Italian administrative gerarchia with the title of P.S. General Inspector and was confirmed in the appointment of P.S. Regional Director.

Therefore, the intentions of A.M.G. appear evident. With the promotion to the V grade, it was intended to regulate the position of, career of the official, in accordance with the importance of the task and the serious and delicate responsibilities connected with it. And if it is considered, that the provision in question was issued more than one month after those re the appointment as Regional Director, it is to be thought, that the promotion was the consequence of capacity shown in the performance of his duties.

If he, with the suppression of the P.S. Regional Hq. for Sicily, has no longer the appointment as Regional Director,

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an appointment, which could be considered a merely temporary one, as such does not exist in the Italian Administration, he could and should continue in the appointment as General Inspector of V grade. Therefore, he cannot be returned to his previous grade, as under a/m D.L., the Italian Government has pledged itself to respect, besides others, the appointments to Public Offices, made by the Allies.

But there are also other considerations of not less importance.

There is no doubt, that the undersigned has shown capacity adequate to the position, to which the war events have brought him and this is proved on the one hand by the appreciation of the Allies and on the other hand by that of the Ministry, which during one year of service had never objections to make and now has recognised his position, entrusting him with the functions of General Inspector.

The difficult circumstances, which he had to meet with, should give him the right to a special consideration by the Government. He had been able to maintain the prestige of the Police, during a period, in which every other authority had ceased to exist.

Therefore, his case cannot be confused with others, which have occurred during the occupation.

It is really a special case, which among others, has some precedences in our legislation. The case of the appointment of Battioni in 1917 is cited, in variation to the common rules. Then, as now, the question was to appoint to an Office of new formation an official, who had the necessary qualities for the new Office. Also under this point of view, the provision of A.M.G. does not appear censurable.

It is hoped, that the Ministry, in examining the case, will recognise the above stated considerations and adopt a provision according to equity and Justice.

Respectfully

Palermo, 11 December 1944.

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On/le Ministero dell'Interno
Direzione Generale della Pubblica Sicurezza

R O M A

Codesto Ministero con disposizione telegrafica, ha soppressa a decorrere da 1 dicembre, la Direzione Regionale di P.S. per la Sicilia, affidando al sottoscritto, con le funzioni di Ispettore Generale di P.S., il servizio delle squadriglie.

A tal proposito il sottoscritto si permette di osservare, indipendentemente dal disposto provvedimento della soppressione della Direzione Regionale di P.S. sul che non ha nulla da eccepire che, essendo egli stato nominato al grado di Ispettore Generale di P.S. di 1 classe (grado V) dal Governo Militare Alleato, durante il periodo dell'occupazione dell'Isola per la urgente necessita' di fronteggiare la grave ed eccezionale situazione in cui si era venuta a trovare la Polizia a causa dello stato di guerra, ritiene di avere titolo al riconoscimento del grado da parte del Governo Italiano in forza dell'articolo I del R.D.L. 11/2/1944, no. 31, contenente provvedimenti sul regime giuridico dei territori liberati, essendo la sua una vera e propria nomina (oltre l'incarico per un Ufficio di nuova istituzione e di rango non inferiore a quello di Questore di 1 classe (grado V).

Infatti i provvedimenti che attengono al suo caso sono tre,-

Col primo, emesso il 9 Novembre 1943, no. 20 dal Capo degli Affari Civili della Sicilia, si ordinava la istituzione di un Ufficio di Direttore Regionale di P.S. a capo del servizio di tutta l'Isola.

Col secondo, emesso pure in data 9 Novembre 1943, No. 21, il sottoscritto veniva dispensato dall'Ufficio di Capo di Gabinetto della Questura di Palermo e nominato Direttore Regionale di P.S.

Col terzo, emesso il 23 Dicembre 1943, No. 66, il sottoscritto veniva nominato al grado V della gerarchia amministrativa italiana col titolo di Ispettore Generale di P.S. e confermato nella carica di Direttore Regionale di P.S.

Le intenzioni del Governo Militare Alleato, pertanto, risultano evidenti; si e' voluto con la nomina al grado quinto regolarizzare la posizione di carriera del funzionario in rapporto all'importanza dell'Ufficio ed alle connesse gravi e delicate responsabilita'. E se si tiene presente che il provvedimento di che trattasi e' posteriore di oltre un mese a quelle dell'incarico di Direttore Regionale, e' lecito presumere che esso fu conseguenza dell'ottima prova data fin dall'inizio nella direzione dell'importante Ufficio, cui era stato preposto.

A tal proposito il sottoscritto si permette di osservare, indipendentemente dal disposto provvedimento della soppressione della Direzione Regionale di P.S. sul che non ha nulla da eccepire che, essendo egli stato nominato al grado di Ispettore Generale di P.S. di 1 classe (grado V) del Governo Militare Alleato, durante il periodo dell'occupazione dell'Isola per la urgente necessita' di fronteggiare la grave ed eccezionale situazione in cui si era venuta a trovare la Polizia a causa dello stato di guerra, ritiene di avere titolo al riconoscimento del grado da parte del Governo Italiano in forza dell'articolo I del R.D.L. 11/2/1944, no. 31, contenente provvedimenti sul regime giuridico dei territori liberati, essendo la sua una vera e propria nomina (oltre l'incarico per un Ufficio di nuova istituzione e di rango non inferiore a quello di Questore di 1 classe (grado V)).

Infatti i provvedimenti che attengono al suo caso sono tre,--

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Le intenzioni del Governo Militare Alleato, pertanto, risultano evidenti; si e' voluto con la nomina al grado quinto regolarizzare la posizione di carriera del funzionario in rapporto all'importanza dell'Ufficio ed alle connesse gravi e delicate responsabilita'. E se si tiene presente che il provvedimento di che trattasi e' posteriore di oltre un mese a quelle dell'incarico di Direttore Regionale, e' lecito presumere che esso fu conseguenza dell'ottima prova data fin dall'inizio nella direzione dell'importante Ufficio, cui era stato preposto.

Ora se egli con la soppressione della Direzione Regionale di P.S. della Sicilia deve cessare dall'incarico di Direttore Regionale, incarico che potrebbe anche considerarsi meramente temporaneo per la mancanza di altro istituto analogo nell'ordinamento amministrativo italiano, poteva e doveva rimanere nella nomina di Ispettore Generale di grado V e quindi non puo' egli legittimamente essere restituito al grado che aveva prima dell'incarico in parola, in quanto col D.L. di cui sopra il Governo Italiano si e' impegnato di rispettare, fra l'altro, le nomine a pubblici Uffici fatti dagli Alleati.

- 2 -

Ma vi sono anche considerazioni di altro ordine, che assumono importanza non secondaria per una serena valutazione del caso.

