

DECLASSIFIED

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The Central Committee of the Italian Socialist Party has received a report from members just returned from East Africa and Libya, and has taken note with indignation of the fact that the occupation authorities forbid all forms of Socialist propaganda among the Italian soldiers and civilians resident there; and of the fact that moreover the labour conditions now prevailing for Italian workers in these colonies have greatly disimproved even compared to the already execrable treatment received at the hands of their former Fascist employers. The Central Committee ~~sinks~~ demands full freedom for antifascist activity and propaganda in the regions occupied by the Allied armies.

Letter for Mr. Mayer

The following remarks are the result of a poll made in Italy based on these two questions:

1. Who listens to the New York and B.B.C. radio transmissions?
2. What are the impressions of listeners?

1. Allied radio propaganda is formulated in a popular and easy -- not to say demagogic -- style, as is all propaganda intended for large masses of people. But in reality it is not the masses -- assembled as masses -- who listen in Italy to the Allied broadcasts, it is isolated individuals, for the most part already politically mature and decided. There is therefore a lack of harmony between the general tone of Allied propaganda and the mental and political level of the listeners. They usually find Allied propaganda stupid, banal, pretentious, and frequently prepared by gentlemen who must have been slightly intoxicated at the time.

2. To make Allied propaganda more effective, the first step to be taken would therefore be to adapt the content of the radio transmissions to the quality of the listeners. Fewer comments and more documents; fewer generic phrases and more precise facts; fewer anonymous speeches by illustrious irresponsible personages, and more clear statements by well-known leaders; that is to say, less propaganda and more politics. The rare broadcasts which include speeches and appeals by Italian antifascist leaders or parties are those which ~~are~~ evoke the greatest interest and ~~which~~ give the most immediate help to the development of the internal crisis.

Telegram for Vanni Montana

The First of May demonstrations in the principal cities of Italy were very effective. 80,000 copies of the Socialist appeal were distributed. Special ~~an~~ issue of the Socialist organ "The Third Front". The first issue has appeared of the trade-unionist organ "Camera del Lavoro" (Chamber of Labour), and a newspaper for Socialist women is also appearing. There has been a strike in the ILVA factory in Naples. The Partito d'Azione, the Republican Party, and the Alleanza Meridionale di Gruppi Antifascisti (Southern Alliance of Antifascist groups) have adhered to the Socialist appeal. Carlo Sforza's approval has made an excellent impression. On June 1st next the Socialist Party will ~~issue~~ issue a special appeal to the armed forces. Sending a résumé of the text.