

ACC

10000/143/1019
(TEMPORARY)

10000/143/1019
(TEMPORARY)

23 TRUCKING COMPANY
JULY, AUG. 1945

Transportation Sub-Commissioner

To see and note attached report (1A),
please.

Flanagan
Colonel
Director Public Safety.

22 August, 1945.

2

Public Safety S/C

Yated

27/8/45

W. J. Jones
Chief Roads Div.

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HEADQUARTERS LIGURIA REGION
APC 394

BJH/GB

Ref. : LIG/SAF/618

Subject : 23 Trucking Company

To : V.P. Civil Affairs Section HQs Allied Commission
Public Safety Sub-Commission

13 AUG 1945
10 August 1945

1. At 1230 hours 31 July 45, a request was received from Sergeant PAYNE of 64 S.I.B. Genoa, for assistance in controlling the personnel of the 23rd Trucking Company (Italian), of the 3rd Battalion Trucking, Allied Commission, stationed at the Istituto Principe di Piemonte, Via Platani 4, Marassi, GENOA, as he had received information that this formation was in possession of arms and hand grenades.

It was feared that A.G. trucks would be sabotaged.

2. 50 members of the CC.RR. were sent and the barracks and personnel of the Trucking Company were searched, apart from a small quantity of Tommy gun ammunitions, which was taken by the CC.RR. no arms were discovered.

3. The Unit is under the Command of Tenente FARCHOLI Mario, and consists of three officers and 113 other ranks. The American attachment is under the command of Lieutenant Harold C. WILKINER, and consists of one officer and 3 other ranks.

4. The situation with this Unit arose from enquiries made by Sgt. PAYNE into selling of petrol by members of the Unit. He first arrested three members of the Company whom he discovered syphoning petrol on the road.

From statements made by these persons it appeared that other members of the Unit were involved including the officers, and that there was a widespread trafficking in the Unit including a passenger service from Genoa to Livorno and return. The cash proceeds being on a share basis. The whole of the Company were suspended and investigations continued.

5. Attached are the Report and Statements on the case.

6. On 10th August the Trucking Company was disbanded and the 14 persons first named on the report were taken to Marassi Prison there being no other place of confinement for Military Prisoners.

7. The case will appear before an A.M.C. Court in due course.

For the Regional Commissioner

2160

Prof. M. J. J. J.

1. At 1230 hours 31 July 45, a request was received from Sergeant PAYNE of 64 S.I.B. Genoa, for assistance in controlling the personnel of the 23rd Trucking Company (Italian), of the 3rd Battalion Trucking, Allied Commission, stationed at the Istituto Principe di Piemonte, Via Platani 4, Marassi, GENOA, as he had received information that this formation was in possession of arms and hand grenades.

It was feared that A.G. trucks would be sabotaged.

2. 50 members of the CC.RR. were sent and the barracks and personnel of the Trucking Company were searched, apart from a small quantity of Tommy gun ammunitions, which was taken by the CC.RR. no arms were discovered.

3. The Unit is under the Command of Tenente PARGNOLI Mario, and consists of three officers and 118 other ranks. The American attachment is under the command of Lieutenant Harold C. WILNER, and consists of one officer and 8 other ranks.

4. The situation with this Unit arose from enquiries made by Sgt. PAYNE into selling of petrol by members of the Unit. He first arrested three members of the Company whom he discovered syphoning petrol on the road.

From statements made by these persons it appeared that other members of the Unit were involved including the officers, and that there was a widespread trafficking in the Unit including a passenger service from Genoa to Livorno and return. The cash proceeds being on a share basis. The whole of the Company were suspended and investigations continued.

5. Attached are the Report and statements on the case.

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For the Regional Commissioner

E. J. Harford

E. J. HARFORD, Lt. Colonel
Regional Public Safety Officer

DIRECTOR	ARMY	(H-1)
DEPUTY		
CHIEF		
POWERS		
LIC. & REG.		
PER.		

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2160

RESTRICTED.SIB/64/A/45/102.

No. 64 Section,
Special Investigation Branch,
Corps of Military Police,
C.M.F.

5th August 1945.

SUBJECT : Persons arrested - Italy - Receiving.

- (a) Sub/Lt. Cierdullo Franco Raffaele,
- (b) Sub/Lt. Liguore Oronzo di Giamino,
- (c) Lieut. Felicioni Alberto di Ramo,
- (d) Sergt. Major Engels Giovanni,
- (e) Urbani Giovanni di Francesco,
- (f) Lodoli Francesco di Palmino,
- (g) Piero Sebastiano di Agostino,
- (h) Tedde Salvatore di Salvatore,
- (i) Sainza Pietro fu Pietro,
- (j) Padia Giuseppe di Antonio,
- (k) Piras Antonio di Vincenzo,
- (l) Lubino Gwino di Francesco,
- (m) Durestante Guerrino di Attilio,
- (n) Atzeni Biagio di Attilio Vincenzo.

Awaiting arrest :

- (o) Albanini Giulio di Antonio.

All of 23rd Company Autonomia, 3rd Bn. Autotransport.

Persons reported :

- (p) Podestri Giovanni fu Dino,
- Via XX Settembre no. 18,
- Lavagna.

Read & Submitted.

D.A.P.M.

No. 64 Section,

Special Investigation Branch.

Captain

D.A.P.M.

No. 64 Section SIB.

SIR,

I have to report that between the 30th July 1945, and 4th August, 1945, I arrested the above named persons.

- (c) Lieut. Falcioni Alberto di Reno,
- (d) Sergt. Major Engelo Giovannini,
- (e) Urbani Giovanni di Francesco,
- (f) Lodoli Francesco di Palmino,
- (g) Piero Sebastiano di Agostino,
- (h) Teddie Salvatore di Salvatore,
- (i) Sainia Pietro fu Pietro,
- (j) Pidda Giuseppe di Antonio,
- (k) Pires Antonio di Vincenzo,
- (l) Lubino Carino di Francesco,
- (m) Darèstante Guerrino di Attilio,
- (n) Alessi Biagio di Attilio Vincenzo.

Awaiting arrest:

- (c) Altanini Giulio di Antonio.

All of 23rd Company Autonomia, 3rd Bn. Autotransport.

Persons reported:

- (p) Pedestre Giovanni da Dino,
- Via XX Settembre no. 18,
- Livorno.

Read & Submitted.

D.A.F.M.

No. 64 Section,

Special Investigation Branch.

Captain

D.A.F.M.

No. 64 Section SIR.

SIR,

I have to report that between the 10th ²¹⁶45, and 4th August, 1945, I arrested the above named persons, with the exception of accused (n) on holding charges of:

- (a) In that he at Genoa on Wednesday 25th July, 1945, did receive the sum of 2,000 lire from accused (i and j), well knowing it to be part of the proceeds on the sale of M.D. petrol.
- (b) In that he at Genoa on Friday, 27th July, 1945, did receive the sum of 1,000 lire from accused (j), well knowing it to be part of the proceeds from the sale of M.D. petrol.
- (c) In that he at Genoa on Thursday 26th July, 1945, did receive the sum of 1,000 lire from accused (f), well knowing it to be the part of proceeds of the sale of M.D. petrol.

Distribution.

- (d) Larceny - Being jointly concerned together in that they on Tuesday, 24th July, 1945, did steal a quantity of W.D. petrol from the tanks of their lorries of which they were the drivers and sell same to Italian civilians at LAVAGNA.
- (e) Larceny - In that he at Lavagna, on Thursday, 26th July, 1945, did steal 8 gallons of W.D. petrol from lorry No. 10736, of which he was the driver and did sell same to unknown Italian civilians.
- (f) Larceny - In that he did at GENOA, on Thursday, 26th July, 1945, steal 3 gallons of W.D. petrol from vehicle No. 10720, of which he was the driver and sell same to unknown Italian civilians.
- (g) Larceny - In that he at LAVAGNA, on Saturday, 28th July, 1945, did steal 8 gallons of W.D. petrol from vehicle No. 10723, of which he was the driver, and sell same to unknown Italian civilians.
- (h) Larceny - Being jointly concerned together in that they at LA SPEZIA, on Tuesday, 17th July, 1945, did steal 12 gallons of W.D. petrol from lorry no. 10753, and sell same to unknown Italian civilians.
- (i) Larceny - In that he at Lavagna, on Saturday, 28th July 1945, did steal 16 gallons of W.D. petrol from vehicle No. 10708, of which he was the driver, and sell same to accused (p).
- (p) Unlawfully Receiving - In that he at LAVAGNA, on Saturday, 28th July, 1945, did receive from accused (o) 16 gallons of W.D. petrol well knowing it to have been stolen.

All the accused with the exception of (o), and (p) have been handed over to Capt. BALDARINI VOLFANGO, Adjutant, 3rd Bn. Auto Transport, to be dealt with. Accused (o) has escaped from the Guard Room at his unit during the investigations into this case.

The facts leading up to the arrest of the accused and evidence since obtained is as follows:

On Saturday, 28th July, 1945, a complaint was received at this Office from MAZZA GIUSEPPE, Via Carlotta Benettini, 7/22, GENOA, to the effect that at LA SPEZIA, this date in company with about 20 other civilians obtained a lift into GENOA, on an Allied vehicle No. 10708, driven by an Italian soldier. When the lorry arrived at LAVAGNA, the driver stopped in a side street and syphoned four (4) gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of his

- (g) Larceny - In that he at LAVAGNA, on Saturday, 23th July, 1945, did steal 8 gallons of U.D. petrol from vehicle No. 10723, of which he was the driver, and sell same to unknown Italian civilians.
- (h) Larceny - Being jointly concerned together in that they at LA SPEZIA, on Tuesday, 17th July, 1945, did steal 12 gallons of U.D. petrol from lorry No. 10753, and sell same to unknown Italian civilians.
- (i) Larceny - In that he at Lavagna, on Saturday, 28th July 1945, did steal 15 gallons of U.D. petrol from vehicle No. 10702, of which he was the driver, and sell same to accused (p).
- (p) Unlawfully Receiving - In that he at LAVAGNA, on Saturday, 28th July, 1945, did receive from accused (c) 15 gallons of U.D. petrol well knowing it to have been stolen.

All the accused with the exception of (c), and (p) have been handed over to Capt. BALDARATI COLPASCIO, Adjutant, 3rd Bn. Auto Transport, to be dealt with. Accused (c) has escaped from the Guard Room at his unit during the investigations into this case.

The facts leading up to the arrest of the accused and evidence since obtained is as follows:

On Saturday, 28th July, 1945, a complaint was received at this Office from PIAZZA GIUSEPPE, Via Carlotta Benettini, 7/22, GENOA, to the effect that at LA SPEZIA, this date in company with about 20 other civilians obtained a lift into GENOA, on an Allied vehicle No. ALCON 10702, driven by an Italian soldier. When the lorry arrived at LAVAGNA, the driver stopped in a side street and syphoned four (4) gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of his lorry. He went on to state that he saw the driver (whom he could identify), deliver this petrol to an Italian's home nearby, and was present when the driver received 6,400 lire from this civilian.

As a result of this information, on Sunday, 29th July, 1945, in company of PIAZZA, who also acted as an Interpreter, and a member of the Questura attached to this section I went to the house of accuse (p) PODESTRA, where I found two 4 gallon tins containing about 3 gallons of U.D. petrol. When I asked him where he got it from he admitted buying four 4 gallon tins of petrol the previous day from an Italian lorry driver for which he paid him 6,400 lire. I then told him he would have to accompany me back to GENOA, with a view to identifying the driver concerned.

the driver concerned.....

On the return journey I was just entering the town on CHIAYARI, when I noticed a stationary lorry No. 19736 (ALCOM) filled with refugees at the side of the road. On drawing nearer to this vehicle I saw accused (a) URBANI, syphoning petrol into two 4 gallon tins from the tanks of the lorry, by means of two lengths of rubber tubing. I stopped my vehicle immediately in front of this lorry and went to accused URBANI who was still bent down at the side of the petrol tank holding a length of rubber tubing in each hand, the ends of which were in the petrol tank. After making known my identity to him I asked him why he was syphoning the petrol from the lorry, he informed me he was the driver and that he was having trouble with the petrol feed pipes and was syphoning the petrol from one tank to the other. I then examined the tank from which he was drawing the petrol and found that it only contained about two gallons. In spite of this however I found that when this tank was turned on the engine worked perfectly. I examined the other tank and found it was full.

I then carried out an inspection of the driving cab of the lorry and in the pocket of accused URBANI'S jacket which was lying on the seat, I found the sum of 57.150 wrapped in a piece of paper. When I showed the accused this money he admitted it belonged to him, I asked him where he had obtained it and he informed me he had saved it up. It was at this juncture that the accused told me his Officer who was in charge of the vehicle, was in a Cafe across the road. A few minutes later accused Lieut. CIARDULLO came to me and asked me what was wrong. After making known my identity to me I asked him if he was responsible for the lorry of accused URBANI to which he replied he was. I then related to him what had taken place between myself and URBANI and he made the startling remark that he was fully aware that drivers sold petrol from the tanks of their lorries, he further stated that this was also known to other Officers of his unit.

