

ACC 10000/143/2647

199/14

DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE

SEPT. 1944 - JULY 1945

File

Q. How many times did you see the man in the white shirt?

Director.

—

would not be there.

23 July 1944.

for proof

on: www.patvisas.com.

ivety.

Letter

The caller asks if Santini has been seen. He is not seen but that he found him rather strange regarding the expenses made for the financing of the patriot movement. Santini was upset at having been put aside after he had been promised that he should be the one to speak to the Allies. It was thought to be convenient that the Supreme Command should make a new Society, so as to regulate the position of each person who participated as patriots. Marasciallo Besse was informed and he agreed to this. Pacinotti was also spoken to, but although he promised to intervene has so far done nothing. The news which was printed on the "Corriere" of Rome, was made by General Ossilia in agreement with the Allies. He states that the communication that came out in "the Tempo" written by General Pencivenga, did a lot of good. He asks if General Pencivenga will go to the office tomorrow as he wishes to speak with him. The caller states that one cannot speak freely in Rezevi's office. The caller states that as tomorrow is Sunday, most probably Basevi would not be there.

22 July 1944.

Protest of high Italian Officer re-request for proof of money spent on Partisans.

Bencivenga phones to Col. Ugo Musco telling him of the difficulty there is in reconstructing a general account of the expenses that had been made in favour of the resisting front. The caller states that the excessive bureaucracy is due to the Settlement Office of the Supreme Command where a small group led by the Colonel and the false Captain Novelli (who results to be a simple sergeant-major under General Odions). He also states that it would not be nice to have to go to Pononi or other persons to ask for these documents.

23 July 1944

Information on Money used for partisan activity.

The caller Major Santini states that he will bring the letter to the Colonel. Bencivenga answers that he has not quite understood what was happening. The caller states that also for him it was a surprise because he had always thought that the documents were reserved exclusively to the Secret Service of the SM, as they were expences made during an exceptional period. The callee begs the caller, Major Santini, to write a letter stating that he, Bencivenga, is very surprised at the light way these documents are being printed, owing to their great privacy they could cause scandal and serious complaints. Textually he states "Does it seem possible that a Benoni should render account of the consignment of a million, of a million and a half? Then he said that a report will be presented to the Chief of Staff of whom the Command depends.

Summary translation, page 2.

The caller states that it would be better if the callee goes without fail to Varasciello lesse to retire these documents so that others will not see them. The callee says that now it is too late, they have gone around all Rome. The caller does not think that it has reached this point as it seems by appearance that the Varasciello is a serious man. The callee states that he will go but not much can be done about the money as when they were collected many times the money was left in a fixed locality and that they were taken afterwards without even counting if the sum was correct. The caller said that this was right and stated "tectuently" "Do you remember what happened about these 3,000 lire? they would not reckon for because they were missing from the pack." In any case all this was to be settled at the Supreme Command. The callee says that there is nothing special but thinks that Nello should go and see Snataro because there is a great political movement starting. They say that there are plots being started against the Allies.

21 July 1944.

Information on ex-Fascist

The callee states that he would like to speak with him to ~~ret-him~~ inform him of everything and asks the caller if he remembers a certain Morro who sustains them, and that the government would have nothing against appointing him. The caller states that this was impossible because he had held the charge of Federal Secretary.

6 August 1944

Political Developments and Comment on Allied Methods.

The callee states that they went to hear a young professor from North Italy speak at a meeting at the Collegio Romano where the democratic parties of whom Pollestrini was head and others thought to transform in to a great party called the democratis-liberals. He also states that he phoned General Pencivenga for help he needed for a brave valorous officer of the Chief of Staff, Lt. Col. Marcello Corsi, who was with General Raidella. Corsi has collaborated in every way even taking oath so that he could continue his work. He has taken the oath as did his General Raidella. The caller states his he a good element. Without doubt. The Colonel left for the North but managed to escape and rejoin Rome, but I don't know what has happened to the General. The Colonel was arrested whilst he was writing a documentation on his work, yesterday morning, he was arrested with other officers who had taken oath of fidelity to the Army. It was the Allies that had done so, but it was an error. I know that his activity was good but unfortunately there is nothing to be done. The Allies are like that: it is there system. The English Police act without any regard and then judge; they say that if one starts to discriminate first, one arrives at nothing... they would have run away.

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The callee says that there is nothing special but thinks that he should go and see Spataro because there is a great political movement starting. They say that there are plots being started against the Allies.

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4 August 1944

Political Affairs of Italian Officials.

The caller - I am General Rencivenga is Musco home. The callee, Musco speaking, listen I do not think it possible to be able to definitely close the accounts of all the expenses; because there are still those sustained by la Banca. The callee - Tomorrow I will bring you a copy the definite one can be done later. The caller - But this cannot be done because once we have

Translation page 3

handed over the sum, nobody will return us the money. Dalla Rocca has not been seen any more. The callee- I will phone now to see if he knows anything. The caller - The Command is dissolving? Where will it go? What a pity we will lose friends. When you phone Dalla Rocca you must tell him that the documents must be handed to Messe. All the bills must be shown and all the papers necessary to justify the expenses. The callee - It is not necessary to do this tomorrow, Sunday or Monday will do. The caller - also what I have had must be shown. The callee - It is a million. The caller - I have had at my disposition 1 million. The callee - But that those not go with the expenses. The caller - We must here from Dalla Rocca if all the expenses of the office have been controlled and settled. I also wish to see Gallerini because I want to save a poor devil of the Giornale D'Italia, they want to send him away. I want to see him myself for a personal matter because I have saved Rome for him. My question must be seen to. That famous letter, I have never seen it. The callee - It was made by the "Guerra" The caller - But it was only a compliment. They proposed my Command to the Comando D'Armata. The callee - and yet they were going to make you organizer of all the organizations as General of the Corpo D'Armata. The caller; But that my son is too little for me. The Callee- I think the letter was sent by Pacinotti. The caller - With such a responsibility! They told me that they would give me the pay as Governatore. The callee- but then, it seems that Pacinotti, has put in also Pottroni.

Press Situation Examined by Gen. Bencivenga.

As regards the Press Association I entirely agree with you.

I don't know if you ever read an interview of mine in the "tempo" In it I said that the most honest thing to do was the cancelling of the degree of annulment or dissolving by FEDERZONI. And this is essentially for a moral as well as for a political question.
(See attached n.1.)

10 August 1944 General Bencivenga seeks publicity at Commemoration.

The caller - Is there any news Excellency?

The callee - I have heard that there will be the commemoration of Amendola and that it has been ordered that our names were to be mentioned as his friends and collaborators. We must provide that there will be at the commemoration a certain amount of people for us it would cause a good impression.

