

ACC 10000/143/2640

162

ITALIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY

JAN. 1946

File with 4 logs on case in PS File
 CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
 ALLIED COMMISSION
 PUBLIC SAFETY LIAISON OFFICE
 NAPLES

Ref: PS/9.7

18 January 1946

Tel: 53296

SUBJECT: Patriotic Associations - Naples Area.
 (Italian Demo-Patriotic Party).

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
 (Public Safety Sub-Commission).

1. Further to my letter PS/9.7 dated 17th
 January 1946, Para 1a, there is transmitted herewith
 a copy of Questore's report (N° 10623 dated 18th January,
 1946.

For the Chief Liaison Officer:

TO	INIT
DIRECTOR	W.L. 24/1
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	W.L. 24/1
EXEC. OFFICER	W.L. 24/1
PL. OFF.	W.L. 24/1
LC. & REG.	W.L. 24/1
PR. OFF.	W.L. 24/1
AD. OFF.	W.L. 24/1
SECURITY	W.L. 24/1
CHIEF CLERK	W.L. 24/1

WLW/jag.

Enc. 1

Report shown above.

W. L. Wilson Capt
 W.L. WILSON
 Capt.,
 P.S. Liaison Officer,
 Naples.

Capt E. L. to super

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28/1/46

TRANSLATION

R. QUESTURA di NAPOLI

File N. 10623 Div. U.P.

Naples, 10 January 1946

SUBJECT: Italian Demo-patriotic Party.

ORBITELLO Mario di Francesco and di Ricciardi Clotilde, born in Naples on 31.3.1909, resident in Via Filippo Rega N. 18, married with family, unemployed, formerly manager of the "Italian Patriotic Movement" with office in Via Chiaia N. 197. He was sent away from said Movement on decision of the Committee being accused of illegal actions. Now he has organized the "Italian Demo-Patriotic Party" with Office in Via S. Giacomo N. 5.

At present this Party has only a few adherents, its tendency is monarchic and it is making arrangements to associate with the "Fronte dell'Uomo Qualunque" party. ORBITELLO is the president, he belonged to the former fascist party and to the fascist militia as an officer. From 1934 to 1939 he was appointed secretary of the provincial fascist syndicate of labourers of firms and insurances. From our records it appears that in April 1943 he sought on request of his wife who said he was mentally unbalanced. On 28.5.1945 and on 25.9.1945 he was denounced for having held meetings without the prescribed warning according to art. 18 T.U. P.S. Laws, and on 27.3.1945 he was denounced to the local Procura for aggravated personal violence.

IL QUESTORE
(M. Broccoli)

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
PUBLIC SAFETY LIAISON OFFICE
NAPLES

Ref: PS/9.7

12 January 1946

SUBJECT: Italian Democratic Party - Naples.

Tel. 53296

TO : Allied Commission H.Q., APO 394,
(Director Public Safety Sub-Commission).

Transmitted herewith for your information is
a copy of a report (No. 1021840 dated 8 January 1946)
received from the Questore of Naples on the subject
quoted above.

For the Senior Liaison Officer:

WLW/jag.

Enc 1

Report referred to.

TO	INT	D
DIRECTOR	15/1	
DEPUTY DIRECTOR	15/1	
EXEC. OFFICER		
POWERS	16/1	
SEC. & ADJ.		
PRISON		
ADM. OFFICER		
SECURITY		
CHIEF CLERK		

W. N. WILSON,
Captain,
Public Safety Liaison
Officer,
Naples.

Capt Ellis to
See psc

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TRANSLATION

R. QUESTURA DI NAPOLI

Naples, 8 January 1946

File N. 1021840 div. U.F.

SUBJECT: Italian Democratic Party.

The Italian Democratic Party in this city has its office in the Galleria Umberto I^o, and the central Office is in Rome, Piazza Montecitorio N. 121. Up to date the adherents are a few thousand; with conferences and the daily paper "Italia Nuova" the party makes propaganda of the monarchic ideologies.

