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LUIGI FO
(NOV. 1943)

10000/143/1883

LUIGI FORTE, (LT. J. DI ANTONIO)
(NOV. 1943); JAN. 1944 - FEB. 1945

I, the undersigned, Anthony Eric HEATH, Captain, Intelligence Corps, 115080, Regional Security Officer, Public Safety, report the following :-

1. As a result of various information which had come into my possession, on 9 January 1944 I telephoned Lieut. DIANTONIO at the Naples City Headquarters, Municipio, to enquire whether correspondence affecting a certain Mr. Luigi FORTI had been seen by him and what action had been taken; inasmuch as Mr. FORTI was known to have a penal record. It was therefore very necessary that he, Lieutenant Di Antonio, should sever all contacts with him. I added that I understood that these papers had been sent to his office by Public Safety, Region 3 Headquarters about 10 days before and I could not understand why, as had been reported, that Mr. FORTI was still in contact with A.M.G. He replied that he would endeavour to find the papers and shortly afterwards, called me up on the telephone to say that for one reason or another, these papers could not be traced. In answer to my inquiry as to whether his contacts with Mr. FORTI had been severed, Lieut. Di ANTONIO replied that in fact, Mr. FORTI's activities had ceased some time in December, but he could not recall the exact date. I pointed out to him that he and Mr. FORTI had been seen lunching together at Giacomino's Restaurant a day or so prior to our conversation. Lieut. Di ANTONIO said that he now understood what was meant by severing all contacts and that from that date i.e., 9 January 1944; he would cease all relations with Mr. FORTI.

2. On 10 January 1944, I received from Lieut. Di ANTONIO, the letter produced and dated 9 January 1944. In reply, I sent a letter to Lieut. Di ANTONIO dated 10 January 1944, carbon copy of which is produced.

3. Some days passed - I do not recollect the exact date, before I saw Lieut. Di ANTONIO who came into my office to explain some of the activities in which he had been engaged and in particular, his connections with a certain Lieut. RITONDALE whom, he informed me, he had been instrumental in arresting as a result of an inquiry by a certain woman with whom RITONDALE had made a contract. He produced the original contract which I read and returned to him. We discussed certain matters relating to black market activities generally and apart from one or two telephone conversations relating to activities concerning a firm operating in the Castellammare di Stabia area, no further contacts were made with him.

4. The next official reference made to Mr. FORTI was on 14 January 1944 when I found a statement and documents addressed to me by Lieut. Di ANTONIO and which I produce. Incidentally, Lieut. Di ANTONIO confirmed the receipt of the above mentioned letter in a telephone call at approximately 1000 hours on 14 February 1944.

14 February, 1944

(Signed) Anthony Eric HEATH

Naples, Region 3 HQ.
Allied Military Government.

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HEADQUARTERS.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION.
Security Intelligence Section.

15th February, 1944.

Lt. Col. Stephen J BORG says:-

I am now Assistant S.C.A.O. Naples Province, with an office in the Municipio. I was noting S.C.A.O. Naples City, from about 15th December, 1943, to about 2nd January, 1944, with no regular assignment. Prior to 15th December, 1943, I had heard that there was some one undesirable working in the Transportation Office. He was an Italian civilian, whose name I did not know at the time.

Towards the end of December, 1943, I was shown a report by Lt. Douglas Ratson, dated 28-12-43, attached to which was a copy of the criminal record of Luigi Forte. Although this is dated 28th December, 1943, it did not reach me until 29th December, 1943, and on receipt of which I sent for the Transport Officer, Lt. Di Antonio. It was about 5-0pm in the evening.

At the time I had Lt Ratson's report in my hand. I asked Lt. Di Antonio what he knew about Forte. He replied that he knew Forte had not a clean sheet, but he implied that he did not consider Forte's convictions bad enough to outweigh the good work Forte had done in the office. *(transformation)*

I told Di Antonio that in spite of all the good work done by Forte, he would have to be discharged at once as we could not employ a man with such a record in the office.

I did not know that Forte was not on the pay roll of Region 3. Also, I did not know in what capacity Forte was employed in the Transport Office. I have never interviewed Forte and do not know him by sight.

The next day, 30th December, 1943, Lt. Di Antonio returned to my office with the file duly endorsed, "Complied with", in red pencil. He handed me the file.

This statement has been made to the best of my recollection owing to the lapse of time, and owing to the fact that once Forte was dismissed, and I had records of the action taken, the matter was entirely dismissed from my mind.

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Towards the end of December, 1943, I was shown a report signed by Lt. Douglas Batson, dated 28-12-43, attached to which was a copy of the criminal record of Luigi Forte. Although this is dated 28th December, 1943, it did not reach me until 29th December, 1943, and on receipt of which I sent for the Transport Officer, Lt. Di Antonio. It was about 5-0pm in the evening.

At at the time I had Lt Bateon's report in my hand. I asked Lt. Di Antonio what he knew about Forte. He replied that he knew Forte had not a clean sheet, but he implied that he did not consider Forte's convictions bad enough to outweigh the good work Forte had done in the office. *(transportation) etc.*

I told Di Antonio that in spite of all the good work done by Forte, he would have to be discharged at once as we could not employ a man with such a record in the office.

I did not know that Forte was not on the pay roll of Region 3. Also, I did not know in what capacity Forte was employed in the Transport Office. I have never interviewed Forte and do not know him by sight.

The next day, 30th December, 1943, Lt. Di Antonio returned to my office with the file duly endorsed, "Complied with", in red pencil. He handed me the file.

This statement has been made to the best of my recollection owing to the lapse of time, and owing to the fact that once Forte was dismissed, and I had records of the action taken, the matter was entirely dismissed from my mind.

Done
Lt. Colonel.

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
(SECURITY INTELLIGENCE)

24 February, 1944

SUBJECT:

Unsatisfactory employment of an Italian - Luigi PORTE -
by Lieutenant Joseph Di ANTONIO, A.M.G. Naples City
Transportation Officer.

TO:

Colonel A. S. YOUNG

This report deals with certain very unsatisfactory features surrounding the former employment (unpaid) of an Italian - Luigi PORTE - in the A.M.G. Transportation Office, Naples City, under Lieutenant Joseph Di ANTONIO (Am.).

It is alleged that PORTE, during the course of his employment as above, obtained money unlawfully from civilians, under promise of securing them undue advantages from the A.M.G. Transport Officer - Lieutenant Di ANTONIO. PORTE is now in custody awaiting prosecution and, in that connection, is the subject of my report of 19 February, 1944, a copy of which is submitted herewith (marked "A") together with statements of witnesses and copy of the penal record of PORTE. (Copy of Penal Record attached - marked "G").

According to information received from Lieutenant Di ANTONIO, Professor PETHUNO (Director of the Consorzio Autotrasporto Napoletano) and from PORTE himself, the latter was a man who had interested himself for a number of years in arranging transport deals, living on commissions. Documents which were examined at PORTE's apartment tend to confirm this.

In late October, 1943, PORTE came to the A.M.G. Transportation Office, Naples City, in the company of Professor PETHUNO (Consorzio Autotrasporto) and Signor SCOTTI (Director of Alimentation) who informed Lieutenant Di ANTONIO that PORTE had an extensive knowledge of transport conditions and would be very useful in locating hidden motor vehicles and parts, suitable for requisition purposes.

Apparently, PORTE attended several conferences at the A.M.G. Transportation Office, Naples, in the company of the above-mentioned Italian officials, and which were also attended by Major STRAUSS and Lieutenant Di ANTONIO. One of the outcomes of the conferences was that PORTE would be engaged to work directly under Lieutenant Di ANTONIO. This decision was made at the suggestion of the Lieutenant.