Non v'e' dubbio che il sottoscritto ha rivelato doti di capacita' adeguate al posto cui le vicende della guerra lo hanno spinto e ne fanno fede da un lato il concreto apprezzamento degli Alleati, dall'altro quello implicito del Ministero che, mentre in un anno di servizio non ha avuto mai nulla da obiettare, oggi gli ha riconosciuto la identita', affidandogli le funzioni di Ispettore Generale.

Le difficili circostanze in cui egli si e' venuto a trovare e in cui erano messe a dura prova, il carattere, la preparazione e l'abilita' del funzionario, di per se' sole dovrebbero diritto ad una speciale considerazione da parte del Governo, avendo egli, senza che lo si tacci di presunzione, saputo mantenere, con mano sicura, alto il prestigio della Polizia, nel momento stesso in cui ogni altra autorita' cessava di esistere.

Il suo caso, quindi, non puo' quindi confondersi con quegli altri che possono eventualmente essersi verificati durante l'occupazione.

E' un caso veramente eccezionale, se non unico, e che fra l'altro ha qualche precedente nella nostra legislazione; valga per tutti la nomina di Battioni avvenuta nel 1917 in deroga alle norme comuni. Allora, come ora, si tratto' di nominare per un ufficio di nuova istituzione un funzionario che avesse le qualita' necessarie per il nuovo Ufficio. Anche sotto questo aspetto quindi il provvedimento del Governo Militare Alleato non appare censurabile.

Si ha fiducia che il Ministero, riprendendo in esame il caso riconosca giuste le suesposte considerazioni ed adotti un provvedimento di equita' e di giustizia.

Con osservanza

Palermo, li 11 dicembre 1944

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vizio non ha avuto mai nulla da obiettare, oggi gli ha riconosciuto la identità', affidandogli le funzioni di Ispettore Generale.

Le difficili circostanze in cui egli si è venuto a trovare e in cui erano messe a dura prova, il carattere, la preparazione e l'abilità' del funzionario, di per sé' sole darebbero diritto ad una speciale considerazione da parte del Governo, avendo egli, senza che lo si tacci di presunzione, saputo mantenere, con mano sicura, alto il prestigio della Polizia, nel momento stesso in cui ogni altra autorità' cessava di esistere.

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Si ha fiducia che il Ministero, riprendendo in esame il caso riconosca giuste le sueposte considerazioni ed adotti un provvedimento di equità' e di giustizia.

Con osservanza

Palermo, li 11 dicembre 1944

Translation RV.

MINISTRY OF (TERIOR
P.S. Gen.RQ.5 December 44
N. 333/9025-1

Answer letter AC/14613/14 dated 4 November 44

Subject : P.S. condition in Sicily.

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

Following ministerial letter dated 2 Nov. 44, we inform that the Sicily questures, in agreement with the High Commissioner for Sicily, will be settled as follows:

Palermo - questore Sessa Anselmo, already on duty;
Catania - " Buscemi Francesco;
Messina - " D'Elia Vito, already on duty;
Siracusa - Vice" Consoli Giovanni, director, already on duty;
Trapani - " " Giammorcaro Felice, director;
Caltanissetta - questore Reina Salvatore, already on duty;
Agrigento - questore Leonardi Michele;
Ragusa - commissario capo Giuffrè Francesco, director;
Enna - v.questore Cimarelli Oreste, director.

The new directors of the various questures will take service within the 20th inst.

Police Chief
Ferrari

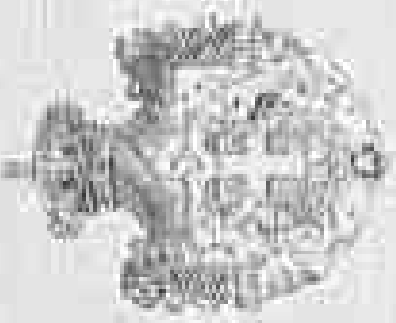
*See also
14613/3
Dossier for the North*

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fm.



Ministero dell'Interno

DIREZIONE GENERALE
DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

5 dicembre 1944

la Commissione Alleata
Sottocommissione per la Pubbli-
ca Sicurezza

R O M A

Divisione Person. *Lu. I**

Prot. N. 333/9025-I. Alloggi

Proposta al Capo del 4 novembre u.s.c.
*Dir. *Lu.* AC/T4613/T4 P.S.*

OGGETTO *Situa*zione p.s. in Sicilia.

A seguito della ministeriale 2 novembre 1944, si comunica che le que-
sture della Sicilia vengono, d'intesa con l'Alto Commissariato per la Si-
cilia, così sistemate:

Palermo - questore Sessa Anselmo, già sul posto;

Catania - questore Buscemi Francesco;

Messina - questore D'Elia Vito, già sul posto;

Siracusa - vice-questore Consoli Giovanni, reggente, già sul posto;

Trapani - vice-questore Giammorcato Felice, reggente;

Caltanissetta - questore Reine Salvatore; già sul posto.

Agrigento - questore Leonardi Michele;

Ragusa - commissario capo Giuffrè Francesco, reggente;

Enna - vice-questore Cimarelli Oreste, reggente;

I nuovi dirigenti le varie questure assumeranno servizio entro il 20
corrente.

IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

Translation RV.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
P.S. Gen. HQ.

Cola *HLA*
20 November 1944
N.333

Subject : Suppression of the P.S. Reg.HQ. for Sicily.
To : A.C. Public Safety Sub-Commission - Rome.

With reference to previous correspondence, we communicate that with to-day's provision the P.S. Reg.HQ. for Sicily has been suppressed.

The service of squads, instead, continues its functioning under the direct dependence of the High Commissioner. Commissario Capo Vittorio MODICA will perform duties as General Inspector.

For the Minister
Ferrari

[Signature]

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Transdate 23/11
Mod. 512
Roma 20 novembre 1944

Ministero dell'Interno
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

AL LA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE
DI P.S.
COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
ROMA

Direzione Person. Tar 1

Prot. N° 333. Allegato

Registrazione del
Dir. Tar N°

OGGETTO Soppressione Direzione Regionale P.S.
per la Sicilia.

Con riferimento alla intercorsa corrispondenza, si comunica che con provvedimento odierno è stata soppressa la Direzione Regionale di p.s. della Sicilia.

Resta invece in funzione alle dirette dipendenze dell'Alto Commissario il servizio delle squadriglie cui è preposto il Commissario Capo Vittorio MODICA, il quale eserciterà le funzioni di Ispettore Generale.

PER IL MINISTRO

Francesco

927

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

Block
13A

8 Nov. 1944

ACC/14041/3/PS

SUBJECT: Questions for Ragusa.

