

1708

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ACC

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1709

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

10000/132/250

RU 505

Dec. 1943. July 1944

Correspondence re Ruffini Biagio

taken by Prisoner D.W.

19 July 1945

R. Lenz

PMB Unit No. 12

To: British Embassy, Rome
 American Embassy, Rome
 Political Commission, AC
 PMB, AFHQ

Mr. Deane

From: Mr. Macford

Date: 5th December 1944

TOP SECRET

Your attention is invited to the following report which this organization has received from JICA concerning Nuccio Ruini:-

This political records are not very good. During the Fascist regime he was appointed, with the aid of some Fascist leaders, to the office of legal proxy of the Bank of Italy. In this position he gained remarkable profits. He took part in business propositions supported by Fascism. He managed to avoid publicity, but his activity is well-known and will soon be publicly disclosed. Lately as Minister without Portfolio in the Bonomi Cabinet, he tried many times to re-employ a former Fascist Prefect, member of the Fascist Party since 1919, well-known leader of the Fascist Youth. He was protected by De Momo, one of the founders of Fascism, of whom Ruini was for many years a friend.

Ruini's "Capo di Gabinetto" is the State's Councillor Pozzi, a well-known Fascist. Pozzi held, among others, the office of "Capo Gabinetto" of Bastianini, when the latter was Governor of Dalmatia. Unscrupulous businessman and a Fascist, Ruini obtained the support of the Socialists and Communists, in whose hands he would not hesitate to put Italy, promising to fight with all available means against Anglo-American influence and interference.

So far as plots are concerned, his cleverness is beyond doubt. Should he take over the Government his activity would ruin the country. With regard to the Allies, he must be regarded as a very dangerous element."

I had heard both before the war and recently reports about Ruini which tend largely to confirm much of the information recorded in the JICA report, but I had hesitated to take action on the strength of reports of which I had no proof. I understand that JICA has documentary evidence of some of the facts alleged above but I have felt it preferable to draw the matter to your notice without attempting to make any independent investigations. My own judgement of Ruini based on information which has reached me from various sources is very similar to that given in the last paragraph of the JICA report.

I have given instructions that any evidence available on Pozzi should be collected and will forward this to you as soon as possible. I had already marked his name for investigation in connection with his activities in Dalmatia, but was not aware of his identity with the Capo Gabinetto of Ruini.

The only other information on Ruini available to this office concerns his

505
RUINI

3412

Your attention is invited to the following report which this organization has received from JICA concerning Meuccio Ruini:-

"His political records are not very good. During the Fascist regime he was appointed, with the aid of some Fascist leaders, to the office of legal proxy of the Bank of Italy. In this position he gained remarkable profits. He took part in business propositions supported by Fascism. He managed to avoid publicity, but his activity is well-known and will soon be publicly disclosed.

Later as Minister without Portfolio in the Bonomi Cabinet, he tried many times to re-employ a former Fascist Prefect, member of the Fascist Party since 1919, well-known leader of the Fascist Youth.

He was protected by De Bono, one of the founders of Fascism, of whom Ruini was for many years a friend.

Ruini's "Capo di Gabinetto" is the State's Councillor Borzi, a well-known Fascist. Borzi held, among others, the office of "Capo Gabinetto" of Bastianini, when the latter was Governor of Dalmatia.

Unscrupulous businessman and a Fascist, Ruini obtained the support of the Socialists and Communists, in whose hands he would not hesitate to put Italy, promising to fight with all available means against Anglo-American influence and interference.

So far as plots are concerned, his cleverness is beyond doubt. Should he take over the Government his activity would ruin the country. With regard to the Allies, he must be regarded as a very dangerous element."

I had heard both before the war and recently reports about Ruini which tend largely to confirm much of the information recorded in the JICA report, but I had hesitated to take action on the strength of reports of which I had no proof. I understand that JICA has documentary evidence of some of the facts alleged above but I have felt it preferable to draw the matter to your notice without attempting to make any independent investigations. My own judgement of Ruini based on information which has reached me from various sources is very similar to that given in the last paragraph of the JICA report.

