

ACC 10000/1143/2598

149.01/NF

FORATO NINO

NOV. 1944 - MAR. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
C.M.F.
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION
SECURITY DIVISION.

15 March 1945.

REF: S.D. 149.01
RAAC - G/P210/BR
CSDIC/CMF/269.

SUBJECT: Suspected Enemy Agent.
- FORATO Nino.

TO: A.C. of S., G-2, RAAC.

1. With regard to previous papers relating to FORATO Nino under references as above: -

2. The facts of this case have been carefully examined and enquiries have been made as to the circumstances of his detention, interrogation and release by the French Sécurité Militaire prior to 22nd June, 1944, but no new evidence is forthcoming. Neither was any further evidence obtained when re-arrested and interrogated again by O.S.S. on 22nd June, 1944.

3. FORATO is in the same category as DE FELICE Eduardo and others - subjects of Security Division report S.D. 149.01 of 22 January 1945 and RAAC reference G/P290/BR. He is one of a number of young Italians from abroad who was recruited casually for German Intelligence by DE FELICE at the "Centro Assistenza per i Militari Provenienti dall'Ester" and who appear to have been abandoned by the Germans in an equally casual manner.

4. The evidence, as shown in the attached interrogation reports, proves nothing beyond the fact of the recruitment of FORATO and others by DE FELICE for the German Intelligence. There is nothing to show that FORATO or any of the others was charged with a mission in Rome to be carried out after Allied occupation.

5. It is therefore considered that prosecution of FORATO as an enemy agent would not result in a conviction, in view of the absence of evidence of his having been briefed for a mission or of his having committed any act to show intention of working in Rome on behalf of the Germans.

6. Consequently, it is suggested that he be dealt with in the same way as

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6. Consequently, it is suggested that he be dealt with in the same way as DE FELICE and others, namely, that he be interned as a person of danger to Military Security, as also recommended by CSDIC.

Louis V. Gale 48

LOUIS V. GALE, Captain

J. W. Chapman
JOHN W. CHAPMAN, May
Colonel, J.A.G.D.,
Director Public Safety Sub-Commission.

CJB

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
C.M.F.
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION
SECURITY DIVISION

Translation of attached document is as follows:

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8 July 1944
JX - 215

SUBJECT: Interrogation of Nino FORATO alias NINA.

A - Circumstances leading to the interrogation:

At the time of his arrest, Lorenzo PIZZI, had declared that he had been warned by Nino FORATO who knew that he (PIZZI) was a German agent. FORATO worked also with the S.R.A. It was therefore deemed best to search for and apprehend FORATO.

B - Personal details:

Nino FORATO alias Nina
Born at ASOLO (Treviso) on 5 July 1923
Address: Rome, Via Trionfale 185
Occupation: Radio operator in Italian Air Corps

C - Previous history:

During his youth, FORATO lived at CUBUE, near METZ where he still has relatives. His father and mother died about 8 years ago and he came to Italy. From 1940 to 1942 he attended a G.I.L.E. course for radio telegraphers at ANZIO with other young Italian youths coming from abroad. At the end of the course, he presented himself for examination in Rome and shortly afterwards was mobilized.

After the Armistice he did not allow himself to be registered in the Republican Forces for some time.

D - Contact with the S.R.A.

FORATO presented himself frequently at the "Centro Assistenza" of Monte Mario. About the 10th of February, one of his friends by the name of suggested to him that they should keep an appointment with a certain Maresciallo DE FELICE, who would find them work which would allow them to be exempted from military service. The meeting was made with DE FELICE, who presented them to a Lieutenant from the Ministry of War. This Lieutenant brought them to the REGINA hotel on Via Veneto where they were presented to a German Captain called HAUG. HAUG inquired relative to their particulars and told them to wait for further instructions.

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From 1940 to 1942 he attended a G.I.L.E. course for radio telegraphers at ANZIO with other young Italian youths coming from abroad. At the end of the course, he presented himself for examination in Rome and shortly afterwards was mobilized.

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On the following morning, HAUG gave them a pass and told them that they would receive 150 liras per day and that they were going to take a course in radio at Florence.

For the time being they were to await instructions. For reasons of service FORATO received the alias of NINA.

E - Preparations for a mission in the region of ABERUZZI

About the end of February, FORATO was received, alone, by Captain HAUG. The latter told him that he had an important mission to undertake in ABERUZZO. FORATO accepted to do it although he did not receive the details of it.

The same day, in the company of a German Lieutenant unknown to him, he was brought in a German truck to CIVITAVECCHIA. They passed the night in the home of a farmer and the following morning, they were received by a German Lieutenant (unknown). The latter explained to them that they were to cross the allied lines and to come back with information concerning allied positions, etc

The Italian Lieutenant refused the mission, arguing that he did not know

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the region very well. Following this, he was sent back to Rome. FORATO accepted the mission and was taken to GUARDIGLIE. There, they gave him definite instructions but upon learning that he would receive no more than 2,000 liras, he refused the mission. He was sent back to CIVITAVECCHIA where, a week later, he was sent to Rome.

Upon his arrival in Rome, FORATO spent the night at the FLORA hotel. The following morning he was called by HAUG, who was angry and refused to pay him his premium for the month of May.

F - Preparation for a mission to ARPINO.

About the end of March, FORATO was again called in by HAUG, who informed him that he was going to give him another chance. The nature of his future mission was not revealed to him, but he was sent to ARPINO. There, he stayed at the CAIO MARIO hotel, from the 27th of March to about the 10th of May.

During this period, FORATO declares that he did nothing. Several times he was questioned by 2nd Lt. BIANCHI who seemed to be the head of the S.R.A. unit at ARPINO. BIANCHI tried to persuade him to undertake different missions. FORATO refused them all, on the basis of his lack of knowledge of the region in question.

Finally BIANCHI told FORATO that he was going to give him one last opportunity. He was going to be sent to a concentration camp for British, Americans and South-Africans at CINECITTA'. There, he would be treated like all other prisoners. There, he was to make friends and procure for himself a letter addressed to some officer in the allied zone. Thus, he could freely cross the lines.

FORATO spent 15 days in this camp. He struck up a friendship with a sergeant who gave him a letter. FORATO then warned the guards and he was released and sent to Rome where he stayed at the VERONA hotel, on Via Santa Maria Maggiore. There, on the following morning ~~he was~~ day during the afternoon of 3rd June, 2nd Lt. BIANCHI came to visit him. BIANCHI gave to him 5000 liras and told him he would call him up the following day.

The day afterwards, Allied troops had already entered Rome and FORATO did not see BIANCHI again. He went each day to the "Centro Assistenza" for his supplies.

On the 22nd (?) of June, he was arrested by an officer of the P.S. He was questioned and released, but he was obliged to present himself daily.

G - Warning of other agents.

Immediately FORATO went to warn two of his agent friends who were in Rome with a transmitting set: Luigi TIRTI and Lorenzo PIZZI.

As a result, FORATO was again arrested upon orders from O.S.S.

H - Comments.

The interrogator believes that it is more than probable that FORATO did complete a mission of short duration during his stay at ARPINO.

He believes also that he did not tell the whole truth relative his last stay with BIANCHI. Had he told BIANCHI that he had not succeeded in getting a letter, he would have received 5,000 liras and,

ARPINO. BIANCHI tried to persuade him to undertake different missions. FORATO refused them all, on the basis of his lack of knowledge of the region in question. Finally BIANCHI told FORATO that he was going to give him one last opportunity. He was going to be sent to a concentration camp for British, Americans and South-Africans at CINECITTA'. There, he would be treated like all other prisoners. There, he was to make friends and procure for himself a letter addressed to some officer in the allied zone. Thus, he could freely cross the lines.

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The letter of the sergeant, he claims, is among his personal effects. It would be interesting to know if it has been opened and what are its contents.

I - Conclusion.

FORATO is actually a spy, employed by the Abwehr for missions of short duration.

The fact that he did not follow a course in FLORENCE indicates, perhaps, that he did not receive a transmitting set.

FORATO claims that he recruited TORTI and COMCA.

J - Recommendations.

To be interrogated by C.S.D.I.C. with a view of charge of espionage.

APPENDIX A

GERMAN PERSONALITIES

Capt. HAUG

Head of the FLAVIA Pensione. Im69, thin: 40/50 years old, blonde, bald, speaks a little Italian and French very well.

Sgt 2nd Lt/BLANCHI

Head of the post at ARPINO - Im74, agile, 30/40 years old, chestnut colored hair. Speaks Italian very fluently with a small accent.

APPENDIX B

ITALIAN PERSONALITIES

ARTOM Emilio

Originally from Syria. Followed a radio course in Florence. Last seen at the Centro d'Assistenza in February. Was to go to FLORENCE to take up a course for the Abwehr. 21 years old, Im74, chestnut colored hair.

BELLOCCI Orlando

Originally from Egypt. Took up a radio course at Anzio. Last seen at the Centro d'Assistenza in February. Was to go to FLORENCE to take up a course for the Abwehr. 19 years old, Im67, black hair and eyes.

CARBONE

Originally from Egypt. Took up a radio course at Anzio. 19 years old, Im75, chestnut colored hair, brown eyes.

CONCA Domenico

Born in France. Speaks French fluently. Took up a course at Anzio. Recruited for the Abwehr by FORATO. He went in February to take up a course in FLORENCE. 21 years old, Im75, ruddy faced, Black wavy hair, thin.

EVALDI Gianpaolo

Born in Greece. Followed a course in Anzio. Later was a civilian army radio operator in Rome. Took up the Abwehr course in Florence in February. 20 years old, Im75, blonde, full featured.

FABIANI Antonio

Born in Greece. Took up a course at Anzio. 20 years old, Im78, thin, brown hair and eyes.

course for the Abwehr. 21 years old, 1m74, chestnut colored hair.

BELLOCCHI Orlando

Originally from Egypt. Took up a radio course at Anzio. Last seen at the Centro d'Assistenza in February. Was to go to FLORENCE to take up a course for the Abwehr. 19 years old, 1m67, black hair and eyes.

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Originally from Egypt. Took up a radio course at Anzio. 19 years old, 1m75, chestnut colored hair, brown eyes.

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FABIANI Antonio

Born in Greece. Took up a course at Anzio. 20 years old, 1m78, thin, brown hair and eyes.

LENCIONE Alberto

Originally from Egypt. Took up a radio course ²⁵ at Anzio. Later was in the Finance Guards. Took up the course at Florence. Last seen in Rome, where he was living in a boarding house at Via Lombardia 40, Apartment 8. 23 years old, 1m70, blonde, thin face.

DE LORENZO Salvatore

Born in Egypt. Took up the course at ANZIO, and the Abwehr course in Florence in February. 20 years old, 1m70, fat, black hair and eyes.

MUCCIO Giuseppe

Born in Egypt. Took up the course at Anzio. As a result, was a radio operator (civilian) at Army Headquarters in Rome. Took up the Abwehr course in Florence in February. 21 years old, 1m75, thin, Chestnut colored hair.

PIZZI Lorenzo

Originally from Greece. Warned by FORATO that he was going to be arrested. Now at the disposition of OSS.

PARATORE Attilio

Born in Egypt. Took up the radio course in Anzio

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and the Abwehr course in Florence. 21 years old, lm78, blonde.

TORTI Luigi

Recruited for the Abwehr by FORATO and warned by him that he was going to be arrested. Now at the disposition of OSS.

VITALE Nicolo

Born in February. Took up the course at Anzio and in Florence. 21 years old, radio operator, lm77, brown hair but grayish.

MARINO Pietro

Captain in the Italian Air Corps. Radio operator. Instructed American pilots before the war. Seen at ARPINO in April when he boasted of having returned from a mission and of having brought back excellent information for the Germans. Later seen in Rome after the Allied occupation. Has stayed occasionally at the ATLANTICO hotel. 50 years old or so, lm72, black hair and eyes.

