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SANTORO, ROSALBINO
JUN. 1944

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 994

29 JUN 44
(Date)

FROM	TO
Chief Commissioner	
Dep. Chief Commissioner	
Dep. Secretary General	
R.C. & M. G. Section	
Political Section	
Administrative Section	
Education	
Interior	
Legal	
Monument, Fine Arts	
Property Control	
Public Health	
Public Safety	
Economic Section	
Agriculture	
Finance	833
Industry & Commerce	
Labor	
Army	
Communications	
Navy	
War Materials	
G - 1	
G - 4	
Hq 2675th Regt	
Hq Comdt (Main)	
Hq Comdt (Rear)	
Adjutant (Main)	
Adjutant (Rear)	
Det Hq & Hq Co	
O.C. British Det	
Translators Pool	
Civil Censorship Group	
Medical Officer	
Security Officer	
Transportation Officer	

FOR:

Signature _____
Remarks/Recommendation _____
Information & Return _____
Approval/Disapproval _____
Appropriate Action _____
Investigation & Report _____

REMARKS: Seen by Det. V.P.

R. P. Whipp
(Initials)

To. V.P.

① This is the usual ^{2A}
type of Italian

demonstration it is not
signed

② Mr. Kirk does not
say what action
he proposes or
requests.

R. H. Lipp

Suggest we ask Kirk
to verify the statements

R. H. Lipp

no action
PR 831

785016

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

Spence and PH

1A

SUBJECT : Report on SANTORO, Rosalbino.

27th June, 1944

TO : Vice President, Admin. Section. ✓

1. Herewith a translation of a report concerning the above named person which may be of interest to you.

Paul G. Kirk

PAUL G. KIRK,
Colonel, Inf.
Chief, Public Safety
Sub-Commission

832

PGE/ngd

TRANSLATION

June 18th, 1944.

MEMORANDUM

TO : Chief Public Safety Sub-Com. Rear HQ. ACC.

Only a few days ago the people of Campania have come to know the persons who constitute the Naples Commission for Epurification appointed by The Regional Commissioner, Col. Poletti.

The creation of said Commission was not favorably accepted by the public and in many places has caused strong indignation.

The most open criticism is directed against President ROSALBINO SANTORO fu Nicola e di Malito Anna, born in Cosenza on the 22, Jan. 1894, given an honorary degree in jurisprudence, domiciled in Via Caracciolo 17, Naples.

Said Santoro is not accepted very highly (by the public) because of his past life and also because he is considered an opportunist.

It has been shown that up to 1923 he never manifested any hostile sentiment against the Fascist movement, and many, who were considered his friends, stated that he always had in his possession the Party Registration Card. In 1924, he announced his candidacy as a deputy (member of the house) but was defeated by Att. LAMARCA. He was not placed on the election list and the demonstration by 400 War Veterans which was initiated by him against the then Prefect D'Adamo, bore no results.

The disappointment brought about by his defeat caused Santoro to abandon Fascist Party but for only a short time because he tried to reenter the ranks without any success.

In 1925 a great scandal arose in connection with the protection and assistance to disabled war veterans, involving Rosalbino Santoro, its Chief Adviser. Following an investigation ordered from Rome, it was discovered that the records containing the materials supplied to disabled war veterans were falsified and fraudulently charged to the State in the sum of 1,300,000 lire. The records contain Santoro's signature but he justified it on the ground that his interest on political questions was at high level which did not permit him to exercise his control over all the papers which his employees presented to him for signature.

The trial brought before the Tribunal of Naples, against 2 of his employees, Giuseppe DE CORNELIIS and Pietro DE PINO, friends and direct collaborators, was an effect an accusation against Santoro, and even though he succeeded in acquitting himself of all Criminal responsibility, he failed to escape the sentence of public opinion.

Another great scandal, even though it was quashed in the very beginning, nevertheless it became the concern of the people of Naples, involved Santoro in his capacity as Regional adviser of the "War Invalids" when it came to be known that a countless number of money orders drawn by the Ministry of the Navy for the total sum of 80,000 lire, to order of disabled sailors had never reached the interested parties. It is to be noted that even on said occasion Santoro's collaborator was a/m De Cornelliis and that between the two there still exist ties of friendship up to this day.

When said facts came to light, Santoro resigned, but it was not accepted in Rome and was instead removed from his office and replaced by Feliciano Lepore.

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When said facts came to light, Santoro resigned, but it was not accepted in Rome and was instead removed from his office and replaced by Feliciano Lepore.

It is believed that during the time that Sanéanelli - Gianturco was a high political leader, he tried to approach him for the purpose of entering the political ranks, but his application was not accepted not because he was considered an enemy of the regime but because of his corrupt past life.

At the beginning of the "uno il Duce" - "una la disciplina" movement, lead by Balestri-Traversa-Callucci, it is said that he gave his backing, thereby initiating a new political life.

It is said: Mussolini, in fact a short time later, declared that there were many who were not members of the Party who deserve more consideration because of their meritorious deeds than those who were actually members.

Rosalbino Santoro was considered the most important member of this class it was not very long before his deeds were publicly recognized.

In 1928, while Prof. Rocco was Minister of Grace and Justice, the Honorary Degree in jurisprudence was conferred upon Santoro by Naples University.

As a result of the conferring of said honorary degree it is said that he displayed devoted sentiment toward the Regime and when the then Federal Secretary, Ho. Sansanelli was asked his opinion in his regard he said: "He is an individual with favorable sentiments toward the Regime and even though he is not a member of the party and notwithstanding his good intentions, he was never sought political relief."

A law prepared by H.F. Rocco, gave to those who received an honorary degree the right to practice the profession. In the years that followed, Santoro tried repeatedly to obtain the party membership card and it also seems that he tried to bribe some of the party leaders for said purpose but failed.

In 1935 he offered clear proof of his faith in the destiny of Fascism. It seems that in his letter to Mussolini, he requested the honor to go as a volunteer in Africa but his Fascistic inclination, which forced him to live outside the Fascist rank, was once again disappointed. It is still said "he believed to have finally accomplished his desired result when on the proposal of Miti, Mussolini issued a decree which entitled war veterans to enter the party. He was among the first to apply and many of his friends remember until this very day the trembling voice of Rosalbino Santoro when he said: "I have finally succeeded and from now on, I, too, am a member". His joy was premature, however, because the disciplinary Commission which was the body which examined the papers, rejected his application because of his corrupt life and he could not do anything else but express his deep disappointment to his friends.

The war having broken out against the Allied Nations, Santoro gave conclusive proof of his attachment toward Mussolini's policy requesting to be called to arms to serve the "just cause".

This time he was satisfied by being drafted into the service as a Lt/Colonel and assigned to the Naples Military Zone. However, he was discharged much to his regret and he would have his friends believe that this measure was taken against him from the fact that his wife is an American citizen.

It is also stated that during these days which followed the Armistice, Santoro was appointed on the Anti-Fascist Committee by Gen. Del Tetto, his friend and was the bearer of the note in which the General stated that he could not deliver the arms to the Patriotic Units which the Anti-fascist committee had formed.

Today, Rosalbino Santoro - it is believed - he would like to create the impression that he was a Fascist victim, that he suffered a life of anguish, persecution and abuses and that he was a strong opponent of the Regime but public opinion has not forgotten and his recent appointment as president of the "Purification Committee" has been severely criticized by all the citizens.

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