I have given instructions that any evidence available on Borzi should be collected and will forward this to you as soon as possible. I had already marked his name for investigation in connection with his activities in Dalmatia, but was not aware of his identity with the Capo Gabinetto of Ruini.

The only other information on Ruini available to this office concerns his public career, literary and political activity etc., and was all made public at the time of his appointment as Minister.

TOP SECRET

Chief of Intel Liaison
POT, Italy.

505
Ruini

DRAFT*8 Aug*

Thank you very much for your memorandum ^I of
the 3rd August, which gave me the information I needed.

I have noted your paragraph 2 and Signor
Rullio may rest assured that his part in this affair
will not come to the knowledge of the Italian Govern-
ment. *except by leakage on intercept*

*645 - Rullio**253 - 4/20/50*

3411

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
A.P.O. 782

BPCBI

3 August 1944

Subject: Italian Diplomat.

To : Harold A. Caccin, Esq., Vice President, Political Section,
Headquarters ACC, APO 394.

1. With reference to your letter of 30 July 1944, above subject, the diplomat in question is Rulli, Guglielmo, 40 Via Martelli, Rome, telephone 874660.
2. Signor Rulli requested me to promise that "his name should not be connected" with the document in any way likely to lead to the disclosure to the Italian government that he had given a State paper to the Allies. He does not consider his action as a betrayal of the Italian government, since he believes the document to be of only historical, and not of active political value today. Revelation of his part in such a transaction would, however, in his opinion, be likely to prejudice his professional career in the Italian diplomatic service.
3. May I have your assurance that his name will not be connected with the document in any way that might disclose his part in the affair to the Italian government?

HENRY H. CUMMING
Lt. Colonel, GSC
A. C. of S., G-2

3410

SECRET

~~WTS~~SECRET.

In the memorandum of the 14th June which enclosed a copy of the Italian Armistice Conditions originally proposed for, but never delivered to, the French Government in June 1940, the source of this document was given as an Italian diplomat. Enquiries from Lt.-Col. Cumming have revealed that his name is Signor Guglielmo Rulli, who is a Counsellor in the Italian Foreign Office and said to be "a good solid type".

2. He requested Col. Cumming that his name should not be connected with the document in any way likely to lead to the disclosure to the Italian Government that he had given a State paper to the Allies.

3. In giving the name of the source, Lt.-Col. Cumming has particularly asked for an assurance that it shall not be divulged.

Political Section,
7.8.44.

505-21114

3409

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRIES INTELLIGENCE CORPS
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
A.P.O. 782

/lr

REF: 1

CASE NO. 88E-882-SV

13 June 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: RUOFFOLO, Luigi, 275 Corso Umberto I, Naples.

1. Investigation was requested 14 May 1944 by Major A. E. Heath, Regional Security Officer, Region III, Allied Control Commission. Major Heath reported that Subject, a prominent Fascist who in April, 1939, sent birthday wishes to Hitler, is attempting to receive authorization to reopen the Naples consulate of Czechoslovakia and of Liberia, for which countries he was formerly consular agent. Major Heath stated that although there appears to be no tangible evidence that RUOFFOLO is potentially dangerous, an investigation should be made of his past and present activities, and every precaution be taken to prevent him from obtaining any position of trust with any department of the Allied Military Government.

11. 1. RUOFFOLO joined the Fascist Party in 1928, but since 1922 he was active in the growth of Fascism. As a dealer in hardware, Subject enriched himself by selling supplies to the Mostra d'Oltremare, the World's Fair at Fagnoli. RUOFFOLO is also President of the Società Edilizia Parco Margherita, a real estate corporation. Under the Fascist Government Subject was a member of the Directorate of the Unione Fascista dei Commercianti della Sezione Ferro-Metalli (Fascist Union of Hardware Dealers), and published at his personal expense three speeches made by Mussolini to the Council of Fascist Corporations. From 1934 to 1938 Subject was Consular Agent in Naples for Czechoslovakia and for Liberia, but in 1938 he resigned both consular positions, and the consulates were closed. (SOURCES: S.I.M. and Questura. (Evaluation: B-2)).