The agreed nature of PORTE's work under the Lieutenant was the locating and requisitioning of motor vehicles and parts. (See A.M.G. Authority attached, dated 16 November, 1943 - marked "B"). Lieutenant Di ANTONIO, early in his statement (copy attached - marked "C") says that during the period when PORTE worked under him - "late November, 1943 to shortly after Xmas 1943" - PORTE did not help in any way in his statement, however, Lieutenant Di ANTONIO,

2. It is alleged that FORTZ, during his employment as above, obtained money unlawfully from civilians, under promise of securing them undue advantages from the A.M.G. Transport Officer - Lieutenant DI ANTONIO. FORTZ is now in custody awaiting prosecution and, in that connection, is the subject of my report of 19 February, 1944, a copy of which is submitted herewith (marked "A") together with statements of witnesses and copy of the penal record of FORTZ. (Copy of Penal Record attached - marked "C").

3. According to information received from Lieutenant DI ANTONIO, Professor PETRUINO (Director of the Consorzio Autotrasporto Napoletano) and from FORTZ himself, the latter was a man who had interested himself for a number of years in arranging transport deals, living on commissions. Documents which were examined at FORTZ's apartment tend to confirm this.

4. In late October, 1943, FORTZ came to the A.M.G. Transportation Office, Naples City, in the company of Professor PETRUINO (Consorzio Autotrasporto) and Signor SODI (Director of Alimentation) who informed Lieutenant DI ANTONIO that FORTZ had an extensive knowledge of transport conditions and would be very useful in locating hidden motor vehicles and parts, suitable for requisition purposes.

5. Apparently, FORTZ attended several conferences at the A.M.G. Transportation Office, Naples, in the company of the above-mentioned Italian officials, and which were also attended by Major STRAUSS and Lieutenant DI ANTONIO. One of the outcomes of the conferences was that FORTZ would be engaged to work directly under Lieutenant DI ANTONIO. This decision was made at the suggestion of the Lieutenant.

6. The agreed nature of FORTZ's work under the Lieutenant was the locating and requisitioning of motor vehicles and parts. (See A.M.G. Authority attached, dated 16 November, 1943 - marked "B"). Lieutenant DI ANTONIO, early in his statement (copy attached - marked "2") says that during the period when FORTZ worked under him - "late November, 1943 to shortly after Xmas 1943" - FORTZ did not help in any other way. Later in his statement, however, Lieutenant DI ANTONIO, after the names CUTOLO and SODI (witnesses) had been mentioned to him, agreed that occasionally, when he was very busy, FORTZ had been allowed to write out permits for the issue of motor fuel, ready for the Lieutenant's signature.

7. There is reliable evidence, however, to show that FORTZ's activities in the office went far beyond those mentioned as above. It is apparent from the statements of Maria GUIDA (attached - marked "B") a clerk employed in the Lieutenant's office, and of Michele SODI and Piero CUTOLO, transport contractors (statements attached - marked "C" and "D" respectively) that FORTZ spent the greater part of his time in the Transport Office, interviewing civilian callers and rejecting or accepting their applications to see the

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Lieutenant in connection with authorizations for obtaining motor fuel and other transport matters. According to Signorina GUIDA, FORTE "behaved more or less as if he were in charge of the A.M.G. Transport Office".

8.

It is perhaps significant that during the period of his serving under Lieutenant DI ANTONIO, which was, in fact, for at least two months, FORTE (according to the Lieutenant's statement) only found 2 trucks, about nine cars and about 80 tyres, suitable for the purpose of requisitioning. These figures would not indicate that FORTE devoted much of his time, during the two months in question, to the locating of motor vehicles and parts.

9.

Lieutenant DI ANTONIO states that, during the time FORTE was employed, nothing happened to arouse the Lieutenant's suspicions concerning him. Yet, there is the evidence of Signorina GUIDA that FORTE was constantly receiving callers and taking them into the corridor for conversations which, apparently, were not intended to be overheard.

10.

Also, there is the evidence of Signor CUTOLO that, on about 21-22 December, 1943, on instructions received by letter from the Consorzio, he presented himself at Lieutenant DI ANTONIO's office. Both the Lieutenant and FORTE were in that office when CUTOLO entered. FORTE led him outside and demanded the sum of 10,000 lire - "for the Lieutenant's protection". Having been paid that amount, FORTE is alleged to have re-entered the Lieutenant's office, leaving CUTOLO outside. After a few minutes, CUTOLO says that FORTE came out to him again and said that the Lieutenant was not satisfied with the amount, but that he (FORTE) had told the Lieutenant that the amount would be paid every month.

11.

Further, there is the evidence of Signor SCUDIERI that on one occasion (late December, 1943 or early January, 1944) he went to Lieutenant DI ANTONIO's office to apply for a permit for the supply of naphtha. On entering the office he saw both the Lieutenant and FORTE, but it was the latter who asked him the nature of his business. SCUDIERI told FORTE that he wanted a permit for a supply of naphtha and FORTE immediately, without any further enquiries, asked him whether 1,000 litres would be enough. SCUDIERI said that this amount would suffice and FORTE at once wrote out an authority which the Lieutenant then signed and stamped, without asking any questions as to the specific purpose for which the naphtha was required. Having signed the permit, the Lieutenant handed it back - not to SCUDIERI - but to FORTE, who is alleged to have placed it in his pocket in the Lieutenant's presence and to have asked SCUDIERI to come outside. There, he made it clear to the latter that he would only be given the permit on payment of 10,000 lire. CUTOLO paid FORTE this amount, was given the permit and subsequently obtained the said amount of naphtha on production thereof.

12.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that, if the suspicions of Lieutenant DI ANTONIO were not aroused against FORTE, the suspicions of Lieutenant DI ANTONIO were not aroused against FORTE.

10.

GUIDA that FORTIS was constantly present in the corridor for conversations which, apparently, were not intended to be overheard.

Also, there is the evidence of Signor CUTOLO that, on about 21-22 December, 1943, on instructions received by letter from the Consorzio, he presented himself at Lieutenant DI ANTONIO's office. Both the Lieutenant and FORTIS were in that office when CUTOLO entered. FORTIS led him outside and demanded the sum of 10,000 lire - "for the Lieutenant's protection". Having been paid that amount, FORTIS is alleged to have re-entered the Lieutenant's office, leaving CUTOLO outside. After a few minutes, CUTOLO says that FORTIS came out to him again and said that the Lieutenant was not satisfied with the amount, but that he (FORTIS) had told the Lieutenant that the amount would be paid every month.

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Further, there is the evidence of Signor SCUDIERI that on one occasion (late December, 1943 or early January, 1944) he went to Lieutenant DI ANTONIO's office to apply for a permit for the supply of naphtha. On entering the office he saw both the Lieutenant and FORTIS, but it was the latter who asked him the nature of his business. SCUDIERI told FORTIS that he wanted a permit for a supply of naphtha and FORTIS immediately, without any further enquiries, asked him whether 1,000 litres would be enough. SCUDIERI said that this amount would suffice and FORTIS at once wrote out an authority which the Lieutenant then signed and stamped, without asking any questions as to the specific purpose for which the naphtha was required. Having signed the permit, the Lieutenant handed it back - not to SCUDIERI - but to FORTIS, who is alleged to have placed it in his pocket in the Lieutenant's presence and to have asked SCUDIERI to come outside. There, he made it clear to the latter that he would only be given the permit on payment of 10,000 lire. CUTOLO paid FORTIS this amount, was given the permit and subsequently obtained the said amount of naphtha on production thereof.

12.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that, if the suspicions of Lieutenant DI ANTONIO were not aroused against FORTIS, then it can only be said that they ought to have been aroused.