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Translated by:

Claude J. Bove
Claude J. Bove,
1st Lt. F.A.

COPIE

8 Juillet 1944

JX - 215

SUJET : Interrogatoire de Nino TORATO alias NINA.-

A - Circonstances ayant amené à l'interrogatoire:

Lors de son arrestation, Toranzo FUZZI, a déclaré qu'il avait été averti par Nino TORATO qu'on savait que lui (FUZZI) était un agent allemand. TORATO travaillait également avec le S.R.A.. C'est pourquoi on jugea bon de rechercher et arrêter TORATO.

B - Détails personnels:

Nino TORATO alias NINA
né à ASOLO (Treviso) le 5.7.1923
Adresse: Rome. Via Tridale 185

Occupation : opérateur radio dans l'Aviation Italienne

C - Antécédents:

Dans sa jeunesse TORATO a vécu à CUBUE, près de MNTZ où il a encore des parents. Son père et sa mère sont décédés il y a ~~environ~~ 8 ans environ et il est revenu en Italie.

De 1940 à 1942 il a suivi un cours G.I.L.T. de radio télégraphiste à ANZIO avec d'autres jeunes gens italiens venant de l'étranger. A la fin du cours, il se présente à l'examen à Rome et peu après il fut mobilisé.

Après l'armistice il ne se fit pas enregistrer dans les Forces Républicaines pendant quelque temps.

D - Contact avec le S.R.A.

TORATO se présente fréquemment au "Centre Assistenza" à Monte Mario.

Vers le 10 Février, un de ses amis, nommé ~~de~~, lui suggéra qu'ils devraient prendre rendez-vous avec un certain Maresciallo DE FELICE, qui leur trouverait un emploi qui leur permettrait d'être exemptés du service militaire. Le rendez-vous fut pris avec DE FELICE, qui les présenta à un Lieutenant du Ministère de la Guerre. Ce Lieutenant les amena à l'Albergo "REGINA" Via Veneto où ils furent présentés à un Capitaine allemand nommé

B - Détails personnels :

Mino TORATO alias NINA
né à ASCIO (Trevise) le 5.7.1923
Adresse: Rome. Via Trionfale 185
Occupation : opérateur radio dans l'Aviation Italienne.

C - Antécédents :

Dans sa jeunesse TORATO a vécu à CUBUE, près de MERZ où il a encore des parents. Son père et sa mère sont décédés il y a quelque 8 ans environ et il est revenu en Italie.

De 1940 à 1942 il a suivi un cours G.I.I.T. de radio télégraphiste à ANZIO avec d'autres jeunes gens italiens venant de l'étranger. A la fin du cours, il se présente à l'examen à Rome et peu après il fut mobilisé.

Après l'armistice il ne se fit pas enregistrer dans les Forces Publiques pendant quelques temps.

D - Contact avec le S.I.A.

TORATO se présente fréquemment au "Centre Assistenza" à Monte Mario. Vers le 10 Février, un de ses amis, nommé , lui suggéra qu'ils

devaient prendre rendez-vous avec un certain Maresciallo DE FELICE, qui leur trouverait un emploi qui leur permettrait d'être exemptés du service militaire. Le rendez-vous fut pris avec DE FELICE, qui les présenta à un Lieutenant du Ministère de la Guerre. Ce Lieutenant les amena à l'Albergo " REGINA" Via Veneto où ils furent présentés à un Capitaine allemand nommé HAUG. HAUG leur demanda leur curriculum vitae et leur dit de se présenter le lendemain à la pension FLAVIA.

Le lendemain HAUG leur donna un laissez-passer et leur dit qu'ils recevraient 150 lires par jour et qu'ils allaient se rendre à un cours de radio à FIRENCE.

Pour le moment ils devaient attendre des instructions. Pour raisons de service TORATO reçut l'alias de NINA.

E - Préparatif pour une mission dans la région des ABRUZZI

Vers fin Février, TORATO fut reçu, seul, par le Capitaine ⁴³UG. Celui-ci lui dit qu'il y avait une mission importante à remplir à ABRUZZO. TORATO accepta de la remplir, bien qu'il n'en reçut pas les détails.

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Le même jour, en compagnie d'un lieutenant allemand, inconnu de lui, il fut emmené dans un canyon allemand à CIVITAQUANA. Ils passèrent la nuit dans une maison de paysans et le lendemain matin, ils furent reçus par un lieutenant allemand (non connu). Ce dernier leur expliqua qu'ils devaient traverser les lignes alliées et revenir avec des renseignements concernant les dispositifs alliés, etc....

Le Lieutenant Italien refusa la mission, arguant son manque de connaissance de cette région. Il fut par la suite renvoyé à Rome. TORATO, lui, accepta la mission, et il fut emmené à GUARDIAGRELE. Là, on lui donna les instructions définitives, mais en apprenant qu'il ne recevrait que 2.000 liras, il refusa la mission. Il fut renvoyé à CIVITAQUANA où une semaine après il fut envoyé à Rome.

A son arrivée à Rome, TORATO passa la nuit à l'albergo "TORO". Le lendemain il fut convoqué par HAUG, qui était en colère et refusa de lui payer sa prime pour le mois de Mai.

P.- Préparatif d'une mission à ARFINO.

Vers fin Mars, TORATO fut à nouveau convoqué par HAUG qui l'informa qu'il allait lui donner une autre chance. La nature de sa future mission ne lui fut pas révélée, mais il fut envoyé à ARFINO. Là il logea au CAIO MARIO Hôtel, du 27 Mars au 10 Mai environ.

Pendant cette période TORATO déclara qu'il ne fit rien. Il fut plusieurs fois questionné par le S/Lt. BIANCHI qui semblait être le chef de Poste S.R.A. à ARFINO. BIANCHI essaya de le persuader d'entreprendre différentes missions. TORATO les refusa toutes, arguant de son manque de connaissance de la région en question.

Finalement BIANCHI dit à TORATO qu'il lui donnait une dernière chance. Il serait envoyé au camp de concentration de Britanniques, Américains et Sud-Africains à CINECITTA. Là il serait traité comme les autres prisonniers. Là, il devait se faire des amis et se procurer une lettre adressée à quelque officier dans la zone alliée. Ainsi il pourrait traverser librement les lignes.

TORATO passa 15 jours dans ce camp. Il se lia avec un sergent qui lui donna une lettre. TORATO avertit alors les gardes et il fut relâché et amené à Rome, où il logea à l'albergo VERONA, Via Santa Maria Maggiore. Là le lendemain après-midi (3 juin) le S/Lt. BIANCHI vint le voir. BIANCHI lui donna 5.000 liras et lui dit qu'il le ferait appeler le lendemain.

Le lendemain les troupes Alliées étaient déjà rentrées à Rome et TORATO ne revit plus BIANCHI. Il se rendit tous les jours au "Centro Assistenza" pour la ravitailler.

Le 22 (?) Juin, il fut arrêté par un Officier de la P.S. Il fut questionné et relâché, mais devant se présenter journellement.

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G - Avertissements d'autres agents

Aussitôt TORATO alla avertir deux de ses camarades agents qui se trouvaient à Rome avec un poste émetteur: Luigi TORTI et Lorenzo PIZZI.

Par la suite TORATO fut de nouveau arrêté sur ordre de l'O.S.S.

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II - Commentaires

L'interrogateur pense qu'il est plus que probable que TORATO a rempli une mission de courte durée pendant son séjour à ARDVO.

Il pense également qu'il n'a pas dit toute la vérité au sujet de sa dernière entrevue avec BIANCHI. S'il avait dit à BIANCHI qu'il n'avait pas réussi à se procurer une lettre il n'aurait pas été payé. En contraire il a reçu 5.000 livres et sans doute, des instructions concernant sa mission.

La lettre du sergent déclarait-il, se trouve dans ses effets personnels. Il serait intéressant de voir si elle a été ouverte et ce qu'elle contient.

I - CONCLUSION

TORATO est réellement un espion, employé par l'Axe pour des missions à courte durée.

Le fait qu'il n'a pas suivi un cours à FLORENCE indique peut-être qu'il n'a pas reçu de poste étatique.

TORATO a avoué avoir recruté TORTI et CONCA.

J - Recommandations

A interroger par la C.S.D.I.G. en vue de son accusation d'espionnage.

APPENDICE APersonnalités Allemandes

Cap. H/AUG

Chef de la Pension FLAVIA - Im69, maigre, 40/50 ans, blond, rasé, parle un peu l'italien et très bien le français.

St BIANCHI

Chef du Poste d'ARFINO - Im74, svelte, 30/40 ans, cheveux châtains. Parle l'italien très couramment avec un petit accent.

APPENDICE BPERSONNALITES ITALIENNES

ARTOM Emilio

Originnaire de Syrie. A suivi le cours radio à FIORINCE. Vu dernièrement au Centre d'Assistance en Février. Devait se rendre à FIORINCE pour suivre un cours de l'Abwehr.
21 ans, Im74, cheveux châtains.

BELLUCCI Orlando

Originnaire d'Egypte. A suivi le cours radio à Anzio. Vu dernièrement au Centre d'Assistance en Février.
Devait se rendre à FIORINCE pour suivre un cours de l'Abwehr.
19 ans, Im67, cheveux et yeux noirs.

CARONE

Originnaire d'Egypte, A suivi le cours radio à Anzio.
19 ans, Im75, cheveux châtains, yeux marrons.

CONCA Domenico

Né en France. Parle couramment le Français. A suivi les cours à Anzio. Recruté pour l'Abwehr par RICHARD. Est allé suivre un cours à FIORINCE en Février.
21 ans, Im75, visage rouge, cheveux noirs et ondulés maigres.

MAIOLI Gianluigi

Né en Grèce. A suivi le cours d'Anzio. Ilus tard à

Ch f du Poste d'ARFINO -Im74, svelte, 30/40 ans, cheveux chatain. Parle l'italien très couramment avec un petit accent.

APPENDICE B

PERSONNALITES ITALIENNES

ARTOM Emilio

Originaire de Syrie. A suivi le cours radio à FIORINCE. Vu dernièrement au Centre d'Assistance en Février. Devait se rendre à FLORENCE pour suivre un cours de l'Abwehr. 21 ans, Im74, cheveux chatain.

BERIOCCI Orlando

Originaire d'Egypte. A suivi le cour radio à Anzio. Vu dernièrement au Centre d'Assistance en Février. Devait se rendre à FLORENCE pour suivre un cours de l'Abwehr. 19 ans, Im67, cheveux et yeux noir.

CARTONE

Originaire d'Egypte, A suivi le cour radio à Anzio.

19 ans, Im75, cheveux chatain, yeux marron.

COCCA Domenico

Né en France. Parle couramment le Français. A suivi les cours à Anzio. Recruté pour l'Abwehr par WIGOR FIORATO. Est allé suivre un cours à FLORENCE en Février.

21 ans, Im75, visage rouge, cheveux noirs et ondulés bruns.

ENALDI Gianpaolo

Né en Grèce. A suivi le cour d'Anzio. Plus tard a été opérateur radio civil dans l'armée à Rome. A suivi le cours de l'Abwehr à FLORENCE en Février 20 ans, Im75, blond, visage gras.

PABIANI Antonio

Né en Grèce. A suivi le cours d'Anzio.

20 ans, 1m78, maigre, cheveux et yeux marron.

LEONARDO ALBERTO

Christiane d'Egypte. A suivi le cours radio d'ANZIO. Plus tard dans la Garde des Finances. A suivi le cours de FLORENCE. Vu en dernier lieu à ROME, où il logeait dans une pension, Via Lombardia 40, appartement N°8.
23 ans. Im70, Blond, visage maigre.

