

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

FLO 41

COUNTRY Italy

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 27 JUL 49

SUBJECT Partito Comunista Italiano (PCI)
Activities in the Province of Ascoli Piceno
25X1A

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. 25X1A

Return to CIA Library

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. Although a certain reawakening in Party activity in Ascoli Piceno has been noted, owing to the initiative of a few leaders, there is nevertheless uneasiness and disorientation in its membership. The majority now know that the Communist Party, because of errors committed in the past, has lost all possibilities of gaining power. Recently the PCI has readmitted into its ranks elements previously accused of being traitors because of their "moderate attitude" which disregarded headquarters views.
2. Antonio Allevi, presently responsible head of the Commune Committee of Ascoli Piceno, has already aroused such strong discontent by his highhanded and despotic behaviour in his reinforcement of the Party's internal structure, that he is endangering the function of the Committee.
3. The Party's situation is better in the province itself. There are strong and well-organized sections which are particularly fostered and visited both by Federation leaders and by envoys from the Central Directorate. These Sections are: Colli del Tronto, Castorano (called "the Stalingrad of Piceno"), Offida, Forchia, Montalto Marche Monturano, Montegrano, S. Elpidio a Mare and Malerone.
4. At S. Benedetto, on the other hand, this situation is otherwise. The secretary of the S. Benedetto Maritime League, (fnu) Fiscaletti, has been in discord with the Party for some time. He has been accused of having made the issue of the League a personal feud by not complying with the directives and orders sent him and in maintaining an independent and intolerant attitude. Fiscaletti, while being a fervent Communist, as secretary of the League, has placed the interests of the sailors before those of the Party, which is in direct opposition to Party directives. In the assembly just held at S. Benedetto by Party members, Fiscaletti was expelled from the Party for "indiscipline and political unworthiness". What the reaction of the members of the League will be, however, is unknown. The Fiscaletti questions will unquestionably have strong repercussions in S. Benedetto because it embodies Communist maritime activity from Roseto degli Abruzzi to Porto S. Giorgio.

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSRB	DISTRIBUTION	Document No.
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FB		

NO CHANGE in Class.

DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77

Auth: DDA REG. 77/1763

21 MAY 1978

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SEARCH/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY~~

25X1A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

5. During the current year, 3600 persons out of the 7700 members as of 31 December 1948, have renewed their membership in the Party in the Ascoli Piceno Province. In the city of Ascoli Piceno, 800 out of 3400 persons renewed their membership as of the same date. Responsible organs and Party activists resort to all measures to falsify the data regarding membership, making the figures appear equal to or even higher than those of 1948. The phenomenon, as of four months since the beginning of renewal of membership cards, can no longer be attributed to delay in registration. Approximately ten members of the PCI in the province have actually joined other political parties. This exodus, although limited, is considered with concern in the responsible PCI circles.
6. Smaller numbers have attended manifestations both outdoors and indoors, promoted by the PCI or affiliated organs such as the Chamber of Labor, (UDI) Unione Donne Italiane, (ANPI) Associazione Nazionale Partigiani d'Italia, etc. Cell meetings have occasionally been actually deserted. For example, at a lecture held on 26 March 1949 by the leftist writer, Libero Bigliaretti in the Philharmonic Theatre at Ascoli Piceno on the subject "Culture and Society", not more than 50 persons attended notwithstanding the elaborate posters which heralded it. On 7 April 1949, a meeting was held in the Communist Federation of Ascoli Piceno announced by the "Women's Provincial Convention". This meeting was attended by not more than ten persons of whom five were women, notwithstanding the fact that circular letters were sent out to each person in which it was stated that they were absolutely obliged to attend. Half of those who were present were local leaders.
7. Recent attempts made by the PCI to mobilize the masses to induce them to strike or to assemble them in the streets to demonstrate against the Atlantic Pact had had no success. The only body which still succeeds in assembling in appreciable numbers is the Federterra. However, this success is far from the expectations of Party leaders.
8. In recent months there have been notable changes in the Cadre leadership. Some leading exponents have been transferred to other posts outside of Ascoli Piceno, such as Cesare Marcucci, Provincial Secretary, and Guido Fioravanti, Secretary of the Chamber of Labor. More significant is the case of the old activists who, although remaining in the circle of the Party, have withdrawn from its activity after having fanatically served its cause. Among these activists are Mario Panichi and Gesualdo Biondi.
9. Another significant indication of regression is represented by the frequent oppositions which at times evoke violent discussions among ranking Party members on questions of organizational criteria or on political concepts, disagreements which they seek to conceal, but which inevitably come out through the flaws produced in the Party structure.
10. Bitter resentment is now prevalent among personnel because of the starvation salaries received and because of the frequent interruption in the payment of even these, contrasting to the allotments to organizational expenses regarded as unnecessary: for instance, when Elio Bellini was sent to the Partisan Peace Congress he received 50,000 lire, besides his pay.

