

785016

ACC

10000/143/1621

785016

10000/143/1621

FRANCESCO ROVELLA
DEC. 1943 - MAR. 1944;
(AUG. 1944)

785016

TUESDAY
AUG. 1944

29

Lu also 6^a 7^a

~~14041/8~~

7 F and 8 ga

~~140474/12~~

243— WEDNESDAY, AUG. 30, 1944 —123

OUTGOING CABLE.

To:- DISCAG.

From:- REG 15 ARMY GROUP.

Orig's No. PA 905 20 Jan

Ref 15AG/1455/3m/G(1b) 26 Dec (.) Has RYBIEA yet been
 liberated (.) Urgent

It liable to interception this
 message must be sent in cipher.

.....Lt.Colonel.

PRIORITY.....

TOO.....

THI.....

TGR.....

File in date order
 on 14760/2

C. P/S.

97.

ROVELLA

Ref. p. 76. and p. 41

After several visits to
G.S. 1 (6) 202 Dist. I have
now been informed that
the above named has not
been released in spite of
orders issued by G.S. 1.

The Area Commander interposed
and ordered him not to
be liberated.

G.S. 1. has now informed
Area Comd that he has
no further order release
in detention of these internees
and that Ravella will be
released at once.

G.S. 1 (6) 2 Dist. will
inform us when this has
been done.

12/1/43




785016

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Administrative Section

AOC/42/5Int

10 Mar 44

Subject: Francesco Rovella.

To : MR. AOCF.

1 Reference your AOCF/1456/12/1 (1b) of 9 Feb.

2 This matter has now been dealt with. The points raised by para 10 of your letter have all been stressed and the Minister of The Interior has written to the Prefect of Campobasso (through the Regional Commission) to correct the false impression that the previous letter from his department had given.

3 A copy of Interior Sub-Commission letter AOC/42/5 Int 6/23 Feb to NC Region 7 which more fully deals with the matter and a translation of Snr Reale's second letter is enclosed for your information.

STAGGATE
VF Adm Sec

Copy to: Interior 42/5/Int
Public Safety 14760/2 PS

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTERIOR SUB-COMMISSION

ACC/42/5/INT

18th February, 1944.

SUBJECT: Rovella, Francesco. late Questore of Campobasso.

TO : Vice President. Administrative Section.

1. Signor Reale was interviewed by me personally this morning.
2. Paras. 10 and 11 of ACMF/1456/12/9/IB of 9th February, were brought clearly to Signor Reale's notice.
3. Signor Reale denied all knowledge of the letter, stating that it had been written entirely without his cognizance.
4. He requested that he might through me, be given a copy of the letter, or preferably be allowed to see the original letter in my presence.
5. He wished to make inquiries in the matter, and to deal with any of his subordinate staff who had written such a letter without authority from him.
6. He gave me his assurance that he would, through the proper channels, address a letter to the Prefect of Campobasso, in accordance with the terms of para.11 of the original ACMF letter under review.
7. I recommend that the request in para. 4 be acceded to.

R. G. B. Spicer
R. G. B. SPICER,
Lt. Colonel,
Acting Director,
Interior Sub-Commission.

18A

16 Feb. 1964

To: Director, Defense Submarine

- ① Following our conversation of the evening, I.P. request you to take up the matter with Sig Pense at the same time as that concerning Prof. Van Couver.
- ② Will you then please take the necessary action to put into effect the requirements of pages 10 & 11 of No. 16A of attached file.

J. R. Lampe
C.O. Act. Sec.

BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL EQUAL U. S. CONFIDENTIAL

17A

REAR HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

14 February 1944

ACC/14740/2/PS

SUBJECT: ROVERLA Francisco.

TO : Vice President Admin. Section.

The attached memorandum from HQ ACME deals with a case which was handled by AMG 15 Army Group. The letter from Marshal BADOLLET was a personal one to Major General Lord REYNOLDS and was dealt with by Brigadier DASH in the first instance.

