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PROPAGANDA

SEPT. 1944 - JUNE 1945

10000 / 143

2429

THIS FOR

CONTAINS PAPERS

FROM SEPT 44-

TO JUNE 45-

CATALOGUE.

SECURITY BRANCH

FILE

MINUTES SHEET

| No. of sheet | Date | File No. of Ans'd Ltr. | From whom To whom | Subject |
|--------------|----------|------------------------|-------------------|---|
| 1. | 23 Sept. | | | Subversive Propaganda leaflets. |
| 2 | 25 Jan. | | | Padre GILIA GRENIGNI |
| 3. | 27 Feb. | | | Propaganda leaflets. |
| 4 | 17 MAR. | | | Reactions to "ALIEN Propaganda Report No. 3." |
| 5 | 31 " | | | " |
| 6. | 26 June | | | ROSA CEASE - Don BOCCAZZI |

6341

SECRET
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LOMBARDY REGION
APO 394
Regional Security Officer

File
6

Security
Division
Rec'd... 246
Book No. 8455
File No. 650.01
Action.....

8382
Ref. S/514
(H.S.)

June 26th, 1945.

SUBJECT :- Fascist activities / Mons. Cesare ROSA,
Don BOCCAZZI, Cremona.

TO:- A.C. Hq., Security Division
(Attn. Maj. HARVEY)

1. Reference our letter S/435 dated 21-6-45, Lt.U.SABETTA proceeded to Cremona to make further enquiries.

2. The manifest bearing Mons. Cesare ROSA's name was posted up throughout the town of Cremona last Christmas.

3. A few days later, when asked by a young priest named Don DAVIDE (AMG Cremona Province), if he were aware of what he had done, Mons. ROSA replied that he wrote the manifest himself together with a German officer.

4. Don BOCCAZZI, Vicar of the Duomo of CREMONA, was an ardent fascist and on every possible occasion showed his anti-Allied sentiments, especially in his speeches from the pulpit.

5. The AMG of Cremona continues to receive denunciations on a/m persons, and I understand that there is a considerable feeling against those who are alleged to have been very close friends and collaborators with FARINACCI and the Germans.

6. It is thought that any action deemed necessary should be taken directly by the Vatican, as Cardinal SCHUSTER's entourage are not very reassuring. *40*

7. Enclosed are copies of denunciations received by

Informed Maj. Heath verbally. This is a matter for the Church - not A.C. [Signature]

S/514

-2-

26/6/45

AMG Cremona.

The facts mentioned were established and confirmed by Lt. SABETTA during his visit to Cremona on June 21st.



A.E. HEATH
Major I.C.
Regional Security and
Intelligence Officer

5839

SECRET

C o p y

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LOMBARDIA REGION
CREMONA PROVINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Cremona, 21 June 1945

CR/SEC/231/21

Subject : Epuration of leaders of the Church.

To: REGIONAL COMMISSIONER, H.Q. LOMBARDIA REGION A.M.G.
(Attention Regional Security Officer)

1. This letter together with samples of anonymous denunciations that continue to be received by us is handed to Lt. Uberto Sabetta for your attention.

2. We have met considerable obstruction from the Archbishop who disclaimed all knowledge of any A.M.G. Proclamations and Orders relative to permits for publication of newspapers, etc.

3. We understand that there is considerable feeling against several of his chief lieutenants who are reputed to have been very close friends and collaborators with Farinacci and the Germans.

4. Our C.A.O. in CREMA has also had similar allegations against the Bishop of CREMA.

5. Could the Cardinal in Milan please be requested either to hold a full investigation himself, or to ask the Vatican to do so, as we understand that the Committee of Epuration is not authorized to do so.

For Provincial Commissioner:

signed.

J.P. PHILIPPS
MAJOR R.A.
DEPUTY PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER
CREMONA

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copy

Gloria in Excelsis Deo.

Dear Jesus, who came down in the dark night to bring peace to the men of good will, see how we suffer. Our Homes, your churches, are destroyed: under the houses lie children killed. Help that we should be able to rebuild them larger and more beautiful. Bless the soldiers, who die defending of the world that is yours In your holy name make that we should be able to save our women and girls who are starved and abused by the barbarians, enemies of your kingdom. Protect us and make it possible that we should be able to embrace the many Italian children, so much beloved by you, who were deported to the immense Russia, bolshevik and cold, which want to destroy the sanctity of the family beloved by you and wants us to become miserable slaves to a cruel prepotence. Those children are calling in vain their mother. Do you not hear them crying? We hear them from the distance and it break our heart.