TO: Ministry of Interior
Director of Public Safety

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter 333,0018
dated 4 Nov. 1944, intimating the appointment of Commissario
Cano GIUSEPPE Francesco to the Questura of Ragusa.

14041/3 - 78A

JOHN W. CHAPMAN
Colonel, U.S.A.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission

Copy: R.F.S.O. Sicily Region
ACC/14613/14/PS

BP/13

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
C.M.F.
Public Safety Sub-Commission

4 Nov. 1944

ACC/14613/14/PS

SUBJECT : Public Security Situation in Sicily

TO : Ministry of Interior
Director of Public Security

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter 333/9025-1 dated 2 Nov. 1944, with copy of correspondence addressed to the High Commissioner of Sicily.

I shall be pleased to hear the comments of the High Commissioner when received by you.

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

Ministry of Interior
333/9025-

2 November 1944

SUBJECT : Sicily - P.S. Settlement

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

As agreed verbally I enclose herewith a copy of letter sent to High Commissioner of Sicily, concerning the Police Service on the Island.

The Prime Minister has approved these proposals.

The Chief of the Police:

appen.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
333/9025-1

24 October 1944

SUBJECT : P.S. Situation

TO : H.E. the High Commissioner for Sicily.

In pursuance of correspondence and verbal agreement it has been decided to abolish the Regional P.S. Directorate and any appointments made by Military Authorities become temporary.

Instead a patrol service will be organized with Commissario Capo Vittorio Medica at its head with the rank of General Inspector. This appointment is in recognition of this officials' excellent work and is endorsed by Col Snook of Allied Commission.

It is intended to promote Dr. Medica to Vice-Questore and then after a short interval to Questore.

At the same time other officials who have distinguished themselves will be borne in mind for promotion.

Questore Garbo Giovanni, with your approval, will be attached to your office as General Inspector of Public Safety in Sicily.

The Questore of the Island will be disposed as under:

Palermo	: Questore Sessa Aselmo, already there.
Catania	: Questore Buscemi Francesco.
Messina	: Questore D'Elia Vito, already there.
Siracusa	: V-Questore Consoli Giovanni, already there - acting director.
Trapani	: Vice Questore Ciannone Felice - Acting Director
Caltanissetta	: Questore Reina Salvatore, already there.
Agrigento	: Questore Leonardi Michele.
Regusa	: Commissario Cape Cuffre - acting director.
Enna	: Vice Questore Cimarelli Questore acting director.

As a result the following Questore are available for employment on the mainland: ...

The Prime Minister has approved these proposals.

The Chief of the Police:

appon.

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

333/9025-1

SUBJECT: P.S. Situation

24 October 1944

TO : H.E. the High Commissioner for Sicily.

In pursuance of correspondence and verbal agreement it has been decided to abolish the Regional P.S. Directorate and any appointments made by Military Authorities become temporary.

Instead a patrol service will be organized with Commissario Capo Vittorio Medica at its head with the rank of General Inspector. This appointment is in recognition of this officials' excellent work and is endorsed by Col Snook of Allied Commission.

It is intended to promote Mr. Medica to Vice-Questore and then after a short interval to Questore.

At the same time other officials who have distinguished themselves will be borne in mind for promotion.

Questore Carlo Giovanni, with your approval, will be attached to your office as General Inspector of Public Safety in Sicily.

The Questure of the Island will be disposed as under:

Palermo	: Questore Sessa Anselmo, already there.
Catania	: Questore Buscemi Francesco.
Messina	: Questore D'Elia Vito, already there.
Siracusa	: V-Questore Consoli Giovanni, already there - acting director.
Trapani	: Vice Questore Giannocaro Felice - Acting Director
Caltanissetta	: Questore Reina Salvatore, already there.
Agrigento	: Questore Iacurdi Michele.
Ragusa	: Commissario Cape Cuffre - acting director.
Enna	: Vice Questore Cimarrelli Creste ³²⁴ acting director.

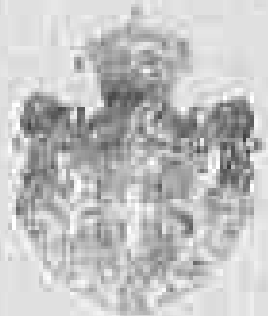
As a result the following Questore are available for employment on the mainland: - Molina Alfonso; Stalteri Giuseppe; Iacono Alberto; and the V. Questori Lo Turco Filippo, Balzarano Francesco and Commissario Cape Cresto Francesco.

Your comments on the foregoing will be appreciated.

for the Minister

sign. Canevari

fm.



Ministero dell'Interno
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

Arretrati
3/11

Roma, 2 novembre 1944

la Sottocommissione
di Pubblica Sicurezza - Com-
missione Alleata

Divisione Person. *Sez.* I°
Det. A. 333/9025-I *Allegato*

R O M A

OGGETTO: Sicilia - Sistemazione pubblica sicurezza

In relazione alle intese verbali, si tra-
smette copia della lettera inviata all'Alto
Commissario per la Sicilia, riguardante la si-
stemazione dei servizi di polizia in quell'I-
sola.

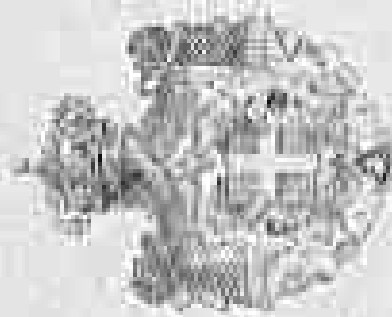
Si soggiunge che S.E. il Presidente del Con-
siglio dei Ministri ha dato il Suo assenso al
progetto.

IL CAPO DELLA POLIZIA

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C O P I A



f.m.

Ministero dell'Interno

DIREZIONE GENERALE
DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA

24 ottobre 1944

All S.E. l'Alto Commissario
per la Sicilia

PALERMO

Divisione Person. Sc. I.
Prot. N. 333.9025-I-Allegati

Proposta al Capo del

Div.

Sc. I.

OGGETTO Situazione della P.S.

In relazione alla intercorsa corrispondenza ed agli accordi verbali, si comunica che il Ministero, previa intesa con S.E. il Presidente del Consiglio e la Commissione Alleata, è venuto nella determinazione di sopprimere codesta Direzione Regionale di P.S. la quale non ha più ragione di sussistere ora che le riattivate comunicazioni rendono possibile un collegamento piuttosto rapido tra il Ministero, codesto Alto Commissariato e le province siciliane.

Di conseguenza per la regolare normalizzazione della situazione non vengono riconosciuti i provvedimenti nei confronti del personale disposti dalla Direzione Regionale stessa perchè in contrasto con le norme vigenti dello stato giuridico del personale dello Stato. Anche le nomine e promozioni disposte dall'Autorità Militare Alleata si risolvono in rapporti meramente temporanei e pertanto cesseranno di avere vigore.