In view of this and of the points stressed in para 10 of the ACME memorandum it is possible that the Executive Commissioner would wish to consider the matter before any action is taken by this Sub-Commission. It would appear to require handling at a higher level.

The relevant papers have been extracted from the files of AMG HQ ACME and put into a new file.



R. M. J. MARTIN
Lt. Col.

For Chief Public Safety
Sub-Commission

RMJ/14740

785016

SUBJECT: ROVELLA Francesco

Headquarters
Allied Central Mediterranean ForceBR CONFIDENTIAL - US CONFIDENTIALACMF/1456/12/G(Db)

9 February 1944

TO: A.C.C.

1. On 21 Oct 43 ROVELLA Francesco, Quarters of CALFORASSO, was arrested and interned by 1 Gen. F.3. Section owing to his pro-Fascist activities and sentiments which were particularly pronounced at the time of the Armistice. The internment was approved and authorized by HQ Eighth Army.

2. In mid-December Marshal BADOLLOIO learnt of ROVELLA's internment, and wrote to the Chief Civil Affairs Officer requesting that he be released on the grounds (a) of his advanced age and delicate state of health, and (b) that his record, sympathies and character were such that he could in no way endanger our security.

3. This request was referred by the CC.A.O. to G.S.I., this HQ, and a full report of the case was called for from Eighth Army. This report was carefully considered by this HQ, in consultation with AMG HQ, and a letter, of which the following is an extract was sent by this HQ on 25 Dec 43 to HQ 2 District, copy to AMG HQ.

"It is considered that, whereas the grounds for his arrest and internment were fully justifiable in view of his actions, confirmed from several sources, at the time of the fall of MUSSOLINI and of the Armistice, he would probably not now constitute a danger to our security if he were released from internment on condition that he remain in territory administered by the Italian Government, and in view of Marshal BADOLLOIO's personal intervention, it is thought that this course is desirable.

If you have no objection, would you, therefore, please arrange for ROVELLA's release subject to this condition. It is believed that he is at present confined in the P.W. Camp at TARANTO."

4. A.M.3. HQ 15 Army Group wrote to A.C.C. on 31 Dec 43 (ref AMG/122/82), quoting verbatim this HQ letter to 2 District, and asking A.C.C. to inform Marshal BADOLLOIO. It is presumed that the latter was informed accordingly.

5. After some delay, ROVELLA was released.

228 7/6A
13 FEB 1944

record, sympathies and character were such that he could in no way endanger our security.

3. This request was referred by the CO.A.O. to C.S.I., this HQ, and a full report of the case was called for from Eighth Army. This report was carefully considered by this HQ, in consultation with AMB HQ, and a letter, of which the following is an extract was sent by this HQ on 25 Dec 43 to HQ 2 District, copy to AMB HQ.

"It is considered that, whereas the grounds for his arrest and internment were fully justifiable in view of his actions, confirmed from several sources, at the time of the fall of BISCIONE and of the Amistice, he would probably not now constitute a danger to our security if he were released from internment on condition that he remain in territory administered by the Italian Government, and in view of Marshal BADOGLIO's personal intervention, it is thought that this course is desirable.

If you have no objection, would you, therefore, please arrange for ROVELLA's release subject to this condition. It is believed that he is at present confined in the P.W. Camp at TARANTO."

4. A.M.B. HQ 15 Army Group wrote to A.C.C. on 31 Dec 43 (ref AMB/112/82), quoting verbatim this HQ letter to 2 District, and asking A.C.C. to inform Marshal BADOGLIO. It is presumed that the latter was informed accordingly.

5. After some delay, ROVELLA was released.

6. It has now been discovered by the Eighth Army Field Security Officer working in CAMPOBASSO that the following letter, dated 16 Jan 44 was sent by the Ministry of the Interior to the Prefect of CAMPOBASSO:

"For your information, Comm. Dr. Rovella Francesco, late Questore of this Questura, who was arrested on the 21st Oct. 1943 by the Canadian Troops stationed there, has been placed at liberty, as he has nothing to answer for.

