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CONTRACTS OF BRITISH-UNION OF FASCIST

MAY 1945

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MAY 1945

SECURITY DIVISION

FILE

MINUTE SHEET

No. of sheet	Date	File No. of ans'd LTR	From whom	SUBJECT
1	29 May			Contracts of British Union of Foresters in Rome.
2	20 June	Changed to <u>540.2</u>		(Yugo-slaw National Bank) BARBA Guido

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SECRET

HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED COMMISSION

C.M.F.

PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION

SECURITY DIVISION

29 May, 1943

Ref: SD/520-02 -

Subject: Contacts of British Union of Fascists in Rome

To: A.C. of S. C-2, A.F.H.Q.

(Copy to A.C. of S; C-2 R.A.A.C.)

1. With reference to request of Major Daly Lewis Office of A.C. of S; C-2, A.F.H.Q., for enquiries to be made by Security Division, H.Q. Allied Commission, in conjunction with Mr. D. GRUDI, A.F.H.Q. P.R.B. Unit No. 12, regarding contacts in Rome of the British Union of Fascists, particularly with regard to Rudolf DE MIEGE, a British subject who corresponded from Rome with Sir Oswald Mosley:-

2. Documents were found by Mr. Dante GRUDI at the ex-Ministry of Popular Culture, Rome, which formed the basis of P.R.B. Unit No. 12 special reports Nos. 11 and 13 dealing with the above mentioned correspondence and other papers found at the Ministry building.

3. Enquiries which I have made in Rome, show that DE MIEGE, who had tried more or less unsuccessfully to found a British Fascist Party in Rome, tried several times to interest MOSLEY in appointing him as an organiser of the

Office of A.C. of S. E-2, A.F.H.Q., made by Security Division, H.Q. Allied Commission, in conjunction with Mr.D. CHUDI, A.F.H.Q. P.W.S. Unit No.12, regarding contacts in Rome of the British Union of Fascists, particularly with regard to Rudolf DE MIEGE, a British subject who corresponded from Rome with Sir Oswald Mosley:-

2. Documents were found by Mr.Dante GALLI at the ex-Ministry of Popular Culture, Rome, which formed the basis of P.W.S. Unit No.12 special reports Nos.11 and 13 dealing with the above mentioned correspondence and other papers found at the Ministry building.

3. Enquiries which I have made in Rome, show that DE MIEGE, who had tried more or less unsuccessfully to found a British Fascist Party in Rome, tried several times to interest MOSLEY in appointing him as an organiser of the B.U.F. among British residents in Italy but MOSLEY would not entertain the idea as proposed by DE MIEGE.

4. His full name is Rodolfo Massimiliano DE MIEGE, born 21 February 1888 at Montreal, Canada, holder of a British passport issued on 29 August, 1932 at London; son of Luigi DE MIEGE and Isoline nee DE LINE.

5. He came to Rome from London on 26 September 1932 and stayed at the Grand Hotel, Rome. Immediately upon arrival he was given an audience by Mussolini to whom he disclosed a plan for the organisation in Rome of a British Fascist Party. Subsequently, however, he met with little response from the British residents, probably because there was no complete definition of the programme of the new organisation and because he was scarcely known to the British residents in Rome.

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Between that time and 1934, I am reliably informed, he sought on a number of occasions, both verbally and by correspondence, to interest Sir Oswald Mosley in aiding his project, but met with no success.

6. In May, 1933, having failed to pay his bill at the Grand Hotel, for a sum of several tens of thousands of lire, he was denounced for "fraudulent insolvency" and was the subject of a deportation order as an undesirable alien, but this was revoked by the Ministry of the Interior, as it was required that his political activities be investigated and clarified. He was closely watched for the ensuing year and his correspondence was subjected to interception but nothing of special interest came out about him. He was "written-off" as being more of a financial adventurer than a political exponent.

7. On 13 August 1934, MIEGER left Rome and, according to Italian sources, contacted M. BUCARD of the French Fascist Party with a view to starting in France a section of a Fascist Movement for British subjects residing abroad. Again he met with no response and it is believed that he returned to London.

8. Sir Oswald Mosley came to Rome as leader of the British Union of Fascists in November, 1934 and made further visits in April, July and August 1935, and again in January and April, 1936. According to Italian records, his last visit was in September, 1936.

Invariably, he stayed at the Hotel Savoia and was

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9. Invariably, he stayed at the Hotel Savoia and was granted Police escort by the Foreign Section of the Rome Questura. I am reliably informed that he would receive no visitors there and gave strict orders to that effect to the hotel personnel.

10. The only exception which he seems to have made to that rule was in receiving Professor Carlo ENDELLER, born 23 March 1892 in Rome, Director of Mantua Hospital since October, 1943. There is no evidence that Professor ENDELLER carried out any activities on behalf of the B.U.F. The basis of his connection with MOSLEY is not known. 8.0

11. During his stays in Rome, MOSLEY had several discussions with MUSSOLINI and other leading fascists and attempted to re-organize the lines of the movement started by

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by/

DM KIRGE, creating three sections of the British Union of Fascists in Italy - at Rome, Leghorn and Milan.

12. The greatest number of adherents was in Milan and for that reason, B.U.F. Headquarters was transferred there. In Rome there remained a small section at whose head was a certain Welshman named JONES, an instructor of Physical Culture at the I.M.C.A., at that time in Piazza Indipendenza, Rome. (Further identification of this man is not available at present). It is said that JONES left Italy at some time during 1937.

13. A friend and collaborator of JONES was a certain Amerigo ANDERSON, born 18 May 1891 in Rome, who served as a Lieut-Colonel in the Bersaglieri, who is believed to have been taken prisoner in Africa on 12 May 1942.

14. Following the imposition of sanctions upon Italy during the Abyssinian conflict, the B.U.F. movement in Italy commenced to break up and by the outbreak of war with England in June, 1940 had been reduced to very few adherents, almost all of whom left Italy at about that time, the organization thereafter being defunct.

15. MOSLEY, during his trips to Italy, was almost always accompanied by his Chief-of-Staff, Ian HOPE DUNDAS and by his secretary, William ALLEN. There seems to be no evidence available to indicate the manner in which

that JONES left Italy at some time during 1937.

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15. MOSLEY, during his trips to Italy, was almost always accompanied by his Chief-of-Staff, Ian HOPE DUNDAS and by his secretary, William ALLEN. There seems to be no evidence available to indicate the manner in which MOSLEY may have received funds from the Fascist Government for B.U.F. propaganda in England. Informed opinion is that the funds were passed to him through the Italian Embassy and Italian Consulate in London, after being "Channelled" through various Italian import and export agencies in the course of other normal business of the Embassy and Consulate with those firms in London.

Louis V. Gale
Louis V. Gale, Captain
H.Q. Allied Commission
Security Division.

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