Ciò premesso, il Ministero è venuto nella determinazione di adottare i seguenti provvedimenti:

1°) In sostituzione della Direzione Regionale verrà istituito - come d'intesa - alle dirette dipendenze dell'Alto Commissariato il servizio delle squadriglie per l'intensificazione della lotta contro la delinquenza. A capo di tale servizio verrà preposto il commissario capo Modica Vittorio con incarico d'Ispettore *generale*.

Ciò in riconoscimento dei servizi resi dal predetto funzionario e in

*Divisione Person. L. I.
Prot. N. 333.9025-I Allegato*

*Proposta al Fido del
Dir. Sic. N. 240*

OGGETTO Situazione della P.S.

In relazione alla intercorsa corrispondenza ed agli accordi verbali, si comunica che il Ministero, previa intesa con S.E. il Presidente del Consiglio e la Commissione Alleata, è venuto nella determinazione di sopprimere codesta Direzione Regionale di P.S. la quale non ha più ragione di sussistere ora che le riattivate comunicazioni rendono possibile un collegamento piuttosto rapido tra il Ministero, codesto Alto Commissariato e le provincie siciliane.

Di conseguenza per la regolare normalizzazione della situazione non vengono riconosciuti i provvedimenti nei confronti del personale disposti dalla Direzione Regionale stessa perchè in contrasto con le norme vigenti dello stato giuridico del personale dello Stato. Anche le nomine e promozioni disposte dall'Autorità Militare Alleata si risolvono in rapporti meramente temporanei e pertanto cesseranno di avere vigore.

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Ciò in riconoscimento dei servizi resi dal predetto funzionario e in accoglimento delle richieste di V.E., dell'Ufficiale Regionale di P.S. Alleato, Colonnello Snook, nonché della A.C.C.

Con l'occasione, si assicura che al prossimo Consiglio d'Amministrazione del Personale della P.S. verrà particolarmente segnalato il Mod-

./.

dica per la promozione a vice questore: promozione che, si ha ragione di ritenere, sarebbe seguita a breve distanza dalla nomina a questore.

Anche gli altri funzionari, che si sono particolarmente distinti e che sono stati investiti di funzioni più elevate, saranno particolarmente tenuti presenti nei futuri scrutini per le promozioni:

2°) Il questore Garbo Giovanni, poi, verrà in accoglimento di analoga proposta di V.E., addetto a codesto Alto Commissariato quale unico Ispettore Generale di P.S. per la Sicilia;

3°) Le questure dell'Isola, tenuto conto di quanto verbalmente riferito V.E. ^{ha} verranno così sistemate:

Palermo : questore Sessa Anselmo, già sul posto;

Catania : questore Buscemi Francesco;

Messina: questore D'Elia Vito, già sul posto;

Siracusa : v. questore Consoli Giovanni, già sul posto - reggente;

Trapani : v. questore Giammarco Felice - reggente;

Caltanissetta : questore Reina Salvatore; *già sul posto.*

Agrigento : questore Leonardi Michele;

Ragusa: commissario capo Giuffrè - reggente;

Enna : v. questore Cimarrelli Oreste - reggente.

Resterebbero pertanto a disposizione del Ministero per essere trasferiti ed utilizzati nel continente i questori: Molina Alfonso; Stalteri Giuseppe e Iacono Alberto; i v. questori Lo Turco Filippo e Balzarano Francesco ed il commissario capo Greco Francesco.

Perchè il Ministero possa adottare subito - anche in relazione all'attuale situazione creatasi in Sicilia - i provvedimenti predisposti, si prega l'E.V. di voler far conoscere con cortese urgenza il proprio avviso in merito.

PEL MINISTRO

firmato: *Sanfior*

per copia conforme

IL DIRETTORE CAPO

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PEL MINISTRO

firmato. Canonici

per copia conforme

IL DIRETTORE CAPO
DELLA DIVISIONE PERSONALE P.S.

X. ianone

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

SICILY REGION HEADQUARTERS
APO. 394

(PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION)

FILE NO: RPS/014.1.

DATE October 14th, 1944.

SUBJECT: Report of Inspector General,
Michele IANTAPPI.TO: Public Safety Sub-Commission,
ACC. HQ.

(1) Reference is made to ACC/14613/14/PS of October 2, 1944.

The report of Inspector General, Michele IANTAPPI, respecting conditions in Sicily and the Regional Directorate of P.S., have been examined and a report thereon is submitted herewith.

The report received was a translation of the original into English and on certain points the text is not clear.

(2) It is evident that the Inspector was sent to Sicily by the Minister of Interior to examine conditions in general, and in particular the Regional Directorate, which organization he recommends be abolished in its present form. This recommendation will affect the problem of public safety which is at present delicate in Sicily; and the information on which the recommendation is based does not conform to the facts as known by ACC in this Region, the opinions of the High Commissioner of Sicily and the organization of the present Italian Government.

(3) The report is inconsistent on the following points,-

(a) The facts respecting the organization of the Regional Directorate are not accurate;

(b) Dr. MODICA did not make appeals for the position; he was selected;

(c) The powers of the Directorate were not assumed by the Director as the report would have it appear, but were assumed by him at the direction of A.M.G.

(4) Therefore, these points and...

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(b) Dr. MODICA did not make appeals for the position; he was selected;

(c) The powers of the Directorate were not assumed by the Director as the report would have it appear, but were assumed by him at the direction of A.M.G.

(4) Therefore, these points and the manner in which the actual conditions are obscured require a review of the facts from the point of view of the Allied Forces; and these are as follows,-

(a) The invasion of Sicily commenced July 10 and or about August 18 the Island was completely occupied and turned over to A.M.G.



- 2 -

(b) The civil affairs plan provided that the police be rebuilt around the Carabinieri. But, of course, the original decrees warned all police to remain at their posts, which they did, with minor exceptions. The Fascist militia organizations which had performed police duties were disbanded, but the Corps of Agents of Pubblica Sicurezza were retained and utilized.

(c) The existing conditions, both traditional and those consequent upon the recent collapse of society, comprised elements seriously affecting the public safety problem.

Such immediate action as was necessary was first taken on a provincial basis. But the constructive rehabilitation of the police did not really follow a definite plan until October 27, when Region I was activated.

(d) At that time, the rate of serious crime was increasing. The problem required special measures, but it was essential that these measures be based on precedents and on the Italian law, exclusive of Fascist provisions. There was no active central government and no Ministry, and all of the police services required coordination and development on a level higher than the province. Furthermore, the crime problem was Island-wide in character.

(e) Some steps had been taken to reestablish and reorganize the Corps of Agents of Pubblica Sicurezza as the nucleus around which the reorganization of the civil police must be centered. But the organization had been in low repute, and at times consideration had been given to disbanding it.

