

0257

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/RND No.

785016

ACC
AC/14371/3/PS

10000/143/1100

CA
AP

0258

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

785016

10000/143/1100

CAMERINO, GINO & PESCATORE, ENRICO
APR. - JUN. 1946

AC/14371/3/PS.

May 46 - June 46

64

CAMERINO, GINO; & PESCATORE, ENRICO;

(All correspondence detailed from GI(B)/88/4/A)

(All Correspondence detailed from G1(8)/23/4/A)

10000/9 43/1100

THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

APR 40

JUN 40

ALPHABETIC

81

V.P. C.A.S. (for P.S. SP)

Will you please take the necessary
action in accordance with E.C.'s m 7.

J.B. Wood. ^{by J.B. Wood}
St. Ch. RA.

19/6

2

1550. minute 7 complete with. 785
now already aware of numerous
shady records.

17.

E. J. Dyer. Col.

10

to officer (Ar).

4317
This file is passed to you for
for record. and inclusion in your
file.

17. 7. 46.

E. J. Dyer. Col.

MINUTE NO.4

6th June, 1946

To: Executive Commissioner.

At Folio 7 and 8 are statements by CAMERINO and PESCATORE.

It will be observed that Camerino, according to his statement, was introduced to this Headquarters by Cittadini Cesi, and that Colonel Campbell, is in possession of a letter from the Order of Malta assigning honours to Brigadiers Upjohn and Anderson and Colonel Campbell. This does not seem to be a very savory business in view of the fact that a supply to tyres was involved. Colonel Campbell, in conversation with me, confirmed that Camerino was introduced to him through Cittadini Cesi.

I recommend that the following action should be taken:

- (a) That Lt. Colonel Campbell should be informed that Camerino has a police record and that neither Lt. Colonel Campbell nor any personnel in his Branch should have dealings with this individual.
- (b) That steps should be taken to prohibit Camerino entering this Headquarters.
- (c) That UNRRA should be warned of this individuals antecedents.

I have no reason to believe that Camerino has ingratiated himself into UNRRA, but it is just the type of organization to which he would turn his activities, and I think, it would be as well if they were warned.

Neither Camerino or Pescatore were ever on the pay roll of the Staff.
but they have had dealings with C.E.M.

M. Carr Brigadier.
VP. CA. Section.

5.

431.

I agree with (a) & (b). I will so instruct

LT Col Campbell. & HQ. Command. P.A. 15

track letter & arrange for Lt Col Campbell

(c) That UMRB should be warned of this individuals antecedents.

I have no reason to believe that Camerino has ingratiated himself into UMRB, but it is just the type of organization to which he would turn his activities, and I think, it would be as well if they were warned.

Neither Camerino's relations were even on the pay roll of UMRB. but they have had dealings with C.E.M. M. Carr, Brigadier.

VP. CA. Section.

5.

431.

I agree with (a) & (b). I will so instruct.

Lt Col Campbell. M.O. Command. P.A. to

drop letter ~~on~~ ~~range~~ for Lt Col Campbell

see me.

174/86

6.

Instructions have been given to Lt Col Campbell

to have no further dealings.

No further action in this case.

7.

175/186.

C.S.O. Do had better bring Camerino's past to the fact that he was (or may be still is) employed by F.S.S. to act as a spy.

175/186.

I

To V.P. C.A.S.

The attached papers are submitted
for consideration per.

E. J. Bye Colonel

16, 5, 46.

V.P. C.A.S. 2

I have studied this case carefully. I commend

CR Bye for a very lucid presentation. I approve

action as suggested by him in the second

part of para 28 of his report.

431#

I also wish to know whether Concurrence or Dissent

9 comment
There studied this can carefully.
I approve
CR Bye for a very lucid presentation.
action as suggested by him in the second
431st

part of para 28 of his report.
I also wish know whether Cameron a President
are employed by the C.E.M. or H.C. directly or
indirectly.

MS/22/10.

B.

V.P. C.A.S.
2A and statements Nos 7 & 8 are
submitted for consideration per
3.6.46.
C. H. Bye Colonel

785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
Office of the Headquarters Commandant

CONFIDENTIAL

HQ/13/2

15th June 1946

JUN 18 1946

SUBJECT : Prof. Gino CAMERINO

TO : Executive Commissioner

1. Reference your letter of the 13th June 46, on the above-mentioned. Your direction in para 2 has been complied with.
2. From enquiries, I find that Prof. Gino CAMERINO was issued with a pass No 1412 on the 11th September 1944, to enter AC Building, under the heading FSS Liaison ACC.
3. Steps have been taken that should Prof. CAMERINO attempt again to enter AC Building, he will be immediately brought to me for interrogation.

A.G. Graham Lt. Col.
A.G. GRAHAM, Lt. Col.
Hq. Commandant.

HS
19/6

431

CONFIDENTIAL.3A
see 4A13th June 1946.

SUBJECT: Professor Gino CAMERINO.

TO : Lt. Col. Graham,
Hq. Commandant.

1. I refer to letters addressed to you by the Order of Malta regarding the above-named person.
2. You are directed that under no circumstances is CAMERINO to be allowed to enter this Headquarters.
3. Please make enquiries as to whether he was ever issued with an AC pass.

M. S. Lush
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

2A

3rd. JUNE, 1946.

SUBJECT : Complaints by Civilians.
TO : Executive Commissioner.
(through Vice President, C.A. Section).

1. Referring to Minute 2 on attached.
2. On 31st. May, and 1st. June, 1946, I saw and took statements from CAMERINO and PESCATORE. (See Statements Nos. 7 and 8).
3. Camerino, on my telling him the nature of the enquiry, although obviously extremely nervous and apprehensive, attempted to pass the matter off as of no account and one in which he had no personal interest.

It will be seen that in the first part of his statement (No. 7) he only had a very vague recollection of the events and was quite sure he could remember nothing more until I commenced to jog his memory and then, it will be observed, he gives a version which tallies closely to the statements of the complainants. In fact it leaves no reason to doubt that the whole of the complaint is true.

4. There is little doubt he has lied in his statement as and where it suited him. The story of the Association is fantastic inasmuch that although he was the leading figure, his memory regarding the members is so defective that it is difficult to believe his efforts were genuine.

He says (see page 3 of statement) that he knew Colonel Campbell only from a social standpoint and met him at infrequent intervals, but he showed an excellent knowledge of the War Material Disposal organisation.

5. With regard to the suggested honours:- It would seem Camerino consulted Lt. Colonel Campbell on the subject immediately after, if not before, he made the suggestion to members of the Order of Malta, as he says he gave the letter of approval from Count Thun to Lt. Colonel Campbell (see page 4 of his statement).

The typewritten slips containing the personal particulars of the three officers, he says he obtained from Sgt. Major McNeil, Chief Clerk in W.M.D., who had obtained the particulars from Lt. Colonel Campbell - again a strange procedure for a man who had no connections with War Materials Disposal.

6. Lastly he admitted he may have told De Dominiois that the Order had been supplied with 70 tyres and says he heard this number from Colonel Campbell, but denies ever having said that a receipt was in existence. He further admits offering 50,000 lire each on behalf of Caproni and himself to clear up the matter of the tyres. He says he offered this sum simply as a proof of his goodwill and further he was prepared to pay the 100,000 lire himself should Caproni be unwilling to pay his 50,000 lire.

It is perfectly obvious that Dominiois's story is the true one and the offer was made to stop any complaint being made.

7. There is little in the statement of Pescatore beyond showing that he was asked by Lt. Colonel Campbell to supply some tyres to the Order of Malta. He professes he did not know the number of tyres asked for or any details. These are obviously lies. He agrees he did mention to Count Thun that there was a danger the tyres might find their way on to the Black Market but denies adding that he was prepared to sell them to his own firm and hand the proceeds to the Order.

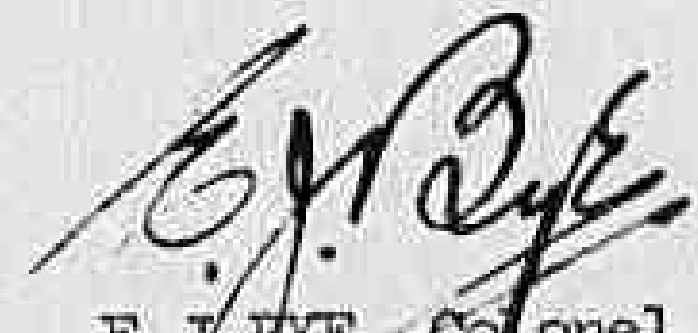
He denies having spoken to Camerino at any time about the tyres, whereas Camerino says he did.

There is little doubt that Camerino and Pescatore were working in conjunction and that both of their statements are previously prepared explanations of their actions.

8. Although this case is bristling with suspicion and there is little doubt irregularities did take place, there is not sufficient evidence to justify action being taken against either man.

For obvious reasons direct enquiry has not been made of War Materials Disposal Section, but Camerino when leaving my office intimated that he wished to discuss the matter with Lt. Colonel Campbell.

Submitted for consideration please.


E. J. EYE, Colonel.
Acting Director.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

APO 394

1st. JUNE, 1946.

STATEMENT OF Signor PESCATORE, Enrico, Via Settembre
No. 1, Rome. Industrial Director.

I am the Industrial Director for the Firm of Messrs Caproni. I know Colonel Campbell and other officers of the War Materials Disposal Board by reason of the fact that my firm had dealings with the Board in the purchase of about 26,000 secondhand tyres (salvage).

One day during either December, 1945, or January, 1946, as far as I can remember, Colonel Campbell asked me to see Count THUN of the Order of Malta with regard to the supply to the Order of some tyres for which the Order had already made a demand. The purpose of supply was a charitable one and Colonel Campbell instructed me to supply the tyres at the lowest price without profit. I spoke to my Director, Signor Caproni, and he instructed me to sell the tyres to the Order at cost price. The cost price would have been in the region of two to four thousand lire per tyre. This was not an unusual procedure as we had supplied other charitable organisations with tyres at cost price.

Colonel Campbell did not tell me how many tyres the Order required. I made an appointment by phone and later saw Count Thun, and I explained to him that I had come from the Allied Commission in connection with their request for tyres. Count Thun told me he required tyres for motor cars. I explained to him that the tyres available were only for large trucks. Count Thun replied that such tyres were useless for their purpose. There the discussion ended and I left as it was obvious that we could not supply the tyres required by the Order. Count Thun did not mention the number of tyres required.

No 8

4304

So far as I know the Order has never received any tyres.

I did not report to anyone that the offer had fallen through, until about a month later when I saw Colonel Campbell on other matters and then mentioned we were unable to supply the Order with the type of tyres required. Colonel Campbell replied, "Very well, it can't be helped". That is all I know.

I should add that when I saw Count Thun the question of the allocation of the tyres was discussed and I told Count Thun that whilst we knew the tyres asked for were for the Order of Malta, and as such was above suspicion, we had to be very careful any tyres did not find their way into the Black Market. Count Thun did not mention to me that the Order wished to sell some of the tyres and devote the proceeds to the Refugee Camp.

As mentioned before, I knew the tyres were for a charitable object and that the Order needed money for its Refugee Camp as it always has done, but I did not suggest to Count Thun that I could sell the tyres and give the proceeds to the Order. I am certain of that.

I know Professor Camerino as a man who endeavoured to form an Association of Italian Firms to buy trucks from the War Materials Disposal. I have never spoken to Camerino about the offer of tyres to the Order of Malta, neither has he spoken to me of this matter at any time. I did not and do not know whether Camerino was or is interested in the offer of tyres to the Order of Malta. After the interview with Count Thun I forgot all about the matter until I saw Colonel Rye this morning. I have never been employed in any way by the Allied Commission and have only contacted the Commission as I have just stated.

This statement has been read over to me and is ~~correct~~ true.

(Signed) Enrico Pescatore.

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of ~~Colonel~~ E.J.

Rye, and Captain R.A. Saville, the latter acting as Interpreter, at 10.30 am.

1st. June, 1946.

(Signed) R.C. Bond, Major.
E.J. Rye, Colonel, Act. Director.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Public Safety Sub-Commission

APO / 394.

31st. MAY, 1946.

STATEMENT of Gino CNERINO, age 49, of Via del GAMBERO,
No. 30, ROME. Professor in Philosophy. Business man.

I am a business man and reside at Via del Gambero No. 30, Rome.
 I was born in Italy but left when a boy returning in 1915. I became a
 Professor at the Padova University. I left Italy again in 1926 for
 political reasons returning again in 1940.

In 1943 I worked in an honorary capacity at Puglia for A.M.G.
 with Lt. Col. Nichols and Major Talbot. Later in 1944, I went to Bari and
 worked with 315 Field Security Section under Captain Perkins. I eventually
 came to Rome in 1944 about a month after the Allies had occupied the city.

Apart from my honorary position with A.M.G. at Puglia and my
 honorary employment with Field Security Section, I have never been employed
 by the Allied Government either with AMG/AC or any other body. My work has
 always been honorary and I have invariably paid my own expenses. I have not
 had an honorary appointment with A.C. nor have I been connected with A.C.
 in any way.

Early in 1945 with the cognizance of the Italian Government, I
 formed an Association of Motor Car Manufacturers for the purpose of
 purchasing trucks from the Allied Government. Amongst the members of the
 Association were the Fiat Works (Representative Ing. Minoli), Lancia Works,
 Turin (Representative not known), Righi Works, Bologna (Representative
 Ing. Sameriva) and the C.A.R. Works, Rome (Representative not known).
 There were also other companies whose names at the moment I cannot remember.

Having formed the Association, the terms of which were put into writing, I was then introduced to Colonel Campbell by the Marquis CITTADINI CESI, the Liason Officer between the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and the Allied Commission. I explained to Colonel Campbell the objects of the Association namely, to buy trucks from the War Materials Disposal Board for use by the Companies in the Association. If successful a Company would be formed. The scheme had the approval of the Italian Government. Colonel Campbell said he would do what he could but, however, we were not successful in buying anything from War Materials. We were in fact offered, and obtained the release of 2,000 (two thousand) trucks from the W.M.D. Board under the condition that the Italian Government approved the release. This was about October, 1945. The Italian Government did not give consent and the whole scheme fell through, and in consequence the Association was dissolved.

I have known Cav. de DOMINICIS for some considerable time. I do not remember when I was first introduced to him. One day, I do not remember when, de Dominicis mentioned to me the necessity of procuring tyres for the cars of the Order of Malta, and asked my advice as to the best means to obtain them. I suggested that he approached the War Materials Disposal Board. This was in 1945, somewhere in October or November. I cannot remember the actual date.

The next step was I took de Dominicis to see Colonel Campbell. I do not remember the date but it was very soon after de Dominicis had approached me for the tyres. I introduced de Dominicis to Colonel Campbell and he conversed with de Dominicis either through me or his interpreter. I do not remember which. I explained to Colonel Campbell the request of Dominicis for some tyres and Colonel promised to do what he could to

to obtain them for the Order. No price was mentioned nor any question of payment, neither was the number of tyres mentioned. After this very brief interview De Dominicis and I left. Later I told de Dominicis there would be the usual price to pay, it would be very small but I did not know the amount I knew a price was charged because CAPRONI whom I knew, had bought a large amount of tyres from Caserta or the Allied Commission, paying I believe about 50 lire per Kilo. No actual number of tyres was ever mentioned but I understood from De Dominicis that the Order would like anything from fifty to two hundred tyres.

I later met Colonel Campbell casually and on mentioning the question of the tyres, he told me he was trying to get them from either Naples or Milan. I had no business dealings with Colonel Campbell therefore I only saw him socially at infrequent intervals. I knew most of the officers in War Materials Disposal Board.

At about this time the whole of the Captured Enemy Material and Surplus was turned over to the Italian Government and therefore that was the end of any tyres being given or sold to the Order of Malta.

What I have said is absolutely true and there is nothing to add to this story.

I should add here that I gave five or ten thousand lire, I do not remember the exact amount, to the Order out of my own pocket, as a gift to their charity. I am of independent means and therefore could afford to do it.

I now remember that after de Dominicis had first spoken to me about the tyres I went with him and he introduced me to the Duchess of Vargas. I do not remember whether ~~it was before~~ it was before or after I took de Dominicis to see Colonel Campbell, but I believe it was before. Altogether I went three times to her flat and she came once to mine with her husband the

the Duke of Vargas. I also remember now we spoke about Ambulances but I do not remember whether I or they broached the subject. However I was later told that the Order of Malta could not use the ambulances but they might be of use to the Order of San Sepolcro.

I remember now I was told by the Duchess or by Count THUN that the Refugee Camp had an independent budget and the idea was, so far as I could gather, that the Order should receive the tyres on the condition it made a grant to the Refugee Camp. I do not remember on which occasion I met Count Thun at the Duchess's house, but I believe it was my second visit. When I saw Count Thun, he or the Duchess suggested I might be prepared to accept an honour from the Order in recognition of the help I was affording the Order in endeavouring to obtain the tyres. I declined, telling them jokingly I already had a large number of Orders and I was not personally interested in the matter. However, I did suggest the honour might be given to some British Officers and I proposed three of them. They were Brigadier Upjohn, Brigadier Anderson and Colonel Campbell. I know all three personally. This suggestion was made by me without the officers' knowledge. Count Thun replied he would be pleased to recommend the names of the officers for an honour from the Order. Later I received a letter from Count Thun in which he said the honours for the officers had been approved. This letter I gave to Colonel Campbell.

As a result of the fact that honours were likely to be presented to the officers I suggested that I gave a dinner party at which the honours could be presented. I do not remember whether I made the offer through de Dominiois or to Count Thun direct. Brigadier Upjohn and Brigadier Anderson were in England then. Brigadier Anderson was due to return. I expected him to be at the dinner party but not Brigadier Upjohn. I invited Count Thun, Cirvellotto the Air Minister, Arpesani, the Under Secretary for

for the Presidency, the British Minister to the Vatican, and others about 20 in all. The dinner never actually took place for a number of reasons among which were:- the tyres were not given to the Order, I was busy in Milan, and Brigadier Anderson was no longer in Rome.

I have seen three typewritten sheets of paper shown me by Colonel Bye on which are typed the particulars of the Officers. I recognise them as slips I obtained for the Order to enable them to prepare the citations for the honours. I obtained them through the Sergeant Major McNeil, Chief Clerk to War Materials Disposal Board. He got the particulars from Colonel Campbell and had them typed. I later handed the slips to Dominiciis.

I do not remember mentioning to Count Thun what the buying or selling price of the tyres should have been, I may have mentioned something to him but I do not now remember. I remember now that Dominiciis did give me an official application in writing, I do not remember by whom it was signed, for a number of tyres the exact number I do not remember. I do not remember what I did with it. Whether in fact I gave it to Colonel Campbell or kept it myself. I do not know why I should have kept it myself unless it was because I may have thought it was not an opportune moment to present it. It may have been because I know that at about that time, I believe in October 1945, the whole of the Captured Enemy Material was being handed over to the Italian Government.

I also remember that I asked one of the members of the Order, the cost of running the Refugee Camp. I do not remember the amount stated but I do remember saying I would ask friends of mine to subscribe money to the Camp. I then gave five thousand lire, which I have previously mentioned. I did not do anything about getting my friends to subscribe as I was a little disgusted with the Duchess Vargas for private reasons. I have been shown a letter of mine, by Colonel Bye, which I wrote to Dominiciis. It dated the

the 19th. October, 1945, but I do not remember the circumstances under which I wrote it. It may or may not have been written immediately following the visit of myself and Dominiciis to Colonel Campbell.

I now remember telling Dominiciis the tyres were in Naples. I do not remember from whom I received that information. It could only have been from Colonel Campbell. Later I advised Dominiciis to go to Milan and contact Major Stourgh Auduss of War Materials in Milan and I gave a pencilled note to Dominiciis in order to obtain through this officer an allocation from A.R.A.R. who at that time were in possession of all war material. I have now been shown and recognise the note. When I gave the note to Dominiciis another gentleman was present. He was a stranger to me and I do not remember whether I spoke to him or not.

I do not know whether Dominiciis or anyone else went to Milan for tyres, but I do know I went with Dominiciis two or three times to see Colonel Campbell. Whether one occasion was after a visit had been made to Milan by someone for the Order of Malta, I cannot say. It may have been so. He worried me about the tyres so many times I do not remember each and every occasion.

Most probably I interpreted for Colonel Campbell when Dominiciis saw him but I cannot remember. In any case Colonel Campbell's secretary - interpreter was always present.

Later Colonel Campbell told me he had suggested to Count Caproni to sell at cost price a certain number of tyres (secondhand) to the Order. I have no idea of the date. I conveyed this information to Dominiciis. I know Caproni and Pescatore, who is one of the Directors of Caproni's organisations, simply as business acquaintances. Later I saw Pescatore and asked him if he had supplied tyres to the Order and he replied "No", "The tyres are no good to them ". I do not remember whether I knew Pescatore was going

going to see the Order, before he actually went on afterwards.

At one time I did believe that the Order had received some tyres from Pescatore on behalf of Caproni, then later Pescatore told me himself it was not so. It may have been that I saw Dominiciis between those times and told him the Order had received some tyres. I had heard previously from Colonel Campbell that Caproni was supplying the Order with 70 tyres. I am quite sure that when I mentioned to Dominiciis that the Order had received some tyres, I did not say that a receipt for the tyres had been given from the Order, because I would not be in a position to know.

The last time I saw Dominiciis, some months ago, I do not remember where I saw him or who was present, I told him that to close up the affair of the tyres Caproni and myself were prepared to make a gift to the Camp of the Order of Fifty Thousand lire each. The reason I made this offer was because I had previously offered my assistance to obtain the tyres but having been unsuccessful I wished to make this gift as a proof of my goodwill.

I had not spoken personally with Caproni about this offer but I had heard from someone, probably Pescatore, that he (Caproni) would be prepared to give fifty thousand lire. If he did not do so I was prepared to pay one hundred thousand lire myself. I am certain I offered on behalf of Caproni and myself. No other person was mentioned.

This statement has been read over to me and is true.

(Signed) Gino Camerino.

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of
Major R. C. Bond at 1.30 PM. 31st. May, 1946.

(Signed) E. J. Bye, Colonel,
Acting Director.

ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
Public Safety Sub-Commissioner
APO 394

14 MAY 1946.

SUBJECT : Complaints by Civilians.
TO : Executive Commissioner.
(through Vice President, Civil Affairs Section).

