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COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS  
MILAN DETACHMENT, ZONE 3  
APO 512, United States Army

23 July 1946

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION.-

SUBJECT: Demonstration of unemployed in Milan.

At 1030 hrs, this date, a crowd of about 2000 unemployed met at the offices of the Camera del Lavoro where it was decided to march on to the Prefettura and manifest for work.

The column of demonstrators blocked off Via Monforte and paralyzed all traffic. At this point a group representing the demonstrators went up to speak to the Prefect. During the time that this group was inside the Prefettura the demonstrators became so disorderly that the police was called. About 1030 violence broke out. A group of the Italian 777 (Police Riot Squad) was attacked and their vehicle overturned. Two demonstrators were wounded as well as a few police agents. At 1040 the "Reparto Celere" arrived in two jeeps with 10 men and attempted to disperse the crowd. Several shots were fired into the air to no avail. At 1110 hrs the Mayor GREPPI and the Questore AGNESINA arrived. The demonstrators were about to attack the auto, but when its occupants were recognized they were not molested. GREPPI spoke to the crowd. At this point Questore AGNESINA was separated from the Sindaco by the crowd. There were shouts of "fascista" and the Questore was attacked by several members of the crowd and injured. Police agents slowly made their way through the crowds and rescued the Questore.

At 1120 hrs more police arrived and surrounded the Prefettura. At 1145, armored cars and CCRR arrived and began to disperse the crowds. By 1225 the representatives of the unemployed came out of the Prefettura and the demonstrators dispersed towards Piazza S. Babila and Corso Vittoria stopping trams and forcing the people to descend. Two armored cars soon broke up this smaller incident. At the end of the demonstration there were 10 Police Agents of the "Celere" and three demonstrators slightly hurt, excluding the Questore who was manhandled.

AGENT'S COMMENTS.

The demonstration was a result of a week-long series of incidents brought about by the general unemployment situation and general strikes all over Italy. It has not been ascertained that

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any political parties were involved although the possibility of a leftist influence cannot be excluded.

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