

# Nuova Rivista Storica

Anno XCIX, Settembre-Dicembre 2015, Fascicolo III

## Abstracts

EUGENIO DI RIENZO, *Il Carteggio Churchill-Mussolini e i National Archives di Londra*

*The book by Mimo Franzinelli, L'arma segreta del Duce, shows the apocryphal character of the so-called "Correspondence Churchill-Mussolini". In his analysis, Franzinelli makes, however, a serious mistake. The non-authenticity of the correspondence between Churchill and Mussolini, during the spring 1940, to the best of our knowledge, does not mean, in fact, as Franzinelli assumed, that, after 18 May, the negotiations between Italian Government and the Allies had ceased. These negotiations continued until May 26, when Churchill and the French Prime Minister, Paul Reynaud tried to persuade Mussolini to co-operate with France and United Kingdom «in the future Peace conference, in securing a settlement of all European questions, which safeguard the independence and security of the Allies» If Mussolini had accepted this proposal, Churchill and Reynaud would have promised to meet «the fulfillment of the claims of Italy which would in his view ensure the establishment in the Mediterranean of a new order guaranteeing satisfaction of Italian legitimate aspirations in that sea».*

Keywords:

*Correspondence Churchill-Mussolini  
Negotiations between Italian Government and the Allies  
Spring 1940*