

Nuova Rivista Storica

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Abstracts

SABRINA SGUEGLIA DELLA MARRA, Uno scambio fallito. Nuovi documenti sulla cattura di Giuseppe Cordero di Montezemolo

The private archive of Tullio Mango, Herbet Kappler's counsellor since 1953, keeps an intense correspondence between the lawyer and his client, disclosing interesting novelties about the capture of Col. Giuseppe Montezemolo, head of the *Fronte Militare Clandestino* (Clandestine Military Front), in Rome. As Kappler opted to look for the amnesty, he addressed monarchist deputy Enzo Selvaggi and asked him to seek new parliamentary alliances in order to wield pressure for the approval of an amnesty for political crimes, specifically including his own case.

Selvaggi took part in the Resistance cooperating with Valentini group, part of the *Fronte Militare Clandestino*, and he remained a leading figure in the second post-war period. He was one of the protesters against the outcome of the institutional *referendum* and he served as deputy up to the 1957, remaining active in the monarchist movement. The former SS Officer relied on Selvaggi's cooperation because, according to several letters sent to Mango, during the German occupation in Rome, when the monarchist leader was arrested, brought to Via Tasso and finally released, he would have informed the SS, during the interrogation, of the place and the time to find Montezemolo.

This secret, kept from Kappler until that moment, turned into a bargaining chip. The engagement and solicitude shown by Selvaggi in acting in his favour in Parliament seem to support what these letters state. The request for the amnesty was submitted to the Military Tribunal in Rome but it was rejected in the February of 1959.