

FM ROME

TO THE WHITE HOUSE

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MORI/CDF per C05146740

SECRET 191140Z DEC 70

FM AMBASSADOR MARTIN, ROME 312

DELIVER ONLY TO DR. HENRY KISSINGER, THE WHITE HOUSE

1. I GATHER ABPLANALP HAS ARRANGED FOR PIER TALENTI TO SEE JOHN MITCHELL THIS WEEKEND, AND POSSIBLY ALSO YOU AND THE PRESIDENT. I AM GLAD YOU WILL BE HEARING FIRST HAND FROM SOMEONE ABOUT THE CURRENT SITUATION IN ITALY. TALENTI IS DEVOTED TO THE PRESIDENT. HE HAS BEEN QUITE USEFUL TO ME OVER THE PAST YEAR, PARTICULARLY IN KEEPING TOUCH WITH SOME ELEMENTS OF THE EXTREME RIGHT WING OF THE CD, BUT FOR SEVERAL REASONS, INCLUDING HIS OWN PERSONAL AND BUSINESS VULNERABILITY, ANY ATTEMPT TO USE HIM BEYOND THE LIMITS I HAVE CURRENTLY IMPOSED COULD BE DANGEROUS FOR HIM AND QUITE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO OUR OVERALL INTERESTS. HIS APPRAISAL OF THE CURRENT SITUATION IS SOMEWHAT DARKER THAN MINE. ALTHOUGH THE CURRENT SITUATION IS DANGEROUS, I DO NOT THINK THINGS ARE AT ALL HOPELESS. I AM HAVING A QUIET LUNCH NEXT WEEK WITH SARAGAT AND I SHALL KNOW BETTER THEN WHAT ARE THE LIMITS WITHIN WHICH HE WILL ACT. I HAVE ALSO ARRANGED A QUIET, COMPLETELY PRIVATE AUDIENCE WITH THE POPE IN JANUARY TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSIONS I HAVE PREVIOUSLY HAD WITH HIM ON HOW THE CHURCH'S INFLUENCE CAN AGAIN CONSTRUCTIVELY BE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON THE ITALIAN POLITICAL SCENE.

2. THE CORE OF OUR PROBLEM IS THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AND WE MUST NEVER LOSE SIGHT OF THIS CENTRAL FACT. OUR CURRENT TASK IS TO GET IT BACK TOGETHER AS AT LEAST A PARTIALLY UNIFIED AND DISCIPLINED POLITICAL FORCE. IF WE CAN ACCOMPLISH THIS, EVERYTHING ELSE WILL BECOME MANAGEABLE. I THINK WE HAVE ALREADY MADE A SMALL BEGINNING IN THIS DIRECTION, BUT WE WILL HAVE TO DO MUCH MORE IN THE WINTER MONTHS.

3. WHEN I CAME BACK TO WASHINGTON THIS FALL, I TOLD SONNENFELT'S OFFICE THAT I WANTED TO SEE YOU AND THE PRESIDENT. I KNEW HOW BUSY YOU BOTH WERE SO I DID NOT PRESS. JUST BEFORE I LEFT A MONTH LATER, I MUST ADMIT I WAS SOMEWHAT SHOCKED TO ASCERTAIN THAT MY REQUEST HAD NEVER BEEN PASSED ON TO YOU. IN THE MEANTIME, ON OCTOBER 28TH I LEFT BILL ROGERS AN INTERIM ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HE SAID HE WOULD TAKE UP WITH THE PRESIDENT AT SAN CLEMENTE WHEN YOU ALL WERE AWAITING THE ELECTION RETURNS. APPARENTLY, HE DID NOT DO SO. THEN HE WAS GOING TO GO OVER IT AT KEY BISCAYNE. I HAVE NEVER BEEN INFORMED WHETHER HE DID OR NOT.

4. THE LAST THING I WANT TO DO IS CAUSE ANY TROUBLE IN THE FAMILY, EITHER IN YOURS BECAUSE MY MESSAGE THROUGH SONNENFELT DID NOT REACH YOU, OR IN THE PRESIDENT'S LARGER FAMILY IF FOR SOME REASON BILL ROGERS HAS NOT YET GIVEN MY PAPER TO THE PRESIDENT. THE ONLY REASON I BRING IT UP NOW IS THAT THIS MEMORANDUM PROVIDES PERHAPS A SOUNDER BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION THAN WILL JUST A TALK WITH TALENTI. IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY SEEN IT, LET ME KNOW AND I WILL REPEAT IT TO YOU THROUGH THIS CHANNEL.

6. I HAVE BEEN MEANING TO ASK YOU, THE NEXT TIME YOU SEE JILL ST. JOHN, TO GIVE HER MY REGARDS AND TELL HER THAT I OFTEN THINK OF DANCING WITH HER THAT NIGHT IN BANGKOK AT THE "EMERALD PALACE" WHEN JERRY COLONNA WAS DANCING WITH THE QUEEN WHILE THE KING PLAYED THE CLARINET WITH LES BROWN'S ORCHESTRA. BEST FOR CHRISTMAS.

7. P. S. I WOULD ALSO LIKE YOU TO TAKE A LOOK AT ROME 7274. THE TONE OF THE MESSAGE SHOULD ACCOMPLISH THE RESULT, BUT IF IT DOESN'T, PLEASE INTERVENE.

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