DE MONTE Salvatore

Né en Egypte, A suivi le cours d'ANTIO, et le cours de l'Araber à FLORENCE en Février.
20 ans, IM70, éras, cheveux et yeux noirs.

Autocic Giuseppe

Né en Egypte. A suivi le cour d'ANZIO. Par la suite opérateur-radio ~~radio~~ civil au Q.G. de l'Armée de Rome. A suivi le cours de ;'Ayber à PLO. RUCOS en Février.

PIZZI Lorenzo

Critique de Grèce. Averti par FORATO qu'il allait être arrêté. Actuellement à la disposition de l'OCB.

PANATIERE Attilio

DE en Egypte. A suivi le cours radio d'Anzio et celui de l'Albany à FICHENCE.

THE COST INDEX

Recruté pour l'Avbrbr par FORANO et averti par ce dernier qu'il allait être arrêté. Actuellement à la disposition de l'OSS.

VITALIA 2016

Né en février. A suivi le cours d'Anzio et de
FLORINCE.
21 ans, opérateur radio, Im77, creveux chatoïn, mai
ere.

MARIO PIERO

Capitaine dans l'aviation italienne. Opérateur radio.

A instruit les pilotes américains avant la guerre. Vu à ANPINO en Avril lorsque il s'est vanté de revenir de mission et d'avoir rapporté d'excellents renseignements pour les allemands.

Plus tard vu à Rome après l'occupation alliée.

Il a été capturé occasion à l'ALBERTO ATLANTICO.

MUCCIO Giuseppe

Né en Egypte. A suivi le cours d'ANZIO. Par la suite opérateur-radio ~~XXXX~~ civil au Q.G. de l'Armée de Rome. A suivi le cours de ; Anker à FLORENCE en Février.

21 ans, Im75, maigre, cheveux châtain.

PIZZI Lorenzo

Originaire de Grèce. Averti par FORATO qu'il allait être arrêté. Actuellement à la disposition de l'OSS.

PARATO Attilio

Né en Egypte. A suivi le cours radio d'Anzio et celui de l'Anker à FLORENCE.

21 ans, Im78, blond.

TORTI Luigi

Recruté pour l'Anker par FORATO et averti par ce dernier qu'il allait être arrêté. Actuellement à la disposition de l'OSS.

VITALE Niccolò

Né en Février. A suivi le cours d'Anzio et de FLORENCE.

21 ans, opérateur radio, Im77, cheveux châtain, maigre.

MARINO Pietro

Captaine dans l'aviation italienne. Opérateur radio. A instruit les pilotes américains avant la guerre. Vu à ANPINO en Avril lorsque il s'est vanté de revenir de mission et d'avoir rencontré d'excellents renseignements pour les allemands. Plus tard vu à Rome après l'occupation alliée. A séjourné en une occasion à l'Albergo ATLANTICO. 50 ans environ, Im72, cheveux et yeux noir.

0597

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
C.E.C.
FEDERAL SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION
SECURITY DIVISION.

15 March 1945.

REF: S.O. 149.01
RAC - C/P210/ER
CSDIC/CNE/269.

SUBJECT: Suspected Enemy Agent.
- FORATO Hino.

TO: A.C. of S., C-2, RAC.

1. With regard to previous papers relating to FORATO Hino under references as above : -

2. The facts of this case have been carefully examined and enquiries have been made as to the circumstances of his detention, interrogation and release by the French Securite Militaire prior to 22nd June, 1944, but no new evidence is forthcoming. Neither was any further evidence obtained when re-arrested and interrogated again by C.S.S. on 22nd June, 1944.

3. FORATO is in the same category as DE WELICH Eduardo and others - subjects of Security Division report S.D. 149.01 of 22 January 1945 and RAC reference C/P210/ER. He is one of a number of young Italians from abroad who was recruited casually for German intelligence by DE WELICH at the Centro Assistenza per i Militari Provenienti dall'Estero and who appear to have been abandoned by the Germans in an equally casual manner.

4. The evidence, as shown in the attached interrogation reports, proves nothing beyond the fact of the recruitment of FORATO and others by DE WELICH for the German intelligence. There is nothing to show that FORATO or any of the others was charged with a mission in Rome to be carried out after Allied occupation.

5. It is therefore considered that prosecution of FORATO as an enemy agent would not result in a conviction, in view of the absence of evidence of his having been briefed for a mission or of his having committed any act to show intention of working in Rome on behalf of the Germans.

6. Consequently, it is suggested that he be dealt with in the same way as DE WELICH and others, namely, that he be interned as a person of danger to Military Security, as also recommended by CSDIC.

1. With regard to previous papers relating to PORATO Nino under references as above : -
2. The facts of this case have been carefully examined and enquiries have been made as to the circumstances of his detention, interrogation and release by the French Securite Militaire prior to 22nd June, 1944, but no new evidence is forthcoming. Neither was any further evidence obtained when re-arrested and interrogated again by O.S.S. on 22nd June, 1944.
3. PORATO is in the same category as DE FELICE Eduardo and others - Subjects of Security Division report S.D. 149.01 of 22 January 1945 and RAC reference C/P290/HR. He is one of a number of young Italians from abroad who was recruited casually for German intelligence by DE FELICE at the Centro Assistenza per i Militari Provenienti dall'Estero and who appear to have been abandoned by the Germans in an equally casual manner.
4. The evidence, as shown in the attached interrogation reports, proves nothing beyond the fact of the recruitment of PORATO and others by DE FELICE for the German intelligence. There is nothing to show that PORATO or any of the others was charged with a mission in Rome to be carried out after Allied occupation.
5. It is therefore considered that prosecution of PORATO as an enemy agent would not result in a conviction, in view of the absence of evidence of his having been briefed for a mission or of his having committed any act to show intention of working in Rome on behalf of the Germans.
6. Consequently, it is suggested that he be dealt with in the same way as DE FELICE and others, namely, that he be interned as a person of danger to Military security, as also recommended by CSAIL.

36

37

LOUIS V. GALE, Captain

JOHN W. CHAMBERLAIN,
Colonel, J.A.O.D.,
Director Public Safety Sub-Commission.

CJB

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
C.M.F.
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION
SECURITY DIVISION.

Translation of attached document is as follows:

8 July 1944
JX - 215

SUBJECT: Interrogation of Nino FORATO alias NINA.

A - Circumstances leading to the interrogation:

At the time of his arrest, Lorenzo PIZZI, had declared that he had been warned by Nino FORATO who knew that he (PIZZI) was a German agent. FORATO worked also with the S.R.A. It was therefore deemed best to search for and apprehend FORATO.

B - Personal details:

Nino FORATO alias Nina
Born at ASOLO (Treviso) on 5 July 1923
Address: Rome, Via Trionfale 185
Occupation: Radio operator in Italian Air Corps

C - Previous history:

During his youth, FORATO lived at CUBUE, near METZ where he still has relatives. His father and mother died about 8 years ago and he came to Italy.

From 1940 to 1942 he attended a G.I.L.E. course for radio telegraphers at ANZIO with other young Italian youths coming from abroad. At the end of the course, he presented himself for examination in Rome and shortly afterwards was mobilized.

After the Armistice he did not allow himself to be registered in the Republican Forces for some time.

D - Contact with the S.R.A.

FORATO presented himself frequently at the "Centro Assistenza" of Monte Mario. About the 10th of February, one of his friends by the name of suggested to him that they should keep an appointment with a certain Maresciallo DE FELICE, who would find them work which would allow them to be exempted from military service. The meeting was made with DE FELICE, who presented them to a Lieutenant from the Ministry of War. This Lieutenant brought them to the REGINA hotel on Via Veneto where they were presented to a German Captain called HAUG. HAUG inquired relative to their particulars and told them to present themselves the following morning at the FLAVIA boarding house.

On the following morning, HAUG gave them a pass and told them that they

B - Personal details:

Nino FORATO alias Nina
Born at ASOLO (Treviso) on 5 July 1923
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On the following morning, HAUG gave them a pass and told them that they would receive 150 liras per day and that they were going to take a course in radio at Florence.

For the time being they were to await instructions. For reasons of service FORATO received the alias of NINA.

E - Preparations for a mission in the region of ABRUZZI

About the end of February, FORATO was received, alone, by Captain HAUG. The latter told him that he had an important mission to undertake in ABRUZZO. FORATO accepted to do it although he did not receive the details of it.

The same day, in the company of a German Lieutenant unknown to him, he was brought in a German truck to CIVITAVECCHIA. THEY passed the night in the home of a farmer and the following morning, they were received by a German Lieutenant (unknown). The latter explained to them that they were to cross the Allied lines and to come back with information concerning allied positions, etc

The Italian Lieutenant refused the mission, arguing that he did not know

- 2 -

the region very well. Following this, he was sent back to Rome. FORATO accepted the mission and was taken to GUARDIAFERRA. There, they gave him definite instructions but upon learning that he would receive no more than 2,000 liras, he refused the mission. He was sent back to CIVITAVECCHIA where, a week later, he was sent to Rome.

Upon his arrival in Rome, FORATO spent the night at the FLORA hotel. The following morning he was called by HAUG, who was angry and refused to pay him his premium for the month of May.

F - Preparation for a mission to ARPINO.

About the end of March, FORATO was again called in by HAUG, who informed him that he was going to give him another chance. The nature of his future mission was not revealed to him, but he was sent to ARPINO. There, he stayed at the CAIO MERIO hotel, from the 27th of March to about the 10th of May.

During this period, FORATO declares that he did nothing. Several times he was questioned by 2nd Lt. BIANCHI who seemed to be the head of the S.R.A. unit at ARPINO. BIANCHI tried to persuade him to undertake different missions. FORATO refused them all, on the basis of his lack of knowledge of the region in question.

Finally BIANCHI told FORATO that he was going to give him one last opportunity. He was going to be sent to a concentration camp for British, Americans and South-Africans at CINECITTA'. There, he would be treated like all other prisoners. There, he was to make friends and procure for himself a letter addressed to some officer in the Allied zone. Thus, he could freely cross the lines.

FORATO spent 15 days in this camp. He struck up a friendship with a sergeant who gave him a letter. FORATO then warned the guards and he was released and sent to Rome where he stayed at the Verona Hotel, on Via Santa Maria Maggiore. There, on the following day during the afternoon of 3rd June, 2nd Lt. BIANCHI came to visit him. BIANCHI gave him 5000 liras and told him he would call him up the following day.

The day afterwards, Allied troops had already entered Rome and FORATO did not see BIANCHI again. He went each day to the "Centro Assistenza" for his supplies.

On the 22nd (?) of June, he was arrested by an officer of the P.S. He was questioned and released, but he was obliged to present himself daily.

G - Warning of other agents.

Immediately FORATO went to warn two of his agent friends who were in Rome with a transmitting set: Luigi TORTI and Lorenzo PIZZI.

As a result, FORATO was again arrested upon orders from O.S.S.

H - Comments.

The interrogator believes that it is more than probable that FORATO did complete a mission of short duration during his stay at ARPINO.

He believes also that he did not tell the whole truth relative his last meeting with BIANCHI. Had he told BIANCHI that he had not succeeded in getting a letter, he would not have been paid. On the contrary, he received 5,000 liras and, without doubt, instructions concerning his mission.

The letter of the sergeant, he states, is among his personal effects. It is

ARFINO. BIANCHI tried to persuade him to undertake different missions. FORATO refused them all, on the basis of his lack of knowledge of the region in question.

Finally BIANCHI told FORATO that he was going to give him one last opportunity. He was going to be sent to a concentration camp for British, Americans and South-Africans at CINECITTA'. There, he would be treated like all other prisoners. There, he was to make friends and procure for himself a letter addressed to some officer in the Allied zone. Thus, he could freely cross the lines.

