

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION — ~~DISSEMINATION CONTROLS~~

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- ~~BECK~~
- ~~BRUBECK~~
- ~~CHASE~~
- ~~DINGEMAN~~
- ~~DUNGAN~~
- ~~FORRESTAL~~
- ~~JOHNSON~~
- ~~KILDUFF~~
- ~~KLEIN~~
- ~~KOMER~~
- ~~PARROTT~~
- ~~SAUNDERS~~
- ~~SCHLESINGER~~
- ~~SMITH, WM~~

COUNTRY ITALY

REPORT NO. TDCS-3/558,515

SUBJECT VIEWS OF PRESIDENT ANTONIO SEGNI ON THE GENERAL ITALIAN POLITICAL SITUATION

DATE DISTR. 9 SEPTEMBER 1963

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

DATE OF INFO. 5 SEPTEMBER 1963

REFERENCES

IN 15149

EO 12958 3.4(b) (1) (C)

PLACE & DATE ACQ. APPRAISAL

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE (1) >25Yrs

EO 12958 3.4(b) (1) (C)

[] THE FOLLOWING REPORT WAS PREPARED [] AFTER

EO 12958 3.4(b) (1) >25Yrs (C)

A PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH [] WHO HAD SPOKEN WITH PRESIDENT ANTONIO SEGNI ON 5 SEPTEMBER. [] KNEW HIS STATEMENTS WOULD REACH U.S. OFFICIALS.

1. PRESIDENT ANTONIO SEGNI BELIEVES THAT NOVEMBER WILL BE A CRUCIAL MONTH. HIS CONFIDENCE IN THE ITALIAN SOCIALIST PARTY (PSI), WHICH HAS BEEN PERSISTENTLY LIMITED, WAS NOT INCREASED BY THE DOCUMENT APPROVED BY THE AUTONOMIST FACTION, AND HE IS APPARENTLY CONVINCED THAT NEW ELECTIONS ARE STILL THE BEST SOLUTION.

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~~GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification~~

STATE/INR	DIA	ARMY/ACSI	NAVY	AIR	JCS	SECDEF	NSA	NIC	KEX	USIA	OCI	ONE	OCR	ORR	OBI	OO	EXD
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FORM 4-63

1Ka OBSOLETE PREVIOUS EDITIONS.

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TDCS-3/558,515

IN 15149

PAGE 2

2. IF SEGNI SHOULD DECIDE TO DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT, HE WOULD PROBABLY CHOOSE MARIO SCELBA TO REPLACE GIOVANNI LEONE AS PRIME MINISTER. [] SAID SEGNI TOLD THAT IF LEONE HAD REFUSED TO ACCEPT THE POSITION IN JUNE, HE (SEGNI) WOULD THEN HAVE CHOSEN SCELBA.

3. SEGNI REMAINS ADAMANT ABOUT THE FACT THAT HE WILL UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES CHOOSE AMINTORE FANFANI AS HEAD OF THE GOVERNMENT. CRITICAL AS SEGNI HAS ALWAYS BEEN OF FANFANI, [] SAID THAT HE IS NOW APPARENTLY EVEN MORE CRITICAL OF ALDO MORO, CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC (DC) PARTY SECRETARY, WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS "DANGEROUS," "COWARDLY," AND "CAPABLE OF ANYTHING." SEGNI ALSO SAID THAT ONE OF MORO'S DANGEROUS WEAKNESSES IS THE FEAR OF A SPLIT WITHIN THE DC--NOT BY THE CONSERVATIVES, SINCE HE KNOWS SCELBA'S LOYALTY, BUT FROM THE LEFT. SEGNI ALSO SAID THAT IF HE EVER HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN MORO AND GIUSEPPE SARAGAT, HE WOULD PICK THE LATTER, WHOSE ANTI-COMMUNISM AND ATLANTICISM CAN BE TRUSTED COMPLETELY.

4. BEFORE TALKING WITH [] HEAD OF FIAT. SEGNI TOLD [] THAT VALLETTA HAD EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN OVER ITALY'S IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROSPECTS AND HAD REPORTED TO THE PRESIDENT ON THE SERIOUS PROBLEMS NOW FACING FIAT. SEGNI SAID HE TOLD VALLETTA THAT HE SHARED HIS CONCERN BUT THAT AT THE SAME TIME HE WISHED THAT "LA STAMPA," THE FIAT-OWNED DAILY, WOULD BE AS EXPLICIT AS VALLETTA HIMSELF INSTEAD OF CONSISTENTLY

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TDCS -3/558,515

6
IN 15149
PAGE 3

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SIDING WITH/LEFT-OF-CENTER LINE, SINCE THE LEFT-OF-CENTER
EXPERIMENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SOME OF THE PRESENT SERIOUS ECONOMIC
PROBLEMS.

5. SEGNI TOOK CREDIT FOR INSTRUCTING MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
GIUSEPPE TOGNI TO PROCEED WITH HIS DECISION TO SUSPEND AND
INVESTIGATE FELICE IPPOLITO, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE
OF NUCLEAR ENERGY (CNEN). LEONE WAS APPARENTLY LESS ENTHUSIASTIC.

6. SEGNI WAS ANNOYED BY THE FACT THAT THE MUNICIPALITY OF
MILAN HAS REPORTEDLY GIVEN THE PSI AS AN OUTRIGHT GIFT THE
LAND ON WHICH ITS MILAN HEADQUARTERS WILL BE BUILT. THE
BUILDING IS TO COST 450 MILLION LIRE, AT LEAST PART OF WHICH
THE PSI WILL RECEIVE FROM INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

7. SEGNI WAS ALSO IRRITATED WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
ATTILIO PICCIONI BECAUSE THE LATTER WANTED TO
PREVENT SEGNI'S OFFICIAL TRIP TO GERMANY IN AUGUST.

8. FIELD DISSEM: STATE.

END OF MESSAGE

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