2. The files of 312th P.S.S. contain a report of that organization's detailed examination of four files recovered from the German Consulate of Naples and dealing with correspondence from Italian citizens to Hitler or to the German Consul. In this report it is noted that in April 1939, RUOFFOLO wrote a letter of birthday wishes to Hitler. These files from the German Consulate were transmitted by P.S.S. to the Advanced Documents Section, G-2, Fifth Army. (Evaluation: A-1)

3. This Agent asked Lt. Emilio Lapiello of the Investigative Division of the Guardia di Finanza, to assign undercover agents to check RUOFFOLO's present activities. Lt. Lapiello reported that Subject's hardware stores had been damaged by air raids, and that his present business activities are confined to his studio at 275 Corso Umberto I, where Subject sells cameras and other souvenirs. In the opinion of Lt. Lapiello, RUOFFOLO was a Fascist chiefly through opportunism, and is not at present engaged in any political activities. (Evaluation: B-2)

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CONFIDENTIAL

4. On 1 May 1944 Capt. John A. McKay, Security Branch, Allied Control Commission, reported by letter to the Political Section, Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, the results of an investigation of Subject. According to Capt. McKay, nothing was discovered to suggest that Subject is dangerous, or that he is other than a good business man, who for business reasons would be willing to change his coat to suit the times. (valuation: A-1)

5. On 29 March 1944 RUOFFOIC requested from the Prefect of Naples authorization to resume his consular activities on behalf of the governments of Liberia and of Czechoslovakia. Mr. Samuel Reber, Vice President Allied Control Commission, Political Section, on 3 May 1944 asked the Regional Commissioner of Region III, A.C.C., to notify the Prefect that at the present time consulates of these countries are not yet authorized to function in territory administered by the Allied Control Commission. (Source: Files of the Security Officer, Region III, A.C.C. valuation: A-1)

6. On 19 May 1944 this Agent interviewed Mr. Franklin E. Murrell, Vice-Consul, United States Consulate in Naples. Mr. Murrell explained that as a citizen of Italy Subject could not be a consul for a foreign government, but merely a consular agent. Mr. Murrell pointed out that any old credentials held by RUOFFOIC would no longer be valid, and that until Subject receives new credentials from Liberia and Czechoslovakia and the authorization of the Allied Control Commission, he cannot resume his diplomatic functions. (valuation: A-1)

III.1. CONCLUSIONS:

RUOFFOIC is not at present engaged in any political activity, and he is not dangerous from the standpoint of military security. However, his record of participation in the Fascist government makes him unsuitable for any position of trust with the Allied Military Government.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that RUOFFOIC be denied authorization to act as the consular representative of Czechoslovakia and of Liberia, and that he be refused any position of trust in connection with the Allied Military Government or the Allied war effort.

JOHN L. MARTIN
Special Agent, C.I.C.

APPROVED:

JOHN H. LUCAS
Special Agent, C.I.C.,
Chief, Investigations Section.

DISTRIBUTION:

G-2, P.R.S. (2)
C.I. Section (1)
Security Officer, Reg. 3 AGC (1)
✓ Mr. Samuel Reber, Political
Section, A.C.C. (1)
File (1)
CIC, GAS (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

3407

Ruoppolo

May 3, 1944.

SUBJECT: Luigi Ruoppolo.

TO: Regional Commissioner, Region III.

Reference is made to your Memorandum of March 29 enclosing a communication from the Prefect of Naples Province, stating that Gr. Off. Luigi Ruoppolo advises that he has recommenced his consular activities on behalf of the Republic of Liberia and the Czechoslovak Government.

At the present time no United Nations' Consuls are yet authorized to function in A.M.S. territory. It is suggested that the Prefect inform Ruoppolo of this situation.