Within the party a youthful section has been formed, which aims to assemble the youths with monarchic ideals, also the "Union for the repatriation of the POW from India", which aims to support towards the Italian and Allied Authorities the requests of the families in order to hasten the return of the Italian POWs.

President of the Party is Avv. RIVETTI Salvatore fu Domenico and fu D'Onofrio Maria Giovanna, born in Arienzo on the 26.9.1897, resident here in Via Brombeis N. 60, married and has two children. Formerly belonged to the fascist party; no penal records in the R. Questura files.

The party is directed by a provincial council and by a communal council, whose principle members are:

- 1) Conte MUNICCHI Pietro fu Carlo and fu Lambertini Teresa, born in Genova on the 5.6.1876, resident here in Via Riviera di Chiaia N. 23, formerly a teacher of art history. From 1927 he belonged to the fascist party, he was president of the industrial and commercial club, secretary of the "Dante Alighieri" Society and in 1935 member of the Commission for the restoration and isolation of the Maschio Angioino (a castle).

- 2) Avv. PATRINI GIUSEPPE Luigi di Filippo and di Lupoli Filomena, born in Naples on the 24.11.1920, resident in Via S. Lucia N. 90. Formerly he belonged to the fascist party; no penal records in the R. Questura files.

- 3) Comm. ALDI MARINI Guido fu Gabriele and fu Castaglione Morelli Elvira, born in Cosenza on the 12.1.1890, resident in Via Tasso N. 169, land owner, joint-proprietor of the Banca della Provincia di Napoli, Via C. Sanfelice N. 8. 12 Formerly belonged to the fascist party; no penal records in the R. Questura files.

- 4) Avv. MANIARA Giuseppe fu Carlo and di Renzullo Emilia, born in Naples on the 21.6.1896, resident in Via Salvatore Rosa N. 334. Honorary vice pretore, formerly belonged to the fascist party. In the records of the R. Questura it appears that

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- 3) Comm. ALBI MARTINI-Guido fu Gabriele and fu Costagione Morélli Livira, born in Cosenza on the 12.1.1890, resident in Via Tasso N. 169, land owner, joint-proprietor of the Banca della Provincia di Napoli, Via C. Sanfelice N. 8. **12** Formerly belonged to the fascist party; no penal records in the R. Questura files.

- 4) Avv. MANNARA Giuseppe fu Carlo and di Renzullo Emilia, born in Naples on the 21.6.1896, resident in Via Salvatore Rosa N. 334. Honorary vice pretore, formerly belonged to the fascist party. In the records of the R. Questura it appears that on the 28.4.1932 he was sentenced by the Pretura of Grosseto to lire 30 fine for contravention to art. 26. R.D.L. 2.12.1928 and on the 17.11.1932 by the Tribunal of Naples, pardoned for the denunciation of injuries.

- 5) Maria Teresa dei Conti PISCICELLI fu Giacomo and di De Filippis Giovanna, born in Naples on the 28.3.1903, widow of ORILIA Marcello, resident in Via Chiatamone N. 63, land owner; no penal records at the R. Questura.

- 6) GOVERNATE Vincenzo fu Giuseppe and fu Bellanga Adele,
born in Palermo on the 27.5.1894, resident in Via Luigia
Sanfelice N. 3 bis, Lt. Col. in the Army on pension;
formerly belonged to the fascist party; no penal records
in the R. Questura files.