1. With reference to attached papers.
2. This is a complaint by the Officers of the Order of Malta with the regard to non delivery of a number of tyres which had apparently been promised to the Order on behalf of the Allied Commission by a representative (supposed) of the War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission.
3. The complaint first came to the notice of the Allied Commission when the Memorandum and covering letter from the Chancellor of the Order (see Attachments I and 2) were received by the Camp Commandant, Lt.Colonel A.G.Graham, who passed the complaint to me for such preliminary enquiry as was possible.
4. In an endeavour to obtain a clear picture of the position I took statements from the undermentioned persons who could give first hand information of the incidents :-
 - (1) Count THUN HOHINSTEIN, a Member of the Council of the Order of Malta. (see Statement No. 1).
 - (2) Commandante di DOMINICIS, Cavalier of the Order. (see Statement No. 2).
 - (3) The Duchess VARGAS MACHUCA, the wife of a Knight of the Order. (see Statement No. 3).
 - (4) Signor MILELLI, a member of the Order and connected with the Order's Refugee Camp. (see Statement No. 4).
 - (5) Signor OLIVIERI, Director of Transport Coy. to whom tyres were to be sold. (see Statement No. 5).
 - (6) Doctor MUZI, a Lawyer. (see Statement No. 6).
5. It will be seen that the history of the case so far as can be ascertained is as follows :-

430

During the early part of September, 1945,

1945/ Commandante DOMINICIS whilst at the reception desk in the Allied Commission building, was introduced to a Professor CAMERINO (see Statement No. 2). Dominicis was wearing the badge of the Order of Malta and Camerino remarked upon it adding that he wished to assist the Order and was in a position to do so. As a result Dominicis arranged for Camerino to meet the Duchess VARGAS, who apparently had access to the Chancellor of the Order, at the Duchess's house.

Camerino then gave the Duchess and Dominicis the impression that he was a member of Allied Commission, but did not actually say so. He said he was in a position to supply 2 Busses, 5 Cars and 1 Ambulance to the Order, and also mentioned he would like to assist three British friends of his to become members of the Order of Malta. At this stage he did not mention names. (see Statement No. 3).

6. The Duchess could not give a decision herself but later consulted with the Chancellor of the Order who declined the offer, as no good use could be made of the vehicles.

7. Camerino was told of the decision and he later saw the Duchess and Dominicis again. He then offered to obtain from Allied Commission, 50 tyres for the use of the Order of Malta on an official request being made to Allied Commission by the Order, and a further 150 tyres which could be sold and the proceeds devoted to the Refugee Camp administered by the Order and in the running of which the Duchess of Vargas was closely connected. No written application was apparently necessary for these 150 tyres.

The official application was prepared and signed by the Chancellor and countersigned by the Duchess Vargas and handed by di Dominicis to Camerino.

8. During this time Count THUN was absent from Rome, but later, on ~~his~~ his return, he met Camerino at the house of the Duchess of Vargas where di Dominicis and Signor MILELLI (who was also connected with the Refugee Camp) were present. (see Statement No. 4).

Camerino then explained the offer to Count Thun, i.e. that the tyres could be purchased from Allied Commission for 3,000 lire each and sold for not more than 14,000 lire each. (see Statement No. I). Count Thun accepted the offer and asked if any further application was necessary to which Camerino replied "No".

Camerino then mentioned that it was hoped that an Honour of the Order of Malta might be conferred upon three

three/ British officers and it is thought he mentioned the names. He then went on to say that he proposed to give a dinner party to a number of high officials of the Allied and Italian Governments, including the three officers whom it was desired should receive awards. He invited Count Thun and intimated that he would like the awards presented at the dinner party.

Count Thun accepted the invitation to the dinner party but said he would need time to consider the question of presenting the awards.

9. A little later, 3 typewritten slips, giving the names of the three British officers together with their personal particulars, were handed by Camerino to Dominiciis who in turn passed them to Count Thun. (see Attachments Nos. 3a, 3b and 3c).

The names of the three officers were:-

Brigadier Duncan Law ANDERSON, C.B.E.

Lt. Colonel John Alexander CAMPBELL, M.C.

Brigadier Gerald Richie UPJOHN, K.C.

Meanwhile Count Thun had decided it would not be in good taste to present the awards at the dinner party, but that they could be presented on some future occasion, and gave instructions for Camerino to be informed accordingly.

10. The promised tyres did not arrive and some days after Camerino had been informed that the Count could not agree to the presentation of the awards at the dinner party, Camerino took di Dominiciis to see Lt. Colonel Campbell in the latter's office. After introducing di Dominiciis, Camerino carried on a conversation with Colonel Campbell in English which he did not interpret, although he speaks both English and Italian fluently, and then asked in Italian if and when the decorations for the three officers would be ready for presentation. Di Dominiciis, who does not speak English, replied that the awards were being prepared, after which Camerino and Dominiciis left the office. On leaving Dominiciis asked Camerino if Colonel Campbell would write a letter to the Order definitely promising the tyres. Camerino replied that such was not usual, but that he (Camerino) would write a letter, and a few days later Camerino gave di Dominiciis a letter dated 19th. October, 1945, in which he expressed regret for delay in delivery but that the tyres would be available the following week. (see Attachment No. 4).

11. Nothing further of note happened until December, when Camerino informed Dominiciis that the tyres were in Naples. Dominiciis went to Naples but could obtain no information regarding the whereabouts of the tyres.

tyres.

On Dominicis's return to Rome, Camerino said the tyres were in Milan and a Mr. OLIVIERI went to collect them. (see Statement No.5). Before leaving he (Olivieri) together with Dominicis saw Camerino who gave them an unsigned note which indicated that 205 tyres and 4 motor vehicles, the latter being for the Order of San Sepulchro, could be obtained through Major Strachan-Andas of the War Materials Disposal Office in Milan. (see Attachment No.5).

12. This enquiry also proved fruitless and on Signor Olivieri's return to Rome, Dominicis at once contacted Camerino again, and at Camerino's suggestion went again to Colonel Campbell's office. The procedure on this occasion was similar to the former visit, namely, Camerino and Colonel Campbell conversed in English, after which Camerino and Dominicis left and Camerino said that Colonel Campbell was telephoning Milan and the tyres would be available in the near future. Dominicis says he told Camerino that he thought the Order was being treated very badly.

13. Shortly after this in December, Count Thun received a telephone call from a man who said he was Ing. PESCATORE and he wished to see the Count on behalf of the Allied Commission with regard to the tyres. An interview was arranged and Pescatore then said that he could obtain the tyres, sell them to his own firm and hand the proceeds to the Order. He was told that the Order could not agree to this course and Pescatore left.

14. Nothing further was heard regarding the tyres until the latter part of January, 1946, when Dominicis met Camerino by chance in the street. Camerino then volunteered the information that the Order had received 70 tyres and had renounced their right to the remaining 130. Dominicis did not believe this story and asked to see the receipt. Camerino admitted a receipt had been given but made various excuses for not producing it, and Dominicis finally gave up the quest.

Enquiry showed that no tyres had been received by the Order. As it now appeared obvious that the whole transaction was very irregular, a Memorandum on the subject dated 12th. March, 1946, (Attachment No.2) was prepared for submission to the Allied Commission but was not sent immediately.

Meanwhile Dominicis whilst with a friend Avvocato MUZI, met Camerino by chance and during the course of their conversation the question of the tyres was mentioned.

Camerino said it was better not to mention or discuss the matter, and then said it had been decided that he, Colonel

Colonel/Campbell and Signor CAPRONI (who is the head of a large firm which has had extensive dealings with War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission) had decided to each subscribe 50,000 lire for the Order providing the whole business of the tyres was dropped.

Dominicis persisted in asking who had signed the receipt, but could not obtain a satisfactory reply, merely that it might be disclosed after Colonel had gone home on leave or release, and that Count Thun would be prepared to accept the offer of 150,000 lire to prevent a scandal within the Order.

Avvocato Muzi heard a part of this conversation. (see Statement No.6).

I5. Since this interview nothing further has transpired, no tyres have been forthcoming and the question of the dinner party and decorations has apparently been dropped.

The Memorandum was then therefore sent to Allied Commission (Lt.Col.Graham) who in turn passed it to me.

I6. At a first glance it would seem that Camerino and later Pescatore acted as they did solely to obtain honours for three British officers, but on closer scrutiny there are, I believe, good reasons to think that Camerino was probably acting in his own interests and unknown to Colonel Campbell, at least as far as the tyres were concerned.

I7. Camerino's actions throughout smatter strongly of the professional confidence trickster. In the first place he scraped acquaintance with Dominicis and then approached the subject of help to the Order and incidentally the decorations for his British friends. He did not wish anything for himself as he had "hundreds of Orders". (see Page I of Statement No.2).

Later he asks what the expenses of the Refugee Camp were per Annum, and when told 300,000 lire, grandly proclaims that he and his friends will bestow that amount on the Order (see Statements 3 and 4, pages 3 and I);

In view of his known record, which is shown below, one wonders how he intended to obtain the money.

Then again "as a sign of his good faith" he gave the Duchess Vargas 5,000 lire for the Camp. (see Statement 3, page 3). This was a typical action of a confidence man.

Lastly came the question of the dinner party which he intended to defray out of his own pocket for no apparent reason. (see Statements 1,2 and 3)

18. Bearing the above facts in mind it is doubtful if Camerino ever intended the tyres should be sold to the Order for 3,000 lire each and that they should dispose of them for 14,000 lire each. Rather it would seem that that proposition was a bait, and the real intention became apparent when Pescatore came along with the suggestion that the tyres could be obtained and sold by him to his own firm and the proceeds given to the order. This can be better appreciated when it is realised that new tyres could and can I understand, be sold for about 50,000 lire each, and second hand tyres for a proportionate amount. In this way by giving the Order 11,000 lire in respect of each tyre and allowing for 3,000 lire purchase price, Camerino and Pescatore could make for themselves over 7,000,000 lire on the 200 tyres.

19. Camerino's record is such that a little scheme like this is not beyond him.

Italian Police records show that he Gino CAMERINO, Identity Card No. 5/89015, born at Venice on 5/1/1897. He is of Jewish extraction - an Antiquarian. He is shown as having been charged in Milan with false pretences.

In Turin charged with swindling.

In 1932 arrested for issuing false cheques.

In 1933 arrested for Bankruptcy Offence.

In 1933 proceedings taken for fraudulent insolvency.

In 1941 he was imprisoned for contravention of a compulsory travel order and on release from prison was sent to a concentration camp at Pesaro. He was later released or escaped and, when the Allied Forces occupied the Foggia Area in the Autumn of 1943, he offered his services as Professor Camerino. He speaks fluent English.

I understand he was engaged by Lt. Colonel Nichols, Provincial Commissioner, as an Honorary Assistant as Camerino gracefully declined to be paid for his services.

However in November, 1943, it was found he was irregularly paying himself and was charged at San Severo on 15/11/43 with:-

(a) Forging a motor car permit, knowing the same to be false (admitting signing permit in name of Lt. Col. Nichols.)

(b) Falsely pretending to be acting under the authority of the Allied Military Government, he requisitioned motor cars and other goods and improperly disposed of them.

(c) Wrongfully having in his possession property of the Allied Forces:- knowingly obtained and used Army Rations.

Camerino was tried before a General Military

Military/ Court held at Lucera, Foggia, on 4th. - 9th. Jan. 1944. Found Guilty on all counts and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment and ordered to pay 2,000,000 lire fine or 1 years imprisonment in default.

On review the sentence was quashed on the grounds that the transcript of evidence taken by the shorthand writer was in such a deplorable state that it was impossible to piece together sufficient of the testimony to permit an intelligible review with respect to any of the charges.

20. Camerino is not a Professor and has no real claim to such a title. He is residing at Del Gambur No.30, o/o Banscia, and is reported to be dealing with Allied War Material. Gaming frequently takes place in his rooms.

There is no record that he is or has been employed by the Allied Commission. In view of his two visits with Dominici to Col. Campbell's office it is evident he is acquainted with Col. Campbell, but in what way is not known. It is more than probable that Colonel Campbell has no knowledge of Camerino's past.

21. With regard to Pescatore. Nothing is known from Police records regarding him, and on a slip of paper which he gave to Count Thun he showed his particulars as:-

Enrico PESCATORE,

Societe U.C.R.A.,

Piazza S.Silvestro No. 92.

Telephone 681275 (see attachment No.6).

He is not shown in A.C. Records as having been at any time employed by the Allied Commission, but on Invoices held by the Allied Supply Accounting Agency, Pescatore's signature is shown as having received on behalf of the Firm of Caproni of Milan 27,819 tyres (salvage) between September and December, 1945. Whether in fact he had any standing with Allied Commission is not known.

22. As regards the three typewritten sheets giving particulars of the three British officers (see Attachments 3a, 3b and 3c). The particulars as shown could only have been obtained from G.I. (Br), Officers Records, but in view of the fact that civilian staff is employed in Allied Commission, it would not be difficult for a man of Camerino's experience to obtain them without reference to any individual officer.

23. Quiet enquiry has been made but so far no trace of the receipt for the tyres has been found. This is understandable, as normally such receipts are not held by the Supply

Supply/ Accounting Agency A.C., but vouchers for the issue of tyres are dealt with briefly as follows:-

(a) Up to 30/II/45, accounting for issues under the authority of approved Combined Requisitions were dealt with by the Allied Supply Accounting Agency.

(b) As from I/II/45 accounting responsibility was undertaken by the Office of the Foreign Liquidation Commission for U.S. materials, and the British Ministry of Supply for British materials. The offices of each are in Rome.

++++ The Order of Malta could not regularly have obtained tyres through Combined Requisitions. These are issued only to the Italian State.

(c) Sales of Salvage. These are accounted for by the Armies concerned, British by D.A.D. Salvage and American by G.4.

Salvage has always been disposed of to private individuals against receipt. No payment is made direct to individuals but amounts are paid into the Bank of Italy for AFA No. I Account.

(d) Captured Enemy Materials. This belongs to the United Nations and is disposed of by War Materials Disposal Board under release authority from A.F.H.Q., Q Branch (AE), Army Equipment, C.M. Dept.

This includes all captured material. C.E.M. Vouchers should be with C.M. Dept. However numbers of them have been received by the Allied Accounting Agency A.C. including vouchers for tyres, which do not bear the signature of the person receiving the material, therefore from a receipt point of view they are valueless.

24. It will be appreciated that at this stage and in view of the delicacy of the situation, no direct enquiry has been made to trace the receipt, if such exists, which is doubtful. It is more than probable that if the 70 tyres were consigned to the Order as alleged, they form part of one of the bulk releases. It will also be appreciated that no enquiry has been made of the War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission.

25. As the case now stands there seems no shadow of doubt that Camerino did in fact offer tyres to the Order on payment of 3,000 lire each, and further that the typed particulars of the three officers were also given to the Order for the purpose of some kind of honour being awarded, but whether the offer of the tyres, or the suggestion for honours to be

be given, was done with the knowledge and by authority of a British officer is very doubtful.

Further there is no doubt that the whole proposed transaction was decidedly irregular and there is a strong suspicion, to say the least, that the actions of Camerino bordered on criminal. It fact it may well be that tyres were in fact obtained under the pretence they were for the Order of Malta, and diverted to other uses.

26. As regards the three officers, Brigadier Upjohn left for the U.K. on release in August last, before the matter was broached by Camerino. Brigadier Anderson was also believed to be in England at that time. Therefore Camerino was remarkably well informed with regard to the officer's whereabouts (as he mentioned to Count Thun that two of the officers would return from England for the dinner) if in fact he was making his suggestions without first consulting an Allied Officer.

It is also rather strange that on both occasions when he saw Colonel Campbell, the conversation was carried on entirely in English, which Dominici could not understand, although Camerino could quite well have acted as interpreter.

27. The only way to clear up the doubtful points is by interrogating Camerino and Pescatore and probably by making direct enquiry of Colonel Campbell.

Should Military Personnel be involved it is appreciated that enquiry must be passed to other authority for enquiry, but I suggest that Camerino and Pescatore might, at this stage, be closely questioned regarding their parts in this matter and if they are criminally involved normal action could follow, but should facts be disclosed which necessitates other action being taken, these papers could be passed for action to the appropriate authorities.

28. Submitted for consideration please.


E.J. BYE, Colonel,
Acting Director,
Public Safety Sub-Com.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Public Safety Sub-Commission

APO 394

7th. May, 1946.

Copy of STATEMENT of Dottore CORRADO MUZI, via CaronciniNo. 4, Rome. Telephone 871454 Rome.

I am a friend of Commandante di Dominicis. I am not a member of the Order of Malta.

One day during the latter part of March I was with Commandante di Dominicis in the Allied Commission building on a personal visit to Colonel Graham. As we were leaving the building we met Professor Camerino whom I had met once before. He was with a young lady whom I did not know. We spoke together for a moment and then Professor Camerino invited us to have a drink in a nearby bar. We walked up via Veneto to the bar which was in a street adjoining via Veneto. I walked in front with the girl and di Dominicis and Camerino walked behind us. As we were walking along I heard Camerino say to Dominicis "Don't let us talk about this any more. It will be better if nothing more is said. We will make an offer of fifty thousand each, namely myself, Caproni and a certain Colonel". He did not say the name of the Colonel then. We then went into the bar and had a drink. We remained in the bar about five minutes, then we left and walked down towards the Piazza Barbarini. We walked abreast and almost immediately Camerino said "This is a very complicated business. There is an Allied Colonel involved and the full story can only be told when he has gone on release". Camerino mentioned the name of a Colonel but I do not remember it now. At this point we became separated slightly on account of passing people in the street, therefore I did not hear any reply which Dominicis may have made and there was no further conversation on the subject. No mention was made of this subject in the cafe. On reaching Piazza Barbaini the girl

(Continuation of statement of Dottore CORRADO MUZI).

girl/and I were slightly ahead. As Camerino and di Dominicis caught up with us I heard Camerino say, "It would be better if Count Thun kept quiet too as there is someone else in the Order of Malta involved"to After a moments general conversation we separated.

I knew nothing of the circumstances of this case before the meeting that morning, but after parting from Camerino, di Dominicis explained the case to me and to what the conversation referred. Di Dominicis has not spoken to me since until the past few days.

This statement has been read over to me and is true

(Signed) Dott. Corrado Muzi.

This statement was taken down by me at 11 am. 4th. May, 1946,
in the presence of Captain R.A. Savill who acted as Interpreter.

(Signed) E.J. BYE, Colonel,

Acting Director.

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ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

No. 5.

3rd. May, 1946.

Copy of STATEMENT of Signor OLIVIERI, Filippo,
Piazza Giunone Regina No. 1, Rome.

I am a Director of the Saitra Transport Coy. with offices in via IV Novembre, Rome. I am not a member of the Order of Malta but I am friendly with a number of the members including Commandante Dominicis.

Sometime during November or early December I was offered by Count Thun, through Commandante Dominicis, the opportunity to buy from the Order of Malta, two hundred car tyres at I believe a price of 14,000 or 15,000 lire each. I understood they were to be Allied tyres of various types. I remember that of the two hundred tyres, fifty were for use of the Order and the remaining one hundred and fifty were to be placed at my disposal for the price I have mentioned. The money was I understood, to be used by the Order in connection with its Refugee Camps.

The tyres I intended to purchase would have been used solely by the Firm of Saitra on the vehicles owned by the Company. I accepted the offer verbally. As we were friends no contract was made and nothing was put in writing.

I heard no more about the tyres until the end of December. Then Dominicis told me the tyres were in Milan. Together one morning we went to the Allied Commission Offices in via Veneto, and in the entrance hall we met Professor Camerino. He was a stranger to me. Dominicis introduced me to Camerino and explained that I was going to Milan to bring back the tyres. Professor Camerino told me I should go to the office of Major Strachan Andis, War Material Disposal Dept. in Milan at the Montecatini Building where I should be given the tyres. Camerino also informed me that a friend of his, Ing. Somariva was also going to Milan. He would meet me there and assist me to get the tyres. Camerino did not give me anything in writing neither did I see him give anything to Dominicis, neither did I see him write anything while we were with him. We were together the whole of the time and Dominicis and I left together.

I went to Milan taking with me a letter from the Order authorising me to collect the tyres. I did not see Ing. Somariva in Milan but I went direct to the Office of Major Strachan Andis. I saw him, handed him the letter from the Order and explained the reason for my visit. Major Strachan-Andis told me he knew nothing of the matter. He did not give me any tyres. He told me to return the following day, meanwhile he would telephone Colonel Campbell in Rome.

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(Continuation of STATEMENT of Signor OLIVIERI, Filippo).

Rome.

I returned to his office as directed and Major Strachan-Andis told me Colonel Campbell knew nothing about the tyres, so therefore eventually I returned to Rome without them.

I reported what had happened to Commandante Dominicus.

I have not up to this time, received any tyres and have heard nothing further until I was asked to come to the Allied Commission Offices this morning.

I have not seen Camerino since my original interview.

This statement has been read over to me and is true.

(Signed) Filippo OLIVIERI.

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of Captain R.A. Savill at 11 am. 3rd. May, 1946.
Captain Savill acted as Interpreter.

(Signed) E.J.BYE, Colonel.
Acting Director.
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

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ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
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No. 4.

3rd. May, 1946.

COPY OF STATEMENT OF SIGNOR MILELLI, Emilio,
Via Cesare Beccaria No. 88, Rome.

I am a member of the Order of Malta and I voluntarily assist in the administration of the Order's Refugee Camp at Trastevere, Rome.

Sometime during September, 1945, I heard from the Duchess Vargas that an offer was being made from a gentleman connected with the Allied Commission, of a number of tyres for use by the Order.

Later, some time in November, a meeting was arranged at the Duchess Vargas's house between Count Thun and a Professor Camerino who was to be instrumental in obtaining the tyres. I accompanied Count Thun to the meeting. There were present, Count Thun, Duchess of Vargas, Commandante di Dominici and myself and of course Camerino. After we had been introduced Camerino at once explained that he could obtain two hundred tyres for the Order. Fifty car tyres for the use of the Order and one hundred and fifty others (various types) which could be sold and the proceeds given to the Order.

At this stage Camerino asked what the expenditure of the Order's Refugee Camp was per annum. On being told approx. 300,000 lire, he replied, "All right, I and my friends will make a present of this amount to the Order and will do so every year. Camerino then said he intended to give a dinner party and showed us a list of the persons he intended to invite and at the same time extended an invitation to Count Thun. Count Thun did not give a definite answer. Nothing was said in front of me regarding the presentation of decorations to British Officers. Camerino said the tyres would be available in the near future.