What is it worth that you suffer cold on the straw, if we do not succeed, with your aid, to shake if torpidity and all united, with our soul full of courage and pride, ad true soldiers of yours, to rise and throw them who hate us; over the frontiers of Italy who hate us only because we love you so much. Raise your mighty hand and scatter the persecutors, yours and ours: the tears of mothers, the cry of tthe innocent, the pains of the wounded, the misery of those who are buried under the ruins, the blood of the dead heroes cannot be in vain because they suffered for your cause, give them the price, the victory.

Amen.

The children of Italy.

signed by

Mons. Cesare Rosa
Vicario Generale
Cremona 15/12/1944

5837

[A line of distorted, illegible characters, likely a scanning artifact or heavily obscured text.]

copy

June 21, 1945

Please read, assuring you that this is not
an anonymous letter.

In the "Paolini" barrack there is a country prisoner denounced for the following fact. While the Allied airoplanes bombed the town one crashed down, but the pilot saved himself. All the people present at his capture including the denunciator cried "Kill him, kill him". The accused, now imprisoned for a long time, is awaiting to be judged, if found guilty he will be condemned. This is well done if he deserves it. We dare ask why is there different treatment used, all depending who the persons are?

There is Don Bocazzi, parson of the Duomo (Cav. Uff. Commendatore, all honours given to him by his frineds Farinacci) who from the pulpit for months and months tortured us boldly venting all his poison, his hate for the Allied (who we awaited with great anxiety) and favouring his fascist frineds and germans. We reapeet only three of his exckalations showing you how he hated you/ (1) "God curse the English" - (2) "Theologically the English cannot win the war" - (3) On Sunday April 22, 1945, three times during the same day he called you "Barbarians, assassins, assassins, assassins," with a tone of voice that impressed many persons who were listening.

Informations can ve easily had from the young boys belonging to the "Circolo Sivlio Fellico" who were compelled to listen every Sunday to him, to Don Brioni, and to the Canonico Monsignore Galbiati to whom one day in the middle of the road, nearly mad for joy he gave the amazing delightful news of the new secret arms invented by the germans with which they would soon win the war.

We do not want the death of anybody, but only the satisfaction of not seeing him any longer occupying a place that he is not worthy of havin.- Instead there he is, always triumphant and boldly upright continuing his game; certainly not in public (he cares to much for his place) but during secret congregations of obliging men and young ladies.

We propose that he should be substituted with Don Primo Mazzolari, parson of Bozzolo, tormented by the fascists,

- 2 -

maybe instigated by the same Boccazzi. Don Boccazzi should certainly resign, or the Archbishop should provide for this, but as you know the father always tries to save his son even if degenerated, he could also say that he never heard anything.... It is know that he was never tormented like us. We hope that all these fascists are treated in the same way.

Many indignant parishioners

5935

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LOMBARDY REGION
APO 394
Regional Security Officer

Ref. S/435

June 21st, 1945.

SUBJECT:- Fascist Propaganda - Mons. Cesare ROSA

TO:- A.C. HQ. Security Division
(Attn. Maj. HARVEY)

1. Attached is a manifest which was posted on the walls in CREMONA in December 1944, i.e. during the German occupation. As you will observe, this was an anti-Allied and pro-fascist propaganda document.

2. The manifest carries the name of Mons. Cesare ROSA, Vicario Generale of the Episcopato of Cremona, where he still resides.

3. It is suggested that the Vatican might be approached with a view to determining his political background. For your information, CREMONA is a hot bed of fascism and is one of the provinces which gives most food for thought and which calls for vigorous action.

4. Further enquiries locally are proceeding.

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no (u.s.)
A.E. Heath
A.E. HEATH
Major I.C.
Regional Security and
Intelligence Officer

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encl.

GLORIA IN

EXCELSIS DEO

Caro Gesù Bambino, sceso nella notte buia a portare la pace agli uomini di buona volontà, vedi come anche noi soffriamo tanto. Le nostre case, le tue chiese sono distrutte; sotto le macerie giacciono i nostri fanciulli immobili nella morte assassina. Fa che presto le possiamo ricostruire più ampie e più belle.