IL QUESTORE
(M. Broccoli)

ALLIED COMMISSION
PUBLIC SAFETY LIAISON OFFICE
R.A.A.C. QUESTURA BLDG. VIA S. VITALE

Tel. 478895

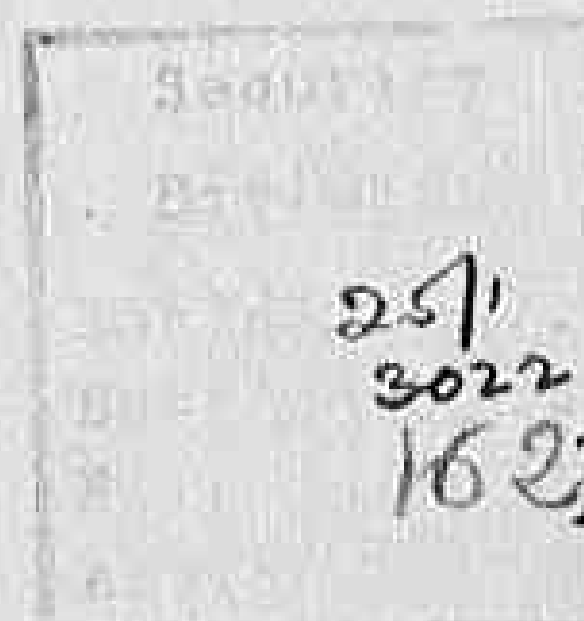
PSL/P/2/42

Rome, 25th January 1946

To : Director P.S. Sub/Commission, AC/HQ.
Subject : Bomb at the Italian Democratic Party H.Q.

The attached copy of report from Questore on above
subject is forwarded for your information.

R. T. Millhouse
R. T. Millhouse, Lt. Col.
A.C. Public Safety, L.C.

Encs.: 1.

TRANSLATION

Letter No.050381 U.P.A4A dated 10/1/46 from Questura of Rome.

Subject : Bomb at the Italian Democratic Party H.S.

To : Lt.Col. R.F.Millhouse, L.O.

On 5/1/46 at 19,30 hrs. the usher Condò Andrea of the It. Democratic Party H.Q. n.121 Piazza Montecitorio Scala B 2nd floor, was notified that a parcel of a suspicious nature had been laid at the entrance of the Party Offices. The Usher reported soon to Lt.Col. Cozzupoli Letterio, the Party administrator, who summoned the Reparto Celere while this Office which had been informed too, summoned the Artillery Direction.

At 21,30 hrs. a bomb-disposal expert arrived and removed the device which was a german mine of about 1-2 pounds of h.e. with a primer and a match covered with tin leaf, utterly bent out, which however had not given fire to the primer possibly owing to improper assembling. The h.e. was collected by the expert to be stored at the Artillery Direction after taking the finger prints from the wrapping.

The paper that the device was wrapped with shows scorchings and bears following handwriting : "With many wishes".

From the investigation it appeared that the device was laid between 19,10 and 19,35 hrs. during a power interruption at the building where the Party H.S. is located.

A technical survey has been directed.

Sgn. THE QUESTORE

*Copy to Director
Sub Com*
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TRANSLATION

R. QUESTURA DI NAPOLI

File N.1021840 div. U.P.

Naples, 8 January 1946

SUBJECT: Italian Democratic Party.

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Within the party a youthful section has been formed, which aims to assemble the youths with monarchic ideals, also the "Union for the repatriation of the POW from India", which aims to support towards the Italian and Allied Authorities the request of the families in order to hasten the return of the Italian POWs.

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The party is directed by a provincial council and by a communal council, whose principle members are:

- 1) Conte MUNICCHI Pietro fu Carlo and fu Lamberti Teresa, born in Genova on the 5.6.1876, resident here in Via Riviera di Chiaia N. 23, formerly a teacher of art history. From 1927 he belonged to the Fascist party, he was president of the industrial and commercial club, secretary of the "Dante Alighieri" Society and in 1936 member of the Commission for the restoration and isolation of the Maschio Angioino (a Castle).
- 2) Avv. PATRINI GRIFFI Luigi di Filippo and di Lupoli Filomena, born in Naples on the 24.11.1920, resident in Via S. Lucia N. 90. Formerly he belonged to the fascist party; no penal records in the R. Questura files.
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- 4) Avv. MANNARA Giuseppe fu Carlo and di Renzullo Emilia, born in Naples on the 21.6.1896, resident in Via Salvatore Rosa N. 334. honorary vice pretore, formerly belonged to the fascist party. In the records of the R. Questura it appears that on the 28.4.1932 he was sentenced by the Pretura of Grosseto to lire 30 fine for contravention to art. 26. R.D.L. 2.12.1928 and on the 17.11.1932 by the Tribunal of Naples, pardoned for the denunciation of injuries.
- 5) Maria Teresa dei Conti PISCITELLI fu Giacomo and di De Filippis Giovanna, born in Naples on the 28.3.1903, widow of ORILLA Marcello, resident in Via Chiatamone N. 63, land owner; no penal records at the R. Questura.
- 6) GOVERNALE Vincenzo fu Giuseppe and fu Ballanga Adele, born in Palermo on the 27.5.1894, resident in Via Luigia Sanfelice N. 3 bis, Lt. Col. in the Army on pension; formerly belonged to the fascist party; no penal in the R. Questura files.

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SD/162

EXTRACT

FROM RICOSTRUZIONE
of 2/5 of May
Index file

Yesterday morning, during a conference, held by Mario LOLLI of the Italian Democratic Party an incident took place.

The orator was just going to speak when a student, who is not inscribed in any party, stood up and asked: "Are you this same comm. LOLLI who was delivering lectures in the Fascist group of via Piacenza"?

The LOLLI troubled shook his head saying no.

The student continued: Is not yours, comm. LOLLI, a work which I am carrying with, intitled "Our Empire", in which it is exalted the work of the "prehappian" despot"?

As soon as the audience stood quiet, LOLLI began to speak trying to justify himself. The work, according with him, was written in the same period in which all Italy was rejoicing for the war against Ethiopia.

A gentleman told that LOLLI was fascist before the March on Rome and founder of the Fascio of Poggio Nativo (RIETI) and during the German occupation of Rome he delivered lectures in Fascist Republican Group of Celio, in which he held a directive office.

C O P Y

Extract from file liberated Italy N. 60

N. 4 - Partito Democratico Italiano. - Interview with Secretary.

Dr. Enzo Selvaggi was interviewed by two FWB officers on 14 March. In addition to being Secretary of the above Party he is the editor of its press organ, ITALIA NUOVA, and of the bi-weekly LA VOCE DEI GIOVANI.

He was born in Calabria some 40 years ago, and educated at Princeton University U.S.A., and also in Aberdeen, where he studied under Herbert Morrison, and in Switzerland. He has traveled widely, speaks English and French fluently, and seems energetic, and capable and probably ambitious. He is reliably reported as having behaved very well during the German occupation of Rome, and of having sent an emissary through the lines to Naples to organize his party in liberated Italy, especially among Army officers. His wife is said to be a wealthy woman. He and his party have strong monarchist tendencies. During the course of the interview, Dr. Selvaggi made the following statements and expressed the following ideas and opinions:

He was associated with the original planners of the Party of Action in the thirties. When the name Party of Action was first adopted hopes seemed warranted for a slow and evolutionary change from fascism to democracy, with Italy regaining her democratic institutions without violence or revolution. He however broke with this original group when it moved closer and closer to the Socialists and Communists, and adopted Socialist theories for a planned Society. While accepting the principle that trusts must be controlled, Selvaggi does not believe in the socialization of industry.

The programme of the Democratic Party is largely based on the practical experience of democratic institutions in the Anglo-Saxon countries. He spoke very much as the founder and father of his party, and said that he had taken ideas, insofar as they were sound, from the American Republican and Democratic parties. As a result, his political theories lie somewhere between those of the two American parties. However, as Italy's situation is physically and materially at the opposite pole from those of the United States, in many respects England is probably the better model for Italians to study. (Incidentally, according to him, England is likely to have to face a period of great economic crisis, the extent of which is not yet realized by the British people.).