Count Thun later told me to prepare a letter of thanks to Professor Camerino for the tyres, but as they were never received, the letter was not sent. I have not seen Camerino since the interview. He was a complete stranger to me.

I heard various stories regarding the location of the tyres but they were never received and finally at the direction of Count Thun I prepared a Memorandum dated 12th. March, 1946 for submission to the Allied Commission on the subject but it was not sent, but later in April it was handed to Colonel Graham.

Continuation of STATEMENT of SIGN R MILELLI, Emilio)

Graham. The memorandum has now been shown to me by Colonel Bye.

I should mention that when Camerino invited Count Thun to the dinner party, he also included Commandante di Dominicis in his invitation.

This statement has been read over to me and is true.

(Signed) Emilio MILELLI.

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of Captain R.A. Savill at 12.30 pm. 3rd. May, 1946. Captain Savill acted as Interpreter.

(Signed) E.J. BYE, Colonel.

Acting Director
Public Safety Sub-Comm.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Public Safety Sub-Commission

APO 394

No 3.

7th. May, 1946.

Copy of STATEMENT of Duchess Gladys di VARGAS MACHUCA,
via Serpieri No. 10, Rome. Telephone 870231.

My husband is Knight of the Order of Malta and I have worked for the Order in connection with the Order's Refugee Camp. I took over the work in the camp from Commandante di Dominiciis whom I know well.

At the end of September or the beginning of October last year, Commandante Dominiciis informed me that a Professor Camerino wished to assist the Order and, as Count Thun was absent from Rome, asked if I would interview Professor Camerino at my house. Camerino was not then known to me. An interview was arranged and di Dominiciis brought Camerino to my house. I asked Camerino why and how he wished to assist the Order. He replied "We in the Allied Commission are naturally interested in your Refugee Camp and would like to assist as much as we can and incidentally I would like to help three of my friends to be decorated by the Order". He did not mention the names of his friends. Professor Camerino went on to say that there were some motor vehicles available by the Allied Commission. I do not remember the exact number of vehicles but I believe he mentioned there were:- One bus, six Ambulances and six civilian cars. The bus and ambulances would be given to the Order and the civilian cars would be sold to the Order for thirty thousand lire each. No decision could be made then and Camerino left. The offer was however conveyed to the Chancellor of the Order who decided that the vehicles could not be made good use of by the Order and therefore declined the offer.

Later a second meeting with Camerino was arranged at my house. At this meeting there were Commandante di Dominiciis, Camerino and me. Camerino

(Continuation of Statement of Duchess di VAPAS MACHUCA)

Camerino expressed disappointment at the refusal of the Order to accept the cars and then said he could obtain a number of tyres for the Order without payment. No number of tyres was mentioned. We told Camerino we would convey this offer to the Chancellor for decision. Camerino then left. I spoke to the Chancellor. He accepted the offer and asked what action was necessary by the Order to obtain the tyres. I communicated this decision to Commandante di Dominicis. Later di Dominicis informed me he had communicated with Camerino who asked that the Order submit a written application for the tyres. No number was given. I informed the Chancellor who prepared an application for fifty tyres. He signed the application and gave it to me. The application was typewritten on Order's official note paper.

I informed Camerino di Dominicis I had been given the application by the Chancellor and one or two days later di Dominicis told me he had made an appointment for me to hand the application to Camerino at the Allied Commission building. He also said that Camerino asked that I too sign the application as this would indicate the application was the one which Camerino had previously consulted the Order about. I signed the application under the signature of the Chancellor and took it to the A.C. building. On my arrival Camerino was waiting for me outside the building. I handed the application to him and left. I did not discuss the matter with him. Again about a week later, I believe in October, di Dominicis brought Camerino to my house. There were di Dominicis, Camerino and I present. At this meeting Camerino suggested that in addition to the fifty tyres which the Order had applied for, he would obtain a further one hundred and fifty which could be sold and the proceeds devoted to the Refugee Camp. As the Refugee Camp was under my control I accepted the offer at once.

Later on still as a result of this meeting, a further meeting with

(Continuation of Statement of Duchess di VARGAS MACHUCA).

with/ Camerino was arranged at my house at which Count Thun, Signor Milelli, Commandant di Dominiciis, Professor Camerino and myself were present. After introductions Camerino repeated his offers. He then explained he would like to assist three friends of his to be decorated by the Order. He mentioned the names but I do not remember them. They were English. Then Camerino mentioned he intended to give a dinner party at the Plaza Hotel in Rome, he himself would defray the cost and at the dinner he hoped that the decorations would be presented by Count Thun. Count Thun said he would consider the invitation to the dinner party. Camerino then asked Milelli how much the current expenses of the Camp were and on being told 300,000 lire per annum, said that he and his friends would make a gift to the Order of that amount. Camerino then left.

Apart from a luncheon engagement with Camerino I have not seen him since, neither have I had any direct dealing in this proposed transaction. So far as I know the Order has not received any tyres, cars or any other kind of material, neither have we received the promised three hundred thousand lire from Camerino.

I should mention that at one of the meetings Camerino said "As a sign of my good faith I will now give you five thousand lire for your Refugee Camp" and he gave me an envelope containing five thousand lire which I handed to Signor Milelli who was the accountant for the Camp.

This statement has been read over to me and is true.

(Signed) Gladys de Vargas Machuca.

This statement was taken down by me after interpretation from Italian to English by Captain R.A. Savill at 11 am, 6th. and 7th. May, 1946.

(Signed) E.J. BYE, Colonel,
Acting Director,

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ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

No 2

29th. April, 1946.

STATEMENT OF Carlo de DOMINICIS, Via Gualtierio
Castellini No. 12, Rome. Independent.

I am a member of the Order of Malta with the rank of Cavalier.

Early in September, 1945, I had occasion to visit the Allied Commission offices on personal business. While at the information Desk I was introduced to Professor Camerino. He was a complete stranger to me. At the time I was wearing the badge of the Order of Malta on my coat. Later Camerino apparently observed I was wearing the badge and said, " Oh, you are a member of the Order of Malta. I am glad I have met you for I want to help the Order and I think I am in a position to help quite a lot ". I told Professor Camerino that I was not an official of the Order but merely a member. However if he wished to assist the Order I would introduce him to the Duchess Vargas who was a Lady of the Order and who could decide how any help could be given.

I asked Camerino in a joking way whether he wished to become a member of the Order. He replied " No, I have hundreds of Orders but I would like to assist three English friends of mine to become Members ". He did not mention names. We arranged that Camerino should see the Duchess Vargas and two days later I met Camerino by appointment and took him to the Duchess Vargas's house at Via Serpieri No. 10;

The Duchess, Camerino and I were present at the interview.

The Duchess asked Professor Camerino in what way and why he wished to assist the Order. He replied that he was anxious to assist three English friends to become Members of the Order and he desired to know what it was necessary to do to achieve that object.

The Duchess informed Camerino that it would be necessary for some substantial gift to be made to the Order. Camerino said he was in a position to supply 2 Buses, 5 Cars and 1 Ambulance to the Order. To do so it would be necessary for the Order to make a written application to the Allied Commission, War Materials Disposal Dept. but the application should be given to him and not sent direct to the Commission.

After the interview the Duchess discussed the matter with the Chancellor of the Order and it was decided the offer of the vehicles could not be accepted as they were not

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(Continuation of STATEMENT OF Carlo de DOMINICIS)

not/ needed.

I telephoned to Camerino (No. 64846) the decision and made an appointment to see him the same day in the entrance hall of the Commission building. I saw Camerino and he then offered to obtain fifty tyres for the use of the Order of Malta, and a further one hundred and fifty which could be sold and the proceeds given to the Order.

As I could not make a decision I arranged for Camerino to see the Duchess again. The interview took place and then Camerino explained that the whole of the two hundred tyres could be purchased through him from the War Materials Board for three thousand lire each and sold for not more than fourteen thousand lire each. The Duchess, myself and Camerino were present at this interview.

No decision was taken at this time but it was arranged for a further interview to take place at the Duchess's house when Count Thun, who was responsible for the administration of Refugee Camps under the care of the Order, would be present and decide whether the offer could or could not be accepted. It was explained to Camerino that the money derived from the sale of the tyres would be devoted to the Refugee Camps. An application for fifty tyres had been prepared and signed by the Chancellor. This was given by me to Camerino. He then said no further application was necessary for the further one hundred and fifty tyres. All these interviews took place during September.

At the interview at which Count Thun was present, the Count after the position had been explained to him, decided to accept the offer. Camerino said the tyres would be forthcoming in a few days. I do not know whether Camerino mentioned to Count Thun at the time of the interview, the fact he intended to give a dinner party but Camerino told me about the proposed dinner party some days later and showed me the list of persons it was proposed to invite. The list contained the names of prominent members of the Italian Government and also of English officials.

I kept in close contact with Camerino during this period, generally by phone as I expected each day to be informed the tyres were available.

I informed the Duchess Vargas of the proposed dinner party. She apparently discussed the matter with Count Thun for a few days later she asked me to inform Camerino that the Count could not accept the invitation to the dinner party. This I did. I should mention that one day during this time Camerino gave me a typewritten paper containing the names of three British

(Continuation of STATEMENT OF Carlo de DOMINICIS).

British/ officers whom it was desired should be decorated. I remember the names of Brigadier Anderson and Colonel Campbell but I do not recall the third name.

I gave the list to the Duchess to pass to Count Thun.

Some three or four days after I had told Camerino the Count could not accept the invitation to the dinner party, I met him at the Allied Commission Offices and he took me to see Colonel Campbell ~~and there~~ in the latter's office. He introduced me to Colonel Campbell and then carried on a conversation in English with Colonel Campbell which I did not understand. He then asked me in Italian when the decorations would be ready for presentation. I told him they were being prepared. He then spoke in English again to Colonel Campbell after which we left the office. I held no conversation with Colonel Campbell.

On leaving I asked Camerino whether Colonel Campbell would write a letter to the Order making a definite promise of the tyres. Camerino said such a letter was not necessary and it was not usual for such letters to be sent, but to reassure the Order, he himself would write a letter. A day or so later I received a note from Camerino dated 19th. October, 1945, in which he expresses regret for delay in delivery and explained that Colonel Campbell had gone to London but the tyres would be available the following week.

This note I now produce (No. 1)

I waited for some time, keeping in touch with Camerino meanwhile, but the tyres did not arrive.

Eventually in the beginning of December, Camerino told me the two hundred tyres were at Naples but we must provide our own transport to collect them. He did not give me the address where the tyres were but stated he would send the address to me at Naples by A.C. courier.

I went to Naples with the Duchess. We waited three days but heard nothing from Camerino so returned to Rome.

On my return I at once got into touch with Camerino and he then said the tyres were not in Naples but in Milan. I did not go to Milan but a Mr. Olivieri, a Director of a Transport Service, to whom we had arranged to sell the tyres, went to Milan to collect them. Before he left Rome I saw Camerino in the Allied Commission building, together with Mr. Olivieri, and Camerino gave us a note written in pencil, unsigned, which indicated that the two hundred tyres and four vehicles, the

3 480

(Continuation of STATEMENT of Carlo de DOMINICIS)

the/ latter for the Order of San Sepulchro, could be obtained from Major Strachan-Andas at the war Material Disposal Office in Milan.

The note was written in Italian.

This note I now produce (No. 2).

Mr. Olivieri left for Milan. After a day or so we received a telegram from him in which he said he could not obtain the tyres and he returned at once to Rome.

On Mr. Olivieri's return I at once contacted Camerino and asked why we were being sent on fruitless errands, when Camerino suggested we go and see Colonel Campbell. I went with Camerino to Colonel Campbell's office and after passing the time of day with Colonel Campbell, he and Camerino held a conversation in English and then we left. I asked Camerino what had taken place and he replied " Oh, Colonel Campbell is ringing Milan and you will get the tyres in a few days". I told Camerino I thought the Order was being treated very badly and I doubted if we should ever get the tyres and then left.

I neither saw nor heard any more of Camerino until the middle of end of January when I met him by chance in the street. Camerino then said "Do you know that the tyres have been taken by the Order of Malta, but that they only took seventy and renounced their right to the other hundred and thirty". I told Camerino I did not believe the Order had received any tyres. He replied he was certain the tyres had been given to the Order. I then asked who had given a receipt and could I have a copy. Camerino said "Yes, I will get you a copy of the receipt". I saw Camerino each day for several days in the entrance hall of the Commission building but Camerino did not give me a copy of the receipt, always making some excuse. At last he said he would have a photographic copy made. This was not forthcoming and eventually I ceased to ask Camerino for it. When I asked Camerino who had signed the receipt he replied he did not remember but believed it was two names.

I might mention here that in the period between my visit to Naples and Mr. Olivieri's visit to Milan, Camerino mentioned that the tyres were in Rome but did not say where.

I also heard that after my second visit to Colonel Campbell a Mr. Pescatore had had an interview with Count Thun, but I do not know what took place at the interview.

When Camerino told me the tyres had been taken by the Order he did not say when they were taken and I was so surprised that they had been collected, I forgot to ask him the date of the transaction.

I did not see Camerino again until the end of March, in the meantime I had enquired through Duchess Vargas

(Continuation of STATEMENT of Carlo de DOMINICIS)

Vargas/ whether the tyres had been received. Full enquiries within the Order were made and it was found that the tyres had not been received. As it appeared obvious that something was very wrong with the whole thing, Count Thun prepared a memorandum for submission to the Allied Commission. The memorandum was not sent for some time. Meanwhile I met Camerino in Via Veneto one morning, I do not remember the date. I was in company with Advocate Muzzi, via Caracini No. 4, and Signorina d'Urso, a friend of the fiance of Camerino.

After greeting me, Camerino invited me to have a drink at a nearby cafe. We all went in a cafe and during the course of the conversation I asked what had happened to the receipt for the tyres. Camerino said "Let's not talk about it. It will be better if we do not discuss it. We have decided to make an offer of one hundred and fifty thousand lire to the Order of Malta for the poor, fifty thousand to be given by Colonel Campbell, myself and Caproni. This will be given providing the whole matter of the tyres is dropped". This was said in the presence and hearing of Avvocato Muzzi and the girl. I replied "No, do you think you can buy the silence of Count Thun. All I want to know is 'Who signed that receipt'"; He replied "It is quite impossible to tell you at the present time who signed the receipt, but I may be able to tell you after Colonel Campbell has gone home on release. Believe me Count Thun will accept this offer to avoid a scandal within the Order of Malta". I told Camerino I would speak to Count Thun but I was sure the offer of one hundred and fifty thousand lire would not be accepted. That ended the conversation. Camerino left and I have not seen him since.

I reported this incident to the Duchess Vargas who in turn reported to Count Thun. Later a memorandum on this subject was sent to Colonel Graham.

This Statement has been read over to me and is true.

(Signed) Carlo de DOMINICIS.

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of Captain R.A. Savill at 11 am. the 30th. April, 1946.
Captain Savill acted as Interpreter.

(Signed). E.J. BYE, Colonel. 4278
Acting Director
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

8 17 8
FERDINANDO CONTE DI TIUN-HOHENSTEIN

COMM. DI GIUSTIZIA DEL R. M. O. DI MALTA

ROMA

PALAZZO DI MALTA

ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
Public Safety Sub-Commission
A.P.O. 394

No 1

27th. April, 1946.

STATEMENT OF Ferdinando Conte di THUN HOHNSTEIN,
Via Condotti No. 68, Rome.

I am a member of the Council of the Order of Malta whose headquarters are at No. 68, Via Condotti, Rome. I deal with all external matters connected with the Order.

In the beginning of November, 1945, I was told by the Duchess of Vargas who is the wife of a member of the Order, that a Professor Camerino could obtain tyres from the Allied Commission which could be sold to reputable dealers and the proceeds allocated to the Evacuee Fund of the Order. The fund was administered by the Order of Malta and was used to assist persons who had been rendered homeless by the war. There was a camp at Trastevere near Rome.

The Duchess informed me there would be two hundred tyres available. Fifty of these tyres were to be obtained by an official request to the Allied Commission, the remaining one hundred and fifty were to be obtained by Professor Camerino.

I did not make a request myself but I know the Chancellor to the Order did so for the fifty tyres.

Later in November I met Professor Camerino at the Duchess of Vargas's house. I asked Camerino whether it was necessary for me to take any definite action with regard to this proposal and he replied "No, the tyres will be forthcoming and you can devote the proceeds to the Order". I am not certain but I believe that during ~~this~~ this interview Professor Camerino mentioned that it would be very acceptable if the Order of Merit, an honour conferred by the Order of Malta, was awarded to three British Officers. I think he mentioned their names but I am not sure. Camerino told me the tyres could be purchased from the Allied Commission for 3,000 lire each and could be sold for not more than 14,000 lire each.

I have not seen Camerino since that interview. I should mention that during the interview with Camerino he mentioned that he intended to give a dinner party. He did not give any specific reason for giving a dinner party but gave me

(Continuation of STATEMENT of Ferdinando Conte
di THUN HOHINSTEIN) .

me/ the impression it was to be given as a token of satisfaction for being able to assist the Order. He said he would invite twenty of twenty-two persons, I alone from the Order. The others would be important officials in the Italian of Allied Military Governments. I believe it was intended to include the three officers whom it was desired should be decorated. Two officers were in London and Camerino said he would arrange for them to return to Italy. The other was in Rome. He said it was desired that the awards should be presented by me during the dinner.

I told Camerino I would accept the invitation to the dinner but would consider the question of presenting awards to the three officers.

I thought the matter over for several days and eventually came to the conclusion that it would not be in good taste to accept the invitation to the dinner but that the decorations might be presented on some future date. I asked one of my secretaries to acquaint Camerino of my decision.

A few days after the interview with Camerino I received a typewritten note giving the names of three officers to whom the awards were to be made. I have sent the original of this note to Colonel Graham. The note was unsigned.

The names were:-

Brigadier Duncan Law ANDERSON, C.B.E.

Colonel John Alexander CAMPBELL, M.C.

and

Brigadier Gerald Ritchie UPJOHN, K.C.

The note also gave full particulars of the Officers.

I do not know who sent the note to me. It was delivered by hand.

The promised tyres did not arrive and I heard no more about the matter until late in December, after Christmas, when a man I now know to be Ing. Pescatore telephoned me. He said he wished to see me on behalf of the Allied Commission about the tyres which had been promised to the Order. I arranged to see him at my office the following day.

Pescatore arrived as arranged. I assumed he represented the Allied Commission and I asked him why we had not received the tyres. He replied it was very difficult as he was afraid the tyres might go on to the Black Market 4276 however, he could sell them to his own firm and, providing it

(Continuation of STATEMENT of Ferdinando, Conte
THUN HOHENSTEIN.)

it/ was agreeable to me he could obtain them, sell them and hand me the proceeds. I replied that it had already been arranged for the tyres to be sold to another dealer and therefore I could not agree to Ing. Pescatore's proposition.

By this time I was very suspicious something was wrong about the whole transaction.

So far we have not received any tyres. I have neither seen nor heard of Pescatore since his interview with me. I personally have taken no further action in the matter of the tyres or the proposed decorations, but Commander di Dominici another member of the Order, has been pursuing the question of the tyres on my behalf.

THIS STATEMENT HAS BEEN READ OVER TO ME AND IS TRUE.

(Signed) Ferdinando THUN HOHENSTEIN.

THIS STATEMENT WAS TAKEN DOWN BY ME IN THE PRESENCE OF CAPTAIN R.A. SAVILL, AT 11.30 A.M. ON 27TH. APRIL, 1946. CAPTAIN SAVILL ACTED AS INTERPRETER.

(Signed) E.J.BYE, COLONEL,
Acting Director,
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

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ATTACHMENT

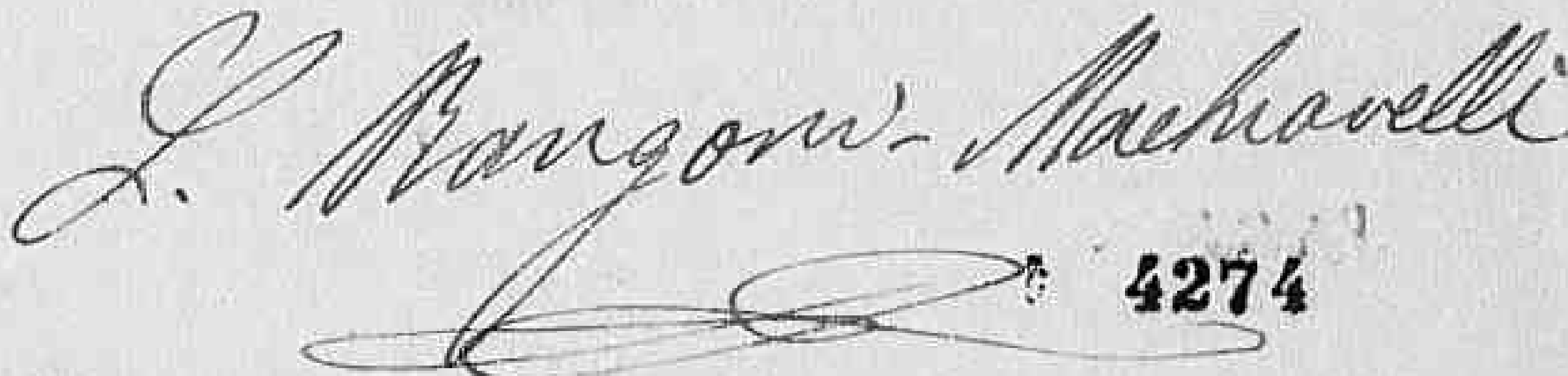
ROMA. 12 April 1946
VIA CONDOTTI - PALAZZO MALTA

Dear Colonel Graham,

I am enclosing for your information full particulars about 70 Tyres which should have been supplied to the Order of Malta. You will see from this that the 70 tyres has not been delivered to us. I am informed however that a receipt from the Order exist in the hands of the A.C. - As this was never granted by anyone in the Order, I wonder if you could assist us by allowing me to see the receipt and attempting to find out who has signed it. I regret putting you to this trouble but do ask you to try and assist us.

Yours very sincerely

The Chancellor of the Order:



4274

To

Colonel GRAHAM

Hq. Commandant

A.C. - Via Vittorio Veneto

ROMA



ATTACHMENT

ROMA. March 12-th, 1946 2.