11 August 1944

Activity of High Italian Officer

27

The caller - Has Angiolillo telephoned, he wants an article for Amendola. They want to put me on the "tempo" but I do not like it. The callee- Yes I know they want to. The caller - To tell you the the callee - who?

to see Ballenberg because I want to see him myself for D'Italia, they want to send him away. I want to see him myself for a personal matter because I have saved Rome for him. My question must be seen to. That famous letter, I have never seen it. The callee - it was made by the "Guerra" The caller - But it was only a compliment. They proposed my Command to the Comando D'Armata. The callee - and yet they were going to make you organizer of all the organizations as General of the Corpo D'Armata. The caller; But that my son is too little for me. The Callee- I think the letter was sent by Pacinotti. The caller - With such a responsibility! They told me that they would give me the pay as Governatore. The callee- but then, it seems that Pacinotti, has put in also Petrone.

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The caller - Has Angiolillo telephoned, he wants an article for Amendola. They want to put me on the "tempo" but I do not like it. The callee- Yes I know they want to. The caller - To tell you the truth I have got it against that little rogue. The callee - who? The caller - F.... If he does not finish we will all go badly. Have you seen that poster which is going around. I think a republican did it. It is certain that there is still sympathy going around for Padoglio. The caller - Yes it is the voice of the public. The caller - have you heard anything about the newspapers? No, I know that they were thinking about the commissarios, but for the old ones they have done nothing. About the new ones I do not know.

Translation page n.4

14 August 1944.

ACTIVITY OF HIGH ITALIAN OFFICER

The caller a gentleman states that their request seems to have been passed to the Italian Commission. He has heard so by the American Bradley. Gen. Roberto Bencivenga answers that it is a long time that the documents are passed over to the Italians by the Allies. and it is already a long time ago that Monroe passes all over to Spataro. The caller states that the Government for its own interest must listen to them. The General answers that the liberty of the press is going to be looked into. The caller says that if the Government refuses they must turn for help to the Allies asking them for a decision. Telling them that they do not want to finish into the hands of a showy government. Especially that Spataro whose politics is very much attached to the partisans.

16 August 1944

PURGE COMMISSION COMMENT

Bencivenga calls up Fusco to tell him that he has spoken with Basevi regarding the complaints made by the wives of officers unjustly arrested. He also states that he has told Basevi to publish an official communication stating that he Bencivenga since the 15 July is totally enstrengthened on questions appertaining to epuration. Basevi asks in which paper this will be published, and is told that so far he does not know but hopes it to be on the "Corriere di Roma".

COMMENTS BY HIGH ITALIAN OFFICER

25 August 1945

The Callee a General named Giulio asks General Bencivenga if he will return in Service. He is answered by the General that he does not know as over there there is a lot of confusion, and that so far he has not received his wages. Asked if he had the command of Rome, he answered that he had the Military Command of Rome and lived at S. Giovanni. The callee then said that yesterday in the newspaper "Avanti" the director Pietro Nenni wrote an article accusing the Commanding General of the forces and the Commanding General of the territorial troops of the capitulation of Naples in September. Nenni also said that if Rome, Florence, Bologna, Milano & Torino had not capitulated things would have turned out different. There were at least ten divisions and the Germans had two without aeroplanes. He of the old Guards are at a great disadvantage. even the Minister of the War Office, Casati used to tell me that a clean commander of the Army could not be found anywhere. Bencivenga then said that whilst he was working in Rome, General Smellini, a real General of the Militia, used to pull his leg

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16 August 1944

PURGE COMMISSION COMMENT

Bencivenna calls up Museo to tell him that he has spoken with Rasevi regarding the complaints made by the wives of officers unjustly arrested. He also states that he has told Rasevi to publish an official communication stating that he Bencivenna since the 15 July is totally enstranged on questions pertaining to expropriation. Rasevi asks in which paper this will be published, and is told that so far he does not know but hopes it to be on the "Corriere di Roma".

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LUOGO

RISERVATA

UFFICIO DI CENSURA

N. di prot. 1007

MITT.

DEST.

Gen. lo ROBERTO BENCIVENGA
Via Ravenna 24Dott. OSCAR MUCCHARELLI
Via dei Cavallotti 6/3
INDIA

Indicare il luogo del timbro postale quando manca l'indirizzo.

DATA DI COMUNICAZIONE O DEL
TIMBRO POSTALE SE LA LETTERA
E' SENZA DATA

TIPO DI POSTA

NUMERO DELLA
RACCOMANDATA

LINGUA

PERVENUTA
CENSURATA DA

ALLEGATO

23/7/42

C. M.

Ital.

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ANNOTAZIONI PRECEDENTI

SEGNALAZIONI LOCALI

SEGNALAZIONI DEL C. C. S.

PROVVEDIMENTO ADOTTATO:

TRATTENUTA

INOLTATA

RECISA

FOTOGRAFATA

TOLTA DAL
CORSO

AL MITTENTE

INVIATA CON
COMMENTI A:

Reg. Sec. Int. Off.

Counter Int. Off.

PUB

Inf. Div. Acc.

ORIGINE

CENSURA ITALIANA

CENSURA ALLEATA

OSSERVAZIONI

PRESS SITUATION RELAYED BY GEN. BENCIVENGA.

As regards the Press Association I entirely agree with you.

I don't know if you ever read an interview of mine in the "Temps".

In it I said that the most honest thing to do was the cancelling

of the degree of annulment or dissolving by referendum, and this

is essentially for a moral as well as for a political question.

You will remember that the annulment came following my offering

published a false document, attributed to GENERAL FERRARI (this

publication costs the lives of seven people in FLORANCE, among

these a wounded from the war), and because he refused to admit that

at least he had been taken surprise in his good faith. It would

have been then a fair act to annul the degree of "dissolving" and

have the survivors back to their post. These, and I for the first,

would then have prepared their election and would have resigned.

Anyhow the appointment of BRIGANDI as President is a real

insult to honest journalists. And I would not stop to tell you the

reasons why. LORE told me yesterday that the Government was going

to dissolve the Press Association after the 15th of August and to

proceed to the reconstitution of the publishers' lists, after which

the elections will be open to. If these, then they will blossom.

I think that even with this intention, it would be justifi-

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ANNOTAZIONI PRECEDENTI	SEGNALAZIONI LOCALI	SEGNALAZIONI DEL C. C. S.	PROVVEDIMENTO ADOTTATO:
	Reg. Sec. Int. Off. Counter Int. Off. FBI Inf. Div. 400.		TRATTENUTA RECISA FOTOGRAFATA INVIATA CON COMMENTI AL MITTENTE INOLTATA TOLTA DAL CORSO
ORIGINE			
CENSURA ITALIANA CENSURA ALLEATA			

OSSERVAZIONI

PRESS SITUATION HANDLED BY GEN. BENCIVINCA.