In view of this admission by accused CIARDULLO I told him that he would have to accompany me back to GENOA together with the driver and lorry, he became very excited on hearing this and a violent scene ensued between him, myself and the agent of Questura PANNAUZZI ENRICO, who had to resort to the use of his pistol before order was maintained. It was during this period that a woman was seen to speak to accused CIARDULLO, this woman went to another vehicle a short distance along the road and took a small white paper parcel from the cab of the lorry, this vehicle was the one in which accused CIARDULLO was travelling. I went to this woman, whom I now know to be ARBIZIATI MARIA, Variety Artist, who was on her way to ROMA to join a new Company, she informed me that accused CIARDULLO had asked her to get this parcel and hand it to the driver of his lorry. I was then joined by accused CIARDULLO

ver and that he was having trouble with the petrol feed pipes and was syphoning the petrol from one tank to the other. I then examined the tank from which he was drawing the petrol and found that it only contained about two gallons. In spite of this however I found that when this tank was turned on the engine worked perfectly. I examined the other tank and found it was full.

I then carried out an inspection of the driving cab of the lorry and in the pocket of accused "URBANI" jacket which was lying on the seat, I found the sum of 57,150 wrapped in a piece of paper. When I showed the accused this money he admitted it belonged to him, I asked him where he had obtained it and he informed me he had saved it up. It was at this juncture that the accused told me his Officer who was in charge of the vehicle, was in a Cafe across the road. A few minutes later accused Lieut. CIARDULLO came to me and asked me what was wrong. After making known my identity to me I asked him if he was responsible for the lorry of accused URBANI to which he replied he was. I then related to him what had taken place between myself and URBANI and he made the startling remark that he was fully aware that drivers sold petrol from the tanks of their lorries, he further stated that this was also known to other Officers of his unit.

In view of this admission by accused CIARDULLO I told him that he would have to accompany me back to GENOA together with the driver and lorry, he became very excited on hearing this and a violent scene ensued between him, myself and the agent of Questura PARTAUZZI ERICO, who had to resort to the use of his pistol before order was maintained. It was during this period that a woman was seen to speak to accused CIARDULLO, this woman went to another vehicle a short distance along the road and took a small white paper parcel from the cab of the lorry, this vehicle was the one in which accused CIARDULLO was travelling. I went to this woman, whom I now know to be RABACCIATI MARIA, Variety Artist, who was on her way to ROME to join a new Company, she informed me that accused CIARDULLO had asked her to get this parcel and hand it to the driver of his lorry. I was then joined by accused CIARDULLO who admitted what the woman had stated, in his presence I examined the parcel which I found contained money to the value of 20,900 lire. In view of what had taken place I carried out a search of the personal clothing of accused CIARDULLO and in his wallet I found three checks to the value of 40,000 lire. When asked how he came to be in possession of so much money he stated that 21,000 lire was recently paid to him by the Italian Military Authorities the remainder he had saved up, I took possession of this money and handed him a receipt for same.

I then learned from accused CIARDULLO that he was in charge of 10 other vehicles with refugees for LUCCA, these had continued on their journey. On hearing this I permitted Lieut.

CIARDULLO to continue the journey URBANI's vehicle, and instructed him to report to my H.Q. when he returned.

After taking possession of the rubber tubes and two petrol tins I conducted accused URBANI to my H.Q. When further questioned by me he admitted taking the petrol from his tank to sell to civilians. Later this date I detained URBANI in the Town Guard Room.

On this date in company with accused FODESTA and Interpreter OSPICI attached to this Section, I interviewed Lieut. FARGNOLI, C/C 23rd, COY. AUTOTRANSPORT, at his unit, after making known my identity to him and the nature of my enquiry he referred me to Lieut. WELTNER, Officer I/C/ Administration to this Company. Lieut. WELTNER informed me that for some time he suspected personnel of this unit of selling petrol, but he could get no evidence to support this theory owing to the fact that there were only 8 other ranks and himself to superintend the work of this unit, it was for this reason that Junior Italian Officers in the Company were detailed to accompany each convoy. At my request Lieut. WELTNER suspended all duties of this Company whilst enquiries were in progress.

Also on this date I carried out an Identification Parade in the presence of Lieut. FARGNOLI but accused FODESTA was unable to identify the driver who sold him the petrol. In this parade he pointed to two men accused FADDA and TEDDE, as being similar in appearance to two other soldiers he had seen with the driver. I carried out a search of these two men and in the possession of accused FADDA I found the sum of 28,765 Lire, when questioned about this money he admitted getting some of it by selling petrol and charging civilians fares from LUCCA to GENOA. In the possession of accused TEDDE I found the sum of 1,426 Lire, this man also admitted selling petrol whilst in the company of accused ALBANINI.

On making a check of the Duty Book, I found that accused ALBANINI was the driver of Lorry No. 10708, when petrol was sold to accused FODESTA. I questioned ALBANINI and he admitted being the driver of the lorry in question, but denied having sold any petrol. I arrested him and handed him over to Lieut. FARGNOLI pending further enquiries. Accused TEDDE and FADDA were detained at the Town Guard Room.

On Monday, 30th. July, 1945, I again interviewed accused TEDDE and FADDA at my H.Q. and they made voluntary statements under caution, these were taken down in writing by Interpreter OSPICI and they afterwards signed same. In these statements it will be seen they implicated accused Officers A.B.C. Also accused SAINTU.

This date in company with Interpreter OSPICI and

me to Lieut. WELTNER, Officer I/C/ Administration to this Company. Lieut. WELTNER informed me that for some time he suspected personnel of this unit of selling petrol, but he could get no evidence to support this theory owing to the fact that there were only 3 other ranks and himself to superintend the work of this unit, it was for this reason that junior Italian Officers in the Company were detailed to accompany each convoy. At my request Lieut. WELTNER suspended all duties of this Company whilst enquiries were in progress.

Also on this date I carried out an Identification Parade in the presence of Lieut. FARGNOLI but accused FODESTA was unable to identify the driver who sold him the petrol. In this parade he pointed to two men accused FADDA and TEDDE, as being similar in appearance to two other soldiers he had seen with the driver. I carried out a search of these two men and in the possession of accused FADDA I found the sum of 26,765 Lire, when questioned about this money he admitted getting some of it by selling petrol and charging civilians fares from LUCCA to GENOA. In the possession of accused TEDDE I found the sum of 1,425 Lire, this man also admitted selling petrol whilst in the company of accused ALBANINI.

On making a check of the Duty Book, I found that accused ALBANINI was the driver of lorry No. 10708, when petrol was sold to accused FODESTA, I questioned ALBANINI and he admitted being the driver of the lorry in question, but denied having sold any petrol. I arrested him and handed him over to Lieut. FARGNOLI pending further enquiries. Accused TEDDE and FADDA were detained at the Town Guard Room.

On Monday, 30th. July, 1945, I again interviewed accused TEDDE and FADDA at my H.Q. and they made voluntary statements under caution, these were taken down in writing by Interpreter OSPICI and they afterwards signed same. In these statements it will be seen they implicated accused Officers A.D.C. also accused SAKITU.

This date in company with Interpreter OSPICI and witness PLAZZA, I went to the unit of these drivers and upon arrival I learned that accused ALBANINI had escaped from custody a few minutes prior to my arrival. In the absence of ²⁴⁶ I held an Identification Parade but PLAZZA failed to identify anyone.

On Tuesday, 31st July, 1945, I learned from Lieut. WELTNER that he had good reasons to suspect the Italian personnel of being on the point of rioting and requested assistance to prevent damage being done to the fifty vehicles in the compound. On receipt of this information I had an interview with Major GOODACRE, RSC, and Lt. Col. HERTFORD, A.C.C. and placed the full facts before them. As a result of this interview, later this date in company

with Capt. OMACE and fifty members of the Carabinieri, we went to the Unit and after placing a guard round the billet and vehicle park we carried out a systematic search of the billet and kits of the personnel, with the exception of a few rounds of Tommy Gun ammunition no firearms was found during this search.

On this date I interviewed accused SALIMU, after making known my identity to him he admitted selling petrol when on journeys to LUCCA, after verbally cautioning him he elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter OSPICI and he afterwards signed same. In this statement he too implicated accused CIARDULLO.

On Wednesday, 1st. August, 1945, enquiries were continued in the unit, accused FIERO and LODOLI were questioned and they admitted stealing petrol on journeys to LUCCA. They elected to make statements, these were taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter OSPICI and they afterwards signed same. Both these men implicated accused FALCIONI.

Numerous other personnel of this unit were questioned this date including accused K.L.M.N. these men refused to answer my questions put to them, I arrested them on the evidence of accused H.I.J. As they were on the convoy to LUCCA on the 24th July 1945, when these three accused saw all the drivers syphoning petrol from the tanks of their vehicles. I had them placed under Carabinieri guard at their unit.

On Thursday, 2nd. August 1945, in company with Interpreter OSPICI, I continued my enquiries in the unit, on arrival there I found all the accused talking to other members of the Company, they had apparently been released from custody for questioning by Lt. Col. TRIVISANO, C/O 3rd. Batt. A/ Transport, who was in the Company Office, accordingly I made myself known to him and furnished him with the results of my enquiries to date. Col. TRIVISANO expressed a wish that Capt. BALLARATI, Investigating Officer to this Battalion, who was also present, should be present during the remainder of this enquiry, I agreed to this request.

On this date, after interrogating other members of the unit, I interviewed accused CIARDULLO, after verbally cautioning him I charged him with the offence named in sheet 1. of this report. He then elected to make a statement this was taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter OSPICI and he afterwards signed same.

On Friday, 3rd. August, 1945, I again interviewed accused URBANI at the Town Guard Room, Genoa, after verbally cautioning him he elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing by Interpreter OSPICI, he afterwards signed same. From this statement it will be seen that he too implicated accused A.

This statement he too implicated accused CIARDULLO.

On Wednesday, 1st. August, 1945, enquiries were continued in the unit, accused PIERO and LODOLI were questioned and they admitted stealing petrol on journeys to LUCCA. They elected to make statements, these were taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter OSPICI and they afterwards signed same. Both these men implicated accused FALCIONI.

Numerous other personnel of this unit were questioned this date including accused F.L.M.V. these men refused to answer any questions put to them, I arrested them on the evidence of accused H.I.J. As they were on the convoy to LUCCA on the 24th July 1945, when these three accused saw all the drivers syphoning petrol from the tanks of their vehicles. I had them placed under Carabinieri guard at their unit.

On Thursday, 2nd. August 1945, in company with Interpreter OSPICI, I continued my enquiries in the unit, on arrival there I found all the accused talking to other members of the Company, they had apparently been released from custody for questioning by Lt. Col. TRIPICIANO, C/O 3rd. Batt. A/ Transport, who was in the Company Office, accordingly I made myself known to him and furnished him with the results of my enquiries to date. Col. TRIPICIANO expressed a wish that Capt. BALLARATI, Investigating Officer to this Battalion, who was also present, should be present during the remainder of this enquiry, I agreed to this request.

On this date, after interrogating other members of the unit, I interviewed accused CIARDULLO, after verbally cautioning him I charged him with the offence named in sheet 1. of this report. He then elected to make a statement this was taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter OSPICI and he afterwards signed same.

On Friday, 3rd, August, 1945, I again interviewed accused URBANI at the Town Guard Room, Genoa, after verbally cautioning him he elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing by Interpreter OSPICI, he afterwards signed same. From this statement it will be seen that he too implicated accused A and C.

Accused LIGUORI and FALCIONI were interviewed by me on Saturday, 4th August 1945, after verbally cautioning them, I charged them with the offence named in Sheet 1 of this report. They elected to make statements, these were taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter OSPICI, and they afterwards signed same.

On Monday, 6th August 1945, I interviewed accused ENGELS at his unit, after verbally cautioning him, I charged him with the offence named in Sheet 2 of this report, he declined to make a statement.

From my interrogation of the personnel of this Company, there seems little doubt that most of the drivers of this unit have been selling petrol when on trips to LUCCA and also been regularly in the habit of carrying unauthorized passengers from LUCCA to GENOA on payment of large sums of money in the form of fares, no other evidence could be obtained however to warrant charges being placed against any other member of this Company.

Statements of all persons referred to in this report are attached. All the accused have been handed over to Capt. BILLA-RATTI to be dealt with.

The property in this case, namely 5 gallons of W.D. petrol, 2 lengths of rubber tubing, and money found in the possession of accused, A.E.H.J.O. 60.900 lire, 57.150 lire, 1.425 lire, 25765 lire, 4.429 lire, respectively, is now at this Office.

Owing to the fact that accused PODESTA is only 17 years of age I told him he would be reported and allowed him to return home.

Respectfully submitted.

Field.

..... Set.

F. FAYNE, Sergeant.

64 Special Investigation Branch.

2 lengths of rubber tubing, and money found in the possession of accused, A.I.H.J.O. 50.900 lire, 57.150 lire, 1.426 lire, 26765 lire, 4.429 lire, respectively, is now at this Office.