13.

In addition, the Lieutenant does not appear to have taken due note of the fact that FORTIS's services under him were being given without any official payment whatsoever. FORTIS was neither on the payroll of the Consorzio Autotrasporto, nor of A.M.G. Early in his statement, Lieutenant DI ANTONIO says that throughout the time of FORTIS's working under him, he (the Lieutenant) was under the impression that FORTIS was on the payroll of the Consorzio Autotrasporto. Later in his statement, however, Lieutenant DI ANTONIO says, "After about two or three weeks of his (FORTIS's) working for me, I wanted to put him on the A.M.G. payroll and so I gave full particulars about him to Colonel DOMENY to have FORTIS vetted". It would seem that the question of whether FORTIS was on the Consorzio payroll must, therefore, have arisen at that time or previously and the implication is that from that time onwards the Lieutenant must have been aware that FORTIS was not on payroll, i.e. during the last five weeks that FORTIS was working for him.

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14.

A very unsatisfactory feature of the case is that Lieutenant Di ANTONIO seems to have allowed a very intimate friendship to develop between himself and PORTE. They were recognized as close friends by officials at the Consorzio Autotrasporto and by persons generally, engaged in the transport business. There is evidence, too, that the Lieutenant and PORTE could be seen almost every day, lunching together at the Giacomo Restaurant and sometimes PORTE would pay for the meals. At the restaurant they were also looked upon by reason of their general demeanor as being intimate friends. On one occasion, it is known that PORTE accompanied the Lieutenant to CUTOLO's house; although it is known that the original intention of Lieutenant Di ANTONIO was to inspect a prospective room which he hoped to occupy, they stayed together as friends for a social evening at the house with a number of Italians who were there. Even after PORTE's "dismissal" from the Transportation Office, they appear to have been in close contact. It is quite apparent that Lieutenant Di ANTONIO did not break contact with PORTE until 9 January, 1944, at the earliest, and then only under great pressure from Captain HEATH, Region 3 Security Officer and others. (See Lieutenant Di Antonio's letter of 9 January - addressed to Captain Heath - attached, marked "H").

15.

On 10 January, 1944, Captain Heath sent Lieutenant Di ANTONIO a letter (of which the Lieutenant has verbally acknowledged receipt) asking that he supply Captain Heath with any information in his possession for the purpose of an investigation into the alleged activities of PORTE in using his connection with the A.M.G. Transportation Office for making personal profit. Captain Heath states that he has received no assistance or information whatsoever from Lieutenant Di ANTONIO to assist in the matter, although the latter did subsequently call upon him to discuss certain irregular transport activities which, however, had no bearing at all on the investigation of PORTE. (Copies of Captain Heath's letter and statement are attached - marked "I" and "J" respectively)

16.

There is every indication that Lieutenant Di ANTONIO, in spite of the invidious position in which PORTE had placed him by these activities, did not make the slightest effort to have the alleged activities thoroughly investigated and to have the facts brought before the proper authority for the prosecution of PORTE, although pressed to do so both by Captain Heath and the two transport contractors - SQUINARI and CUTOLO - from whose statements it will be seen that on two occasions between about 25-28 January, 1944, they brought the facts to the attention of Lieutenant Di ANTONIO and asked him whether they could take action with a view to having PORTE prosecuted, but the Lieutenant told them to "keep their mouths shut" and that he would handle the matter personally. Subsequently, within 24 hours of their conversation, PORTE had been apprized of the facts discussed by them with the Lieutenant, and called at CUTOLO's house to remonstrate with him for having called upon the Lieutenant to discuss the matter.

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15.

On 10 January, 1944, Captain Heath sent Lieutenant Di ANTONIO a letter (of which the Lieutenant has verbally acknowledged receipt) asking that he supply Captain Heath with any information in his possession for the purpose of an investigation into the alleged activities of FORTE in using his connection with the A.M.G. Transportation Office for making personal profit. Captain Heath states that he has received no assistance or information whatever from Lieutenant Di ANTONIO to assist in the matter, although the latter did subsequently call upon him to discuss certain irregular transport activities which, however, had no bearing at all on the investigation of FORTE. (Copies of Captain Heath's letter and statement are attached - marked "I" and "J" respectively.)

16.

There is every indication that Lieutenant Di ANTONIO, in spite of the invidious position in which FORTE had placed him by these activities, did not make the smallest effort to have the alleged activities thoroughly investigated and to have the facts brought before the proper authority for the prosecution of FORTE, although pressed to do so both by Captain Heath and the two transport contractors - SQUIERI and CUTOLO - from whose statements it will be seen that on two occasions between about 25-28 January, 1944 they brought the facts to the attention of Lieutenant Di ANTONIO and asked him whether they could take action with a view to having FORTE prosecuted, but the Lieutenant told them to "keep their mouths shut" and that he would handle the matter personally. Subsequently, within 24 hours of their conversation, FORTE had been apprised of the facts discussed by them with the Lieutenant, and called at CUTOLO's house to remonstrate with him for having called upon the Lieutenant to discuss the matter.

17.

It seems unlikely that anyone, other than Lieutenant Di ANTONIO, could have informed FORTE of the discussions which the Lieutenant had had with SQUIERI and CUTOLO. This is some indication that Lieutenant Di ANTONIO was in contact with FORTE even as late as 28 January, 1944. The Lieutenant maintains in his statement, however, that following FORTE's dismissal at the end of December, 1943, the only occasion upon which he has made contact with him was "early in January" when the Lieutenant was "attacked" for trucks and seeing FORTE in the Macondino Restaurant asked him to find ten trucks for use in a convoy and FORTE subsequently found five trucks for him.

18.

Also attached hereto (marked - "K") is a copy of a statement made by Lieutenant-Colonel S.J. BORG, then Acting S.C.A.C., Naples City, showing that on 29 December, 1943, on receipt of a report from Lieutenant D.M. BATHON - Public Safety Division showing that FORTE had a criminal record, he asked Lieutenant

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DI ANTONIO what he knew about PORTE. Lieutenant DI ANTONIO replied that he was aware that PORTE had convictions but that he did not consider them bad enough to outweigh the "good work" which PORTE had done.

19.

As PORTE had twelve previous convictions, including the offenses of unlawful wounding, smuggling, fraud, larceny and bankruptcy offenses, and as the results which PORTE had obtained in his work - location of motor vehicles and parts (which Lieutenant DI ANTONIO maintains was his sole work) - it is difficult to determine how the Lieutenant could make the statement shown above in paragraph 18.

20.

Nevertheless, Lieut-Colonel Borg instructed Lieutenant DI ANTONIO to discharge PORTE and, on the following day, 30 December, 1943, received the papers back from the Lieutenant, marked "Complied with".

21.

Complaint has been received from R.A.F. Police that on three occasions, civilian cars bearing no valid A.M.C. permit were impounded by them. In each case, several days later, the owners came back and produced valid car permits back-dated to 10 January, 1944, (prior to the date of impounding), signed by Lieutenant DI Antonio. In his statement, Lieutenant DI Antonio explains that during the period in question, all permits were being dated "10 January, 1944", quite irrespective of the date when they were actually issued. He states that there was no logical reason for the use of that particular date but he understood generally that he had to adopt that procedure. Enquiries have not disclosed any evidence that the cases mentioned in this paragraph arose from PORTE's activities, but the possibilities are undoubtedly there.

22.

The only comment which need be made upon the implications of the facts contained in this report is that PORTE's activities could have led to serious consequences both for the Allied Military Government and for Lieutenant DI ANTONIO, personally. Yet, the Lieutenant appears to have sheltered and protected PORTE, who was obviously liable to prosecution on the facts brought to the attention of Lieutenant DI Antonio.