FORATO spent 15 days in this camp. He struck up a friendship with a sergeant who gave him a letter. FORATO then warned the guards and he was released and sent to Rome where he stayed at the Verona Hotel, on Via Santa Maria Maggiore. There, on the following day during the afternoon of 2nd June, 2nd Lt. BIANCHI came to visit him. BIANCHI gave him 5000 lires and told him he would call him up the following day.

The day afterwards, Allied troops had already entered Rome and FORATO did not see BIANCHI again. He went each day to the "Centro Assistenza" for his supplies.

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The letter of the sergeant, he claims, is among his personal effects. It would be interesting to know if it has been opened and what are its contents. **35**

I - Conclusion.

FORATO is actually a spy, employed by the Abwehr for missions of short duration.

The fact that he did not follow a course in Florence indicates, perhaps, that he did not receive a transmitting set.

FORATO claims that he recruited TORTI and CONCA.

J - Recommendations.

To be interrogated by C.S.D.I.C. with a view of charge of espionage.

APPENDIX A

GERMAN PERSONALITIES

Capt. HAUG

Head of the FLAVIA Pensione. Im69, thin; 40/50 years old, blonde, bald, speaks a little Italian and French very well.

2nd Lt. BIANCHI

Head of the post at ARUNO - Im74, agile, 30/40 years old, chestnut colored hair. Speaks Italian very fluently with a small accent.

APPENDIX B

ITALIAN PERSONALITIES

ARTIC: Emilio

Originally from Syria. Followed a radio course in Florence. Last seen at the Centro d'Assistenza in February. Was to go to FLORENCE to take up a course for the Abwehr. 21 years old, Im74, chestnut colored hair.

HELIOCCI Orlando

Originally from Egypt. Took up a radio course at Anzio. Last seen at the Centro d'Assistenza in February. Was to go to FLORENCE to take up a course for the Abwehr. 19 years old, Im67, black hair and eyes.

CARBONE

Originally from Egypt. Took up a radio course at Anzio. 19 years old, Im75, chestnut colored hair, brown eyes.

CONCA Domenico

Born in France. Speaks French fluently. Took up a course at Anzio. Recruited for the Abwehr by FORATO. He went in February to take up a course in FLORENCE. 21 years old, Im75, ruddy faced, black wavy hair, thin.

EVALDI Gianpaolo

Born in Greece. Followed a course in Anzio. Later was a civilian army radio operator in Rome. Took up the Abwehr course in Florence in February. 20 years old, Im75, blonde, full featured.

PARIANI Antonio

Born in Greece. Took up a course at Anzio. 20 years old, Im78, thin, brown hair and eyes.

LANGIONE Alberto

Originally from Egypt. Took up a radio course in Anzio. Later was in the Firenze Guards. Took up

Originally from Syria. Followed a course in Florence. Last seen at the Centro d'Assistenza in February. Was to go to FLORENCE to take up a course for the Abwehr. 21 years old, Im74, chestnut colored hair.

BELLUCCI Orlando

Originally from Egypt. Took up a radio course at Anzio. Last seen at the Centro d'Assistenza in February. Was to go to FLORENCE to take up a course for the Abwehr. 19 years old, Im67, black hair and eyes.

CARBONE

Originally from Egypt. Took up a radio course at Anzio. 19 years old, Im75, chestnut colored hair, brown eyes.

CONCA Domenico

Born in France. Speaks French fluently. Took up a course at Anzio. Recruited for the Abwehr by PERATO. He went in February to take up a course in FLORENCE. 21 years old, Im75, ruddy faced, black wavy hair, thin.

EVALDI Gianpaolo

Born in Greece. Followed a course in Anzio. Later was a civilian army radio operator in Rome. Took up the Abwehr course in Florence in February. 20 years old, Im75, blonde, full featured.

FARIANI Antonio

Born in Greece. Took up a course at Anzio. 20 years old, Im76, thin, brown hair and eyes.

FENCIONE Alberto

Originally from Egypt. Took up a radio course in Anzio. Later was in the Finance Guards. Took up the course at Florence. Last seen in Rome, where he was living in a boarding house at Via Lombardia 40, Apartment 8. 23 years old, Im70, blonde, thin face.

DE LORENZO Salvatore

Born in Egypt. Took up the course at ANZIO, and the Abwehr course in Florence in February. 20 years old, Im70, fat, black hair and eyes.

MUCCIO Giuseppe

Born in Egypt. Took up the course at Anzio. As a result, was a radio operator (Civilian) at Army Headquarters in Rome. Took up the Abwehr course in Florence in February. 21 years old, Im75, thin, chestnut colored hair.

PIZZI Lorenzo

Originally from Greece. Warned by PERATO that he was going to be arrested. Now at the disposition of OSS.

PARATORE Attilio

Born in Egypt. Took up the radio course in Anzio

TORTI Luigi

and the Abwehr course in Florence. 21 years old, Im78, blonde.

Recruited for the Abwehr by ROTATO and warned by him that he was going to be arrested. Now at the disposition of OSS.

VITALE Nicolo

Born in February. Took up the course at Anzio and in Florence. 21 years old, radio operator, Im77, brown hair but grayish.

MARINO Pietro

Captain in the Italian Air Corps. Radio operator. Instructed American pilots before the war. Seen at ARPINO in April when he boasted of having returned from a mission and of having brought back excellent information for the Germans. Later seen in Rome after the Allied occupation. Has stayed occasionally at the ATLANTICO hotel. 50 years old or so, Im72, black hair and eyes.

Translated by:

Claude J. Bove

Claude J. Bove,

1st Lt. F.A.

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
Allied Armies in Italy
APO 777 - US Army

JX-215
22 June 44

Subject: Interrogation of Nino FORATO alias NINA

A. Circumstances Leading to Interrogation:

When arrested June 22, Lorenzo PIZZI, subject of interrogation JX-209, stated that he had been warned by one Nino FORATO that it was known that he (PIZZI) was a German Agent. FORATO himself was also employed by GIS. It was, therefore, deemed advisable to investigate FORATO and he was placed under arrest and held at the disposition of this Unit.

B. Personal Details:

Name: Nino FORATO - alias NINA
Born: At Asolo (Prov. of Treviso) on 5-7-1923
Address: Rome, Via Trionfale 185
Occupation: W/T operator with Italian Air Force.

C. Background:

During his youth, FORATO lived at CUBUB, near METZ, where he still has relatives. His mother and father died about 8 years ago, so he returned to Italy.

From 1940 to 1942, he attended a GILE course in radio telegraphy at ANZIO together with many other Italian youths from abroad. At the end of the course, he sat for the examination in Rome and was shortly afterwards called up.

After the Armistice, he failed to register for service with the Republican Forces for some time.

D. Contact with German Intelligence Organization:

FORATO frequently reported to the "Centro Assistenza" at Monte Mario. On about 10 February, a friend of his named Vincenzo BADETTI, who also attended the Centro, suggested that they should make an appointment with a certain Maresciallo DE FELICE, who would provide them with employment which would relieve them from the necessity of military service.

The appointment was made with DE FELICE who presented them to a Lieutenant at the Ministry of War. This Lieutenant then took them to the Albergo Regina in Via Veneto where they were introduced to a German Captain HAUG. HAUG asked them for personal particulars and told them to report on the following day to the Pensione Flavia.

The following day, HAUG issued them a permit, informed them that they would receive 150 lire daily and that they would go on a course of instruction in W/T at Florence. In the meantime, they were to await instructions. For the purposes of the service, FORATO was given the name of NINA.

E. Preparation for Mission in ABRUZZO Area:

Towards the end of February, FORATO was given an interview alone with Captain HAUG. He was informed that there was an important mission to be carried out in ABRUZZO. FORATO agreed to undertake it, though he was not given any further details.

The same day, in the company of an Italian Lieutenant, unknown to him, he was taken in a German lorry to CIVITAQUANA. They slept the night in a peasant's house and in the morning were interviewed by a German Lieutenant (name unknown). The latter explained that they were to cross the Allied lines and return with information regarding Allied dispositions; ect. The Italian Lieutenant refused the mission, pleading his lack of knowledge of that particular area. He was accordingly sent back to Rome. FORATO, however, agreed and was taken on to GUARDIAGRELE.

At GUARDIAGRELE, FORATO was given final instructions but, upon hearing that the maximum payment was only 2,000 lire, he refused the mission. He was sent back to CIVITAQUANA whence, after a week's delay, he was sent to Rome.

On arrival in Rome, FORATO passed the night at the Albergo FIORA. The next morning he was called before HAUG, who was very angry and refused to give him any pay for the month of March.

F. Preparations for Mission from ARPINO:

Towards the end of March, FORATO was again called before HAUG and informed that he would be given another chance. The nature of his future mission was not revealed; but he was sent to ARPINO. There he was lodged at the CAIO MARIO Hotel from 27 March to about 10 May.

During this period FORATO states that he did nothing. He was interviewed many times by Lt. BIANCHI who appeared to be in command of the German Espionage Ho. at ARPINO. BIANCHI tried to persuade him to undertake various missions, each of which FORATO refused pleading lack of knowledge of the area in question.

Finally, BIANCHI told FORATO that he would be given a final chance. He would be sent to the Concentration Camp of British, Americans and South Africans at CINE CITTA. Here, he would be treated just like the other prisoners. He was to make friends there and secure a letter addressed to some officer in the Allied Zone. With this, he would be able to cross the lines in safety.

FORATO spent 15 days in the Camp. He became friendly with a sergeant who gave him a letter. FORATO then told the guards, and he was released and taken to Rome. He was lodged in the Albergo Verona in Via S. Maria Maggiore. Here, the following afternoon (3 June) Lt. BIANCHI visited him. BIANCHI paid him 5000 lire and told him that he would call for him on the following day.

The following day, the Allied troops were already entering Rome and FORATO saw no more of BIANCHI. He went daily to the Centro Assistenza for food. On 22(?) June, he was arrested by an official of the P.S. He was subsequently questioned and released with instructions to report daily.

G. Warning to other Agents:

Upon his release FORATO went at once to warn two of his fellow agents who were in Rome with a wireless transmitting set; namely Luigi TORTI (Rept. this Unit JX-210) and Lorenzo PIZZI (Rept. this Unit JX-209).

Subsequently FORATO was again arrested on this instruction of this Unit.

H. Comments:

The interrogator feels that it is more than likely that FORATO did actually carry out a short-range mission while at ARPINO.

It is also felt that he is not telling the whole truth regarding his final interview with BIANCHI. If he had told BIANCHI that he had failed to get the letter (as he would have us believe); he would have not been paid. Instead, he received 5000 lire and, without doubt, instructions regarding his mission.

The letter received from the Sergeant is, he states, among his personal effects. It should be interesting to see if it has been opened and what the wording is.

I. Conclusion:

FORATO is definitely a spy, used for short range missions by the Abwehr.

The fact that he has not been on the course at Florence may indicate that he was not to be given a transmitting set.

FORATO was responsible for recruiting both TORTI and CONCA, according to his own admission.

J. Recommendation for Disposal:

It is recommended that FORATO be further interrogated by CSBIC, with a view to his ultimate trial on the charge of espionage.

Interrogation conducted and report written by Capt. P. Fairweather of SCI No. 3 Unit, who was attached to this Unit for this case.

Appendix Attached.

ANDREW H. LINDING
Major, Air Corps.

APPENDIX "A" - GERMAN PERSONALITIES

- Captain HAUG - In Command at Pensione FLAVIA. Height 1.69 m; thin build; age 40 - 50 years; blond; cleanshaven spoke little Italian, but very good French.
- L Lt. BIANCHI In command at ARFINO. Height 1.74 m; slender build; age 30 - 40 years; chestnut hair; spoke Italian very fluently with little accent.