VIA CONDOTTI - PALAZZO MALTA

MEMORANDUM

Prof. Camerino was introduced in August 1945 to the Duchess Vargas by Commander De Dominicis. He said immediately that he wanted to do something for the Order of Malta and advised the Duchess to forward a petition, for 50 free motor tyres, to the Allied Command, with the mention that these tyres would be sold at a reasonable price to a known person unsuspected of trading with them and that the money would go to the Evacuee Organisation.

The Chancellor of the Order was informed of this by Duchess Vargass and agreed to send the petition.

In the meantime Count Thun, who was away in the summer period, came back and a meeting took place in November at the Duchess's Vargass house in order to introduce Prof. Camerino to him. At the meeting were present: The Duchess Vargas, Count Thun, Prof. Camerino, Comm. De Dominicis and Mr. Milelli. In presence of the above mentioned persons Prof. Camerino promised that without need of petitions the Order of Malta would receive 200 tyres for motor car and trucks. 50 Tyres for the Grand Mastership and 150 for sale at the price of 14,000 liras each, the exacted sum being for the Evacuee Organisation. Only in opposition to what was mentioned in his first visit to the Duchess the above said tyres would be sold according to their weight to the Order at a moderate price. He also promised that he should get for the Organisation 300,000 liras yearly from friends and said that this sum, whose amount was suggested by Mr. Milelli, was really ridiculously small for



-2-

ROMA

VIA CONDOTTI - PALAZZO MALTA

the needs of the camp.

After a time news came that the above mentioned tyres were in Naples and had been granted to the Order of Malta. The Duchess Vargas left immediately for Naples in order to fetch them, but found none.

Later on it was signalled to the Order that the tyres were in Milan. Mr. Olivieri went there with a regular authorisation, but in Milan also there were no tyres.

(Mr. Olivieri Director of a transport service had arranged with Count Thun to buy all the tyres at the price of 14,000 liras each offering every guarantee that the tyres had to serve exclusively for his Agency's use.)

Lastly it was reported that the tyres were in Rome, but that they were not new ones and for trucks. They were to be delivered in a short time.

Time passed on. One day somebody from the Allied Command rang Count Thun up asking him to receive a representant to discuss the Tyre question. Ing. Pescatore came a few days later and having excused himself for the delay in the delivry of the tyres promised that they would be available at the beginning of 1946. He mentioned also that he had an acquirent for the lot at the price of 60.000 liras each and that he would de the transaction and pass the money to the Evacuee Organisation.

Count Thun did not accept this proposition having already an agreement with Mr. Olivieri for the sale of the tyres 14.000 liras each.



-3-

ROMA

VIA CONDOTTI - PALAZZO MALTA

Since then the Order of Malta had no other news of the types
and they have not been delivered to this date.

4271



SOV. MILIT. ORDINE DI MALTA

IL DEKIMONIERE

ATTACHMENT 3

ROMA, April 19th. 1946

VIA CONDOTTI - PALAZZO MALTA

Encl. 3.

Dear Colonel,

I enclose herewith three lists with the names
of the officers who were proposed for a decoration at
the time the Order wanted tyres.

With kindest regards

sincerely yours

Ferdinando Armato Stehenslein

To Colonel Graham

Hq. Commandant

A.C. -Via Vittorio Veneto

R O M E

P 4270

0 3 1 2

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

785016

(Campbell)

ATTACHMENTS

4269

7
7

4
5
6

CUBA NO 6

Enrico Peyatore

Soc. Uman U.C.T.P.A.

Piazz. S. Silvestro 92

Tel. 681275

NO 2

Commenced Att. 5

205 fomme a £3500

H. Auto Le High a £2500
J. Lepore

incaricato della esecuzione

il Magg. Stourgh Audass

W M D Milan Office



73/4

NOI

Roma

ATTACHMENT

19. 10. 1945

4

fare l'ordinante, sono spiacente
di non poterle far assegnare
la somma per auto poiché il
Col. Campbell dovrà a Londra e
sarà di ritorno soltanto a me-
se prossimo.

Essa in ogni caso ha un'idea
e i suoi amici dell'ordine di Malta
poiché l'assegnazione verrà
senz'altro fatta in settimana
ventura.

con cortali in

G. Cameron

10000
12
20000
10000
120000

Vin der Volks

0317

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

785016

Attachments

4268

3 A
3 B
3 C

Prescriptions in Dominio

ATTACHMENT 3A

*John Alexander Campbell, M.C.,*Colonel John Alexander Campbell, M.C.,
Highland Light Infantry.7118

13-11-1945

Father's Name : Thomas Campbell.
Mother's Name : Elizabeth Robertson. }

Deceased.

Born : 1897.
Place : Renfrewshire, Scotland.Commissioned in
His Britannic
Majesty's Army : November 1914.
Retired : 1920.
Recalled : 1939.Profession or
Occupation : Company Director - Financial and Industrial.
1921 - 1939.

Religion : Church of Scotland.

ATTACHMENT 3B

*Presbyterianism**Duncan Law Anderson, C.B.E.*Brigadier Duncan Law Anderson, C.B.E.,
Royal Engineers.

7119

13-11-1945

Father's Name	:	John Duncan Anderson (Deceased).
Mother's Name	:	Louisa Anderson (Maiden Name - Kemp).
Born	:	1901.
Place	:	Aberdeen, Scotland.
Commissioned in Army	:	June 1925.
Profession or Occupation	:	Civil Engineer, Member of Institution of Civil Engineers.
Religion	:	Church of Scotland.

Presentantissimo Domino

ATTACHMENT 3C.

Gerald Ritchie Upjohn, K.C. 7120

13-11-1945

Brigadier Gerald Ritchie Upjohn, K.C.,
Welsh Guards.Father's Name : William Henry Upjohn.
Mother's Name : Lucy Rhys Williams.Born : February 1903.
Place : County Aberdare.Commissioned in : 1939.
Army :Profession or : King's Counsellor.
Occupation :

Religion : Church of England.

*CAMERINO Gino, son of Ettore and USIGLI Carlotta, was born at Venice on 5th January (not Feb.) 1897. is a te, antiquarian. In the Archives of Questura of Milano is recorded for having committed a false, in those of Turin is recorded as arrested for swindling;

In 1932 he was arrested for having issued an uncovered cheque, but he was acquitted the same year for amnesty;

In 1933 he was arrested for bankruptcy, but acquitted the same year because the crime was to be considered extinguished;

In 1933 he was reported to the magistrate for fraudulent insolvency;

In 1941 he was arrested and sentenced (time unknown) for contravention to a compulsory travel order issued by Public Safety. When released from the jail he was sent in a concentration Camp in the province of Pesaro for anti-fascist feelings;

In 1933 he transferred his dwelling from Venice to N°5 via Vitruvio, Milano;

He has been residing 14 months via del Gambero, 30, c/o BAUSCIA. Actually he is dealing with Allied war material, but is reported to be ready to any dirty business. In his room gambling is played very often.

American officers have been seen attending some drinking party in his dwelling.

===== PESCATORE out PESCATORI Enrico =====

There are no persons with detrimental records in the Archives of the Questura of Rome. There are no engineers named Pescatori out Pescatore Enrico booked in the populace of Rome. The only persons having such a name we have been able to trace are:

- 1) PESCATORE Enrico son of Umberto and of BERARDO Elvira, born in Rome on 17 July 1893, identity Card Rome. 1521/6, a mechanic residing via Merulana, 215 (Nothing detrimental known)
- 2) PESCATORE Enrico son of Francesco and BOCCINI Adele, born in Rome on 29 July 1894, a proprietor residing at N°1 via XX settembre (nothing detrimental known)
- 3) PESCATORI Enrico son of late Antonio and DI PIO Emanuela born at Lacedonia (Avellino, province) on 20 Jun 1899, an Army (It.) officer residing at N°1 via Velletri (Nothing detrimental known)



tel: 60678

0 61.513

 Ro. March 12-th, 1946
 VIA CONDOTTI - PALAZZO MALTA

MEMORANDUM

Prof. Camerino was introduced in August 1945 to the Duchess Vargas by Commander De Dominicis. He said immediately that he wanted to do something for the Order of Malta and advised the Duchess to forward a petition, for 50 free motor tyres, to the Allied Command, with the mention that these tyres would be sold at a reasonable price to a known person unsuspected of trading with them and that the money would go to the Evacuee Organisation.

The Chancellor of the Order was informed of this by Duchess Vargass and agreed to send the petition.

In the meantime Count Thun, who was away in the summer period, came back and a meeting took place in November at the Duchess's Vargass house in order to introduce Prof. Camerino to him. At the meeting were present: The Duchess Vargas, Count Thun, Prof. Camerino, Comm. De Dominicis and Mr. Milelli. In presence of the above mentioned persons Prof. Camerino promised that without need of petitions the Order of Malta would receive 200 tyres for motor car and trucks. 50 Tyres for the Grand Mastership and 150 for sale at the price of 14,000 liras each, the exacted sum being for the Evacuee Organisation. Only in opposition to what was mentioned in his first visit to the Duchess the above said tyres would be sold according to their weight to the Order at a moderate price. He also promised that he should get for the Organisation 300,000 liras yearly from friends and said that this sum, whose amount was suggested by Mr. Milelli, was really ridiculously small for

4266



-2-

ROS.

VIA CONDOTTI - PALAZZO MALTA

the needs of the camp.

After a time news came that the above mentioned tyres were in Naples and had been granted to the Order of Malta. The Duchess Vargas left immediately for Naples in order to fetch them, but found none.

Later on it was signalled to the Order that the tyres were in Milan. Mr. Olivieri went there with a regular authorisation, but in Milan also there were no tyres.

(Mr. Olivieri Director of a transport service had arranged with Count Thun to buy all the tyres at the price of 14,000 liras each offering every guarantee that the tyres had to serve exclusively for his Agency's use.)

Lastly it was reported that the tyres were in Rome, but that they were not new ones and for trucks. They were to be delivered in a short time.

Time passed on. One day somebody from the Allied Command rang Count Thun up asking him to receive a representant to discuss the Tyre question. Ing. Pescatore came a few days later and having excused himself for the delay in the delivry of the tyres promised that they would be available at the beginning of 1946. He mentioned also that he had an agreement for the lot at the price of 60.000 liras each and that he would de the transaction and pass the money to the Evacuee Organisation. **4265**

Count Thun did not accept this proposition having already an agreement with Mr. Olivieri for the sale of the tyres 14.000 liras each.



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ROMA

VIA CONDOTTI - PALAZZO MALTA

Since then the Order of Malta had no other news of the tyres and they have not been delivered to this date.

4264

C O P Y

Brigadier Duncan Law Anderson, C.B.E.,
Royal Engineers.

Father's Name : John Duncan Anderson (Deceased)
Mother's Name : Louisa Anderson (Maiden Name - Kemp)

Born : 1901.
Place : Aberdeen, Scotland.

Commissioned in
Army : June 1925.

Profession or
Occupation : Civil Engineer,
Member of Institution of Civil Engineers.

Religion : Church of Scotland.

C O P Y

Colonel John Alexander Campbell, M.C.,
Highland Light Infantry.

Father's Name	:	Thomas Campbell.	} Deceased.
Mother's Name	:	Elizabeth Robertson.	
Born	:	1897.	
Place	:	Renfrewshire, Scotland.	
Commissioned in His Britannic Majesty's Army			
	:	November, 1914.	
Retired	:	1920.	
Recalled	:	1939.	
Profession or Occupation	:	Company Director - Financial and Industrial. 1921 - 1939.	
Religion	:	Church of Scotland.	

C O P Y

Brigadier Gerald Ritchie Upjohn, K.C.,
Welsh Guards.

Father's Name	:	William Henry Upjohn.
Mother's Name	:	Lucy Rhys Williams.
Born	:	February 1903.
Place	:	County Aberdare.
Commissioned in Army		
	:	1939.
Profession or Occupation	:	King's Counsellor.
Religion	:	Church of England.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Civilian Safety Sub-Commission

APO 394

3rd. JUNE, 1946.

SUBJECT : Complaints by Civilians.
TO : Executive Commissioner.
(through Vice President, C.A. Section).

1. Referring to Minute 2 on attached.
2. On 31st. May, and 1st. June, 1946, I saw and took statements from CAMERINO and PESCATORE. (See Statements Nos. 7 and 8).
3. Camerino, on my telling him the nature of the enquiry, although obviously extremely nervous and apprehensive, attempted to pass the matter off as of no account and one in which he had no personal interest.

It will be seen that in the first part of his statement (No. 7) he only had a very vague recollection of the events and was quite sure he could remember nothing more until I commenced to jog his memory and then, it will be observed, he gives a version which tallies closely to the statements of the complainants. In fact it leaves no reason to doubt that the whole of the complaint is true.

4. There is little doubt he has lied in his statement as and where it suited him. The story of the Association is fantastic inasmuch that although he was the leading figure, his memory regarding the members is so defective that it is difficult to believe his efforts were genuine.

He says (see page 3 of statement) that he knew Colonel Campbell only from a social standpoint and met him at infrequent intervals, but he showed an excellent knowledge of the War Material Disposal organisation.

5. With regard to the suggested honours:- It would seem Camerino consulted Lt. Colonel Campbell on the subject immediately after, if not before, he made the suggestion to members of the Order of Malta, as he says he gave the letter of approval from Count Thun to Lt. Colonel Campbell (see page 4 of his statement).

The typewritten slips containing the personal particulars of the three officers, he says he obtained from Sgt. Major McNeil, Chief Clerk in W.M.D., who had obtained the particulars from Lt. Colonel Campbell - again a strange procedure for a man who had no connections with War Materials Disposal.

6. Lastly he admitted he may have told De Dominicis that the Order had been supplied with 70 tyres and says he heard this number from Colonel Campbell, but denies ever having said that a receipt was in existence. He further admits offering 50,000 lire each on behalf of Caproni and himself to clear up the matter of the tyres. He says he offered this sum simply as a proof of his goodwill and further he was prepared to pay the 100,000 lire himself should Caproni be unwilling to pay his 50,000 lire.

It is perfectly obvious that Dominicis's story is the true one and the offer was made to stop any complaint being made.

7. There is little in the statement of Pescatore beyond showing that he was asked by Lt. Colonel Campbell to supply some tyres to the Order of Malta. He professes he did not know the number of tyres asked for or any details. These are obviously lies. He agrees he did mention to Count Thun that there was a danger the tyres might find their way on to the Black Market but denies adding that he was prepared to sell them to his own firm and hand the proceeds to the Order.

He denies having spoken to Camerino at any time about the tyres, whereas Camerino says he did.

P 2260

There is little doubt that Camerino and Pescatore were working in conjunction and that both of their statements are previously prepared explanations of their actions.

8. Although this case is bristling with suspicion and there is little doubt irregularities did take place, there is not sufficient evidence to justify action being taken against either man.

For obvious reasons direct enquiry has not been made of War Materials Disposal Section, but Camerino when leaving my office intimated that he wished to discuss the matter with Lt. Colonel Campbell.

Submitted for consideration please.

E. J. BYE, Colonel.
Acting Director.

F 8050

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Public Safety Sub-Commission

APO 394

1st. JUNE, 1946.

STATEMENT OF Signor PESCATORE, Enrico, Via SettembreNo. 1, Rome. Industrial Director.

I am the Industrial Director for the Firm of Messrs Caproni. I know Colonel Campbell and other officers of the War Materials Disposal Board by reason of the fact that my firm had dealings with the Board in the purchase of about 26,000 secondhand tyres (salvage).

One day during either December, 1945, or January, 1946, as far as I can remember, Colonel Campbell asked me to see Count THUN of the Order of Malta with regard to the supply to the Order of some tyres for which the Order had already made a demand. The purpose of supply was a charitable one and Colonel Campbell instructed me to supply the tyres at the lowest price without profit. I spoke to my Director, Signor Caproni, and he instructed me to sell the tyres to the Order at cost price. The cost price would have been in the region of two to four thousand lire per tyre. This was not an unusual procedure as we had supplied other charitable organisations with tyres at cost price.

Colonel Campbell did not tell me how many tyres the Order required. I made an appointment by phone and later saw Count Thun, and I explained to him that I had come from the Allied Commission in connection with their request for tyres. Count Thun told me he required tyres for motor cars. I explained to him that the tyres available were only for large trucks. Count Thun replied that such tyres were useless for their purpose. There the discussion ended and I left as it was obvious that we could not supply the tyres required by the Order. Count Thun did not mention the number of tyres required.

So far as I know the Order has never received any tyres.

I did not report to anyone that the offer had fallen through, until about a month later when I saw Colonel Campbell on other matters and then mentioned we were unable to supply the Order with the type of tyres required. Colonel Campbell replied, "Very well, it can't be helped". That is all I know.

I should add that when I saw Count Thun the question of the allocation of the tyres was discussed and I told Count Thun that whilst we knew the tyres asked for were for the Order of Malta, and as such was above suspicion, we had to be very careful any tyres did not find their way into the Black Market. Count Thun did not mention to me that the Order wished to sell some of the tyres and devote the proceeds to the Refugee Camp.

As mentioned before, I knew the tyres were for a charitable object and that the Order needed money for its Refugee Camp as it always has done, but I did not suggest to Count Thun that I could sell the tyres and give the proceeds to the Order. I am certain of that.

I know Professor Camerino as a man who endeavoured to form an Association of Italian Firms to buy trucks from the War Materials Disposal. I have never spoken to Camerino about the offer of tyres to the Order of Malta, neither has he spoken to me of this matter at any time. I did not and do not know whether Camerino was or is interested in the offer of tyres to the Order of Malta. After the interview with Count Thun I forgot all about the matter until I saw Colonel Bye this morning. I have never been employed in any way by the Allied Commission and have only contacted the Commission as I have just stated.

This statement has been read over to me and is correct, true.

(Signed) Enrico Pescatore.

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of Colonel E.J.

Bye, and Captain R.A. Saville, the latter acting as Interpreter, at 10.30 am.

1st. June, 1946.

(Signed) R.C. Bond, Major.
E.J. Bye, Colonel, Act. Director.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO / 394.

31st. MAY, 1946.

STATEMENT of Gino GAMBINO, age 49, of Via del GAMBINO,
No. 30, ROME, Professor in Philosophy. Business man.

I am a business man and reside at Via del Gambero No. 30, Rome. I was born in Italy but left when a boy returning in 1915. I became a Professor at the Padova University. I left Italy again in 1926 for political reasons returning again in 1940.

In 1943 I worked in an honorary capacity at Puglia for A.M.G. with Lt. Col. Nichols and Major Talbot. Later in 1944, I went to Bari and worked with 315 Field Security Section under Captain Perkins. I eventually came to Rome in 1944 about a month after the Allies had occupied the city.

Apart from my honorary position with A.M.G. at Puglia and my honorary employment with Field Security Section, I have never been employed by the Allied Government either with A.M.G. or any other body. My work has always been honorary and I have invariably paid my own expenses. I have not had an honorary appointment with A.G. nor have I been connected with A.G. in any way.

Early in 1945 with the cognisance of the Italian Government, I formed an Association of Motor Car Manufacturers for the purpose of purchasing trucks from the Allied Government. Amongst the members of the Association were the Fiat Works (Representative Ing. Minoli), Lancia Works, Turin (Representative not known), Righi Works, Bologna (Representative Ing. Sommariva) and the C.A.R. Works, Rome (Representative not known). There were also other companies whose names at the moment I cannot remember.

Having formed the Association, the terms of which were put into writing, I was then introduced to Colonel Campbell by the Margia CINTAGINI GSSI, the Liaison Officer between the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and the Allied Commission. I explained to Colonel Campbell the objects of the Association namely, to buy trucks from the War Materials Disposal Board for use by the Companies in the Association. If successful a Company would be formed. The scheme had the approval of the Italian Government. Colonel Campbell said he would do what he could but, however, we were not successful in buying anything from War Materials. We were in fact offered, and obtained the release of 2,000 (two thousand) trucks from the W.M.D. Board under the condition that the Italian Government approved the release. This was about October, 1945. The Italian Government did not give consent and the whole scheme fell through, and in consequence the Association was dissolved.

I have known Cav. de DOMINICIS for some considerable time. I do not remember when I was first introduced to him. One day, I do not remember when, de Dominicis mentioned to me the necessity of procuring tyres for the cars of the Order of Malta, and asked my advice as to the best means to obtain them. I suggested that he approached the War Materials Disposal Board. This was in 1945, somewhere in October or November. I cannot remember the actual date.

The next step was I took de Dominicis to see Colonel Campbell. I do not remember the date but it was very soon after de Dominicis had approached me for the tyres. I introduced de Dominicis to Colonel Campbell and he conversed with de Dominicis either through me or his interpreter. I do not remember which. I explained to Colonel Campbell the request of Dominicis for some tyres and Colonel promised to do what he could to

to obtain them for the Order. No price was mentioned nor any question of payment, neither was the number of tyres mentioned. After this very brief interview De Dominicis and I left. Later I told de Dominicis there would be the usual price to pay, it would be very small but I did not know the amount. I knew a price was charged because GARDINI whom I knew, had bought a large amount of tyres from Caserta or the Allied Commission, paying I believe about 50 lire per kilo. No actual number of tyres was ever mentioned but I understood from De Dominicis that the Order would like anything from fifty to two hundred tyres.

I later met Colonel Caspell casually and on mentioning the question of the tyres, he told me he was trying to get them from either Naples or Milan. I had no business dealings with Colonel Caspell therefore I only saw him socially at infrequent intervals. I knew most of the officers in the Materials Disposal Board.

At about this time the whole of the Captured Enemy Material and Surplus was turned over to the Italian Government and therefore that was the end of any tyres being given or sold to the Order of Malta.

What I have said is absolutely true and there is nothing to add to this story.

I should add here that I gave five or ten thousand lire, I do not remember the exact amount, to the Order out of my own pocket, as a gift to their charity. I am of independent means and therefore could afford to do it.

I now remember that after de Dominicis had first spoken to me about the tyres I went with him and he introduced me to the Duchess of Vargas. I do not remember whether ~~it was before~~ it was before or after I took de Dominicis to see Colonel Caspell, but I believe it was before. Altogether I went three times to her flat and she came once to mine with her husband the

the Duke of Vargas. I also remember now we spoke about Ambulances but I do not remember whether I or they broached the subject. However I was later told that the Order of Malta could not use the ambulances but they might be of use to the Order of San Sepolcro.