There is enclosed a further report on the activities of the individual in question prepared by the Security Branch, Headquarters Allied Control Commission.

Samuel Reber
Vice President Allied Control Commission
Political Section

Enclosure

505 - Ruoppolo, Luigi

3406

COPY

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SECURITY BRANCH

Ref: SB/311/5/140 B

May 1, 1944.

Subject: RUOPPOLO, Luigi.

To: Political Section, HQ A.C.C.

1. Subject was born in Naples on 19 June 1885 and lives at 275 Corso Umberto I.
2. He became a member of the Fascist Party in 1928, but is reported to have supported the movement since 1922, having given financial support to the March on Rome. This appears to have been done for business reasons, as subject has never shown any real enthusiasm for Fascism.
3. For medical reasons, he has never done any military service.
4. He is owner and director of several important business concerns and is reputed to be a first class business man.
5. He has taken a keen interest in charitable institutions.
6. He has no penal record. His moral character is good.
7. Nothing has been discovered to suggest that subject is dangerous or that he is other than a good business man, who for business reasons would be willing to change his coat to suit the times.

For the Director:

John A. McKay, Capt.,
Security Branch.

3405 *

SR

Then there is no objection to
Ruppel personally as
Czech Consul, but he
must be told that his time
has not yet come when
U.N. Consuls are allowed

in April 6. Country -

Shall we ask him

to call?

HA (3404
4/8

1721

Political Sec

J-2533

SP
HC

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394, US ARMY

29 March 1944

SUBJECT: Gr. Off. LUIGI RUOFFOLO

TO : Political Section

THRU : Regional Control & Military Government Section - ACC HQ

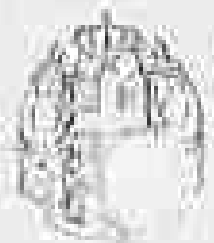
7th Div
not war file
CIC for investigation
by Capt. Heath

The inclosed letters on above subject forwarded for your information
and whatever action you may wish to take.

Charles Poletti *3113*
CHARLES POLETTI
Lt. Colonel
Regional Commission

Incl 2
Letter from Capt. HEATH
17 March 1944
Letter from Prefetto Cavalieri, Naples Province
11 March 1944

3403



Nap. 11 marzo 1944 A

R. PREFETTURA DI NAPOLI

Gab. 2685

Dir. N. di Prot.

Esposta a nota

Allegati

OGGETTO: Consolato per la Repubblica di Liberia
e per gli affari di Cecoslovacchia.

L.Col.Charles Poletti

Commissario Regionale per gli Affari Civili

NAPOLI

Per doverosa comunicazione informo la S.V.Ill:ma
che il Grand.Uff:le Luigi Ruoppolo mi ha segnalato che,
rientrato in Napoli, ha ripreso le sue attività Consolari,
sia per la repubblica di Liberia sia per gli affari di
Cecoslovacchia, giusta patente e relativi exequatur preesi-
stenti, sempre tenendo presente l'attuale stato di fatto
e di legge, nonché ogni doveroso riguardo alle disposizio-
ni delle Autorità Alleate.

Il Grand.Uff:le Ruoppolo si è riservato di comunicare
i nomi dei suoi collaboratori.

IL PREFETTO

(Cavalieri)

3402

1723

785016

C O N F I D E N T I A L
(Equals British CONFIDENTIAL)

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394, U. S. Army

Ref. 84/RUOPPOLO/191

MEMORANDUM.

17 March 1944

SUBJECT: Gr. Uff. LUIGI RUOPPOLO.

TO: Regional Commissioner.

