

ACC 10000/143/2613

149.01 / CP
(2)

PIGNATELLI

AUG. 1944

(1)

Verbal Process of Avvocato Filosa Luisi fu Pietro of
 Misasi Giuseppina, born at Cosenza 15 17 April 1897
 lives in Via Calabura 13.

(The year 1944 15 19th of May in Naples.

(Answer: Filosa declares as follows:

I left Cosenza 15 7th or 8th of the month of May with
 the intention of going to Bari so as to ^{confer with} speak to the
 lawyer Di Dona on the "Zippitelli" case. Taking
 advantage of the necessity of this conference with
 Di Dona I intended leaving Cosenza were at that
 time arrests had been made of fascists, & as I had
 always been of fascist sentiments I was afraid that
 I would be amongst those arrested for precautional
 methods.

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I first went to Aprigliano (Cosenza) to see my Mother.
 From Aprigliano I went down to Cosenza & I went
 towards Rossano. Having heard that at the station of
 Rossano that the lawyer Mimi Rizzo to whom I
 was going to see for information regarding the "Vendetti"
 case, community of S. Cosmo, he was not in the town
 I proceeded to Bari, leaving ~~again~~ after about

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12 hours ^{wait} ~~afterwards~~. Being very well known in the village & not wanting to be seen by ^{any} ~~one~~ one, owing to the fact that the lawyer was not at his home, I waited at the station, until the train arrived, without going to the village. I stayed the whole time in a friend's house.

At Aprigliano some time before I had stayed 5 or 6 days always staying in my mother's house in the suburbs.

I left by train from Rossano & arrived at Bari the morning of the 15th May.

On my arrival in Bari I first went to the Pension where I slept the nights 15th & 16th & the next day I changed to the Pension Fanelli where at about 17 hours of the 16th I was arrested.

In a cafe of Bari (I don't remember which one) a few of my Lusaiza friends, who I met quite casually, introduced me to a few people of whom I can give no indication or names with whom we spoke of the present political situation.

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During these discussions I expounded my present situation as to my being chased by the police & of the fear of not being able to bear this sort of

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persecution which would force me eventually to try & cross the lines to get to the territory occupied by the Germans. A man, not belonging to Lorenza, answered that at the moment it would be quite impossible.

I do not know the lawyer Scardia of whom you speak, but I do not exclude that he might have been amongst the people who I spoke to in Bari.

I was a member of the fascist party in 1921. I made the march on Rome. In May 1923, having ~~taken~~^{seen} expressed my ~~in~~^{self} a contrary to the undisciplined outlook of the fascists, I was then expelled from the party for indiscipline.

In December 1930 I was invited to ~~sent~~ to confinement for making anti-national propaganda; I stayed there until November 1932 when I was let out by a special 10 years of fascism grant amnesty.

I was recalled to the party in April of 1943; I accepted because of the critical time Italy was passing, & I thought it my duty to ignore any differences & also because I had asked to be re-given my officer rank, which had been taken from me when I was confined - so that I be able to fight for my country.

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At that time the federale of Cosenza was Ubaldo Rottoli.

Before the invasion of Sicily I was told by the federale to constitute a band which would have fought against the allies if an invasion ~~was~~ took place.

The aforementioned command after a few days took deployed me from this position at the ^{command} instance of Ercolani, who had because I ~~thought~~ thought that not only ~~my~~ old fascists should take part, but any Italians.

I do not remember who took my place as head of the band. This ~~attempt~~ ^{attempt} to organize a band was ordered and directed by the Secretary of the Fascist Party, CARLO SCORZA a Calabrian. I think that the Federal Ercolani was a friend of Carlo Scorza in as much as what I can refer to existence of a Fascist organization in the Province of Cosenza. My position has made it my duty to tell all my political friends that it was too soon to build up organizations, but one must ~~the~~ maintain decorum and dignity without ~~with~~ vile exhibitions of differences of opinion.

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These thoughts I explained to my friends when I had the occasion to meet them.

Like all the ~~other~~ rest in this way perhaps GIUSEPPE Morelli, who in this moment I do not succeed in identifying, ~~or this is precisely the~~ and I do not remember who precisely, it may be I, he said that it was not the moment to organize anything but one must keep in contact and I told Morelli that at Cartanaro there were a lot of old fascists among whom there was a doctor CORDA and that if I do not deceive myself not having seen Corda for a very long time. I did not tell Morelli to make specific contact with Corda.

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A.S.R. I do not think nor have I heard it said that the head of the fascist organization of Calabria was the Prince Squatelli. I have had no dealings with him myself and I do not know the business.

(1)

Verbal process of quarino Luigi fu lesare e Rosina Rume,
born in Naples 31-10-1890 lives in via Belisario Cebuzie 21
Lt. Colonel of 10 Reserves.

10th June in Naples at 18 hours.

As regards to my friendship (or connection) with Valerio
Pignatelli & of his wife I declare as follows.

My knowledge of Prince Pignatelli goes back to 10 years
1934-35 when I assumed the presidency of the Federation
of the "Assault Troops" of the "History of the War," in Naples and he belonged to the
National Directory of the same organization. The friend-
ship was more of a character, I would say, through the
gerarchy, because although we had both belonged
during the other war 1915-18 to the first line forces, we
had never met before.

When the Etoipian war broke out I left for Africa
in December 1935, first to Cirenaica then for Oriental
Africa where I remained until the end of March 1940.

After I had been impatunited I took part in the war
against Greece in the "Acqui Division," as head of
Section I. In January 1942 I was transferred to
Sicily to the command of the 6th Armata Operational
offices. I took this command & served until our 121

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Defeat in Calabria 1943. 14th August. The 20th of August I was sent on leave for 15 days to Naples where I arrived on the 25th. By order of His Majesty the King S.M.R.E. I was transferred to the Territorial Command in Naples where I presented myself on the 9th of September. I took this last command until the day ~~to~~ it was occupied by the Germans (I think the afternoon of the 12th of September). During the 8 years described above I was absent from Naples regularly (except for my periodical leave) & I never had any means of coming into contact with Prince Pignatelli. During the ^{part of the days} early years one afternoon on a day in March c.a. in piazza Carolina, while I was with the Duke of Torremaggiore, Gerardo D'Aquino di Lazamara, I met by accident, who I had not seen for years, Prince Pignatelli, who was coming out of a barber's shop in that Piazza. After exchanging a few words & having made some remarks on the sad fate of our country, D'Aquino left us & I accompanied the Prince to his house. I had added to the Prince's comments.

The Prince found my thoughts in sympathy with his in thinking of such disgrace falling on our country, after so many years of sacrifice & of war fought for a the hope of better things. 120

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That day I did not go to his house, but he asked me to lunch the next day.

