ACC 10000/143/2520 140/GC COSTABILE GUIDE

MAY - OCT. 1944

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION
SECURITY DIVISION
A.P.O. 394

Ref. : 120 (Confidential) 12 October 1944

Subject : Centralia Radio

To : Regional Commissioner Southern Region.
(Attn. Public Safety).

1. With reference to the attached letter from A.L.C.S.

2. Will you please cause CENTRALIA to be informed accordingly.

Sgd
JOHN. W. O'ADAM,
Colonel, J.A.G.D.
Director Public Safety,
Security Division.

SEC/lm.

480 Security Por

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

E.389.450/2-E.

11 October, 1944.

Security Division
Rec'd 14/10
Book No. 2396.
File No. 140 (Costabile)
Action .....

SUBJECT: COSTABILE Guido

TO : Allied Control Commission,
Security Branch.

Reference 371 P.W. Camp letter number 371/1400/AC dated 25 Jul.44, addressed to G.S.I.(b), H.Q., A.A.I., copy to you.

1. It is considered that the conditions imposed on the release of subject when he was released from 371 P.W. Camp on 25 Jul.44 may now safely be removed.

2. Would you please inform subject to this effect ? His present address is unknown but it is understood he was to take up temporary residence c/o PISAPIA Giovanni, Manager of the Bance di Napoli, BENEVENTO.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

HEADQUARTERS
14 OCT 1944
A.C.

Earle B. Nicholls
EARLE B. NICHOLS,
Lt. Colonel, GSC,
G-2(CI) Section.

Copy to: GSI(b), Headquarters, Allied Armies in Italy.
CMI No. 2 District.
Commandant, 371 P.W. Camp, C.M.E.

25

C.C. DRYTRAK

rcpt ack by Image Cht

Security Port

CONFIDENTIAL.

7877

SUBJECT: COSTABILE Guido. Ex- Civilian Internee.

371 P.W.CAMP, C.M.F.
371/ I400/AC.
31 Aug 44.

Director, Security Branch A.C.C. Ref. SB/I40/Costabile. 23 Aug.

1. With reference to the a/n Civilian Internee, he was released conditionally on the 25 Jul 44, the condition being that he resided in Kings Italy, temporary address c/o Bank of Naples, Benevento, a further condition was added by G.S.I.(b) AAI. that he was not under any circumstances to visit the Commune of CAMPOBASSO, without authority of that H.Q. and that such authorisation would be unlikely to be forthcoming for some considerable time.

2. The following is the copy of the declaration signed by COSTABILE:- Sono stato informato dal Capitano F.G.GEACH, Security Branch, e ho capito chiarmente che nel caso della mia liberazione dall'internamento dal Campo 37I io no devo rientrare a Campobasso o fare una visita a questa Città senza aver ottenuto prima un permesso dal Comando Supremo Alleato. Ho capito anche che questo permesso non posso ottenere per un periodo abbastanza lungo; Signed Guido COSTABILE.

3. Forwarded for your information.

F.G. Geach.

FGG. (F.G.GEACH) Capt.
Security Branch A.C.C. Attached 37I P.W.Camp.

Copy sent to Public Safety 3.9.44.

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Costabile Guido Ex Civilian Internee.

371 P.W. Camp C.M.F.
371/2400/ AG.
31 Aug 44.

Director, Security Branch A.C.C.

1. With reference to the a/n Civilian Internee, he was released conditionally on the 25 Jul 44, the condition being that he resided in Kings Italy, temporary address c/o Bank of Naples, Benevento, a further condition was added by C.S.I.(b) AAI. that he was not under any circumstances to visit the Comune of Campobasso, without authority of that H.Q. and that such authorisation would be unlikely to forthcoming for some considerable time.

2. The following is the copy of the declaration signed by Costabile: Sono stato informato dal Capitano F.G. Coach, Security Branch, e ho capito che nel caso della mia liberazione dall'internamento del Campo 371 io non devo rientrare a Campobasso o fare una visita a questa Città senza aver ottenuto prima un permesso dal Comando Supremo Alleato.
Ho capito anche che questo permesso non posso ottenere per un periodo abbastanza lungo; Signed Guido Costabile.

3. Forwarded for your information.

F.G.

(F.G. COACH) Capt.
Security Branch A.C.C. Attached 371 PW Camp

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SECURITY BRANCH
A.P.O. 394

Ref. : SB/140/Costabile 23 August 1944

Subject : COSTABILE, Giudo (Campobasso)

To : Capt. Geach, 371 P.O.W. Camp.

1. Can you please advise whether the release of the above named was unconditional or whether he was not to re-enter Army Areas?
Your letter of 25.7.44 is in our file but not the declaration signed by him

S.J. HARVEY,
Major,
Security Branch.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

21 August 1944.

ACC/14029/1/PS

SUBJECT : Release from 371 P. of W. Camp.

TO : Security Branch.

1. Information has been requested regarding the present position of COSTABILE Guido, formerly a Director of the Bank of Naples at Campobasso.