As regards the Press Accreditation I entirely agree with you. I don't know if you ever read an interview of mine in the "Tempe" in it I said that the most honest thing to do was the cancelling of the degree of ennoblement or dissolving by BENIGNI. And this is essentially for a moral as well as for a political question. You will remember that the ennoblement came following my deferring FORNIA to the Discipline Committee, because he had knowingly published a false document, attributed to FORNIA (this publication costs the lives of seven people in ROVERETO, among these a wounded from the war), and because he refused to admit that at least he had been taken surprise in his good faith. It would have been then a fair act to annul the degree of "dissolving" and have the survivors back to their post. Less, and for the first, would then have prepared their election and would have resigned. Anyhow the appointment of BENIGNI as President is a real insult to honest journalists. And I would not stop to tell you the reasons why. BENIGNI told me yesterday that the Government was going to dissolve the Press association after the 15th of August and to proceed to the reconstitution of the publishers' lists, after which the elections will be seen to. If roses, then they will blossom. Anyway I think that even with this intention, it would be justfall act towards FORNIA poor victims' memory, especially FORNIA, to annul that degree and this would not prevent the Government from all it means to do. Meanwhile fascist press morality would be brought into light. I wonder if it wouldn't be the case for the "Voce Repubblicana" to wake up the Government after the interview in the "Tempe" was no good? And the thing can be explained because BENIGNI and FORNIA are very closely united, and rendered each other services, flattening the another etc. etc...."

REVISORE

Data d'esame

REVISORE

4110

Avviso speciale

R I S E R V A T A

24/7/44

Summary translation page 5.

1 September 1944.

POLITICAL DISCUSSION

PACINOTI phones to BENCIWENGA asking if he has read the "CANVACHARO" which has attacked the caller saying that in the last days he was hiding and that he came out from his hiding place only after a formal statement had come out, that the Allied troops were in the town. He asks BENCIWENGA to witness that the reason he had hidden himself was so that he could do his work with out being interrupted. The callee answers that it is well known to him the activity he has done, and states that he is very disgusted and wants nothing more to do with the matter "what must the Allies think of us? If only it was a paper which sympathizes with us you could defend yourself. I will speak with the manager of the "CANVACHARO" and ask if he can modify the article.

The caller answers that he will accept only if BOLONI, the caller adds that the Allies are right when they say that all this business in Rome is a buffoonery.

1 September 1944

Project to start a new paper

General BENCIWENGA phones to Mr. Lasevi telling him that those persons of la "TRIMUNA" offered the paper telling him "we give our paper to BENCIWENGA, not to the Parties". He states that he would call it "TRIMUNA PARSE". The callee says that everything depends on BOLONI. The caller suggests, if the workers should hesitate, the Allied Authorities could intervene on his behalf saying that BENCIWENGA is a man of order and sympathizes with the Parties of the center. The callee answers that BOLONI, and not the Allied Authorities, are entitled to propose the names of the people. The caller states that he should write to BOLONI but that he is afraid that the matter would pass through the hands of too many persons: "all those miserable person who surround him". The caller asks if in the "TRIMUNA" there is always ARDENISE. He will go to see MESSE, who is an intimate friend of ARDENISE. Also this little man PEGE could be very useful.

2 September 1944

Political discussion

Project to start a new paper

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The caller answers that he will accept only if BONOMI insists and adds that the Allies are right when they say that all this business in Rome is a buffoonery.

1 September 1944

Project to start a new paper

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2 September 1944

Political discussion

The caller says that he must hold out against this clique. BENCIVENGA replies that to-morrow morning he will go to see MESSE. He adds that PACINOTTI has phoned to him and was very upset. The caller "to be sure! It is known here in Rome that he has done everything. They came to an agreement and have arrested many persons. There are many persons in Rome who are weeping owing to them! PACINOTTI is finished! He was the idol of Rome; everybody was a traitor, everybody a rascal, he only was shotless! He has phoned you because he needs an help. Everybody feels the need of you now! Also the POPE has attacked the Committee!" The callee: Did you hear all the POPE's speech? The caller: "It was a real attack against the Committee. He clearly said that there were also some Fascists, who never did any wrong!"

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3 September 1944

Political Comment.

The callee (Musco) asks if he has seen SANTINI. The caller: He is here with me, he thinks that on the afternoon of the 4th he came here to see me. The callee: You must pretend not remember this fact: it seems that FIANELLA is the right-arm of ODDONE but ROSI is a nick-name of FIANELLA. He thinks that he was attacked by FIANELLA who was appointed Chief of Staff by ODDONE. PACINOTTI came later. At present he will be appointed with BONOMI, ODDONE and PALERMO chief of the Commission for the Partisans.

The caller: We must make haste to clear the behaviour of ODDONE, but there is all the clique of FIANELLA. The callee: There was also COLLETTI, but the Ispettore Generale told me that ODDONE was there to send to prison all the Officers.

The caller: It is very important that PACINOTTI tells how things are going, but I am afraid he will not say very much. I will make a statement or send an open letter to the press.

4 September 1944

Comments on Political and Patriotic Activity.

The caller (BFAIDA) congratulates the callee on his appointment in the Commission, and points out that the public opinion is favourable to this appointment. He adds that all the Italian are marvellous, and that he has two articles ready to be printed but there is not a paper who will publish them.

The callee points out that the authority refuses to give him a newspaper. The callee answers that "IL MESSAGGERO" and "IL GIORNALE D'ITALIA" are waiting for permission to be published. He adds that the appointment was a triumph.

The callee points out that he accepted the charge because BONOMI has insisted. He adds that the matter about the partisans was a real tragedy. At first the Americans said that they wanted to create an office for Assistance to the Patriots: but it was only an "Americano". The caller states that the "RICOSTRUZIONE" made an appeal for the Constitution of an Association among the Italian Partisans, and afterwards disappeared. At present a dispute has arisen between CIUCCI and SOPA of the Partisan Group. In any case your Excellency if you will face the problem of Partisans you will have all the press on your side.

The callee points out that he has not a personal paper, instead the six Liberation Parties say that there are enough papers, well, they want to make another and want to take the "tribuna" as well.

The caller: Do you know General TORRESI? The callee: Who, the one of "JUSTICE"? The caller: Yes, I know that Party, do you?