During the period before the 27th April to Prince & I formed a firm friendship, and for that reason after about a week I was invited to lunch again. I returned these invitations twice. In my house the Prince always came alone. In his house I met Gen. Accame, Professor De Amicis, the journalist-Luzie Malaparte, a Sub. Lt. Nuvoletti, the Baron Compagna & a young man whose name I can't remember, but it may have been Potelli.

During this period Prince Pignatelli made inquiries as to my economical situation, which after having been put on to a pension 1st Nov: 1943, was not at all satisfactory.

He more than once had helped me offering me oil, pasta, & rice. One day he suggested ~~me~~ sending my family to his estate at Sellaia so as to reduce my expenses, as the life would not much less, sub-letting my flat in Naples, as it was not possible to take the furniture there.

He also suggested my going there and getting some flour & oil. In fact the following week at Easter-time I made a journey which lasted from Monday to Friday morning.

I reached Cautanzara Tuesday ~~morning~~ evening & the

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next morning together with Avv. Barbieri we went by car to Sella, where I met an old lady, mother of an aviator who had died, friend of one of the sons of the Marchesa De Sella who also ^{had} died; M^{re} Anzani; a man with a foreign accent of whom I don't remember his name who looked after the Prince's interests; another man whose name I cannot remember but I think he was the Director of the saw-mills of the Prince's.

During the stay Barbieri showed me the house ^{with} a few rooms which could have been made habitable.

After which the lawyer told me he had to go as far as Sersale & that I could either stay at Sella or go with him. I preferred to go with him rather than wait there by myself. In the same car came the old lady & M^{re} Anzani where they went straight to the Sersale cemetery where the two aviators were buried, while the lawyer went about his business in the ^{town-hall} Municipality. I think he had brought some milk, from the farm of Sella.

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As the cemetery was closed we all went to the ^{town hall} Municipality of Sersale, while the old lady & ANZANI went to get the keys of the cemetery from certain nuns, I went to the ^{town hall} Municipality with Barbieri. While Barbieri was talking to

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to comunale secretary, I waited on one side, but in the same office I talked to Dr Tallavio, known under these circumstances. Knowing of my friendship with Pignatelli, & of my taking part in the Ethiopian war, Dr Tallavio, talked to me about him & how he had treated the Prince on an occasion when he was wounded in battle.

After some time we returned to Sellia, where during a ~~little luncheon party~~ partaken by me & Barbieri, the lawyer continued talked with the man with the foreign accent on the administration of the property.

After about one hour we proceeded to Catanzaro where the lawyer Barbieri left me. It was about 17 hours.

Towards 18 hours, after having strolled through the town I went to Barbieri's house to say good-bye, & then the same night I started on my return journey, arriving in Naples the first hours of the following Friday. At Catanzaro I stayed in a hotel situated on the principal street a little ahead on the left of the station.

Beside the people above ^{named} mentioned I met no others. 117
As regards to food Barbieri told me that he was about to send a certain quantity of flour, but

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This he could not do after having found no necessary transport. The situation being such I did not have the courage to even ask a very small quantity to take with me, & perhaps that was why, the Prince offered me more than once, as I have already said, a certain quantity of pasta, oil & rice in Naples.

The difficulty of transport, the shortage of proper communications, & the bad health of my wife, (suffering from a weak heart) made me give up all idea of transferring to Sella, although I did not tell the Prince I did not insist in going. The frequency of my visits to Prince Pignatelli's was given to the fact of my very poor economical conditions, I hoped in a certain sense

to take advantage of his social position, & hoped he would be able to find me a job in a civil company, or else eventually to be reassured in a military position.

Thanks to the interest taken by you: Accame, who one day I had expressed my desire to you: Adame Mariotti Commander of the C. D. A. of Palermo & an old superior of mine, (through Accame I sent Mariotti a letter).

Naturally I spoke to Pignatelli of these things, naturally with a certain reservation so as to ^{avoid} ~~excite~~ him thinking that I was just another of those people who

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was hoping to any favour. In fact I always tried to recompense him for all the kindness he showed me, by giving him little presents of things one could no longer find such as, eau-de-cologne, soap, men's socks which I possessed since the war began.

Amongst other things I had hopes of being employed in a saw-mill factory which Pignatelli intended constructing, in which he had already told a lawyer to draw up the relative acts, so he told me one day.

As regards the Priviera I met her always in her own house, 4 or 5 times at the most before going on ^{her} journey. I ignore the date of her return and I have no idea where she went. She left many days before Easter for Calabria & then she went to Sicily so her husband told me & Gen: Occane & Baron Compagna in my presence.

Of the ^{Priviera's} presumed journey to Rome I was only told a few days ago, as I will now explain.

The morning of the 26th April about 11.30 I went to Pignatelli's. I was received by him in the hall & very kindly he asked me to return another day as he was very busy.

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I must confess that I was very much surprised by my strange reception, especially as at the time it

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was pouring with rain & I ^{was standing} ~~stopped me out~~ on the door step I left, but stopped under the portico some time until the rain stopped pouring.

The next day I returned to find out ^{the reason for} my strange reception but I did not find the Prince. I realized that the place ^{was} ~~had been~~ ~~under~~ a ~~per~~ perquisitioned on the part of functionaries in civil clothes directed by a British officer. One day towards the end of May in a street of the Vomero I was approached by the Sub. Lt. Nuvolari, who I had lost sight of & forgotten, who asked me news of the Pignatelli's. I told him I knew nothing, but on hearing would certainly let him know. I also begged him to let me know if he heard anything of them.

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The evening of the 1st or 2nd of June Nuvolari came to my house to tell me that he had heard from relations of the Pignatelli's that they were in good health, and that they had been arrested & they were in different apartments at ~~Pesillipi~~ Pesillipi.

He also told me that he wanted to go to Rome as soon as possible and he asked me if I thought he should inform the Pignatelli's family, in consideration of his friendship with ~~the~~ mother & with the daughter of the prince, of the arrest. I told him that I thought he was quite right in informing them.

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Under these circumstances Nuvolari told me of the Princess's journey to Rome.

After two days Nuvolari came back to ask me, ^{if} he was right in adding the particulars of the Princess's stay in Rome, particulars which he mentioned to me, but owing to lack of particulars I was not able to judge. At this point he told me that the princess's journey had taken place twice, & that on the first one he had accompanied her & in consequence he had got into some trouble.

I told him that I knew nothing of all this & that he must do as he felt was best to truth always being the best way. Not yet persuaded Nuvolari started writing down notes about the journey trying to get the facts straightened out, while sitting on the sofa. I had the impression that he was trying to make me remember the circumstances by making notes. I remember him saying that everything depended on the depth of friendship that he had for the above persons & of the grade of truth of the news by him expressed, at any rate I made quite clear that under such circumstances there is nothing better than to tell the exact truth.