2. On 25th March 1944 COSTABILE was sent to 371 P. of W. Camp and was subsequently released.

3. It is understood that he was ordered to go to Benevento and not to reside at Campobasso. It will be appreciated if this can be confirmed or information supplied as to any conditions imposed at the time of his release.

PAUL G. KIRK, Lt-Col
Colonel, Inf.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

AFW/ngd

Security
Branch
Rec'd 22 Aug
Date 1/9/44
File No
Action

21

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SECURITY BRANCH
A.P.O. 394

Ref. : SB/LAO Convoiller 20 July 1944

Subject: CONTARINO, Guido

To : Sottosegretario di Stato,
Generale Giovanni DI RAIMONDO

1. To wish to inform you that the a/m was released from STS 96 Bari on the 25 July 1944.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

JOHN A. McKAY,
Major,
Security Branch.

Security Div
7069

SUBJECT: CONSTABLE Guido, Civilian Internee.

371 P.W.CAMP, C.M.E.
371/I400/AG.
25 Jul 44.

G.S.I.(b) Adv.H.Q. AAI. Ref. AAI/I456/SI/GSI(b) dated 19 Jul 44.

1. With reference to the a/m civilian internee. He was released from internment this day 25 Jul 44, and the conditions of his release were fully and clearly explained to him. Attached is the declaration signed by him acknowledging that he understood clearly the terms of his release.

2. Forwarded for your information.

Copy to Director, Security Branch A.C.C.

(R.G.E.MEUCHEN) Major.
Commandant 371 P.W.Camp, C.M.E.

FHG.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
SECURITY BRANCH
APO 394

Ref : SB/LLD.

29 June 1944.

SUBJECT : COSTABILE, Guido

TO : Generale Giovanni Di Raimondo,
Under-Secretary of State for Railways,
Salerno.

1. Reference your letter of 11 June 1944, the case of the above-named has been reviewed and he will not be released meantime.

2. The case will be again reviewed at a later date and the result will be communicated to you.

For the Director:

JOHN A. McKAY,
Major,
Security Branch.

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See Bn

CONFIDENTIAL

5 4844

SUBJECT: Civilian Internee. COSTABILE Guido.

371 P.W.Camp, CMF.
371/I400/AC.
25 June 44.

Director, Security Branch. A.C.C.

I. The case of the a/n has been carefully reviewed by the reviewing officers at this Camp, and the following is an extract of the recommendation made to G.S.I.(b) A.A.I. with thier reply:-

" He should remain until well after the fall of Rome as he must be considered a potential danger in view of his somewhat important influential position, and at present must be judged as a doubtfulcase".

Reply from G.S.I.(b), " We agree with the recommendation of the Board he should remain interned, as the present vital phase of operations, coupled with the present rather uncertain security situation does not justify our taking a risk in this case at this time", the case will be considered at a later date". Letter dated the 18 May 44.

2. In view of the latest Policy letter from G.S.I.(b) is it worth while opening up these difficult cases involving responsible and wealthy personages. It seems that the function of the review Board consists of reviewing minor cases and obvious miscarriages of justice. The a/ n was recommended for DURATION when interned, he was involved in some very doubtful business with funds of the Bank of NAPLES at CAMPOBASSO, two cases involving nearly a million Lire , were withdrawn at short notice from the Bank with his knowledge, L.400,000. was distributed amongst the most prominent members of the Fascist Party in Campobasso , most of them are now detained in this Camp. It was claimed that this operation was the winding up of the Fascist party in Campobasso.

F. G. Geach.
(F.G.GEACH) Capt.

Attached 371 P.W.Camp.

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IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO
PER LE
FERROVIE - MOTORIZZAZIONE CIVILE
E TRASPORTI IN CONCESSIONE

Naples, 11 June 1944

To:

Colonel A.E. YOUNG
Security Intelligence Branch, A.C.C.
Room 3, Post Office Building

N A P L E S

My dear Sir,

I wrote you a letter the 14th April 1944, asking you to take some favourable action for Mr. Guido COSTABILE, who since last March was removed from Campobasso and sent to a concentration camp.

I would appreciate very much if you would take some interest in this case, so to have a quick resolution of it, and I and am waiting for your kind answer.

With many thanks and best regards,

sincerely yours,

Ist Intl.
Generale Giovanni di Raimondo
Sottosegretario di Stato

Ref : 3/140.

Hq., ACC., Security Branch, APO 394, 22 June 1944.

To : 371 P.W. Camp, Capt. GEACH.

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1. Please let us know what the position is respecting this man.

For the Director:

JOHN A. McCAY,
Major,
Security Branch.

To:
Colonel A.S. YOUNG

Security Intelligence Branch, A.C.C.

Room 3 , Post Office Building

N A P L E S

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO
PER LE
FERROVIE - MOTORIZZAZIONE CIVILE
E TRASPORTI IN CONCESSIONE

15

Security Br 140F

5-2845

SUBJECT: COSTABILE Guido

HQ, Allied Armies in Italy

CONFIDENTIAL

AAI/1456/81/GSI(b)

TO: Security Branch, ACC.

18 May 1944

Ref your SB/311.5/140 D dated 17 April 1944.