I remember now I was told by the Duchess or by Count EMM that the Refugee Camp had an independent budget and the idea was, so far as I could gather, that the Order should receive the tyres on the condition it made a grant to the Refugee Camp. I do not remember on which occasion I met Count EMM at the Duchess's house, but I believe it was my second visit. When I saw Count EMM, he or the Duchess suggested I might be prepared to accept an honour from the Order in recognition of the help I was affording the Order in endeavouring to obtain the tyres. I declined, telling them jokingly I already had a large number of Orders and I was not personally interested in the matter. However, I did suggest the honour might be given to some British Officers and I proposed three of them. They were Brigadier Upjohn, Brigadier Anderson and Colonel Campbell. I knew all three personally. This suggestion was made by me without the officers' knowledge. Count EMM replied he would be pleased to recommend the names of the officers for an honour from the Order. Later I received a letter from Count EMM in which he said the honours for the officers had been approved. This letter I gave to Colonel Campbell.

As a result of the fact that honours were likely to be presented to the officers I suggested that I gave a dinner party at which the honours could be presented. I do not remember whether I made the offer through de Dominis or to Count EMM direct. Brigadier Upjohn and Brigadier Anderson were in England then. Brigadier Anderson was due to return. I expected him to be at the dinner party but not Brigadier Upjohn. I invited Count EMM, Cirvillotto the Air Minister, Arpenani, the Order Secretary,

for the Presidency, the British Minister to the Vatican, and others about 20 in all. The dinner never actually took place for a number of reasons among which were:- the tyres were not given to the Order, I was busy in Milan, and Brigadier Anderson was no longer in Rome.

I have seen three typewritten sheets of paper shown me by Colonel Bye on which are typed the particulars of the Officers. I recognise them as slips I obtained for the Order to enable them to prepare the citations for the honours. I obtained them through the Sergeant Major McNeil, Chief Clerk to War Materials Disposal Board. He got the particulars from Colonel Campbell and had them typed. I later handed the slips to Dominici.

I do not remember mentioning to Count Tiani what the buying or selling price of the tyres should have been, I may have mentioned something to him but I do not now remember. I remember now that Dominici did give me an official application in writing, I do not remember by whom it was signed, for a number of tyres the exact number I do not remember. I do not remember what I did with it. Whether in fact I gave it to Colonel Campbell or kept it myself. I do not know why I should have kept it myself unless it was because I may have thought it was not an opportune moment to present it. It may have been because I knew that at about that time, I believe in October 1945, the whole of the Captured Enemy Material was being handed over to the Italian Government.

I also remember that I asked one of the members of the Order, the cost of running the Refugee Camp. I do not remember the amount stated but I do remember saying I would ask friends of mine to subscribe money to the Camp. I then gave five thousand lire, which I have previously mentioned. I did not do anything about getting my friends to subscribe as I was a little disgusted with the Duchess Vargas for private reasons. I have been shown a letter of mine, by Colonel Bye, which I wrote to Dominici. It is dated the

going to see the Order, before he actually went on forwards.

At one time I did believe that the Order had received some tyres from Pescatore on behalf of Caproni, then later Pescatore told me himself it was not so. It may have been that I saw Dominici between those times and told him the Order had received some tyres. I had heard previously from Colonel Campbell that Caproni was supplying the Order with 70 tyres. I am quite sure that when I mentioned to Dominici that the Order had received some tyres, I did not say that receipt for the tyres had been given from the Order, because I would not be in a position to know.

The last time I saw Dominici, some months ago, I do not remember where I saw him or who was present, I told him that to close up the affair of the tyres Caproni and myself were prepared to make a gift to the Camp of the Order of Fifty Thousand lire each. The reason I made this offer was because I had previously offered my assistance to obtain the tyres but having been unsuccessful I wished to make this gift as a proof of my goodwill.

I had not spoken personally with Caproni about this offer but I had heard from someone, probably Pescatore, that he (Caproni) would be prepared to give fifty thousand lire. If he did not do so I was prepared to pay one hundred thousand lire myself. I am certain I offered on behalf of Caproni and myself. No other person was mentioned.

This statement has been read over to me and is true.

(Signed) Gino Guerino.

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of
Major R.C. Bond at 1.30 PM. 31st. May. 1946.

(Signed) E.J. Dye, Colonel,
Acting Director.

ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

14 MAY 1946.

SUBJECT : Complaints by Civilians.
TO : Executive Commissioner.
(through Vice President, Civil Affairs Section).

- I. With reference to attached papers.
2. This is a complaint by the Officers of the Order of Malta with the regard to non delivery of a number of tyres which had apparently been promised to the Order on behalf of the Allied Commission by a representative (supposed) of the War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission.
3. The complaint first came to the notice of the Allied Commission when the Memorandum and covering letter from the Chancellor of the Order (see Attachments I and 2) were received by the Camp Commandant, Lt.Colonel A.G.Graham, who passed the complaint to me for such preliminary enquiry as was possible.
4. In an endeavour to obtain a clear picture of the position I took statements from the undermentioned persons who could give first hand information of the incidents :-
 - (1) Count THUN HOHINSTEIN, a Member of the Council of the Order of Malta. (see Statement No. 1).
 - (2) Commandante di DOMINICIS, Cavalier of the Order. (see Statement No. 2).
 - (3) The Duchess VARGAS MACHUCA, the wife of a Knight of the Order. (see Statement No. 3).
 - (4) Signor MILELLI, a member of the Order and connected with the Order's Refugee Camp. (see Statement No. 4).
 - (5) Signor OLIVIERI, Director of Transport Coy. to whom tyres were to be sold. (see Statement No. 5).
 - (6) Doctor MUZI, a Lawyer. (see Statement No. 6).
5. It will be seen that the history of the case so far as can be ascertained is as follows :-
During the early part of September, 1945, 425°

1945/ Commandante DOMINICIS whilst at the reception desk in the Allied Commission building, was introduced to a Professor CAMERINO (see Statement No. 2). Dominicis was wearing the badge of the Order of Malta and Camerino remarked upon it adding that he wished to assist the Order and was in a position to do so. As a result Dominicis arranged for Camerino to meet the Duchess VARGAS, who apparently had access to the Chancellor of the Order, at the Duchess's house.

Camerino then gave the Duchess and Dominicis the impression that he was a member of Allied Commission, but did not actually say so. He said he was in a position to supply 2 Busses, 5 Cars and 1 Ambulance to the Order, and also mentioned he would like to assist three British friends of his to become Members of the Order of Malta. At this stage he did not mention names. (see Statement No. 3).

6. The Duchess could not give a decision herself but later consulted with the Chancellor of the Order who declined the offer, as no good use could be made of the vehicles.

7. Camerino was told of the decision and he later saw the Duchess and Dominicis again. He then offered to obtain from Allied Commission, 50 tyres for the use of the Order of Malta on an official request being made to Allied Commission by the Order, and a further 150 tyres which could be sold and the proceeds devoted to the Refugee Camp administered by the Order and in the running of which the Duchess of Vargas was closely connected. No written application was apparently necessary for these 150 tyres.

The official application was prepared and signed by the Chancellor and countersigned by the Duchess Vargas and handed by di Dominicis to Camerino.

8. During this time Count THUN was absent from Rome, but later, on his return, he met Camerino at the house of the Duchess of Vargas where di Dominicis and Signor MILELLI (who was also connected with the Refugee Camp) were present. (see Statement No. 4).

Camerino then explained the offer to Count Thun, i.e. that the tyres could be purchased from Allied Commission for 3,000 lire each and sold for not more than 14,000 lire each. (see Statement No. 1). Count Thun accepted the offer and asked if any further application was necessary to which Camerino replied "No".

Camerino then mentioned that it was hoped that an Honour of the Order of Malta might be conferred upon three

three/ British officers and it is thought he mentioned the names. He then went on to say that he proposed to give a dinner party to a number of high officials of the Allied and Italian Governments, including the three officers whom it was desired should receive awards. He invited Count Thun and intimated that he would like the awards presented at the dinner party.

Count Thun accepted the invitation to the dinner party but said he would need time to consider the question of presenting the awards.

9. A little later, 3 typewritten slips, giving the names of the three British officers together with their personal particulars, were handed by Camerino to Dominiois who in turn passed them to Count Thun. (see Attachments Nos. 3a, 3b and 3c).

The names of the three officers were:-

Brigadier Duncan Law ANDERSON, C.B.E.

Lt. Colonel John Alexander CAMPBELL, M.C.

Brigadier Gerald Richie URJOHN, K.C.

Meanwhile Count Thun had decided it would not be in good taste to present the awards at the dinner party, but that they could be presented on some future occasion, and gave instructions for Camerino to be informed accordingly.

10. The promised tyres did not arrive and some days after Camerino had been informed that the Count could not agree to the presentation of the awards at the dinner party, Camerino took di Dominiois to see Lt. Colonel Campbell in the latter's office. After introducing di Dominiois, Camerino carried on a conversation with Colonel Campbell in English which he did not interpret, although he speaks both English and Italian fluently, and then asked in Italian if and when the decorations for the three officers would be ready for presentation. Di Dominiois, who does not speak English, replied that the awards were being prepared, after which Camerino and Dominiois left the office. On leaving Dominiois asked Camerino if Colonel Campbell would write a letter to the Order definitely promising the tyres. Camerino replied that such was not usual, but that he (Camerino) would write a letter, and a few days later Camerino gave di Dominiois a letter dated 19th. October, 1945, in which he expressed regret for delay in delivery but that the tyres would be available the following week. (see Attachment No. 4).

11. Nothing further of note happened until December, when Camerino informed Dominiois that the tyres were in Naples. Dominiois went to Naples but could obtain no information regarding the whereabouts of the tyres.

tyres.

On Dominici's return to Rome, Camerino said the tyres were in Milan and a Mr. OLIVIERI went to collect them. (see Statement No.5). Before leaving he (Olivieri) together with Dominici saw Camerino who gave them an unsigned note which indicated that 205 tyres and 4 motor vehicles, the latter being for the Order of San Sepulchro, could be obtained through Major Strachan-Andas of the War Materials Disposal Office in Milan. (see Attachment No.5).

12. This enquiry also proved fruitless and on Signor Olivieri's return to Rome, Dominici at once contacted Camerino again, and at Camerino's suggestion went again to Colonel Campbell's office. The procedure on this occasion was similar to the former visit, namely, Camerino and Colonel Campbell conversed in English, after which Camerino and Dominici left and Camerino said that Colonel Campbell was telephoning Milan and the tyres would be available in the near future. Dominici says he told Camerino that he thought the Order was being treated very badly.

13. Shortly after this in December, Count Thun received a telephone call from a man who said he was Ing. PESCATORE and he wished to see the Count on behalf of the Allied Commission with regard to the tyres. An interview was arranged and Pescatore then said that he could obtain the tyres, sell them to his own firm and hand the proceeds to the Order. He was told that the Order could not agree to this course and Pescatore left.

14. Nothing further was heard regarding the tyres until the latter part of January, 1946, when Dominici met Camerino by chance in the street. Camerino then volunteered the information that the Order had received 70 tyres and had renounced their right to the remaining 130. Dominici did not believe this story and asked to see the receipt. Camerino admitted a receipt had been given but made various excuses for not producing it, and Dominici finally gave up the quest.

Enquiry showed that no tyres had been received by the Order. As it now appeared obvious that the whole transaction was very irregular, a Memorandum on the subject dated 12th. March, 1946, (Attachment No.2) was prepared for submission to the Allied Commission but was not sent immediately.

Meanwhile Dominici whilst with a friend Avvocato RUZI, met Camerino by chance and during the course of their conversation the question of the tyres was mentioned.

Camerino said it was better not to mention or discuss the matter, and then said it had been decided that he, Colonel

Colonel/Campbell and Signor CAPRONI (who is the head of a large firm which has had extensive dealings with War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission) had decided to each subscribe 50,000 lire for the Order providing the whole business of the tyres was dropped.

Dominicis persisted in asking who had signed the receipt, but could not obtain a satisfactory reply, merely that it might be disclosed after Colonel had gone home on leave or release, and that Count Thun would be prepared to accept the offer of 150,000 lire to prevent a scandal within the Order.

Avvocato Muzi heard a part of this conversation. (see Statement No.6).

15. Since this interview nothing further has transpired, no tyres have been forthcoming and the question of the dinner party and decorations has apparently been dropped.

The Memorandum was then therefore sent to Allied Commission (Lt.Col.Graham) who in turn passed it to me.

16. At a first glance it would seem that Camerino and later Pescatore acted as they did solely to obtain honours for three British officers, but on closer scrutiny there are, I believe, good reasons to think that Camerino was probably acting in his own interests and unknown to Colonel Campbell, at least as far as the tyres were concerned.

17. Camerino's actions throughout smatter strongly of the professional confidence trickster. In the first place he scraped acquaintance with Dominicis and then approached the subject of help to the Order and incidentally the decorations for his British friends. He did not wish anything for himself as he had "hundreds of Orders". (see Page I of Statement No.2).

Later he asks what the expenses of the Refugee Camp were per Annum, and when told 300,000 lire, grandly proclaims that he and his friends will bestow that amount on the Order (see Statements 3 and 4, pages 3 and I);

In view of his known record, which is shown below, one wonders how he intended to obtain the money.

Then again "as a sign of his good faith" he gave the Duchess Vargas 5,000 lire for the Camp. (see Statement 3, page 3). This was a typical action of a confidence man.

Lastly came the question of the dinner party which he intended to defray out of his own pocket for no apparent reason. (see Statements 1,2 and 3)

I8. Bearing the above facts in mind it is doubtful if Camerino ever intended the tyres should be sold to the Order for 3,000 lire each and that they should dispose of them for 14,000 lire each. Rather it would seem that that proposition was a bait, and the real intention became apparent when Pescatore came along with the suggestion that the tyres could be obtained and sold by him to his own firm and the proceeds given to the order. This can be better appreciated when it is realised that new tyres could and can I understand, be sold for about 50,000 lire each, and second hand tyres for a proportionate amount. In this way by giving the Order 11,000 lire in respect of each tyre and allowing for 3,000 lire purchase price, Camerino and Pescatore could make for themselves over 7,000,000 lire on the 200 tyres.

I9. Camerino's record is such that a little scheme like this is not beyond him.

Italian Police records show that he Gino CAMERINO, Identity Card No.5/89015, born at Venice on 5/I/1897. He is of Jewish extraction - an Antiquarian. He is shown as having been charged in Milan with false pretences.

In Turin charged with swindling.

In 1932 arrested for issuing false cheques.

In 1933 arrested for Bankruptcy Offence.

In 1933 proceedings taken for fraudulent

insolvenoy.

In 1941 he was imprisoned for contravention of a compulsory travel order and on release from prison was sent to a concentration camp at Pesaro. He was later released or escaped and, when the Allied Forces occupied the Foggia Area in the Autumn of 1943, he offered his services as Professor Camerino. He speaks fluent English.

I understand he was engaged by Lt.Colonel Nichols, Provincial Commissioner, as an Honorary Assistant as Camerino gracefully declined to be paid for his services.

However in November, 1943, it was found he was irregularly paying himself and was charged at San Severo 4245
15/II/43 with:-

(a) Forging a motor car permit, knowing the same to be false (admitting signing permit in name of Lt.Col.Nichols.)

(b) Falsely pretending to be acting under the authority of the Allied Military Government, he requisitioned motor cars and other goods and improperly disposed of them.

(c) Wrongfully having in his possession property of the Allied Forces:- knowingly obtained and used Army Rations.

Camerino was tried before a General Military

Military/ Court held at Lucera, Foggia, on 4th. - 9th. Jan. 1944. Found Guilty on all counts and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment and ordered to pay 2,000,000 lire fine or 1 years imprisonment in default.

On review the sentence was quashed on the grounds that the transcript of evidence taken by the shorthand writer was in such a deplorable state that it was impossible to piece together sufficient of the testimony to permit an intelligible review with respect to any of the charges.

20. Camerino is not a Professor and has no real claim to such a title. He is residing at Del Gambur No.30, c/o Banscia, and is reported to be dealing with Allied War Material. Gaming frequently takes place in his rooms.

There is no record that he is or has been employed by the Allied Commission. In view of his two visits with Dominiois to Col. Campbell's office it is evident he is acquainted with Col. Campbell, but in what way is not known. It is more than probable that Colonel Campbell has no knowledge of Camerino's past.

21. With regard to Pescatore. Nothing is known from Police records regarding him, and on a slip of paper which he gave to Count Thun he showed his particulars as:-

Enrico PESCATORE,

Societe U.C.R.A.,

Piazza S.Silvestro No. 92.

Telephone 681275 (see attachment No.6).

He is not shown in A.C. Records as having been at any time employed by the Allied Commission, but on Invoices held by the Allied Supply Accounting Agency, Pescatore's signature is shown as having received on behalf of the Firm of Caproni of Milan 27,819 tyres (salvage) between September and December, 1945. Whether in fact he had any standing with Allied Commission is not known.

22. As regards the three typewritten sheets giving particulars of the three British officers (see Attachments 3a, 3b and 3c). The particulars as shown could only have been obtained from G.I. (Br), Officers Records, but in view of the fact that civilian staff is employed in Allied Commission, it would not be difficult for a man of Camerino's experience to obtain them without reference to any individual officer.

23. Quiet enquiry has been made but so far no ⁴²⁶⁴ of the receipt for the tyres has been found. This is understandable, as normally such receipts are not held by the Supply

Supply/ Accounting Agency A.C., but vouchers for the issue of tyres are dealt with briefly as follows:-

(a) Up to 30/II/45, accounting for issues under the authority of approved Combines Requisitions were dealt with by the Allied Supply Accounting Agency.

(b) As from I/II/45 accounting responsibility was undertaken by the Office of the Foreign Liquidation Commission for U.S. materials, and the British Ministry of Supply for British materials. The offices of each are in Rome.

++++ The Order of Malta could not regularly have obtained tyres through Combined Requisitions. These are issued only to the Italian State.

(c) Sales of Salvage. These are accounted for by the Armies concerned, British by D.A.D.Salvage and American by G.4.

Salvage has always been disposed of to private individuals against receipt. No payment is made direct to individuals but amounts are paid into the Bank of Italy for AFA No.I Account.

(d) Captured Enemy Materials. This belongs to the United Nations and is disposed of by War Materials Disposal Board under release authority from A.F.H.Q., Q Branch (AE), Army Equipment, C.M.Dept.

This includes all captured material. C.E.M. Vouchers should be with C.M.Dept. However numbers of them have been received by the Allied Accounting Agency A.C. including vouchers for tyres, which do not bear the signature of the person receiving the material, therefore from a receipt point of view they are valueless.

24. It will be appreciated that at this stage and in view of the delicacy of the situation, no direct enquiry has been made to trace the receipt, if such exists which is doubtful. It is more than probable that if the 70 tyres were consigned to the Order as alleged, they form part of one of the bulk releases. It will also be appreciated that no enquiry has been made of the War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission.

25. As the case now stands there seems no shadow of doubt that Camerino did in fact offer tyres to the Order on payment of 3,000 lire each, and further that the typed particulars of the three officers were also given to the ~~4244~~ ⁴⁸⁴³ for the purpose of some kind of honour being awarded, but whether the offer of the tyres, or the suggestion for honours to be

be given, was done with the knowledge and by authority of a British officer is very doubtful.

Further there is no doubt that the whole proposed transaction was decidedly irregular and there is a strong suspicion, to say the least, that the actions of Camerino bordered on criminal. It fact it may well be that tyres were in fact obtained under the pretence they were for the Order of Malta, and diverted to other uses.

26. As regards the three officers, Brigadier Upjohn left for the U.K. on release in August last, before the matter was broached by Camerino. Brigadier Anderson was also believed to be in England at that time. Therefore Camerino was remarkably well informed with regard to the officer's whereabouts (as he mentioned to Count Thun that two of the officers would return from England for the dinner) if in fact he was making his suggestions without first consulting an Allied Officer.

It is also rather strange that on both occasions when he saw Colonel Campbell, the conversation was carried on entirely in English, which Dominici could not understand, although Camerino could quite well have acted as interpreter.

27. The only way to clear up the doubtful points is by interrogating Camerino and Pescatore and probably by making direct enquiry of Colonel Campbell.

Should Military Personnel be involved it is appreciated that enquiry must be passed to other authority for enquiry, but I suggest that Camerino and Pescatore might, at this stage, be closely questioned regarding their parts in this matter and if they are criminally involved normal action could follow, but should facts be disclosed which necessitates other action being taken, these papers could be passed for action to the appropriate authorities.

28. Submitted for consideration please.

E.J.BYE, Colonel,
Acting Director,
Public Safety Sub-Com.

424~

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Allied Safety Sub-Commission

APO 334

7th. May, 1946.

Copy of STATEMENT of Dottore GIUSEPPE MIELI, via GarofiniNo. 4, Rome. Telephone 871454 Rome.

I am a friend of Comandante di Dominica. I am not a member of the Order of Malta.

One day during the latter part of March I was with Comandante di Dominica in the Allied Commission building on a personal visit to Colonel Gaudin. As we were leaving the building we met Professor Gasparino whom I had not seen before. He was with a young lady whom I did not know. We spoke together for a moment and then Professor Gasparino invited us to have a drink in a nearby bar. We walked up via Veneto to the bar which was in a street adjoining via Veneto. I walked in front with the girl and di Dominica and Gasparino walked behind us. As we were walking along I heard Gasparino say to Dominica "Don't let us talk about this any more. It will be better if nothing more is said. We will make an offer of fifty thousand each, namely myself, Caproni and a certain Colonel". He did not say the name of the Colonel then. We then went into the bar and had a drink. We remained in the bar about five minutes, then we left and walked down towards the Piazza Barberini. We walked abreast and almost immediately Gasparino said "This is a very complicated business. There is an Allied Colonel involved and the full story can only be told when he has gone on release". Gasparino mentioned the name of a Colonel but I do not remember it now. At this point we became separated slightly on account of passing people in the street, therefore I did not hear any reply which Dominica may have made and there was no further conversation on the subject. No mention was made of this subject in the cafe. On reaching Piazza Barberini the girl

(Continuation of statement of Dottore OF DO MUZI).

girl and I were slightly ahead. As Gnerino and di Dominico caught up with us I heard Gnerino say, "It would be better if Count Tami kept quiet too as there is someone else in the Order of Malta involved" so After a moments general conversation we separated.