To console the spirit of this young man who understood very little at this moment I told him that I would not have hesitated in doing what he had done, if I had judged it

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opportunity, & if I ^{had} found myself in his situation, I ^{would have} offered to help in making the journey easier.

At this point I had the impression that he had come to me, using an apparently innocent motive, to see if he could persuade me to effect a plan which was completely out of my range of thought.

Therefore I told him that he must judge best what he was to do. At this point Nuroiani tore the paper from the block, & got up to go. After a few phrases he said he was probably leaving the next day, we parted at the door of my house.

As regards to a ^{possible} fascist movement in Calabria by or in Naples by Pignatelli I affirm in the most categorical manner that I have not the elements to judge either pro or against.

Once or twice in my presence & with some of the above mentioned persons, the present situation in Italy was discussed. Pignatelli always sustained the thesis that if it had been necessary for the ulterior progress of the Italy to know over the fascist regime & that it was an obliged necessity to add to the irreparable ^{military} catastrophe, but the "colpo di stato" which resulted in the events of the 25th July, in fact the total ^{military} irreparable preparation was well known to all organs responsible to the state.

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I add that these sentiments are fully agreed on by myself.

The verbal session process was re-opened on 12 June 1944.

A.D.R. The first days of June when I knew that Nuvoletti had decided to go to Rome, I invited him by writing, to come to my house urgently.

I promised myself to ask Nuvoletti to go & find Gen: Sestini in Rome & Col: S. M. Bogliaccino, so as to get news of a deposit of £3,500, who the same colonel, asked by me in August 1943 had put in the Bank of Rome. Col: Bogliaccino, from what he had told me in Rome towards the end of August, had assured me that the deposit had been made & that he would have sent me the receipt by post.

A.D.R. Prince Pignatelli then in April 1944 when he sent me to Sellia Marina gave me no letters to Ansani, nor any verbal message, he only gave me a letter of introduction for the lawyer Barbieri so that he could show me the house I was to occupy.

A.D.R. I do not know Capocassale who I did not see under any circumstances, & I have never heard him mentioned.

A.D.R. Beside the journey to Sellia I went to no other places in Calabria.

A.D.R. I had heard from the Prince that Gen: Reccame, ^{not} known in his house, was the head of S.I.M. & therefore the fact

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that his house was frequented by a person of such regard
gave me great tranquility.

(1)

Nuvolari Andrea di Licurgo Basilio e fu Linnacchi Stella, born at Mantova the 8th March 1921, bachelor, student, lived at Mantova P.zza Garibaldi 18.

(The year 1944 the 16th of May in Naples. - - - - -)

Before the undersigned officers of the police judges, is present Nuvolari Andrea whom on being questioned gave the following answers. - - - - -

I frequented the 1st year at the university, political-social science branch - at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart at Milan.

I was called to arms the 27th of February 1941, served as a soldier at the 81st ^{Infantry} Regiment in Rome and in October of the same year I took my exams to become an ^{complement reserve} officer at Salerno and was promoted sub-lieutenant in the infantry in February 1942.

In March 1942 I was sent to the Depot 16th ~~th~~ Infantry Regiment in Faticava where I remained about one month. In April of the same year I reached Castelnuovo d'Istria the ^{reserve} ~~complement~~ battalion of the same regiment where I remained until the 31st December 1942. In January 1943 I was transferred, by request, to Brescia to ^{attend} frequent an automobilistic exam at the Depot - Branch of the 3rd ^{antieri} regiment. 109

After about two months I was assigned as an motorized officer to the 4th motorized regiment at Verona, where after a

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Few days, I joined to ~~separate~~ branch of the same regiment at Treviso. Towards the middle of August 1943 I was transferred to the 1146th ^{heavy} section of the Division "Mantova" not far from Monzelli (Cantugano) where I was only a day to armistice was declared (8th September 1943).

The 14th September, with a column of 34 ~~trucks~~ tanks, I left to join the 1st Canadian Division which was at Borgia.

With this Division we went north arriving at Anzi (Pescara) ^{towards the end} the 3rd decade of September.

My column, remained with the 1st Canadian Division 4 tanks while the others returned to the "Mantova Division".

I was the only Italian officer who remained, with one soldier, and my bat-man, with the Canadian troops.

After about 15 days at Anzi, together with this Division, we proceeded to Spinazzola, Cerignola, Fossia, Lucera, Iseri, arriving at Campobasso towards the end of October 1943. As I knew the English language, at the request of the British Military Mission, ^{to} from the command of the Italian 7th army, I was nominated liaison officer to the Canadian Division.

Towards the end of Nov: 1943, together with the Allied Command I was transferred to Rocca S. Giovanni where I remained until the end of February 1944, during that time I went to Naples ~~after~~ having told ~~verbally~~ to the command of the Canadian Division.

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I reached Naples, traveling on any vehicle that happened to be going that way.

I arrived in Naples precisely to 16th or 17th February 1944 & I was staying about a week at the Hotel "D'Azeglio" which was situated near the station.

After a few days I went & visited Barone Compagna Piero, who lived in Via Chiatamone 62 introducing me as a friend of his son Emerico who had served with the 81st Infantry Regiment in Rome and at the School for training officers in Salerno.

I ^{sustained} stated that my family was known by name to Baron Compagna as having the niece Gaetani Delia, married to Di Bagno Galeazzo, 3rd cousin to my father.

I was received by the Compagna very cordially and, on his invitation, I went there every day staying sometimes to lunch.

During one of these visits I said to the Baron & his wife that the price at the Hotel was ~~of~~ exaggerated and that to live in Naples one needed a great deal of money, while I had not a great deal (altogether I had brought with me about 6,000 lire.)

The husband's wife took note of my position & promised me that they would help as soon as an occasion presented itself. On the third or fourth visit I was introduced to the house of the Baron, to Prince Valerio Pignatelli and his wife, the Marchioness Maria de Seta.

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The Boroners Compagne told them of my position and she asked them to find me a better ~~situation~~ arrangement.

Pignatelli & his wife invited me to their house two days later to look things over. I went there punctually, but not having found anything, they invited me to go to lunch the following day, at the lunch party was a certain Mario Soldati & Longanesi, of whom were introduced to me as being employed at the Naples broadcasting station.

The Princess then asked these two if it would be possible for them to put me up at their house via dei Mille 40.

They answered it was not possible, but however, after lunch they introduced me, near the wireless station Pizzofalcone, to a certain Petrone Giulio who having room in his house, invited me to go & live with him in Corso Vittorio Emanuele 70.

The next day, in fact, I left the Hotel ~~D'Azeglio~~ D'Azeglio and I went to the above address where I remained until the end of March 1944.

I told the Pignatelli's of my new arrangement and thanked them very much for their interest in me.

They answered that if I needed anything that they would be very pleased to help, taking into consideration that I was a long way from my family.