The a/m official, who is coming to your town to fetch his family and put his affairs in order, has been granted a month's leave, and this Ministry reserves the right to communicate directly to the interested party any further instructions.

You are requested to give the a/m official all possible assistance."

record, sympathies and character were such that he could in no way endanger our security.

3. This request was referred by the CC.A.O. to G.S.I., this HQ, and a full report of the case was called for from Eighth Army. This report was carefully considered by this HQ, in consultation with AMG HQ, and a letter, of which the following is an extract was sent by this HQ on 25 Dec 43 to HQ 2 District, copy to AMG HQ.

"It is considered that, whereas the grounds for his arrest and internment were fully justifiable in view of his actions, confirmed from several sources, at the time of the fall of MUSSOLINI and of the Armistice, he would probably not now constitute a danger to our security if he were released from internment on condition that he remain in territory administered by the Italian Government, and in view of Marshal BADOLLO's personal intervention, it is thought that this course is desirable.

If you have no objection, would you, therefore, please arrange for ROVELLA's release subject to this condition. It is believed that he is at present confined in the P.W. Camp at TARANTO."

4. A.M.G. HQ 15 Army Group wrote to A.C.C. on 31 Dec 43 (ref AMB/412/82), quoting verbatim this HQ letter to 2 District, and asking A.C.C. to inform Marshal BADOLLO. It is presumed that the latter was informed accordingly.

5. After some delay, ROVELLA was released.

6. It has now been discovered by the Eighth Army Field Security Officer working in CATOZASSO that the following letter, dated 16 Jan 44, was sent by the Ministry of the Interior to the Prefect of CATOZASSO:

"For your information, Com. Dr. Rovella Francesco, late Questore of this Questura, who was arrested on the 21st Oct. 1943 by the Canadian Troops stationed there, has been placed at liberty, as he has nothing to answer for.

The a/m official, who is coming to your town to fetch his family and put his affairs in order, has been granted a month's leave, and this Ministry reserves the right to communicate directly to the interested party any further instructions.

You are requested to give the a/m official all possible assistance."

- 2 -

7. It will be noted that this letter is entirely contrary to the terms of this HQ letter dated 26 Dec, quoted above. It implies that he was arrested wrongfully or in error, whereas in fact there was ample justification for his internment. Reference to ROVELLA's visit to CAMPOBASSO is also in direct contravention of the conditions on which he was released.

8. It has further been ascertained that this letter was dispatched by the Ministry of the Interior to the Prefect by hand of a CC.FR. N.C.O. instead of through AMF, which is the proper channel for official civil correspondence to Eighth Army area. If the right channels had been used it is clear that AMF would have been able to prevent the creation of a wrong and unfortunate impression.

9. The case has created a bad impression in CAMPOBASSO, where the contents of the Ministry's letter to the Prefect have become widely known. It is regarded at once as a reflection on the judgement of Allied security personnel, and as an example of preferential treatment being received by a Fascist who has influence with the Marshal.

10. It is therefore requested that this matter be taken up strongly with the Ministry of the Interior and that the following points be stressed:-

- (a) That ROVELLA's arrest and internment were fully justified on security grounds in view of his record and behaviour.
- (b) That he was only released at the request of Marshal RADOGILIO on the grounds of his advanced age and delicate health, and on condition that he remained in territory administered by the Italian Government.
- (c) That he will NOT be permitted to return to CAMPOBASSO and that he will be arrested should he do so.
- (d) That the unfortunate handling of this case is likely to prejudice the favourable consideration by the Allied authorities of any future request by the Italian authorities for the release of internees.

11. It is further requested that the Minister of the Interior be instructed to correct the false impression created by his letter to the Prefect of CAMPOBASSO.

(a) That ROVELLA's arrest and internment were fully justified on security grounds in view of his record and behaviour.

