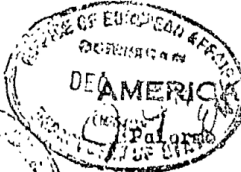


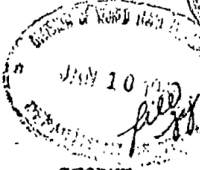
LEGISLATURA VI — DISEGNI DI LEGGE E RELAZIONI - DOCUMENTI

No. 405



DE AMERICAN CONSULATE

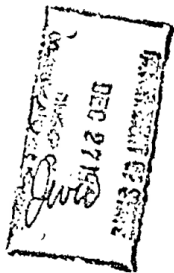
Italy - November 27, 1944



Form with fields: 'Posting', 'Distribution Instructions', and a large empty box.

SECRET

SUBJECT: Formation of Group favoring Autonomy under direction of Maffia. 18E



THE HONORABLE THE SECRETARY OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

2WD
JWW
1/3/45

1E UR/x
28 PD
CB

12/7/44
re dwtc
865-01/11-2144

SIR:

I have the honor to refer to my despatch No. 382, dated November 21, 1944, entitled "Meeting of Maffia Leaders with General Giuseppe Castellano and formation of group favoring autonomy."

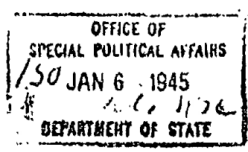
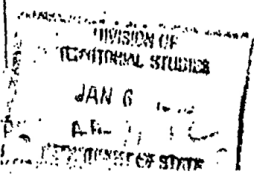
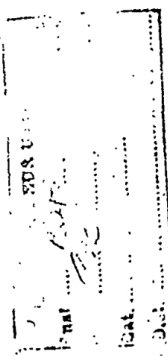
There is quoted below an O.S.S. report on the same subject which gives a few additional details regarding the formation of this movement.

"After a series of secret meetings with exponents of the Maffia, in Palermo for three days, General Giuseppe Castellana, Commanding the Aosta Division in Sicily, has struck a tentative agreement on selection and support of a candidate for high commissioner to replace incumbent Salvatore Aldisio, of the Democratic-Christian party.

"The move is in the immature stage as yet, but is expected to develop quickly, probably this coming week. The candidate is a dark horse, a famous Sicilian, Virgilio Nasi, "boss" of Trapani province, who was approached by General Castellana after broaching his plan to high Maffia leaders during the week.

"The meeting between General Castellana and Nasi came on Saturday in an out-of-the-way seashore villa at Castellamare del Golfo. Present were two of Nasi's lieutenants, General Castellana's former aid in North Africa and Rome, the former Captain Vito Guarrasi, and Atty. Vito Fodera.

"Together



865-01/11-2744

FILED

865-01/11-2744