The callee: No, but I have my ideas we must stop all these parties and make only one.

with BONOMI, ODDONE and PARTISANS. The caller: We must make best to clear the behaviour of ODDONE, but there is all the clique of FIAMMILLA. The callee: There was also COLETTI, but the Isottore Generale told me that ODDONE was there to send to prison all the officers. The caller: It is very important that PACCINOTTI tells how things are going, but I am afraid he will not say very much. I will make a statement or send an open letter to the press.

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4 September 1944

Comments on high Italian Officials.

The caller (PASEVI): This morning before the interview I had with Marshal BACCIGLIO, I looked for you but it was impossible to find you. The callee: I was there at half past nine. MUSCO was also there. The caller: Tomorrow morning I must return to see him. I would like to know something on MUSCO's activity. It is said that in 1943 he was manager of a Fascist magazine "RICOSTRUZIONE". The callee: Yes he was also a radio news reporter. I do not think he can be appointed Chief of Press Office.

Summary translation page 7.

4 September 1944. (cont'd.)

As a journalist he is alright, but as a political man he is not recommendable although he is an honest person.

The caller: I wanted to inform you about my interview with BADOGLIO. The callee: Did you speak about me to him?

The caller: Yes he remained a little shocked about your predecessors.

4 September 1944. Lack of financial aid for partisans.

The caller: BENCIVENGA and ROSSETTI. The callee: PACINOTTI

The caller (B) says that three partisans, representatives of some group, came to see him. "They do not know with whom they must speak. They went to ZERNADO but he was not there. They are now here and do not know where to go. Capt. ROSSETTI will speak to you now."

The caller (R) points out that many problems must be settled. The callee asks if in Arezzo there is not a special mission. The caller (R) answers that in Arezzo there are only women and children asking for help. The callee, brings to your notice that there are two commissions opening for this work. The caller (R) says there is the most damaged zone and not a single commission is there. He points out that many partisans have asked to continue fighting with the regular army. The callee answers that that concerns a special commission presided over by BONOMI, but that the ones that are doing almost everything are the British authorities. He suggests that the caller should speak of all these matters to Lt. Col. BONCINELLI.

September 5 1944.

High Political Deals.

The caller tells BENCIVENGA that before seeing BADOGLIO he would like to see him. The callee - asks him if he knows BADOGLIO. The caller answers that he was introduced to BADOGLIO by another person. The callee points out that BADOGLIO fully agrees with them.

September 4 1944

Political activity

The callee (BENCIVENGA) states that if a union will be made between the liberals and the Democrats, all the parties of extreme left will unite and that a civil war will start. He points out that the majority must be a democratic majority, with representatives of every party. A Sicilian Deputy (IOEATTI) asked the callee to state that AMENDOLA wrote him from Paris saying

4 September 1944.

Lack of financial aid for partisans.

The caller : BENCIVENGA and ROSSETTI. The callee : PACINOTTI

The caller (B) says that three partisans, representatives of some group, came to see him. "They do not know with whom they must speak. They went to BERNABO but he was not there. They are now here and do not know where to go. Capt. ROSSETTI will speak to you now."

The caller (B) points out that many problems must be settled. The callee asks if in Arezzo there is not a special mission. The caller (B) answers that in Arezzo there are only women and children asking for help. The callee, brings to your notice that there are two commissions opening for this work. The caller (B) says Arezzo is the most damaged zone and not a single commission is there. He points out that many partisans have asked to continue fighting with the regular army. The callee answers that that concerns a special commission presided over by BONOLI, but that the ones that are doing almost everything are the British Authorities. He suggests that the caller should speak of all these matters to Lt. Col. BONCINELLI.

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September 14 1944

Comment Re. ACTUAL MILITARY and POLITICAL SITUATION

The caller (BENCIVENGA) says that he is no more in the Ministry and so is unable to do anything for the callee's nephew. He informs him that at the present time instead of there being one fascist party there is about six in Italy.

C²

IMPORTANT

COMMUNISTS ACTIVELY FURTHER GERMAN OCCUPATION

... (1997:174) : «... CETI has played a double game.

81

COMMENT ON POLITICAL JOURNALISTS

1. $a + b + c + d + e + f + g + h + i + j + k + l + m + n + o + p + q + r + s + t + u + v + w + x + y + z$

Q#001 had renounced to the Presidency and that Barack had renounced to the Presidency.

The callee (Musco) : He behaved well and was ready to go with us on the 5th June. The caller : But he did not oppose the military executions. The callee : Instead of liberty and purity, there is nothing but dirt and mud everywhere. The caller : Some persons observed when reading an article in "L'ESPRESSO" of Oddone's activities that it was written in his defence. To say the truth he was not a civil or military commander: for nine months he participated in the underground movement, but in this article he did a silly thing in speaking of the partisans. I received a letter from BERTONE with all the documents. The callee : BERTONE is right. The caller : He sent a memorandum to the SIM and asked for the consent to defend himself through the press. The callee : He spent 1,300,000 liras which must be returned to him. The caller : He affirms that the military underground movement was ready to work on the 9th, Sept. 1943. The callee : DELIA ROCCA has organized and financed everything. Did he (BERTONE) ask for a reply to his letter? The caller : No. The callee : I should answer him, telling him that I received his letter and was already informed. The caller : He may publish it. And I did not decide in favour of either ODDONE nor OLIVANDO. The callee : When BERTONE sent a telegram to DESSÉ, they asked ARMINIINI who told them that EASTICO had collaborated with the Germans in Africa. EASTICO was working with BERTONE, and as he was afraid told all he knew. The caller : For those matters they must establish a commission. The callee : All BERTONE's documents are in the safe at the Ministry of War. The caller : Even CASTELLAZZI came out of prison three days ago because he told the Germans : "If you set me free I will tell you everything" Do you think that these documents can be stolen? The callee : I do not think that ODDONE can steal them.

24 September 1945

18

COMMENT ON POLITICAL JOURNALISTS

The callee (BENCIVENGA) states that during the 6th and 7th June he was so busy that he could not receive many personalities who were waiting for him at the CAFFUOGGIO. Even the diplomat THAON DE REVEL was there. It seems that many journalists came to see the callee and left him a note in which was written that POMOVI had renounced to the Presidency and that BERGAMINI (and not the callee) was appointed. The callee spoke with ROSSINI about the epuration and the reinstatement of the dismissed authorities. During that time a group of journalists assembled and in a Fascist way, appointed POMOVI as chairman of the Press Association. They said that the callee was placed in the impossibility of assuming this appointment without knowing if he really was very busy.

Summary translation page 9

24 September 1944

Italian Colonel's activity during German
occupation of Rome.

The callee: (BENCIVENGA) says that a certain CRIMI complained that the "GUARDIA di FINANZA" before was exalted and then de-
tracted. The callee points out that the POLICE, the F.A.I. and the Guardia di Finanza were not under his command, but were dependant on the German Authorities.