(f) The Questori were called at meetings and a committee by direction recommended measures to meet the situation. It was this basis on which the Regional Directorate was formed. True, that it was given exceptional powers because there was no Ministry, but care was exercised to organize in accordance with precedent that it might be properly taken over by the central government when established.

(5) The Regional Directorate and 13 Interprovincial Offices were thus the instrument through which the A.M.G. operated, and the Director at all times acted only on direct orders or approval of A.M.G. The functionary selected as Director was considered from the point of view of ability only. Thus was salvaged and reestablished the Agents of Pubblica Sicurezza.

920

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The record of its accomplishments are adequate proof of the effectiveness of the Regional Directorate. The crime rate from a peak in December was gradually forced downward until February 11, when the responsibility passed to the Italian Government. During the period of its existence a complete plan was put into operation involving selection and training of personnel, promotion, special indemnities for the Interprovincial Service, all of which were stopped at the turnover and were for a period neglected. The past record therefore, proves the accomplishment of a mission which should merit a proper reward for all Italian officers and personnel concerned, particularly the Director.

(6) With respect to the present need the following facts must be considered,-

(a) The crime problem is always delicate and distinctive in Sicily.

(b) The police need physical means, - arms, transport, better pay and the assurance of the support of the government.

(c) A Regional government subdivision is recognized by the Central government, and the present High Commissioner, aware of the serious nature of the crime problem, has declared his support and need of a Regional public safety organization with the present Director at its head.

(d) The organization does not usurp any powers of the Ministry, but better enables the Minister to keep in contact with and control the problem, as has been done previously in Sicily. Thus, the recommendation that the organization be abolished, while the Interprovincial offices be retained under provincial control, is unsound and violates a principle, departure from which at present hampers and will continue to affect the efficiency of the present Italian Government, - and that is, that the Regional High Commissioner without complete support and absolute control and with constant interference cannot be efficient and effective.

The arguments that the organization tends to a Separatist policy and that control should be exercised by the individual Questori are not sound.

Crime is not a local provincial problem in Sicily as the Inspector's own report proves, and if this organization tends to a Separatist policy, then the whole regional organization does so.

(7) Thus it is evident that concurrence by A.C.C. should not be given to the report because a Regional organization under joint direction of the Regional High Commissioner and the Ministry of Interior is considered a necessity, and Dr. MODICA by virtue of his demonstrated ability and the recommendations of the High Commissioner should be retained as its head.

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919

R. A. Snook
Russell A. SNOOK,

Lt. Colonel,

Regional Public Safety Officer.

Encls. 1- Orders establishing
the Regional Directorate of P.S.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission.
APO 394.

Ref. AGO/14613/34/PS.

Ref. 489081 - 257.

2nd October, 1944.

SUBJECT : Regional Directorate of Public Security, Sicily.

TO : R.P.S.O., Sicily.

1. Enclosed is a report by Dr. M. Iantaffi, Ministry of Interior Inspector, on Public Security conditions in Sicily.
2. Would you let me have your comments and recommendations on this subject after reading the report.

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

APW/ep.

918

Col Whitcomb done 9/1 8A
Send copy of Santoff's
report to Col Smith for
comment and recommendations.

J.W.C.
2/10/44

E/O

Please see
my left hand picture
to 7 a.

6

SATURDAY
SEPT. 1944

Seen (hat)

DRAFT

EO
DPS

YA

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission.
APO 394.

Ref. ACC/14613/14/PS.

Tel. 439081 - 257

26th September, 1944.

SUBJECT : Regional Directorate of Public Security, Sicily.
TO : His Excellency, The Director of Public Security,
Ministry of the Interior.

1. Reference is made to your letter 442/4532, dated 17th September, 1944, enclosing Dr. Iantaffi's report on Public Security conditions in Sicily.

2. The Allied Military Government Order creating a Regional Directorate of Public Security in Sicily became ineffective when the Italian Government assumed jurisdiction in Sicily.

3. The Government, therefore, has full power to abolish the Regional Directorate. It will be appreciated if this Sub-Commission can be notified in advance of any action which the Ministry proposes to take in order that the Regional Public Safety Officer in Sicily may be informed.

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

This is true, we have had this
sort of trouble in other branches 916 of the
APW/ea. Regional Directorate is a good thing
plus your approval then ask the Govt to pass
a decree legalising it. GRLH

Translation RV.

MEMORANDUM

The conditions of the Public Security in Sicily are very serious and are subjected to become still more so, because the State does not succeed in fully meeting the situation, for lack of material means, for qualitative and quantitative insufficiency of personnel badly paid, badly dressed and frequently also bare-footed. - There are no proper arms, whilst it is known, that the delinquency is very well armed and shows a particular aggressiveness and a decision, which have no precedents in the criminal history of Sicily.

The Regional Hq. was constituted by A.M.G., in order to solve tasks of coordination and to organize the services for the struggle against the delinquency. It has solved, as well as it was possible, its difficult mission, but was not put in condition to carry out the plan of re-organization.

Nevertheless, at first, sensible improvements were noted and should it have been possible to continue in the undertaken work, the situation would be different to-day.

After the transfer of the powers, the director was left in a state of uncertainty, which now is protracting itself for a long time. The consequences repercussed themselves on the service, because, naturally, the particular impulse, which had been previously used, has fallen short.

It is deemed necessary to recognize the Hq. as organ of general P.S. co-ordination in Sicily, fixing the tasks, the responsibilities and the intercourses with the other P.S. Authorities and the CC.PP. Arma.

We do not see the reasons, why there should not exist in Sicily, a Police organ with Regional character, when it is known, that a CC.PP. Brigade with Regional character is existing, which with the Hq. has had and could continue to have relations of profitable collaboration for the general interest.

Besides this, other organisms with Regional character are existing (for example the Regional Hq. of Health), whilst the Press has given information of an administrative starting with Regional character.

The existence of a High Commissariato and of a Regional Control Commission make the presence of a Police organ with Regional character necessary. - The functioning of the P.S. Regional Hq. has caused no serious inconveniences, and has rather shown very remarkable dynamism and vitality and undiscussed technicality. - I don't think, that eventual malevolent insinuations, which are the consequence of the villainess of some unsatisfied, envious and constitutionally corrupt individuals, are to be taken in serious consideration.

The constitution of an Inspectorate is borne in mind.

If the tasks remain the same of those of the Hq., it is a question of words, but if it is desired to create an Inspectorate with the task to take care of the interprovincial offices, then it is advisable to be in agreement.

Above all the Hq. has not limited its activity to purely

criminal history of Sicily.