Owing to the fact that accused POMESTA is only 17 years of age I told him he would be reported and allowed him to return home.

Respectfully submitted.

Field.

..... Sgt.

F. PAINE, Sergeant.

64 Special Investigation Branch.

216v

Statement of evidence of :

NO. 2611760 LPT. F. PAYNE,
64 SECTION S.I.B.
C.M. POLICE.

Who states,

"I am a member of the Special Investigation Branch. On Sunday, 29th July 1945, in company with witness PLAZZA and a member of the Questura attached to this Section I carried out a search of the house of accused FORRESTA in which I found two 4 gallon petrol tins containing 3 gallons of M.D. petrol. When asked where he had obtained it, he informed me that he bought 16 gallons the previous day from an unknown Italian driver to whom he paid 6,400 lire, and that the 3 gallons was some of this property. I then told him he could have to accompany me back to Genoa with a view to identifying the driver concerned.

On the return journey I was just entering the town of CHIAVARI when I noticed a stationary lorry at the side of the road (No. 10736) on drawing nearer to this vehicle I saw accused URBANI syphoning petrol into two 4 gallon tins from the tank of his lorry. I went to accused URBANI who was still bent down at the side of the petrol tank, holding a length of rubber tubing in each hand. With the assistance of witness PLAZZA who acted as Interpreter, I asked him why he was syphoning petrol from the tanks of the lorry, he replied in words to the effect that he was the driver and was having trouble with the petrol feed pipes. I then examined the tank in question and found that it only contained about 2 gallons of petrol, in spite of this however, I found that when this tank was turned in the engine worked perfectly. I examined the other petrol tank and found it was full.

I then carried out an inspection of the driving cab and in the pockets of accused URBANI's jacket which was lying on the seat, I found the sum of 57,150 lire wrapped in a piece of paper. I showed this money to the accused and he admitted it belonged to him. When asked where he had obtained it he stated he had saved it up over a period of time.

I then learned from accused URBANI that his Officer who was in charge of the vehicle was in a Cafe across the road. A few minutes later accused CLAUDULO came to me and asked me what was the matter with the assistance of witness PLAZZA I asked him if he was responsible for the lorry of accused URBANI, to which he replied he was. After relating to him what had

petrol. When asked where he had obtained it, he informed me that he bought 15 gallons the previous day from an unknown Italian driver to whom he paid 6,400 lire, and that the 3 gallons was some of this property. I then told him he could have to accompany me back to Genoa with a view to identifying the driver concerned.

On the return journey I was just entering the town of CHIAVARI when I noticed a stationary lorry at the side of the road (No. 10736) on driving nearer to this vehicle I saw accused URBANI syphoning petrol into two 4 gallon tins from the tank of his lorry. I went to accused URBANI who was still bent down at the side of the petrol tank, holding a length of rubber tubing in each hand. With the assistance of witness PIAZZA who acted as Interpreter, I asked him why he was syphoning petrol from the tanks of the lorry. He replied in words to the effect that he was the driver and was having trouble with the petrol feed pipes. I then examined the tank in question and found that it only contained about 2 gallons of petrol, in spite of this however, I found that when this tank was turned in the engine worked perfectly. I examined the other petrol tank and found it was full.

I then carried out an inspection of the driving cobb and in the pockets of accused URBANI'S jacket which was lying on the seat, I found the sum of 57,150 lire wrapped in a piece of paper. I showed this money to the accused and he admitted it belonged to him. When asked where he had obtained it he stated he had saved it up over a period of time.

I then learned from accused URBANI that his Officer who was in charge of the vehicle was in a Cafe across the road. A few minutes later accused CIARDULLO came to me and asked me what was the matter; with the assistance of witness PIAZZA I asked him if he was responsible for the lorry of accused URBANI, to which he replied he was. After relating to him what had taken place between URBANI and myself, he informed me he was fully aware that drivers syphoned petrol from their tanks and sold it to civilians. He also stated this was well known to other Officers of this unit.

In view of this admission I told accused CIARDULLO that he would have to accompany me back to Genoa together with the driver and lorry. He became very excited on hearing this and a violent scene ensued, between him, myself and the agent of Questura, who had to resort to the use of his pistol before order was maintained. It was during this period that a woman was seen to speak to accused CIARDULLO; this woman went to another lorry a short distance along the road and took a small white paper par-

cel from the driving cab. I took possession of this parcel and when I examined the contents I found it contained the sum of 20,000 Lire. Accused GIARDULLO admitted asking the woman to get this money which he stated was his property. From a search carried out of the personal clothing of accused I found three checks to the value of 30,000 Lire. When I asked him where he had obtained this money he informed me that 30,000 Lire was paid to him by the Italian Military Authorities, the remainder he had saved up. I took possession of this money and handed him a receipt for same.

This date I conducted accused URBANI to my HQ. where he admitted synchronizing the petrol from the tanks of his lorry with the intentions of selling it to civilians.

On this date in company with accused FODESTI and Interpreter CSPICI, I carried out an identification Parade at the 23rd COY, AUTOTRANSPORT. During this parade FODESTI picked out accused FADDA and TEDDE as being similar in appearance to two other holders he had seen with the driver when he bought the petrol. I carried out a search of these men and on accused FADDA I found the sum of 26,765 Lire and on accused TEDDE I found the sum of 1,425 Lire. When questioned about this money both admitted getting it from the sale of U.D. petrol and charging civilians fares from LUCCA to GENOA. No further questions were put to these men at this time.

On making a check of the Duty Book, I found that accused ALBANI was the driver of vehicle No. 10708 when petrol was sold to accused FODESTI. I questioned ALBANI and he admitted being the driver of the lorry in question, but denied having sold any petrol. I handed him over to Lieut. FLENCOLI pending further enquiries.

Accused TEDDE and FADDA were again interviewed by me on Monday, 30th. July 1945, at my H.Q. after verbally cautioning them they elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing under caution and they afterwards signed same. (Produced).

On Tuesday, 31st. July 1945, I interviewed accused SAINTU at his unit, after making known my identity to him, he admitted selling petrol when on journeys to LUCCA. At this stage I verbally cautioned him and he elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter CSPICI and he afterwards signed same (Produced).

On Wednesday, 1st August, 1945, I interviewed accused PIERO and LODOLI at their unit, when questioned they admitted traveling petrol on journeys to LUCCA and made voluntary statements under caution, these were taken down in writing by Interpreter CSPICI and they afterwards signed same (Produced).

This date I interviewed accused E.L.N.H. these men

On this date in company with accused PODESTI and Interpreter CASICI, I carried out an identification parade at the 23rd COY, AUTOTRANSPORT. During this parade PODESTI picked out accused FADDA and TEDDE as being similar in appearance to two other soldiers he had seen with the driver when he bought the petrol. I carried out a search of these men and on accused FADDA I found the sum of 26,765 Lire and on accused TEDDE I found the sum of 1,426 Lire. When questioned about this money both admitted getting it from the sale of U.D. petrol and charging civilians fares from LUCCA to GENOA. No further questions were put to these men at this time.

On making a check of the Duty Book, I found that accused ALBININI was the driver of vehicle No. 10708 when petrol was sold to accused PODESTI. I questioned ALBININI and he admitted being the driver of the lorry in question, but denied having sold any petrol. I handed him over to Lieut. FREGNOLI pending further enquiries.

Accused TEDDE and FADDA were again interviewed by me on Monday, 30th. July 1945, at my H.Q. after verbally cautioning them they elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing under caution and they afterwards signed same. (Produced).

On Tuesday, 31st. July 1945, I interviewed accused GAINTU at his unit, after making known my identity to him, he admitted selling petrol when on journeys to LUCCA. At this stage I verbally cautioned him and he elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter CASICI and he afterwards signed same (Produced).

On Wednesday, 1st August, 1945, I interviewed accused PINO and IODOLI at their unit, when questioned they admitted stealing petrol on journeys to LUCCA and made voluntary statements under caution, these were taken down in writing by Interpreter CASICI and they afterwards signed same (Produced.)

This date I interviewed accused I.N.M. these men refused to answer my questions put to them, they were detained.

On Thursday, 2nd. August 1945, I interviewed accused GIARDULLO at his unit, after verbally cautioning him I charged him with receiving 2,000 Lire from accused (i and j) on Wednesday 25th July 1945, well knowing it to be part of the proceeds of the sale of U.D. petrol. He replied "it is not true". He then elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing, under caution by Interpreter CASICI and he afterwards signed same (Produced).

SHEET 2 OF STATEMENT OF SGT. F. P. PAINE.

On Friday, 3rd August 1945, I again interviewed accused URBANI at the Town Guard Room, after verbally cautioning him he elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter OGPICI and he signed same (Produced).

On Saturday, 4th August 1945, I interviewed accused LIGUORI at his unit, I verbally cautioned him and charged him with receiving 1,000 lire from accused (j) on Friday 27th July 1945, well knowing it to be part of the proceeds on the sale of A.D. petrol. He made no reply. He then elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter OGPICI, and he signed same. (Produced).

This date I interviewed accused FALCIONI at his unit, where I verbally cautioned and charged him with receiving 1,000 lire from accused (f) on Thursday 27th July 1945, well knowing it to be part of the proceeds on the sale of A.D. petrol. He made no reply. The accused elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter OGPICI and he afterwards signed same (Produced).

Also on this date in the presence of Capt. BALLARATI I charged accused d.i. j.k.l.m.n. with the larceny of petrol on the journey to LUCCA on the 24th July 1945. They made no reply.

Also on this date I interviewed accused e and f, after verbally cautioning them I charged them with stealing 8 gallons of petrol from the tanks of their lorries (Nos. 10736 & 10720) They made no reply.

This date also I interviewed accused (g) at his unit, where I verbally cautioned and charged him with the larceny of 8 gallons of A.D. petrol from vehicle No. 10723, on the 28th July 1945. He made no reply.

On this date I interviewed accused (h) at his unit, after verbally cautioning him, I charged him with the larceny of 16 gallons of A.D. petrol from vehicle No. 10753, on Tuesday, 17th July 1945. He made no reply.

..... Sgt.

F. PAINE, SGT.

64 SECTION, S.I.B.

C.M. POLICE

8th August, 1945.

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On Saturday, 14th August 1945, I interviewed accused LIGUORI at his unit, I verbally cautioned him and charged him with receiving 1.000 lire from accused (j) on Friday 27th July 1945, well knowing it to be part of the proceeds on the sale of A.D. petrol. He made no reply. He then elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter CCFICI, and he signed same. (Produced).

This date I interviewed accused FALCIONI at his unit, where I verbally cautioned and charged him with receiving 1.000 lire from accused (f) on Thursday 27th July 1945, well knowing it to be part of the proceeds on the sale of A.D. petrol. He made no reply. The accused elected to make a statement, this was taken down in writing under caution by Interpreter CCFICI and he afterwards signed same (Produced).

Also on this date in the presence of Capt. ZALLARATI I charged accused d.i.j.k.l.m.n. with the larceny of petrol on the journey to IUCCA on the 24th July 1945. They made no reply.

Also on this date I interviewed accused e and f, after verbally cautioning them I charged them with stealing 8 gallons of petrol from the tanks of their lorries (Nos. 10735 & 10720) They made no reply.

This date also I interviewed accused (g) at his unit, where I verbally cautioned and charged him with the larceny of 8 gallons of A.D. petrol from vehicle No. 10723, on the 28th July 1945. He made no reply.

On this date I interviewed accused (h) at his unit, after verbally cautioning him, I charged him with the larceny of 16 gallons of A.D. petrol from vehicle No. 10753, on Tuesday, 17th July 1945. He made no reply.

..... Sgt.

T. PAYNE; SGT.

64 SECTION, S.I.B.

C.M. POLICE

8th August, 1945.

215.

23rd Company, Autonoma
3rd Batt. Auto Transport.

STATEMENT OF : - 2nd Lieut. LIGUORE ORONZO di GIOACCHINO,
23rd Company, Autonoma,
3rd Batt. Auto Transport A.C.
GENOA

WHO STATES : -

I have been cautioned by Sgt. F. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S. through the medium of Interpreter OSPICI, that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show I fully understand this caution; I sign my name.

Signed : - LIGUORE ORONZO

Sometime about the 1st May, 1945 I was transferred from No. 7 Company of the 1st Battalion to the 23rd Company, when I joined this Company I was put in charge of No. 2 Platoon. On the 1st July, 1945, my Company was transferred to Genoa, from this date until the present date the Company has been employed taking Refugees to various parts in central ITALY. On the following dates I was Convoy Commander to vehicles of my unit conveying Refugees to LUCCA, 12th 14th 18th, 23rd, 26th and 28th July 1945, On all of these journeys I made sure the drivers were fully acquainted with their instructions, I also carried out a personal check of all the Identity Cards of the Refugees, to make sure no unauthorized passenger was travelling with the Convoy. I also told the drivers that if they had room they could take a few soldiers provided they had authorization to travel. I made known to the drivers before starting out on these journeys that I would stop for refreshments at LA SPEZIA. On the first journey I did not stop on - route of the outward or return journey. When we had refreshments at LA SPEZIA, we always had an hour rest before resuming the journey. On the return journey from LUCCA, I issued the drivers with the same instructions as when we left GENOA, and once again carried out a personal check of all passengers before starting back. These were the only checks I made from the passengers. I made it known to

WHO STATES : -

I have been cautioned by Sgt. F. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S. through the medium of Interpreter OSPICI, that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show I fully understand this caution; I sign my name.