Benedici i soldati che muoiono in difesa della terra che è tua. Nel nome tuo santissimo fa che possiamo liberare le donne e le bimbe affamate e oltraggiate dai barbari, nemici del tuo regno.

Proteggi e fa che possiamo riabbracciare salvi i molti bimbi italiani, da te così prediletti, e deportati nella sterminata Russia bolscevica e gelida, che vuole distruggere la santità della famiglia da te benedetta e ridurci miseri schiavi di una crudele prepotenza. Essi invo-

cano inutilmente la mamma, ti chiamano in aiuto. Non senti i loro gemiti? Giungono da lontano e lacerano il nostro cuore di fratelli.

A che vale il freddo che soffri tremante sulla paglia che punge le tue tenere membra se non riusciamo, col tuo aiuto, a scuoterci dal nostro torpore, e tutti uniti, con animo frezzante e indomito, da veri soldati tuoi, insorgere e scacciare oltre i confini d'Italia, da te benedetta, quelli che ci odiano e ci calpestando solo perchè ti vogliamo tanto, tanto bene? Alza la tua manina onnipotente, e disperdi i persecutori tuoi e nostri: le lacrime delle madri, il pianto degli innocenti, lo strazio dei sepolti sotto le ruine, i dolori dei feriti, il sangue degli eroi caduti non possono essere vani perchè sofferti per la tua causa: coronali con la vittoria. Così sia.

I bimbi d'Italia

*Security Division
Public Safety
Sub-Cor.*

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ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
UNIT NO.12 - APO 512

AD

"D" Section, Liberated Italy.

31st March 1945.

REACTIONS TO ALLIED PROPAGANDA REPORT NO.4.

CONTENTS:

- A. PRESS.
- B. PUBLIC TIONS.
- C. RADIO.
- D. FILMS.
- E. PROPAGANDA SHOPS.
- F. CURRENT EVENTS.

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1.

4. PRESS

The Roman press devotes considerable space to the difficult questions of Italian currency and finance. It would be hard to summarize in a few lines all the opinions of the various political papers, but on the whole the chief problems examined concern financial relations with the Allies and the internal situation of the country. As to the financial side it is thought that the failure to solve the problem of the Lira has rendered the Italian economic situation still more critical. The continuous emission of occupation money on the Italian market is in fact considered as one of the principle causes of inflation. The papers maintain that as long as the circulation of the Lira is being increased all measures taken by the Italian government will prove completely useless.

Cantachiero again raises the Italian prisoner question by two recent statements on either side of the title on the front page. One states that "Eight Italian prisoners have been arrested in London after having escaped from their camp" and the other "In Rome during the nine months occupation hostilities was given in many cases to English prisoners."

The main criticism of the Allies during the past two weeks has been directed against their failure to respond to the Italians' request to take part in the San Francisco Conference. This feeling is further embittered by the fact that other countries, which have adopted throughout the war years a definitely pro-Nazi attitude towards the Allies, are now rushing into war and being accepted by the Allies without question.

P. PUBLICATIONS.

Il Poste No. 11 - The Bari area comes the report that though this number had some circulation there was no comment worthy of mention. The only article it contained dealing with Italian affairs was "Self-Government in Italy" and this was too one-sided to give much scope for comment. It seems that such a publication fails to create reactions in the readers because of its guiding principle which is to deny to the Italians the picture of what the world really thinks about them. The articles seem to concern another world, a world in normal conditions of life and from which the Italians today are very remote.

Among the most recent Allied publications on sale in Puglia, it has been noticed that the magazine Victory Vol. II No. 4 has met with the best response yet from the public, and there is reason to believe that every copy which has been distributed has been sold. The same, however, cannot be said of Il Mondo Libero, returns on the last numbers of which are constantly increasing. The principal reason for these increasing returns is perhaps due to the fact that this publication is received late and articles are already out of date.

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Returns on the booklet USA No. 11 have not yet been determined accurately but they will probably be at a minimum as this publication has always proved extremely popular. On the other hand "The Elections in the United States" has apparently proved of little interest, this being mainly due to the fact that the event received at the time full publicity in the daily press, Italian periodicals and also on the radio.

