

July : 1943.

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Just returned from a long walk with the man from the  
mountains.

He will be where he is about 8 weeks.

He plans to meet Keale, and someone from Italy in an effort to get together with the Partito d'azione and the communists with a view to exploring the possibilities for an uprising.

He is thinking over three possibilities:

First, a revolt of the workers in Genoa, Turin, Milan. Wonders if they could hold a week. wants to find out what his friends in the military would do this time if a state of seige were declared and the power put in their hands. Hopes they would start by putting the fascists into protective custody and end by joining with the insurgents. Also, since this is the vital part of Italy, he thinks it is where we should land, and luckily it is where he is strongest.

Second, a joining of forces with the partisans in the Trieste area in a revolt which would strategically be directed against the axis rail connection through the Brenner.

Third, an invasion of the Abruzzi by the Yugoslav partisans with support of the Italians around Pescara. He says the region of Pescara is only 120 kilometers from Rome, but is separated by such mountainous country that the insurgents would be fairly safe for quite a while. There is only one rail line to Rome, and that could be cut by blowing up a large stone bridge half way between Rome and Pescara, near his birthplace. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Political prisoners have been moved here and are allowed the freedom of the town in which they are located. He thinks arms could be dropped, and an army of 20 to 30 thousand insurgents created overnight. No military stationed there now.

He wants to inquire what forces the Partito and the Communists can muster and count on. Hasn't much faith in the Partito as revolutionaries because they are mostly industrialists, and he thinks the communists are weak just now.

thinks American propaganda is improving but too slow on the comeback to be always up to date. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

When Mussolini says there is no way out but to fight on, he thinks we should counter that getting the Germans out of Italy is a good way out.

thinks the Italian people should be reminded that Mussolini once said that if he had been in power at the time of Caporetto he would have announced a great Italian victory, and that now in the same way he makes his most resounding declarations when he knows things are worst.

Says someone here is out to at least break connections such as his with Italy. for example:

The Swiss and Italians caught one of his border-runners. Luckily for him she had nothing but British stuff on her -- he did not know she was also working for the British. Name, Eva.

Someone stole all Miss Wickaman's baggage on the train from Lugano about three days ago.

Some one stole his brief case on the train from Davos.