26 September 1944

Conversation re Partisans Activity.

The caller tells BENCIVENGA that all the persons that surrounded SCOCINARO were in the dark of what was going on. In fact Bencivenga's article caused a profound surprise, they even said that underneath there was something big going on. The caller states that he has understood that there all, including SCOCINARO had not understood the real situation. They do not know what is going on behind the scenes. The first big fool there is CORDONE who in order to gain his ends is using everybody. BENCIVENGA answers that he knows of this and that everyone is asking him who is Gen. Caddone. The caller states that the people are surprised that BENCIVENGA has put himself aside in such a delicate moment; so the caller explained to them that Gen. Bencivenga was a serious person and that in this moment of hate and rancour he had no intention to make the rancour of the Italian people go against him. The caller asks BENCIVENGA if he thinks that Extermination should be done of course with humanity and justice. BENCIVENGA answers that he wrote that article so as to avoid a conflict between the Army and the partisan bands. Now ARPELLINI wants to answer him. The caller tells BENCIVENGA that that would be a most excellent occasion to say all the truth. BENCIVENGA states that even BENCIVENGA did not like his article. The caller however states that he thinks that BENCIVENGA does not know much of the case and that he is sure that he has not even seen the circular, of LESSE.

3 October 1944

Talk of Musicians' Fascist background.

17

The caller: (a professor) tells BENCIVENGA that VERRONE will come and see him. He points out that the Maestro DE FABRITIS, who conducts the concerts at the "Sapienze" is one of the most worst Fascists. The callee: says that he met GIGLI in 1942

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9 October 1944

17

Talk of Musicians' Fascist background.

The caller: (a professor) tells BENCIVENGA that VERONE will come and see him. He points out that the Maestro DE FABRIVIS, who conducts the concerts at the "Sepianza" is one of the most worst Fascists. The callee: says that he met GIGLI in 1942 at VANO and that somebody took a snapshot of him and GIGLI arm in arm.

The caller: points out that this photo be sufficient to prove that GIGLI was not favorable to Fascism.

14 October 1944

Conversation Re Governorship of Rome.

The caller (BENCIVENGA) says that he received a letter from PONONI in which is spoken about the decrees concerning the caller. He points out that it has been wrongly done, because

Summary translation page 10

(cont'd)

he was appointed Civil Governor and he has no possibility to give any rewards. He thinks that the Staff arranged not to have him appointed Military Governor. The caller points out that he received all military power from the South sent by wire. The callee LA ROCCA answers that the Civil powers are conferred by that decree, but not by the military powers. The caller points out that a telegram is not an official document and that BALOGGIO promised him to make such a decree.

23 October 1944

Political Conversation

The caller (BENCIVENGA) says that he saw RUICO and that his moral was down. He was morally assassinated. The caller adds that he does not know what he must do. Things were not in a bad enough condition, even those Christly Allies ("cristi di Alletti") have bothered him.

24 October 1944

Discussion of Political role of General Bencivenna.

The caller reports he has spoken to CARLO about the callee. He says that the first things the Allies had to do, considering that the callee delivered them the city of Rome, was to hear from him what was the situation. Even the Italian authorities had to give to the callee a mark of gratitude by giving him a paper. It seems that CARLO answered that General BENCIVENNA was to coo. The caller points out to CARLO the callee's age and dignity, and raised a doubt as to whether a plot was formed by the Roman Committee of liberation against the callee. CARLO said to the caller that also SPERZA was very upset about the situation of the country. He concludes by saying that here in Italy everything went wrong and that nobody seemed anxious about the good of the country.

13 November 1944

Discussion of Political Situation in Sicily.

The callee (BENCIVENNA) says to avv. CARPAGIA that he can't do anything for the caller. He points out that at present the six parties are doing the same mistakes as Fascism. Who are their enemies? The others are their enemies. ZANIEONI

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16

13 November 1944

Discussion of Political Situation in Sicily.

The callee (BENCIVENNA) says to AVV. CAMPAGNA that he can't do anything for the caller. He points out that at present the six parties are doing the same mistakes as Fascism. Who are their friends are with them, the others are their enemies. ZANUCCI is very kind but he has his hands tied. A man like the callee is treated with all respect by everybody and wherever he goes, but he can do absolutely nothing. The caller says that the people who suffered under the fascist regime must have now some kind of acknowledgment. The Italian Authorities could appoint them as Administrators of the Fascist properties. The callee answers that such appointments were very rapidly sold; and the worst is that some former fascists received those appointments. He points out that he is living on 2000 lire per month, and notwithstanding his

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(cont'd.)

his former activity he does not get an appointment. In such conditions he is unable to find a job for the caller. He suggests to the caller to address himself to Sicily. The caller answers that the high Commissary ALDISIO promised him the appointment of that the high Commissary ALDISIO promised that it is very doubtful Prefect of Palermo. The caller answers that it is in the hands of whether ALDISIO will do it. Also Marshal BACCIGLIO is in the hands of possibility of going anything. The caller testifies that BACCIGLIO's name is one of those put forward as a candidate for Minister and affirms that very soon the callee will be Chief of the Government or Ministry. The callee "I hope so. And then you can be sure, dear CAPPAGNA, that my duty will be to employ all my friends."

17 November 1944

Political conversation

The callee (BACCIGLIO) says that the caller's speech in Naples was really very good. The caller (BACCIGLIO) answers that it is true, because the fury of revenge has passed on to Naples. He points out that here in Rome the persecutions against the unfortunate persons are still going on. BACCIGLIO was of the opinion to send away from the Ministries all the persons who were involved. He remembers that during the German occupation in Rome most of the so called fascists followed him rendering him services. The only thing left to do was to punish those 300 involved persons and to leave the others in place. Whereas thousands of persons are sent to concentration camps and after a few months are released, because nothing can be found against them. He points out that there are many persons involved in the Government with fascism. BACCIGLIO is in a concentration camp. BACCIGLIO is Minister and BACCIGLIO is in a concentration camp. The real anti-fascists were not appointed by the Government. He concludes by saying that all the members of the Communist Party are "Squadristi", "sciarra littorio" and former high authorities of the Fascist Party.

21 November 1944

Newspaper article.

The callee asks to the caller (BACCIGLIO) if he has read the "ITALIA NUOVA" in which was a motion of all those political parties left out from the C.M.I. The callee thinks that the Allies might have said to the Italian Government: "Your duty is finished, we will now provide for it."

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15

Anti Allied Sentiments of Influential Officer.