The case of COSTABILE Guido has now been dealt with by the Review Board at 371 POW Camp, who have given it very careful consideration and have had certain further enquiries made.

The Board has recommended that "he should remain interned until well after the fall of ROME as he must be considered a potential danger in view of his somewhat important influential position and must at present be judged as a "doubtful case" ."

We agree with the recommendation of the Board that he should remain interned, as the present vital phase of operations, coupled with the present rather uncertain security situation, does not justify our taking a risk in this case and at this time.

The case will be reconsidered at a later date.

W.J. Gibson - Lt Col
for Brigadier,
B.G.S.(I).

Copy to:

O.C. 371 P.O.W. Camp.
D.Q.M.Q.(M), HQ, A.A.I.

HEADQUARTERS
14 MAG 1944
A. C. C.

1800

Sec Per.

CONFIDENTIAL

S-2762.

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF INTERNEES.

371 P.W.Camp.
371/1200.
16 May 44.

G.S.I(b), A.A.I.

COSTABILE Guido.

Ref your AAI/1479/1/G(Ib) of 19 Apr 44 and yours of even number dated 20 Apr 44.

1. The case of the a/n internee has been carefully reviewed. Further statements have been collected and it is the considered opinion of this Office, and the Reviewing Board that this internee continues in detention until the fall of Rome. His case will then be reconsidered.

2. Final report of Reviewing Board and further statements are enclosed.

3. Your file and Eight Army file returned herewith.

HEADQUARTERS
17 MAG 1944
A. C. C.

(J.E.MARSHALL) Major.
Commandant No.371 P.W.Camp, C.M.F.

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Copy to Security Branch, A.C.C.
An English precis of 8th Army file is enclosed for information and retention
16.5.44.

SUBJECT: Civilian Internee - COSTABILE Guido.

No.371 P.W.Camp,
C.M.F.
15 May 44.

Camp Commandant, No.371 P.W.Camp.

1. Reference A.M.I. letter Number AAI/1479/1/G(Ib) dated 19 Apr 44 and subsequent correspondence respecting a/n, his case has now been reviewed and following is submitted for information.

2. COSTABILE is 58 years of age. Joined P.N.F. in 1926, was member of Receiving Committee of Accounts of the Federation of Fascists from 1940 to 1941, appointed by Federal selection. Held no other Fascist office.

3. The evidence involving COSTABILE ~~are~~ is contained in reports by CC.RR; statements of De SANTIS Guiseppe; BELMUDU Giovanni; BERTUCCI Enrico and De SANTIS Pasquale, the last three named being employees of the Bank of Naples, Campobasso, and may be summarised as follows:-

(i) obtained appointment through Fascism and not efficient;

(ii) discharged members of bank staff and appointed prominent Fascists;

(iii) paid approximately L350,000 to Federasione Fascista after Fascist funds had been "frozen" by order of Badoglio Government;

(iv) collaborated with Germans;

(v) authorised payment of L.400,000 to BELMUDU Giovanni, noted Fascist leader;

(vi) permitted opening of safe deposits etc: , in November, 1943, contrary to orders of Allied Military Governor;

(vii) anti-Allied propagandist;

(viii) solicited funds for Fascist organisations from staff and pressed them to purchase Party newspapers.

4. Information obtained by enquiries and interrogation of COSTABILE regarding the above is set out below:-

(i) COSTABILE entered employ of Bank of Naples in 1906.
1906 - 1919 passed through lower grades;
1919 - 1929 Chief Clerk, Campobasso;

for information.

2. COSTABILE is 58 years of age. Joined P.N.F. in 1926, was member of Receiving Committee of Accounts of the Federation of Fascists from 1940 to 1941, appointed by Federal selection. Held no other Fascist office.

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4. Information obtained by enquiries and interrogation of COSTABILE regarding the above is set out below:-

(i) COSTABILE entered employ of Bank of Naples in 1906.
1906 - 1919 passed through lower grades;
1919 - 1920 Chief Clerk, Gonzenza;
1920 - 1924 Chief Clerk, Avellino;
1924 - 1925 Chief Clerk, Isle of Capri;
1925 - 1926 Chief Clerk, Sala Consolina;
1926 - 1928 Chief Clerk, Rome;
1928 - 1930 Vice Director, Ancona;
1930 - 1933 Vice Director, Lecce;
1933 - 1935 Vice Director, Genoa;
1935 Director, Campobasso;

He claims he was passed over from time to time for failing to show more enthusiasm for the Fascist regime.

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(ii) Certain non-permanent members of the staff, all with about a year of service were discharged after the Allied entry when it was found necessary to reduce numbers on vacating the Bank's premises at Campobasso. The two men referred to in the CC.MR report of 28;12.43 were engaged before Allies arrived and both were discharged towards the end of that year, one on becoming redundant and the other for inefficiency. This appears to have been in done in the ordinary course of business but has been distorted to make it appear the vicious act of a man who was desirious of removing an unpleasant section of his staff;

(iii) Regarding the payment of about L.350,000 to the Federazione Fascista, COSTABILE says he ordered payment on receipt of instructions from the Rome Branch of the Bank of Naples. He agrees he was aware that the Badoglio Government had "frozen" all Fascist funds and was entirely unable to offer any explanation for acting in the way he did, there is no doubt he was fully aware of the ultimate disposal of this amount and we suspect that he was probably a leading light behind the scenes in planning this "scoop". His general attitude in respect of this matter was most unsatisfactory.