It has been noted that of late a number of publications in English produced by Italian publishing houses, are appearing on the bookstalls. Two of the more recent are "For You" and "Fun". The latter is a collection of funny stories, light fiction and cartoons which have obviously been filched from pre-war English and American humorous papers. In an effort to evade copyright fees the editors have made acknowledgement with the words "To thank Funch and rally for articles taken from them." "For You" on the other hand is quite another type of magazine, presumably

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designed to provide the Allied soldier with a monthly magazine in English on Italy and Italian art and culture. It has been produced with some care and unlike most of the pamphlets it is written in good English. The editor explains that "For You" is designed to make the Allied soldiers know Italy as it really is, to help them to understand and appreciate Italian art, to explain what Italy has done for civilisation and to extol the benefits both spiritual and material that it has at all times received from Allied countries.

In the opinion of an intelligent reader at Bari the lack of good American and English novels translated into Italian is deplorable. He thinks that a good start was made but came to a sudden standstill. The greatest success was a novel called "Otto senza luna" which had strong repercussions amongst the Italian public. He thinks that good literature translated into Italian is far more important than the superficial magazines which are now handed out for general consumption.

C. RADIO.

From Sicily come the following comments with regard to the reactions of the public to the cessation of Allied control of radio transmissions. The function of radio should be considered more important as a medium for transmitting political and social developments than as a recreational project. It should be one of the primary functions of radio to stimulate production in every field, to encourage the work of reconstruction in Italy and to promote social welfare. The present organisation of radio Palermo does not enjoy the sympathy of Sicilian listeners because of the frivolous nature of the broadcasts. After the cessation of Allied control of radio, listening audiences allege that the direction of RAI which formerly worked in subordination to Allied authority, now devotes itself to activities in which it alone is interested, and has revived those exponents which existed under Fascism and which had reinforced latent latent under Allied control. Everyone is unanimous in their opinion that the Allies should not abandon completely their interest in the Italian broadcasts as it is felt that Allied guidance is necessary for the general benefit.

It is interesting to note that since the hand over of control to RAI many of the programmes formerly started under the Allies have been continued. English lessons for Italians, in particular, proved a great success and are continuing to be broadcast three times a week. Certain feature programmes and specific broadcasts for children have been retained. A movement for starting broadcasts for schools, has however, had to be abandoned owing mainly to the difficulty of obtaining receiving sets and also to the fact that only a very limited proportion of schools in liberated Italy is functioning normally, but it is...

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D. FILMS.

"The Shop around the corner" (American) After the success of the film "Random Harvest", the public expected, perhaps, from this American film another one with an equally good plot and equally magnificent

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settings, is a whole the audience liked it and considered that the technical direction and the acting contributed greatly to its success as the story and plot were dull.

"The Dictator" (American) This film which has already been the instigator of disorder in cinemas in Naples, Palermo and Catania, has again provoked an incident in Bari. During one showing subversive elements attempted to place explosive contrivances in the projection room, but the local authorities learned of the plot in time to prevent its achievement. This would appear to be evidence of the reactionary Fascist elements which, far from resigning themselves to defeat, are seizing upon every opportunity to cause trouble.

"Two bright boys" (American) The press received this film very coldly and all the critics were agreed that this was a third rate propaganda film and expressed surprise that the Americans should waste time producing such silly topics as this.

"The Sullivans" (American) This film was recently shown by I.T. at two cinemas in Rome, the proceeds of the performance being given for the benefit of sick Italian children in the hospitals of Rome. The charity performance were attended by large audiences and they were unanimous in their opinion that this was an excellent film.

"Matascia" (Russian) This propaganda film shows the valour of the Russian woman in wartime, who fights in the army like a soldier and does her duty to the end. Many people compared this film with the American production "So proudly we hail" which they considered to have been more artistically rendered. The audience, however, was unanimous in their approval of the spirit which shows how all the Russians have taken up arms to fight for their country. The battle episodes also aroused much interest particularly at the moment when all eyes are turned to the Russian advance in current campaigns.

"Giustizia" (Russian) This documentary of the Kharkof trials has been received most enthusiastically on all sides and is deemed a faithful portrayal of the ritual phrase "Justice has been done".

3. PROPAGANDA SILENCES.

The French Documentation Centre which is mostly patronised by French speaking Italians and French troops in Rome, offers a varied selection of publications in French, as well as two books translated into Italian, one of speeches of De Gaulle and the other of the addresses of French

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3. PROPAGANDA STILLS.

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4. CURRENT EVENTS.