23.

In the circumstances, there would appear to be every evidence of incompetence, of negligence on the part of Lieutenant DI ANTONIO, as well as harmful association with an Italian of known bad character, and there are even more serious inferences which might be drawn from the facts. Certainly, the Lieutenant is placed in something of the category of an "accessory after the fact" in the offenses committed by PORTE. Therefore, it is suggested that a copy of this report and attachments be forwarded to the appropriate authority with a view to Lieutenant DI ANTONIO being called upon to answer for his extraordinary behaviour in this matter.

Lieut. V. GALE
Lieutenant.

21.

Lieutenant Di Antonio to Chicago, Illinois, on 30 December, 1943, received the papers back from the Lieutenant, marked "Complied with".

Complaint has been received from R.A.F. Police that on three occasions, civilian cars bearing no valid A.M.C. permit were impounded by them. In each case, several days later, the owners came back and produced valid car permits back-dated to 10 January, 1944, (prior to the date of impounding), signed by Lieutenant Di Antonio. In his statement, Lieutenant Di Antonio explains that during the period in question, all permits were being dated "10 January, 1944", quite irrespective of the date when they were actually issued. He states that there was no logical reason for the use of that particular date but he understood generally that he had to adopt that procedure. Inquiries have not disclosed any evidence that the cases mentioned in this paragraph arose from POTT's activities, but the possibilities are undoubtedly there.

22.

The only comment which need be made upon the implications of the facts contained in this report is that POTT's activities could have led to serious consequences both for the Allied Military Government and for Lieutenant Di Antonio, personally. Yet, the Lieutenant appears to have sheltered and protected POTT, who was obviously liable to prosecution on the facts brought to the attention of Lieutenant Di Antonio.

23.

In the circumstances, there would appear to be every evidence of incompetence, of negligence on the part of Lieutenant Di Antonio, as well as harmful association with an Italian of known bad character, and there are even more serious inferences which might be drawn from the facts. Certainly, the Lieutenant is placed in something of the category of an "accessory after the fact" in the offences committed by POTT. Therefore, it is suggested that a copy of this report and attachments be forwarded to the appropriate authority with a view to Lieutenant Di Antonio being called upon to answer for his extraordinary behaviour in this matter.

Louis F. Gale

Lieut. F. GALE
Lieutenant.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION (Security Intelligence)

19th February, 1944

Subject: Luigi FORTE
To: Colonel A.J. Young

1. The subject of this report - Luigi FORTE, resident at Via Regina Maria Cristina di Savoia 18, Naples - is at present in custody at the Questura, pending the charging of offences in relation to his having obtained money from persons with a view to securing undue favour of the Allied Military Government - Region 3 - in connection with transport matters. The circumstances of the case are as follows:
2. Luigi FORTE, is apparently a man who has been engaged on a commission basis in arranging transport deals of various kinds in Naples over a number of years. Therefore, both prior to, and after, the Allied Occupation he had an extensive knowledge of transport conditions and location of vehicles, and had up to the time of the Occupation been occasionally engaged by the Consorzio Autotrasporto di Napoli in locating and confiscating cars and car parts. He was not on the payroll of the Consorzio, however, but apparently made his living from commissions and was usually in evidence in the Consorzio Office.
3. It is apparently the case that shortly after the Occupation, he was taken to the A.M.G. Transport Office at the Municipio as a person suitable for use in seeking out and requisitioning trucks, cars and tyres. Again, he was not on the payroll of either the Consorzio or of A.M.G. However, he performed services under Lieutenant J. DI ANTONIO, A.M.G. Transport Officer, at the Municipio from about the last week in November, 1943 until 30th December, 1943, and during this time was a very close associate of the Lieutenant, at whose instigation he had been employed.
4. There is evidence that he became allowed to do work other than that for which he had been authorised, namely the receiving of visitors to the A.M.G. Transport Office, who came to make application for motor fuel or seeking other facilities in connection with the use of cars or trucks. Evidence is also available that he did, on two occasions at least, demand and obtain considerable sums of money from such persons with the promise that he would secure official favour in connection with transport matters.
5. Maria GUIDA, Via Tasso 169, Naples was employed during the relevant period (covering the time of FORTE's employment) at the A.M.G. Transport Office, Municipio, as a clerk. She says that she had often seen FORTE receiving callers who came to see

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Lieutenant Di Antonio, some of whom were turned away without seeing the Lieutenant. Signorina GUIDA says that FORTE behaved more or less as if he were in charge of the A.M.G. Transport Office. Often, she says, FORTE would be called out into the passage by these visitors. She has frequently seen him engaged in conversations with such persons in the corridor and gained the impression that they were conversations which were not intended to be overheard. She is unable to give any more evidence of the activities of FORTE, except that, during the last few days in which he worked at the office, he told her to send anybody who might enquire for him to "his brother's" office at Via Roma, 210. Subsequently, she sent a number of persons there at various times, but they later returned, saying that they had been unable to find anybody there.

6. Michele SCUDIERI, a transport contractor, of Via Rosillipe 350, Naples, states that shortly after the Allied Occupation, he had been instructed by Lieutenant Di Antonio to provide a truck for a food convoy, but that owing to certain repairs not having been made to the vehicle in time, he failed to place it at the disposal of the Lieutenant.
7. About two days later, FORTE called at SCUDIERI's house and demanded money, claiming that he had "fixed" the matter of Scudieri having failed to supply the truck to the Lieutenant. FORTE also made it clear to Scudieri that if he wished to remain in business, he would do well to keep in Forte's favour, in view of the latter's "influence" with A.M.G. Transport Office. In consequence of what FORTE had said, Scudieri at once paid him the sum of 10,000 lire.
8. Some time later, at about the beginning of January, 1944, SCUDIERI went to the A.M.G. Transport Office at the Municipio, in order to obtain a permit for the supply of naphtha for his trucks. He was received in the office by FORTE, in the presence of Lieutenant Di Antonio. After he had told FORTE that he wanted an authorisation to obtain naphtha, FORTE at once asked whether 1,000 litres would suffice and, on receiving the answer that this would be enough, FORTE prepared a written authority for the supply of the amount of naphtha stated, and handed it to Lieutenant Di Antonio for his signature and the Official Stamp. When this had been completed, the Lieutenant handed the document to FORTE, who asked Scudieri to come outside the office. On their arrival outside, FORTE made it known to

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SCUDIERI that he would only hand over the permit for naphtha on payment of 10,000 lire. This was paid and the supply of naphtha was subsequently obtained by SCUDIERI on production of the permit in question.

9. Piero CUTOLO, a transport contractor, of Chiattamore 65, Naples, states that on about 21-22 December, 1943, he presented himself at the office of Lieutenant Di Antonio, on instructions received through the Consorzio. In the office he found both the Lieutenant and FORTE. The latter called him outside and there demanded money from CUTOLO, saying that the Lieutenant wanted it, and in reply to questions adding, "Then Lieutenant Di Antonio won't give you any trouble and will give you protection". FORTE named 10,000 lire as the amount to be paid and CUTOLO at once gave him this amount. Then, FORTE placed the money in his pocket and immediately re-entered the office. After a few minutes he came outside again and, in answer to the enquiry of CUTOLO - "What did Di Antonio say?", FORTE replied, "The Lieutenant says that it is not enough" and went on to say that he had asked the Lieutenant to be satisfied for the moment as the amount would be paid every month.

