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14 July 1960

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY



CUMENT NO.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE



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APPROVED FOR RELEASE DATE: MAY 2005

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CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY SUMMARY 14 July 1960

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Although the widespread anti-Fascist rioting in Italy has subsided to what the Italian press calls "a tense calm," the basic causes for the disorders remain. The

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PART II (continued)

Christian Democrats must choose between continuing Premier Tambroni's neo-Fascist supported government—at the risk of polarizing Italian politics—and precipitating a cabinet crisis which in itself could set off further disorders. The Communists will probably try to spark new disturbances.				
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DISORDERS IN ITALY

Although the widespread anti-Fascist rioting has subsided to what the Italian press calls "a tense calm," the basic

causes for the disorders remain.
The Christian Democrats must
choose between continuing Premier Tambroni's neo-Fascist -

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supported government--at the risk of polarizing Italian politics--and precipitating a cabinet crisis which in itself could set off further disorders.

Already vulnerable because of the neo-Fascist alliance, the Tambroni government laid itself open to further criticism by its handling of arrangements for a neo-Fascist party congress. The government first acquiesced in the choice of Genoa, a seat of the wartime anti-Fascist resistance, as the site for the congress. Then, in the face of protest demonstrations, the government indicated it would not take steps to protect the congress, even though the holding of the meeting was unassailable from a legal standpoint. The congress was subsequently canceled.

While the existence of the Italian Social Movement violates the spirit of a constitutional provision against the revival of the dissolved Fascist party, the MSI has never been banned. The neo-Fascists will probably continue their sporadic rioting against the Communists, but will be reluctant to overthrow the government and thus lose their present position controlling its tenure.

The Christian Democratic party, although embarrassed by

COMMUNITY MOVEMENT 1
DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISTS 17
OF REPUBLICANS (PRI)

NOCIALISTS
OF DEMOCRATS
(PSI)

OF DEPUTIES

SOUTH TYROLEANS(SYP)
VALDOSTAN UNION (UVD)
UNCLASSIFIED

OF DEPUTIES

SOUTH TYROLEANS(SYP)
VALDOSTAN UNION (UVD)
15 - INDEPENDIT. MONARCHISTS
596 SEATS

121
NEO-FASCISTS(MSI)

Tambroni, is fearful that his sudden ouster would substantiate Communist claims of victory or at best create a crisis as

difficult of solution as the one which caused a two-month gap in government this year. It is not clear, in any case, whether President Gronchi can be persuaded to oust Tambroni at this time.

Nevertheless, some Christian Democrats are fearful of approaching the nationwide local elections this fall under the present stigma. There are some hints that elections may be postponed, or that Monarchist (Italian Democratic party) parliamentary support may be substituted for that of the neo-Fascists. The left-center parties, including the Nenni Socialists, are pointing to the disorders as exemplifying the need for a more representative center-left government.

The Communists, seeking to exploit the nationwide reaction against Fascism as a means

to emerge from their own isolation, recapture the Nenni Socialists, and perhaps take control of the entire democratic left, will probably try to promote further disorders. Thus far, they have shown little disposition to try to divert the agitation to NATO installations in Italy, but some new turn of events could lead the Communists

to revive their campaign of last year against the US missile bases.

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14 JULY 1960.