* * * *

APPENDIX "B" - ITALIAN PERSONALITIES

- ARTOM, Emilio Native of Syria. Attended W/T course at ANZIO. Last seen at Centro Assistenza in February, when he was about to go to FLORENCE for Abwehr course. Age 21 years; height 1.74 m; chestnut hair.
- BELLOCCI, Orlando - Native of Egypt. Attended W/T course at ANZIO. Last seen at Centro Assistenza in February, when he was about to go to Florence for Abwehr course. Age 19 years; height 1.70 m; dark hair and eyes.
- CARBONE Native of Egypt. Attended W/T course at ANZIO. Last seen at Centro Assistenza in February, when about to go to Florence for Abwehr course. Age 19 years; height 1.75 m; chestnut hair; brown eyes.
- CONCA, Eusebio - Born in France. Speaks fluent French. Attended W/T course at Anzio. Recruited for Abwehr by FORATO. Went on Abwehr course in FLORENCE in February. Age 21 years; height 1.75 m; red face; black curly hair; thin build.
- EVARDI, Gianpaulo - Born in Greece. Went on W/T course of GIE at ANZIO. Later civilian W/T operator of the Army in Rome. Went on Abwehr course at FLORENCE in February. Age 20 years; height 1.78 m; thin build; brown hair and eyes.
- FABIANI, Antonio - Born in Greece. Went on W/T course of GIE at ANZIO, and Abwehr course in FLORENCE in February. Age 20 years; height 1.78 m; thin build; brown hair and eyes.

- LENCIONE, Alberto - Native of Egypt. Went on W/T course of GILE at ANZIO. Later in Guardia Finanza. Attended Abwehr course at FLORENCE on Good Friday. Last seen in Rome in March, when staying at a pensione in Via Lombardia 40, Flat 8. Age 23 years; height 1.70 m; blond hair; thin face.
- DE LORENZO, Salvatore - Born in Egypt. Went on W/T course of GILE at ANZIO; and Abwehr course in FLORENCE in February. Age 20 years; height 1.70 m; dark hair and eyes.
- MUCCIO, Giuseppe - Born in Egypt. Went on GILE course at ANZIO. Later W/T civilian operator for Army Headquarters in Rome. Attended Abwehr course at FLORENCE in February. Age 21 years; height 1.73 m; thin; chestnut hair.
- PEZZI, Lorenzo - Native of Greece. Warned by FORATO that he was likely to be arrested. Now at disposition of this Unit. Rept: JX - 209.
- PARATORE, Attilio - Born in Egypt. Attended GILE course in W/T at ANZIO. In February went to FLORENCE for Abwehr course. Age 21 years; height 1.78 m; blonde hair.
- PORTI, Luigi - Recruited for Abwehr by FORATO. Warned by FORATO that his arrest by Allies likely. Now at disposition of this Unit -- JX-210.
- VITALE, Nicolo - Born in Egypt. Went on GILE course at ANZIO at FLORENCE in February for Abwehr course. Age 21 years; W/T operator; height 1.77 m; chestnut hair; slim build.
- MARINO, Pietro - Captain of Italian Air Force. W/T operator. Instructed American pilots before the war. Seen at AIRFNO in April when he boasted that he had just completed a mission and had brought back excellent information for the Germans. Later seen in Rome after the Allied occupation. At one time stayed in Albergo Atlantico. Age about 50 years; height 1.72; dark hair and eyes.

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
Allied Armies in Italy
APO 777 - US Army

JX-215
22 June 44

Subject: . Interrogation of Nino FORATO alias NINA

A. Circumstances Leading to Interrogation:

When arrested June 22, Lorenzo PIZZI, subject of interrogation JX-209, stated that he had been warned by one Nino FORATO that it was known that he (PIZZI) was a German Agent. FORATO himself was also employed by GIS. It was, therefore, deemed advisable to investigate FORATO and he was placed under arrest and held at the disposition of this Unit.

B. Personal Details:

Name: Nino FORATO - alias NINA
Born: At Asolo (Prov. of Treviso) on 5-7-1923
Address: Rome, Via Trionfale 185
Occupation: W/T operator with Italian Air Force.

C. Background:

During his youth, FORATO lived at OUBUB, near METZ, where he still has relatives. His mother and father died about 8 years ago, so he returned to Italy.

From 1940 to 1942, he attended a GILE course in radio telegraphy at ANZIO together with many other Italian youths from abroad. At the end of the course, he sat for the examination in Rome and was shortly afterwards called up.

After the Armistice, he failed to register for service with the Republican Forces for some time.

D. Contact with German Intelligence Organization:

FORATO frequently reported to the "Centro Assistenza" at Monte Mario. On about 10 February, a friend of his named Vincenzo BADETTI, who also attended the Centro, suggested that they should make an appointment with a certain Maresciallo DE FELICE, who would provide them with employment which would relieve them from the necessity of military service.

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The appointment was made with DE FELICE who presented them to a Lieutenant at the Ministry of War. This Lieutenant then took them to the Albergo Regina in Via Veneto where they were introduced to a German Captain HAUG. HAUG asked them for personal particulars and told them to report on the following day to the Pensione Flavia.

The following day, HAUG issued them a permit, informed them that they would receive 150 lire daily and that they would go on a course of instruction in W/T at Florence. In the meantime, they were to await instructions. For the purposes of the service, FORATO was given the name of NINA.

E. Preparation for Mission in ABRUZZO Area:

Towards the end of February, FORATO was given an interview alone with Captain HAUG. He was informed that there was an important mission to be carried out in ABRUZZO. FORATO agreed to undertake it, though he was not given any further details.

The same day, in the company of an Italian Lieutenant, unknown to him, he was taken in a German lorry to CIVITAGUANA. They slept the night in a peasant's house and in the morning were interviewed by a German Lieutenant (name unknown). The latter explained that they were to cross the Allied lines and return with information regarding Allied dispositions; etc. The Italian Lieutenant refused the mission, pleading his lack of knowledge of that particular area. He was accordingly sent back to Rome. FORATO, however, agreed and was taken on to GUARDIAGRELE.

At GUARDIAGRELE, FORATO was given final instructions but, upon hearing that the maximum payment was only 2,000 lire, he refused the mission. He was sent back to CIVITAGUANA whence, after a week's delay, he was sent to Rome.

On arrival in Rome, FORATO passed the night at the Albergo FLORA. The next morning he was called before HAUG, who was very angry and refused to give him any pay for the month of March.

F. Preparations for Mission from ARPINO:

Towards the end of March, FORATO was again called before HAUG and informed that he would be given another chance. The nature of his future mission was not revealed; but he was sent to ARPINO. There he was lodged at the CAIO MARIO Hotel from 27 March to about 10 May.

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During this period FORATO states that he did nothing. He was interviewed many times by Lt. BIANCHI who appeared to be in command of the German Espionage Hq. at ARPINO. BIANCHI tried to persuade him to undertake various missions, each of which FORATO refused pleading lack of knowledge of the area in question.

Finally, BIANCHI told FORATO that he would be given a final chance. He would be sent to the Concentration Camp of British, Americans and South Africans at CINE CITTA. Here, he would be treated just like the other prisoners. He was to make friends there and secure a letter addressed to some officer in the Allied Zone. With this, he would be able to cross the lines in safety.

FORATO spent 15 days in the Camp. He became friendly with a sergeant who gave him a letter. FORATO then told the guards, and he was released and taken to Rome. He was lodged in the Albergo Verona in Via S. Maria Maggiore. Here, the following afternoon (3 June) Lt. BIANCHI visited him, BIANCHI paid him 5000 lire and told him that he would call for him on the following day.

The following day, the Allied troops were already entering Rome and FORATO saw no more of BIANCHI. He went daily to the Centro Assistenza for food. On 22 (?) June, he was arrested by an official of the P.S. He was subsequently questioned and released with instructions to report daily.

G. Warning to Other Agents:

Upon his release FORATO went at once to warn two of his fellow agents who were in Rome with a wireless transmitting set; namely Luigi TORTI (Rept. this Unit JX-210) and Lorenzo PIZZI (Rept. this Unit JX-209).

Subsequently FORATO was again arrested on the instruction of this Unit.

H. Comments:

The interrogator feels that it is more than likely that FORATO did actually carry out a short-range mission while at ARPINO.

It is also felt that he is not telling the whole truth regarding his final interview with BIANCHI. If he had told BIANCHI that he had failed to get the letter (as he would have us believe); he would not have been paid. Instead, he received 5000 lire and, without doubt, instructions regarding his mission.

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The letter received from the Sergeant is, he states, among his personal effects. It should be interesting to see if it has been opened and what the wording is.

I. Conclusion:

FORATO is definitely a spy, used for short range missions by the Abwehr.

The fact that he has not been on the course at Florence may indicate that he was not to be given a transmitting set.

FORATO was responsible for recruiting both TORTI and CONCA, according to his own admission.

J. Recommendation for Disposal:

It is recommended that FORATO be further interrogated by CSDIC, with a view to his ultimate trial on the charge of espionage.

Interrogation conducted and report written by Capt. P. Fairweather of SOI No. 3 Unit, who was attached to this Unit for this case.

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ANDREW H. BERDING
Major, Air Corps.

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SECRETAPPENDIX "A" - GERMAN PERSONALITIES

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CSDIC/CMF/Z 69
Copy No: 8

Interrogation Report
on
FORATO, Nino

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Subject

Subject is a poor spineless creature of mediocre intelligence. His unfortunate childhood may partly account for his character. He is thought to have told substantially the truth.

Charge and Circumstances of Arrest

Subject was arrested by O.S.S. in Rome on 22 Jun 44 when it was known that he had warned two Abwehr W/T agents that they were suspects. Taken at first to REGINA COELI Gaol, he was brought to CSDIC for detailed interrogation on 2 Oct 44.

Narrative

Subject, born of poor parents, spent his infancy in METZ, FRANCE. On the death of his parents in 1930 he was brought to ITALY by an organization of the Italian Foreign Ministry and educated in TURIN, LIVORNO and ROME. From 1940 - 1942 he attended a W/T course at ANZIO and as a trained operator was drafted into the I.A.F. in 1942. After 6 Sep 43 Subject was anxious to avoid military service and in Oct 43 was imprisoned for stealing a typewriter in order to get money. He was, however, acquitted in Jan 44. In early Feb 44, through DE FELICE, Subject was introduced to Capt. HAUG of the Abwehr, and, together with his friend BADETTI, recruited into its service. Subject was intended for a W/T course at FLORENCE, but on 28 Feb 44 was told he was to go on a mission to the ABRUZZO. He left Rome on 29 Feb 44 and proceeded via CIVITAVECCHIA to GUARDIAFERRA, where he was to cross the lines. At the last minute Subject refused to carry out the mission and was sent back to ROME, where he was severely reprimanded. A month later Subject was sent on another mission. He got as far as ARIANO but, owing to the absence of the officer i/c was obliged to remain there inactive until 15 May. He was then sent to the ROME PW Camp, where he was to attempt to secure a letter from an Allied PW for use later in crossing the lines. Subject secured the letter, but on being released from the Camp did not hand it over. On 2 Jun 44 he contacted Lieut "BLANCHI" in ROME who, after paying him 5,000 lire, said he was off to Hospital in FLORENCE but would send a car to fetch Subject in a few days' time. The Allied occupation of the city prevented this. Subject was arrested on 17 Jun by the French Police, but was not interrogated and released in order to trace an agent by the name of MIRINI. He did not do this, but

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Recommendation

Internment.