Alexanders address: reactions to Alexander's address to the Italian soldiers show considerable satisfaction in military circles. The Field Marshall's words were taken as an appreciation of the Italian war effort by a fighter whom the Italians greatly admire. His praise of the Italian troops even when fighting on the other side is regarded as very timely owing to the Italian soldier's uncertainty as to whether

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he was doing right in taking pride in past achievements and sacrifices. The argument is again brought up, however, that relations between Allied and Italian forces could be vastly improved if Italy were granted the status of an ally, as until this happens the Italian soldier will doubt whether the new effort he is called upon to make is worth while. That we are fighting for, if our sacrifice is not to improve the position of our country in the international field is a thought often expressed by serving soldiers. There is also the much debated question of Italian help. Practically one out of every five Italian soldiers has a relative in an Allied army and the knowledge aggravates the feeling of inferiority born of defeat in the field.

Although a great part of the Italian population appears to have lost interest in the fact that a war is still being fought the Allied advances in the West have greatly aroused their interest. By now everyone is certain that an Allied victory is only a matter of time, though in the last months it was at times doubted. There are those, however, who ask themselves how it is to be explained that the rapid advance in the West has had no counterpart on the Italian front. Many people are convinced that the Allied cause is part of a strategic plan as otherwise it could not be explained.

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ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
UNIT NO. 12 - APC 512

"D" SECTION, LIBERATED ITALY.

17th March 1945.

REACTIONS TO ALLIED PROPAGANDA REPORT NO. 3.

CONTENTS:

- A. Press.
- B. Publications.
- C. Radio.
- D. Films.
- E. Propaganda Shops.
- F. Current Events.

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PRESS. Churchill's speech and the interest which has been shown by authoritative British and American papers in favour of aid to Italy have resulted in a considerable decrease in criticism of Allied policy towards Italy. One subject which is a bone of contention, however, is the attitude of the Allies to the repatriation of Italian prisoners of war. Cantachiaro has dealt with this subject continuously and states "The half million prisoners still in Allied hands will never forgive us for having accepted this absurd situation. We dare to forecast that this constitutes an even greater danger than the devaluation of our money." The Italian people consider that the Allies should do all in their power to speed up the return of those who have asked to fight for the liberation of Italy and of those who are urgently needed for the work of reconstruction in Italy.

Considerable notice has been given to Eden's statement that Grandi has not been placed on the list of war criminals, and Unita considers that this is only a confirmation of the assertion that the British would have had nothing against Fascism if it had not one day become the cause of the war against the British.

The Voce Repubblicana is now publishing a series of articles under the title "We have known the British for 100 years" in which British conservatism and their imperialistic attitude in the Mediterranean are attacked. The paper writes, "The British, who love and defend freedom at home, do not bother about it at all in the homes of others. They are concerned entirely with the furtherance of their own interests." It should be noted that many of the Rome papers criticised the tone of this series of articles as being hardly appropriate at a time when an attempt was being made to clarify the relations between Italy and the United Nations.

In the Naples press lately there has been a rising tide of bitterness towards the Allies which warns them that the impositions and humiliations which are being perpetrated are killing the desire for a democratic Italy.

Churchill's speech was widely commented on in the press in Libe rated Italy, particularly those parts which referred to the Italian situation. A spokesman of the Presidency of the Council summed up in the following words the reactions of the Italian government, "We received the statements with great satisfaction. They make up for the silence in regard to Italian affairs in the official communiques of the Yalta conference. Churchill's references to the Italian contribution to the war effort were particularly appreciated, as well as his promise that Italy would once again become one of the great leading powers in Europe." Although press comments are favourable as a whole the fact that Churchill added no new factors to those already known is generally stressed.

Il Forolo points out with a certain amount of bitterness that no specific promises have been made to Italy as regards her status as Ally, the liberation of her prisoners, or on food and financial matters.

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Il Popolo points out with a certain amount of bitterness that no specific promises have been made to Italy as regards her status as Ally, the liberation of her prisoners, or on food and financial matters. While we witness the hurried competition in declaring war against Germany at the last moment, our own declaration of war, which happened in October 1943, at the most dramatic moment of our national life, does not pull the slightest weight."