10. Later, shortly after FORTE's dismissal from the office, CUTOLO called at Lieutenant Di Antonio's apartment, with the intention of paying further money, in accordance with what FORTE had told him on the previous occasion. CUTOLO was received by the Lieutenant who was ill in bed; he handed the Lieutenant some money in an envelope, but after opening it the Lieutenant very angrily refused to accept it and denied all knowledge of the activities of FORTE in this connection. CUTOLO then told the Lieutenant that he knew of another transport contractor who had paid FORTE money under similar circumstances and mentioned the name of SCUDIERI. At the Lieutenant's instructions he brought Scudieri to the apartment during the following evening and the facts of the latter's case, as aforementioned, were related to Lieutenant Di Antonio. The two contractors expressed a wish to prosecute FORTE but the Lieutenant told them to leave the matter entirely in his hands. On the day following, Sunday - 28th January, 1944 - FORTE called at CUTOLO's house and commenced to argue and to remonstrate with him on the subject of his having related the facts to the Lieutenant. CUTOLO told him that he must suffer the consequences and sent him away.

11. Lieutenant Di ANTONIO, in his statement, says that FORTE was introduced to him late in October, 1943 by officials of the Consorzio di Trasporto, as a man useful in finding hidden motor vehicles and component parts, suitable for

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requisition purposes. The Lieutenant states that, subsequently, FORTE became employed solely on that work and so far as he knew took no other part in the affairs of the Transport Office. The Lieutenant, throughout the time of FORTE's working under his supervision was under the impression that FORTE was on the payroll of the Consorzio. It is perhaps significant that whilst working under Lieutenant Di Antonio, FORTE received no wages or other emoluments from either the Consorzio di Trasporto or from A.M.G. Transport Office. Later in his statement, the Lieutenant agrees that, occasionally, when he was very busy, FORTE would assist in the Transport Office, filling out permit forms for the supply of motor fuel, ready for the signature of the Lieutenant. (The evidence of the previous witnesses indicates, however, that FORTE was in the habit of regularly receiving callers and handling their business - sometimes rejecting them and turning them away). Lieutenant Di Antonio says, however, that during the time FORTE was working under him he saw nothing to arouse suspicion of FORTE's activities. He dismissed FORTE on learning that he had a long penal record.

12.

On 14th February, 1944, FORTE's flat at Via Regina Maria Cristina di Savoia 18, Naples, was searched by Major Andrew Day and Lieutenant Fielding - both of Region 3 - together with officers of A.C.C. Security Intelligence, and FORTE was placed under arrest. No incriminating evidence in respect of the alleged offences was found, but in his bedroom, Lieutenant Fielding found a small calibre revolver loaded in every chamber, which FORTE admitted belonged to him and which he had no authority to possess. FORTE was subsequently questioned as to his activities at the Transport Office but he has consistently denied having at any time taken money from any persons during his period of employment there, or since. He maintained that throughout the time, he has been keeping himself, his wife and child on money which he had saved, and declared that in "working for nothing" his object was to make himself indispensable in Transport affairs with a view to possibly securing at a later date a good post or other legitimate advantage. He has not made a written statement.

13.

An office which he was said to have been using - at Via Roma 110, Naples - was also searched by the same officers on 14th February, 1944 and a quantity of forms of application for car permits and initial issue of motor fuel was found. Enquiries show that such forms can be readily obtained from

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the Italian - O.I.F.- organisation, without difficulty. It is, however, evidence that FORTE had either done business or intended to do business at that office with persons who wanted to obtain such permits.

14. The above constitutes all the available evidence concerning FORTE's activities. The witnesses appear to be persons of good character and unprejudiced in the matter and it is submitted that the facts are sufficient upon which to base a prosecution against FORTE, who has a long penal record, a copy of which is attached hereto, together with copies of the statements of the witnesses.

15. There are a number of unsatisfactory features in relation to the circumstances under which FORTE was working with Lieutenant Di Antonio at the A.V.G. Region 3 Transport Office. These circumstances do not affect the actual prosecution of FORTE and are the subject of a separate report to be submitted.

Louis V. Gale
Louis V. Gale
Lieutenant.

15 February, 1944.

STATEMENT OF: Maria Guida, Via Tasso 169, Isolata "C", Napoli.

Age 23.

I am employed as a clerk at the Municipio, Naples, in the Transport Office and was employed by Lt. Di Antonio as soon as the office opened for the first time. My work at first consisted of translating letters and copying, but from 29th December, 1943, when we started to issue car permits at the office instead of at the C.I.P., I was engaged on preparing the documents in relation to passes for the signature of Lt. Di Antonio. About the 18th November, I returned to work after being sick for 8 or 9 days and found a man in the office whom I now know as Luigi Forti. This man was receiving people who wanted to see Lt. Di Antonio, that is to say, he took part of my job and either allowed people to see the Lieutenant or turned them away after listening to their story. Forte seemed to have a lot of authority in the office, in fact, he acted as if he were the boss and not the Lieutenant. My- Very often people who wanted to apply for permits had Forte called outside into the passage. I have sometimes seen them talking outside as I passed through the hall and I must say I got the impression that they did not want this conversation to be overheard. I never actually did hear what was being said even when Forti talked to callers inside the office. In these days Forti was in the office almost all day and he always went to lunch with Di Antonio. They seemed to be very great friends, and certainly Forti seemed to know all about cars and where they could be requisitioned. I have heard Forti say sometimes to the owners of cars in the office 'I am here to help your interests, I don't know what might happen if I were not here to help you.' Three or four times the Lt's fiancée, whose name I don't know, came to the office and sometimes Forti took her out shopping in his car or went to lunch with her and the Lieutenant. They seemed to be very good friends together, all three of the this condition of affairs remained until early in January, 1944; when he did not come any more. I did not know why Forti stopped coming and I never heard the Lieutenant say anything about it, but my friends said that he had not been dealing straight and that he had been accepting bribes. In the last few days in which Forti was at the office, he told us to send anybody who might enquire for him to his brother's office at 22/210 Via Roma. I sent quite a lot of people up there and many of them came back to say that they could not find anybody there. I have often been offered money by people coming to the office, but I can't remember the names of any of them because there were thousands of them.

I have read this statement, which is true.

(Signed) Mary Guida.

when I now know as Luigi Forti. This man was receiving people who wanted to see Lt. Di Antonio, that is to say, he took part of my job and either allowed people to see the Lieutenant or turned them away after listening to their story. Forte seemed to have a lot of authority in the office, in fact, he acted as if he were the boss and not the Lieutenant. My- Very often people who wanted to apply for permits had Forte called outside into the passage. I have sometimes seen them talking outside as I passed through the hall and I must say I got the impression that they did not want this conversation to be overheard. I never actually did hear what was being said even when Forti talked to callers inside the office. In these days Forti was in the office almost all day and he always went to lunch with Di Antonio. They seemed to be very great friends, and certainly Forti seemed to know all about cars and where they could be requisitioned. I have heard Forti say sometimes to the owners of cars in the office 'I am here to help your interests, I don't know what might happen if I were not here to help you.' Three or four times the Lt's fiancée, whose name I don't know, came to the office and sometimes Forti took her out shopping in his car or went to lunch with her and the Lieutenant. They seemed to be very good friends together, all three of the This condition of affairs remained until early in January, 1944; when he did not come any more. I did not know why Forti stopped coming and I never heard the Lieutenant say anything about it, but my friends said that he had not been dealing straight and that he had been accepting bribes. In the last few days in which Forti was at the office, he told me to send anybody who might enquire for him to his brother's office at 22/ 210 Via Roma. I sent quite a lot of people up there and many of them came back to say that they could not find anybody there. I have often been offered money by people coming to the office, but I can't remember the names of any of them because there were thousands of them.

I have read this statement, which is true.

(Signed) Mary Guida.

Statement taken at dictation and signature witnessed.

(Signed) John A. McKay, ⁰³²⁴ Capt.