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Above all the Hq. has not limited its activity to purely bureaucratic tasks, but on the contrary has prevalently given impulse to active services, with a special consideration to the organisation of the interprovincial offices and the director as well as the 2 Inspectors devoted themselves to it in a particular manner. Therefore we do not see the reason why the situation should be changed, it means merely to consider the problem from a unilateral point of view and rather out of reality.

It is true, that in Sicily was existing a General P.S. Inspectorate, but it is also true, that the conditions of the time were very different.

Comm. Guelli, promoted for the circumstance P.S. General Inspector for extraordinary merits, and after scarcely a year

- 2 -

he was again promoted for extraordinary merits to the superior class, he had almost dictatorial powers and unlimited means, including economic means. The personnel was selected and enjoyed a very good treatment. The conditions of the P.S. though serious, were not those of the present time, connected also with the general political situation, which is also changed, and has had a freedom of action, which kept close to arbitrariness. Nevertheless, 7 years occurred in order to bring the situation to normality.

To-day the conditions are very different and I deem the constitution of a General Inspectorate for the only Interprovincial offices not very corresponding to the actual necessities. The personnel of the Nuclei has necessarily to be furnished by the Questure and by the Commands of the Territorial Arma and with the creation of the Inspectorate, independent of the Questure and even in concurrence with them, ~~so that~~ resistances and discords should begin, all this to the detriment of the efficiency, unless the Government would not be able to provide for the complete equipment of said offices (men and means).

According to my point of view, there is nothing to be modified as far as the organization is concerned, it is only necessary to increase the services, endowing the offices and the Commands with the necessary means (arms, vehicles, clothing including shoes) and to improve the economical treatment of the whole Police (P.S. and CC.RR. Arma) and assign a special indemnity to the personnel attached to Interprovincial offices. Neither special laws nor provisions are necessary, on condition that measures are timely taken, that the Police is put in the moral and material conditions for the carrying out of its task.

The work which has to be performed, must be continuous and methodic and therefore time and tranquillity is necessary.

Palermo, 21 September 1944.

914

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
ATO 394

24 August 1944

ACC/14513/14/PS

SUBJECT : Equipment for Public Security Service in Sicily.

TO : H.E. Director Public Safety Ministry of Interior.

1. The attached lists of supplies and equipment required for Agents of Public Security in Sicily have been received through the Public Safety Officer for Sicily and are forwarded for your attention.

Orig. sent
see 3A
Paul G. Kire
PAUL G. KIRE,
Colonel, Inf.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

ATW/ngd

913

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

Tel. 473709

24 August 1944

AGC/14613/14/PS

SUBJECT : Regional Directorate of Public Security
in Sicily.

TO : R.P.S.O. Region I

1. Reference is made to your letter RPS/014/1
dated 15th Aug. 1944.

2. Comm Michele IANTAPPI has been appointed by
the Minister of the Interior to inspect Public Security
conditions in Sicily and to report to the Ministry.

Comm. IANTAPPI left Rome by air on 23rd Aug.
1944 and will pay you a visit on his arrival. One of the
matters which Comm. IANTAPPI will discuss with you will be
the desirability of retaining a Regional Directorate of
Public Security.

3. The requisitions for supplies and equipment
enclosed with your letter have been referred to the
Ministry of the Interior.

Paul G. Kirk
PAUL G. KIRK, Lt. Col.
Colonel, Inf.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

APG/hgd

14612/473
 ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
 SICILY REGION HEADQUARTERS
 APO 394.

(PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION)

HEADQUARTERS

18 AUG 1944

FILE - RPS/OL4.1.

SUBJECT - Regional Directorate of P.S. for Sicily.

TO - Col. Paul KIRK, Public Safety Sub-Commission,
 Allied Control Commission, H.Q.

(1) The Regional Directorate of Publica Sicurezza for Sicily and the 13 Inter-Provincial Offices were established under the Allied Military Government, to confront the serious crime problems which existed in Sicily following the occupation. This service has been under the direction of Doctor Vittorio MODICA whom I consider to be a police executive of outstanding ability. The ability to organize, his tact and professional knowledge of police problems have been proved by the achievements of the Regional Directorate and the Inter-Provincial Offices. The fact that serious crimes were reduced from a very high level immediately following the organization of these services is proof in itself of the effectiveness of ~~the~~ these organizations.

(2) The present situation in Sicily is fraught with danger as regards public safety. All of the police services are engaged in an intensive campaign to collect grain for the summer; and this, as present signs indicate, may afford an opportunity for criminal bands to re-organize.

(3) The service above-mentioned, an important factor in confronting this danger, is at present in a bad state for lack of proper pay, clothing, shoes and support by the Government. It has been reported that the Italian Government intends to re-tain a structure similar to the Regional Directorate of P.S. and the Inter-Provincial Offices in the form of an Inspectorate for Sicily.

Based on my experience and knowledge of the situation in Sicily I strongly urge that this organization be retained, and that its present Director, Doctor MODICA, be retained in office.

August 15th, 1944.

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Based on my experience and knowledge of the situation in Sicily I strongly urge that this organization be retained, and that its present Director, Doctor MODICA, be retained in office.

(4) I further recommend that assistance be given this organization in the matter of securing clothing and shoes without which it cannot long hope to continue to render efficient services. A list of the requirements is attached hereto.

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(5)

These matters have been discussed with both the Regional Commissioner and the High Commissioner for Sicily and the situation has been referred to in the Public Safety Report for July.

I am submitting these recommendations so that the Sub-Commission may discuss the matter with the Ministry of Interior.

The High Commissioner has assured me that he will also direct his efforts toward the support of this organization in order to meet the public safety problems of Sicily.

For the Regional Commissioner.

R. Russell
Russell A. SNICK,

Lt. Colonel,

Regional Public Safety Officer.

Encl. - 1

1- List of requirements.

Memorandum.

Before the emergency period, the Questura of Agrigento did not function properly chiefly because Questore Dologli and the officials were subjects and servants of a political machine which often represented the wishes of Federal Secretaries and the political organs, and as such, not in full accord with the various directives of the Prefetto "Caboni".

Such a state of affairs did not escape the eyes of the Allied troops whose first act was to send to the Concentration Camps the "Questore" Dologli; Dott. Drago, Commissario aggiunto, his Chief of Cabinet; removed Commissario Tizio, director of the P.S. office; and Calabrese, Commissario aggiunto, Chief of no. 2 Division of the Questura.

The Questura stopped functioning and the CC.RR. was the only agency which maintained public order.

The officials and the "agenti" being deprived of officers, disbanded and after a short while they were seen in the City. Among the first who appeared in the office were Dott. Romolo Orecchio, Commissario aggiunto; dott. Curcio Vice Commissario aggiunto and Cav. Sirchia, Commissario aggiunto, who among other things were without any ^{orders} and lacked initiative. They were waiting for the return of the Comm. Galata, vice questore, residing in commune of Menfi for many month where he had assumed his duties of an unknown nature and in which community his family owned property.