Signed : - LIGUORE ORONZO

Sometime about the 1st May, 1945 I was transferred from No. 7 Company of the 1st Battalion to the 23rd Company, when I joined this Company I was put in charge of No 2 Platoon. On the 1st July, 1945, my Company was transferred to Genoa, from this date until the present date the Company has been employed taking Refugees to various parts in central ITALY. On the following dates I was Convoy Commander to vehicles of my unit conveying Refugees to LUCCA, 12th 14th 16th, 23rd, 26th and 28th July 1945, On all of these journeys I made sure the drivers were fully acquainted with their instructions, I also carried out a personal check of all the Identity Cards of the Refugees, to make sure no unauthorized passenger was travelling with the Convoy. I also told the drivers that if they had room they could take a few soldiers provided they had authorization to travel. I made known to the drivers before starting out on these journeys that I would stop for refreshments at LA SPEZIA. On the first journey I did not stop on - route on the outward or return journey. When we had refreshments at LA SPEZIA, we always had an hour's rest before resuming the journey. On the return journey from LUCCA, I issued the drivers with the same instructions as when we left GENOA, and once again carried out a personal check of all passengers before starting back. These were the only checks I made from the passengers. I made it known to the drivers that they could carry civilian passengers on the return journey provided they had travel permits, I pointed out to them that they were not allowed to charge or accept any money from them. At no time whilst on these journeys have I seen any of the drivers take petrol from the tanks of their lorries, neither have I seen any of them selling tins of petrol to civilians. I have never accepted presents or money from any of the drivers of my unit. I have read over the above statement and it is true.

Signed : - LIGUORE ORONZO.

I certify the above to be a true translation from Italian into English to the best of my ability of the statement of LIGUORE ORONZO.

Signed : - OSPICI LETTERIO.

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Interpreter
OSPICI, in the presence of Sgt. F. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S. on Sunday
4th August, 1945?

23rd Company, Autonomi,
3rd Batt. Auto Transport.

STATEMENT OF : Sub. Lieut. CLAUDIO FRANK in Xefeele

23rd Company, Autonomi,
3rd Batt. Auto Transport, A.S.
GENOA

Who states :

I have been cautioned by Sgt. P. PAVINI, 64 S.I.S., through the medium of Interpreter OSPICI, that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever, I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show that I fully understand this caution, I sign my name.

Signed : CLAUDIO FRANK

I am a Second Lieutenant and was posted to the above unit on the 18th July, 1945. Since this date my duties in this Company have consisted of supervision duties in camp also being Convoy Commander to vehicles from my unit with Refue-
ser to LUCCA. Since I was posted to this unit I have been Con-
voy Commander on two journeys to LUCCA. On the first occasion
(24th July, 1945), I had six vehicles in my convoy, on the second
occasion (29th July, 1945); I had ten lorries in convoy.

Prior to starting these journeys I have instructed all drivers to keep in convoy. When I arrived at LAVAZZA, on my first outward journey I found that the remainder of my lorries has already arriv-
ed, they had stopped in the square outside a cafe, some of the
drivers were eating in the cafe, the remainder were with their
lorries. I asked the drivers why they stopped there and they told
me it was the usual practice to stop in this town for refreshments.
I did not part-take of any refreshments at this place but continued
in the convoy once again for LUCCA, as far as I am aware no unfor-
seen incident during this journey. Before returning to GENOA the
following morning I gave permission to all drivers that they could
if they so desired pick up passengers providing they had permits
authorizing them to travel in Allied vehicles, also prisoners and
soldiers. I did not give the drivers any further instructions nei-
ther did I tell them they were not allowed to take money from these
passengers, the reason for this being that I forgot to tell them. On
the return journey I stopped at the same place in LAVAZZA, as we
had done on the outward journey, the drivers stayed with their lorries
and I went to a cafe on the sea-front. I remained in this cafe for
half an hour and then returned to the motor lorries. The drivers
were waiting at the side of their vehicles waiting to start. I got
into the leading vehicle and continued the journey to GENOA.

I have been cautioned by Sgt. F. PAXTON, 64 S.I.C. through the medium of Interpreter OSPICI, that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever, I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show that I fully understand this caution, I sign my name.

Signed: GIARDULLO FRANCO

I am a Second Lieutenant and was posted to the above unit on the 18th July, 1945. Since this date my duties in this Company have consisted of supervision duties in camp also being Convoy Commander to vehicles from my unit with Refuges to LUCCA. Since I was posted to this unit I have been Convoy Commander on two journeys to LUCCA. On the first occasion (24th July, 1945), I had six vehicles in my convoy, on the second occasion (29th July, 1945), I had ten lorries in convoy. Prior to starting these journeys I have instructed all drivers to keep in convoy. When I arrived at LAVANNA, on my first outward journey I found that the remainder of my lorries had already arrived, they had stopped in the square outside a cafe, some of the drivers were eating in the cafe, the remainder were with their lorries. I asked the drivers why they stopped there and they told me it was the usual practice to stop in this town for refreshments. I did not part-take of any refreshments at this place but continued in the convoy once again for LUCCA, as far as I am aware no unforeseen incident during this journey. Before returning to GENOVA the following morning I gave permission to all drivers that they could if they so desired pick up passengers providing they had permits authorizing them to travel in Allied vehicles, also prisoners and soldiers. I did not give the drivers any further instructions neither did I tell them they were not allowed to take money from these passengers, the reason for this being that I forgot to tell them. On the return journey I stopped at the same place in LAVANNA, as we had done on the outward journey, the drivers stayed with their lorries and I went to a cafe on the sea-front. I remained in this cafe for half an hour and then returned to the motor lorries. The drivers were waiting at the side of their vehicles waiting to start. I got into the leading vehicle and continued the journey to GENOVA. When I arrived at my unit the remainder of the convoy arrived soon after. I did not speak to any of the drivers after my return to camp. On the 29th July, 1945, I again went to LUCCA, as Commander of 10 lorries. Before starting the journey, I gave instructions to Sgt. Major MORICONI, who was on the leading vehicle to stop for refreshments at LA SPERZIA. On this journey I travelled in the last vehicle. On arriving at CHIAVARI, I saw one of my vehicles stationary at the side of the road. I told the driver of my vehicle to stop at the back of this lorry. The driver of this lorry came over to me and told me he was having trouble with his petrol feed pipes. I told him to make it right as soon as possible. I went to a cafe across the road with a lady friend of mine who was travelling on my vehicle named RIZACLIANTI.

MARIA. About 10 minutes later while I was sitting in the cafe the driver of my vehicle came to me and told me a Police Sergeant wanted to see me. I went across to the lorries where I saw an English Sergeant who asked me if I was the Commander of the lorries. I told him I was. The Sergeant then told me he had seen the driver URBANI GIOVANNI, taking petrol out of the tanks of his lorry. The Sergeant showed me a packet of money that he had found in this driver's jacket. The Sergeant asked me how this driver came to be in possession of this money. I told him I did not know.

The Sergeant then told me that Driver URBANI, was to accompany him back to GENOA. The Sergeant also told me that I would have to accompany him back to GENOA also. I told him that I was responsible for the convoy and could not return to GENOA, with him. I showed the Sergeant my identity Card and told him that if I accompanied him back to GENOA, I would not be responsible for the convoy. The Sergeant became very strict and took hold of my hand, whereupon a member of the Quastura, who was with him, pulled out his pistol and after telling me who he was told me I would have to return to GENOA. I then decided it was no good resisting. I told the driver of my vehicle to ask my lady friend MARIA, for a parcel of money that I had given her to mind for me, and that he was to give it to me when he returned to GENOA. The Sergeant saw MARIA, with this packet of money and after taking possession of it he asked me if it belonged to me. I told him it was my property. After checking the contents of this package he took possession of it and gave me a receipt, inclusive of this money were three cheques for the sum of 40,000 lire, that I had in my wallet. After a short while the Sergeant allowed me to take URBANI'S vehicle. URBANI, returned to GENOA, with the Sergeant. No other incident took place during this journey.

I have read over the above statement and it is true.

Signed : GIACOMULO FRANCO

I certify the above statement is a true translation from Italian into English to the best of my ability of the statement of GIACOMULO FRANCO.

Signed : OSPICI LERNERIO

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Interpreter
OSPICI, in the presence of Sgt. F. FAYNE, 64 S.I.S., on Thursday,
2nd, August, 1945.

23rd Company, Autopoma,
3rd Batt., Auto Transport.

NOTE

STATEMENT OF:-- Lieut. FALCIONI, DI MEMO,
3rd Batt. Auto Transport, A.S.
GENCA

WHO STATES:--

I have been cautioned by Sgt. PAYNE, through the medium of Interpreter SPICCI, that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show I fully understand this caution, I sign my name.

Signed:-- FALCIONI ALBERTO.

On the 9th March, 1945, I was recalled to the Italian Military, and on the 16th March 45, I was posted as Lieutenant to the above unit, from this date until about the middle of June, 45, I was Officer i/c Transport, with of course with the usual routine duties. From about the middle of June, 45, I have been on three journeys to LUCCA, acting in the capacity of Convoy Commander to my Unit's vehicles conveying Refugees, these were 20th July, 45; 25/27th July, 45. On these dates I had 16, 18, 14 vehicles in the respective convoys. Before leaving the unit, I instructed all drivers in the convoy what route they had to take, also that vehicles would be 50 yards from each other en-route, and they were not to stop on the road unless signalled to do so by me at the recognised stopping places. On all convoys I rode in the leading vehicle. The recognised stopping place on this route was SPALLA, at this place we had refreshments and it afforded me the opportunity of getting all my vehicles together again some of which had got out of the convoy by other vehicles. On all these journeys I only stopped the convoy at SPALLA. When my convoy arrived at LUCCA, on my first journey, I told the drivers to get their vehicles refuelled at LIVORNO, I had been previously told by Officers at my unit, that this was the refuelling point. The Refugees on the vehicle learned that we were going to LIVORNO, and they refused to get off the lorries, acting upon instructions received from the Commandant of the Refugee Centre, LUCCA, I agreed to take them there. This was the only occasion I went to LIVORNO, on the other two journeys my vehicles were refuelled at MONTECATINI Petrol Point. On the return journeys to GENCA, I gave the drivers instructions the same as when we started on the outward journey, I remember telling them also that they were not to carry unauthorised passengers, to ensure that these instructions were strictly adhered to I examined the passes of all passengers when we stopped at SPALLA, any passengers without the authorised permits were ejected from the lorries. I have never told the drivers they could carry passengers or accept payment from the Refugees on these journeys, neither have I accepted any presents or money at any time from any of the drivers under my command. On my last journey when I was returning from LUCCA, I received a complaint at NARVI, from a Brigadiere of

On the 9th March, 1945, I was recalled to the Italian Military, and on the 16th March 45, I was posted as Lieutenant to the above unit, from this date until about the middle of June, 45, I was Officer i/c Transport, with of course with the usual routine duties. From about the middle of June, 45, I have been on three journeys to LUCCA, acting in the capacity of Convoy Commander to my Unit's vehicles conveying Refugees, these were 20th July, 45; 25/27th July, 45. On these dates I had 16, 18, 14 vehicles in the respective convoys. Before leaving the unit, I instructed all drivers in the convoy what route they had to take, also that vehicles would be 50 yards from each other en-route, and they were not to stop on the road unless signalled to do so by me at the recognised stopping places. On all convoys I rode in the leading vehicle. The recognised stopping places on this route was SPALLA, at this place we had refreshments and it availed me the opportunity of getting all my vehicles together again some of which had got out of the convoy by other vehicles. On all these journeys I only stopped the convoy at SPALLA. When my convoy arrived at LUCCA, on my first journey, I told the drivers to get their vehicles refuelled at LIVORNO. I had been previously told by Officers at my unit, that this was the refuelling point. The Refugees on the vehicle learned that we were going to LIVORNO, and they refused to get off the lorries, acting upon instructions received from the Commandant of the Refugee Centre, LUCCA, I agreed to take them there. This was the only occasion I went to LIVORNO, on the other two journeys my vehicles were refuelled at MONTESCATINI Petrol Point. On the return journeys to GENOA, I gave the drivers instructions the same as when we started on the outward journey. I remember telling them also that they were not to carry unauthorised passengers, to ensure that these instructions were strictly adhered to I examined the passes of all passengers when we stopped at SPALLA, any passengers without the authorised permits were ejected from the lorries. I have never told the drivers they could carry passengers or accept payment from the Refugees on these journeys, neither have I accepted any presents or money at any time from any of the drivers under my command. On my last journey when I was returning from LUCCA, I received a complaint at NERV, from a Brigadiere of Carabinieri who was riding on one of my vehicles with eight other members of the Carabinieri and 2 civilians that the drivers of one of my vehicles had charged them 300 lire each for the journey, I went to the driver SERRA OTTAVIO, and he admitted taking this money from them, I made him return this money to each passenger, and I reported him to my Commanding Officer when I reported back to my unit. I have never seen any of my drivers syphoning from their tanks, neither have I seen any of them dispose or sell any petrol. I have read over the above statement and it is true.