Cantachiaro carried last week an unsigned front page article in reply to an article in the Crusader of 25th February which reviewed the satirical attitude of this Italian weekly. Cantachiaro points out that far from being a humorous paper it is serious in its efforts to reeducate the Italian people. The editor claims that Crusader's accusations that Cantachiaro has failed to respect religion are unwarranted as the Anglo-Saxon puritan cannot, perhaps, understand the broadmindedness of Italian Catholicism. Answering the allegations that their editors were formerly engaged in fascist activities Cantachiaro asserts that their anti-fascist sentiments go back to 1914 and have never shown any deviation. They ask that the Allies should not class everybody together and refer to them all as just a bunch of little

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2.

"Machiavelli's" who have gone over to the other side because Fascism was unsuccessful. Freedom of the press is a good thing as long as it is not used to cast aspersions or weaken Italy, which is painfully trying to work her passage home.

The question of Trieste has brought forth a great deal of comment in the Italian press and there exists an unanimous expression of surprise that anyone should suggest that Trieste is anything but a purely Italian possession. In fact it is stated that one of the main reasons for Italy's participation in the last war was the freeing of Trieste from the Austrian yoke. It is further said that the deep interest which public opinion and the press have been showing in Trieste is a strong proof of the very close bonds which join Trieste to the rest of Italy.

With reference to the suppression of the black market the press has made many suggestions, one of which is the abolition of allied established road blocks, which in view of the risks of discovery involved serve only to force prices up as the man who is to bring a load of foodstuffs into the towns must estimate his profits against the losses of confiscated loads.

With regard to the shortage of transport the press suggests that the problem would be greatly relieved if the Allies could supply about 100 trucks to start a transport organization which would be run by private enterprise and not government control. They further point out that if the Allies were to leave behind all the trucks and lorries at present in Italy transport would be assured for about ten years to come.

B. PUBLIC OPINION.

"Il Mondo Libero" No. 34 has brought to a close the publication of this magazine. Although it has never had a very great circulation in Rome, where there is already an abundance of material of this kind, it has been extremely popular north of Rome and in the cities of the South. These articles which have dealt with Italian problems have always inspired the greatest interest but many readers considered that the publication was of a superficial character and did not cover sufficiently those subjects which are important for a better understanding between Italy and the Allies. In one of the last editions the article entitled "The Partisans remember Mack", a story which tells of the organization of a group of partisans by an English captain, is one which was commented on very favourably and which had a decided effect in creating among its Italian readers great sympathy towards the British.

The publication "The elections in the United States" has been of great psychological value and it is considered a most useful document in creating understanding among the masses about the seriousness and

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The publication "The elections in the United States" has been of great psychological value and it is considered a most useful document in creating understanding among the masses about the seriousness and responsibility which the right to vote entails.

After having reviewed a number of Allied pamphlets an eminent Italian has expressed the opinion that such publications as "Documents of Liberty" and "The war messages of Franklin D. Roosevelt" are bound to make a tremendous impression on a people who for twenty years have lived under a cloud of misconceptions which finally resulted in an undesired war. He states that he is completely convinced that Allied leaflets are not just propaganda but an honest attempt in plain factual language to teach the Italian public those basic elements necessary for the foundation of a true democracy.

This week sees the publication of a new magazine in Italian, "Il Nuovo Mondo", produced by the Office of Information of the United States.

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The first edition has covered a variety of subjects, including the various war fronts, the Yalta conference, Italian partisan activities, and the Trades Union congress in London, all of which are illustrated with excellent photographs. It has been greatly praised by all those who have so far seen it although one criticism is that more space might be devoted to articles and less to illustrations.

C. RADIO.

For the last six months radio Bari has conducted for Italians an "Amateur Hour" which undoubtedly was inspired by the famous American "Amateur Hour" programme has been enthusiastically received and supported by the Italians. It is broadcast once a week on Thursday evenings and admission is by invitation card which can be obtained gratis by the Italians writing to the radio station. A FBI officer attending these programmes was much impressed with the morale building effect of the programme on the audience.

A request has been received through the press that radio Rome broadcast news flash bulletins two minutes out of every hour.

There is quite a lot of discussion at the moment about radio Naples in the Neapolitan press. After the transfer of radio services from FTB to RAI Naples practically ceased to have a programme of its own and consequently has practically no individual activity. Neapolitan listeners are indignant and their annoyance is reflected in the press which stresses the fact that to centralise all transmissions in Rome means the almost total suppression of activity of other transmitting stations. The local press in voicing their complaints added a request to Rome that they should get rid of the fascist elements which were still in office in Rome.