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I took advantage of their kindness and many times I went to their house near lunch time, with the evident intention of being invited to lunch which very often happened.

(Notwithstanding however that I had no more expense at the Hotel, I continued to eat in restaurants, I was obliged to mention to the Baron Compagna and then to the Pignatelli's, having finished all my money. They helped me respectfully with £3,000 and £4,000. in which I promised to pay back as soon as possible. I continued to frequent the Baron Compagna's house but principally the Pignatelli's where I was offered much more hospitality.

I became, in a certain sense very intimate with the Pignatelli's who would talk to me of this or that.

I remember during a conversation with Prince Pignatelli he told me among other things that the amongst the workers at the port of Naples were badly treated by the Anglo-Americans because not only the workers were under the control of the niggers, but that the pay was low compared to the work done.

About the issue against the black market he said it was quite absurd to pretend they could stop it when the nations given by the Allies to the population was not sufficient.

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Often I spoke to him of political questions and made it very clear to him my anti-fascist sentiments which go back to the

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epoch before the fall of fascism.

In ^{regards to this} ~~proposition~~ he told me that he was thinking of organizing an order in which the young people of the nation would find a means and a system which would mark the equilibrium and order of internal affairs. The party, which he said, should have cut out any demagogic system and would dedicate itself exclusively to an energetic return to health of the country.

I agreed with his ideas in regard to the forming of such a movement and offered my eventual collaboration, but the Prince said that he didn't think that the right moment had yet arrived.

Many other conversations took place at which the Prince and his wife were present.

In one of the first visits to their house I told them that I was a liaison officer with the 1st Canadian Division, they then asked me where this Division was situated, how the Canadians behaved towards the Italians, if their morale was high, what fighting spirit they possessed, where the Division had come from and during which epochs they had fought.

I answered all their questions without hesitating sure that I was with persons of perfect veracity. 104

During the same circumstances they asked me on which front they were fighting and whether they were fighting, I answered that as far as I knew none.

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Later on the discussions returned to the Canadian Division and I always answered what I knew and often I inserted things, adding that they were forming a armed Canadian corp.

(I cannot now say precisely what other military questions were asked by Pignatelli & his wife.

Other times we had political arguments. The Pignatelli's showed definite scepticism as regards to the present Italian Government, as they could not see, any one more really capable of grasping the present situation.

As regards the republican fascist government the Pignatelli's were not definite in their opinion, instead, they hesitated in forming a definite opinion on the subject. They praised on the other hand, the corporative organization of the fascist regime.

The strange un-balanced political opinions of the Pignatelli's surprised me a great deal and they made me feel apprehensive which however soon disappeared when I discovered that they were in very good relations with officers of the Allied army, and this was confirmed by the fact that I personally met two or three times in their house a lieutenant of the English army, a certain, Stanfield.

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During a conversation alone during the first days of the March 1944, the Privates Pignatelli told me, among other things

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of having had a son Francesco, an officer in the aviation, who died fighting in the sky over Sicily before the armistice; of having a son Vitti a prisoner of the Germans; and of being worried about her mother, and her daughter Bona and another son living in Rome also with her mother.

(She declared she was ready to do anything so as to get their news: phrases which she repeated to me every time that I met her and she always said them in a very excitable fashion.

What she intended to do, however, she never told me. — nor did I ever ask her. —

One day about the 2nd half of March I told the Princess of my difficulty in getting a means of transport to return to the 1st Canadian Division. What she said to me: "If I could get the car could I come with you"? She did not explain the reason why she wanted to go on this journey: I answered that it was not possible for her unless she could get a special permit from the ^{reliable} authorities.

The Princess said she would think it over, try to procure the permit. The matter then went no further. 102

I continued to frequent the Pignatelli's house, on the part of the Princess I was the object of her affection as a mother far away from her own children.

I did not abuse her affection and tried to give to this woman as much spiritual affection possible under such circumstances.

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In fact the Primeers with complete confidence spoke to me of her married life past & present referring to very private matters.

Towards the 20th of March, the Primeers spoke to me ^{again} about the journey and said she was about to manage to get the necessary permits; for the car she asked me if I could possibly manage to procure one. I answered that it was not easy, so she said she would see about it herself.

Under the circumstances she mentioned that she desired to undergo this journey having great necessity to look after certain interests in the region of Vasto.

After two or three days the Primeers told me she hadn't found the car; however she said she was coming with me as far as the place where the Canadian command was situated so as to try and cross the lines so as to go at least as far as Ofichi where she said her husband's family lived.

I told her that it would be impossible as it would mean crossing the Sangro River: she answered that even for the crossing of the river she would get a permit that I need not worry.

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After 3 more days the Primeers declared she had managed to get the permit to cross the River Sangro and she repeated her intention to come with me so as to be able eventually to cross the lines.

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I again expressed my doubts of the possibility of crossing the lines. she answered that for a woman who had her family the other side it would be easy.

The Princess, the next day, however, told me that everything was ready for the start. I was amazed and ~~expressed my~~ told her how absurd her plans were. At my insistence the Princess told me to be calm because, having, "a special mission to carry out the other side of the lines to carry out for the Americans" ^{thus} "everything would go alright".

To convince me she told me that she had a car at her disposition and she showed me ^{spare} ~~two~~ tyres which she had in her house.

As regards to the secret mission to be carried out the princess told me the following:-

That ~~she~~ I was not to call her Princess once we had left Naples because she was to travel under her maiden name Maria Elia;

For know reason whatsoever must I speak to anyone about her mission;

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That I would know of her return to Naples from people who would inform me: people who, she answered, would have been told by a wireless message that she would have had transmitted from the territory controlled by the Germans;

That ^{through} everything depended on my discretion which I would gain

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merit in the eyes of the allies;

that my job ~~was~~ consisted in introducing her to the American or Allied Command;

When my mission was over and I had returned to Naples I would go to her husband, tell him the exact place, the group and the name of the commanding officer to whom I ~~to~~ had presented her.

During this discussion held in her husband's presence, the prisoners on her own initiative, told me that she would get me news of my family upon which I gave her the address. (I spoke the address nothing was written). Saying that very likely she would have to go to Verona. I imagined that the journey to Verona would be made in order to ~~see~~ see Mussolini as already three times I had heard it to Pignatelli's house that in that city lived the Ex-Duce. I did not ask however any explanation.

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As the time for leaving had been fixed at dawn the next morning, the prisoners invited me to sleep that night at her house. During the same day I was asked by the prisoners - about the part of the front line known to me - the names of the localities that composed the line of fire, which troops held these localities, where they held ~~in~~ such very strongly or only patrolled, if I knew of anybody who

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could have made the crossing of the line easier, if I knew how the Germans treated anybody who they met in the immediate front lines. if I knew when the allies were about to attack and if the Allied lines were mined and by what system these were mined.