I know nothing of the circumstances of this case before the meeting that morning, but after parting from Gnerino, di Dominico explained the case to me and to what the conversation referred. Di Dominico has not spoken to me since until the past few days.

This statement has been read over to me and is true

(Signed) Dott. Corrado Muzi.

This statement was taken down by me at 11 am. 4th. May, 1946,
in the presence of Captain R.A. Swill who acted as interpreter.

(Signed) R. J. H. E., Colonel,
Acting Director.

ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APC 394

3rd. May, 1946.

Copy of STATEMENT of Signor OLIVIERI, Filippo,
Piazza Giunone Regina No. 1, Rome.

I am a Director of the Saitra Transport Coy. with offices in via IV Novembre, Rome. I am not a member of the Order of Malta but I am friendly with a number of the members including Commandante Dominici.

Sometime during November or early December I was offered by Count Thun, through Commandante Dominici, the opportunity to buy from the Order of Malta, two hundred car tyres at I believe a price of 14,000 or 15,000 lire each. I understood they were to be Allied tyres of various types. I remember that of the two hundred tyres, fifty were for use of the Order and the remaining one hundred and fifty were to be placed at my disposal for the price I have mentioned. The money was I understood, to be used by the Order in connection with its Refugee Camps.

The tyres I intended to purchase would have been used solely by the firm of Saitra on the vehicles owned by the Company. I accepted the offer verbally. As we were friends no contract was made and nothing was put in writing.

I heard no more about the tyres until the end of December. Then Dominici told me the tyres were in Milan. Together one morning we went to the Allied Commission Offices in via Veneto, and in the entrance hall we met Professor Camerino. He was a stranger to me. Dominici introduced me to Camerino and explained that I was going to Milan to bring back the tyres. Professor Camerino told me I should go to the office of Major Strachan Andis, War Material Disposal Dept. in Milan at the Montecatini Building where I should be given the tyres. Camerino also informed me that a friend of his, Ing. Somariva was also going to Milan. He would meet me there and assist me to get the tyres. Camerino did not give me anything in writing neither did I see him give anything to Dominici, neither did I see him write anything while we were with him. We were together the whole of the time and Dominici and I left together.

I went to Milan taking with me a letter from the Order authorising me to collect the tyres. I did not see Ing. Somariva in Milan but I went direct to the Office of Major Strachan Andis. I saw him, handed him the letter from the Order and explained the reason for my visit. Major Strachan-Andis told me he knew nothing of the matter. He did not give me any tyres. He told me to return the following day, meanwhile he would telephone Colonel Campbell in Rome.

(Continuation of STATEMENT of Signor OLIVIERI, Filippo).

Rome.

I returned to his office as directed and Major Strachan-Andis told me Colonel Campbell knew nothing about the tyres, so therefore eventually I returned to Rome without them.

I reported what had happened to Commandante Dominici.

I have not up to this time, received any tyres and have heard nothing further until I was asked to come to the Allied Commission Offices this morning.

I have not seen Camerino since my original interview.

This statement has been read over to me and is true.

(Signed) Filippo OLIVIERI.

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of Captain R.A. Savill at 11 am. 3rd. May, 1946.
Captain Savill acted as Interpreter.

(Signed) E.J.BYE, Colonel.
Acting Director.
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

3rd. May, 1946.

COPY OF STATEMENT OF SIGNOR MILELLI, Emilio,
Via Cesare Beccaria No. 88, Rome.

I am a member of the Order of Malta and I voluntarily assist in the administration of the Order's Refugee Camp at Trastevere, Rome.

Sometime during September, 1945, I heard from the Duchess Vargas that an offer was being made from a gentleman connected with the Allied Commission, of a number of tyres for use by the Order.

Later, some time in November, a meeting was arranged at the Duchess Vargas's house between Count Thun and a Professor Camerino who was to be instrumental in obtaining the tyres. I accompanied Count Thun to the meeting. There were present, Count Thun, Duchess of Vargas, Commandante di Dominici and myself and of course Camerino. After we had been introduced Camerino at once explained that he could obtain two hundred tyres for the Order. Fifty car tyres for the use of the Order and one hundred and fifty others (various types) which could be sold and the proceeds given to the Order.

At this stage Camerino asked what the expenditure of the Order's Refugee Camp was per annum. On being told approx. 300,000 lire, he replied, "All right, I and my friends will make a present of this amount to the Order and will do so every year. Camerino then said he intended to give a dinner party and showed us a list of the persons he intended to invite and at the same time extended an invitation to Count Thun. Count Thun did not give a definite answer. Nothing was said in front of me regarding the presentation of decorations to British Officers. Camerino said the tyres would be available in the near future.

Count Thun later told me to prepare a letter of thanks to Professor Camerino for the tyres, but as they were never received, the letter was not sent. I have not seen Camerino since the interview. He was a complete stranger to me.

I heard various stories regarding the location of the tyres but they were never received and finally at the direction of Count Thun I prepared a Memorandum dated 12th. March, 1946 for submission to the Allied Commission on the subject but it was not sent, but later in April it was handed to Colonel Graham.

6 Continuation of STATEMENT of SIO MR MILELLI, Emilio)

Graham. The memorandum has now been shown to me by Colonel Bye.

I should mention that when Camerino invited Count Thun to the dinner party, he also included Commandante di Dominici in his invitation.

This statement has been read over to me and is true.

(Signed) Emilio MILELLI.

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of Captain R.A. Savill at 12.30 pm. 3rd. May, 1946. Captain Savill acted as Interpreter.

(Signed) E.J. BYE, Colonel.

Acting Director
Public Safety Sub-Comm.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

APD 394

7th May, 1946.

Copy of STATEMENT of Duchess Gladys di VARENAS MACHUCA,
via Despatch No. 10, Rome. Telephone 870271.

My husband is Knight of the Order of Malta and I have worked for the Order in connection with the Order's Refugee Camp. I took over the work in the camp from Commandante di Dominiois whom I know well.

At the end of September or the beginning of October last year, Commandante Dominiois informed me that a Professor Gusrino wished to assist the Order and, as Count Tiani was absent from Rome, asked if I would interview Professor Gusrino at my house. Gusrino was not then known to me. An interview was arranged and di Dominiois brought Gusrino to my house. I asked Gusrino why and how he wished to assist the Order. He replied "We in the Allied Commission are naturally interested in your Refugee Camp and would like to assist as much as we can and incidentally I would like to help three of my friends to be decorated by the Order". He did not mention the names of his friends. Professor Gusrino went on to say that there were some motor vehicles available by the Allied Commission. I do not remember the exact number of vehicles but I believe he mentioned there were:- One bus, six ambulances and six civilian cars. The bus and ambulances would be given to the Order and the civilian cars would be sold to the Order for thirty thousand lire each. No decision could be made then and Gusrino left. The offer was however conveyed to the Chancellor of the Order who decided that the vehicles could not be made good use of by the Order and therefore declined the offer.

Later a second meeting with Gusrino was arranged at my house. At this meeting there were Commandante di Dominiois, Gusrino and me. Gusrino

(Continuation of Statement of Duchene di V. (AS HACHUCA))

Guerino expressed disappointment at the refusal of the Order to accept the cars and then said he could obtain a number of tyres for the Order without payment. No number of tyres was mentioned. He told Guerino we would convey this offer to the Chancellor for decision. Guerino then left. I spoke to the Chancellor. He accepted the offer and asked what action was necessary by the Order to obtain the tyres. I communicated this decision to Commandante di Dominio. Later di Dominio informed me he had communicated with Guerino who asked that the Order submit a written application for the tyres. No number was given. I informed the Chancellor who prepared an application for fifty tyres. He signed the application and gave it to me. The application was typewritten on Order's official note paper.

I informed ~~Guerino~~ di Dominio I had been given the application by the Chancellor and one or two days later di Dominio told me he had made an appointment for me to hand the application to Guerino at the Allied Commission building. He also said that Guerino asked that I too sign the application as this would indicate the application was the one which Guerino had previously consulted the Order about. I signed the application under the signature of the Chancellor and took it to the A.C. building. On my arrival Guerino was waiting for me outside the building. I handed the application to him and left. I did not discuss the matter with him. Again about a week later, I believe in October, di Dominio brought Guerino to my house. There were di Dominio, Guerino and I present. At this meeting Guerino suggested that in addition to the fifty tyres which the Order had applied for, he would obtain a further one hundred and fifty which could be sold and the proceeds devoted to the Refugee Camp. As the Refugee Camp was under my control I accepted the offer at once.

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Later on still as a result of this meeting, a further meeting with

(Continuation of Statement of Duchess di VARGAS MACHUCA)

with/ Camerino was arranged at my house at which Count Tani, Signor Milelli, Commandante di Dominico, Professor Camerino and myself were present. After introductions Camerino repeated his offers. He then explained he would like to assist three friends of his to be decorated by the Order. He mentioned the names but I do not remember them. They were English. Then Camerino mentioned he intended to give a dinner party at the Plaza Hotel in Rome, he himself would defray the cost and at the dinner he hoped that the decorations would be presented by Count Tani. Count Tani said he would consider the invitation to the dinner party. Camerino then asked Milelli how much the current expenses of the Camp were and on being told 300,000 lire per annum, said that he and his friends would make a gift to the Order of that amount. Camerino then left.

Apart from a luncheon engagement with Camerino I have not seen him since, neither have I had any direct dealing in this proposed transaction. So far as I know the Order has not received any tyres, cars or any other kind of material, neither have we received the promised three hundred thousand lire from Camerino.

I should mention that at one of the meetings Camerino said "As a sign of my good faith I will now give you five thousand lire for your Refugee Camp" and he gave me an envelope containing five thousand lire which I handed to Signor Milelli who was the accountant for the Camp.

This statement has been read over to me and is true.

(Signed) Gladys de Vargas Machuca.

This statement was taken down by me after interpretation from Italian to English by Captain R. A. Savill at 11 am, 6th. and 7th. May, 1945.

(Signed) R. J. BYE, Colonel,
Acting Director,

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ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

29th. April, 1946.

STATEMENT OF Carlo de DOMINICIS, Via Gualtiero
Castellini No. 12, Rome. Independent.

I am a member of the Order of Malta with the rank of Cavalier.

Early in September, 1945, I had occasion to visit the Allied Commission offices on personal business. While at the Information Desk I was introduced to Professor Camerino. He was a complete stranger to me. At the time I was wearing the badge of the Order of Malta on my coat. Later Camerino apparently observed I was wearing the badge and said, "Oh, you are a member of the Order of Malta. I am glad I have met you for I want to help the Order and I think I am in a position to help quite a lot". I told Professor Camerino that I was not an official of the Order but merely a member. However if he wished to assist the Order I would introduce him to the Duchess Vargas who was a Lady of the Order and who could decide how any help could be given.

I asked Camerino in a joking way whether he wished to become a Member of the Order. He replied "No, I have hundreds of Orders but I would like to assist three English friends of mine to become Members". He did not mention names. We arranged that Camerino should see the Duchess Vargas and two days later I met Camerino by appointment and took him to the Duchess Vargas's house at Via Serpieri No. 10;

The Duchess, Camerino and I were present at the interview.

The Duchess asked Professor Camerino in what way and why he wished to assist the Order. He replied that he was anxious to assist three English friends to become Members of the Order and he desired to know what it was necessary to do to achieve that object.

The Duchess informed Camerino that it would be necessary for some substantial gift to be made to the Order. Camerino said he was in a position to supply 2 Buses, 5 Cars and 1 Ambulance to the Order. To do so it would be necessary for the Order to make a written application to the Allied Commission, War Materials Disposal Dept. but the application should be given to him and not sent direct to the Commission. 4234

After the interview the Duchess discussed the matter with the Chancellor of the Order and it was decided the offer of the vehicles could not be accepted as they were not

(Continuation of STATEMENT OF Carlo de DOMINICIS)

not/ needed.

I telephoned to Camerino (No. 64846) the decision and made an appointment to see him the same day in the entrance hall of the Commission building. I saw Camerino and he then offered to obtain fifty tyres for the use of the Order of Malta, and a further one hundred and fifty which could be sold and the proceeds given to the Order.

As I could not make a decision I arranged for Camerino to see the Duchess again. The interview took place and then Camerino explained that the whole of the two hundred tyres could be purchased through him from the War Materials Board for three thousand lire each and sold for not more than fourteen thousand lire each. The Duchess, myself and Camerino were present at this interview.

No decision was taken at this time but it was arranged for a further interview to take place at the Duchess's house when Count Thun, who was responsible for the administration of Refugee Camps under the care of the Order, would be present and decide whether the offer could or could not be accepted. It was explained to Camerino that the money derived from the sale of the tyres would be devoted to the Refugee Camps. An application for fifty tyres had been prepared and signed by the Chancellor. This was given by me to Camerino. He then said no further application was necessary for the further one hundred and fifty tyres. All these interviews took place during September.

At the interview at which Count Thun was present, the Count after the position had been explained to him, decided to accept the offer. Camerino said the tyres would be forthcoming in a few days. I do not know whether Camerino mentioned to Count Thun at the time of the interview, the fact he intended to give a dinner party but Camerino told me about the proposed dinner party some days later and showed me the list of persons it was proposed to invite. The list contained the names of prominent members of the Italian Government and also of English officials.

I kept in close contact with Camerino during this period, generally by phone as I expected each day to be informed the tyres were available.

I informed the Duchess Vargas of the proposed dinner party. She apparently discussed the matter with Count Thun. A few days later she asked me to inform Camerino that the Count could not accept the invitation to the dinner party. This I did. I should mention that one day during this time Camerino gave me a typewritten paper containing the names of three British

(Continuation of STATEMENT OF Carlo de DOMINICIS).

British/ officers whom it was desired should be decorated. I remember the names of Brigadier Anderson and Colonel Campbell but I do not recall the third name.

I gave the list to the Duchess to pass to Count Thun.

Some three or four days after I had told Camerino the Count could not accept the invitation to the dinner party. I met him at the Allied Commission Offices and he took me to see Colonel Campbell ~~and there~~ in the latter's office. He introduced me to Colonel Campbell and then carried on a conversation in English with Colonel Campbell which I did not understand. He then asked me in Italian when the decorations would be ready for presentation. I told him they were being prepared. He then spoke in English again to Colonel Campbell after which we left the office. I held no conversation with Colonel Campbell.

On leaving I asked Camerino whether Colonel Campbell would write a letter to the Order making a definite promise of the tyres. Camerino said such a letter was not necessary and it was not usual for such letters to be sent, but to reassure the Order, he himself would write a letter. A day or so later I received a note from Camerino dated 19th. October, 1945, in which he expresses regret for delay in delivery and explained that Colonel Campbell had gone to London but the tyres would be available the following week.

This note I now produce (No. 1)

I waited for some time, keeping in touch with Camerino meanwhile, but the tyres did not arrive.

Eventually in the beginning of December, Camerino told me the two hundred tyres were at Naples but we must provide our own transport to collect them. He did not give me the address where the tyres were but stated he would send the address to me at Naples by A.C. courier.

I went to Naples with the Duchess. We waited three days but heard nothing from Camerino so returned to Rome.

On my return I at once got into touch with Camerino and he then said the tyres were not in Naples but in Milan. I did not go to Milan but a Mr. Olivieri, a Director of a Transport Service, to whom we had arranged to sell the tyres, went to Milan to collect them. Before he left Rome I saw Camerino in the Allied Commission building, together with Mr. Olivieri, ⁴²³⁰ Camerino gave us a note written in pencil, unsigned, which indicated that the two hundred tyres and four vehicles, the

(Continuation of STATEMENT of Carlo de DOMINICIS)

the/latter for the Order of San Sepulchro, could be obtained from Major Strachen-Andas at the War Material Disposal Office in Milan.

The note was written in Italian.

This note I now produce (No. 2).

Mr. Olivieri left for Milan. After a day or so we received a telegram from him in which he said he could not obtain the tyres and he returned at once to Rome.

On Mr. Olivieri's return I at once contacted Camerino and asked why we were being sent on fruitless errands, when Camerino suggested we go and see Colonel Campbell. I went with Camerino to Colonel Campbell's office and after passing the time of day with Colonel Campbell, he and Camerino held a conversation in English and then we left. I asked Camerino what had taken place and he replied "Oh, Colonel Campbell is ringing Milan and you will get the tyres in a few days". I told Camerino I thought the Order was being treated very badly and I doubted if we should ever get the tyres and then left.

I neither saw nor heard any more of Camerino until the middle of end of January when I met him by chance in the street. Camerino then said "Do you know that the tyres have been taken by the Order of Malta, but that they only took seventy and renounced their right to the other hundred and thirty". I told Camerino I did not believe the Order had received any tyres. He replied he was certain the tyres had been given to the Order. I then asked who had given a receipt and could I have a copy. Camerino said "Yes, I will get you a copy of the receipt". I saw Camerino each day for several days in the entrance hall of the Commission building but Camerino did not give me a copy of the receipt, always making some excuse. At last he said he would have a photographic copy made. This was not forthcoming and eventually I ceased to ask Camerino for it. When I asked Camerino who had signed the receipt he replied he did not remember but believed it was two names.

I might mention here that in the period between my visit to Naples and Mr. Olivieri's visit to Milan, Camerino mentioned that the tyres were in Rome but did not say where.

I also heard that after my second visit to Colonel Campbell a Mr. Pascatore had had an interview with Count Thun, but I do not know what took place at the interview.

When Camerino told me the tyres had been taken by the Order he did not say when they were taken and I was surprised that they had been collected, I forgot to ask him the date of the transaction.

I did not see Camerino again until the end of March, in the meantime I had enquired through Duchessa Vargas

(Continuation of STATEMENT of Carlo de DOMINICIS)

Vargas/ whether the tyres had been received. Full enquiries within the Order were made and it was found that the tyres had not been received. As it appeared obvious that something was very wrong with the whole thing, Count Thun prepared a memorandum for submission to the Allied Commission. The memorandum was not sent for some time. Meanwhile I met Camerino in Via Veneto one morning, I do not remember the date. I was in company with Advocate Muzzi, via Caracini No. 4, and Signorina d'Urso, a friend of the fiance of Camerino.

After greeting me, Camerino invited me to have a drink at a nearby cafe. We all went in a cafe and during the course of the conversation I asked what had happened to the receipt for the tyres. Camerino said "Lets not talk about it. It will be better if we do not discuss it. We have decided to make an offer of one hundred and fifty thousand lire to the Order of Malta for the poor, fifty thousand to be given by Colonel Campbell, myself and Caproni. This will be given providing the whole matter of the tyres is dropped". This was said in the presence and hearing of Advocate Muzzi and the girl. I replied "No, do you think you can buy the silence of Count Thun. All I want to know is 'Who signed that receipt' ?". He replied "It is quite impossible to tell you at the present time who signed the receipt, but I may be able to tell you after Colonel Campbell has gone home on release. Believe me Count Thun will accept this offer to avoid a scandal within the Order of Malta". I told Camerino I would speak to Count Thun but I was sure the offer of one hundred and fifty thousand lire would not be accepted. That ended the conversation. Camerino left and I have not seen him since.

I reported this incident to the Duchess Vargas who in turn reported to Count Thun. Later a memorandum on this subject was sent to Colonel Graham.

This Statement has been read over to me and is true.

(Signed) Carlo de DOMINICIS.

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of Captain R.A. Savill at 11 am. the 30th. April, 1946.
Captain Savill acted as Interpreter.

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(Signed). E.J. BYE, Colonel.

Acting Director

Public Safety Sub-Commission.

ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS
Public Safety Sub-Commission
A.P.O. 394

27th. April, 1946.

STATEMENT OF Ferdinando Conte di THUN HORNSTEIN,
Via Condotti No. 68, Rome.

I am a member of the Council of the Order of Malta whose headquarters are at No. 68, Via Condotti, Rome. I deal with all external matters connected with the Order.

In the beginning of November, 1945, I was told by the Duchess of Vargas who is the wife of a member of the Order, that a Professor Camerino could obtain tyres from the Allied Commission which could be sold to reputable dealers and the proceeds allocated to the Evacuee Fund of the Order. The fund was administered by the Order of Malta and was used to assist persons who had been rendered homeless by the war. There was a camp at Trastevere near Rome.

The Duchess informed me there would be two hundred tyres available. Fifty of these tyres were to be obtained by an official request to the Allied Commission, the remaining one hundred and fifty were to be obtained by Professor Camerino.

I did not make a request myself but I know the Chancellor to the Order did so for the fifty tyres.

Later in November I met Professor Camerino at the Duchess of Vargas's house. I asked Camerino whether it was necessary for me to take any definite action with regard to this proposal and he replied " No, the tyres will be forthcoming and you can devote the proceeds to the Order ". I am not certain but I believe that during ~~the~~ this interview Professor Camerino mentioned that it would be very acceptable if the Order of Merit, an honour conferred by the Order of Malta, was awarded to three British Officers. I think he mentioned their names but I am not sure. Camerino told me the tyres could be purchased from the Allied Commission for 3,000 lire each and could be sold for not more than 14,000 lire each.

I have not seen Camerino since that interview. I should mention that during the interview with Camerino he mentioned that he intended to give a dinner party. He did not give any specific reason for giving a dinner party but gave me

(Continuation of STATEMENT of Ferdinando Conte
di THUL HONINSTEIN) .

me/ the impression it was to be given as a token of satisfaction for being able to assist the Order. He said he would invite twenty of twenty-two persons, I alone from the Order. The others would be important officials in the Italian of Allied Military Governments. I believe it was intended to include the three officers whom it was desired should be decorated. Two officers were in London and Camerino said he would arrange for them to return to Italy. The other was in Rome. He said it was desired that the awards should be presented by me during the dinner.

I told Camerino I would accept the invitation to the dinner but would consider the question of presenting awards to the three officers.

I thought the matter over for several days and eventually came to the conclusion that it would not be in good taste to accept the invitation to the dinner but that the decorations might be presented on some future date. I asked one of my secretaries to acquaint Camerino of my decision.

A few days after the interview with Camerino I received a typewritten note giving the names of three officers to whom the awards were to be made. I have sent the original of this note to Colonel Graham. The note was unsigned.

The names were:-

Brigadier Duncan Law ANDERSON, C.B.E.

Colonel John Alexander CAMPBELL, M.C.

and

Brigadier Gerald Ritchie UPJOHN, K.C.

The note also gave full particulars of the Officers.

I do not know who sent the note to me. It was delivered by hand.