~~SEARCH/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY~~

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY~~

25X1A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-3-

11. A subtle trend, so far quite unknown in Ascoli Piceno, is leading towards the old differentiation of the group into Leninists and Trotskyites who are still in responsible positions, such as Giuseppe Leonetti, who is head of a section in Ascoli Piceno, although their views are known. The PCI Central Directorate obviously wants to avoid facing the problem so as not to aggravate the uneasiness noted in certain sectors of the Party.
12. Any initiative of the Party or affiliated organs in these problems is heavy and difficult, because the masses do not comply with the directives. This particularly is true with reference to the Youth organization. More than one attempt has been made to establish a Youth Federation but all have failed.
13. The Chamber of Labor has lost a considerable number of members as a result of syndical scission. Some of them went over to the (ICGIL) Libera Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro (Free General Confederation of Labor) or declared themselves independent or left the original organization, awaiting the developments of the two new confederations. The Free syndicates total today, in the province of Ascoli Piceno, about 6200 members as opposed to 9000 for the Chamber of Labor. The membership of the Free syndicates is due to Christian Democrat elements who number at least 50 per cent. The withdrawal of some categories, as for example the Artisan Union of more than 2000 members, is more pronounced. During the April strike this union declared its autonomy and evoked the anger of leading leftist syndicate exponents, with whom the president of the Union, Giuseppe Fioravanti, an excellent organizer, had heated discussions, threatening to resign from the PCI in which up to this time he has been a disciplined member.
14. The organization of the Communist Youth Federations, whose responsible leaders are Alberto Ferozzi and Ugo Campofiloni, is still in the initial stages in the city of Ascoli Piceno. In the province, however, groups of youths from 18 to 21 years of age have been organized in Castorano, Offida, Casteldilama, S. Elpidio a Mare, Porto S. Giorgio, Fermo and S. Benedetto del Tronto, with a total strength of about 1000 youths.
15. The last ANPI elections, which saw the election into the Directive Committee of Republican and Independent elements to the exclusion of Communists, produced discontent, or even dismay in the ranks of the members. This is due to the fact that the Communist delegates did not vote for their representative Aldo Loreti who is hated for his haughtiness and presumption. The elections have been invalidated with an appeal to the ANPI Executive Committee hence a new local Congress will be held. In the Province there are about 3000 Partisans and patriots of which only 240 are regular members of the ANPI.
16. Effectively the Centro Assistenza Reduci e Soldati (CARS) is an organization composed of Communist partisans. One of its principal purposes is that of carrying out penetrations of the Armed Forces and the Police. Aldo Zanzottera is responsible for the Province. He is a member of the local PCI Secretariat. Secretary of CARS in the Province is Mario Sassetti who is also a member of the local Press and Propaganda Dissemination Center. Sassetti is an honest man, who has already compromised himself several times for the Party, by which he was then abandoned. It is believed that Sassetti will be replaced by a former partisan who is to be sent from Rome. This person will be paid by the Federation and he will also have other organizational duties.

~~SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY~~