Signed: FALCIONI ALBERTO

I certify the above is a true translation from Italian into English to best of my ability of the statement of FALCIONI ALB.

Signed: OSFICI LUTHERIO

- 2 -

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Interpreter OSPIOL, in the presence of Sgt. P. PAYNE, 54 S.I.S., on Saturday, 4th August, 1945.

21c

64 S. I. S.
C. M. Police

STATEMENT OF : - PIAZZA GIUSEPPE,
Via Carlotta Benettini 7/22
GENOA

who states: - At about 0930 hrs. Saturday, 28th July 1945.
I was waiting in LA SPEZIA, for the purpose of getting a lift
by lorry into GENOA when I saw a convoy of American lorries
pass through the traffic check point; one of these lorries
pulled into the side of the road and I asked the driver if he
would give me a lift into Genoa, he told me he would take me
and I got into the lorry, there were about 15 to 20 other
civilians who also climbed into the lorry after getting the dri-
ver's permission. The lorry then continued on its journey to
GENOA and when a short distance outside the town it stopped
and the driver came around the back and told us all that we
would have to pay 500 lire for the journey. I was rather surpri-
sed on learning this and I told the driver he was not allowed
to charge people money as he was working for the Allied Commis-
sion. He then told me if I did not pay I would have to get off
his lorry I then showed him my permit authorising me to travel
that I got from the Port Superintendent at Venice, but he still
maintained I would have to pay the same as the others or get off
his lorry. I again remonstrated with him and he agreed to let me
travel to GENOA on payment of 200 lire, I gave him this money
to prevent further argument. I believe the others paid 3 to 5
hundred lire, for their fare. On arrival in LAVAGNA the driver
pulled into a side street and I saw him syphon four 4 gallons
tins with petrol from the tanks of his lorry, I saw him take
these tins into a yard nearby., he then returned to the lorry
without the tins and I saw an Italian youth pay him 6.400 lire
for the petrol. I took offence at this happening so I took the
number of the lorry: ALCOM 10708, for purpose of reporting to
the Police when I arrived in Genoa. When the lorry returned
to the main road again there were two other lorries with the
serial ALCOM, stationary at the side of the road. As we pas-
sed them I noticed there was an officer with them, the lorry
I was on did not stop, but continued on to GENOA. On arrival
in Genoa I reported the matter to English Military Police H.Q.
On Sunday, 29th July 1945, I accompanied Sgt. F. PAYNE 64
S.I.S. to the place in LAVAGNA where I had seen the driver of
the lorry deliver the four (4) tins of petrol, I also identified
the youth whom I saw pay the driver 6.400 lire.

I was waiting in LA SPEZIA, for the purpose of getting a lift by lorry into GENOA, when I saw a convoy of American lorries pass through the traffic check point; one of these lorries pulled into the side of the road and I asked the driver if he would give me a lift into Genoa, he told me he would take me and I got into the lorry, there were about 15 to 20 other civilians who also climbed into the lorry after getting the driver's permission. The lorry then continued on its journey to GENOA and when a short distance outside the town it stopped and the driver came around the back and told us all that we would have to pay 500 lire for the journey. I was rather surprised on learning this and I told the driver he was not allowed to charge people money as he was working for the Allied Commission. He then told me if I did not pay I would have to get off his lorry I then showed him my permit authorising me to travel that I got from the Port Superintendent at Venice, but he still maintained I would have to pay the same as the others or get off his lorry. I again remonstrated with him and he agreed to let me travel to GENOA on payment of 200 lire, I gave him this money to prevent further argument. I believe the others paid 3 to 5 hundred lire, for their fare. On arrival in LAVAGNA the driver pulled into a side street and I saw him syphon four 4 gallons tins with petrol from the tanks of his lorry, I saw him take these tins into a yard nearby., he then returned to the lorry without the tins and I saw an Italian youth pay him 6.400 lire for the petrol. I took offence at this happening so I took the number of the lorry: ALCOM 10708, for purpose of reporting to the Police when I arrived in Genoa. When the lorry returned to the main road again there were two other lorries with the serial ALCOM, stationary at the side of the road. As we passed them I noticed there was an officer with them, the lorry I was on did not stop, but continued on to GENOA. On arrival in Genoa I reported the matter to English Military Police H.Q. On Sunday, 29th July 1945, I accompanied Sgt. F. PAYNE 64 S.I.S. to the place in LAVAGNA where I had seen the driver of the lorry deliver the four (4) tins of petrol, I also identified the youth whom I saw pay the driver 6.400 lire.

I have nothing further to state, it has been read over to me and is the truth. 15

Signed PIAZZA GIUSEPPE

Statement taken and signature witnessed by
Sgt. F. PAYNE 64 S.I.S. on Monday, 30th July 1945.

Town Guard Room,
60A.

STATEMENT OF:- URBANI Giovanni di Francesco.
23rd Company, AUTONOMA,
3rd Batt., Auto Transport.

WHO STATES:-

" I have been cautioned by Sergt. F. PAXON, 64
S.I.S. through the medium of Interpreter CAPICOLI,
that I am not obliged to say anything unless I
wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken
down in writing and may be given in evidence. To
show that I fully understand this caution, I sign
my name.

(Signed) URBANI Giovanni.

I am a lorry driver in the above unit to which I
was posted on the 12th March, 1945. Since June,
1945, I have been employed taking refugees to various
disposal centres in central Italy. On the 25th
July, 1945, I was instructed to take lorry No. 10736
to LUCCA with refugees. I went in convoy with
eighteen other vehicles from my unit, under the
charge of Lieut. TALICIONI. On this journey my
vehicle was the last one in the convoy. The
only orders we received from Lieut. TALICIONI was
the route we had to take. On arriving at
CHIAVARI I joined up with seven other vehicles
from my unit who had arrived before me. I did
not stop in this place but continued on with these
other vehicles to LAVAGNA, on arriving in this
town we rejoined the remainder of the convoy. We
stopped at this place for five minutes and all the
convoy continued on to SPERZA. We stopped at this
place for one and a half hours and then continued
our journey to LUCCA. At about 0400 hours the
following morning all, the convoy went to the petrol
point at PONTAGATTINI. On the way to the petrol
point I syphoned two 4 gallon tins of petrol from
the tanks of my vehicle and sold them to a
civilian lorry driver for 3,200 Lires. I do
not know this lorry driver. After getting refilled
at the petrol point I continued my journey to
GENOVA. At LAVAGNA all the convoy stopped in the
square and the drivers all had refreshments at the

wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show that I fully understand this caution, I sign my name.

(Signed) URBANI Giovanni.

I am a lorry driver in the above unit to which I was posted on the 12th March, 1945. Since June, 1945, I have been employed taking refugees to various disposal centres in central Italy. On the 25th July, 1945, I was instructed to take lorry No. 10736 to LUCCA with refugees. I went in convoy with eighteen other vehicles from my unit, under the charge of Lieut. FALCIONI. On this journey my vehicle was the last one in the convoy. The only orders we received from Lieut. FALCIONI was the route we had to take. On arriving at ORTAVIERI I joined up with seven other vehicles from my unit who had arrived before me. I did not stop in this place but continued on with these other vehicles to LAVAGNA, on arriving in this town we rejoined the remainder of the convoy, we stopped at this place for five minutes and all the convoy continued on to SPESIA. We stopped at this place for one and a half hours and then continued our journey to LUCCA. At about 0400 hours the following morning all, the convoy went to the petrol point at MONTESCATINI. On the way to the petrol point I syphoned two 4 gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my vehicle and sold them to a civilian lorry driver for 2,200 Lires. I do not know this lorry driver. After getting refilled at the petrol point I continued my journey to GENOA. At LAVAGNA all the convoy stopped in the square and the drivers all had refreshments at a nearby Cafe. Whilst I was at this place I syphoned two 4 gallon tins of Petrol from the tanks of my lorry and sold them to a civilian for 3,200 lire. Before leaving this place I was asked by several of the other drivers if I had done any business. I told them I had sold some petrol and they told me I had better give some of this money to the Lieut. So I went to Lieut. FALCIONI who was in the Cafe and I gave him 1,000 lire of this money and I returned to my lorry.

Conta/....

Sheet 2.

I did not see any of the other drivers take petrol from their tanks at this place. No other incident took place on this journey, neither can I remember who the drivers were that told me to give the Lieut., some of this money. On Sunday, 29th July, 1945, I was again detailed to take my lorry to LUCCA with refugees, I went in convoy with about nine other vehicles from my unit under the Command of Lieut. CIARULLI, when I left GENOA my petrol tanks were full, on this journey I was last but one in the convoy. When I arrived in CHIAVARI I stopped at the side of the road, as one of the passengers was sick, all the other vehicles had continued on their journey. After a few minutes Lieut. CIARULLI's vehicle arrived and stopped in the rear of mine. Lieut. CIARULLI came to me and asked me what was wrong and I told him that one of the passengers had been taken ill, he told me that when I was ready I could continue on my way, the Lieut. then left me and went into a cafe across the road. After he had gone I was approached by two civilians who asked me if I would sell them some petrol, they had with them four 4 gallon empty tins, I took two pieces of rubber tubing from my lorry and syphoned two of these tins full of petrol from the tanks of my lorry, when I filled these tins the civilians took them away and I was in the act of filling up the remaining two tins when an English Military Police Sergeant tapped me on the shoulder, he asked me what I was doing and I told him I was having trouble with my petrol feed pipes and that I was putting the petrol from one tank into the other. The Police Sergeant then sent for Lieut. CIARULLI and he told him that he had seen me taking petrol from tanks of my lorry, the Lieut. told the Police Sergeant he did not know anything about it as he was in the cafe. Lieut. CIARULLI then asked me what I was doing and I told him the same story as I told the Police Sergeant, that I was having trouble with the petrol feed pipes. The Sergeant searched my clothes and found a parcel of money containing 57150 lire, that was in my jacket in the driving cab. The Police Sergeant asked me where I had obtained all this money and I told him it was my savings, actually 30,000 lire was my savings the remainder I got by selling petrol, cigarettes, etc., on the Black Market. The Police Sergeant took possession of this money. I have nothing further to add to this statement it has been read over to me and it is true.

(Signed) UMBERTO GIOVANNI.

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I certify the above to be a true translation from Italian.

I got out one in the convoy. When I arrived in CHIARVARI I stopped at the side of the road, as one of the passengers was sick, all the other vehicles had continued on their journey. After a few minutes Lieut. CIARPUILLI's vehicle arrived and stopped in the rear of mine. Lieut. CIARPUILLI came to me and asked me what was wrong and I told him that one of the passengers had been taken ill, he told me that when I was ready I could continue on my way, the Lieut. then left me and went into a cafe across the road. After he had gone I was approached by two civilians who asked me if I would sell them some petrol, they had with them four 4 gallon empty tins, I took two pieces of rubber tubing from my lorry and siphoned two of these tins full of petrol from the tanks of my lorry, when I filled these tins the civilians took them away and I was in the act of filling up the remaining two tins when an English Military Police Sergeant tapped me on the shoulder, he asked me what I was doing and I told him I was having trouble with my petrol feed pipes and that I was putting the petrol from one tank into the other. The Police Sergeant then sent for Lieut. CIARPUILLI and he told him that he had seen me taking petrol from tanks of my lorry, the Lieut. told the Police Sergeant he did not know anything about it as he was in the cafe. Lieut. CIARPUILLI then asked me what I was doing and I told him the same story as I told the Police Sergeant, that I was having trouble with the petrol feed pipes. The Sergeant searched my clothes and found a parcel of money containing 57150 Lire, that was in my jacket in the driving cab. The Police Sergeant asked me where I had obtained all this money and I told him it was my savings, actually 30,000 Lire was my savings the remainder I got by selling petrol, cigarettes, etc., on the Black Market. The Police Sergeant took possession of this money. I have nothing further to add to this statement it has been read over to me and it is true.

(Signed) URBANI GIOVANNI.

I certify the above to be a true translation from Italian into English to the best of my ability of the statement of URBANI GIOVANNI. 21/2

(Signed) OSPICI LUTERICO.

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Int. OSPICI in the presence of Sgt. FAYNE 64 S.I.S.; on 3/8/45.

64 Special Investigation Section
Corps of Military Police.

STATEMENT OF:-- LODOLLI FRANCESCO DI PALINCO,
23rd Coy., Autonomia,
3rd Batt., Auto Transport, M.C.
GEMCA.

