

Italy and the Suez Canal, from the Mid-nineteenth Century to the Cold War

Barbara Curli
Editor

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Passage through the Suez Canal of the AGIP (ENI Group) oil tanker, recognisable from the typical six-legged dog, the symbol of AGIP. Frame from the documentary film *Il Canale* by Bernardo Bertolucci (1966, commissioned by ENI, Ente nazionale idrocarburi)

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Statue commemorating Pietro Paleocapa as architect of the Suez Canal and the Fréjus tunnel, piazza Paleocapa, Torino

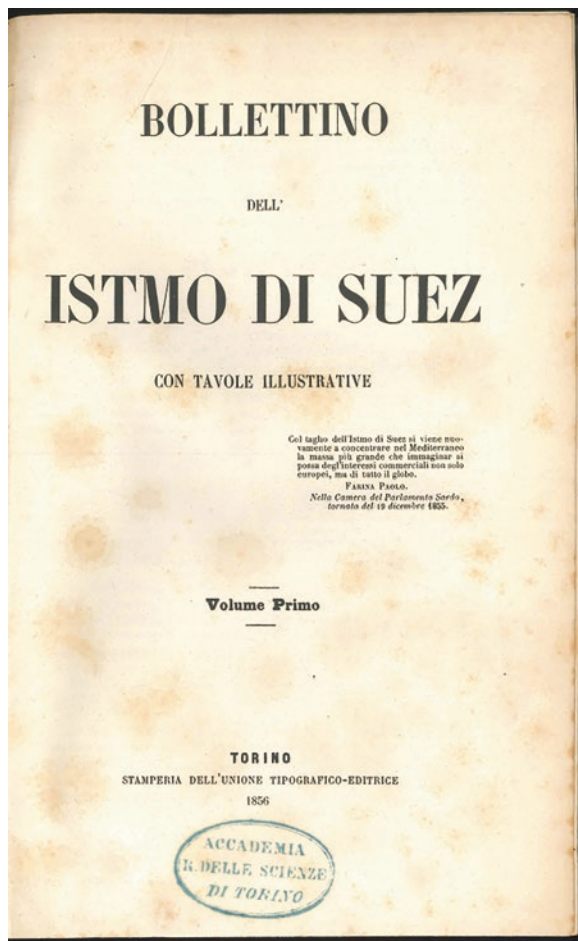
The statue, by Odoardo Tabacchi, was erected in 1871. The inscription reads: “To Pietro Paleocapa, illustrious engineer, eminent statesman, the Italians from all provinces”

(Pictures by Barbara Curli)



Luigi (Alois) Negrelli

@ Courtesy Archivio Negrelli, Biblioteca Intercomunale di Primiero, Trento (Italy)



The *Bollettino dell'Istmo di Suez* started publication in Torino in 1856
Courtesy: Library of *Accademia delle Scienze*, Torino



Giuseppe Sapeto, *L'Italia e il canale di Suez. Operetta popolare*, 1865



Il taglio dell'istmo di Suez (The cutting of the isthmus of Suez)

Allegorical marble group by Pietro Magni (1863), depicting Europe uniting the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, while the geniuses of Commerce and Shipping behind them give their blessing

© Museo Revoltella, Trieste



Poster of the allegorical *Ballo Excelsior*, La Scala Milano (originally featured 1881), the Suez Canal scene on top right. In 1913 the *Ballo* was transformed in a movie by Luca Comerio, to which this poster is related.

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Le entusiastiche dimostrazioni degli Italiani residenti in Egitto al passaggio nel canale di Suez delle navi che trasportano le nostre truppe nell'Africa Orientale.

(Disegno di A. Belloni)

Front cover of *La Domenica del Corriere*, 29 September 1935: Passage through the Suez Canal of Italian troops heading to Ethiopia and welcomed by the Italian residents in Egypt

© Courtesy of *Il Corriere della Sera*



Cairo, 1968. Gamal Abdel Nasser and Giorgio La Pira
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Frames from the documentary film *Il Canale* by Bernardo Bertolucci (1966, commissioned by ENI, Ente nazionale idrocarburi).

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