10th February, 1944

STATEMENT of SCUDIERI Michele, transport contractor,
age 45, residing at Via Posillipo 390, Naples, who says:-

"I was born in Naples and practically all my life have been in business here as a transport contractor. I know Luigi FORTI, but have never had any dealings with him, because I know him by repute to be a convicted criminal. Before the arrival of the Allies I often had to attend the office of the Consorzio di Trasporto in the course of my business, and I often saw FORTI there. I do not think he was actually employed there but believe that he was usually merely "hanging around" in the building, perhaps working on commission for some contractor or other, or for some purpose of his own. Shortly after the Allied Occupation, I learned at the Consorzio that FORTI was employed by the Allied Government at the Municipio, and like everybody else I was surprised that this was so, because of his having a criminal record. About six weeks ago, I received a letter from the Consorzio asking me to report personally to Lieutenant Di ANTONIO at the Municipio - this was on a Sunday. I went to see him and he asked me how many trucks I had. I replied that I had two trucks, one of which was out of town, the other being in the garage here and under repair. I said that I expected the repairs to be completed on the following day but that the other truck was not expected to return to the city for three or four days. Lieutenant DIANTONIO told me to report two days later (Tuesday) at the Municipio with the repaired truck to go on a food convoy. Unfortunately, it was not possible for the repairs to be completed within the time available and I reported to Lieutenant Di ANTONIO as instructed but without the truck. The Lieutenant asked me, using a very crude Italian expression, whether I was trying to fool him. I replied that I was speaking the truth and that the truck was available for his inspection, if he wished to see it. He said no more to me and I went home. About two days later, FORTI came to my house and said, "I have fixed everything up for you about the truck", and when I asked him exactly what he meant, he said that he was referring to the fact that my truck had not been made ready for the convoy and he added, "Now you had better pay off". I was unwilling to pay him any money but he made it clear that if I wished to remain in business, I would have to keep in his favour because of his influence at the Municipio. Therefore,

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Continuation of Statement of SCUDIERI Michele

" I offered him 3,000 lire but he insisted on being paid 10,000 lire, saying, "Don't forget that there is also Di ANTONIO at the office and I have got to pay him off too". And so, I paid him 10,000 lire before he left me. About a month ago, I needed some naphtha for my trucks and I went to the Municipio, to Lieutenant Di ANTONIO's office to apply for the necessary permit. When I entered the office, FORTI was sitting at a desk and the Lieutenant was at another. FORTI came up to me and asked what I wanted, and I replied that I wanted naphtha to run my trucks. FORTI immediately said, "Would 1,000 litres be enough?" and I answered that it would be enough. Then FORTI wrote in Italian on a blank sheet of white paper, an instruction for me to be supplied with 1,000 litres of naphtha. He then placed the paper on the desk in front of Lieutenant Di ANTONIO, who signed it and placed an official stamp on it. Neither of them asked me any questions whatsoever, as to what specific purpose I wanted the naphtha. The Lieutenant then handed the signed and stamped paper to FORTI, who asked me to come downstairs with him. This I did, and on our arrival below, he pointed to his side jacket pocket, in which he had placed the paper immediately after the Lieutenant had given it to him. After pointing to his pocket, FORTI said to me, "If you want this paper to get your naphtha, you had better pay off with 10,000 lire". This amount I paid him at once and he gave me the paper and I subsequently obtained the stated amount of naphtha. About ten days ago, another transport contractor - Piero CUTOLO - visited my house and told me that he had just visited Lieutenant Di ANTONIO at the latter's house, the Lieutenant being ill. He said that he had offered the Lieutenant some money, as he had not been able to find FORTI at the Municipio. CUTOLO said that the Lieutenant was angry and had told CUTOLO to bring me to his house to have a talk. So, the next day, I went with CUTOLO to the Lieutenant's house where he was in bed and we had a conversation in the bedroom. Lieutenant Di ANTONIO asked me if I had ever given money to FORTI and I answered "Yes". The Lieutenant asked why I had given him money and I answered that it was because FORTI had promised to give me protection in running my business, and that I understood that some of the money was to have gone to Lieutenant Di ANTONIO, himself, for his

Michele Scudieri

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Page 3Continuation of Statement of SCUDIERI Michele

"interest in the matter. Lieutenant Di ANTONIO, then replied that he (the Lieutenant) had no need to accept money himself, as his parents in America were wealthy. He spoke to us for some time, blaming FORTI for all that had happened and finished the conversation by telling us that we must not relate any part of the discussion to any other person. Then we left. Two days later I learned that Lieutenant Di ANTONIO was no longer holding the same position in the Municipio and I have not seen him since, neither have I since seen FORTI. This statement has been read to me in Italian by Lieutenant Carl.E.FEHR of the Allied Control Commission, and it is true.

Signed....*Michele Scudieri*

Statement taken down by me through Lieutenant Carl.E.FEHR and signature witnessed by me.

.....*Louis F. Gale*.....
Lieutenant

12th February, 1944

STATEMENT of Piero CUTOLO, age 33, of Chiampore 68, Naples, a transport contractor, who says :-

"I was born and have lived all my life in Naples and for about 15 years, up to the Allied Occupation, I was an agent for the principal Italian petroleum companies, including A.G.I.P., and during the course of my business owned and controlled eight trucks for carrying supplies of benzine.

Shortly after the Allied Occupation I presented myself to Allied officers, including Major STRAUSS and Major TOSCANO, who told me that only military vehicles would be used for transporting benzine or gasoline. Consequently, I decided to convert my trucks into general goods vehicles and to go into business entirely on my own account as a transport contractor. Very soon afterwards, I learned that all questions of transport were dealt with at the Allied Office at the Municipio, under the control of Lieutenant Di ANTONIO and an Italian named FORTE.

We Neapolitan business men were surprised to see a man such as FORTE, a man of known disrepute and a criminal record over the past fifteen years, acting as the Allied officer's right hand man. We found that the office of Lieutenant Di ANTONIO and FORTE controlled everything in relation to transport and all our dealings had to be done with them rather than the Consorzio di Trasporto.

On 21st or 22nd December, 1943, on instructions by letter from the Consorzio, I presented myself at the office of Lieutenant Di ANTONIO, where I was approached by FORTE, who said, "CUTOLO, we want some money from you". I asked, "Why?" and FORTE said, "Because Lieutenant Di ANTONIO wants it". Again I asked, "Why?" and he said, "Then Lieutenant Di ANTONIO won't give you any trouble and will give you protection". I asked how much money I would have to pay and FORTE said 10,000 lire. I must say that all this conversation took place outside Di ANTONIO's office, from which FORTE had led me. Lieutenant Di ANTONIO was in his office when I went outside with FORTE.

However, I paid FORTE the ten thousand lire outside the office; he at once placed it in his pocket and went straight into Lieutenant Di ANTONIO's office. I waited outside and when

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Continuation of Statement of Piero CUTOLO

he came out after a few minutes, I asked, "What did Di ANTONIO say?", because I naturally had doubts about FORTE. Then FORTE replied, "The Lieutenant says that it is not enough" and went on to say that he had asked the Lieutenant to be satisfied for the moment as this amount would be paid every month. I told FORTE that it was impossible for me to pay such an amount every month, and he replied "We'll see!" Nothing further happened and I left the building.

About a week later, approximately 3rd January, 1944, I met FORTE in the street, at which time I knew that he no longer worked under the Allied Government. I asked him why he was no longer employed at the Municipio, to which he replied, "Well, they wanted to make me a regular employee, but I wanted to be free to do as I pleased". I asked him whether he was still seeing Di ANTONIO and he said, "Oh Yes! I still see him and am on the best of terms with him". That was all the conversation.