D. FILMS.

"If I had my way" (American) The press received this musical film rather coldly and considered it a third rate production and a great disappointment to all those who hoped to find entertainment in American films.

"In which we serve" (British) This film has been very favourably received and it has been commented that although it is obviously meant as propaganda it is both interesting and entertaining. The direction and photography are particularly commended as are also the sentiments and human appeal.

"Millions like us" (British) The Quirinetta in Rome has shown this film which is the first of a list of eight or nine of the best English speaking films. The audience attending it, therefore, is of a strictly limited type of educated Italian plus a large percentage of Allied personnel. An Italian who speaks English fluently stated that he did not consider that this film would go down well with the Italian public as it portrays a section of English life which has no counterpart in Italy. He also asserted that even for an Italian who spoke fluent English it was almost impossible to understand the dialects spoken in this film.

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"Tom, Dick and Harry" (American) This film is considered to be one of the best showing in Liberated Italy at the moment. Although propagandistic in its tone the film is so well coated that it goes down almost unperceived and sells the American way of life very adroitly. It caused great hilarity on the part of the audience because of the incidents in a plot which was original and out of the ordinary.

"Stalingrad" (Russian) Mediocre is the word used to describe this Russian documentary, which the audience considered to be far below the general good average of Russian documentaries.

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4.

"Abraham Lincoln" (American) from Paris come the following comments: This film is one of the few Allied films to have been received favourably by the public in general; even the diehards found it interesting and were deeply impressed with the spirit of humanity so perfectly pictured in this atmosphere of liberty. It is a film which is especially instructive and useful during this period of general disorientation. It shows the most realistic picture of life and has the additional value of being attractive from beginning to end, and causes one to speculate seriously on what political life is in reality.

In Sicily this film was not very well patronised and in the opinion of an educated Sicilian the public who attended it were not sufficiently educated to understand the excellence of the production. From an educational viewpoint it is particularly valuable and it is considered that this movie should be shown to the Italian schoolchildren in order to help them to reflect on the liberty and democracy which now Italy must have.

"Notizie del Mondo Libero" These newsreels are always of great interest to Italian audiences and if a cinema fails to show a newsreel as well as the main feature there is generally much agitation. The war news, particularly at the moment on the Pacific fronts arouses the greatest interest, and any items which show reconstruction in progress, whether in Italy or any other country recently liberated are received enthusiastically. Amongst suggestions put forward is the suggestion that a newsreel be made showing a day in the life of an Italian prisoner of war held by the Allies.

E. PROPAGANDA SPOTS.

As these shops have officially closed up in Liberated Italy South of the Army Control Line, there is nothing to report.

F. CURRENT EVENTS.

Soviet exhibition of war posters. This exhibition, which is the second of its kind to be shown in Rome, has aroused considerable interest, although in the opinion of some of the visitors the portrayal of the Allied soldiers as clean-cut, smooth-shaven heroes while on the other hand the German soldier is depicted as a fiendish looking ruffian is considered to be rather biased. Designed for popular consumption the posters are however

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V.M.

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HEADQUARTERS ARMED COMMISSION
A.P.O. 394
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION
SECURITY DIVISION

3

REF : SD/650.1

21 February 1945

SUBJECT : Propaganda leaflets

TO : Patriots Branch A.C.

1. The leaflet in question appears to containing nothing objectionable on security grounds.
2. It is strongly felt that the proposed method of distribution is open to considerable objection one being that such a channel of communication could be used for the distribution of material of a less desirable nature, and in addition it is possible that the leaflets might be used for purpose other than these intended.
3. It is also suggested that this a matter for AFHQ and that no sanction can be given without their authority.
4. It is considered unlikely that AFHQ, if it approved at all, would sanction the distribution of leaflets in forward areas of through the Italian authorities.
5. It is considered advisable that the Propaganda Chief PNB be consulted.

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

CBH/nb

Patriots Branch file 90/2/PAT ref

"Suggested leaflet for Russian Citizens" 5827

5900

HEADQUARTERS UNITED COMMISSION
A.P.O. 394
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION
SECURITY DIVISION

3

REF : SD/650.1

27 February 1945

SUBJECT : Propaganda leaflets

TO : Patriots Branch A.C.