The promised tyres did not arrive and I heard no more about the matter until late in December, after Christmas, when a man I now know to be Ing. Pescatore telephoned me. He said he wished to see me on behalf of the Allied Commission about the tyres which had been promised to the Order. I arranged to see him at my office the following day.

Pescatore arrived as arranged. I assumed he 4225 represented the Allied Commission and I asked him why we had not received the tyres. He replied it was very difficult as he was afraid the tyres might go on to the Black Market, however, he could sell them to his own firm and, providing it

(Continuation of STATEMENT of Ferdinando, Conte
di THUN HOHNSTEIN.)

it/ was agreeable to me he could obtain them, sell them and hand me the proceeds. I replied that it had already been arranged for the tyres to be sold to another dealer and therefore I could not agree to Ing. Pescatore's proposition.

By this time I was very suspicious something was wrong about the whole transaction.

So far we have not received any tyres. I have neither seen nor heard of Pescatore since his interview with me. I personally have taken no further action in the matter of the tyres or the proposed decorations, but Commander di Dominici another member of the Order, has been pursuing the question of the tyres on my behalf.

THIS STATEMENT HAS BEEN READ OVER TO ME AND IS TRUE.

(Signed) Ferdinando THUN HOHNSTEIN.

THIS STATEMENT WAS TAKEN DOWN BY ME IN THE PRESENCE OF CAPTAIN R.A. SAVILL, AT 11.30 A.M. ON 27TH. APRIL, 1946. CAPTAIN SAVILL ACTED AS INTERPRETER.

(Signed) E.J.BYE, COLONEL,

Acting Director,
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

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C O P Y

Colonel John Alexander Campbell, M.C.
Highland Light Infantry.

Father's Name	:	Thomas Campbell.	} Deceased.
Mother's Name	:	Elizabeth Robertson.	
Born	:	1897.	
Place	:	Renfrewshire, Scotland.	
Commissioned in His Britannic Majesty's Army			
	:	November, 1914.	
Retired	:	1920.	
Recalled	:	1939.	
Profession or Occupation		Company Director - Financial and Industrial. 1921 - 1939.	
Religion	:	Church of Scotland.	

C O P Y

Brigadier Gerald Ritchie Upjohn, K.C.,
Welsh Guards.

Father's Name	:	William Henry Upjohn.
Mother's Name	:	Lucy Rhys Williams.
Born	:	February 1903.
Place	:	County Aberdare.
Commissioned in Army		:
	:	1939.
Profession or Occupation		:
	:	King's Counsellor.
Religion	:	Church of England.

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T.H.

27th April 1946

Statement of Gerardo Conte di
Gium Hohenstein, Via Condotti No 68
Rome.

I am a member of the Council
of the Order of Malta whose
headquarters are at No 68 Via
Condotti. I deal with all
not optional matters connected
with the Order.

In the beginning of November
1945 I was told by the Duchess
of Vargas, who is the wife of
a member of the Order that
a Professor Luminio could
obtain licences from the Allied
Commission which could be
sold to reputable dealers and
the proceeds allocated to the
Evacuee Fund of the Order.

J.T.H.

2

The fund was administered by the Order of Malta and was used to assist persons who had been rendered homeless by the war. There was a camp at Giustexere, near Rome.

The Duchess informed me there would be two hundred types available. Fifty of these types were to be obtained by an official request to the Allied Commission, the remaining one hundred and fifty were to be obtained by Professor Camerino.

I did not make a request myself but I believe ^{know} the Chancellor to the Order did so for the fifty types. 4224

Later in November I met Professor Camerino at the Duchess Vargio house. I asked Camerino whether

J. T. H.

83

it was necessary for me to take any definite action with regard to this proposal and he replied "No the types will be forthcoming and you can devote the proceeds to the Order." I am not certain but I believe that during this interview Professor Cammino mentioned that it would be very acceptable if the Order of ~~Malta~~ ^{St. John} merit an honor conferred by the Order of Malta was awarded to these British Officers. I think he mentioned three names but I am not sure. Cammino told me the types could be purchased from the Allied Commission for ⁴²²¹ 3,000 line each and could be sold for not more than 14,000 line each.

I have not seen Cammino

J.T.H.

04

Since that interview. I should mention that during the interview with Camerino he mentioned that he intended to give a dinner party. He did not give any specific reason for giving a dinner party but gave me the impression it was to be given as a token of satisfaction for being able to assess the Order.

He said he would invite twenty or twenty two persons. I alone from the Order. The others would be important officials in the Italian or Allied Military Government. I believe it was intended to include ⁴²² the three Officers whom it was desired should be decorated. Two Officers were in London and Camerino said he would arrange for them to return to Italy. The

J. I. H.

5

other was in Rome. He said it was desired that the awards should be presented by me during the dinner ~~party~~.

I told Camerino I would accept the invitation to the dinner but would consider the question of presenting awards to the three Officers.

I thought the matter over for several days and eventually came to the conclusion that it would not be in good taste to accept the invitation to the dinner but that the decorations might be presented ^{on} ~~at~~ some future date. I asked one of my Secretaries to acquaint Camerino of my decision. 421°

A few days after the interview with Camerino I received a letter a typewritten note giving

L.T.H.
6

the names of three Officers to whom the awards were to be made.

I have sent the original of this note to Colonel Conaham.

The note was unsigned. It ^{gave} ~~was~~ the names. The names were Brigadier Duncan Law Anderson. C.B.E.

Colonel John Alexander Campbell M.C. and Brigadier Gerald Ritchie Upjohn K.C. The note also gave full particulars ^{of} ~~regarding~~ the Officers. ^{antecedents} ~~antecedents~~.

I do not know who sent the note to me. It was delivered by hand.

The promised types did not arrive and I heard no more about the matter until late^{ly} in December; after Christmas, when a man I now know to be Sgt. Peccatone telephoned

J. I. H.

0 7

me. He said he wished to see me on behalf of the Allied Commission about the types which had been promised to the Order. I arranged to see him at my office the following day.

Roscato arrived as arranged. I assumed he represented the Allied Commission and I asked him why we had not received the types. He replied it was very difficult as he was afraid the types might go on to the black market, however he ^{could see them to his own} ~~could see them to his own~~ ~~firm~~ ^{firm} ~~and to his own~~ he could sell the types, and providing it was agreeable to me, he could obtain them, sell them ⁴²¹⁷ ~~his dealer~~ and hand-me the proceeds. I replied that

J.T. H.

08

it had already been arranged for the types to be sold to ~~an~~ ^{another} ~~my~~ ~~dealer~~ ~~director~~ of a ~~transport service~~, and therefore I could not agree to Ing. Pescatore's proposition.

By this time I was very suspicious something was wrong about the whole transaction.

Up to far we have not received any types. I have ~~not~~ ^{nothing} seen nor heard of Pescatore since his interview with me. I personally have taken no further action in the matter of the types nor the proposed decorations, but Commander de Dominici, another member of the Order has been pressing the question of the types ⁴²¹ on my behalf.

This statement has been

read over to me and is
true.

Ferdinando Strom Holmstein

This statement was taken
down by me in the presence
of Capt R.H. Saville. at 11:30am
22nd April 1946.

E. J. Wye Colonel
9 Director. P.S.

0374

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

785016

Carlo de Dominicis

Roma - Via Quattro Castellani 12

LDD

Public Safety S/C.

29th April 1946

Statement of Carlo de Dominicis
Via Gualtero Castellini No 12. Rome.
Independent.

I am member of the Order of Malta
with the rank of Cavalier.

Early in September 1945 I
had occasion to visit the Allied
Commission Office on personal
business. While at the information
desk I was introduced to
Professor Cammino. He was a
complete stranger to me. At
the time I was wearing the
badge of the Order of Malta on
my coat. Later Cammino
apparently observed I was
wearing the badge and said.

"Oh you are a member of
the Order of Malta. I am ⁴²¹⁴
glad I have met you for
I want to help the Order and

Celt

[2]

I think I am in a position to help quite a lot." I told Professor Cammino that I was not an Official of the Order but merely a member. However if he wished to assist the Order I would introduce him to the Duchess Vargas who was a Lady of the Order and who could decide how any help could be given.

I asked Cammino ~~also~~ in a joking way whether he wished to become a member of the Order. He replied "no. I have hundreds of Orders but I would like to assist these English friends of mine to become members". He did not mention names. We arranged that Cammino should see the Duchess⁴²¹⁰ Vargas and two days later

Cedex

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I met Cammino by appointment and took him to the Duchess Vargas' house, at Via Serpieri No 10.

The Duchess, Cammino and I were present at the interview.

The Duchess asked Professor Cammino in what way and why he wished to assist the Order. He replied that he was anxious to assist these English Friends to become members of the Order and he desired to know what it was necessary to do to achieve that object.

The Duchess informed Cammino that it would be necessary for some substantial gift to be made to the Order.

Cammino said he was in a position to supply 2 buses 5 cars and 1 ambulance to the Order. To do so it would be necessary for the Order to make a written application

Selling

to the Allied Commission, War
Materials Disposal Dept. but the
application should be given to him
and not sent direct to the
Commission.

After the interview the Duchess
discussed the matter with the
Chancellor of the Order and it
was decided the offer of the
vehicles could not be accepted
as they were not needed.

I telephoned to Camerino
(NO 64846) the decision and
made an appointment to see
him the same day in the
entrance Hall of the Commission
building. I saw Camerino and
he then offered to obtain 1
fifty tyres for the use of the
Order of Malta and a further
hundred and fifty which could
be sold and the proceeds given
to the Order.

421¹

As I could not make a decision

BOW

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I arranged for Cammino to see the Duchess again. The interview took place and then Cammino explained that the whole of the two hundred types could be purchased through him from the War Materials Disposal Board for three thousand five each and sold for not more than fourteen thousand five each. The Duchess, myself and Cammino were present at this interview.

No decision was taken at this time but it was arranged for a further interview to take place at the Duchess's house where Count Thun, who was responsible for the administration of Ryugasaki Camp under the care of the Order, would be present and decide whether the offer could or could not be accepted. It was explained to Cammino that the money derived

Satz

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from the sale of the typewriters would be devoted to the Refugee Camps.

An application for fifty typewriters had been prepared and signed by the Chancellor. This was given by me to Camerino.

He then said that no application was necessary for the further one hundred & fifty typewriters.

All these interviews took place during September.

At the interview at which Count Xhuv was present, the Count, after the position had been explained to him, decided to accept the offer. Camerino said the typewriters would be forthcoming in a few days.

I do not know whether Camerino mentioned to Count Xhuv ^{at the time of the interview} the fact he intended to give a dinner party ^{at 20} all the time of the interviews ^{at 20} but Camerino told me about the proposed dinner party some days later.

Sally

17

and showed me the list of persons it was proposed to invite. The list contained the names of prominent members of the Italian Government and also of English Officials.

I kept in close contact with Carnemino during this period, generally by phone as I expected each day to be informed the types were available.

I informed the Duchess Vargas of the proposed dinner party.

She apparently discussed the matter with Count Thun for a few days later she asked me to inform Carnemino that the Count could not accept the invitation to the dinner party. This I did. I should

mention that one day during this time Carnemino gave me a type written paper containing the names of three British

S.D.

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officers whom it was desired
should be decorated. I remember
the names of Brigadier Anderson and
Colonel Campbell but I do not
recall the third name.

I gave the list to the Duchess
to pass to Count Skene.

Some three or four days after
I had told Camerino the Count
could not accept the
invitation to the dinner party,
I met him at the ^{advice} Commission
Office and he took me to
see Colonel Campbell in the
latter's Office. He introduced
me to Colonel Campbell and
then carried on a conversation
in English with Colonel Campbell
which I did not understand.

He then asked me in Italian
when the decorations would
be ready for presentation.

I told him they were being
prepared. He then ~~spoke to~~
let in English again to Col

[9]

[9]

Campbell after which we left the office. I held no conversation with Colonel Campbell.

On leaving I asked Cammino whether Col Campbell would write a letter to the Board making a definite promise of the types. Cammino said such a letter was not necessary and it was not usual for such letters to be sent, but to reassure the Board he himself would write a letter.

A day or so later I received a note from Cammino, dated 19th October 1945 in which he expressed regret for delay in delivery and explained that Col Campbell had gone to London but the types would be available the following week.

On this note I now produce. (NOI)
I waited for some time, keeping in touch with Cammino meanwhile.

Sally

10

but the types did not arrive. Eventually in the beginning of December Camerino told me the two hundred types were at Naples, if but we must provide our own transport to collect them. He did not give me the address from where the types were, but stated he would send the address to me at Naples by A C Cousin.

I went to Naples with the Duchess.

We waited three days but heard nothing from Camerino so returned to Rome.

On my return I at once got into touch with Camerino and he then said the types were not in Naples but in Milan.

I did not go to Milan, but a Mr. Olivieri, a director of a transport service, to whom we had arranged to sell the types, went to Milan to collect them.

Before he left Rome I saw Camerino in the Allica Commission

207

building, together with Mr Olivieri and Camerino gave us a note written in pencil, unsigned, which indicated that the two hundred tyres and four vehicles, the latter for the order of San Sepulchro, could be obtained from Major Strachan-Andas, in the War Material Disposal Office in Milan.

The note was written in Italian.

This note I now produce. (No 2)

Mr Olivieri left for Milan. After a day or so we received a telegram from him in which he said he could not obtain the tyres and he returned at once to Rome.

On Mr Olivieri's return Laplace contacted Camerino and asked why we were being sent on fruitless errands, when Camerino suggested we go and see Col Campbell. I went with Camerino to Col Campbell's Office and after passing the time⁴²⁰ of day with Col Campbell, he and

CJ

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Cammie held a conversation in English and then we left. I asked Cammie what had taken place and he replied. "Oh let Campbell is running Milan and you will get the types in a few days. I told Cammie I thought the Order was being treated very badly and I doubted if we should ever get the types and then left.

I neither saw nor heard any more of Cammie until the middle or end of January when I met him by chance in the street. Cammie then said. Do you know that the types have been taken by the Order of Malta, but they only took seventy and renounced their right to the other hundred and thirty. I told Cammie I did not believe the Order had received any types. He replied 4200 was ~~not~~ certain the types had been given

old

[17]

to the board. I then asked who had given a receipt and could I have a copy. Cammino said "Yes I will get you a copy of the receipt." I saw Cammino each day for several days in the entrance hall of the Commission building but Cammino did not give me a copy of the receipt always making some excuse. At last he said he would have a photographic copy made. This was not forthcoming and eventually I ceased to ask Cammino for it. When I asked Cammino who had signed the receipt he replied he did not remember but believed it was two names.

I might mention here that in the period between my visit to Naples and Mr Olivieri's visit to Milan Cammino mentioned that the tyres were in Rome but did not say where.

Edw

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I also heard that after my second visit to Col Campbell a Mr Pescatore had had an interview with Count Zimm but I do not know what took place at the interview.

When Cammino told me the typos had been taken by the Order he did not say when they were taken and I was so surprised that they had been collected I forgot to ask him the date of the transaction.

I did not see Cammino again until the end of March, in the meantime I had inquired through Duchess Vargas whether the typos had been received.

Full inquiries within the Order were made and it was found that the typos had not been received. As it appeared obvious that something was very wrong with the whole thing, Count Zimm prepared a memorandum

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for submission to the Allied Commission. The memorandum was not sent for some time, meanwhile I met Cammino in

the P. Via Veneto one morning. I do not ~~now~~ remember the date.

I was in company with Advocate Maggi, Via Caroncini NO 4. and Signorina D'URSO. a friend of the fiancee of Cammino.

After greeting me Cammino invited me to have a drink at a nearby cafe. We all went in a cafe and during the course of the conversation I asked what had happened to the receipt for the tapes. Cammino said. "Let's not talk about it." It will be better if we do not discuss it." We have decided to make an offer of one hundred and fifty thousand lire to the Order of Malta, ²⁰⁰⁰ for the poor. fifty thousand to be given by Col Campbell,

eddy

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myself and Caproni. This will be given providing the whole matter of the tyros is dropped." This was said in the presence and hearing of Advocate Muzzi and the girl.

I replied. "No! Do you think you can buy the silence of Count Thun. All I want to know is 'who signed that receipt'."

He replied. "It is quite impossible to tell you at the present time who signed the receipt but I may be able to tell you after Colonel Campbell has gone home on release." Believe me Count Thun will accept this offer to avoid a scandal within the Order of Malta.

I told Carmicino I would speak to Count Thun but I was sure the offer of one hundred and fifty thousand lire would not be accepted. That ended the conversation. Carmicino left and I have not seen him since.

[17]

I reported this incident to Duchesno
Vaquez who in turn reported to
Carmichael. Later a memorandum
was sent to me this subject
to Colonel Graham.

This statement has been
read over to me and is true.

&

Saulo de Oliveira's

This statement was taken
down by me in the presence
of Capt R.A. Saville at 11 am
30th April 1946.

E. J. Dyke Colonel
of Director. P.S.

Public Safety S/C

3rd May 1946

Statement of Signor Milelli Emilio
Via Cesare Beccaria NO 88. Rome.

I am a member of the Order
of Malta and I voluntarily
assist in the administration
of the Order's Refugee Camp
at Inasterene, Rome.

Sometime during September
1945 I heard from the Duchess
Vargas that an offer was
being made from a gentleman
connected with the Allied
Commission of a number
of tyres for use by the Order.
Later, sometime in November
a meeting was arranged
at the Duchess Vargas' house
between Camp Ghum and a
Propaganda Camerino who was
to be instrumental in obtaining
the tyres. I accompanied

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Court Thum to the meeting.

There was present Court Thum, Duchies of Vargas Commandante Dominico and myself, and of course Cammino.

After we had been introduced Cammino at once explained that he could obtain two hundred types for the Order. Fifty car types for the use of the Order and one hundred and fifty others, various types which could be sold and the proceeds given to the Order.

At this stage Cammino asked what the expenditure of the Order's Refugee Camp was per annum. On being told approx 300000 lire he replied. All Right and my friends will make a present of this amount to the Order and will do so

03

many year. Cammino then said he intended to give a dinner party and showed us a list of the persons he intended to invite and at the same time extended an invitation to Count Thun.

Count Thun did not give a definite answer. Nothing was said in front of me regarding the presentation of decorations to British Officers. Cammino said the types would be available in the near future.

Count Thun later told me to prepare a letter of thanks to Professor Cammino for the types, but as they were never received, the letter was not sent. I have not seen Cammino since the interview.

4.

He was a complete stranger to me. I heard various stories regarding the location of the types but they were never received and finally on the direction of Captain Thum I prepared a memorandum dated 12th March 1946. for submission to the Allied Commission on the subject but it was not sent, but later in April it was handed to Colonel Graham.

The memorandum has now been shown to me by Colonel Bye. I should mention that when Camerino invited Captain Thum to the dinner party, he also included Commandante de Jominicio in his invitation 194

This statement has been read over to me and is true.
Arthur. Wheeler

Public Property Division²
3rd May 1946

Statement of Signor Olivieri Filippo
Piazza Giubone Regina No 1 Rome.

I am a Director of the Azienda
Trasporti Car. with Offices in
Via W. Truembler, Rome. I am
not a member of the Order
of Malta, but I am friendly
with a number of the members
including Commandante Dominici.

Sometime during November or
early December I was offered
by Count Lher, through Commandante
Dominici, the opportunity to buy
from the Order of Malta two
hundred car tyres at a
believe a price of 14,000 or 15,000
each. I understood they
were to be Allied tyres of
various types. I remember that
of the two hundred types, ¹⁹ fifty
were for use by the Order

4

He was a complete stranger to me. I heard various stories regarding the location of the types but they were never received and finally on the direction of Capt. Thum I prepared a memorandum dated 12th March 1946. for submission to the Allied Commission on the subject but it was not sent, but later in April it was handed to Colonel Graham.

The memorandum has now been shown to me by Colonel Bye. I should mention that when Camerino invited Capt. Thum to the dinner party, he also included Commandante de Jominicio in his invitation. 194

This statement has been read over to me and is true.
Austin. Wicker

This statement was taken
down by me in the presence
of Capt Danill at 12.30pm
13th May 1946

E J Aylt Colonel
C. G. W. Sub-Secretary

Public Safety Div²
3rd May 1946

Statement of Signor Olivieri Filippo
Piazza Giubone Regina NO 1 Rome.

I am a Director of the Azienda
Trasporti Car. with Offices in
Via W. Trumbore, Rome. I am
not a member of the Order
of Malta, but I am friendly
with a number of the members
including Commandante Dominici.

Sometime during November or
early December I was offered
by Count Lamm, through Commandante
Dominici, the opportunity to buy
from the Order of Malta two
hundred car tyres at a
price of 14,000 or 15,000
each. I understood they
were to be Allied tyres of
various types. I remember that
of the two hundred tyres, ¹⁹fifty
were for use by the Order

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(2)

and the remaining one hundred and fifty were to be placed at my disposal for the price I have mentioned.

The money was, I understood to be used by the Order in connection with its Refugee Camps.

The tyros I intended to purchase would have been used solely by the firm of Raitna on the vehicles owned by the company. I accepted the offer verbally. As we were friends no contract was made and nothing was put in writing.

I heard no more about the tyros until the end of December.

Then Dominico told me the tyros were in Milan. 6196

Together, one morning we went to the Allied Commission's

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②

Officers, in Via Veneto, and in the entrance Hall we met Professor Cammino. He was a stranger to me.

Dominici introduced me to Cammino and explained that I was going to Milan to bring back the types.

Professor Cammino told me I should go to the office of Major Strachan - Addis War Material Disposal Dept, in Milan, at the Montecatini Building where I should be given the types. Cammino also informed me that a friend of his, Ing. Pomariva, was also going to Milan. He would meet me there and assist me to get the types. Cammino did not give me anything in writing neither did I see him give

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②

anything to Dominicis ~~was~~
~~fact~~ neither did I see him write
anything while we were with
him. We were together the
whole of the time and ~~we~~ ^{Dominicis & I}
left together.

I went to Milan, taking with
me a letter from the Baden
authorising me to collect the
types. I did not see Ing
Romanova in Milan, but I went
direct to the Office of Major
Buchan. Audio. I saw him,
handed him the letter from the
Baden and explained the reason
for my visit. Major Buchan
Audio told me he knew nothing
of the matter. He did not give
me any types. He told me ^{419g} to
return the following day,
meanwhile he would telephone
Colonel Campbell in Rome.

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I returned to his office as directed and Major Strachan Andro told me Colonel Campbell knew nothing about the tyres, so therefore I eventually returned to Rome without them.

