

TRANTOR

W/ SV3 #7

Winter 1902

December 19, 1964

ITALIAN LABOR DISPUTE CLOSES SHIPYARDS

Geneva: The Italian fleet, programed for completion this winter, will not be cruising the blue waters of the Mediterranean this coming spring. It seems that the local union leader at Naples, Josepe Stalino, called a one year strike to protest against the manner in which the Dato government has conducted the war.

Aboard the French Second Fleet, Tyrrhenian Sea, 15 november 1902:

Admiral de Fomor does not think well of the army.

Admiral de Fomor does not think well of the Italians.

What Admiral de Fomor thinks of the Italian Army is best left to the imagination.

When news reached the commander of the second Fleet concerning the fighting in northern Italy, the Admiral pointed it out to his staff as another example of the idiocies of landmen. "The Second Army had no chance to keep the Italians out of Piedmont this autumn," he guffawed. "Then the heroes of the pizza parlor sent their army from the Tyrol into Piedmont against us, and ordered their other army to support the army that was still in the Tyrol. A fine muddle, my friends."

The Admiral's humor may be rather heavy-handed, but the fact remains - the fantastically inept handling of Italian forces, which has continued since the beginning of the war, has been an unexpected blessing upon French arms. This is all the more curprising because the Italian chief of staff has the reputation of a man well skilled in the tactics of international war.

The consensus of opinion in the Second Fleet is that this powerful striking force will not turn to aid the Second Army in the Piedmont, but will instead join the First in an attack on the undermanned and mutinous Italian Fleet. Or such, at least, was the view of Sergeant of Marines Hercule Gazeau, a tough, foul-mouthed fighting man with whom I spoke yesterday. "In Tunis, are they?" he spat. "Our Tunis, ** our harem girls. When we his land, I give us two hours to mop up the floor with those spaghetti-eating sons of camels. Then - me for the harnes."

- James Branch Water
Lichfields Times-Despatch

Geneva: The editor wishes to apologize for the reporting the destruction of the English fleet in the Skagerrak which had been attacked by the combined Russian fleets in the North. The English fleet was not destroyed, but managed to retreat in good order into the North Sea. Though losses were very high, the fleet is in battle order.

WILLIAM OF ADDRESS

Phil Castora, Room 301, Burbank Hotel, Burbank, California, 91502