Italy's future depends on what will happen when the North is liberated, and that in turn will depend on the attitude of the Allies. The latter made a mistake in over-estimating the inherent strength of the two principal mass parties - the Christian Democrats and Communists, which are believed to draw their strength from outside forces, the Vatican and Kremlin. Given an election held under conditions of reasonable security and calm after Italy's crying physical needs have been met by UNRRA and after Italians have learned

- 2 -

to think in other than fascist terms, the Christian Democrats will probably emerge the strongest single party in the future parliament. It is however a mistake to suppose that the Vatican has committed itself or is likely to commit itself to give its exclusive support to the Christian Democrats. Circumstances might well arise in which Italian churchmen might prefer a program analogous to that of Selvaggi's Partito Democratico. If the country could express itself calmly and freely, there is no doubt whatever but that these two parties and the Liberal Party between them would represent the "trend of thought" for it is no more than that, of a substantial fraction of the people.

It is not probable however that the "propagandists" of the extreme left will allow a situation to mature in which free elections expressing real popular will can be held. One only has to consider the recent demonstrations at the Quirinale and Viminale. The Communists are a minority but they are well organized and very active.

They have taken many former fascists into their ranks, and resort to methods very similar to those of the fascists. As things are, the great mass of Italians are not politically educated or mature, and react to situations in the only way they know and which they have learned from their history and from twenty years of fascism: that is, either with apathy and subservience, or with violence and autocracy.

If the people believe that the Communists will come out on top, in an eventual election they will be afraid to vote against them.

3 The Italian Democratic Party

SD/162 2

The President of the above (Monarchist party in Naples) Professor Bartolomeo Preziosi, illustrated his political views to a PWB officer in a manner which sounded characteristic of a certain mentality. He proceeded indifferently to condemn all the recent political developments as a series of intrigues for power and disposed of various leading political figures as follows: Sforza had been "finished off" by Eden and Churchill who had wisely placed their interdiction on this ambitious politician; Togliatti was a would-be dictator; Nenni was a friend of Mussolini, and Paceiardi was a violent Republican who had "interfered" in the Spanish Civil war and so was just as much to blame as Mussolini. The Professor, as well as two other members of the Party present, seemed to be very satisfied with these arguments. He then praised the great deeds and "gallantry of the Monarchy, concluding the affairs of the country could be safely entrusted only to the King or his successor. Prof. Preziosi made much capital of the oft-quoted fact that the Italian people are in the majority not interested in politics, considering this factor in the Italian situation as a potent argument in favor of Monarchist rule, which would save the people from becoming dupes of the Communists.

Another leading member of the Party, Colonel Verde, made a sincere and thus more eloquent plea for greater participation of Italy in the war, saying that a chance to fight the enemy was the chief desire of many Italians and for the present the main object of his Party's programme. It was no use for the politicians to try conscripting men because, he alleged, not 20% of those called up reported for military service. Volunteers were wanted, not political conscripts; action, not words.

In a long conversation with a PWB Officer, Giuliano Prollini, now Secretary of the Party for the region of Campania, told his story of the inside workings of the party in Naples. Seven months ago, when at the head of his own little party "Rinnozione Democratica", Prollini had confidentially expressed to the same PWB officer decidedly liberal views and sentiments; and had criticized the Monarchy though he was then already courting the friendship of the Monarchist groups in the so-called "Democratic" Congress of right wing parties. Prollini has now joined forces with Major Amicarelli of the "Fronte Unico" and with the Party of Union, both extreme Monarchist groups, and has set up the Italian Democratic Party in close contact with the Monarchist HQ in the Via Cavallerizza a Chiaia, and as a branch of the main party formed in Rome. (Passages marked with a line at the side are for information on-

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Having thrown in his lot with the adherents of the Monarchy, Frollini justifies his new allegiance by repeating the slogan of "law and order". Enzo Selvaggi, head of the party in Rome, according to Frollini, has entrusted him with the political direction of the Party in Campania, perhaps because he saw in him a more diplomatic negotiator, well versed in democratic phraseology as against the bluff and open type of Monarchist.

