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COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS
MILAN DETACHMENT ZONE 3
APO 512 c/o GSI(b)2 DISTRICT, CMF

17 January 1946

SUBJECT: Neo-Fascist Organizations in Northern Italy

TO : GSI(b),2 District

1. Reports of Neo-Fascist activity in Northern Italy have been cropping up consistently over the past two months in 2 District area. These sensational discoveries of Fascist activity and the subsequent arrest of alleged leaders of said organizations have been exploited to the fullest extent by the leftist press.

2. Investigations conducted by Allied counter-intelligence, and trained counter-intelligence agents of the Italian SIM/CS have been up to the present time fruitless.

3. It is true that evidence of Fascist activity has been noted, but no concrete evidence of a large scale organization has been ascertained.

4. The following facts and possibilities should therefore be noted:

a. Up to the present all of the important discoveries and arrests of Fascist leaders who are allegedly organizing clandestine neo-fascist cells have been effected by the Auxiliary Police of the Questuras of various cities and towns in Northern Italy. It is also strange that an amateur organization as the Auxiliary Police is able ferret out these neo-fascist organizations, when professional intelligence agencies, such as SIM/CS, FSS, CIC, and professional police agencies such as CCRR and PS agents, upon lengthy investigation are unable to discover or trace the existence of any large scale clandestine movement.

b. The leftist press seems to be capitalizing and exploiting all information on clandestine neo-fascist cells, especially at a time when the Italian people are feeling the full force of pre-election propaganda.

cc Use of the royal crown on most neo-fascist propaganda uncovered up to the present time is contradictory, since ardent fascist accuse the royal house of having betrayed fascism, and do not want to be linked with the king.

SECRET

d. These clandestine organizations are usually linked with the Royal House, L'Uomo Qualunque, and generally speaking, with the right by leftist newspapers.

e. Without mentioning any parties of the left it is very probable that an organized movement to discredit the right is in operation in view of the coming elections.

f. It is true that there is evidence of the existence of clandestine neo-fascist units, but all indications point towards badly organized, small, impotent cells that carry on inconsistent sporadic propaganda. It is foolish to believe that such organizations would operate in the open at this time, as is constantly reported in the leftist press.

g. The only danger of this wide publication of neo-fascist activity in the leftist press is to convince ardent fascists who are inactive at present that a strong fascist movement exists and consequently become a figurative "boomerang" by banding together men of the outlawed fascist party. This is very probable amongst the younger generation which has only lived under a fascist regime, and which is suffering to-day, not because of the existing form of government, but because of the immediate post-war (inevitable) problems existing at present. For this reason clandestine neo-fascist organizations will seek to recruit its members from the dissatisfied youth of Italy, stressing the differences of the present problems and the glorious regime under Fascism.

5. This office will continue to report all evidences of neo-fascist activity.

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