The caller (BENCIVENGA) tells the callee (BENCIO) that the Italian authorities have refused him a newspaper. They gave the permission to other eleven persons and refused to let him publish his own called "VIA LIBERTÀ". He adds that they spread the news around that he was associated with the "GOBBO". He concludes by saying that he cannot receive the permit to print a paper he will go away from Italy. He remained for twenty years under the Fascist Regime but, he says now it is worse than it was then, because in the last there was only MUSSOLINI rullint the country. The persons that are on the Government now are more rascals than were the fascists. I wish to end the rest of my days in South America.

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Translation**CONFIDENTIAL**

Below are further informations requested, regarding General Roberto BENCIIVEMGA and his new political party which he is starting to organize:

The mentioned party is called: "DEMOCRACIA NAZIONALE"

The head of same is General Roberto BENCIIVEMGA.

Below is stated in brief the programmatic points of the "Democrazia Nazionale":

1. This movement has no financiers because it does not want to become an instrument of secrecy or of concealment, contrary to the interest of the Country, nor has it any selfish interest against collectivity.
2. The Democrazia Nazionale states that the Italian people cannot find its political and Social order adhering to the historical substratum of its ancient and recent traditions which are the supremacy of the Christian Spirit and of the craving for liberty expressed by National renaissance.
3. The Democrazia Nazionale wants to be supported by the collaboration of the Capital and Work, presupposed by social peace; but believes that this cannot be obtained if not with the moderate cooperation of the low and medium class persons, to whom it wants to give a political idea and a right to their indispensable functions in social life.
The cooperation of the medium class, who are without any means of defence, cannot take place unless to conform the need of liberty from fear which order and generate any other civil liberty.

But liberty from need, shows the will to proudly insert through the work of all the citizens, the world order of National entity, liberal and democratic, which is going to start under the impulse of the victorious western democracies. It presupposes the reconstruction of the means of work, which permit and affirms Italian economies which will enable them to cooperate with the Universal economical organizations. Liberty from fear, finally, the guarantee of a minimum standard of living, also for the intelligent, the technical workers and the writers. Liberty from fear, presupposes a total respect of the law and its absolute rejudication of any form of dictatorship of man or of those of classes.
Liberty of fear, presupposes also, political opinions and legality with which one can run the administration of the State.

4. CONTINGENT PROGRAM: of the present crisis of the cost¹ 14
tutional institution of the country. The DEMOCRACIA NAZIONALE believes necessary:

- a) Re-establish the Order and the severe observance of the law. Thorough legality with exceptional measures for the defence to reconquer liberty.
- b) RE-ESTABLISH IN FULL, LIBERTY OF THE PRESS, infringed with thousand quibbles, and those of ASSOCIATION and SPEECH, indis-

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- b) RE-ESTABLISH IN FULL, LIBERTY OF THE PRESS, infringed with thousand quibbles, and those of ASSOCIATION and SPEECH, indispensable conditions to proceed for the consultation of the country and for the election of a constituent Assembly.
- c) NOT TO TOLERATE DICTATORSHIP of one or more parties and to proceed rapidly to demobilize the spirit and reconstruction of the moral unity of the country with honest work and fraternity.

CONFIDENTIAL

- d) TO CONVOY, in this spirit, all the forces of the Country on its reconstruction, leaving a great margin for private initiative.
- e) PROCEED RAPIDLY TO THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MILITARY FORCES AND FOR THE POLICE, with democratic ideas, choosing the best of them and compelling them with non political activity;
- f) PROCEED, as well, with the same rapidity to the severe punishment of fascist crimes, which have been proved so that justice will be done, and not reprisals, and at the same time re-freaternize the italians what ever being, their single political convictions.
- g) COOPERATE STRICTLY WITH THE ALLIES to a realization of a constitution for the conhabitation of the people and for the protection of Peace.
- h) TO OPPOSE THE PREMATURE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS until the majority of the Italian pupulation shall not be convinced of their opportunities, to avoid repentance and to try and go back to the past and prepare a new program of reform, for the development of an honest and true democracy on the basis of freedom and work.

* * *

From what has been stated above it appears evident that this new party "DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE" tends to organize the medium classes, inserting between Capitalism and Proletariatism.

Up to now the above mentioned party has not yet been initiated, for this reason it has no fixed residence nor members. The above mentioned program has neither been made evident to the public.

199.14

A seguito delle informazioni fornite ieri sul conto del Generale On. Roberto BENCIVENGA e sul nuovo partito politico che egli sta organizzando, si riferisce quanto segue:

Detto partito è denominato: "DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE".

Capo di esso è il predetto Generale Roberto Bencivenga.

I punti programmatici della "Democrazia Nazionale", sono in breve i seguenti:

1°-Detto movimento non ha finanziatori perchè esso non vuole farsi strumento di manovre occulte o di reconditi fini, contrari agli interessi della Patria, nè di egoistici interessi contrastanti con il bene della collettività.

2°-La Democrazia Nazionale afferma che il popolo italiano non può trovare il suo assetto politico e sociale se non richiamandosi ed aderendo potentemente al substrato storico delle sue tradizioni antiche e recenti, che si compendiano nella supremazia dello spirito, affermata dal Cristianesimo, nell'anelito di libertà espresso dal Risorgimento, nell'ansito di evoluzione e di progresso sociale promosso dal movimento socialista.

3°-La Democrazia Nazionale vuole essere fautrice infaticabile della collaborazione tra il capitale e il lavoro, presupposto della pace sociale; ma ritiene che questa non possa effettuarsi se non con la collaborazione fattiva e moderatrice della piccola e media borghesia, cui essa vuol dare una coscienza politica e l'indirizzo della loro funzione indispensabile nella vita sociale. La collaborazione della borghesia, priva di ogni mezzo di difesa, non può aver luogo se non ispirandosi all'ideologia essenziale della libertà dal bisogno e della libertà dal timore, che ordinano

- 2 -

e generano ogni altra libertà civile.

Ma la libertà dal bisogno presuppone la volontà di inserire dignitosamente, mediante il lavoro di tutti i cittadini, l'entità nazionale nell'ordine mondiale, liberale e democratico, che sta per sorgere sotto l'impulso delle vittoriose democrazie occidentali. Essa presuppone la ricostruzione degli strumenti di lavoro, che permettono l'affermazione di una consistenza economica italiana, capace di collaborare all'organizzazione dell'economia mondiale.

La libertà dal bisogno presuppone, infine, la garanzia di un minimo vitale anche ai lavoratori del pensiero, della tecnica e della penna.

La libertà dal timore presuppone, poi, - per tutti - il rispetto incondizionato della Legge ed il ripudio inequivocabile di ogni forma dittatoriale di uomini o di classi.

