

So when we came before the Constitutional Court two outstanding lawyers, without pay, took the case and defended it, and won the case.

The Supreme Court ordered the Italian Government to scrap the circolare Buffarini, and secondly to grant the freedom of religion. With this decree, the president was supposed to sign it, but typically they had a good catholic secretary that would always put that paper under the stack. This is a case that went against us.

I wrote a letter to Rosapepe the lawyer of the ADI, because he asked me to. He took it to the American Ambassador who called me in. He said "I cannot do anything, we cannot tell the Italian government what to do. I am only an ambassador. But there is a good chance that we might be able to do something because president Eisenhower will be visiting Italy, (in the 60s). I might be able to put a good word in" (DEC 1959)

Later I got the story that Eisenhower joked with the Italian president Gronchi about being busy. "Being a president it takes a lot of work" President Gronchi replied "Well, but I am able to keep abreast" Eisenhower responded "I don't think so, because I have been told that you have not got around to sign" and the conversation went on and the President E explained about case of the ADI. President G did not know anything about and called for his secretary. With much embarrassment the secretary went to get the paper. President G, in front of President E, put his signature on it.

SIGNING OF THE DECREE GIVING FREEDOM  
TO THE ADI. 5.12.1959 D.P.R.

Back in 1953 the constitutional court was in favor of the ADI and ordered the Italian government to abolish the Guido Buffarini circular letter and to enforce the freedom of religion.

The papers were drawn and presented to the president of the Republic Gronchi, But typical of the catholic methods they did everything in their power not to let this law be enforced. And I am