(iv) Collaboration with the Germans, appears from the evidence available, to have been confined to the handing over of a steel safe which was later returned as unsatisfactory and it is not possible to assess his activities in this sphere.

(v) On this point COSTABILE states Mrs. ELISEO deposited bonds to the approximate value of L.450,000 and it was no concern of his to enquire where a customer obtained funds. He agrees this was withdrawn in August by Mrs. ELISEO; he strongly denies any knowledge of the husband, ELISEO Giovanni, but it is interesting to note that both the employees BERTUCCI and De SANTIS state that ELISEO was present with his wife when COSTABILE ordered the deposits to be handed over.

(vi) There is conflicting statements regarding the operation of safe deposits and in the case of BARBATO it is of interest to note that BELNUDU states that Mrs BARBATO removed all valuables in November, whereas

business but has been distorted to make it appear the vicious act of a man who was desirous of removing an unpleasant section of his staff;

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(vi) There is conflicting statements regarding the operation of safe deposits and in the case of BARBATO it is of interest to note that BELNUDU states that Mrs BARBATO removed all valuables in November, whereas enquiries subsequently made by G.S.I. Main H.Q. 8th Army verifies that the contents of this safe were removed by the husband, BARBATO Nunzio, prior to the Allied entry. It is therefore difficult to place much reliance in the statements of either BELNUDU or BERTUCCI as it seems possible that both are repeating hearsay. From the statements obtained from the Provincial Finance Officer, Major Rawston and Finance Officer, A.M.G. 8th Army, Major Grizzard, it will be noted that instructions were received from Army H.Q. that Banks at Campobasso would be permitted to open for unrestricted business on and from 22 Oct 44

It is apparent from both these statements that the requirements of Proclamation No.5 of the Allied Military Governor were never really operative, certainly not after 22 Oct 44. Therefore it does not appear that [redacted] acted contrary to any instructions or orders regarding the handling of safe deposits or strong rooms.

(vii) The extent of his activities in spreading anti-Allied propaganda is hard to determine from the evidence available. Assuming his activities since the arrival of the Allies, it is appreciated the difficulties to be overcome in obtaining sufficient evidence to support a prosecution, but we are unable, from the file, to find anything concrete on which to base his activities.

(viii) The collecting of subscriptions for fascist organizations and the sale of newspapers does not appear very important, this occurred during the fascist regime, and was apparently common in all large business organizations.

It appears to the Reviewing Officers that many of the allegations arise from the usual Italian tradition of personal vendetta and was present in the mind of certain members of the staff at Campobasso who saw an opportunity of engineering the removal of an unpopular official by magnifying certain incidents with the hope of achieving some personal gain.

Although [redacted] officially held no important Fascist offices it is not possible to say how much influence he exercised, his sympathies as late as October, 1941, are expressed by his action in ordering the payment of a cheque which he knew was ultimately destined to the disbanded Federazione Fascista.

It is somewhat difficult to appreciate how he can now be considered a danger to military security as his arrest was not effected until 23 Mar 44, almost six months after our occupation during which time he was permitted to carry on his activities at the Bank, it is also pointed out that Campobasso is now in rear of Army area. However, at this vital stage of operations we consider he should remain interned until well after the fall of Rome as he must be considered a potential danger in view of his present important influential position and must at present be judged on a "doubtful case". When eventually released we think it inadvisable that he should re-establish himself in the Bank of Naples during the time the Allies are interested in the financial administration of Italy.

[illegible] the matter of the police, it is appreciated the difficulties to be overcome in obtaining sufficient evidence to support a prosecution, but we are unable, here this side, to find a prima facie course on which to take any action.

(viii) The collecting of subscriptions for Fascist organizations and the sale of memberships does not appear very important, this occurred during the Fascist regime, and was generally common in all large business organizations.

It appears to the Morning Officers that many of the allegations arise from the usual Italian tradition of personal vendetta and are current in the minds of certain members of the staff of Carpobasso who saw an opportunity of engineering the removal of an unpopular official by magnifying certain incidents with the hope of achieving some personal gain.

Although [illegible] officially held no important Fascist offices it is not possible to say how much influence he exercised, his sympathies as late as October, 1943, are expressed by his action in ordering the payment of a cheque which he knew was ultimately destined to the disbanded Federazione Fascista.

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The case of [illegible], as stated in the same file, has not been considered but we respectfully suggest that any decision made regarding [illegible] should also incorporate [illegible] as both are closely connected, the latter to a much smaller degree.

1.

A. Ellis Leit

(A. E. Leit) Lieut.
A.M.G. (Security Branch).

CONFIDENTIAL

C O S T A B I L E G U I D O.

To:- Provincial Commissioner,
Campobasso Province.