I reported what had happened to Commandante Dominico.

I have not, up to this time received any tyres and have heard nothing further until I was asked to come to the Allied Commission's Offices this morning.

I have not seen Camerino since my original interview.

This statement has been read over to me and is true. 1189

E. H. Oliver

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of Capt R. A. Savill on 11 am 3rd May 1946

E. H. Oliver Colonel
Pub. Safety S/C

Muzi

Public Safety S/C
4th May 1946

Statement of GOTT. CORRADO MUZI.
Via CARONCINI. NO 4. Rome
Tel. 871454.

I am a friend of Commandante
D'Dominicis. I am not a member
of the Order of Malta.

One day during the latter part
of March I was with Commandante
Dominicis in the Allied Commission
building on a personal
visit to Col Graham.

As we were leaving the
building we met Professor
Cammino, whom I had met
once before. He was with
a young lady whom I did
not know. We spoke together
for a moment and then
Professor Cammino invited
us to have a drink in
a nearby bar. We walked

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May

up via Veneto to the bar
which was in a street
adjoining Via Veneto. I walked
in front with the girl and
d'Onofrio and Cammino walked
behind us. As we were
walking along I heard
Cammino say to d'Onofrio
"Don't let us talk about this
any more. It will be better
if nothing more is said. We
will make an offer of
fifty thousand each, namely
myself, Caproni and a
certain Colonel." He did not
say the name of the Colonel
then. We then went into 418
the bar and had a drink.

We remained in the bar
about five minutes, then we
left and walked down
towards the Piazza Barbini

3

July

we walked abreast, and almost immediately Camerino said. "This is a very complicated business. There is an Allied Colonel involved and the full story can only be told when he has gone on release."

Camerino mentioned the name of a Colonel but I do not remember it now. At this point we became separated slightly on account of passing people in the street. Therefore I did not hear any reply which d'Amico may have made and there was no further conversation on the subject. No mention was made of this subject in the Cafe.

On reaching Piazza Barberini the girl and I went slightly ahead. As Camerino and

4

d'Dominicis caught up with us I heard Cammino say.

"It would be better if Count Lunn kept quiet too as there is someone else in the Order of Malta involved."

After a moments general conversation we separated.

I knew nothing of the circumstances of this case before the meeting that morning, but after parting from Cammino d'Dominicis explained the case to me and to what the conversation referred. d'Dominicis has not spoken to me since until the past few days.

4183

His statement has been read over to me and is true.

J. A. Carrado Ruiz

This statement was taken down
by me at Ham. 4th May 1946.
in the presence of Capt R A Savile
who acted as Interpreter

E J Rye Colonel
Director Pub. Safety

J.S.M.

Public Safety, SIC

6th May 1946

Statement of Luchessa, Gladys de
Vargas MACHUCA. Via Serpieri
No 10. Rome. Tel. 870231.

My husband is a knight of the
Order of Malta and I have
worked for the Order in
connection with the Order's
Refugee Camp. I took over the
work in the Camp from
Commandante de Dominici whom
I know well.

At the end of September or the
beginning of October last year
Commandante Dominici informed
me that a Professor Camino
wished to assist the Order
and as Count Thun was ^{418*}
abroad from Rome asked if
I would interview Professor
Camino at my house.
Camino was not then known

S. J. Am.

2

to me. An interview was arranged and de Dominico brought Camino to my house. I asked Camino why and how he wished to assist the Order. He replied, "We in the Allied Commission are naturally interested in your Refugee Camp and would like to assist as much as we can and incidentally I would like to help three of my friends to be accommodated by the Order." He did not mention the names of his friends.

Professor Camino went on to say that there were some motor vehicles available by the Allied Commission. I do not remember the exact number of vehicles but I believe he mentioned three more. One was, a 1955

S. S. F. M.

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Ambulances and six civilian cars. The bus and Ambulances would be given to the Order and the civilian cars would be sold to the Order for thirty thousand five each.

No decision could be made then and Cammino left. The offer however was conveyed to the Chancellor of the Order who decided that the vehicles could not be made good use of by the Order and therefore declined the offer.

Later a second meeting with Cammino was arranged at my house. At this meeting there were Commandante De Dominicis, Cammino and me.

Cammino expressed disappointment at the refusal of the Order to accept the bus and then

S. set Am.

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said he could obtain a number of types for the Order without ~~any~~ payment. No number of types was mentioned. We told Camerino we would convey this offer to the Chancellor for decision. Camerino then left. I spoke to the Chancellor, he accepted the offer and asked what action was necessary by the Order to obtain the types.

I communicated this decision to Commandante de Dominici.

Later de Dominici informed me he had communicated with Camerino who asked that the Order submit a written application for the types. No number was given. I informed the Chancellor, who prepared an application for fifty types. He signed the application and

S. def Am.

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gave it to me. The application was type written on the order's official note paper.

I informed de Dominico I had been given the application by the Chancellor and one or two days later de Dominico told me he had made an appointment for me to hand the application to Cancino at the Allied Commission building. He also said that Cancino asked that I too sign the application as this would indicate the application was the one which Cancino had previously consented the ^{to} ~~order~~ ^{about}. I signed the application under the signature of the Chancellor and took it to the AC building. On my arrival Cancino was waiting for me outside

S. de F. M.

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the building. I handed the application to him and left.

I did not discuss the matter with him. Again about a week later, I believe in October de Dominico brought Camerino to my house. There were ~~the~~ de Dominico, Camerino and I present. At this meeting Camerino suggested that in addition to the fifty tyros which the Order had applied for, he would obtain a further one hundred & fifty which could be sold and the proceeds devoted to the Refugee Camp. As the Refugee Camp was under my control I accepted the offer at once. 417

Later on still, as a result of this meeting, a further meeting with Camerino was arranged at my house at which

S. J. Am.

C. I

Count Thun, Signor Milelli;
Commandante de Dominis,
Professor Cammino and myself
were present. After
introductions, Cammino repeated
his offer. He then explained he
would like to assist three friends
of his to be decorated by the
Order. ~~He~~ ~~it~~ ~~said~~ He mentioned
the names but I do not
remember them. They were
English. Then Cammino
mentioned he intended to give
a dinner party at the Piazza
Hotel, in Rome, he himself
would defray the cost and
at the dinner he hoped that
the decorations would be
presented by Count Thun. 410
Count Thun said he would consider
the invitation to the dinner party.
Cammino then asked Milelli

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how much the current expenses of the camp were and on being told 300,000 line per annum, said that he and his friends would make a gift to the Order of that amount. Cammino then left.

Apart from a luncheon engagement with Cammino I have not seen him since. neither have I had any direct dealing in this proposed transaction.

So far as I know the Order has not received any tyros, cars, or any other kind of material. neither have we received the promised three hundred thousand line from Cammino.

I should mention that at one of the meetings Cammino

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said "As a sign of my good faith I will now give you five thousand lire for your Refugee Camp" and she gave me an envelope containing five thousand lire which I handed to Rognos Milette, who was the accountant for the Camp.

This statement has been read over to me and is true.
Gloria Seton Jones Milette

This statement was taken down by me after interpretation by from Italian to English by Captain R A Saville at 11 am
6th & 7th May 1946.

E. J. Dyer Col.

St.

Public Safety Sub. Com.
1st June 1946Statement of Signore PESCATORE Enrico Via
SETTEMBRE No. 1, ROME. Industrial Director.

"I am the Industrial Director for the firm of Messrs. Caproni. I know Colonel Campbell and other officers of the War Materials Disposal Board, by reason of the fact that my firm had dealings with the Board in the purchase of about 26,000 second-hand types (Salvage). One day during either December, 1945, or January, 1946, as far as I remember, Col. Campbell ~~was~~ ^{asked} me to see some ~~thing~~ ^{of} the Order of Malta with regard to the supply to the Order of some types for which the Order had already made a demand. The purpose of supply was a charitable one and Col. Campbell instructed me to supply ^{the types} at the lowest price without

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Prof. spoke to my Director, Signor
Cassini and he instructed me to sell the
tires to the Order at cost price. The cost
price would have been in the region of
two to four thousand lire per tire.
This was not an unusual procedure
as we had supplied other charitable
organizations with tires at cost price.
Col. Campbell did not tell me how
many tires the Order required. I made
an appointment by phone and later saw
Count Thun, and I explained to him
that I had come from the Allied
Commission in connection with their
request for tires. Count Thun told
me he required tires for motor cars. I
explained to him that the tires available
were only for large trucks. Count Thun
replied that such tires were useless
for their purpose. There the discussion
ended and I left as it was obvious
that we could not supply the tires
required by the order. Count Thun did

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not mention the number of types required so far as I know the Order has never received any types. I did not report to anyone that the offer had fallen through until about a month later when I saw Col. Campbell on other matters, and then mentioned we were unable to supply the Order with the type of types required. Col. Campbell replied, "Very well it can't be helped". That is all I know. I should add that when I saw Count Thun the question of the allocation of the types was discussed and I told Count Thun that whilst we knew the types asked for were for the Order of Malta and as such was above suspicion, we had to be very careful any types did not find their way into the black market. Count Thun did not mention to me that the Order did wish to sell some of the types and devote the proceeds to the Refugee Camp. As mentioned before I knew the types were

for a charitable object and that the Order needed money for its Refugee Camp as it always has done, but I did not suggest to Count Thun that I could sell the tyres and give the proceeds to the Order. I am certain of that. I know Professor Camerino as a man who endeavoured to form an Association of Italian firms to buy trucks from the War Material Disposal. I have never spoken to Camerino about the offer of tyres to the Order of Malta, neither has he spoken to me of this matter at any time. I did not and do not know whether Camerino was or is interested in the offer of tyres to the Order of Malta. After the interview with Count Thun I forgot all about the matter until I saw Col. Byge this morning. I have never been employed in any way by the Allied ~~and~~ Commissions, and have only contacted the Commissions as I have just stated. This statement has been read over to me and is true.

(Continued overleaf)

bunoo' Tjente

Public Safety Division

Statement of GINO CAMERINO.
age 49, Via Del GAMBERO NO 30
Rome. Professor in Philosophy.
Business man.

7/12 I am a business man and
reside at Via Del Gambero NO 30
Rome. I was born in Italy
but left when a boy, returning
in 1915. I became a Professor at
the Padova University. I left Italy
again in 1926 for political reasons
returning again in 1940.

In 1943 I worked in an
honorary capacity at Puglia
for A.M.G. with Lt Col Nichols
and Major Talbot. Later in
1944 I went to Bari and
worked with 315 Field Security
Section, under Capt Perkins. I
eventually came to Rome in 1944
about a month after the Allies
had occupied the city.

for a charitable object and that the Order needed money for its Refugee Camp as it always has done, but I did not suggest to Count Thun that I could sell the tires and give the proceeds to the Order. I am certain of that. I know Professor Camerino as a man who endeavored to form an Association of Italian firms to buy trucks from the war material disposal. I have never spoken to Camerino about the offer of tires to the Order of Malta, neither has he spoken to me of this matter at any time. I did not and do not know whether Camerino was or is interested in the offer of tires to the Order of Malta. After the interview with Count Thun I forgot all about the matter until I saw Col. Byr this morning. I have never been employed in any way by the Allied ~~and~~ Commission and have only contacted the Commission as I have just stated. This statement has been read over to me and is true.

Bruno's Signature

(Continued overleaf)

This statement was taken down by me
in the presence of Colonel E. J. Byr, and
Captain R. A. Saville, the latter acting as
Interpreter, at 10:30 a.m., 1st June, 1946.

R. A. Saville, Major.

E. J. Byr Colonel.
Actg Director.

Public Safety Division

Statement of GINO CAMERINO.
age 49, Via Del GAMBERO NO 30
Rome. Professor in Philosophy.
Business man.

H.C.

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and Major Talbot. Later in
1944 I went to Bari and
worked with 315 Field Security
Section, under Capt Perkins. I
eventually came to Rome in 1944
about a month after the Allies
had occupied the city.

CO 7

Apart from my honorary position with A.M.G. at Luglia and my honorary employment with Field Security Section I have never been employed by the Allied Government either with A.M.G./A.C. or any other Body.

My work has always been honorary and I have invariably paid my own expenses.

I have not had an honorary appointment with A.C. nor have I been connected with A.C. in any way.

Early in 1945, with the co-operation of the Italian Government I formed an association of motor car manufacturers for the purpose of purchasing trucks from the Allied Government.

Amongst the members of the Association were Signor the

CO 3

- Fiat works Rome, representative
Ing. MINOLI. Lancia works Turin
Representative not known;
RIGHI works Bologna,
representative. Ing. SOMMERIVA.
The C.A.R. works, Rome.
Representative not known.

There were also other
companies whose names I
cannot at the moment remember.
Having formed the Association
the terms of which were put
into writing, I was then
introduced to Colonel Campbell
by the Marquis CITTADINI
CESI, the Liaison Officer between
the Presidency of the Council
of Ministers and the Allied
Commission.

416

I explained to Colonel Campbell
the objects of the Association,
namely, to buy trucks from
the War Materials Disposal Board

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for use by the companies in
the association. If successful
a company would be formed.

The scheme had the approval
of the Italian Government.

Colonel Campbell said he
would do what he could
but however, we were not
successful in buying anything
from War Materials. We were
in fact offered, and obtained
the release of 2,000 (two
thousand) trucks from the
W. M. D. Board under the
condition that the Italian
Government approved the release.

This was about October 1945.
The Italian Government did
not give consent and the
whole scheme fell through.
and in consequence the
association was dissolved.

I have known Mr. De Dominicis

CO 5

For some considerable time
I do not remember when
I was first introduced to him.

One day, I do not remember
when, Sr. Dominicio mentioned
to me ~~that~~ the necessity of
procuring tyres for the
cars of the Order of Malta
and asked my advice as
to the best means to obtain
them. I suggested he
approached the War Materials
Disposal Board. This was
in 1945, somewhere in October
or November. I cannot remember
the actual date.

The next step was ~~that~~ I took
Sr. Dominicio to see Colonel
Campbell. I do not remember
the date but it was very soon
after Sr. Dominicio had approached
me for the tyres.

I introduced Sr. Dominicio to

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to Colonel Campbell and he
conversed with De Dominicis
either through me or his
Interpreter. I do not remember
which. I explained to Col
Campbell the request of De
Dominicis for some tyres and
Colonel Campbell promised
to do what he could to
obtain them for the Order.

No price was mentioned or
any question of payment, neither
was the number of tyres
mentioned. After this very
brief interview De Dominicis and
I left. Later I told De Dominicis
there would be the usual price
to pay, it would be very
small but I did not know
the amount. I knew a price
was charged because Caproni
whom I knew, had bought
a large amount of tyres from

007

the ~~Allied Commission~~ ^{EJB}
Caserta or the Allied Commission
paying, I believe, about 50 lines
per kilo. No actual number of
tyres was ever mentioned but
I understood from De Dominicis
that the Board would like
anything from fifty to
two hundred tyres.

I later met Colonel Campbell
casually and on mentioning
the question of the tyres
he told me he was trying
to get them from either
Naples or Milan. I had
no business dealings with
Colonel Campbell therefore
I only saw him socially
at infrequent intervals.

I knew most of the Officers ^{AG}
in War Materials Disposal Board.

At about this time the whole
of the captured enemy material

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and surplus was turned
over to the Italian Government
and therefore that was the
end of any tyris being given
or sold to the Order of Malta.

What I have said is absolutely
true and there is nothing to
add to this story.

I should add here that I gave
five or ten thousand lire, I
do not remember the exact
amount, to the Order, out of
my own pocket, as a gift
to their Charity. I am of
independent means and
therefore could afford to
do it.

I now remember that after De
Dominicis had first spoken to me
about the tyris I went with ^{him} ^{416x}
him and he introduced me
to the Duchess of Vargas. I do
not remember whether it was

before or after I took De Dominicis
to see Col Campbell, but I
believe it was before. Altogether
I went three times to his flat
and she came once to mine
with her husband the Duke of
Vargas. I also remember now
we spoke about ambulances but
I do not remember whether I
or they broached the subject.
However I was later told that
the Grand of Malta could not
use the ambulances but that
they might be of use to the
Grand of San Sepolcro.

I remember now I was told
by the Duchess or by Count
Thurn that the Refugee Camp
had an independent Budget
and the idea was so far as I
could gather, that the Grand
should receive the types in
the condition it made a grant

10

to the Refugee Camp. I do not remember ^{at} ~~which~~ on which occasion I met Count Shum at the Duchers' house, but I believe it was my second visit.

When I saw Count Shum he, or the Duchers, suggested I might be prepared to accept an honour from the Crown in recognition of the help I was affording the Crown in endeavouring to obtain the tyres. I declined telling them jokingly I already had a large number of orders and I was not personally interested in the matter. However I did suggest the honour might be given to some British Officers and I proposed three of them. They were Brigadier Upjohn, Brigadier Anderson, and Col

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Campbell. I know all three personally. This suggestion was made by me without the Officers knowledge.

Count Thun replied he would be pleased to recommend the names of the Officers for an ~~Honour~~ ~~award~~ from the Order.

Later I received a letter from Count Thun in which he said the honour for the Officers had been approved. This letter I gave to Colonel Campbell.

As a result of the fact that honours were likely to be presented to the Officers I suggested that I give a ¹¹⁶¹ dinner party at which the honours could be presented.

I do not remember whether I made the offer through De Dominico or to Count Thun.

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minister. Brigadier Upjohn and
Brigadier Andersen were in
England then. Brigadier
Andersen was due to return.
I expected him to be at the
dinner party but not Brigadier
Upjohn. I invited Count Torni-
Cervellotto, Air Minister, ~~Atto~~
Arpessani, Under Secretary
for the Presidency. The British
Minister to the Vatican, and
others about 20 in all.

The dinner never actually took
place for a number of reasons
among which were:- the types
were not given to the order;
I was busy in Milan, and
Brigadier Andersen was no
longer in Rome. 4160

I have seen three type written
photos ^{of paper} shown me by Colonel Rye,
on which is typed the particulars
of the officers. I recognize them

13

as clips I obtained for the order to enable them to prepare the citations for the ~~&~~ Honors.

I obtained them through ~~&~~ ~~either~~ ^{Col} Sergeant Major McNeil Chief Clerk to War Materials Disposal Board. He got the particulars from Colonel Campbell and had them typed. I later handed the clips to De Dominicis.

I do not remember mentioning to Count Shum what the ~~&~~ buying or selling price of the types should. ^{same price} I may have mentioned something to him, but I do not now remember.

I remember now that De Dominicis did give me an official application in writing, I do not remember by whom it was ⁴¹⁵⁰ signed, for a number of types the exact number I do not remember.

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I do not remember what I did with it. Whether in fact I gave it to Colonel Campbell or kept it myself. I do not know why I should have kept it myself unless it was because I may have thought it was not an opportune moment to present it. It may have been because I knew that at about that time I believe in November October ~~1945~~ 1945 the whole of the material of Captured Enemy Material was being handed over to the Italian Government.

I also remember that I asked the one of the members of the Order the cost of running the Refugee Camp. I do not remember the amount stated but I do remember saying I would ask friends of mine

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to subscribe money to the Camp.
I then gave five thousand
five, which I have previously
mentioned. I did not do anything
about getting my friends to
subscribe as I was a little
disgusted with the Duchess
Vargas for private reasons.

I have been shown a letter
of mine by Colonel Bye which
I wrote to De Dominico. It is
dated the 19th October 1945 but
I do not remember the
circumstances under which
I wrote it. It may or may not
have been written immediately
following the visit of myself &
De Dominico to Col Campbell.

I now remember telling De Dominico
the tyros were in Naples. I do
not remember from whom I
received that information. It
could only have been from

CC

16

Colonel Campbell. Later I advised De Dominicis to go to Milan and contact Major Stourgh Andross, of W.M. in Milan and I gave a pencilled note to De Dominicis in order to obtain through this officer an allocation from A.R.A.R. who at that time were in possession of all war material. I have now been shown and recognize the note. When I gave the note to De Dominicis ~~there was~~ another gentleman was present. He was a stranger to me and I do not remember whether I spoke to him or not.

I do not know whether De Dominicis or anyone else went to Milan for types, but I do know I went with De Dominicis two or three times to see Colonel Campbell. Whether on occasion

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was after a visit had been
made to Milan by someone
for Order of Malta I cannot say.
It may have been so. He
warned me about the tyres so
many times I do not remember
each and every occasion.

Most probably I interpreted
for Colonel Campbell when
De Dominico saw him but I
cannot remember. In any
case Col Campbell's Secretary
and Interpreter was always
Puccini.

Colonel Campbell later told
me he had suggested to
Signor Count Caproni to sell
at cash price a certain
number of tyres, secondhand
to the Order. I have no idea
of the date. I conveyed this
information to De Dominico.

I know Caproni and Piscatone

CC 18

who is one of the Directors
of Caproni's organization
simply as business
acquaintances.

Later I saw Pescatore and
asked him if he had
supplied types to the Order
and he replied, "No. The types
are no good to them."

I do not remember whether I
knew Pescatore was going to
see the Order before he actually
went or afterwards.

At one time I did believe that
the Order had received some
types from Pescatore on behalf
of Caproni - then later Pescatore
told me himself it was not so.

It may have been I saw Do
Dominico between those trips
and told him the Order had
received ~~70 types~~ some types. I
had heard previously from

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Colonel Campbell that Caproni was supplying the Order with 70 typewriters.

I am quite sure that when I mentioned to De Dominicis that the Order had received some typewriters I am quite sure I did not say that a receipt for the typewriters had been received from the Order. Because I would not be in a position to know.

The last time I saw De Dominicis, some months ago, I do not remember where I saw him or who was present, I told him that to close up the affair of the typewriters Caproni and myself were prepared to make a gift to the Camp of Order of fifty ^{61,800} thousand line each. The reason I made this offer was because I had

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previously offered my assistance to obtain the tires but having been unsuccessful I wished to make this gift as a proof of my good will.

I had not spoken personally with Caproni about this offer but I had heard from someone probably Pescatore that he ^{Caproni} would be prepared to give fifty thousand tires.

If he did not do so I was prepared to pay one hundred thousand tires myself.

I am certain I offered on behalf of Caproni and myself. No other person was mentioned.

This statement has been read over to me and is true.

Genio Camerino

This statement was taken down by me in the presence of Major Bond at 1:30 p.m. 31st May 46
G. F. Bate Colonel

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