WHO STATES:--

I have been cautioned by Sgt. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S., through the medium of Interpreter OSPICI, that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. I show that I fully understand this caution, I sign my name.

Signed:-- LODOLLI FRANCESCO.

I am a member of the above unit to which I was posted as a lorry driver sometime about the beginning of June, 1945. My duties consisted of taking Refugees to various disposal camps in central Italy. On the 25th July, 1945, I was instructed to take lorry No. 10720, with Refugees to a camp at LUCCA. On this occasion I went in convoy with 17 other vehicles from my unit, under the charge of Lieut. FALCIONI, who rode in the leading vehicle of the convoy. I was last in the convoy and my vehicle got separated from the remainder, on arrival at LA-VAGNA, I rejoined the convoy which had stopped in the square, a few minutes after my arrival the convoy left for LUCCA, nothing happened on the outward journey as far as I am aware. The following morning before leaving for the return journey all the driver got refilled with petrol at the Petrol Point in MONTICATINI. Before leaving LUCCA, Lieut. FALCIONI, told all the drivers in the convoy that they could carry passengers on the return journey and that they were to charge them fares, but he did not say how much we were to charge them, he did tell us, however, that when we returned to GEMCA he expected a present from each driver, it was the usual practice for all drivers in my unit to give the Convoy Commander a present at the end of each journey, this present was always in the form of money. On this particular journey I only picked up soldiers and I did not charge them anything for the journey to GEMCA. When the convoy arrived in GEMCA, I pulled up on the outskirts of the town away from the remainder of the convoy, it was at this point that I syphoned two four gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry, this petrol I sold to Italian civilians I do not know these people, they paid me 1,800 lire. When I arrived back at my unit I saw Lieut. FALCIONI, and told him that I did not charge the soldiers any fare but I got 1,800 lire for selling two tins of petrol, I gave him 500 lire of the 214.

to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. I show that I fully understand this caution, I sign my name.

Signed:- LUCCIA PIANCESCO.

I am a member of the above unit to which I was posted as a lorry driver sometime about the beginning of June, 1945. My duties consisted of taking Refugees to various disposal camps in central Italy. On the 25th July, 1945, I was instructed to take lorry No. 10720, with Refugees to a camp at LUCCA. On this occasion I went in convoy with 17 other vehicles from my unit, under the charge of Lieut. TALCIONI, who rode in the leading vehicle of the convoy. I was last in the convoy and my vehicle got separated from the remainder, on arrival at LUCCA. I rejoined the convoy which had stopped in the square, a few minutes after my arrival the convoy left for LUCCA, nothing happened on the outward journey as far as I am aware. The following morning before leaving for the return journey all the driver got refilled with petrol at the Petrol Point in MONTecatini. Before leaving LUCCA, Lieut. TALCIONI, told all the drivers in the convoy that they could carry passengers on the return journey and that they were to charge them fares, but he did not say how much we were to charge them, he did tell us, however, that when we returned to GENOA he expected a present from each driver, it was the usual practice for all drivers in my unit to give the Convoy Commander a present at the end of each journey, this present was always in the form of money. On this particular journey I only picked up soldiers and I did not charge them anything for the journey to GENOA. When the convoy arrived in GENOA, I pulled up on the outskirts of the town away from the remainder of the convoy, it was at this point that I syphoned two four gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry, this petrol I sold to Italian civilians I do not know these people, they paid me 1,800 lire. When I arrived back at my unit I saw Lieut. TALCIONI, and told him that I did not charge the soldiers any fare but I got 1,800 lire for selling two tins of petrol, I gave him 500 lire of the money. I do not know how much the other drivers paid to Lieut. TALCIONI. On the 27th July, 1945, I was again detailed to go to LUCCA with Refugees, I went in convoy with 13 other vehicles on this occasion under the command of Lieut. TALCIONI, on the return journey I stopped at SESTRI, and syphoned another two gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry, I sold this petrol to civilians for 1,800 lire, I do not know these civilians. I rejoined the convoy again at NERVIA, and we all went to the Petrol Point in GENOA, to get refilled, it was here that I approached Lieut. TALCIONI, and told him that I sold 2 tins of petrol for 1,800 lire, and that I did not any passengers

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on this trip, I gave him 500 lire of this money. These are the only occasions I have ever sold petrol. I have nothing further to add to this statement, it has been over to me and it is true.

Signed:- LOTOLO FRANCESCO

I certify the above statement to be a true translation from Italian into English to the best of my ability of the statement of LOTOLO FRANCESCO.

Signed:- OSPICI LETHARIO.

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Interpreter OSPICI, in the presence of Sgt. PAYNE, 54 S.I.S. on Wednesday, 1st August, 1945.

translation from Italian into English to the best of my ability
of the statement of LONCINI FRANCESCO.

Signed:- OSPICI LETHARIO.

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Interpreter OSPICI,
in the presence of Sgt. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S. on Wednesday, 1st
August, 1945.

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64 S. I.S.
J.M. Police

STATEMENT OF:- TEDDE SALVATORE di Salvatore,
23rd. Comp. Autonomia,
3rd. Batt. Autotransport, A.C. GENOVA.

I have been cautioned by Sgt. F. PAYNE 64 S.I.S. through the medium of interpreter OSPICI that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but that whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show I fully understand this caution I sign my name.

Signed TEDDE SALVATORE.

I was posted to the above Unit in February 1945, on the 16th, June, 1945, I was detailed to accompany driver SCHINTO PIETRO in vehicle No. 10753, to take refugees to Lucca. We left Genoa in convoy with 7 other vehicles from my Unit under the charge of Sub-Lieut. LIGUORE. My convoy stopped outside a cafe' in Spezia after a few minutes we continued on our way to Lucca.

After discharging the Refugees at this billet, SCHINTO agreed to take ten civilians to LIVORNO, who were waiting outside the billet. On the way to LIVORNO we stopped at the petrol point in MONTECATINI and got refilled with petrol. I then left SCHINTO to continue on to LIVORNO and I returned to Lucca, in one of the other vehicles of my Unit. I do not know how much money these civilians paid SCHINTO for the journey to LIVORNO. At about 0730 hrs. the following morning, we left Lucca for GENOA, before leaving the town we picked up about 15 passengers for GENOA, SCHINTO collected money from these passengers for their fare when they boarded the lorry, I do not know how much he got from them. On the return journey we stopped at the cafe' in SPEZIA, after pulling up outside this cafe' all the drivers including SCHINTO syphoned petrol from the tanks of the lorries. I assisted SCHINTO and we syphoned 3 four gallons tins of petrol from the tank of the lorry, SCHINTO sold this petrol to civilians who were standing nearby for 1.000 lire for each tin.

Lieut. LIGUORE was present when the drivers syphoned the petrol from the lorries. After selling the petrol all the drivers had lunch in the Cafe' afterwards leaving for Genoa. On arriving back at our Unit SCHINTO gave me 1.000 lire of the money he got for the petrol, and what he received from the passengers SCHINTO told me he had given Lieut. LIGUORE some money but he did not say how much. On Friday 27th. July, 1945, I was detailed to go to Lucca with driver ALBANINI GIULIO in lorry No. 10708, we went in convoy with thirteen other vehicles under the charge of Lieut. FALCIONI. On arriving in LAVAGNA the convoy stopped in the square but ALBANINI did not stop with the others, he drove his lorry into a narrow side street, it was here I left him to go and buy some fruit in a shop. Then I returned to the lorry about 20 minutes later, I was just in time to see ALBANINI give a 4 gallons tin of petrol to a civilian, ALBANINI asked me to look after the lorry while he went to the house of this civilian, when he returned to the lorry he told me he had sold to this civilian three tins of petrol containing a total of 12 gallons (60 litres) I did not see any of the other drivers take any petrol from their lorries on this occasion, although they mentioned it to me later that they had done so. The convoy then continued on its journey to Lucca.

The following morning we left Lucca in convoy for GENOA, Lieut. FALCIONI, was in the leading vehicle. A few miles outside Lucca, the convoy started

Signed TEDEE SALVATORE.

I was posted to the above Unit in February 1945, on the 16th. June, 1945, I was detailed to accompany driver SCHINTO PIETRO in vehicle No. 10752, to take refugees to Lucca. We left Genoa in convoy with 7 other vehicles from my Unit under the charge of Sub-Lieut. LIGUORI. My convoy stopped outside a cafe in Spezia after a few minutes we continued on our way to Lucca.

After discharging the Refugees at this billet, SCHINTO agreed to take ten civilians to LIVORNO, who were waiting outside the billet. On the way to LIVORNO we stopped at the petrol point in MONTECATINI and got refilled with petrol. I then left SCHINTO to continue on to LIVORNO and I returned to LUCCA, in one of the other vehicles of my Unit. I do not know how much money these civilians paid SCHINTO for the journey to LIVORNO. At about 0730 hrs. the following morning, we left LUCCA for GENOA, before leaving the town we picked up about 15 passengers for GENOA, SCHINTO collected money from these passengers for their fare when they boarded the lorry, I do not know how much he got from them. On the return journey we stopped at the cafe in SPEZIA, after pulling up outside this cafe all the drivers including SCHINTO syphoned petrol from the tanks of the lorries. I assisted SCHINTO and we syphoned 3 four gallons tins of petrol from the tank of the lorry, SCHINTO sold this petrol to civilians who were standing nearby for 1.000 lire for each tin.

Lieut. LIGUORI was present when the drivers syphoned the petrol from the lorries. After selling the petrol all the drivers had lunch in the Cafe afterwards leaving for Genoa. On arriving back at our Unit SCHINTO gave me 1.000 lire of the money he got for the petrol, and what he received from the passengers SCHINTO told me he had given Lieut. LIGUORI some money but he did not say how much. On Friday 27th. July, 1945, I was detailed to go to LUCCA with driver ALBANINI GIULIO in Lorry No. 10708, we went in convoy with thirteen other vehicles under the charge of Lieut. FALCIONI. On arriving in LAVAGNA the convoy stopped in the square but ALBANINI did not stop with the others, he drove his lorry into a narrow side street, it was here I left him to go and buy some fruit in a shop. Then I returned to the lorry about 20 minutes later, I was just in time to see ALBANINI give a 4 gallons tin of petrol to a civilian, ALBANINI asked me to look after the lorry while he went to the house of this civilian, when he returned to the lorry he told me he had sold to this civilian three tins of petrol containing a total of 12 gallons (60 litres) I did not see any of the other drivers take any petrol from their lorries on this occasion, although they mentioned it to me later that they had done so. The convoy then continued on its journey to LUCCA.

The following morning we left LUCCA in convoy for GENOA, Lieut. FALCIONI, was in the leading vehicle. A few miles outside LUCCA, the convoy started picking up passengers, and ALBANINI, left me in the cab whilst he collected fares off the passengers, I do not know how much he charged these people.

About half way to GENOA, the convoy stopped and I was instructed by Lieut. FALCIONI, to go with the last vehicle in the convoy, this vehicle was driven by MUZZO MARIO, nothing else took place during the remainder of this journey.

When I arrived back to my Unit ALBANINI, came to me and gave me 600 lire this being some of the money he got for the sale of petrol and passengers fares. ALBANINI, told me he had given some of the money to Lieut. FALCIONI, but he did not tell me how much he had given him. I have nothing further to add to this statement, this included all my transactions as far as I know.

Signed: TEDEE SALVATORE

Contd./

I certify the above statement is a true translation from Italian into English to the best of my ability of the statement of TEDDE SALVATORE.

Signed:- OSPICI LETTERIO

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Interpreter OSPICI, in the presence of Sgt. F. PAYNE; 64 S.I.S.; on Monday, 30th July, 1945.

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64 S.I.S.
C.M. Alice.

STATEMENT OF:- SCHINTU Pietro fu Pietro
23rd Company Autonome
3rd Batt. Autotransport.

I have been cautioned by Sgt. PAYNE F., 64 S.I.S., through the medium of Interpreter OSPICI that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show I fully understand this caution I sign my name.

Signed:- SCHINTU PIETRO.

I am a Lorry Driver in the above Unit to which I was posted about six months ago. About a month ago my Company took up duties in Genoa conveying Refugees to various Camps in Central Italy. On the 24th July, 1945, I was detailed to take my lorry No. 10753 to Lucca with Refugees, on this journey I went in convoy with 6 vehicles from my Company, under the charge of S. Lieut. CIARDULLI.

Another member of my Unit named TEDEE SALVATORE accompanied me on the lorry. On arrival in Lavagna the convoy stopped in the square near a cafe'. After having refreshments all the drivers inclusive of myself returned to our vehicles and syphoned petrol from the tanks of their lorries. With the assistance of TEDEE I syphoned two four gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry.