6 May 1944

1. I arrived in Campobasso on 4th December and took up my appointment as Provincial Finance Officer as from 7th December inclusive.

2. On 4th December Captain HEWER (Spearhead Finance Officer) gave me the following information in reply to my verbal enquiries.

(a) That Capt. Grizzard had posted Proclamation No.5 in Campobasso on 15th October but had removed it the same day or on the 16th October.

(b) That the Banks had remained closed until the morning of October 22nd when they were opened for unrestricted business on the verbal orders of Captain Grizzard.

(c) That A.M.G. letter, "Closing of Financial Institutions" had not been delivered because Eight Army H.Q. had reached the conclusion that the circumstances which prevailed did not justify the application of restrictions.

(d) That P.N.F. Accounts had been blocked in July, 1943 and that other Fascist Accounts (including personal A/cs) had been blocked on the initiative of local managers.

3. On 6th December I visited:

(a) the senior Bank Offical in Campobasso, Sgr. SALADINO (Bank of Italy) and received general confirmation of the above facts.

(b) Sgr. COSTABILE (Bank of Naples) and gave him specific instructions relative to the functioning of the Amgot General Account. There is a typed acknowledgement (dated 7th Dec.) in my file.

4. On 10th December I saw Sgr. SALADINO at my office, and, at considerable length elaborated my general financial policy. I instructed him to keep the other Managers informed. This date is confirmed by the fact that the Bank's Graphs (which were instituted as a result of my instructions) commence on the 11th December.

Included in those instructions was a specific reference

2. On 4th December Capt. Grizzard (Special [illegible]) gave me the following information in reply to my verbal enquiries.

(a) That Capt. Grizzard had posted Proclamation No.5 in Campobasso on 15th October but had removed it the same day or on the 16th October.

(b) That the Banks had remained closed until the morning of October 22nd when they were opened for unrestricted business on the verbal orders of Captain Grizzard.

(c) That A.M.G. letter, "Closing of Financial Institutions" had not been delivered because Eight Army H.Q. had reached the conclusion that the circumstances which prevailed did not justify the application of restrictions.

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Included in these instructions was a specific reference to the fact that I should be kept informed of all requests apertaining to Safe Deposits. In the month of February a formal opening of these Safe Deposits did in fact take place.

5. Between 6th December, 1943 and March, 1944 I frequently saw COSTABILE - at my office, at his office and in the office of Sgr SALADINO.

He always conformed to my instructions (including those revelant to Safe Deposits) and I have no knowledge of any breach of Proclamations or General Orders.

The only specific allegation I have against him is that he failed to volunteer the information that, in November,

he received certain instructions (marked secret) from his Head Office in Naples. Officially, he could answer that he presumed A.M.G. Naples had consented to their issue. Actually, I consider he was under an obligation to divulge this matter to A.M.G. Campobasso. On the basis of purely personal observations I may add:

(a) That he was the weakest of the three Managers
(b) " " " always exceedingly nervous
(c) " " " unable to assess the financial situation from a Public or Statal poi t of view but solely as a zealous servant of the Bank - this latter factor caused me a great deal of additional labaour but is not a relevant issue in the present circumstances.

(sgd;) D; M. W; Ralston
Major.
6th May 1944

Statement of Major James C GRIZZARD relative to the Bank in Campobasso.

On the morning after the arrival of this officer in Campobasso i.e; 15 October 1943 and acting on instructions previously received from C.C. A.M.G. 8th Army, an officer wasdetailed to contact the manager of all banks in the city for the purpose of ascertaining the amont of liquid cash on hand and the total amount of deposits. This same day this information was signalled to Army H.Q. At the time this information was obtained a copy of the letter "Closing of Financial Institutions" was delivered to each manager.

At the time of posting of the Proclamation in Oct. 15, 1943 Proclamation No.5 was posted. On or about the 18 or 19 of October instructions were received from Army H.Q. to open banks for unrestricted business on Oct. 22. These instructions were transmitted to the bank managers at a conference with all of them.

They raised the point that this would be impossible in the face of Proclamation No.5. They were informed that in so far as Proc. No.5 interferred with the opening of the banks those provisions did not apply.

(a) That he was the weakest of the three managers
(b) " " " always exceedingly nervous
(c) " " " unable to assess the financial situation from a Public or Statal poi t of view but solely as a zealous servant of the Bank - this latte factor caused me a great deal of additional labaour but is not a relevant issue in the present circumstances.

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Major.
6th May 1944

Statement of Major James C GRIZZARD relative to the Bank in Campobasso.

On the morning after the arrival of this officer in Campobasso i.e; 15 October 1943 and acting on instructions previously receive from G.S. A.M.G. 8th Army, an officer wasdetailed to contact the manager of all banks in the city for the purpose of ascertaining the amont of liquid cash on hand and the total amount of deposits. This same day this information was signalled to Army H.Q. At the time this information was obtained a copy of the letter "Closing of Financial Institutions" was delivered to each manager.

At the time of posting of the Proclamation in Oct. 15, 1943 Proclamation No.5 was posted. On or about the 18 or 19 of October instructions were received from Army H.Q. to open banks for unrestricted business on Oct. 22. These instructions were transmitted to the bank managers at a conference with all of them.