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PERSONAL DETAILS

1. Subject

Name : FORATO, Mino
Aliases : "TORRE"; "NINA".
Nationality : Italian
Place & Date of Birth : ASOLO (TREVISO), 5 Jul 1923
Address : Centro Assistenza, 185 Via TRIOMFANTE,
ROME.
Occupation : Wireless telegraphist
Languages : French
Education : About 1930 - 38 Elementary Schools at TURIN and
LIVORNO.
About 1938 - 40 Secondary School, ROME.

2. Description

Height : 1.65 m.
Build : Normal.
Hair : Dark brown.
Eyes : Brown.
Features : Regular; rather bulging eyes.
A poor spineless specimen.

3. Relations

Father : Giovanni Born : TREVISO, 1886 (?)
Profession : Factory worker
Died : 1930.
Mother : Rosa nee DAL NEGRO Born : TREVISO (?)
Died : 1930 (?)
Brothers : Bruno Born : ASOLO, 1921.
In GRECE on 8 Sep 43. Opl-Maj. in Inf.
Angelo Born : ASOLO, 1919.
In JUGOSLAVIA on 8 Sep 43. In Inf.
Andrea Born : ASOLO, 1916.
Taken PW at TOBRUK in 1941.
Gino Born : ASOLO, 1927.
Last heard of in FESARO.

Subject is unmarried.

4. Documents

International W/T Certificate (1st Class) No. 6182, issued ROME 22 Feb

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International W/T Certificate (1st Class) No. 6182, issued ROME 22 Feb

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5. Previous History

- 1923 (?) Subject's family moved to METZ, FRANCE.
1930 Father and mother died. Subject and brothers taken over by "Italiani all'Esterio" branch of the Italian Foreign Ministry and sent to GIACINTO PACCHIOTTI College, TURIN. Eldest brother told by METZ Italian Consular Official that the father had gone to FRANCE because he was not a Fascist Party member. Brother, Andrea went into Army.
1932 Sent to LIVORNO, "Villa LLOYD", under auspices of Italian Foreign Ministry. Bruno and Angelo entered Army.
1938 Subject sent to ROME to continue his studies at the Collegio Romano SAN MICHELE.
Sep 40 Subject passed examination for entry to ANZIO W/T course.

W/T Training

The ANZIO W/T course was run under the auspices of the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, with all W/T material provided by "ITALOCABIE". Subject can remember the following names of students on the course:-

MUCCIO, TORTI, PIZZI, COSANE, CARBONE Vittorio, CARBONE Lorenzo and three others named CARBONE, GALLONE, DE LORENZO, ARON, FRANCESCHINI, DEL ROSSO MIGLIANO, FILANDRO Carmelo, FILANDRO Eugenio, BATTISTI, D'ESPOSITO, CANTELLI, TOMSICH, RUCIARDOLO, IVALDI, VITALE, SIGMANI, ALBERTI, BALLESTRIERE, GERMANI, BADETTI, CONCA, PARATORE, BELLOCI, FABIANI, ROMANINO and MARDELLI.

Of the above, D'ESPOSITO did only one year and then left the course. At the end of the course in 1942, CANTELLI, BALLESTRIERE and BATTISTI went into the Army, COSMANI obtained leave to visit his family in RUMANIA and did not return.

Military Service

- Sep 42 Subject and the other students were drafted to I.A.F. and posted to GUIDONIA, where Subject served in the interception service the W/T station "VALLI DELL'INVIOLATA" under Col. SALARI.
Jan 43 All posted to same course in ROME at the Air Staff School (Scuola di Guerra Aerea) under Lieut FRUSCIANTI. Billeted in ROMAGNOLI Barracks.
8 Sep 43 On the signing of the Armistice, Subject and his colleagues were an indefinite leave pass. GALLONE, GERMANI and FRANCESCHINI, having parents in ITALY, went home, the first two to FROSINONE.

NARRATIVE

At the "CENTRO ASSISTENZA"

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NARRATIVE

At the "CENTRO ASSISTENZA"

After the Armistice, Subject, having no parents, went to live at the "CENTRO ASSISTENZA" in Via TRIONFALE, ROME, a school and hostel for foreign-born Italians. In Oct 43 began the first calls for volunteers for the Republican Forces, but Subject determined at all costs to avoid military service.

Prison

On 30 Oct 43 Subject, who had been told at the "CENTRO" that he must return to the Services and could no longer be kept at the "CENTRO", stole from there a typewriter, which he sold in order to get money to enable him to live independently in ROME. At the beginning of Nov 43 he was arrested by the Polizia Sicureza of Via TRIONFALE, confessed, and was taken to REGINA COELI Gaol.

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8. On 22 Jan 44 Subject was brought up for trial and acquitted. He returned to the "CENTRO", where he was told he must enlist in the Republican Forces. At the "CENTRO" he met BADETTI, who was also looking for a job by which he could avoid military service. BADETTI told Subject that he had been promised such work by a certain DE FELICE of the Foreign Ministry. Subject asked BADETTI to speak also for him.

Recruitment by German I.S.

9. On 10 Feb 44 BADETTI took Subject to an appointment with DE FELICE at the TERMINI Station. DE FELICE escorted them to the War Ministry and presented them to an Italian Lieut (name unknown) who limped. The Lieut and DE FELICE then took them to the Hotel REGINA, where they were introduced in the lounge to a German in civilian clothes. The German, later known to Subject as Capt HAUG, fixed a further appointment with DE FELICE and dismissed him. The Italian Lieut left with DE FELICE.

10. HAUG now explained in French that they would wait in ROME for a few days until they were sent on a secret W/T course in FLORENCE. On completing this course, they would be sent into Allied-occupied territory on espionage missions. The pay would be 4,500 lire a month, to be drawn every ten days. Subject and BADETTI accepted. HAUG then left and told them to wait in the lounge.

11. About fifteen minutes later HAUG returned with a German officer in uniform. This officer, probably a Major, was HAUG's superior, but Subject does not know his name. The "Major", who spoke good Italian, repeated HAUG's story and gave Subject and BADETTI an appointment for the next day at the REGINA, when they were each to bring six photographs of themselves. Subject was also given the "battle-name" of "TORRE", but claims not to remember BADETTI's "battle-name".

The Pensione FLAVIA

12. On 11 Feb 44 Subject and BADETTI went to the REGINA, where they saw HAUG. The latter immediately took them to the Pensione FLAVIA and ushered them into the dining room. The "Major" then came in and Subject and BADETTI handed over their photographs. The "Major" told them to report the next day and left the room, while HAUG took down their personal details in a large register.

13. On 12 Feb 44 Subject and BADETTI reported at the Pensione FLAVIA where they were received by the "Major" and HAUG in the dining room. The "Major" gave them each a blue pass headed, Subject thinks, "WEHRMACHT". The writing on the pass was German, but Subject understood it stated that all help should be given to the bearer in case of emergency. HAUG gave Subject and BADETTI 1,500 lire each, corresponding to ten days' pay. He took from them the phone number of the "CENTRO" and said he would notify them when they were to

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About fifteen minutes later HAUG returned with a German officer in uniform. This officer, probably a Major, was HAUG's superior, but Subject does not know his name. The "Major", who spoke good Italian, repeated HAUG's story and gave Subject and BADETTI an appointment for the next day at the REGINA, when they were each to bring six photographs of themselves. Subject was also given the "battle-name" of "TORRE", but claims not to remember BADETTI's "battle-name".

The Pensione FLAVIA

On 11 Feb 44 Subject and BADETTI went to the REGINA, where they saw HAUG. The latter immediately took them to the Pensione FLAVIA and ushered them into the dining room. The "Major" then came in and Subject and BADETTI handed over their photographs. The "Major" told them to report the next day and left the room, while HAUG took down their personal details in a large register.

On 12 Feb 44 Subject and BADETTI reported at the Pensione FLAVIA where they were received by the "Major" and HAUG in the dining room. The "Major" gave them each a blue pass headed, Subject thinks, "WEHRMACHT". The writing on the pass was German, but Subject understood it stated that all help should be given to the bearer in case of emergency. HAUG gave Subject and BADETTI 1,500 lire each, corresponding to ten days' pay. He took from them the phone number of the "CENTRO" and said he would notify them when they were to leave for FLORENCE.

Recruits

Subject and BADETTI returned to the "CENTRO", and later in Feb 44 it became known there that DE FELICE was looking for more men. About 20 Feb 44 the Director of the "CENTRO", SITZLA, was phoned by DE FELICE to instruct Subject to report to DE FELICE's house, 27 Via VOLATURO, with ten more men. Subject claims that he refused to take the "responsibility" and did nothing about it. He took his friends, TORTI and CONCA, aside and told them that if DE FELICE offered them work it would be for the German I.S., as he had discovered. TORTI and CONCA, nevertheless, asked Subject to take them with him.

Announcement of First Mission

15. On 28 Feb 44 HAUG phoned to Subject at the "CENTRO" and told him to report immediately to the FLAVIA for important news. Subject took TORTI and CONCA with him and left them to wait outside the Pensione. HAUG told Subject that there was a mission to be carried out in the ABRUZZO and that Subject was to be sent, as a "tes" before going to FLORENCE. He asked Subject if he knew the country, and Subject replied that he did not. The "Major" then came in and told Subject to report again on the following day at 16.00 hrs, ready to leave.

TORTI and CONCA Enlisted

16. Before leaving, Subject spoke to HAUG about TORTI and CONCA, stating that they were good men who were willing to work for the Germans. He indicated them to HAUG outside and left the Pensione as TORTI and CONCA were called in to see HAUG.

Departure on Mission

17. On 29 Feb 44 Subject reported at 16.00 hrs to the FLAVIA, where the "Major" indicated a car waiting outside. Subject got into the car, where he found an Italian, who claimed to be a Lieut, and a German driver. During the journey the Lieut told Subject that he was to do a mission in the ABRUZZO and did not know the country. Subject announced that he was in the same condition. The car took them to CIVITAVANNA.

18. Here the car stopped at a house next to a PW camp. Subject and the Lieut were shown into an office, where they were received by a German 2/Lt. The latter told them that they would be sent to GUARDIAGHELE, and from there would cross the lines into Allied-occupied territory. The Italian Lieut now protested and refused to go, claiming that his wife in ROME was ill and about to have a child. The 2/Lt said that he would send him back to ROME. Subject agreed to carry out the mission. Subject and the Lieut were then lodged in a house near the office.

Mission and Password

19. On the following day (1 Mar 44) the Italian Lieut was sent back to ROME and Subject reported to the German 2/Lt. Subject was told that he would soon be sent to GUARDIAGHELE, where he would receive precise instructions for his mission, but it was understood that he was to report on insignia on Allied transport. He would make a short tour via CASOLI and would return within ten days. The return password was "SYCAMORE". Subject then went to his billet.

GUARDIAGHELE

Departure on Mission

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On 29 Feb 44 Subject reported at 16.00 hrs to the FLAVIA, where the "major" indicated a car waiting outside. Subject got into the car, where he found an Italian, who claimed to be a Lieut, and a German driver. During the journey the Lieut told Subject that he was to do a mission in the ABRUZZO and did not know the country. Subject announced that he was in the same condition. The car took them to CIVITAVECCHIA.

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Here the car stopped at a house next to a PW camp. Subject and the Lieut were shown into an office, where they were received by a German 2/Lt. The latter told them that they would be sent to GUARDIAGRELE, and from there would cross the lines into Allied-occupied territory. The Italian Lieut now protested and refused to go, claiming that his wife in ROME was ill and about to have a child. The 2/Lt said that he would send him back to ROME. Subject agreed to carry out the mission. Subject and the Lieut were then lodged in a house near the office.

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GUARDIAGRELE

20.