- I. Reference is made to your request in a note on the attached letter dated 11 March 1944 from the Prefect regarding the above mentioned individual.
- II. The following information has so far been obtained:-
1. April 1939, sent birthday wishes to HITLER;
(Evaluation A-1)
 2. Head of a commercial firm dealing with cotton and soap;
(Office in Piazza Mercato 96-98)
 3. Consul General for the Republic of Czechoslovakia;
 4. Consul General (?) for the Republic of Liberia;
 5. Ex-Governor of the Pellegrini Hospital;
 6. Vice President of the Casa Paterna Ravaschieri;
 7. Head of the Administration of the Societa' Edilizia Parco Margherita;
 8. Counsellor to the Bank of Naples;
 9. Commissioner of the Italian Istituto Credito Marittimo;
(Evaluation B-3)
- III. An independent source reports:-
1. Counsellor of the Societa' Nazionale Dante Alighieri, a Fascist cultural and propagandist organization;
 2. President of the Societa' Anon. Forniture Oltremare (SAFOSEF), a position given only to a person trusted by the Fascist party;
 3. Related to the ex-Consigliere Nazionale PALOMBA, who enriched himself supplying goods to the Italian Army. Believe that RUOPPOLO was associated with PALOMBA in his

3401

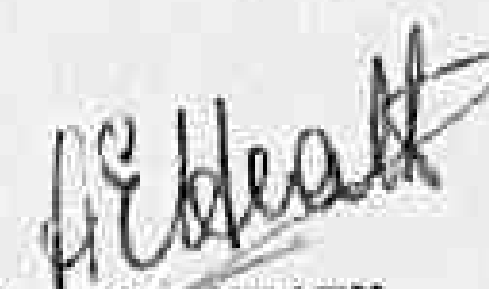
Luigi Ruoppolo.
17 March - contd.

business enterprises. It is certain that honors accorded him were obtained on PALOMBA's recommendation.

4. Consul for Liberia since before 1922.
5. Member of the Fascist Party. It is claimed that he never had any political position.
6. Reported to have recently lost his family at Solofra as the result of enemy action.
(Evaluation B-3)

IV.

Although there appears to be no tangible evidence to suggest that RUOPPOLO is potentially dangerous, this Security Officer recommends that a very exhaustive investigation be made by C.I.C. into his past and present activities and that every precaution be taken to prevent him obtaining any position of trust with any department of the Allied Military Government.


A. E. HEATH,
Capt., I. C.,
Regional Security Officer.

3400

C O N F I D E N T I A L
(Equals British CONFIDENTIAL)

Ruggieri - Relief work

Advanced Headquarters Allied Control Commission

APG 394

June 23, 1944.

Dear Dr. Ruggieri:

Reference is made to your letter of June 12 in which you stated your desire to give aid to the town of Ronciglione.

The military authorities concerned advise that there is no objection to a civilian relief committee being set up under yours and Dr. Ruggieri's direction if you wish to do so. However, the Corps Officer in charge of the area has made the following report which you may wish to consider before making your decision:

"Captain G. visited Ronciglione the day after we came to this area and has been there every day since. Food was brought to the town the day after his first visit. As previously reported the town was fairly hard hit by aerial bombardment but no worse than a number of others in the area. In some respects the town is in a good deal better shape than the average, and is certainly in better shape than dozens of towns over which there has been hard fighting. Food and medical supplies are being distributed by AMG as in all other communes and the general condition of the place is not below the average discovered so far."

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Reber
Vice President Allied Control Commission
Political Section

3399

Comm. Dr. Carlo Giulio Ruggieri
Via Toscana, 1,
Rome.

505-Ruggieri

1726

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY (FIELD)
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

20 June 1944

117/2

TO : Mr. Samuel Reber, Adv. HQ, ACC. ✓

Dear Sam,

Before replying to Dr. Ruggieri's letter of 12th June about Ronciglione I have obtained a report on the place from our Corps officer in charge of that area. He says as follows:

"Capt. G. visited Ronciglione the day after we came to this area and has been there every day since. Food was brought to the town the day after his first visit. As previously reported the town was fairly hard hit by aerial bombardment but no worse than a number of others in the area. In some respects the town is in a good deal better shape than the average, and is certainly in better shape than dozens of towns over which there has been hard fighting."