They raised the point that this would be impossible in the face of Proclamation No.5. They were informed that in so far as Proc. No.5 interferred with the opening of the banks those provisions did not apply.

Either on the day the banks opened or a day or two afterwards instructions were received from Army H.Q. that Proc. No.5 if in fact it had been posted, should be removed. This was immediately done and the banks informed of this action.

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James C. GRIZZARD
Major
A.M.G. 8th Army.

SUMMARY of File respecting COSTABILE, Guido.

SUPREME COMMAND (S.I.M) Section of Carabinieri attached 8th Army. Detachment of Campobasso. 21st March, 1944.

From secret inquiries and further information received regarding SEVERINO Aleardo, Assistant Cashier of the Bank of Naples at Campobasso, the following appears:-

Until a few days ago he continued to make pro-German and Fascist propaganda especially amongst the employees of the Bank, criticising continuously the Allied and Italian Armies, which according to him, do not know anything about strategy and are therefore not able to beat Germany.

It has not been possible to confirm that during the German occupation he actually acted as a guide for them and assisted them in looting, but he was always very favourable and showed great sympathies for them -

The population sees in his arrest, made by British Authorities, a just punishment for his political feelings, but SEVERINO is still liked being a man of good morals and of a good reputation.

(Signed) IL CAPITANO DEI CC.RR.
CAPO SOTTOSEZIONE a;p;s.
(Adalberto Giani)

PRECIS OF REPORT FROM SAME SOURCE DATED 21st MARCH, 1944 respecting COSTABILE, Guido;

From secret enquiries made in respect of COSTABILE, Director of Bank of Naples, Branch of Campobasso, the following information appears:-

The active personnel of the Bank is very satisfied about the measures taken by the British Authorities who decided that COSTABILE should be taken away from Campobasso and they see in it a just punishment for a person, who, using his position treated badly the personnel of the Bankif they did not obey his wishes or showed hostile feelings towards Fascism of which COSTABILE was a convinced follower.

The greater part of the population who noted the conduct of COSTABILE are satisfied with the measures taken against him

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The greater part of the population who noted the conduct of COSTABILE are satisfied with the measures taken against him but the part of the population which did not know him very well are asking themselves why the British Authorities had taken COSTABILE away.

Immediately after he knew of the measures to be taken against him, COSTABILE tried very hard to get recommendations for the British and Italian Authorities with a view to getting the decision altered.

Inquiries made in this respect had the following result:-

He went to see the solicitor ALBANESE, the Provincial President Eugenio GRIMALDI, the Police Commissioner ing. IMPALLOMENI and Prof; ARCOLESE applying to them to make

steps in his favour.

The last three persons, moved through pity and not knowing of the bad failures committed by COSTABILE (i.e. opening of the safe, favourable treatment of Fascist leaders etc.) went to see the local F.S.S. to obtain their permission for COSTABILE to be accompanied by his wife.

COSTABILE seeing that it was not possible to get an alteration of the decision against him and knowing the good heartedness of Mr. GRIMALDI applied to him with tears in his eyes to see the AMGOT Governor, Lt.Col. Harold K. Persons at Campobasso, demanding from him that through his influence perhaps the decision could be altered.

It is considered useful to inform you that COSTABILE has one son, who before the arrival of the Allies escaped from Campobasso into German occupies territory (apparently to Rome), his brother-in-law is a General of the Air Force and it is said he is serving with the Germans. COSTABILE also went to see a Doctor at Campobasso to obtain a medical certificate showing him to be suffering from 'cateratta bilaterale', always for the purpose of gaining time and so as to be able to exercise some more influence through other persons with a view to avoid being taken away from Campobasso.

(Signed) Adalberto Giani.
Capt. CC;RR.

MARESCIALLO DEI CC.RR. reports on 22/12/43:-

A reliable source of information states that SEVERINO Aleardo, Assistant Cashier of the Bank of Naples, took active part in showing the Germans where to loot. He is a dangerous propagandist.

STATEMENT of Enrico BERTUCCI:-

Mr SEVERINO Aleardo has the same sentiments and manners as his honourable Director, COSTABILE, who protects him in the most obvious and way.

This man, on the fall of Fascism, called all those men who hurriedly threw their Fascist emblems away, cowards; Fascist emblems which for many years they, against their wish,

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This man, on the fall of Fascism, called all those men who hurriedly threw their Fascist emblems away, cowards; Fascist emblems which for many years they, against their wish, were forced to wear.

He, day by day, together with two other employees of the Bank (Aldo FRUSCELLA and Attilio PILACCHINOE) is spreading defeatist rumours, considers the Allies as incapable to fight the Germans (although having vast superior armaments) and according to him the Germans should be admired by the whole world.

During the German occupation at Campobasso Mr SEVERIANO had numerous and long talks with the Germans perhaps for the purpose of showing them where they could loot.

(signed) Enrico Bertucci.

(The above statement is not dated)

COSTABILE, Guido.

Fervent Fascist, intimate friend of Fascist leaders, persecutor of anti-Fascists.

