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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

October 31, 1938



*Mr. Messersmith*

*You may be interested  
in Tittmann's comments PM*

*File*

There are indications that this memorandum is a translation from a foreign language, probably Italian or French. My guess is that it was prepared by Gentizon, who has been the Rome correspondent of the Paris "Temps" for many years. I hardly think the author could be an Italian since Prince Orsini is referred to on page 13 as the Duke of Orsini, a mistake which an educated Italian would not be apt to make.

With the exception of the author's opinion on Italy's economic situation and the colonial possibilities of Abyssinia which I believe to be too pessimistic, his conclusions seem to me plausible, especially with regard to Italy's foreign policy and her dependency upon Germany. I feel, however, that Mussolini recognizes the deep-seated love the Italian people hold for the monarchy and the House of Savoy and would therefore hesitate to take any rash steps against them except in desperation.

*[Handwritten initials]*

Eu:Tittmann:LF