I answered giving indications about the localities, but I told her that they might have changed since during my absence, for the same motive to her other questions I gave very evasive answers.

I accepted the invitation and the night before the journey, slept at the Pignatelli's house.

Now that I remember, that day ^{was} exactly the 1st April 1944. The same day, after dinner, Prince Pignatelli called me to one side and asked me if I had understood my job given to me by his wife to Princess. I answered that I had, but just the same the Prince repeated to me again all the instructions telling me not in particular to keep the whole thing a secret. I suspected, however, that the Princess's mission was not known completely by her husband.

98

The morning of the 2nd of April, at about 6.00 clock, I left Naples together with the Princess with the car 1100 grey with the Number Naples 10434 or 10494 driven by an Italian chauffeur whose name I think was "Avalone".

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During the journey, at the place called Guardia Greca - if I remember rightly - and precisely where there is a statue of the Madonna (on the left on the way to Fossra), the Prisoner said to me "look, in that town my god-child was in a concentration camp her name was Vittoria, a Russian, and she is now in Rome".

She told me briefly the life of her god-child of whom, she was very worried about, because, being of Russian Nationality, she might have come to harm by the Germans.

Later she said that if it would be possible she would try to bring her back with her, also because the Americans were very anxious to see her.

In the car, in the English language, I turned the conversation to the mission of the Prisoner. She told me that although she had all her permits in order, but to stop any eventual ^{suspicion} by the side of the Germans, arrived at the time, she would have to invent an escape.

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She told me her plans telling me she would have done everything possible to get through the lines where she would find German patrols, to whom she would present herself speaking the German language which she admitted knowing.

When I warned her against the possible danger she would be in giving herself up to the Germans, the

(14)

Privers told me that she was sure of her plans, and that it was enough her saying that to the Germans that she was on her way to see Barbara Hains in Rome — wife of a German officer of very high ^{rank} ~~grade~~ and of an imminent ^{military} political position in Rome. — That immediately the same Germans would have offered her their protection.

She added that on arriving in Rome, she would have really gone to see H^{rs} Hains who she added "knows exactly what I want."

I made no further demands because I imagined that between the Privers & H^{rs} Hains there must be a previous understanding. Always during the journey, the Privers asked me again the names of the localities that I knew comprised the immediate line of battle, and if I knew any place where it would be easy to cross the line.

I noticed that while she asked me these questions the Privers had a geographical map in her hand of the country indicated, and in which I think she marked the place by me indicated.

96

During the journey the Privers told me that she would return by the same way and that she would have come to the 1st Cavalier Division Command and would ask for me.

(15)

Arriving near S. Viló Chietino at ^{about} 17 hours. Whereupon I presented the Princess to the 403 Engineers Command H.Q. where she ~~had~~ ^{held} a conversation of about 15 minutes with the commander. On coming out she told me that she had to return to work day at 10 o'clock. She seemed very preoccupied by the way in which the allied command had advised her to cross the line, and she implored me to get some information if it would be possible to find a suitable crossing place. I found out, in fact, through ^{some} families of the place, but could get know useful information. I noticed, however, with what impatience the Princess wanted to cross the line and possibly without the allies control.

We went, ^{then} to a nearby farm where we stayed the night.

The morning of the 3rd at 10 o'clock we went to the above command. An English officer or Canadian accompanied us to S. Viló Chietino where the Princess ⁹⁵ was introduced to a Canadian command. I waited for about 2 hours in another room and when eventually she returned, she told me that she was very annoyed because of the fact that her arrival there was quite unknown to the Canadian command, and although she had given the pass-word, which she did not tell me,

(16)

That the commander said that he would have to have it confirmed from Naples.

Together we waited in the offices of the Command, the prisoners returned to the subject & gave me fuller details of her mission which she had to do to the side of the line. She told me very decisively that she had been engaged in the service of the Americans by a certain Mr. Poul who, she said, was part of the American secret service who for them he had very often crossed the line into the territory occupied by the Germans therefore being of immense service to them: a person whom she promised to introduce to me on my return to Naples.

She added that her special mission was to go & fetch and bring through the line two men and a young lady Vittoria, a Russian, whom the American Command were interested in. She continued to say that very likely the mission would have to be done in two parts as one of the men was near Chieti.

She said that in the ^{hope that} ~~case~~ she couldn't find the two men she would certainly come back with the Vittoria who Mr. Poul was especially interested in.

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About the two men she gave ~~no~~ indication; one she said was an important political personage, the other she said was probably

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in a concentration camp.

For the eventual freedom of the latter and for the passage of the other two through the line, she said she ^{would} ^{have} had to get help from Mr. Mains.

As regards to her return ^{from} to the occupied territory occupied by the Germans the prisoners ^{said} that she would have no obstacles because she would have for certain the German protection: she gave no further explanations, nor did I ask for any.

Talking of her sons and especially of Vitti (a prisoner in Germany) - she declared that for his liberation she would be capable of going to Mussolini himself who she said she knew personally -

About the eventual transferring of her children to the liberated territory, she said that if they did not want to leave Rome, what she was most anxious to do was to transfer the Russian lady (Vittoria)

At my request the Prisoners said that she would go at once to Chieti to find and to keep ever to time ^a man who lived there; then she would go to Rome to see the other man and to fetch Vittoria with whom she would certainly make the return journey.

At my objection that in that case to put into action the plan she had proposed in telling the Germans that she was going straight to Rome to Barbara Mains, the prisoners replied that ^{if} necessary she would have changed round her plans.

(18)

In the same circumstances I asked the princeess what she would have told the Germans once she had crossed the line even if she pretended that she was escaping. She replied that as a woman she would know how to overcome such a difficulty by saying that she knew very little of the life going on in liberated Italy and would have invented some lies; in which case she would have declared to be the Princeess Pignatelli.

After about three hours of waiting the officer returned who had accompanied us, who that morning had explained my position: he called me to one side and told me to come with him to the 1st Canadian Division which was situated about 6 kils. away.

I had then no opportunity to say good-bye to the princeess and the driver, and although I tried to get news, I never ~~could~~ found out whether ^{she} they had crossed the line or not.

The 12th April I left for good to the 1st Canadian Command Div: arriving in Naples the morning of the 14th. The same morning I went to Pignatelli's house where I only found the Princeess to whom I asked news of the princeess. He replied that she had returned after two days and that at the present moment was away because she had left for Calabria or for Palermo together with an American woman.

To the Princeess I told what I knew of the journey telling him

(17)

exactly the command where I had left the prince, and he let the conversation drop saying he had to go out, and he told me to come to his house whenever I wanted to.

I returned to the Pignatelli's house in the afternoon of the 16th April and stayed to dinner together with a gentleman who was introduced to me only as Paolo. The conversation was of purely literary matters.