The first time I had any personal contact with Lieutenant Di ANTONIO was in the first week in December, 1943, when I had been instructed by the Consorzio to report at his office. Nothing special happened there and he merely asked me questions as to how many trucks I had, their condition and the general nature of my business. I have since seen him several times on similar matters, when nothing unusual transpired.

Lieutenant Di ANTONIO has also visited my house for dinner, accompanied by FORTE, late in December, 1943. There were a number of my friends present and nothing of an unusual nature took place. The visit arose from Di ANTONIO having mentioned to me previously that he was looking for a place in which to live. I had an apartment above me, rented by Baronessa ZEZZA, who was out of town. I have never visited FORTE's house, and the occasion I have just mentioned was the only time Di ANTONIO has been in my house. FORTE, however, visited me again, which visit I will speak about later in my statement.

The next time I saw Di ANTONIO outside of his office, was when I visited him, having learned he was sick, at his house. This was on about 25th January, 1944 and I spoke to him whilst he was in bed. No other person was present during the discussion which took place between us, but when I first entered, a Major (Medical) was present and an American soldier, but they left after about an hour when the conversation was on general lines.

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After they left, I told Lieutenant Di ANTONIO that FORTE had asked me to pay 10,000 lire a month for the Lieutenant, and I asked Di ANTONIO whether this was true. At the same time I produced from my pocket an envelope which contained 10,000 lire. The Lieutenant took the envelope, opened it and gave an expression of surprise when he saw the money inside, saying, "What is this for?". I replied, "It's because FORTE told me that I have to pay you off". Di ANTONIO then said, "I want to know what this is all about, I don't know anything about it". I then told him the story, as I have already told it in this statement, and I told him that I was not the only one, because the same thing had happened to Signor SCUDIERI. Di ANTONIO said that he wanted to talk to SCUDIERI and told me to bring him to his (Di Antonio's) house. I then said, "As you didn't receive the money, I am going to denounce FORTE to the Police". Lieutenant Di ANTONIO said, "No, don't do that. I'll take care of FORTE. If this is all true I will make him die of hunger". He also said, "How could you think that I would take money from FORTE when I am a secret agent of the United States". Then he said, "Come back to-morrow with SCUDIERI" and I left the house.

I then went to SCUDIERI, told him what had happened, and that Di ANTONIO wanted to see him. The next day we went together to Di Antonio's house at about 18 hours in the evening. He was alone in bed when we saw him and conversed with him. He immediately asked SCUDIERI, "How much money did you give to FORTE?" and SCUDIERI answered, "I gave him about as much as CUTOLO gave him". Then Di ANTONIO repeated, "I am going to make this crook die of hunger". Then SCUDIERI and I told him what we knew of FORTE's criminal past. Di ANTONIO then said, "I didn't know all that but I would like to know how it came about that this man was sent to me from the Consorzio and got into my office". At this juncture, two young women entered the room, whom I cannot now identify, they spoke on familiar lines with Di ANTONIO and I gathered that they were his fiancée and her sister. We asked to be excused and before we left, Di ANTONIO told us not to mention a word to anyone about the matter discussed, and that he would take care of FORTE.

The next day, SCUDIERI and I saw Di ANTONIO again at his house and asked whether he had taken any action against FORTE, or whether we should take the action.

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Continuation of Statement of Piero CUTOLO

He said, "No, do nothing as I told you before. Keep your mouths shut and I will take care of FORTE".

On the following day, which was a Sunday, 28th January, 1944, FORTE called at my house in the evening at about 6 PM and said to me, "Why did you such a foolish thing as to go to Di ANTONIO and speak about the money?". I said that I went there because he (FORTE) had told me that I had to pay the Lieutenant 10,000 lire a month. He replied, "You have really put me in a mess". I then said, "How do I come in. Either it is true that you paid Di ANTONIO and the matter is between the two of you, or if you did not pay Di ANTONIO, then you must suffer the consequences". I then cut the conversation and sent him away.

Only Di ANTONIO could have told him that SCUDIERI and I had visited the Lieutenant's house to talk about FORTE having taken money. I had not mentioned the visit to anyone and I do not think that SCUDIERI mentioned it.
This statement has been read over to me and it is true.

(Signed) Piero CUTOLO

Statement taken down and read over through Lieutenant Carl E. PERR, U.S. Army, and signature witnessed by me.

..... Louis V. GALE
Lieutenant.

A.C.C. Security Intelligence Branch.

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STATEMENT of Joseph Di Antonio, 1st Lieutenant, U.S. Army,
A.C.C., who says :-

17th February, 1944

Luigi FORTE was brought to my office late in October, 1943 by officials of the Consorzio di Trasporto, who had been called in for conferences. Among the officials were Professor Patrucco (who had recently been appointed Director of the Consorzio) and Signor SCOTTI (Chamber of Commerce). Also present at the conferences were Major STRAUSS and myself

I understood that he (Luigi FORTE) had been doing very good work for the Consorzio and had been working on confiscations with several Carabinieri.

As I had no help whatsoever in my office or for requisitioning I therefore suggested that Luigi FORTE be employed directly under me at the Municipio. Throughout the time that he was subsequently working for me, I was under the impression that he was on the payroll of the Consorzio di Trasporto. He actually worked under me from about the last week in November 1943 until shortly after Xmas 1943.

Early in January 1944, however, I was "stuck" for trucks and I saw FORTE in the Giacomino Restaurant and asked him to get me ten trucks and he later actually got me five.

Shortly afterwards I received a telephone call from Captain Heath (G.2 - Region 3) telling me that it was desirable to sever all connections with FORTE owing to his penal record. This I did and replied to Captain Heath by letter on 8-9th January, telling him I had done so. Since then I have had no contact with FORTE.

After about two or three weeks of his working under me I wanted to put him on the A.M.G. payroll and so I gave full particulars about him to Colonel Doherty to have FORTE vetted. About a further three weeks afterwards, a report on FORTE showing his penal record, was sent in to me by Colonel Doherty and I at once told FORTE, that owing to his record he could not be allowed to work under A.M.G., and I sent him away. Then I endorsed the report with the action I had taken and returned it to Colonel Doherty.

The work which FORTE had been doing for me and which it had been agreed he should do was the tracing of hidden cars and tyres. During the course of his work he found two trucks (a three-ton and a six-ton) for requisitioning, about nine cars and about forty tyres in good condition. That was his only job and he did not help me in anything.

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Continuation of Statement of 1st. Lieut. J. Di Antonio

else.

During his employment nothing happened to arouse my suspicions as to his honesty. I have never heard that he used any office or had any business at any office away from the Municipio. I don't know much about FORTE's family, although I met his brother - wife and son three or four times, in the street a couple of times, and twice in the office. He (the brother) was said to be a Captain in the Italian Army. I did not associate socially with FORTE but on occasions had lunch with him at Giacomino's.

The letter which you have shown me dated 10th January, 1944 is a copy of one which I received from Captain Heath. About two days after I received the letter I went to see Captain Heath and told him what I have already told you about FORTE.

One evening when I was in bed with influenza, CUTOLO, a transporter, called on me and handed me an envelope. When I opened it I found money inside and asked what it was for and he told me that FORTE came to him and asked him for 10,000 lire as a "regalo" and that he (CUTOLO) was under the impression that it was to be paid every month.

I asked CUTOLO if he had been given any favours through FORTE and CUTOLO said, "No". I then told him that he must have been fooled by FORTE and should have told me about it at the time when it happened. I told him that I could hardly believe what he had said and he then said that there were others and named another transporter - SCUDIERI.