(b) That he was only released at the request of Marshal EADOGGIO on the grounds of his advanced age and delicate health, and on condition that he remained in territory administered by the Italian Government.

(c) That he will NOT be permitted to return to CAMPOBASSO and that he will be arrested should he do so.

(d) That the unfortunate handling of this case is likely to prejudice the favourable consideration by the Allied authorities of any future request by the Italian authorities for the release of internees.

11. It is further requested that the Minister of the Interior be instructed to correct the false impression created by his letter to the Prefect of CAMPOBASSO.

I.S. Quis.
Brigadier
for
Lieut-General,
Chief of General Staff,
A.C.M.F.

Copy to:- Eighth Army.

66

15A

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

6 February 1944

SUBJECT: ROVELLA Francesco.

1A/B

TO : Chief, Public Safety Sub-Commission

On 9 Dec. 43 Marshal Badoglio wrote to Lord Kennell seeking the release of ROVELLA Francesco, Quarters of CAMPOBASSO Province who had been arrested by FCB on 21 Oct. 43 and transferred to the P.S. enclosure at ISERANTO.

5A

SCAO AND Right Army reported on 11 Dec 43 that ROVELLA's history was that of an ardent fascist and a whole hearted collaborator with the Germans to whom he communicated information inimical to the Security and progress of the Allies. He was also reported to have initiated various measures against anti-fascists.

7A

After consideration of this report, 15 Army Group in consultation with ACD P4 informed No. 2 District, who were responsible for ROVELLA's custody, that whereas the grounds for his arrest and internment were fully justifiable in view of his actions..... he would probably not now constitute a danger to our security if he were released from internment on condition that he remain in territory administered by the Italian Government....."

ROVELLA was accordingly released toward the end of January.

Lt. Col Gibson, GSI (b). ACDP informed us that the Ministry of the Interior has now written a letter - not through channels but passed by hand - to the Prefect of CAMPOBASSO advising him that ROVELLA is being allowed to return to CAMPOBASSO to collect his wife and belongings and instructing him, the Prefect, to give ROVELLA all possible assistance.

Lt. Col. Gibson is writing to ACD on the subject so the letter may reach this Sub-Commission.

[Signature]
Lt. Col.
A.C.P.S.

SUBJECT: Quintero REVELLA

ACG
HQ ACHP
CMT

ACC BRISTOL

ACG/1.12/71
22 Jan 74

1. Further to this office ACH/1.12/82 of 31 Dec and your ACC/30/43 of 29 Dec 43, we have now been advised by HQ No. 2 DISTRICT by signal that REVELLA has been liberated.
2. The delay in effecting the release has not been explained by HQ No. 2 DISTRICT.

[Signature]
Colonel,
Chief Staff Officer.

785016

412

22 JAN 44

13A

CONFIDENTIAL

OR TELEPRINTED MESSAGE
IN

FOLIO NO 00931
21 JAN 44

FROM : DISTWO
TO : AMG 13 ARMY GP
OBJ NO : 12116

TOD 0900A
THI 81L
TOR 1635

REF FA 805. ROVELLA HAS BEEN LIBERATED

AMOOT 4 ACTION

SMB 1715A/21.
T.T. 1725A/21
340.

ACTION

See Jacket I

36. 80-82

Ref

785016

SUBJECT: Questore Rovella.

CONFIDENTIAL.

H.Q., A.M.C.,
15 Army Group,
C.M.F.TO: A.C.C., BRINDISI.AMG/432/32.
31.Dec.43.

Reference your ACC/30/40 of 29.Dec.43. A reply was sent to Marshal Badoglio on 11.Dec.43 stating that inquiries were being made and that he would be informed of the result as soon as they were completed.

2. 15 Army Group has now written to No.2 District as follows :

"It is considered that whereas the grounds for his arrest and internment were fully justifiable in view of his actions, confirmed from several sources, at the time of the fall of MUSSOLINI and of the Armistice, he would probably not now constitute a danger to our security if he were released from internment on condition that he remain in territory administered by the Italian Government, and in view of Marshal BADOGLIO's personal intervention, it is thought that this course is desirable.