When I left, at about 10:30 in the evening, His Paolo I left with the Prince.

After 2 days I returned to the Pignatelli's at lunch time and I again found His Paolo who also stayed with us.

Under these circumstances, being alone in the kitchen, the Prince asked me if I had a job with the Americans and not explaining what he meant by this question, I replied that my desire was to meet some American officers to tell them of my aspirations. At this the prince told me that I would do better to await the return of the Prince, I asked for her news but the prince said that as it was a long journey - Calabria-Sicily - she would probably be back in about ten days.

I went a few more times to the prince's house, and twice I met His Paolo. The evening of the 23rd (Sunday) 91 the prince told me that his wife would be back in Naples Wednesday the 26th April and he said that this news had

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been communicated to him by the American woman who had accompanied the Princess on her journey.

(The day of the 26th April I sent a bouquet of Roses to the Pignatelli's house as a sign of homage.

(At tea-time on the 24th (Monday), I met the prince a certain Casella, an editor, living nearby, and the general became, both of whom I had met before.

On this occasion I heard a conversation between the Prince & Casella in which I understood that the Princess would be arriving with a woman that Casella proposed should ~~be~~ stay with certain nuns nearby.

The evening of the 27th I went to the Pignatelli's to give my welcome to the princess; I rang ^{the bell} repeatedly of the front door, ~~but~~ no-one answered, I went to the porter of the school next door who told me that the prince had gone out that morning & since then had not come back.

I returned the next morning and found the house still shut. I went & saw the maid of M^{rs} Casella & who told me that early the day before some English, in a car, and taken the prince with them taking also the keys of the house.

She knew nothing of what had happened to the Prince^{90s} and to the young lady who had come with her, because they had gone out of the house before the English had arrived.

(21)

I asked the maid if she knew who the girl was who had come with the prisoners. She answered that she knew nothing. She specified however, that she had heard them giving the "tu" to the gentleman who had been presented to me as Paolo and she told me that his name was Poletti.

From this I gathered that the prisoners had returned from Rome and that the girl could be no other than the Russian Vittoria, who I had heard of before.

I then did nothing more to find the Pignatelli's but went to Baron Compagna for their news. The Compagni answered that they knew nothing and begged me to inform them if I ~~knew~~^{heard} anything. After that I did not even go to see the Compagni's again and I did not tell them anything of what I knew of the fate of the Pignatelli's.

A.D.R. During the visits made in the house of Baron Compagna in via Eliana more 62, the conversation sometimes turned to the political ^{military} situation of the moment referring to the ideas of the men of the various parties of new constitution. I report the firm idea that the Compagni's were definitely in favour of Radoglio's government and of the allies.

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A.D.R. In the house of Baron Compagna I met altogether about 3 or 4 times the Pignatelli's and during discussions

(22)

made in their company. They never took up a definite side on the questions discussed exchanged with the Baron Compagna, they never gave an ^{exact} opinion exact on the political ideas of the Pigmatoles.

A.P.R.

My impression was that the Baron Compagna & his wife had no idea of the mission of the princeps done in the territory controlled by the Germans for the Americans, because during the various conversations I never heard anything that could have given me an idea to the contrary.

A.P.R.

In talking to me about the Princeps's mission the princeps did not specify the kind of job it was, and although I had guessed the nature of the mission, I ~~did~~ never doubted it never entered my head that they would be playing a double game. As I never doubted that the military-political news asked & given by me, ~~had~~ would be used for another end.

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A.P.R.

The princeps & the princeps never gave me to understand that they wanted to engage me in some secret organization; they limited themselves to offering me work in their wood.

(23)

a forest plantations which they declared to possess in Calabria.

A.R. As I have already declared 4,000 lire ~~gi~~ but to me by Pignatelli & 3,000 lire by Compagna which give to me spontaneously and I ~~receive~~ accepted it with the firm conviction that it had been offered to me in a philanthropic feeling knowing that I had every intention of paying it back.

A.D.R.

Later on the prince asked me if I needed more money; I replied that I did not need any, however, if in the future I was in need of more that I would except his extreme help. This I never did.

However, at the moment before I left on the morning of the 3rd of April, he gave me a packet of bank notes of 1,000 each I think there were 4 - telling me: "Take these they may be useful during the journey" I did not need them and on arriving at S. Vito Chietino I gave the sum intact to the prince who put them in her bag without asking me for any explanation.

A.D.R.

87

Having been repeatedly repeatedly asked, I now report my impression that the prince Pignatelli seemed to have a particular interest in ~~the~~ getting news of the ^{exact} locality of

(24)

where the 1st Canadian Division was situated and of the localities which constituted the firing-line. by me known; If only this doubt ~~never~~ ^{had} come to me in time I would never have let her tempt myself to her plans.

A.P.R.

In the Pignatelli's house I had the opportunity of meeting various people. Amongst them the one person I met most times was a certain "Larella" already mentioned - professor De Amicis who I think was at the Pace Hospital (for illness venereal illnesses & skin troubles) an English lieutenant of the English navy Stauffeld; General Accame - in plain clothes - who often in his presence where discussed military questions;

Lieut. Artillery Paolo Cosenza with whom I spoke to very little.

A.P.R.

When in February I came to Naples my intention was to return immediately to the 1st Canadian Division always if in the meantime I didn't find in Naples, a way of becoming an officer at some American command. Then having met the Pignatelli's to whom I expressed my desire to be a war-correspondent, and having had hopes because they declared that they had friends in the allied newspaper staff, I waited full of confidence.

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I did not worry, about returning to my command nor did I bother about putting my military position in order.

~~I did not bother~~

During the waiting, however, towards the middle of April, I made contact with General Ricciotti Garibaldi so as to be engaged eventually in sabotage actions in which this general was interested in. He replied that he would consider my desire and would have employed me as soon as an occasion presented itself.

I went to Ricciotti Garibaldi to get ^{with} certain Vladimir Bombacci of whom I have since learned that it was quite impossible to employ him in the proposed plan.

A.D.R.

During the discussion taken place in the Pignatelli's house at tea-time on the 24th April 1944, in which the prince & Isabella were planning how to arrange for the girl who was arriving with the prince, assisted also General Accame. I have the firm conviction that the above general was informed of the arrival of the prince.

A.D.R.

85

I did not get the impression that the Bam Compagnie

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was preoccupied by the unjustifiable absence of the Pignatellis.

A. J. R.

My family resides in Mantova, Corso Garibaldi 18. I have had no news from them since July 1943.

I have nothing further to add in faith of what is above.

Done, read & finished in the above date -

(1)

The year 1944 of the 5th of June, in Naples at 15 hours.