On 2 Mar 44 Subject reported again to the 2/Lt and was told to be ready to leave at 16.30 hrs. He was given money for the mission (3,500 lire). At 16.30 hrs, accompanied by a Sjt and a Pte, Subject set out by car for GUARDIAGRELE. On the road they stopped to pick up a German Lieut who spoke good Italian, and who informed Subject that he would be crossing the lines that night. When they arrived at a HQ just before reaching GUARDIAGRELE the Lieut got out and put Subject on to a motor-cycle with the Sjt and Pte and this party proceeded to GUARDIAGRELE.

21.

Subject, on arrival at GUARDIAGRELE, was lodged in a house with a 2/Lt or W.O. Subject claims that although he had fully intended to carry out the mission his courage now failed him completely. He was afraid that he might be shot crossing the lines, or caught and shot as a spy.

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Refusal to Carry Out Mission

22. After the evening meal the 2/Lt (or W.O.) told Subject to be ready to leave at 24.00 hrs. Subject said that he could not carry out the mission because he was not suitably dressed and had no strong boots. The 2/Lt procured a pair of strong boots, but Subject next complained that he had no sufficient money. At 24.00 hrs Subject was called out but, although the 2/Lt insisted, refused point-blank to go. The German expressed strong disapproval, but on the following morning sent Subject back to CIVITAQUANA.

Return to CIVITAQUANA

23. On the road back to CIVITAQUANA the party stopped at the H.Q. where the Lieut had got out the previous day. The Sjt took in a letter to the Lieut, who came out and told Subject that he should have refused to carry out the mission before leaving ROME. Subject, the Sjt and the Pte then went on to CIVITAQUANA, where Subject reported to the 2/Lt. The latter upbraided him for his refusal, threatened him that things would not go too well for him and that, in view of the Italian Lieut's refusal, Subject would make a bad impression in the office in ROME. He took back 2,000 lire from the 3,500 lire he had given Subject.

More Agents

24. Subject stayed in CIVITAQUANA for about four days. During this period two other Italians appeared. They both claimed to be 2/Lts and had come to carry out a mission in Allied-occupied territory. Subject thinks they were sent to replace him and the Italian Lieut. The two 2/Lts claimed to have been taken PW by the Germans in YUGOSLAVIA and, while in a PW camp, to have accepted a German proposal to work for the Germans as agents.

25. On about 6 Mar 44 another man arrived. He claimed to have just returned from a mission and to have a good report to make. He claimed to be a native of CROATIA, born of Russian parents. His Italian was poor.

Return to ROME

26. On 6 or 7 Mar 44 Subject, the Croat and the German 2/Lt left CIVITAQUANA by car for ROME, where they arrived at night. The car stopped at the Pens. FLAVIA, where the 2/Lt and the Croat got out and went into the Pensione. Subject was left in the car. The Croat claimed to be going on to VIENNA, he had his family. The 2/Lt soon came out and ordered the driver to take Subject to the Hotel FLORA.

27. At the FLORA Subject found the "major" waiting. The latter reproached Subject angrily, called him a coward, said that he should have refused the mission before leaving ROME that he had wasted money and that he had

Lieut. had got out the previous day. The Sjt took in a letter to the Lieut, who came out and told Subject that he should have refused to carry out the mission before leaving ROME. Subject, the Sjt and the Pte then went on to CIVITAQUANA, where Subject reported to the 2/Lt. The latter upbraided him for his refusal, threatened him that things would not go too well for him and that, in view of the Italian Lieut's refusal, Subject would make a bad impression in the office in ROME. He took back 2,000 lire from the 3,500 lire he had given Subject.

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10

Return to ROME

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27.

At the FLORA Subject found the "Major" waiting. The latter reproached Subject angrily, called him a coward, said that he should have refused the mission before leaving ROME, that he had wasted petrol, and that he had failed HUG who had given Subject a "good character". The "Major" ordered Subject to report to the FLAVIA the next day at 10.00 hrs and gave him a room at the FLORA for the night.

28.

On 7 or 8 Mar 44 Subject reported at 10.00 hrs to the FLAVIA, where the "Major" again "ticked him off", and told him to hold himself at disposition. He added that he might be given another chance. Subject then went to the "CENTRO".

LENCIONI

29.

At the "CENTRO" Subject met LENCONI Alberto, whom he knew to be employed as a W/T operator at the Fort opposite the "CENTRO". LENCONI told Subject that CONCA, TORTI and others of the AN ZIO days had gone to FLORENCE for the W/T course. LENCONI had also been recruited by the Germans and was waiting to go to FLORENCE. When Subject told his story, LENCONI stated that he would like to accompany Subject if the latter were sent on another mission, because he wanted to cross the lines to give him up. As he spoke good English, he hoped to be of use to the Allies.

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30. On 9 Mar 44 HAUG phoned Subject at the "CENTRO" and told him to report to the FLAVIA the next day. He also wanted to know why Subject had not already been to see him.

31. On 10 Mar 44 Subject reported to HAUG, who asked him why Subject had refused to carry out the mission. Subject put forward the excuses he had already given at GUARDIGHELE, whereupon HAUG stated that he himself had crossed the Swiss frontier in 1 1/2 m of snow. HAUG announced that it would now be impossible to send Subject to FLORENCE. When Subject asked for money, HAUG told him that he would receive no pay for 10 - 20 Mar as punishment for his refusal. He would, however, be given pay for 20 - 30 Mar 44.

Change of Address

32. Subject returned to the "CENTRO" and was there told he would have to move out. Subject therefore went to share LENCIONI's room at 40 Via LOMBARDIA. The room had previously been shared by IVALLI, who had left for FLORENCE on the German W/T course.

33. On 20 Mar 44 Subject and LENCIONI went to the Pensione FLAVIA to draw pay. Subject was given 1,500 lire by HAUG and was given to understand that there was no chance of LENCIONI's being able to accompany him on a mission. Subject left his new telephone number with HAUG.

Announcement of Second Mission

34. On the morning of 26 Mar 44 HAUG phoned Subject and told him to report to the FLAVIA at 14.00 hrs, ready to leave on a mission. At 14.00 hrs Subject saw HAUG and the "Major", who informed him that he was going to be given another chance. Subject, who was afraid and hoped to be able to temporise, did not refuse. He was put in a car with a Sjt and a soldier driver. On the way the Sjt told him that his "battle-name" would now be "NINA".

At ARPINO

35. The party arrived at ARPINO in the evening and Subject was put up at a German H.Q. there. Subject spent the whole of the next day at the H.Q. and in the evening he was taken to the CAJO MARIO Hotel and given a room. (This hotel was run by a man called MASELLI, who had there his father and married son with four children. Subject was at that moment the only guest.) An appointment was made for the next morning at 10.00 hrs in front of the fountain.

36. Next morning (28 Mar 44) at the appointed time Subject arrived at the fountain and there met a German soldier who conducted him to a house at the edge of the town, where he was to receive instructions. On arrival, however, it was learned that the officer had left for ROME sick. Subject was told to report back and given some rations to take back to his hotel.

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The party arrived at ARPINO in the evening and Subject was put up at a German H.Q. there. Subject spent the whole of the next day at the H.Q. and in the evening he was taken to the CANTO MARIO Hotel and given a room. (This hotel was run by a man called MASELLI, who had there his father and married son with four children. Subject was at that moment the only guest.) An appointment was made for the next morning at 10.00 hrs in front of the fountain.

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37.

Subject reported again the next day but the Sjt i/c was unwilling to make any decision about Subject and said they must wait until the officer returned. Thereafter Subject reported every few days to get news and draw rations and pay (signed for with the name "NINA"), but the whole of Apr went by without any officer appearing or any orders being issued as to Subject's mission.

Another Agent

38.

At the end of Mar or beginning of Apr 44 a man called MARINI (?) appeared at the hotel. When Subject reported to the office for news the Sjt told him that he was too busy, since an agent had just come back and must be interrogated. MASELLI told Subject that MARINI had just come back from a mission. Later, in conversation with MARINI, Subject learned that he was a journalist who had worked for the Germans in YUGOSLAVIA. He claimed that he had made a good report, and that others were due back. MARINI shortly afterwards left ARPINO.

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Subject's New Mission

39. On 15 May 44 a new Lieut came to see Subject and told him that he would be sent to a PW Camp at CITECITTA, just outside ROME. There he was to get into the confidence of some Allied PW and, on the excuse that the Germans were going to release Subject on discovering that the charge of espionage against him was unfounded, obtain a letter which he would use as cover when he crossed the lines.

CITECITTA

40. The next day Subject and the Lieut travelled by car to the Experimental Cinematograph Centre, CITECITTA, ROME. The Lieut explained the business to the Camp Commandant, another German Lieut, and Subject was handed to a W.O., who put him with about 80 Allied PW in a large theatre. The PW were made up of English, South Africans and Americans.

41. Subject claims that a number of the PW suspected him, but he became friendly with an English Sjt to whom he told his story, saying that he intended to cross the lines into Allied-occupied territory. The Sjt gave him a letter to deliver to the Allies when he had crossed the lines.

42. On 25 May 44 the Sjt and a batch of PW left the camp to be taken North. On 30 May Subject managed to inform the W.O. that he had got the letter. On being released Subject denied having the letter, saying that he had lied in order to get out of the camp, which he could not stand. Subject states that the treatment in the camp was very bad. Subject was taken to the Camp Commandant.

43. The Camp Commandant then told Subject to go to ROME and await news from the Lieut (who had been wounded in the road in an air attack) and if necessary report back to the camp in two days' time. Subject went to ROME and took a room at the Hotel VERONA in Via S. MARIA MAGGIORE. Hearing nothing from the Lieut, Subject duly reported back to the PW Camp on 1 Jun, but was told that as there was still no news he was to return again next day.

H AUG Again

44. Next morning at 07.00 hrs Subject decided to go to the FIATLA to get some pay. Before he got there, Subject ran into H AUG in front of the Pension MEDICI. H AUG said that he had just returned from a month's leave and enquired as to what Subject was doing. He also stated that the other W/T operators had all left.

45. Subject then asked H AUG for pay, but H AUG said that he would have to phone to "TOMMASI" for money and instructions, since he no longer had any control over Subject. He then took Subject's pass, which was overdue for renewal, and said that he would get it renewed.

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43. The Camp Commandant then told Subject to go to ROME and await news from the Licut (who had been wounded in the road in an air attack) and if necessary report back to the camp in two days' time. Subject went to ROME and took a room at the Hotel VERONA in Via S. MARIA MAGGIORE. Hearing nothing from the Licut, Subject duly reported back to the PW Camp on 1 Jun, but was told that as there was still no news he was to return again next day.

HAUG Again

44. Next morning at 07.00 hrs Subject decided to go to the FLAVIA to get some pay. Before he got there, Subject ran into HAUG in front of the Pension MEDICI. HAUG said that he had just returned from a month's leave and enquired as to what Subject was doing. He also stated that the other W/T operators had all left.

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46. At 10.00 hrs Subject went to CINECITTA. Here he was told that the Licut was in ROME and was about to leave for FLORENCE. The Camp Commandant noted Subject's new address.

47. On returning to his hotel, Subject got a call at about 12.00 hrs from the Licut, who gave him an appointment in front of his hotel at 15.00 hrs. He told Subject to refer to him as Signore BIANCHI. The Licut appeared at the hour indicated and told Subject that he (BIANCHI) was leaving for FLORENCE to go into hospital but would send the car back in two or three days to fetch Subject. He gave Subject 5,000 lire, which represented his pay for May 44 and a part of Jun. Subject signed a receipt in the name "NINA". The Licut did not mention the matter of the PW's 1.