This petrol we sold to Italian civilians in the square for 1000 lire each tin. I gave TEDEE 1000 lire of this money. I do not know if Lieut. CIARDULLI saw me taking petrol from my lorry, but he must have seen some of the others drivers taking petrol from their lorry tanks. Nothing more happened on this journey. The following morning before leaving LUCCA, Lieut. CIARDULLI told all the drivers they could take passengers back to Genoa, he told us to charge them fares and that he expected some money from each driver. I did not steal any petrol during the return journey, but in route I picked up about seven passengers. I did not have the courage to charge them fares as Lieut. CIARDULLI instructed, but they gave me about 1000 Lire between them. When I returned to my Unit I gave Lieut. CIARDULLI 1000 Lire of the money I got for selling petrol and the fares of the passengers. Most of the other drivers in the Unit have told me they charge fares to all passengers they carry and that on average they get 500 lire from each person. On the 29th July, 1945, I was again detailed to take my lorry to Lucca, I was in the convoy with ten other vehicles from my Unit under the charge of Lieut. CIARDULLI, on arrival in SPEZIA the convoy stopped at Cafe', after a short stay I continued ahead of the convoy as I was having engine trouble, I do not know if any of the drivers stole any petrol on this journey. The following morning we left in convoy from Lucca to Genoa, and on this journey, I picked up about ten passengers, all the other lorries in the convoy had about the same number of passengers. Then we arrived in Spezia, the convoy stopped at the Cafe' as we had done on the outward journey. After having refreshments all the drivers including myself, syphoned petrol from the tanks of the lorries. I drew two 4 gallon tins of petrol from my tanks and sold them to civilians standing nearby; I do not know these civilians, they paid me 2000 lire for the petrol. I know all the other drivers sold petrol to civilians in this town. I cannot remember how much the passengers paid me on this trip, but I know I gave Lieut. CIARDULLI 1000 Lire when I returned to my Unit.

These were the only two occasions I have ever sold petrol. On all journeys to Lucca we have refilled our petrol tanks at the Petrol Point in MONTECATINI, before returning to Genoa. I have nothing further to add to this statement. It has been read over to me and is true.

Signed:- SCHINTU PIETRO

Signed:- SCHINU PIETRO.

I am a Lorry Driver in the above Unit to which I was posted about six months ago. About a month ago my Company took up duties in Genoa conveying Refugees to various Camps in Central Italy. On the 24th July, 1945, I was detailed to take my lorry No. 10753 to Lucca with Refugees, on this journey I went in convoy with 6 vehicles from my Company, under the charge of S. Lieut. CIARDULLI.

Another member of my Unit named TEDDE SALVATORE accompanied me on the lorry. On arrival in Lavagna the convoy stopped in the square near a cafe. After having refreshments all the drivers inclusive of myself returned to our vehicles and syphoned petrol from the tanks of their lorries. With the assistance of TEDDE I syphoned two four gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry.

This petrol we sold to Italian civilians in the square for 1000 lire each tin. I gave TEDDE 1000 lire of this money. I do not know if Lieut. CIARDULLI saw me taking petrol from my lorry, but he must have seen some of the others drivers taking petrol from their lorry tanks. Nothing more happened on this journey. The following morning before leaving LUCCA, Lieut. CIARDULLI told all the drivers they could take passengers back to Genoa, he told us to charge them fares and that he expected some money from each driver. I did not steal any petrol during the return journey, but in route I picked up about seven passengers. I did not have the courage to charge them fares as Lieut. CIARDULLI instructed, but they gave me about 1000 Lire between them. When I returned to my Unit I gave Lieut. CIARDULLI 1000 Lire of the money I got for selling petrol and the fares of the passengers. Most of the other drivers in the Unit have told me they charge fares to all passengers they carry and that on average they get 500 lire from each person. On the 29th July, 1945, I was again detailed to take my lorry to Lucca, I was in the convoy with ten other vehicles from my Unit under the charge of Lieut. CIARDULLI, on arrival in SPEZIA the convoy stopped at Cafe, after a short stay I continued ahead of the convoy as I was having engine trouble, I do not know if any of the drivers stole any petrol on this journey. The following morning we left in convoy from Lucca to Genoa, and on this journey, I picked up about ten passengers, all the other lorries in the convoy had about the same number of passengers. When we arrived in Spezia, the convoy stopped at the Cafe as we had done on the outward journey. After having refreshments all the drivers including myself, syphoned petrol from the tanks of the lorries. I drew two 4 gallon tins of petrol from my tanks and sold them to civilians standing nearby; I do not know these civilians, they paid me 2000 lire for the petrol. I know all the other drivers sold petrol to civilians in this town. I cannot remember how much the passengers paid me on this trip, but I know I gave Lieut. CIARDULLI 1000 Lire when I returned to my Unit.

These were the only two occasions I have ever sold petrol. On all journeys to Lucca we have refilled our petrol tanks at the Petrol Point in MONTECATINI, before returning to Genoa. I have nothing further to add to this statement. It has been read over to me and is true.

Signed:- SCHINU PIETRO

I certify the above statement is a true translation from Italian into English to the best of my ability of the statement of SCHINU PIETRO.

Statement taken and signature witnessed by interpreter OSPICI, in the presence of Sgt. F. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S. on Tuesday, 31st. July, 1945.

64 S.I.
Corps of Military Police.

STATEMENT OF:- FADDA GIUSEPPE di Antonio
23rd Company, Autonoma
3rd Battalion, Autotransport, Genoa

I have been cautioned by Sgt. F. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S., through the medium of Interpreter CSPICI, that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show I fully understand this caution I sign my name.

Signed:- FADDA GIUSEPPE

I am a member of the above Unit to which I was posted on the 13th March 1945. From the 20 March, 1945, to the present date I have been employed as a lorry driver. These duties consisted of taking refugees to various disposal camps in Central Italy. I had motor vehicle No. 10738 allotted to me and I have always driven this vehicle on journeys to the various camps. On the 15th July, 1945, I was detailed to go in convoy with my vehicle along with 6 others vehicles from my Company, to carry Refugees to a camp at LUCCA. The convoy was under the charge of Lieut. LANCHIA who rode in the vehicle of the convoy. On arrival at LAVAGNA the convoy stopped in the square of the town and we entered a Cafe nearby to have something to eat. After having refreshments all the drivers inclusive of myself syphoned petrol from the tanks of our lorries by means of lengths of rubber tubing. I syphoned three four gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry. I sold this petrol for 3000 lire to civilians in the square, the remainder of the drivers did the same. I do not know who these civilians are neither could I recognise them again if I saw them. Lieut. LANCHIA was present when all the drivers syphoned the petrol from the tanks of their lorries. After we sold the petrol the convoy continued on to LUCCA where upon arrival we were instructed by Lieut. LANCHIA to get our petrol tanks re-filled at the Petrol Point in MONTECATINI on our return journey. The following morning the convoy left LUCCA for Genoa, before leaving LUCCA, Lieut. LANCHIA got all the drivers together and told us to pick up passengers in the town and take them to GENOA. He also told us to charge them money for the journey but he did not to say how much we were to charge them. He also told us that when we arrived in GENOA he expected some money from each of the drivers from the sale of the petrol and charging the civilians for the journey to GENOA. We also received instructions from Lieut. LANCHIA that when we stopped the convoy a few kilometers from LUCCA, all the drivers were to collect the fares from the passengers. On this occasion I think I had about twenty passengers on my lorry and I charged them 300 Lire each passenger. On our arrival in Lavagna the convoy stopped again in the square and as on the previous occasion I syphoned three gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry, this petrol I sold to other civilians for 3000 Lire.

I do not know who these civilians are. All the other drivers sold petrol from their tanks on this occasion. When I arrived back at my Unit I gave Lieut. LANCHIA, 1000 Lire, I do not know how much the other drivers gave him, I believe they paid him 1000 Lire as well. I do not know the names of the other drivers, we call each other nicknames. On Tuesday, 24th July, 1945, I was again detailed to take my lorry to LUCCA with refugees, on this occasion I was in convoy with nine other vehicles from my Unit under the charge of Lieut. CIARDULLO. As on the previous occasion the convoy stopped in the square at LAVAGNA and I syphoned three 4 gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry, which I sold to civilians for 3000 Lire, all the other drivers did the same. Lieut. CIARDULLO was

1945. From the 20 March, 1945, to the present date I have been employed as a lorry driver. These duties consisted of taking refugees to various disposal camps in Central Italy. I had motor vehicle No. 10738 allotted to me and I have always driven this vehicle on journeys to the various camps. On the 15th July, 1945, I was detailed to go in convoy with my vehicle along with 6 others vehicles from my Company, to carry Refugees to a camp at LUCCA. The convoy was under the charge of Lieut. LANCHIA who rode in the vehicle of the convoy. On arrival at LAVAGNA the convoy stopped in the square of the town and we entered a Cafe nearby to have something to eat. After having refreshments all the drivers inclusive of myself syphoned petrol from the tanks of our lorries by means of lengths of rubber tubing. I syphoned three four gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry. I sold this petrol for 3000 lire to civilians in the square, the remainder of the drivers did the same. I do not know who these civilians are neither could I recognise them again if I saw them. Lieut. LANCHIA was present when all the drivers syphoned the petrol from the tanks of their lorries. After we sold the petrol the convoy continued on to LUCCA where upon arrival we were instructed by Lieut. LANCHIA to get our petrol tanks re-filled at the Petrol Point in MONTECATINI on our return journey. The following morning the convoy left LUCCA for Genoa, before leaving LUCCA, Lieut. LANCHIA got all the drivers together and told us to pick up passengers in the town and take them to GENOA. He also told us to charge them money for the journey but he did not to say how much we were to charge them. He also told us that when we arrived in GENOA he expected some money from each of the drivers from the sale of the petrol and charging the civilians for the journey to GENOA. We also received instructions from Lieut. LANCHIA that when we stopped the convoy a few kilometers from LUCCA, all the drivers were to collect the fares from the passengers. On this occasion I think I had about twenty passengers on my lorry and I charged them 300 Lire each passenger. On our arrival in Lavagna the convoy stopped again in the square and as on the previous occasion I syphoned three gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry, this petrol I sold to other civilians for 3000 Lire. I do not know who these civilians are. All the other drivers sold petrol from their tanks on this occasion. When I arrived back at my Unit I gave Lieut. LANCHIA, 1000 Lire, I do not know how much the other drivers gave him, I believe they paid him 1000 Lire as well. I do not know the names of the other drivers, we call each other nicknames. On Tuesday, 24th July, 1945, I was again detailed to take my lorry to LUCCA with refugees, on this occasion I was in convoy with nine other vehicles from my Unit under the charge of Lieut. CIARDULLO. As on the previous occasion the convoy stopped in the square at LAVAGNA and I syphoned three 4 gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry, which I sold to civilians for 3000 Lire, all the other drivers did the same. Lieut. CIARDULLO was also present when we syphoned the petrol from the tanks. On the return journey from LUCCA we picked up passengers from GENOA, whom I charged three hundred lire for the journey and on our arrival in LAVAGNA all the drivers inclusive of myself syphoned petrol from the tanks of our vehicles, I syphoned three or four gallon tins and sold them for 3000 Lire. When I arrived back to my Unit I gave Lieut. CIARDULLO 1000 lire of this money. I believe the other drivers did the same.

On Thursday, 26th July, 1945, I was again detailed to take my lorry to LUCCA, on this occasion I was in convoy with thirteen other vehicles from my Unit under the charge of Lieut. LICURI. On this occasion we stopped on the road in SPAZIA before having refreshments, all the drivers, inclusive of myself, syphoned petrol from the tanks of our lorries. On this occasion I filled two 4 gallon tins, these I sold to civilians for 2000 lire. I do not know these civilians.

Lieut. LICURI was present and saw the drivers syphon the petrol from the tanks.

contd/

After having refreshments we continued on our journey to LUCCA. The following day we left LUCCA in convoy. I had about twenty passengers on my vehicle and all the remainder of the lorry had about the same number of passengers. Shortly after leaving LUCCA I lost the remainder of the convoy and did not see them again until I arrived back at Genoa. On this journey I did not steal any petrol. When I arrived back at my Unit I gave Lieut. LIGURI 1000 Lire. These are the only occasions I have stolen petrol from the tanks of my lorry, it was a recognised thing for all the drivers of my Unit to take petrol from the tanks of their lorries when we went out on journeys with refugees. On Sunday, 29th July, 1945, I was searched by Sgt. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S, who found the sum of 26,000 lire in my wallet, this money, was some of the money I obtained by selling petrol and charging fares to passengers on my lorry. I have nothing further to add to this statement, it has been read over to me and it is truth.

Signed:- FADDA GIUSEPPE

I certify the above statement is a true translation from Italian into English to the best of my ability of the statement of FADDA GIUSEPPE

Signed:- OSPICI LETTERIO

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Interpreter OSPICI in the presence of Sgt. F. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S., on Monday, 30th July, 1945.

to take petrol from the tanks of their lorries when we went back on Sunday, 29th July, 1945, I was searched by Sgt. PAYNE, with refugees. On Sunday, 29th July, 1945, I was searched by Sgt. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S, who found the sum of 26,000 lire in my wallet, this money, was some of the money I obtained by selling petrol and charging fares to passengers on my lorry. I have nothing further to add to this statement, it has been read over to me and it is truth.