La libertà dal timore presuppone, altresì, il rispetto di tutte le opinioni politiche e dei modi legali, mediante i quali esse devono esprimersi e dar vita all'amministrazione dello Stato.

4°-PROGRAMMA CONTINGENTE: nella crisi attuale di istituzioni costituzionali, che il Paese sta attraversando, la DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE ritiene necessario:

a) RISTABILIRE L'ORDINE e la stretta osservanza della Legge, ricorrendo anche, per vie legali, a misure eccezionali per la difesa delle riconquistate libertà;

b) RISTABILIRE IN PIENO LA LIBERTÀ DI STAMPA, manomessa con mille cavilli, e quelle di ASSOCIAZIONE e di PAROLA, condizioni indispensabili per procedere a consultazioni del Paese e alle elezioni di una Costituente;

- 3 -

- c) NON TOLLERARE DITTATURE di uno o più partiti coalizzati e procedere rapidamente alla smobilitazione degli spiriti ed alla ricostruzione dell'unità morale del popolo con sana opera di concordia;
- d) CONVOGLIARE, in questo spirito, tutte le forze del Paese alla sua ricostruzione, lasciando largo margine all'iniziativa privata;
- e) PROCEDERE RAPIDAMENTE ALLA RICOSTITUZIONE DELLE FORZE MILITARI E DI POLIZIA con criteri democratici, prescegliendo i migliori ed imponendo ai quadri la più stretta apoliticità;
- f) PROCEDERE, inoltre, con la medesima rapidità alla severa punizione dei delitti fascisti, obbiettivamente accertati per fare opera di giustizia e non di vendetta e, nello stesso tempo, riafratellare gl'italiani, quali che siano le singole convinzioni politiche;
- g) COLLABORARE STRETTAMENTE CON GLI ALLEATI alla realizzazione di uno statuto per la convivenza dei popoli e la tutela della pace;
- h) OPPORSI AD AVVENTATE RIFORME COSTITUZIONALI fino a che la maggioranza del popolo italiano non sia convinto della loro opportunità, per evitare pentimenti e tentativi di ritorno al passato e preparare un programma di riforma per lo sviluppo di una sana e vera democrazia sulla base della libertà e del lavoro.

+ + +

Da quanto sopra esposto appare evidente che il neo partito denominato "DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE", tende ad organizzare le classi medie della borghesia, inserendosi così tra il CAPITALISMO e il PROLETARIATO.

Fino ad oggi detto partito è ancora in fase preparatoria, per cui non ha una sede sociale, nè iscritti. Neppure il programma sopra ri-

- 4 -

portato consta che sia stato ^{finora}reso di pubblica ragione.

Roma, 6 luglio 1945.

Fila
with spec on Bencivenga

There is a rumour that a probable "coup d'etat" of monarchic nature will take place, and it is led by General Bencivenga, who is helped by many officers and several elements of the Army. The "coup d'etat" - it is reported - will take place at the end of the conference of the five Ministries of Foreign Affairs, ~~London~~.

all

Translation

199.44

BENCIVENGA Roberto fu Zenobio and Lu Giordano Luigia, born in Rome on the 2 Oct. 1872, living at Via Savenna 24, Rome. General of the Army, Journalist, and ex-Deputy of the anti-fascist Parliament.

He started his career as military in the Artillery and soon made himself liked for his cleverness and very good qualities, and was thus considered to be one of the best brilliant officers in the Italian Army.

Military and politically, he is noted for his great intelligence.

His character is energetic and loyal and is of undisputed honesty. He has always been loved and esteemed by the soldiers, colleagues and superior officers.

He has frequented the War Academy and was one of the youngest and most valourous officers of the Chief of Staff of the Italian Army.

Even in war, he has always distinguished himself, particularly for the way he led his men and for his brave personality.

He took part in the war Italo-Turca and in the Italo-Austriaca.

As Lieutenant Colonel, in 1916, he was appointed Head of the Secretary's Office of H.E. Cadorna, Head Commander; an office, which was equivalent to that of Head of the Chief of Staff for the part pertaining to war operations.

He was promoted Colonel through War merit. It results, however, that in 1917 the same General Cadorna gave him three months of fortress which he did, in part, near Verona. The reason why he was inflicted this grave punishment should be, if retained necessary, asked for to the War Ministry.

Whilst he was in fortress, the disaster of Caporetto occurred and he asked and obtained to be sent to the front. Infact he was charged with the defence of Monte Grappa, where he succeeded to stop the advancing enemies.

He has been decorated with the Military Order of Savoia, and with various silver medals as well as bronze for Military Valour. After the war he was sent to Berlin, as Head of the Military Mission.

Re-turning to Italy he left the army and gave himself over to politics and journalism.

He was one of the biggest exponents of the Liberal Democratic party, for whom he became Secretary after the death of the Hon. Giovanni Amendola.

He has always been a strong adversary of fascism.

In 1924 he was elected, together with Giovanni Amendola, the noted writer Roberto Pracco and Professor Enrico Presutti of the University of Sales, Deputy of Parliament.

Even in journalism he placed himself in evidence: he was collaborator of the paper "IL MONDO", "THE RISORGIMENTO", and other antifascist newspapers.

As President of the Press Association, and as member of the Opposition Committee, he carried out activity against the dissolved regime and its government.

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In December that same year he was assigned to five years confinement and destined to Ustica.

In November 1932 he returned to Rome, coming from the colonies of Libya, transferred there from Ustica.

In July 1934, the provincial Committee of Rome they cautioned him once more for two more years.

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But in May 1935 the same commission revoked the caution, following a request made by himself and by the Questore of Rome.

Already in 1926, the fascist government had taken him off the list of the army and had placed him in retirement, for disciplinary motives.

He provoked several duels, some of whom were with Arnaldo Mussolini, brother of the ex-duce, with Sandro Giuliani, chief editor of the "POPOLO D'ITALIA" and also the Hon. Alfredo Rocco.

He took part in the Antifascist Association "Italia Libera" and of the Masonery.

After the caution was dissolved, in 1935 right up to the last moments of the fascist regime, it does not result that he took up any political activity, although he remained always with antifascist sentiments.

In that period, he wrote the Story of the Great War on the Italian front, work that was appreciated by all the competent personages.

After the 8 Sept. he remained hidden in Rome at the Istituto Religioso, carrying out patriotic activities as Commander of the Civilian and Military clandestine front of resistance.

After the freedom of Rome he continued for some time to cover such charge officially, placing himself at Campidoglio.

At the moment he is Questore of the Camera dei Deputati.

He has been assigned by General Clark, the High American honour "Legion of Merit".