The above report speaks for itself: [food and medical supplies are being distributed by AMG as in all other communes, and the general condition of the place is not below the average discovered so far.]

However we have no objection to a civilian relief committee being set up there by Dr. and Mrs. Ruggieri if they wish to do so.

Dr. Ruggieri's letter is returned herewith.

Yours *always*, 3398

Ed Mayne

1727

COMM. DI CARLO CIULLI RUGGERI
VIA TOSCANA, 1
ROMA

Roma, June 12, 1944

Dear Mr. Reber:

I have just heard that on June 5 Ronciglione (Prov. of Viterbo) suffered a severe air-raid which greatly damaged the town and caused hundreds of casualties.

I understand the civil population has practically no medicines and very little food. Could you help us in relieving the best we can the sufferance of those poor people?

Just for your information, the ^{great} majority of the inhabitants of Ronciglione are pro-Allies.

Could you lend us a helping hand and see if Mrs. Ruggieri and I could go there along with a relief committee?

Thank you heartily.

Gratefully yours,



Mr. SAMUEL REBER,
Grand Hotel,
ROME.

Dear Mayne

3387

Could you let me know what sort of
reply I can make. The writer was the former Chase
National Bk representative here. Yours. SR

U. S. SECRET
 Equals British SECRET

27 DEC 1943

47/

35/421

In reply refer to:
 351.01

27 December 1943

Via Consulate General, Rome
 Secretary General, Royal Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The following message to the Royal Italian Government has
 been received from Legation Bern:

"Under 351: Please advise Prince Sussani that Marina
 and her sister have arrived safely. Reference is made to
 November 1 and 2 and 3 of October 30."

For the Deputy President, Allied Control Commission

(Official Section)

2017 - Rucapoli

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1729

26 DEC 1943

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Civil Affairs C. ce

C. C. C.

December 20, 1943

To: Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, Brindisi.

Subject: Magistrati's 2061 to RIG.

The following is a paraphrase of telegram No. 2061
from Magistrati for the Royal Italian Government:

Please advise Prince RUSPOLI that MARINA and her
sister have arrived safely. Refer my telegram
November 1 and yours October 30.

H. J. L'Heureux

H. J. L'Heureux
Acting Chief Civil Administrator

2395

FILE UNDER NO.

201 - Carlo Ruspoli
~~200 - PAVES~~

INDEX SHEET

SYNOPSIS

1 December

Automobile with license number LB 9504 is the property of Major Carlo Ruspoli for use for official Italian Government business.

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER NO.

386 - Commanding Agent for Italy
201 - RUSPOLI CARLO - Later

INSTRUCTIONS Under "Synopsis" make brief entry showing date of communication and from whom received and synopsis sufficient to identify the papers. When these index sheets become numerous under a subject they will be entered on to consolidated index sheet and then destroyed.

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1731

OUTGOING

DHS/JJF

CONFIDENTIAL

ROUTINE

FATIMA

FREEDOM

NOV

NOV

FOLLOWING FOR ITALIAN AMBASSADOR FROM ITALIAN MINISTER ROYAL HOUSEHOLD PD TO
FREEDOM FROM FATIMA SIGNED JOYCE QUOTE HAVE TRANSMITTED TO PRINCE BUSPOLI NEWS
OF HIS FAMILY KINDLY FURNISHED BY YOUR EXCELLENCY PD PRINCE EXPRESSES THANKS
THANKS FOR YOUR COURTEOUS INTEREST PD SIGNED AGUARDONE UNQUOTE

AUTHENTICATED:

ROBERT E. DOE
Major, AGP
Secretary of Commission

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG
- 1 - Diery
- 1 - Col. Hindley-Smith

3393

201- Buspoli Journal

6/219/103

DR. AUGUSTO RUSSO - Secretary, Brussels
copy of this memorandum went to G-5, AFGQ
on 23 Jan 45 asking for MTAs and authorization
to publish travel orders.

Application for MTA was forwarded with
Scammacca, Aillaud, and Forino

RUSSO

505

3392

1733