Frollini appeared to be somewhat elated, and described his stratagem to build up by any means necessary, a network of influential persons in key positions. He claimed for instance that General Bencivenga and Tito Zaniboni had expressed Monarchist sympathies to him. He boasted that he managed to obtain the fine HQ of his party in the centre of Naples Galleria by the trick of hiring the apartment as a private person. Over 60,000 lire were spent by this comparatively small Party which he claimed so far consisted of 3000 members, in order to have the apartment done up for their use. But since then, he admitted, Selvaggi had told him to carry on with local funds. He said he regretted that he was now short of money, otherwise he could win over anybody he chose. He claimed for instance by paying 3000 lire weekly to "Bandiera Rossa" while it was published, he was able to censor it weekly and see that no attacks were made on his party. He added that "La Fiaccola" had so far resisted his offer to renew the arrangement, but that the "Corriere del Lavoro", authorized organ of the "Libere Unione" -- so-called "free unions" set up in 102 Via Depretis -- was being censored by him in the same way. The whole organization, he expected, would in time be brought under his Party's aegis. He revealed that Dr. Francia, the "venerable" in the Scottish rite of freemasonry is a leading member of the Democratic party, as are also several freemasons of the Palazzo Giustiniani rite, headed by Solimene.

Last but not least, Frollini plans gradually to bring the huge Federation of 250,000 seafarers (Gente del Mare) under the influence of his party. By taking advantage of the fact that the great majority of the members are not interested in politics, he hopes to form a Seafarers' Party which would be in appearance apolitical but would, he said, gradually come under the Democratic Party's influence.

In the course of this conversation, Frollini also remarked that the "Arditi" Association (Commandos or Rangers) now affiliated to the Party, are generally feared (temuti) implying their great usefulness to the Party.

On being asked his opinion on current events, Frollini said he was overjoyed at Mr. Eden's statement and the policy he thought it implied; He added that he felt that his reminder of Italy's defeat which had offended some Italians, was not really addressed to "right thinking" Italians "ben pensanti" but to the Party of Action, and other such. (A-2)

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Extract from File NAPLES AREA - No 32.

ITALIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The President of the above Monarchist Party in Naples, Professor Bartolomeo Preziosi, illustrated his political views to a P.W.R. officer in a manner which sounded characteristic of a certain mentality. He proceeded inflexibly to counter all the recent political developments as a series of intrigues for power and disposed of various leading political figures as follows:

Sforza had been "finished off" by Eden and Churchill who had wisely placed their interdict on this ambitious politician; Togliatti was a wretched dictator; Nenni was a friend of Mussolini, and Pacciardi was a violent Republican who had "interfered" in the Spanish Civil War and so was just as much to blame as Mussolini. The professor, as well as two other members of the Party present, as well as two other, insisted with these arguments.

He then praised the great deeds and "gallantry" of the monarchy, concluding that the affairs of the country could be safely entrusted only to the King or his successor. Professor Preziosi made much capital of the oft-quoted fact that the majority of the Italian people are not interested in politics, considering this factor in the Italian situation as a potent argument in favour of Monarchist rule, which would save the people from becoming dupes of the Communist.

Major Amicarella, an official of the Party, had previously disclosed that the Monarchist group had called itself the Italian Democratic Party because King Victor Emmanuel had not wanted the title of Monarchist Party to be used. When Professor Preziosi was asked how the King who - it would thus appear - considered himself above politics could, at the same time, take an active part in political rule, he failed to reply.

Another leading member of the party, Colonel Verde, made a sincere and thus more eloquent plea for greater participation of Italy in the war, saying that a chance to fight the enemy was the chief desire of many Italians and, for the present, the main subject of his Party's programme. It was no use for the politicians to try conscripting men because - he alleged - not twenty per cent of those called up, reported for military service. Volunteers were wanted, not political conscripts; action, not words.