Before us was present Lorenza Lollo, on whom being questioned declared as follows:—

"Having ^{taken my degree in} passed ~~all~~ ^{legal} exams for the Law in 1928 at the Naples University, in 1931 started to practice as a ~~procuratore~~ attorney. Following that, in 1933, I went to North America, for studying ^{touring} ~~touristic~~ motives using the friendship of the bankers (two brothers) Giannini. I stayed there about 4 months. In 1934 I went to Egypt where I ~~at~~ joined the vice-consul Braccisio di S. Vito.....

Owing to the tense situation ^{as a result of the} ~~due to~~ Ethiopian question I thought it would be better to return to Italy which I did after two or three months there. (Italian Oriental Africa)

In 1936 I went to A.O.I. (Massawa, Asmara, Asseb, & Djibuti) as the attorney of the Elefanté-Mangili Adriatica and I stayed there about 4 months.

On my return to Italy I continued for about a year to work for the Mangili Company, and then I dedicated all my time to the study of the cinema technique, on the basis of what I had observed in America. In the meantime I took a course at the experimental centre at Rome, and as a result I was engaged by the Ital-Cine as the vice-director to Massimiliano-Neufeld.

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I received ~~as a~~ ^{as in} consequence from Giacomo Dusmet, the proposition to direct "l'Imperator Film" the job which I

(2)

~~accepted~~^{accepted}, and which I still hold, to-gether with the job as advisor to the "Sovanna Film"-----

Notwithstanding all these jobs I continued ^{my} technical activities taking part, as vice-director and scenery director for various films directed by Melfeld, by Kish and by Alessandrini.

In June 1937 ^{met} ~~met~~ in Naples, in the bathing resort "Villa a Mare" an unmarried girl Victoria Odinzova, who, having come to this town, to act at the Fiorentini Theatre, she had stayed on to bathe and was on the point of returning to Rome.

We became friends and to-gether we visited the surrounding country of Naples she having then decided to spend the summer there.

In the autumn the signorina Odinzova decided to take part in another artists tour in which in February 1938 she went to Sicily. In July I saw her again in Naples, and after some time she went and stayed with an aunt of hers Lidia Johnson who had a villa in ^{FREGENE, near Rome.} Fregene. She returned to this town in the autumn and stayed about a month. As a consequence I put her on to cinema-work, introducing her to Melfeld & D'Avack. She managed to get them interested and in 1939 made a few films.

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Also in 1940 she worked in films and as a result of her work she had to go to ^{TIRRENIA} Tirrenia. In the autumn she returned

(3)

to Rome where she continued her relationship already started with Francesco De Seta. I then stopped my relations with the Odinzova. In June 1941, as a result of the Italian-Russian war, Miss Odinzova's position as a Soviet citizen, she was very upset and in July although she had important contracts to fulfil she was sent to a concentration camp in Stolpa, and then in November she was transferred to Mercogliano where she was obliged to live.

In January and in April 1942 I went & visited her staying a very few days.

A few months later ^{whether} for reason of bad health or by the intervention of the Marchesa De Seta, the Odinzova was transferred to Rome to undergo a cure and never returned to the obliged residence. In Rome she was the guest of the Marchesa De Seta together with her son Francesco in a little apartment.

The 16-11-1942 I was called to arms and was billeted at ^{Positano} Positano where I stayed until the end of February. I then took part in an exam for uniforming officers at Salerno until the end of March 1943. Returning from time to time to Positano and went on leave to Rome to visit Vittoria Odinzova and on business.

(4)

In the spring of 1943 I was introduced by the Odinzova to the Princess Pignatelli on a visit to the Odinzova.

In June 1943 I took an exam in antitankers after which I was sent (20-6-43) to Naples to command an anti-aircraft ^{artillery} ~~artillery~~ battery.

I could not take the Odinzova to Naples on account of her foreign nationality.

In Naples I was caught by the Armistice and could not then leave the city. #

After the arrival of the Allied troops in Naples, I having taken part in the "Four Days", I was commanded as ^{liaison} ~~an~~ officer to the 10th English Army Corp. together with Carlo della Posta and left with the 46th Division - command. engineers. the 4th of October.

Now and again I went from this place to Naples taking the opportunity when a car would be going there.

During one of these visits, I think in November, I heard from a friend of mine perhaps Marante Francesco that the Princess had been to Naples on a visit.

Hoping that she had managed to bring the Odinzova with her I went and visited her at a clinic situated in Via S. Rosa the road that goes from Piazza Mazzini to the Museum.

The Princess however could tell me nothing as to her fate.

(5)

of L^o Odinzova. Then met L^o sub-lieut. Zampaglioni Giorgio who had fled from Rome L^o 24-9-1943 and had joined L^o an English armed corp at Nocera, and had stayed with them as an interpreter, and he gave me news of L^o Odinzova who he had seen in Rome after L^o armistice during the funeral of a patriot of L^o name of Persicetti.

After having received this news during a visit to Naples on service I told this news to L^o Princeps in L^o Internationale Clinic where she had been transferred.

In a second meeting with L^o Princeps, she told me of her great desire to cross L^o line to be able to go & help her sons who had remained in L^o occupied Italy and of L^o Odinzova.

After having repeatedly advised her against such a plan, for certain motives I pretended to agree with her and introduced her to a sea-man whose name was Giampietro Eduardo who lives at Mergellina.

I warned L^o earlier beforehand not to help her in any way and after I had introduced them, I never took no further interest in L^o matter.

After some-time I went & visited L^o Princeps who treated me fairly coldly evidently as a result of L^o very
unsuccessful results of my sailor friend Eduardo.

(6)

In January I went and visited her in Via Calasione and failed to find her. I then had no further occasion to see her as I had taken service in a (Salmeria?) Italian, where I remained in service until I was taken to hospital.

I never saw the Prince & Princess again nor to Odinzova. A.P.R. Towards the end of the year 1943 I met in a friend's house an American Lieutenant Mathieu whom I asked if it was possible to get news of a young lady living in Rome, but despite his very great kindness I could get no news. He advised me not to try & cross the line in service the service which the Americans had organized as he imagined the fall of Rome to be imminent. Not long afterwards in the house of a certain Matarazzo and with other friends I heard them discuss a certain Engineer Morris, one of the administrators of the "Bombini-Parodi" as an organizer for the Americans in a patriot movement.

I was introduced to him in Matarazzo's house and I asked him if he would send me news the line within service.

Engineer Morris listened to my questions and the next time we met he introduced me to Colonel Agrioglio to whom I went to see the next morning. He explained the bureaucratic difficulties because of my being already attached to the 78 English and he advised me to try and leave my job so as

(7)

I could be assigned into his service to undertake a special mission. This happened in December & January.

Then Morris introduced me to Captain Bongoin who repeated the same reasons as Col. Agrioglio.

A.P.R. In November I sent a letter to the Princeess asking for news of the Odinzova, and I wrote "I will try to reach Rome" because I hoped that in one of my efforts to cross the line as a patriot would be successful and in that case I would have been able to help Vittoria and the Princeess's sons.