Recently General Bencivenga has founded a new political party, which "should gather together a mass persons whose political thoughts stand between liberalism and communism".

This party it seems wants to collaborate only with the Christian Democratic and Socialist Party in order to constitute a direct and equilibrated directive during this very agitated period.

This new movement, political, is helped by a daily paper which will be soon published, directed by General Bencivenga himself.

For now it has been impossible to get further information on this party; but it is hoped, within a short time, to be able to furnish more precise details specifying also the importance it will have and the names of the principal collaborators and directors.

Rome 6 July 1945.

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BENCIVENGA Roberto fu Zenobio e fu Giordani Luigia, nato a Roma il 2 ottobre 1872, residente in Roma-Via Ravenna 24-Generale del R. Esercito, giornalista, ex Deputato al Parlamento-antifascista.

Iniziò la sua carriera militare nell'Arma di Artiglieria e ben presto si pose in evidenza per le sue ottime qualità di mente e di cuore, tanto da essere considerato uno dei più brillanti Ufficiali dell'Esercito Italiano.

Di intelligenza sveglia e dotato di ottima coltura sia nel campo militare che in quello politico.

Di carattere energico e leale e di indiscussa onestà. E' stato sempre amato e stimato e dai soldati e dai suoi colleghi e superiori.

Ha frequentato la Scuola di Guerra ed è stato uno dei più giovani e valorosi Ufficiali dello Stato Maggiore del R. Esercito Italiano.

Anche in guerra, si è sempre distinto in modo particolare e per le sue doti di condottiero e per il suo valore personale.

Ha partecipato alla guerra Italo-Turca e a quella Italo-Austriaca.

Da Tenente Colonnello-nel 1916-fu nominato Capo dell'Ufficio Segreteria di S.E. Cadorna, Comandante Supremo; carica che in altre parole equivaleva a quella di Capo di Stato Maggiore per la parte operativa.

Fu promosso Colonnello per merito di guerra.

Consta però che nel 1917 lo stesso Generale Cadorna gli inferse tre mesi di fortezza che scontò, in parte, nei pressi di Verona. Cir-

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ca i motivi che determinarono tale grave punizione a carico del FENCIVENCA sarà opportuno-semprechè lo si ritenga necessario-chiedere notizie al Ministero della Guerra.

Mentre era in fortezza, si verificò il disastro di Caporetto ed egli chiese ed ottenne di essere inviato al fronte. Difatti fu incaricato di apprestare la difesa del Monte Grappa, dove riuscì a fermare l'avanzata dei nemici.

E' decorato dell'Ordine Militare di Savoia, e di varie medaglie di argento e di bronzo al Valor Militare.

Dopo la guerra fu inviato a Berlino, quale Capo della Missione Militare.

Rientrato in Italia lasciò il servizio militare e si diede alla politica e al giornalismo.

Fu uno dei maggiori esponenti del partito Democratico Liberale, di cui divenne il Segretario, dopo la morte dell'Onorevole Giovanni Amendola.

E' stato sempre un accanito avversario del fascismo.

Nel 1924 fu eletto Deputato al Parlamento insieme a Giovanni Amendola, al noto scrittore Roberto Bracco e al Professore Enrico Presutti, della R. Università di Napoli.

Anche nel giornalismo ben presto si mise in evidenza: fu collaboratore del giornale "Il Mondo", "Il Risorgimento", e di altri giornali antifascisti.

Quale Presidente dell'Associazione della Stampa, e quale membro del Comitato delle Opposizioni, svolse attiva opera diretta ad osteggiare il cessato regime ed il suo governo.

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Pertanto nel febbraio 1927 fu sottoposto ai vincoli dell'ammonizione dalla commissione provinciale presso la R. Prefettura di Roma.

Nel dicembre dello stesso anno fu assegnato al confino di polizia per anni cinque e destinato ad Ustica.

Nel novembre 1932 fece ritorno a Roma, proveniente dalla colonia di Ponza, dove era stato intanto trasferito da Ustica.

Nel luglio del 1934 la commissione provinciale di Roma lo sottopose nuovamente ai vincoli dell'ammonizione per la durata di anni due.

~~Ma~~ Nel maggio 1935 la stessa commissione disponeva la revoca del provvedimento di ammonizione, a seguito di domanda dell'interessato e su parere favorevole del Questore di Roma.

Già nel 1926 il governo fascista ~~lo~~ aveva radiato dai ruoli dell'Esercito il Generale FENCIVENGA, collocandolo a riposo per motivi disciplinari.

Ebbe anche varie vertenze cavalleresche, di cui si citano quella con Arnaldo Mussolini, fratello dell'ex duce, con Sandro Giuliani, redattore capo del giornale "Il Popolo d'Italia", e con l'On. Alfredo Rocco.

Ha fatto parte dell'Associazione antifascista "Italia Libera", e della Massoneria.

Dopo il proscioglimento dall'ammonizione, e cioè dal 1935 fino agli ultimi tempi della dominazione fascista, non consta che abbia svolta palese attività politica, pur rimanendo di sentimenti antifascisti.

Scrisse, in tale epoca, la Storia della Grande Guerra sul fronte

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Italiano, opera molto apprezzata dai competenti.

Dopo l'8 settembre 1943 si tenne nascosto in Roma in un Istituto Religioso, svolgendo però attiva opera patriottica in qualità di Comandante Civile e Militare del fronte clandestino di resistenza.

Dopo la liberazione di Roma continuò per qualche tempo a ricoprire tale carica in forma ufficiale, insediandosi al Campidoglio.

Attualmente è Questore della Camera dei Deputati.

E' stato insignito dal Generale Clarch dell'alta onorificenza Americana la "Legion Of Merit,,.

In questi ultimi tempi il Generale BENCIVENGA ha fondato un nuovo {ed ennesimo}-partito politico, il quale "dovrebbe raccogliere in una massa armonica ed operante tutti coloro il cui pensiero politico sta fra il liberalismo e il comunismo,,.

Detto partito sembra che voglia collaborare strettamente con la Democrazia Cristiana e con il partito Socialista allo scopo di costituire elemento direttivo e di equilibrio in questo agitato periodo, nel quale si debbono dettare le basi di una nuova costituzione.

Questo nuovo movimento politico sarebbe fiancheggiato da un giornale quotidiano di prossima pubblicazione diretto dallo stesso Generale BENCIVENGA.

Per ora non è stato possibile avere maggiori notizie su tale partito; ma si spera, entro brevissimo tempo, di fornire ulteriori e più precisi dettagli, specificando ^{anche} la denominazione che esso avrà e i nomi dei dirigenti o collaboratori principali.

Roma, li 6 luglio 1945-

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