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Acquaintance with DE PASQUALE, MARINELLI and DE FELICE

48. Subject continued to stay at the VERONA Hotel after the arrival of the Allies, but took his meals at the "CENTRO ASSISTENZA". About 10 Jun 44 he made the acquaintance of DE PASQUALE and learned that he too had been recruited by the Germans (the same organization as the one that had engaged Subject) but had refused to go on a mission and had been arrested, subsequently succeeding in escaping. Two or three days afterwards he met MARINELLI, who had a similar story. On about 14 Jun 44 Subject transferred to the COLUMBIA, where he shared a room with DE PASQUALE. DE FELICE also came to live at the hotel about this time: he, too, claimed to have "deserted" from the Germans.

Arrest and Release

49. When Subject went to the "CENTRO ASSISTENZA" on 17 Jun 44 he found two French police with SITZIA. They were looking for DE FELICE. SITZIA indicated Subject as a friend of the wanted man and Subject was at once arrested. He took the police to the Hotel COLUMBIA, where MARINELLI, DE PASQUALE and DE FELICE were also arrested. All four were taken to the French Police HQ at 45B Via CESARE DECCIA and shut in a room. Later Subject was present at the interrogation of the other three, but was not interrogated himself. He was then released with instructions to trace MARINI, whom he had recently seen in ROME near the Hotel ATLANTICO. Subject was to report at the French Police H.Q. each morning at 09.00 hrs.

50. On about 20 Jun 44 Subject met at the "CENTRO ASSISTENZA" a certain MILONE of the A.R.P. Service (U.N.P.A.) who had been the barber at the ANZIO W/T course. MILONE told Subject that he had seen TORTI in ROME and asked Subject to go and see him at his house at 66 Via SICILIA.

TORTI and PIZZI Warned

51. On 21 Jun 44 Subject visited TORTI and asked him if he had a W/T set. TORTI replied that he had, and Subject advised him to get rid of it, since the Allies certainly had the names of all those who had trained as W/T operators and, moreover, DE FELICE had been arrested.

52. TORTI at once suggested they should go and see PIZZI, who had a W/T set in Via XX SETTEMBRE. PIZZI was thereupon warned, and both TORTI and PIZZI promised to lend Subject some money on the following day. Subject learned that the W/T operators had been trained in groups in FLORENCE, and that TORTI and PIZZI had been left in ROME as post-occupational agents. FABLANI and MUCCIO had also acted as instructors in FLORENCE.

Re-arrest

53. On 22 Jun 44 Subject called on TORTI and PIZZI and learned that they

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- Re-arrest
53. On 22 Jun 44 Subject called on TORTI and PIZZI and learned that they had both been arrested. On 22 Jun 44 Subject was arrested by the Italian police and taken to REGINA COELI Gaol.
- COMMENTS
54. Subject is a poor, miserable, spineless creature. His story was confused, but it is now thought that he has largely told the truth.
55. It is not thought that he would have the courage to carry out a mission and his story of the refusal is probably true.
56. Subject claims that the letter he obtained from the English Sgt in the ROME PW Cage is available. It has not been possible to trace this document, although it may still be in the hands of the French Military Police.

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57. With regard to Subject's stay at REINO it is recommended that the proprietor of the OLIO MARIO Hotel, MASELLI, be questioned as to Subject's movements between 28 Mar and 15 May 44.

58. It is not considered probable that Subject was entrusted with a stay-behind mission by BLINCHI and, since there is no evidence that Subject ever actually carried out a mission across the lines, his internment is recommended.

L.G.E.S.

Robert B. Smith

C.S.D.I.C.,
C.M.F.
8 Oct 44

R.N. BRIDGE, Major,
OO C.I. Section, C.S.D.I.C.

APPENDIX "A"

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PERSONALITIES

(Date last-seen in brackets)

ALBERTI	No information. From MARSEILLES. (Sep 42)
ARTOMI	Arrested. W/T FLORENCE. (8 Sep 43)
BADETINI	FLORENCE W/T. (ROME, Feb 44)
BALLESTRIERE	1942 Joined Italian Army.
BATTISTI	Seen Feb 44 ROME. Claimed to be working for TODT Organisation.
BELLOCCI	Arrested. FLORENCE W/T. (8 Sep 43)
"BLANCHI"	Lieut from ARPINO. Age 25/35; 1.70 m; brown hair; brown eyes; occasionally wears glasses and carries stick; thin build; speaks very good Italian with Venetian accent. (Possibly Lieut von WEISS = "BLANCHI" ?) (2 Jun 44, ROME)
CANTILLI	Executed.
CARBONE	Arrested. W/T course, FLORENCE. (Nov 43)
CONCA	Arrested. FLORENCE W/T. (Feb 44)
COSANI	W/T at ANZIO. Went to ROMANIA Sep 43; did not return to ITALY.
DE LORENZO	Arrested. W/T FLORENCE. (8 Sep 43)
DEL ROSSO	Joined Italian Army. (ANZIO, 1942)
D'ESPOSITO	Arrested. (1941)
FABIANI	Arrested. FLORENCE W/T. (8 Sep 43)
FIANDRO, Carmelo	See CSDIC/CIF/SL/ IV
FIANDRO, Eugenio	See CSDIC/CIF/SL/ II
FRANCESCHINI	Sep 43, went home; location unknown.
GALLONE	Sep 43, went home to FROSINONE.
GERMANI	Went home to FROSINONE, 8 Sep 43.

"BLANCHI"

Lieut from ARPINO.
Age 25/35; 1.70 m; brown hair; brown eyes; occasionally wears glasses and carries stick; thin build; speaks very good Italian with Venetian accent. (Possibly Lieut von WEISS = "BLANCHI"?) (2 Jun 44, ROME)

CANTELLI

Executed.

CARBONE

Arrested. W/T course, FLORENCE. (Nov 43)

CONCA

Arrested. FLORENCE W/T. (Feb 44)

COSANI

W/T at ANZIO. Went to RUMANIA Sep 43; did not return to ITALY.

DE LORENZO

Arrested. W/T FLORENCE. (8 Sep 43)

DEL ROSSO

Joined Italian Army. (ANZIO, 1942)

D'ESPOSITO

Arrested. (1941)

FABIANI

Arrested. FLORENCE W/T. (8 Sep 43)

FIANDRO, Carlo

See OSDIC/CAF/SL/ IV

FIANDRO, Eugenio

See OSDIC/CAF/SL/ II

FRANCESCHINI

Sep 43, went home; location unknown.

GALLONE

Sep 43, went home to FROSINONE.

GERMANI

Went home to FROSINONE, 8 Sep 43.

HAUG

Capt.
Age 45/48; 1.65 m; reddish receding hair; blue eyes; thin build; long thin nose. Poor Italian, good French. (Jun 44, ROME)

IVALDI

Arrested. FLORENCE W/T. (8 Sep 43)

LENCIONI

FLORENCE W/T. (17 Jun 44)

MARINI (?)

Capt I.A.F. and W/T operator. Claimed to have instructed U.S. pilots before war.
Age 50; 1.70 m; grey hair; fair complexion; lined face; bad teeth. (Jun 44, ROME)

MIGLIANO

No information. (Not seen since Sep 42)

APPENDIX "A"
(Page two)

TOP SECRET
OSD/C/AF/Z 62

MUCIO	Arrested. FLORENCE W/T course. (Sep 43)
NARDELLI	No information. From FRANCE. (Sep 42)
PARATORE	Arrested. FLORENCE W/T course. (Sep 43)
PIZZI	Arrested. FLORENCE W/T course. (21 Jun 44)
RICCIARDOLO	Believed still in ROME. Was with U.N.P.A. (Nov 43)
SIGNANI	After 8 Sep 43 went to CARRARA.
TOMALINO	Arrested. FLORENCE W/T course. (Sep 43)
TUMSICH	Seen Feb 44, ROME. Working for Propaganda Ministry.
TORTI	Arrested. FLORENCE W/T course. Stayed at Hotel HELVETIA in FLORENCE. (21 Jun 44)
VITALI	Arrested. FLORENCE W/T. (Sep 43)
"Major"	HAVE's superior. Age 40/45; 1.80 m; dark hair and eyes; fair complexion; athletic build; speaks good Italian. (Mar 44, ROME)
Lieut	CIVITAVECCHIA and GUARDAGNARE. Age 30/35; 1.65 m; fair, smooth hair; blue eyes; fattish; speaks good Italian. (Mar 44, near GUARDAGNARE)
2/Lt	CIVITAVECCHIA. Age 25/30; 1.75 m; fair hair; brown eyes; long nose; virg build; speaks fair Italian. (Mar 44, CIVITAVECCHIA)
2/Lt or W.O.	GUARDAGNARE. Age 30; 1.60/65 m; fair hair; brown eyes; fat. Very little Italian. (Mar 44, GUARDAGNARE)
Italian Lieut	Refused to carry out mission. Age 35; 1.70 m; wavy black hair; dark eyes; dark complexion; Roman accent. (Mar 44, CIVITAVECCHIA)
Italian 2/Lt	Agent. To cross lines near GUARDAGNARE, Mar 44. Age 35; 1.60 m; wavy dark hair; normal build.
Italian 2/Lt	See above. Age 28/30; 1.70 m; wavy dark hair; brown eyes; fat face; strong build.

Arrested. FLORENCE W/T. (Sep 43)

HAG's superior.

Age 40/45; 1.80 m; dark hair and eyes; fair complexion; athletic build; speaks good Italian. (Mar 44, ROME)

CIVITAVECCHIA and GUARDIAVERDE.

Age 30/35; 1.65 m; fair, smooth hair; blue eyes; fattish; speaks good Italian. (Mar 44, near GUARDIAVERDE)

CIVITAVECCHIA.

Age 25/30; 1.75 m; fair hair; brown eyes; long nose; wiry build; speaks fair Italian. (Mar 44, CIVITAVECCHIA)

GUARDIAVERDE.

Age 30; 1.60/65 m; fair hair; brown eyes; fat. Very little Italian. (Mar 44, GUARDIAVERDE)

Refused to carry out mission.

Age 35; 1.70 m; wavy black hair; dark eyes; dark complexion; Roman accent. (Mar 44, CIVITAVECCHIA)

Agent. To cross lines near GUARDIAVERDE, Mar 44.

Age 35; 1.60 m; wavy dark hair; normal build.

See above.

Age 28/30; 1.70 m; wavy dark hair; brown eyes; fat face; strong build.

Born of Russian family. Claims to have family in VIENNA.

Age 26/7; 1.68 m; dark hair; brown eyes; thin build; fair complexion; wears glasses for reading. Speaks

Serbo-Croat, Russian, poor Italian and poor French. (Mar 44, ROME)

=====

VITALI

"Major"

Lieut

2/Lt

2/Lt or W.O.

Italian Lieut

Italian 2/Lt

Italian 2/Lt

Croat Agent

DISTRIBUTION

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M.I. 5	1
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SUBJECT: FORATO Nino

SECRET

Office of the AC of S G-2
ROME ALLIED AREA COMMAND
OMF

G/P210/BR

16 Oct 44

Capt GALE,
Security Intelligence ACC

1. Attached herewith is a CSDIC report on above mentioned Subject.
2. It will be noted that CSDIC recommend internment.
3. AFHQ have asked that ACC should express an opinion as to whether there is a possibility of trial in this case.
4. Will you therefore please examine the case and inform this Headquarters of your opinion.

PT

Security
Division
eo'd 17/10
ook No 2423
File No 149
Action

D.A.D. Young
(D.A.D. YOUNG)
Lt.Col.,
G.S.

SCI 2 JX 215 P Jul 44

0, 6, 4, 3

Capt GALE

SUBJECT : FORATO Nino.

SECRET

Office of the AC of S, G-2
ROME AREA ALLIED COMMAND
CMF

G/P210/BR

30 Nov. 44.

Capt GALE,
Security Intelligence AG.

Further to this office letter G/P210/BR dated 16 Oct 44.
May this office please be informed of the progress of this case.

over young
(D.A.D. YOUNG)
Lt. Col.,
G.S.

RD

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