I told him to bring SCUDIERI along to see me and they came to my room the following night. I then questioned him and he told the same story as CUTOLO. They wanted him prosecuted and I told them that if what they had said was true, they could go right ahead and prosecute him. I told them that so far as FORTE had tried to involve me that I would handle the matter my way.

The procedure for civilians to apply for motor fuel was that they had to go to C.I.P. and complete an application form in duplicate, one of which remained with C.I.P. and one with AMG. (at my transportation office). Actually the applicant left both forms with the C.I.P., the application being both for licence and fuel ration - initial issue. A receipt would then be given by them by C.I.P. and they would be asked to call back in four to five days. C.I.P. would then send both copies to my office. I would consider the application and, if approved I would sign both copies, sending one back to C.I.P. with the

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Continuation of Statement of 1st. Lieut. J Di Antonio

pink petrol ration ticket and coupons attached, also signed. Both would bear also the official stamp. After the initial issue had been granted any application for a supplementary issue had to be made by letter in duplicate through C.I.P. The only persons who, prior to the operation of the present system, were able to obtain motor fuel directly by approaching me personally were transporters who worked specially for me - amongst them were SCUDIERI and CUTOLO. In such a case the issue of motor fuel in reasonable quantity would be granted automatically by me, knowing the work on which they were engaged. In such a case, FORTE might, when I was very busy, be permitted to write out the necessary permit, ready for the official stamp and my signature, if he were in the office at the time.

With regard to car permits dated 10th January, 1944, I must say that this was done in conjunction with Captain Fagen, the 10th being made the issuing day. There was no logical reason for it. When a person made application for a car permit, he was always issued with a receipt pending issue of the permit. He would have to hand back the receipt, (usually bearing the date of issue) to C.I.P. before receiving the car permit. In this way, a man might apply on 10th January for a car permit. C.I.P. would give him a receipt bearing that date. Then C.I.P. would send the application to me. I might not actually approve the application until 17th January, 1944; then the permit would be issued showing the regulation date 10th January, 1944. The actual date of application can be taken from the receipt or the original application form. FORTE had no dealings with any of these car permits.

I have read this statement and it is true.

(Signed) Joseph Di Antonio
1st Lieut. Inf.
February 17, 1944.

Statement taken down by me in the presence of Lieutenant
Carl E. FENR, U.S. Army, Security Intelligence, A.C.C.

(Signed) Louis V. Gale: Lieut.
Security Intelligence Branch, A.C.C.

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ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
HEADQUARTERS, NAPLES CITY
MUNICIPIO

November 16, 1943

To Whom It May Concern:

1. Mr. Luigi Forte, officer of the Consorzio Autotrasporti, Napoletano is an employee of A.M.G. Naples City, transportation office.
2. He is authorized to collect for the Consorzio Autotrasporti Napoletano and AMG, all abandoned cars, trucks or similar material, or any of these means or materials held illegally by other persons.
3. If needed, the officers of the Civil or Military police will give him their aid.

(Signed) Carl A. KRAEGER
Senior Civil Affairs Officer

A chiunque interessi:

1. Il Sig. Luigi Forte, funzionario del Consorzio Napoletano Autotrasporti, e' impiegato presso l'Ufficio Trasporti del Governo Militare Alleato per la citta' di Napoli.
2. Egli e' pertanto autorizzato a raccogliere per il Consorzio Napoletano Autotrasporti, e per il Governo Militare Alleato (AMG), tutte le automobili o autocarri abbandonati, nonche' tutti gli automezzi arbitrariamente usati da altre persone.
3. Se necessario, i funzionari della Polizia Civile e Militare dovranno assisterlo nella sua attivita'.

(Signed) Carl A. KRAEGER
Senior Civil Affairs Officer

COPY - TRANSLATION

JUDICIAL FILE CABINET

SUBJECT: Accusations against FORTE Luigi,
son of the late Pasquale and PENSA Amalia.
Born in Naples, 21st November, 1900.

CERTIFICATE

PROCURA DEL RE IMPERATORE AT THE NAPLES TRIBUNALE

We testify that our files show that the record of the
above named is as follows :

- Pretore of Naples - (Judge of Peace) the 13 May 1924,
fined 400 lire for having hurt and
wounded someone.
 - Tribunale Naples - (Court of Naples) 26 June 1924,
fined 60 lire for smuggling alcohol
 - Court of Appeal - 20 June 1927. Fined 15,000 lire
Naples three hundred and ninety of fine
more a tax of 7,000 lire for smuggling.
 - Court of Appeal - 22 February 1928.
Naples Five months imprisonment for wounding.
 - Court of Appeal - 22 February, 1935.
Naples 1 year 10 months 15 days imprisonment
and a fine of 202,321 lire, and a sum
of 106,392,40 lire for having cheated
and not paying a tax. He also was fined
2,000 lire for smuggling alcohol. He
was also accused of not having paid a
further tax but was absolved because of
insufficient evidence.
 - Court of Appeal - 19 October, 1939. 1 year imprisonment
Naples and fined 2,000 lire for tampering with
alcohol and cheating on taxes.
 - Court of Appeal - 4 December 1931. 5 months imprisonment
Naples and fined 500 lire for stealing.
 - Tribunale Naples - 1 July, 1932. Declared bankrupt.
 - Pretore of Naples - 1 March 1935. Fined 200 lire for
violation Art. 115 P.S.
 - Pretore of Naples - 30 March 1935. Fined 300 lire.
violation of Art. 115 P.S.
 - " - 22 June 1935. Fined 300 lire - ditto
 - " - 2 December 1934. " ditto - ditto
 - " - 4 February, 1935. " 100 ditto - ditto
- He has also been charged in 1931, 1933, 1934, 1939 with
four offences including - fraudulent insolvency, offences
against bankruptcy laws and illegal pawning. (All four cases
dismissed owing to lack of evidence).
Naples, 7 December, 1943.

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
NAPLES PROVINCE
MUNICIPIO

9 January, 1944

SUBJECT : Mr. Luigi Forte

TO : Capt Heath.

Sir:

In compliance with our telephone conversation on January 9, 1944. All contacts with Mr Forte have been severed as of this date.

Not knowing the status of the case as you wished it prior to our conversation by telephone, he was helping with the obtaining of transportation for me that was requested by Capt. Kline. But now he no longer has any connection with this office or any other office, with my complete knowledge of the case.

Any other information that I may be able to give you in reference to this case or any other, I am at your disposal at any time you may wish.

JOSEPH DI ANTONIO
1st Lt Inf(A.M.G.)
Naples City, Transportation
Officer.

J/DA/

6511

United States **CONFIDENTIAL**
(Equals British) **CONFIDENTIAL**

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394, U.S. Army

10 January 1944

Ref: G2/NC/57

Subject: Luigi FORTI

To: S.C.A.D. Naples City.

Attention of:- Lieut. Di Antonio, T.O.

1. Reference is made to your letter dated 9 January 1944 regarding Subject, with whom it is understood you have severed all contacts as from that date.

2. As you are already aware, Subject has a penal record and it is desired to clear up several points regarding his activities during the past few months and his connections with A.M.G. It is not clear whether he was in fact ever officially employed by, or on the payroll of A.M.G. Your statement to the effect that he was employed by the "Consortio Auto-Trasporti Napolitani" does not appear to be correct if Sig. Franco of the C.A.T.N. in a statement to this G-2 yesterday, (following our telephone conversation) is to be believed.

3. It is obviously desirable to obtain reliable information as to his exact status as there are indications that he has been profitting by his connection with A.M.G. for his own personal gain. This matter is now being investigated and it is obvious that any information in your possession will be invaluable in confirming or refuting any allegations against his person.

(Signed) A.E. HEATH
Captain, I.C.
G-2.

Copy to:-
Public Safety (Col. Francis)

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