If you have no objection, would you, therefore, please arrange for ROVELLA's release subject to this condition. It is believed that he is at present confined in the P.W. Cage at TARANTO. "

3. It has been ascertained that No.2 District has ordered the release of Rovella subject to the conditions suggested. This H.Q. will be informed of the date on which he is liberated, and it will be repeated to you.

4. In the absence of the D.C.C.A.O. on tour no letter is being sent direct to Marshal Badoglio, but it would be appreciated if you will convey to him as much of the above as you think proper.

Colonel,
Chief Staff Officer.

1 3 3 2

785016

31 DEC 1943

1011

Letter sent and f.s.

29 DECEMBER, 1943.
ACC/30/40.

SUBJECT: QUESTORE ROVELLA -
CAMFORASSO.

TO: COLONEL THORNE THORNE, O.B.E.
A.M.C. S.O.
15 ARMY GROUP.

FROM: CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION.

See 18/B

On 2 Dec. '43 I forwarded a personal letter to LORD KENNELL from MARSHAL D'ADOLFO on this case. Today the Marshal was again enquiring as to the outcome and I therefore write to ask you to have the matter followed up.

You will probably remember the case: this elderly gentleman, whom the Marshal personally guarantees, has been kept in detention for 2 months or more, ⁱⁿ insalubrious conditions without being questioned or having an opportunity to present his case.

S B Marm

again enquiring as to the outcome and I therefore write to ask you to have the matter followed up.

You will probably remember the case: this elderly gentleman, whom the Marshal personally guarantees, has been kept in detention for 2 months or more, ⁱⁿinsalubrious conditions without being questioned or having an opportunity to present his case.

S B Mann
LT. COL.
CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER.
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION.

60

PL

9.1.

Ref. p. 78 release of
 Ronella has been
 ordered by No 2 Dist.
 who will report when
 he has been liberated.

I have therefore prepared
 letter in continuation of
 one at page 38 for
 your approval and
 signature of D.C.C. & C.

Letter at page 10H just
 received may cause
 alteration to my letter?

Share copy of my letter
 for ~~AC.C.~~
 AC.C.
 oh

31/12/43.



7/2/77

D.C.C.A.O

1A ~~26~~ w.r. 34-41 1A-67

At ³⁷39 you promised a further letter to Marshal Badoglio but this should await notification from No. 2 Det. that they agree to release Ravella?

(16) 28/12

1. Ensure that GSI No 2 ^{is} is acting on the lines of 1.76.1A
2. Ask him to notify us of F.T.A. of release
3. Inform Acc for Badoglio accordingly

26/12 58

1 3 3 7

785016

Subject: ROVILLA, Francesco fu Paolo, ^{PS} 15 Army
ex-questore of CANTON 3008

CONFIDENTIAL

Br. CONFIDENTIAL = U.S.

15AG/1455/3m/6 (1b).

C.S.I., No. 2 District.

26 Dec 43.

7A

1. The above was arrested by 1 Cdn F.S. Section on 21 Oct 43 at GEMBRASO, and interned by Eighth Army as a potential danger to our security.
2. Marshal B. BOGLIO, when he discovered that ROVILLA was interned in a P. O. Cage at TORINO, wrote to the Chief Civil Affairs Officer requesting that this man be released on the grounds (a) of his advanced age and delicate health, and (b) that his record, sympathies and character were such that he could in no way endanger our security.
3. A full report of the case was called for by this H. Q. from Eighth Army. This report has been carefully considered by this H. Q. in consultation with A.M.G. H. Q. It is considered that whereas the grounds for his arrest and internment were fully justifiable in view of his actions, confirmed from several sources, at the time of the fall of MUSSOLINI and of the armistice, he would probably not now constitute a danger to our security if he were released from internment on condition that he remain in territory administered by the Italian Government, and in view of Marshal B. BOGLIO's personal intervention, it is thought that this course is desirable.
4. If you have no objection, would you, therefore, please arrange for ROVILLA's release subject to this condition. It is believed that he is at present confined in the P. O. Cage at TORINO.