Such a situation lasted until September of last year. In the meanwhile a new Public Safety Agency was reorganized in Palermo, "Direzione Generale di Pubblica Sicurezza per la Sicilia" and directed by dott. Modica, Commissario Capo, who was promoted twice - as it is noted - by virtue of an Allied decree.

Dott. Modica favored Galata, Vice Questore, his intimate friend, by placing him in the HQ. Inspector General.

Dott. Orecchio was appointed to the Questura in Agrigento, a cultured gentleman with a distinguished appearance but due to his lack of hearing and his inability to organize, he was cast aside during his five year stay in Agrigento.

He remained in charge aided by Dott. Vetro, a volunteer, and Averna, Commissario Aggiunto, who was later assigned to the office in Porto Empedocle.

The Questura has about 200 men at the present time. Half of the personnel have their parents and families in the province and many officials have rendered service for many years in the same place, as a result of which they cannot carry out their duties with the necessary independence. The Questura has not succeeded to gain the confidence of the public.

Dott. Orecchio, the Questore, does not exercise any control over his men because he has been in Agrigento for over 5 years and has made many friends who influence him in the discharge of his duties, especially in issuance of permits for the carrying of arms and other police authorizations. The vice-questore, Cav. Sirchia has been in the same city for 15 years; he does not have the adequate ability to carry out the functions of his office; is the subject-matter of much discussion among the people because he is inclined to accept gifts and because

of the "vivacious conduct" of his two daughters who work in the local offices.

Commissario Sirchia is advanced in years and poor health.

Dott. Curcio, vice-commissario aggiunto, who is the Chief of Cabinet, has a mistress.

Dott. Vetro Salvatore was born in Favara (Agrigento) where his family still resides and where he has many relatives of a bad reputation. During the period of the last regime, he held the position as vice-political-secretary of the Fascio in the city where he was born. Married in Ribera (Agrigento) where the family of his father-in-law owns a mill, which is an added reason for public criticism.

The subject matter of much criticism is Commissario aggiunto Averna who is performing his duties in the province where he was born and all his activities reflect his favoritism towards his friends and relatives.

Maresciallo Camelli who has been attached to the office of the Prefect, is also showing signs of a too long a "duration" in the same place.

Marescialli Castelli, Vanadia and Salerno who have been in Agrigento for over 8 years, are also the subject of public criticism because they do not perform their duties properly.

P R O M M E M O R I A

Ancor prima dell'emergenza la Questura di Agrigento funzionava irregolarmente soprattutto perché il questore dell'epoca Dalogli e i funzionari erano compromessi e del tutto asserviti alla politica, spesso personalistica dei segretari federali e degli organi politici, sindacali e corporativi locali e ciò in pieno contrasto con le diverse direttive del Prefetto Caboni.

Tale stato di cose non sfuggì alle truppe di occupazione che disposero, come primo atto, l'invio in campo di concentramento del Questore Dalogli e, successivamente, del Commissario aggiunto Dott. Drago, suo capo di gabinetto e dello stesso prefetto Caboni; contemporaneamente gli alleati destituivano il commissario TIZZO, dirigente dell'ufficio di P.S. di Porto Empedocle ed il commissario aggiunto CALARESE, capo della II^a divisione della Questura.

La Questura cessò quindi il suo funzionamento, anche amministrativo, e soltanto l'Arma dei CC.RR. provvide al mantenimento dell'ordine e della sicurezza pubblica, fortemente compromessi dal succedersi degli eventi.

I funzionari e gli agenti, privi di dirigenti, si sbandarono, e, solo dopo un certo periodo di tempo, cominciarono a farsi notare in città. Fra i primi a ripresentarsi in ufficio furono il commissario aggiunto dott. Romolo Orrechio, il vice commissario aggiunto dott. Curcio ed il commissario aggiunto cav. Sirchia, i quali peraltro erano privi di direttive e non agivano d'iniziativa, attendendo il ritorno in sede del vice questore Comm. GALATA', che da alcuni mesi si trovava, con incarichi non determi-

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nati nel comune di Menfi, territorio nel quale risiedeva la propria famiglia, che possiede colà proprietà terriere.

Al funzionari predetti si unì il commissario aggiunto dott. Averna che in licenza nel periodo di emergenza ad Agrigento, comune di origine, non credette di raggiungere la sua sede di Bagheria (Palermo) rimanendo in famiglia. Fino al settembre del decorso anno perdurò tale situazione. Prattamente scorse in Palermo il nuovo organo di pubblica sicurezza "Direzione Regionale di P.S. per la Sicilia" diretto dal commissario capo dott. Vittorio MODICA che con seguì - come è noto - contemporaneamente con decreto del Governo allentò due promozioni.

Il dott. Modica regolarizzò la posizione del Vice Questore Galatà, suo amico e compare, chiamandolo alla direzione generale come capo del personale in qualità di ispettore generale.

In conseguenza, alla Questura di Agrigento fu nominato, quale reggente il dott. Greco, già indicato, funzionario colto e di tratto distinto ma che per la sua menomata funzione uditiva - fa uso del cornetto acustico - ed incapacità organizzativa, in precedenza, nei cinque anni della sua permanenza ad Agrigento, era stato tenuto se non in disparte, almeno nell'ombra.

Egli è rimasto in carica coadiuvato dai funzionari predetti dal volontario dott. Vetro e dal commissario agg. Averna destinato in seguito all'ufficio distaccato di Porto Empedocle.

La Questura ha ora un complesso di ~~circa~~ 47200 persone. Buona metà del personale ha parenti e famiglie di origine nella provincia e vari funzionari vi prestano servizio da lungo tempo per cui non hanno la necessaria indipendenza ed obiettività.

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Per tutto ciò la Questura non riscuote la fiducia del pubblico.

Il reggente la Questura dott. Grecochio ha scarso ascendente sui dipendenti e si trova ad Agrigento da circa cinque anni; ha contratto ivi numerose amicizie che, sembra, lo influenzino negli atti del proprio ufficio, specie sulle concessioni di licenze di porto d'armi e nelle altre autorizzazioni di polizia. Il vicequestore ff. Cav. Sirchia si trova nella stessa città da quindici anni, non ha capacità adeguata alla sua funzione ed è molto discusso nel pubblico perchè proclive ad accettare regalie e per la condotta piuttosto vivace di sue due figlie, impiegate in uffici locali.

Il commissario Sirchia ha età avanzata ed è malandato in salute.