Signed:- FADDA GIUSEPPE

I certify the above statement is a true translation from Italian into English to the best of my ability of the statement of FADDA GIUSEPPE

Signed:- OSPICI LEONTERIO

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Interpreter OSPICI in the presence of Sgt. F. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S., on Monday, 30th July, 1945.

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23rd Company, Autonoma,
3rd Batt., Auto Transport.

STATEMENT OF:-- PIERO SEBASTIANO PI AGOSTINO,

23rd Coy., Autonoma,

3rd Batt., Auto Transport, A.C.

GEROA.

WHO STATES:--

I have been cautioned by Sgt. FAVNE, through the medium of Interpreter OSPICCI, that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show that I full understand the caution, I sign my name.

Signed:-- PIERO SEBASTIANO

I am a member of the above unit to which I posted in March, 1945. Sometime in June, 1945, I took over duty as a lorry driver, these duties consisted of taking Refugees to various camps in central Italy. On the 27th July, 1945, I was detailed to take lorry No. 10723, with Refugees to LUCCA, on this occasion I went in convoy with 13 other vehicles from my unit, under the charge of Lieut. FALCIONI. My vehicle was the second vehicle in the convoy, Lieut. FALCIONI, was travelling in the leading vehicle. When we arrived at LAVAGNA, the leading vehicle stopped in the town but I continued on to SESTRI, where I awaited for the other vehicles, when they arrived I joined in the convoy and we did not stop again until we arrived at LUCCA. The following morning all the vehicles went to MONTICATTINI Petrol Point to get refilled, on the return journey I picked up several passengers and all the other lorries in the convoy, this was in accordance with previous instructions received from Lieut. FALCIONI, that we could pick up passengers on the return journey and charge them fares, I did not carry out these instructions and did not charge passengers fares for the journey, although they did give me some money of their own free will. On this journey I got separated from the remainder of the convoy and did not meet them again until I arrived at SPERDIA, the other drivers had already partaken of refreshments by the time I arrived, so I went into the cafe and had something to eat, I did not see any of the other drivers take petrol out of their tanks at this place. We arrived on the outskirts of LAVAGNA, I stopped my lorry at the side of the road, the remainder of the convoy continued on its way. Whilst I was stopped at this place, several civilians came to me and asked me to sell them some petrol, they became so insistent that I finally agreed to let them have some, these civilians themselves

be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show that I full understand the caution, I sign my name.

Signed: - PIERO SEBASTIANO

I am a member of the above unit to which I posted in March, 1945. Sometime in June, 1945, I took over duty as a lorry driver, these duties consisted of taking Refugees to various camps in central Italy. On the 27th July, 1945, I was detailed to take lorry No. 10723, with Refugees to LUCCA, on this occasion I went in convoy with 13 other vehicles from my unit, under the charge of Lieut. PAOLONI. My vehicle was the second vehicle in the convoy, Lieut. PAOLONI, was travelling in the leading vehicle. When we arrived at LAVAGNA, the leading vehicle stopped in the town but I continued on to SESTRI, where I awaited for the other vehicles, when they arrived I joined in the convoy and we did not stop again until we arrived at LUCCA. The following morning all the vehicles went to MONTECATINI Petrol Point to get refilled, on the return journey I picked up several passengers as did all the other lorries in the convoy, this was in accordance with previous instructions received from Lieut. PAOLONI, that we could pick up passengers on the return journey and charge them fares, I did not carry out these instructions and did not charge passengers fares for the journey, although they did give me some money of their own free will. On this journey I got separated from the remainder of the convoy and did not meet them again until I arrived at SPEZIA, the other drivers had already partaken of refreshments by the time I arrived, so I went into the cafe and had something to eat, I did not see any of the other drivers take petrol out of their tanks at this place. We arrived on the outskirts of LAVAGNA, I stopped my lorry at the side of the road, the remainder of the convoy continued on its way. Whilst I was stopped at this place, several civilians came to me and asked me to sell them some petrol, they became so insistent that I finally agreed to let them have some, these civilians themselves expended 2 four gallon tins of petrol from the tanks of my lorry by means of a length of rubber tubing, they paid me 2,000 lire for this petrol. When I returned to GENOA, I met Lieut. PAOLONI, at the Petrol Point and I gave him 500 lire of this money. He did not ask me what this money was for as this was the usual practice for drivers to give the Convoy Commander some of the money they got by selling petrol. This was the only occasion I have ever sold petrol, although I have received small amounts of money from passengers that I have carried on other journeys, these people gave me this money of their own free will. I have nothing further to add to this statement

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it has been read over to me and it is true.

Signed:- PIETRO SEBASTIANO.

I certify the above statement is a true translation from Italian into English to the best of my ability of the statement of PIETRO SEBASTIANO.

Signed:- CSPICI DEDIC.

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Interpreter CSPICI, in the presence of Sgt. F. FAYNE, 64 S.L.S., on Wednesday, 1st August, 1945.

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Signed:- OSPICIETTERNO.

Statement taken and signature witnessed by
Interpreter OSPICI, in the presence of Sgt. P. PAYNE, 64
S.I.S., on Wednesday, 1st August, 1945.

STATEMENT OF:- PODESTA GIOVANNI fu Dino
Via XX Settembre No 18
LAVAGNA

I have been cautioned by Sgt. F. PAYNE, through the medium of Interpreter OSPICI, that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show I fully understand this caution I sign my name.

Signed:- PODESTA GIOVANNI

I am 17 years of age and I reside with my mother at the above address. My father died from injuries in AFRICA in 1941, and my brother and I work to support my mother, who is in ill health. For the past month nearly all Allied lorries driven by Italian drivers conveying Refugees and stores stop in the square at LAVAGNA. I have seen these Italian drivers regularly each day syphoning petrol out of these motor lorries and sell it to civilians in town. I thought these drivers were in order in selling this petrol as the carabinieri were often present when the drivers syphoned petrol from their lorries. I have seen as many as ten Allied vehicles stationary in the square and all the drivers in the act of taking petrol from their lorries by means of lengths of rubber tubing. On Friday, 27th July, 1945, I was riding my bicycle in the town when I was stopped by an Italian who was driving an Allied motor lorry, he asked if I wanted to buy some petrol, and I told him I would do, and he gave me three 4 gallon tins of petrol and I gave him 4.800 lire for these. The following day this same civilian driver called at my house, (he knew where I lived as he assisted me in carrying the tins of petrol to my house the previous day), he had with him another three 4 gallon tins of petrol, I paid him another 4.800 lire for this petrol. On Sunday, 29th July, 1945, an English Military Police Sergeant made a search of my house and found 3 Gallons of petrol which I had bought from this man. I told him how I came into possession of it. These are the only two occasions I have ever bought petrol. On Monday, 30th July, 1945, I accompanied the English Police Sgt., who I now know to be Sgt. F. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S., to the 3rd Batt., Auto Transport, where I saw a large number of motor lorries, I can definitely say that these lorries I have seen in LAVAGNA, where petrol has been sold, but I could not identify any of the drivers. I have nothing further to add to this statement, it has been read over to me and is true.

Signed:- PODESTA GIOVANNI

I certify the above statement is a true translation from Italian into English of the statement of PODESTA GIOVANNI.

Signed:- OSPICI LANTIERO

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Interpreter OSPICI, in the presence of Sgt. F. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S., on Tuesday, 31st July, 1945.

OSPICI, that I am not obliged to say anything unless I wish to do so, but whatever I do say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence. To show I fully understand this caution I sign my name.

Signed:- PODESTA GIOVANNI

I am 17 years of age and I reside with my mother at the above address. My father died from injuries in AFRICA in 1941, and my brother and I work to support my mother, who is in ill health. For the past month nearly all Allied lorries driven by Italian drivers conveying Refugees and stores stop in the square at LAVAGNA. I have seen these Italian drivers regularly each day syphoning petrol out of these motor lorries and sell it to civilians in town. I thought these drivers were in order in selling this petrol as the carabinieri were often present when the drivers syphoned petrol from their lorries. I have seen as many as ten Allied vehicles stationary in the square and all the drivers in the act of taking petrol from their lorries by means of laughts of rubber thing. On Friday, 27th July, 1945, I was riding my bicycle in the town when I was stopped by an Italian who was driving an Allied motor lorry, he asked if I wanted to buy some petrol, and I told him I would do, and he gave me three 4 gallon tins of petrol and I gave him 4.800 lire for these. The following day this same civilian driver called at my house, (he knew where I lived as he assisted me in carrying the tins of petrol to my house the previous day), he had with him another three 4 gallon tins of petrol, I paid him another 4.800 lire for this petrol. On Sunday, 29th July, 1945, an English Military Police Sergeant made a search of my house and found 3 gallons of petrol which I had bought from this man. I told him how I came into possession of it. These are the only two occasions I have ever bought petrol. On Monday, 30th July, 1945, I accompanied the English Police Sgt., who I now know to be Sgt. F. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S., to the 3rd Batt., Auto Transport, where I saw a large number of motor lorries, I can definitely say that these lorries I have seen in LAVAGNA, where petrol has been sold, but I could not identify any of the drivers. I have nothing further to add to this statement, it has been read over to me and is true.

Signed:- PODESTA GIOVANNI

I certify the above statement is a true translation from Italian into English of the statement of PODESTA GIOVANNI.

Signed:- OSPICI LAMBERTO

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Interpreter OSPICI, in the presence of Sgt. F. PAYNE, 64 S.I.S., on Tuesday, 31st July, 1945.

2120

23rd. TRUCK COY. A.C.

I the undersigned; Lieut. FAENOLI Mario son of the late EMILIO and of DELIBERO ASSUNTA, born in S. Apollinare in Liri, in the Province of Frosinone, on the 22nd. November 1915, Commander of the 23rd. Truck Company, A.C.P.M. The following statement refers from the 12th. March, 1945, as follows:

The Unit has been transferred on two occasions, namely the 9th. 10th. July 1945, from Modena to Genoa and began duties of transporting refugees from Genoa to Lucca on the 10th. of the same month. Until the 28th July 1945, the Unit has exclusively carried out these duties except on two occasions when they transferred a Military Hospital with its outfit from Genoa to Verona.

With a view to obtaining a high return of services, I gave instructions that every convoy would have a junior Officer in charge of it, also to prevent any irregularities on the part of the drivers. Every officer in charge of the convoy were also instructed to hand to me a written report as regards services and discipline on his return.

To reach this aim I have often spoken to the men of my Unit to be conscientious and honest when carrying out this work, I also made it known to them that disciplinary action would be taken against anyone violating these instructions.

I also made all drivers sign a declaration on which it was explicitly stated that no civilians were to be carried on any of my Company's vehicles unless they were in possession of an authorized permit.

During the period the Unit has been employed on these duties I have received six reports for breach of regulations on the part of drivers, for excess of speed and carrying civilians without permits. On all these occasions I punished the drivers concerned. On no occasion however has it been reported of drivers selling petrol from their tanks, although on one occasion it came to my notice that 300 litres of petrol were found to be missing from vehicles on the parking ground at the Unit, this was on the 21st. July 1945. Enquiries into this matter failed to disclose the persons responsible for this, in accordance with instructions the sentries were placed on a charge of neglect of duty.

P.M. 21st. August, 1945

COMMANDER
Lieut. FAENOLI Mario.

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P.M. 21st 5th. August, 1945

COMMANDER

Lieut. FARGNOLI Mario.

Statement submitted by Commander, Lieut. FARGNOLI Mario
to Sgt. T. PAYNE 64 S.I.C on Sunday 5th. August, 1945. 213

PERS^{ONNEL} AND LORRIES USED IN CONVOY LUGCA.
AS S. FLIED BY LIEUT. WELTNER.

24th July, 1945. Convoy to Lucca.

ENGLES.	10810
ATZENI.	10719
PIRAS ANTONIO.	10739
FADDA GIUSEPPE.	10738
SCHINTU,	10753
DURASTANTE.	10712
LUBINO GAVINO.	10806

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15th July, 1945. Convoy to Lucca.

ENGELIS GIOVANNI.	10745
MARONGIU FRANCESCO.	10713
FADDA GIUSEPPE.	10738
GIORGIO SALVATORE.	10747
MUZZU MARIO.	10740
PTISALIS MARIO.	10721
STOIA ANTONIO.	10759
MULAS MICHELE.	10810
LODOLFI FRANCESCO.	10806
ALBININI GIULIO.	10804

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26th July, 1945. Convoy to Lucca.

MUZULECI ISADORE.	10706
PANTALEO GIACOMO.	10716
STOIA ANTONIO.	10759
TRIPI ANTONIO.	10804
MARZANO SALVATORE.	10729
VISCONI DOMENICO.	10743
LORRAI PASQUALE.	10779
PASSERI ENNIO.	10801
CIARAVELLI TOM.	10810
SPAGNOLI MARIO.	10712
MASSA GIOVANNI.	10753
LUBINO GAVINO.	10806
MASSA SALVATORE.	10714
SULAS PIETRO.	10711
FADDA GIUSEPPE.	10738

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