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He then praised the great deed and "courage" of the Monarchy, concluding that the affairs of the country could be safely entrusted only to the King or his successor. Professor Fregiozi made such capital of the oft-quoted fact that the majority of the Italian people are not interested in politics, considering this factor in the Italian situation as a potent argument in favor of Monarchist rule, which would save the people from becoming dupes of the Communist.

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Another leading member of the party, Colonel Verde, made a sincere and thus more eloquent plea for greater participation of Italy in the war, saying that a chance to fight the enemy was the chief desire of many Italians and, for the present, the main object of his Party's programme. It was no use for the politicians to try conscripting men because - he alleged - not twenty per cent of those called up, recruited for military service. Volunteers were wanted, not political conscripts; action, not words.

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In a long conversation with a P.M.D. officer, Guglielmo Frollini, now secretary of the Party for the region of Campania, told his story of the inside working of the Party in Naples.

Seven months ago, when at the head of his own Little Party "Rinnozione Democratica" Frollini had confidentially expressed to the same P.M.D. officer decidedly liberal views and sentiments, and had criticized the Monarchy, though he was then already courting the friendship of Monarchist groups in the so-called "Democratic" Congress of Right wing Parties. Frollini has now joined forces with Major Amicavelli of the "Fronte Union" and with the Party of Union, both ex-Monarchist groups, and has set up the Italian Democratic Party in close contact with the Monarchist R.C. in the Via Cavallerizza e Chiara and as a branch of the main Party formed in Rome.

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Having thrown in his lot with the adherents of the hierarchy, Prollini justifies his new allegiance by rejecting the slogan of the party in Rome, according to Prollini, has entrusted him with the political direction of the party in Campania, perhaps because he was in line with a more diplomatic negotiator, well versed in democratic phraseology as against the bluff and open type of communists.

Prollini appeared to be somewhat elated, and described his strategy to build up, by any means necessary, a network of influential persons in key positions. He claimed, for instance, that General Veneranda and Tito Zamboni had expressed communist sympathies to him. He boasted that he managed to obtain the fine HQ. of his party in the centre of the Naples Riviera by the trick of hiring the apartment as a private person. Over 60,000 lire were spent by this comparatively small party which, he claimed, so far consisted of 5,000 members, in order to have the apartment done up for their use. But since then, he admitted, Salvaggi had told him to carry on with local funds. He said he regretted that he was no short of money, otherwise he could win over anybody he chose. He claimed for instance that, by paying 3,000 lire weekly to "Bandiera Rossa" while it was published, he was able to censor it weekly and see that no attacks were made on his party. He added that "La Piaccola" had so far resisted his offer to renew the arrangement, but that the "Corriere del Lavoro" authorized organ of the "Libere Unioni" - so-called "free unions" set up in 1902, Via de Pretis - was being conspired by him in the same way. The whole organization, he expected, would in time be brought under his party's aegis. He revealed that Dr. Prandla, the "venerable" in the Scottish rite of Freemasonry is a leading member of the Democratic Party, as are also several Freemasons of the Palazzo Giustiniani rite, headed by Solimene.

Last but not least, Prollini plans gradually to bring the huge federation of 250,000 Seafarers (Gente del Mare) under the influence of his party. By taking advantage of the fact that the great majority of the members are not interested in politics, he hopes to form a Seafarers Party which would be, in appearance apolitical but would - he said - gradually come under the Democratic Party's influence. Of course, whether he will succeed in his plan is quite another matter.

In the course of this conversation, Prollini also remarked that the "Arditi" Association, (Commandos or Rangers), now affiliated to the party, are generally feared, ("temuti"), implying their great usefulness to the party.

On being asked his opinion on current events, Prollini said he was overjoyed at Mr. Eden's statement and the policy he thought it implied. He added that he felt that his reminder of Italy's defeat which had offended some Italians, was not really addressed to "right thinking" Italians ("ben pensanti"), but to the Party of Action, and another such.

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