The following facts are available:-

1: had the job of Director only through being a friend of high ranking Fascists - was incapable of doing the job:

2. showing favourable treatment of old and authentic Fascists:

3. Protected by FRIGNANI, Director General:

4. paid, against the law and against the wish of other members of the Bank, 350,000 lire to the Federazione Fascista on liquidation money for their staff:

5. during the occupation (German) at Campobasso collaborated strongly with the Germans. When the Germans wanted some metal containers for the fabrication of mines handed over a steel safe which the Germans did not accept because it was unsuitable:

6; authorised the payment of 400,000 lire to the noted Fascist leader ELISEO Giovanni, forced the cashier NOVI Raffaelo, to pay the money and authorised that all deposits in the strong room were to be taken away:

7. did not want to take the Fascist emblem off after hearing that the Party did not exist any more:

8. continuous defeatist discussions, anti-Allied propaganda and continously stating how he admired the Germans:

9. unwillingness to collaborate with the Allied Authorities

After Badoglio ordered to stop all payments to ex-Fascist Organisations on 3/10/43 he authorised the payment of 60,569,381

CASTIBILE, Guido.

Fervent Fascist, intimate friend of Fascist leaders, persecutor of anti-Fascists.

The following facts are available:-

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2. showing favourable treatment of old and authentic Fascists:

3. Protected by FRIGNANI, Director General:

4. paid, against the law and against the wish of other members of the Bank, 350,000 lire to the Federazione Fascista on liquidation money for their staff:

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7. did not want to take the Fascist emblem off after hearing that the Party did not exist any more:

8. continuous defeatist discussions, anti-Allied propaganda and continously stating how he admired the Germans:

9. unwillingness to collaborate with the Allied Authorities

After Badoglio ordered to stop all payments to ex-Fascist Organisations on 5/10/43 he authorised the payment of 5 50,569,35L to the Federazione for their staff, only bacuse the Secretary of the Federazione showed him a written authority made out by somebody at Rome that the payment was quite in order.

Protected Fascist employees and was himself protected by FRIGNANI, who used the money of the Bank for pro-German activities.

The above mentioned facts are not communicated through personal ill-feeling or revenge, only to show that CASTIBILE is still a dang rous Fascist who should be punished; The following perso s can verify that all the foregoing is true:-

De BARTOLO Pasquale, Chief Clerk of the Bank.
NOVI Raffaele, Chief Cashier
De SANTIS, Pasquale } Cashiers
BARTUCCI, Enrico }
Dott. POCI, Antonio Chief Clerk

The above facts were stated by Guiseppe De Santis on 28.2.44.

The following report was made on 28.12.43 by the Maresciallo CC.RR. at Campobasso.

After having been informed by trustworthy persons that COSTABILE, Director of the Bank of Naples at Campobasso, committed irregularities and knowing him as a strong Fascist and dangerous propagandist, I made enquiries with the following results:-

During the month of November, 1943, after the order of the Allied Command was issued (Order No.5) that the strong rooms of the Bank of Naples must not be opened without authority of the above mentioned Command and without the presence of a British officer, Mr. COSTABILE ordered the strong room to be opened for the following Fascists and without making the necessary report in the book which is kept for that purpose:-

1. BARBATO, Nunzio, Fascist arrested by FSS.
2. PACE, Ferdinando, Fascist.
3. Dott. MONNO, Domenico, Fascist;

and other persons who could not be identified.

I shall forward, as soon as available, the statements of some more witnesses which at present are not at Campobasso, in the meantime I enclose the following verbal statements of (1) BELMUDO Giovanni, (2) Cashier Enrico BERTUCCI, (3) Cashier Pasquale De SAN SANTIS.

COSTABILE is accused that (well knowing that H.E. Badoglio ordered the confiscation of all valuables and property belonging to the Fascist leaders) as a good Fascist friend of the leading Fascist, Giovanni ELISEO, Director General of the Workers' Corporation, shortly before his escape from Campobasso to Rome ordered to hand over to ELISEO all his valuables (about L;400,000) which he had deposited in the Campobasso Branch of the Bank of Naples (see Declaration 2 and 3 of BERTUCCI and De SANTIS).

The above facts were stated by Guiseppe De Santis on 20.2.44.

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After the arrival of the Allies, COSTABILE tried to hide his real anti-Allied sentiments and tried to make friends amongst the Allies and handed immediately the rooms of the Bank of Naples over to the Allies, keeping one floor for the use of his family.

He is not liked by his dependants. He discharged many married men only because they showed anti-Fascist feelings and ~~rexxxxxxd~~ and ignored that without their job these men would not maintain their families. The following men were discharged by him:-

De FELICE Vittorio
BILOTTA Ettore /
GARZONE Antonio di Guiseppe
ADAMO Angelo

He employed in their place well known and Fascists:-

ROCCO Agostino, ex-Fascist Podesta
MANOCCHIO Nicola, ardent Fascist.

From reliable informants I am told that Castabile is preparing another list of persons to be discharged because he is afraid they might accuse him of his subversive activities.