Il Dott. Curcio, vice-commissario agg. con funzioni di capo di gabinetto, convive conjugalmente con giovane di cattiva moralità, mentre il dott. Vetro Salvatore è nato nella vicina Favara (Agrigento), ove risiede la sua famiglia e dove ha anche lontani parenti pregiudicati. nel passato regime coprì la carica di vice segretario politico del fascio del paese di origine. E' sposato in Ribera (Agrigento) dove la famiglia del suocero gestisce un molino-pastificio; anche ciò da origine a maldiscepolenze a suo carico.

Specifiche critiche si muovono al commissario agg. Averna che presta servizio nella provincia di origine risentendo notevolmente la sua attività del legami di parentela e di amicizia che ha contratto.

Il maresciallo Gamelli, da oltre ⁸⁹⁶dieci anni addetto al gabinetto del Prefetto pure risente della lunga permanenza in luogo.

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Critiche vengono elevate dalla popolazione ai marescialli Castelli, Vanadia e Salerno ad Agrigento da circa otto anni perchè poco sereni e poco obiettivi nel disimpegno delle loro funzioni.

11 18 luglio 1944

Translation RV.

MEMORANDUM

Rome, 17 July 1944.

The Questore of the Palermo Province is Comm. Garbo Giovanni from Cefalù (Palermo), a fine official, who in the past has given proof of initiative and ability.

Lately, probably because of his worry about the health of his wife, he has been neglecting his duties. He has been appearing in his office occasionally and his inactivity has caused the Questura to function improperly; other reasons are:

- incapacity of the cabinet-chief, "Commissario capo" Castiglione Francesco, who comes from the "ex guardia di città". He does not possess qualification to carry out the duties of his office. He accepts bribes;
- the presence of many officials and "agenti", born in Palermo or in the Palermo Province, who having many friends and relatives, cannot exercise the function of their office in an independent manner.

The following officials, beside the Questore, were either born in the province or in absence of such married natives of the same province:

- "Vice commissario" dott. Guatino Salvatore, chief of the mobile squad, married to Gravagna Giuseppa, of Palermo;
- "Commissario aggiunto" Rimmaudo Alberto, chief of the "commissariato" of the Royal House - born in Palermo;
- "Commissario capo" Anania Vittorio, chief of "commissariato Duomo" born in Palermo and married to Maggiore Emanuela also of Palermo;
- "Commissario aggiunto" La Farina Giuseppe, chief of "commissariato di Castellammare" - born in Palermo, married to Scherma Irene, also of Palermo; it is rumoured, that he accepts bribes, so that it is easy to exert influence on him;
- "Commissario aggiunto" ;a Parola Matteo, chief of "commissariato Molo" - born in Palermo, married to Di Marzo Cristina, of Palermo;
- "Commissario" Di Girolamo Matteo, chief of "commissariato di Porta Nuova" - born in Monreale (Palermo), married to Macaluso giuseppa, of Monreale (Palermo). A very old official, exhausted, weak. It is rumoured, that he accepts bribes and favors the donors;
- "Commissario aggiunto" Iraci Giovanni, employed at the FF.SS. (Ferrovie dello Stato) "commissariato" - born in Palermo.

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The following officials although not natives of Palermo or Palermo Province also accept bribes and are easily influenced:

- "Commissario capo" Colbertaldo Luigi, chief of "commissariato tribunali";
- "Commissario aggiunto" Calderone Antonino, chief of "commissariato Orto Botanico";
- "Commissario" Castellani Umberto, chief of "commissariato compartimentale". Has been at same place for many years;
- "Commissario" Panico Angelo, attached at the depot and requisitioning of automobiles.

It is rumoured, that the N.C.O.'s and "agenti" are generally "contacted" through bribes.

P R O M E M O R I A

Roma, li 17 luglio 1944

E' Questore della provincia di Palermo il commendatore GARBO Giovanni da Cefalù (Palermo), funzionario corretto che in passato ha dato prova di fattiva operosità.

In questi ultimi tempi, causa forse le preoccupazioni per la cattiva salute della moglie ha trascurato il proprio mandato. E' stato poco assiduo nell'ufficio e della sua attività ha risentito in senso sfavorevole il funzionamento generale della questura reso ancor più irregolare dalla:

- insufficienza del capo di gabinetto, Commissario capo CASTIGLIONE Francesco, proveniente dalle ex guardie di città, il quale, per difetto di cultura, non ha la capacità di ben disimpegnare la carica, specie attualmente, in cui è venuta a mancare l'azione direttiva del questore. Pare che non sia alieno dall'accettare regali, dovendo sopperire ai bisogni di numerosa famiglia;
- la presenza di numerosi funzionari ed agenti nativi di Palermo e della provincia che per le parentele e le amicizie non hanno la necessaria indipendenza.

In particolare, i seguenti funzionari, oltre al Questore, sono nativi della provincia e hanno le moglie oriunde del luogo:

- Vice commissario dott. GUARINO Salvatore, dirigente la squadra mobile, sposato con GRAVAGNA Giuseppa, da Palermo;
- Commissario aggiunto RIMMAUDC Alberto, dirigente il commissariato di Palazzo Reale, è nativo di Palermo;
- Commissario capo ANANIA Vittorio, dirigente il commissariato

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riate Duomo, è nato a Palermo ed è coniugato con MAGGIORE Emanuela pur da Palermo;

- Commissario aggiunto LA FARINA Giuseppe, dirigente il commissariato di Castellammare, nato a Palermo, sposato con SCHERMA Irene, pure da Palermo.

Si vuole che non disdegni regali e che in conseguenza sia facile a farsi influenzare dagli interessati;

- Commissario aggiunto LA PAROLA Matteo, dirigente il commissariato Mela, nato a Palermo, sposato con DI MARZO Cristina, da Palermo;

- Commissario DI GIROLAMO Matteo, dirigente il commissariato di Porta Nuova, native di Monreale (Palermo), sposato con MACALUSO Giuseppa, da Monreale (Palermo). Funzionario molto anziano, esaurito, debole. Si vuole che accetti regali e favorisca i donatori;

- Commissario aggiunto IRACI Giovanni, addetto al commissariato delle FF.SS., native di Palermo.

I seguenti altri funzionari, pur non essendo nativi del luogo, si vuole che non disdegnino regali e che siano facili a lasciarsi influenzare:

- Commissario capo COLBERTALDO Luigi, dirigente il commissariato tribunale;
- Commissario aggiunto CALDERONE Antonino, dirigente il commissariato Corte Eatanico;
- Commissario CASTELLANI Umberto, dirigente il commissariato compartimentale. E' in luogo da molti anni;
- Commissario PANICO Angelo, addetto al deposito e requisizione automezzi.

Sul conto dei sottufficiali e degli agenti, genericamente si afferma che sono piuttosto accettabili mediante regali e facili a tollerare.

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