

**SECRET**  
SECURITY INFORMATION

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FILE NO. O-1622	SOURCE Old Pouch	DATE OF DOCUMENT 9 Dec 42	ANALYST [ ]
SUBJECT Old Pouch			DATE 5 Jan 53
PERTINENT INFORMATION			
<p>From a source believed reliable this Agency has received a report concerning Yugoslav Moslems and the MUFTI, dated December 9, 1942, as follows ;</p> <p>"The MUFTI lives in a villa in Rome. Our Hadjis were received by one of the under-secretaries and the Croatian Minister. The MUFTI advised them as to Pan-Islamic solidarity and to request Turkey for protection for the Moslems. He did not talk to them about Rashid Ali. He sent considerable money.</p> <p>The Mufti later stated: "I am creating an Arab state with Italy as a counter-weight to Turkey and I desire a Pan-Islamic state in cooperation with Turkey. If I cooperate with the Axis this does not mean that I shall not cooperate with the Allies for whom victory is a certainty." For Pashid Ali he stated that he was an ordinary mercenary of the Italians. Pashid Ali lives in Rome. The MUFTI keeps in contact with the Turkish and Afghanistan ministers."</p>			
<p>DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2006</p>			
<p>THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION PERTINENT TO THE SUBJECT IN THIS DOCUMENT.</p>			
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