A C Goodison Esq CMG ROME

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RECEIVED IN REGIS	TRY NO. 13		
DESK OFFICER NDEX PA	Action Taken	August	1979

REPORTING BY SUBSIDIARY POSTS

- 1. Over the past couple of months we have received copies of a series of reports from subordinate posts in Italy and I would just like to say how very useful Kathryn Colvin and I find these.
- 2. We are writing separately on the correspondence on the North/South division in Italy. But, on the remaining reports, I thought I might, as an example, comment on Paul Scott's letters to you of 24 July (Reggio Emilia) and 30 July (Varese). On the earlier letter, we were interested to see (and this was a point also brought out by Sir Alan Campbell in his valedictory despatch) how bourgeois the PCI has become in its style. This report was also interesting in illustrating the school of thought in the PSI which advocates cooperations with the PCI rather than the DC (and also incidentally, PSI suspicion over DC/PCI collaboration).
- 3. On the 30 July letter, paragraph 4 of the attached report gave a further example of a local PCI move into opposition following a central decision by the Party which seemed unconcerned that this move might run counter to the interests of the local party. The relationship between PCI activities at local and national level is always of interest to us.
- 4. I thought it just worth setting down these thoughts. I apologise if we do not always have time to acknowledge these local reports. But please accept my assurance that such background reporting is always read with interest here.

R P Nash Western European Department