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COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND CULTURAL RELATIONS

SECOND INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF DEMOCRATIC SPORT

Memorandum by the Italian Delegation

1. The second international meeting of democratic sport, organized by the "Unione Italiana Sportiva Popolare" (U. I. S. P., a leftist organization), took place on 14th and 15th July, 1956 in Bologna and other main centres in that district.

Several competitions -- swimming, football, cycling, baseball, boxing, etc. -- were held. These competitions, notwithstanding the propaganda of the extreme left press, went almost unnoticed. The meeting attracted only about 400 foreigners for the most part from France, who arrived and returned by special train.

Not all the competitions planned took place. The public, and even some of the foreign athletes, showed very little interest, and many of the latter deserted the stadium to go sight-seeing.

2. Senator Pastore, as President of the U. I. S. P., together with some members of the secretariat of the World Federation of Democratic Youth, attended the mass demonstration of gymnastics held at the municipal stadium on 14th July.

Only a thousand young people of both sexes, instead of the 3,000 announced by the Communist Youth Federation, took part in this display which proved to be most elementary.

Palais de Chaillot,
Paris, XVIIe.

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