C.S.I.
for info
25/12

W.D. Libson - Lt. Col

6A

Brigadier,
B.G.S.(1),
15 Army Group.

Copy to: C.S.I., Eighth Army.

15AG 1455; 15 Army Group (Your 15AG 1455 dated 22 Dec 43 refers).

57

SUBJECT: Career of ROVELLA.

file *6A*

H.Q., A.M.G.,
15 Army Group,
G.M.F.

TO: GSI(b),
H.Q. 15 Army Group.

MR/412/
22.Dec.43.

Reference attached documents on career of ROVELLA handed to Col. Thorne Thorne by Col. Gibson on 22.Dec.43, it is suggested that ROVELLA be released as requested by Marshall Badoglio provided the Italian Government guarantees that he remains in APULIA excluding the Province of FOGGIA.

2. Do you agree please ?

[Signature]
Brigadier,
D.C.C.A.O.

/RAC.

Dispatched on 22 Dec
for action.
(242)

SUBJECT: Comm. Francesco Rovella.AMG. H.Q.,
15 Army Group.

17 DEC 1943

AMG. H.Q. Eighth Army.

Ref: OA/90/16A.

14 Dec 43.

Reference your letter AMG/411/ dated 11 Dec 43.

1. Rovella, Francesco, born 1882, Doctor of Law and Questore of Campobasso was arrested by the Canadian F.S.S. after consultation with local C.A.O. on 21 Oct 43.
2. His history is that of an ardent Fascist, whole-hearted collaborator with the Germans, to whom he communicated information inimical to the security and progress of the Allies, initiator of vicious measures against anti-Fascists.
3. On 4 Nov 43, his case was considered by G.S.I. and AMG. C.A.P.O. when it was decided he be interned for the duration.
4. His case has been reviewed in collaboration with G.S.I. and no fresh evidence has been obtained which would justify ~~my~~ recommending any modification of the decision referred to in para. 3.

20 Mr. Wilson is making inquiries
through his channels - if possible

R. Francesco is being released from camp
he does not leave before 18/12

BU 28/XII

Group Captain,
Officer Commanding,
AMG. H.Q. 8th Army.

55

SUBJECT:- Comm. Francesco Rovella.

H.Q., A.M.G.,
15 Army Group,
C.M.F.

A.M.G.,
Eighth Army.

AMG/411/
11th December 45

Reference the copy of the attached letter dated 9th December 45 from Marshal Badoglio to the C.C.A.O., will you please enquire into the circumstances and report on them. Further, stating your opinion as to the desirability of releasing Comm. Francesco Rovella on condition that he remains in King's Italy.

Please treat this matter as urgent.

Major,
Military Assistant to
Chief Civil Affairs Officer.

DCE/SCM

Encl.

3A

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HEADQUARTERS,
15 ARMY GROUP,
C.M.F.

11th December 1943.

1A/B

I thank you for your letter P.M. 151 Prot. n. 1514
of the 9th December.

I am having enquiries made at once regarding
Coma. Francesco Rovella, and will advise you as soon as
these are completed.

His Excellency Marshal Badoglio,
Brindisi.

COPY

IL CAPO DEL TERZO

P.M. 19 Dicembre 1943

3B

Prot. n. 1514.

Caro Major General The Lord Rennell of Rodd.

Mi permetto richiamare la Sua attenzione su un caso veramente grave e inaccettabile.

Si tratta del questore di Campobasso Comm. Francesco Rovella, arrestato dalla polizia canadese il 21 ottobre u.s., condotto a Taranto e internato in quel campo di concentramento, dove trovansi tuttora.

Il Comm. Rovella è un ottimo e illibato funzionario, incapace di svolgere azione contraria al mio governo o alle truppe alleate; e perciò, è anzitutto un caso di giustizia, che Le sottopongo.

