

Premises:-

1. Fascist propoganda since the Casablanca conference has been making tremendous capital out of Roosevelt's announcement that the United Nations will not negotiate with enemy powers but intend to impose on them an "unconditional surrender". Fascist propoganda is utilising this declaration to beat back all feelers towards a separate peace and to paint a very sombre picture of what would happen to the Italians in case of defeat (territorial mutilation, extreme poverty, servitude etc.)
2. The formula of "unconditional surrender" has furthermore discouraged many liberal elements, who see therein the death-blow to their hopes of improving Italy's position by means of a separate peace. Rumours that Yugoslavia has designs on Trieste, that Greece has designs on the Dodecanese, and that Britain has promised Creta to the Senussian sect, are adding to the bewilderment of these circles.
3. Fascist propoganda is trying to make the United Nations appear as a matrimony between Americanism and Sovietism, leaving out the English factor.

Conclusions:-

1. Fascist propoganda must be refuted on each of these three points.
1. "Unconditional surrender" means - as far as Italy is concerned - only the refusal of all compromise with Mussolini. The United Nations base their Italian policy on the distinction between Fascist government and Italian people. "Unconditional surrender" does not apply to the Italian people, who will be treated according to the principles of liberty and dignity laid down in the Atlantic Charter.
2. The concrete conditions which the victorious United Nations will make for Italy will depend directly on the measure in which the Italian people succeed in freeing themselves from the Fascist regime and help towards the victory of the democracies.
3. The United Nations do not intend to impose the American or Soviet political systems on the Italian people. Italy's future political regime will depend exclusively on the free will of the Italian people. Italian history, from the glorious period of the medieval communes down to the Risorgimento, contains a tradition of freedom which is more than adequate to inspire Italians in the choice of a political regime for their country after the collapse of the Fascist dictatorship.

Remarks:-

To give weight to these declarations, it is indispensable that they be publicly made by a person of competence and authority. The best moment for doing so would be at the beginning of the agitation which the Italian Socialist Party is preparing in Italy for the end of next March.