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

CBH/nt

*Patriots Branch file 90/2/PAT refers
"Suggested leaflet for Russian Citizens" 5328*

540

SECRET

ASLE 8705

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION
APO 394

26 GEN 1945

145
26 JAN 1945

Security

Regional Security Officer

19

25 January 1945

Ref. S/1353

Subject : Anti-Allied Propaganda
Padre GILLA GERMIGNI - Chiesa Sacro Cuore - Lungotevere Mellini (Quartiere Prati).

To : G-2 AC of S RAAC HQ
Attention COL. FISHER

Division 27 Jan
Report 4768
Book No 65001
File No
ADLSON

1. It is reliably reported that on Sunday January 21st Padre GILLA GERMIGNI, recently appointed Vesovo of Teramo, during his sermon at Midday in the a/m Church, was violently anti-allied and criticised the moral leprosy which, he said, had been imported from overseas ("oltremare") and which was now infecting the Italian population.

2. It is understood that the majority of his sermons are anti-allied in tone, and he appears to be exhorting his listeners to rid themselves of what he terms foreign influence and domination.

3. His present attitude is in strange contrast to his publicly known anti-fascist sympathies, as a result of which, doubtless, he was forbidden to give extemporary

Mellini (Quartiere Prati).

Div 5
27 Jan
Res No 4768
Book No 65001
File No
Action

TO : G-2 AC of S R/MAC HQ
Attention Col. FISCHER

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2. It is understood that the majority of his sermons are anti-allied in tone, and he appears to be exhorting his listeners to rid themselves of what he terms foreign influence and domination.

3. His present attitude is in strange contrast to his publicly known anti-fascist sympathies, as a result of which, during the German occupation, he was forbidden to give extemporary sermons and requested to confine himself to reading quotations from the Gospel.

4. In addition, although he should have been nominated Vesovo very much sooner, it is a fact that the Fascist Government

would not give its "exequatur". Furthermore he is influential in Vatican circles and one of the leading exponents of the Azion ne Cattolica.

5. It is well known that he is prone to violent outbursts but it is not thought that fundamentally he is anti-allied, more especially in his political beliefs.

6. In view of the general situation it is felt that this information may be of interest.

[Handwritten Signature]

A. J. HEATH
Major I.C.
Regional Security and
Intelligence Officer.

COPIES TO:
Civil Affairs Section AC HQ
Acting Regional Commissioner
Executive Officer (Provinces) Att.Lt.Col. BOMHAM-CARTER

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SECURITY BRANCH
A.P.O. 394

f

(1)

Ref : ~~IP~~/650.01

23 September 1944

Subject : Subversive Propaganda Leaflets

To : G-2 R.A.A.C.

1. A copy of a leaflet, together with translation, which was distributed in the St. Peter's area of Rome early this morning, is forwarded for your information.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

A.H. Ellis

A.H. ELLIS,
Captain,
Security Branch

5824

Copia di un manifestino redatto a macchina su carta riso, rinvenuto il 21 corrente in una via della Capitale:

"" Romani,

Sono circa tre mesi che gli Alleati ci hanno "liberato" come essi pretendono di dire. Che cosa hanno mantenuto di cio' che avevano promesso? Alla fame ora si e' aggiunta anche la disoccupazione; infatti arrivati i "liberatori" centinaia di modesti impiegati sono stati licenziati.

Se avessimo preveduto in che consisteva la "liberazione" non solo non l'avremmo aspettata, ma anche ostacolata.

Romani, Italiani.

Il destino avverso, i traditori della Patria hanno fatto si' che l'Italia da potenza europea e' divenuta veramente una semplice espressione geografica. Questo grande dolore ci affratelli per un prossimo risorgimento della nostra Patria.

Italiani.

I gloriosi caduti in Africa, in Grecia, in Russia, non possono rimanere invendicati."

Copy of a note typed on thin paper found on 21st of this month in a street of the Capital:

"" Romans,

It is about three months since the Allies have "liberated" us, as they like to say. How many of their promises have they fulfilled? Besides hunger there is now unemployment; in fact, when our "liberators" arrived, hundreds of modest employees were dismissed.

If we could foresee what "liberation" consisted of, we wouldn't only have waited for it, but we would have also obstructed it.

Romans, Italians,

The adverse destiny, the traitors of our Country have really changed Italy from European Power to a simple geographical expression. May this great sorrow unite us for a near revival of our country.

Italians,

The glorious dead in Africa, in Greece, in Russia, cannot be left unavenged. ""

