

EXEMPT NLK-72-2

TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CLASSIFICATION — DISSEMINATION CONTROLS

~~NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

COUNTRY ITALY

SUBJECT COMMENTS

ON PSI CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

REPORT NO. TDCS-3/525,382

DATE DISTR. 17 OCTOBER 1962

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

RETAIN OR DESTROY
15 OCTOBER 1962

LEGRE
PARROTT
PETERSEN
SAUNDERS
SCHLESINGER

REFERENCES IN 41138

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT TENTATIVE.

APPRAISAL:

SOURCE:

1. [REDACTED] THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTITO SOCIALISTA ITALIANO (PSI; ITALIAN SOCIALIST PARTY) STATED THAT AT THE MEETING OF THE PSI CENTRAL COMMITTEE, WHICH BEGINS 17 OCTOBER 1962, THE AUTONOMIST MAJORITY IS DETERMINED TO CONFRONT THE LEFT-WING MINORITY WITH A SPECIFIC "TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT" CHOICE.

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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2. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE REPORT WITH WHICH THE PARTY LEADER WILL OPEN THE MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE WILL INCLUDE TWO MAIN POINTS. THE FIRST WILL REASSERT THE MAJORITY'S DETERMINATION TO PRESS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM WHICH THE PRESENT CENTER-LEFT GOVERNMENT HAS UNDERTAKEN TO PURSUE BEFORE THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION, AND AT THE SAME TIME IT WILL CHART THE "NATURAL PROJECTION" OF THE PARTY'S PRESENT POLICY FOR THE PERIOD FOLLOWING THE ELECTIONS. THIS LATTER PART WILL INCLUDE A REFERENCE TO THE SOCIALISTS' INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE DIRECTLY IN THE GOVERNMENT AFTER THE ELECTIONS ON THE BASIS OF SPECIFIC PROGRAMS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE PROPER TIME WITH THE DEMOCRAZIA CRISTIANA (DC; CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY) AND WITH THE OTHER PARTNERS IN THE PROSPECTIVE POST-ELECTORAL GOVERNMENT. [REDACTED]

THIS REFERENCE WILL BE LESS OUTSPOKEN THAN OTHERWISE WOULD BE THE CASE BECAUSE THE LATEST PSI CONGRESS AUTHORIZED THE PARTY ONLY TO SUPPORT FROM THE OUTSIDE A CENTER-LEFT GOVERNMENT; TOO DEFINITE A REFERENCE TO DIRECT SOCIALIST PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PLAY INTO THE HANDS OF THE LEFT-WING WHICH MAINTAINS THAT ANY SUCH DECISION CAN ONLY BE TAKEN BY A NEW PARTY CONGRESS. THE SECOND POINT WILL CONCERN THE NEW REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND WILL INCLUDE A SPECIFIC INDICATION THAT, ASSUMING THE CENTER-LEFT COLLABORATION

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WILL CONTINUE TO DEVELOP AFTER THE ELECTIONS, THE SOCIALISTS WILL FAVOR THE FORMATION OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS BASED ON ALLIANCES SIMILAR TO THOSE AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. [REDACTED] THIS ATTITUDE WILL BE CLEAR BUT IT WILL ALSO BE PROJECTED INTO THE FUTURE BECAUSE THE ACTUAL FORMATION OF THE NEW REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS WILL TAKE PLACE ONLY AFTER THE GENERAL ELECTION, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] AT LEAST PART OF THE LEGISLATION REQUIRED FOR THE SETTING UP OF THOSE GOVERNMENTS WILL BE PASSED BY PARLIAMENT BEFORE ITS DISSOLUTION.

3. [REDACTED] THE LEFT-WING IS SURE TO VOTE AGAINST THE DOCUMENT WHICH WILL EMBODY THOSE MAJORITY POSITIONS. THIS OPPOSITION, HOWEVER, WILL BE ONLY FOR THE RECORD SINCE THE LEFT-WING REPRESENTS ONLY A MINORITY AND CONSEQUENTLY THE MAJORITY WILL NOT AUTHORIZE THEM TO CHALLENGE AS ILLEGAL THE ACTUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICY CHARTED BY THE MAJORITY, UNLESS, OF COURSE, THE LEFT-WING DECIDES RIGHT NOW TO CLAIM THAT THE COURSE OUTLINED BY THE MAJORITY VIOLATES THE DECISIONS OF THE LATEST PARTY CONGRESS. [REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED] THE AUTONOMIST MAJORITY WOULD PREFER TO PUT OFF A PARTY CONGRESS UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTIONS; BUT [REDACTED] [REDACTED] THE CHOICE IS UP TO THE LEFT-WING. THE AUTONOMISTS,

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[REDACTED] FEEL IT NECESSARY TO OUTLINE TO THE PARTY ITSELF AND TO THE VOTERS THE FUTURE COURSE THEY INTEND THE PARTY TO FOLLOW, EVEN IF SUCH A COURSE ADMITTEDLY GOES BEYOND THE LIMITS SET BY THE LATEST SOCIALIST CONGRESS. "THE FACT IS THAT THE SPECIFIC PHASE OF OUR POLICY, WHICH WAS CHARTED AND AUTHORIZED BY THE MILAN CONGRESS, IS CONCLUDED OR IS ABOUT TO BE CONCLUDED WITH THE FORMATION OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS PROGRAM, WHICH WE HOPE WILL MAKE FURTHER PROGRESS OVER THE FEW MONTHS THAT ARE STILL LEFT BEFORE THE ELECTIONS. ACCORDINGLY, WE FEEL THAT WE OWE IT TO THE PARTY AND TO THE ELECTORATE TO SPELL OUT THAT WE ENVISAGE OUR PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT OF A CENTER-LEFT GOVERNMENT AS ONLY THE FIRST STEP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A LONG-RANGE POLICY — A POLICY INVOLVING OUR DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT AFTER THE ELECTIONS, A PARTICIPATION WHICH CAN BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE AT LEAST UNTIL THE 1968 GENERAL ELECTION. WE MUST ALSO INDICATE THE PROGRAM WHICH WE FEEL SHOULD BE PURSUED THROUGH OUR DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN A FUTURE GOVERNMENT; OTHERWISE, WE WOULD BE PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA WHICH WILL TRY TO PERSUADE OUR VOTERS THAT WE ARE READY TO GO DOWN AS SARAGAT DID AFTER 1948, ENABLING THE DC TO REMAIN IN CONTROL OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT WHILE FAILING TO PRODUCE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FIELD THROUGH OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT. THE BEST WAY TO

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COUNTERACT SUCH COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA IS TO SERVE NOTICE RIGHT NOW
BEFORE THE ^{START} / OF THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN THAT WE PLAN TO PARTICIPATE
DIRECTLY IN THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT AND THUS TO GUARANTEE, THROUGH OUR
"PRESENCE IN THE CONTROL ROOM", THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OUR PROGRAM
OR AT LEAST OF THOSE PARTS AND ASPECTS OF OUR PROGRAM WHICH THE DC
CAN REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO ACCEPT WHEN WE DISCUSS WITH THEM
THE COURSE TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE NEW POST-ELECTION GOVERNMENT.

5. FIELD DISSEM: STATE.

END OF MESSAGE

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