

Residents of the Aeolian island of Filicudi

protest against the relocation of 15 Mafia bosses to their island

Date

1971-1971

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

Military helicopter landing in Filicudi during the residents' protest. In May 1971, 15 members of the Greco Mafia clan from Corleone, on the Sicilian mainland, were interned on the Aeolian island of Filicudi, far from their criminal empire, much to the chagrin of the Filicudiani. The island's inhabitants protested and slept out in the open, doing all they could to stop boats docking at the port and the Mafia and their guards landing. When the government sent riot police teams to repress the potential 'trouble', the residents instead staged a peaceful mass protest where all the inhabitants left the island and landed in Lipari, another nearby island. After a month of protest, the Aeolian's won what they had wanted, and the Mafia were instead transferred to the Asinara agricultural penal colony.

Dimensions

Overall: 18.6 x 24.3 cm (7 3/8 x 9 4/8 in.)