COSTABILE is the right-hand man of FRIGNANI arrested by British Authorities and employed as Secretary a certain Mrs. FRATE, Teresa, who was known to be his mistress. She was an ardent Fascist and had a great influence over him.

STATEMENT No.1;

On 19.12.43 at 1320 hours at the Police Court at Campobasso the undersigned BELNUDU Giovanni, Campobasso, Via S.Maria Magaicre, made the following statement:-

During the middle of November I was employed by the Bank of Naples at the Treasure Office and I noticed that one day the wife of a certain BARNATO Nunzio, who was arrested by the British Military Authorities asked the Director of the Bank to open the strong room. The Director agreed and was present when the safe was opened from which Mrs. BARNATO took all the items.

During the month of November not only Mrs. BARNATO but also PACE Ferinando and Dr. NONNO Domenico asked for the opening of their safes, obtainedpermission and took all their valuables. During all these operations I was present together with the Director. Nobody else came.

GARZONE Antonio di Giuseppe
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During the month of November not only Mrs. BARBATO but also PAGE Ferinando and Dr. MONNO Domenico asked for the opening of their safes, obtainedpermission and took all their valuables. During all these operations I was present together with the Director. Nobody else came.

I did personally read in the second half of October the order of the Allied Government which strictly forbids the handling of safes or the opening of strong rooms and I wondered very much how the Director could have given the order for the opening of safes belonging to dangerous Fascists, one of them already arrested. I don't know if Mrs BARBATO was authorised to take the items which were deposited in the name of the husband.

The Director, CONSTABILE, is a fervent Fascist and forced his employees to buy Fascist newspapers threatening those who refused to report them to the Federazione.

(Signed)

3

STATEMENT of BERTUCCI, Enrico.

In the second half of November, as a cashier of the Bank of Naples, I was in the office of the above mentioned Bank and I noticed that COSTABILE Guido and the cashier, De SANTIS, went into the strong room. COSTABILE ordered De SANTIS to open a safe which was found empty. The Director asked for an explanation and De SANTIS declared that a few days ~~ago~~ before this safe was opened by Nuncio BARBATO who took all items away. The Director explained this to Mrs. BARBATO who was waiting outside.

I know that a few days afterwards Mr. Ferinando PACE opened their safe and took all the items in the presence of the cashier, De SANTIS; I don't know if Dott. NUNIO opened his safe.

I know that after the fall of Fascism, ELISEO Giovanni, Fascist leader and Director General of the Workers Association presented himself at the Bank to withdraw all his deposits of over L.400,000 which he previously deposited in the name of his wife; When he was asked to do that, the cashier De SANTIS asked advice from the Chief Cashier NOVI, who told him he would not hand over this money because it belonged to a Fascist leader and at that moment the Director intervened and ordered the money to be handed over to Mrs. ELISEO who accompanied the husband.

The Director is a fervent Fascist and forced his employees to buy Fascist newspapers threatening those who refused to report them to the Federazione.

I also know that a few days before the arrival of the British at Campobasso, Messrs. DIAFERIA, Domenico and PARISI Antonio, employees of the ex-Fascist ~~Association~~ Federation (the last one is in goal, arrested by the British) brought a letter from the Rome Branch of the Bank authorising the payment of over L.500,000 for the liquidation of all employees of the above mentioned Federazione. Dott. Antonio POCE, Chief Clerk of the Accounting Department, when asked by the Director declared it would be better to wait with the payment because the British would arrive shortly and they could decide but the Director decided to pay immediately a ~~d~~ the money was apid to the Liquidators of the Federazione, MENSITIERI and CAMPO.

(Signed) BERTUCCI Enrico.

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(Signed) BERTUCCI Enrico.

STATEMENT of De SANTIS, Pasquale.

I am cashier of the Bank of Naples and in the middle of November the Director, COSTABILE, told me to open the safe of BARBATO Nunzio, who shortly before that was arrested by the British. We went both into the strong room where the safe was kept and the Director personally took the safe of BARBATO finding it empty. The Director was astonished and called Mrs. BARBATO who was waiting in the corridor. The safe was closed and borught back in the strong room. I know that before that, but always after the Armistice during the occupation of the Germans, Mr. BARBATO Funzio came to the Bank and withdrew from his safe all the items which he had deposited

there. I know that an order of the British Authorities appeared in a pamphlet issued by the Director General of the Bank of Naples saying that no strong rooms or safes of the Bank must be opened.

Also Mr. PACE Ferdinando, and others, which I can't remember, in that period, always on orders received frel the Director, opened their safes.

It is true that ELISEO came to withdraw his items to the value of about L;400,000 (after the fall of Fascism) but it is also true that I handed over only after his book had been signed by the Chief Clerk.

When the cashier, NOVI, warned me that the money should not be handed over to ELISEO the operation had already ~~been~~ taken place.

The Director, COSTABILE, more than an ardent Fascist is an opportunist.

It is true that he told us to make contributions in favour of the G.I.L. but the biggest part of the personnel, including myself, did not do it. I don't know if COSTABILE forced the perso nel to make these contributions or to buy Fascist newspapers.

(Signed) DE SANTIS Pasquale.

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