Nonostante le ripetute segnalazioni del mio governo alla Missione Alleata di Controllo, perché si fosse fatta luce su una calunniosa accusa, il Rovella, alla distanza di circa due mesi, non è stato nemmeno interrogato, ciò che sorprende, in quanto la libertà personale è molto apprezzata e garantita nelle Nazioni Alleate.

Ma, oltre ad essere un caso di giustizia, è anche di umana considerazione o di coscienza quello del Rovella, che, per le sue condizioni personali, non può più a lungo rimanere assoggettato al duro trattamento, che gli viene usato nel campo di concentramento, in cui è internato. Basti dire che il Rovella, alto funzionario, uomo di oltre sessanta anni e in condizioni malfatte di salute, è costretto a giacere per terra,

- 2 -

senza poter disporre nemmeno di un po di paglia.

Confido negli alti sentimenti di giustizia e di umana
considerazione di V.S.

BADOLIO.

b1/Brifed

2A

Acknowledge to Badoglio
and tell him that I am
having engineers made at once

2. Ask H.Q. & A.D. 6 to
enquire into the circumstances
and report on them & the
desirability of releasing the
man on condition he remains
in King's Italy

M 10/24/43



IL CAPO DEL GOVERNO

Prot.n.I314

P.M.I5I-9 Dicembre 1943

Translation 13

Caro Major General The Lord Rennell of Rodd.

Mi permetto richiamare la Sua attenzione su un caso veramente grave e increscioso.

Si tratta del questore di Campobasso Comm. Francesco Rovella, arrestato dalla polizia canadese il 21 ottobre u.s., tradotto a Taranto e internato in quel campo di concentramento, dove trovasi tuttora.

Il Comm. Rovella é un ottimo e illibato funzionario, incapace di svolgere azione contraria al mio governo o alle truppe alleate; e perciò, é anzitutto un caso di giustizia, che Le sottopongo.

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IL CARO DEL GOVERNO

./.

anni e in condizioni malferme di salute, è costretto a giacere per terra, senza poter disporre nemmeno di un pò di paglia.

Confido negli alti sentimenti di giustizia e di umana considerazione di V.S.

(Translation)

Dear Major General The Lord Rennel of Rodd.

I take the liberty to bring to your notice a very serious and regrettable case.

The matter is about the Questore of Campobasso, Comm. Francesco Rovelle, who was arrested by the Canadian Police on 21 October, this year, and brought to Toronto and put into the internment camp there, where he still is.

The Comm. Rovelle is a very good and upright official incapable of doing an action against my Government or the Allied Forces; and therefore that which I am submitting to you, is chiefly a case of Justice.

Although my Government has repeatedly asked the Allied Control Mission to clarify this calumnious accusation, at Mr. Rovelle, after 2 months, has not yet been questioned, at which I marvel, because the individual liberty is very esteemed and guaranteed by the Allies.

But, being a case of Justice, this is a case of human consideration and conscience, because Mr. Rovelle, owing to his personal condition, can no longer be under hard treatment, which he has in the internment camp, where he is. It is enough to say that Mr. Rovelle, a high official, over 60 years old and in poor health, is compelled to lie on the ground without even getting some straw.

I trust to your high feelings of Justice and human consideration.

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Although my Government has repeatedly asked the Allied Control Mission to clarify this calumnious accusation, Mr. Rovella, after 3 months, has not yet been questioned, at which I marvel, because the individual liberty is very esteemed and guaranteed by the Allies.

But, being a case of Justice, this is a case of human consideration and conscience, because Mr. Rovella, owing to his personal condition, can no longer be under hard treatment, which he has in the internment camp, where he is. It is enough to say that Mr. Rovella, a high official, over 60 years old and in poor health, is compelled to lie on the ground without even getting some straw.

I trust to your high feelings of Justice and human consideration.

(Signed) Badoglio