A.P.R. I took part in the Spanish war from May to June 1938 as a lieutenant of the Artillery, on my return from the war I found Vittoria.

A.P.R. I do not know Paolo Poletti.

A.P.R. Having known through Amadeo that the Princeess was in Naples I would not go to visit her because I did not know her address, later the Princeess left me a note at my house asking me to go to see her in the Grimaldi Clinic.

A.P.R. The Princeess asked me if there was any other way in which to go to Rome other than by sea.

A.P.R. The Princeess asked me no military information.

A.P.R. I had no chance of becoming an intimate friend of Princeess Pignatelli.

Done, read, and confirmed at the above place & date.

(1)

Princess Pignatelli, con.

The present verbal powers was reopened on the 24th June at 15 hrs.
in Naples.

Mia Elia fu Giovanni.

A.D.R. The day after my arrival I telephoned to Archeological
Gen. Institute in Via Sardegna, to get the telephone number of
my friend Mainz. Having received it, I telephoned to Mrs. Mainz
asking her to come & visit me. In the afternoon she came to see me,
and I told her the reason for my journey. We arranged to meet
the next day in my son's Emanuele's house, where we met
together with ~~Barracu~~ Barracu.

A.D.R. Lt. Horner had come to visit me in Barracu's house
telling me that he would be returning from Verona to Rome,
before me and by himself.

A.D.R. My daughter Bona, during my stay in Rome, came to
visit me almost daily; my son Emanuele came often.

A.D.R. Captain Aprignani of the O.S.S. asked me to get news
of three individuals. To get this information I turned to Barracu
who promised me to get me an answer through my son
Emanuele, who would have gone through to lines to get to
Naples.

A.D.R. My husband told me to turn to Barracu for help,
and to follow his advice in every way.

I had to tell him (Barracu) that he had presented himself.

2

to H.R.H. the prince of Piemonte putting himself at his disposition and to hear what Barbaeu's comments would be.

Having given my word of honor to Barbaeu to refer only to my husband what he told me, I do not feel authorized to repeat what he said.

A.D.R. I stayed away from Rome three days.

A.D.R. I declare that my daughter Bona made a mistake when she said that I was absent 5-6 days.

A.D.R. Contrary to my daughter's statement, I met Barbaeu in Rome, and not in the north of Italy.

A.D.R. In my journey north I did not see Mussolini, nor did I tell anyone to the contrary.

A.D.R. When I was in Rome I telephoned Avvocato Greco, who told me in regards to the selling of a house that he had not yet received the money for it but hoped to very soon.

Having told Barbaeu that my husband was very worried because he had a debt to the Cassa di Risparmio of Catanzaro and that I would have liked to take him some money, he told me that I need not worry, because he had already spoken to my husband in Catanzaro that he wanted to participate in the saw-mills and that he would anticipate £500,000, to invest in the company.

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I left Barbaeu a letter written by Avv. Greco, in which

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was written that he could eventually get back the sum of money (£500,000) on the long.

A.I.R. I deny ever having been feted by a German car from Marincola's house. I deny ever having been asked to sing by Marshal Kesselring and of having said so to any one.

A.D.R. I deny of ever having manifested any desire to re-constitute a fascist party to gether with my husband.

A.D.R. Baracu asked me news of fascism and I told him about the province of Catanzaro, telling him of a few persons who had been arrested (Marchese Susanna, Barone Nicotera, cap. Servino, sig. Forte) and of the danger of a very dominating strong communist current.

The only thing was to appeal to the monarchy sentiment.

Baracu seemed very well informed on all these subjects.

A.D.R. Baracu told me about a very strong antagonism between the old fascism represented by Ricci, Buffarini, Pavolini and followers, and another group made up of his friends Parini, Scarsa and others of whom I understood him to be the head.

74

A.D.R. When I telephoned to the pension where Vittoria lived I gave my name as M^{rs} Meri. I deny having told Vittoria, in order that she would come with me

to Naples, she never having hesitated, that Paolo could have had me arrested.

A.D.R. I am under the impression that one of the Germans who accompanied me to Castel Felsa was called Brentano.

A.M.P. I think my son Emanuele told me about the princess Nino di Belmonte living in Viale Parioli Rome, of whom was said, she was in very good relationships with the Germans who did not follow the fate of the other well-known people in Rome who were arrested on account of their friendship with Galeazzo Ciano. I told my son that one must be very cautious before giving judgement on people.

A.D.R. The Duchess Nanetta di Laurenzana, after having been guarded & watched the same as the other ladies of the court of H.M. The Queen, apparently escaped to Rimini to a country house belonging to her daughter who married to Marchese Di Bagno.

73

A.D.R. Nino Biscardi, towards the end of September, in agony for news of his family who were living at S. Mimato di Pisa, wanted absolutely to leave Sella to go north and let him go very reluctantly. To help him on his journey we gave him a horse. I later heard from my daughter in Rome that the horse had been taken from him by the Germans and that she had given him a bicycle to go to Tuscani.

(5)

My daughter told me that she was afraid something had happened to him as she had heard no news of him ever since.

A.D.R. To a military a certain Donato Francesco, who told me he was going to Rome (giving me vaguely, to understand that he was going on a confidential mission) I gave him some letters for my daughter & for Vittoria, letters that never arrived.

A.D.R. From Rome I brought letters for a Lt. Briseia, from his wife; for father ^{director} ~~conductor~~ of the order of Minimi of Naples from the Father general of Rome; ~~of the~~ from Miss Bona Barbieri and from her fiancée, for their mother, and a newspaper of the Barons Rosario Pontalò.

A.D.R. Last March, one evening in the house of Casella at Naples, I heard that the children of the ex-federale of the P.N.F. Tibena, & who had been arrested, were dying of hunger, a few days later I went to see them and realizing in what a real state of misery they were in I gave them £5,000.

A.D.R. At the time of my parting with Lt. Horner during my return journey, I begged him to take to my daughter Bona a little fur coat she had lent me.

(1)

Viktor Odimzova di oleg e fu Nadia Abramovich, born in Leningrad to 5-9-1921 lives in Rome via Zuccari 2. a Russian subject.

The year 1944, 29th of the month of May in Naples.

In 1924 I came to Italy with my grand-parents Abramovich and stayed in Ardenza until 1928. After a stay in Russia until 1934, with the grand-mother Elizabetta Abramovich, returned to Italy & taking up residence in Rome via Appennini 49, together with an aunt Lidia Johnson.

In 1936, stopped living with the aunt and went to live in a pension of Piazza Capranica - finding work as a mannequin at Moschini, a dress-maker of Via Condotti.

After 4 or 8 months, I met the manager of the Fiorentini Theatre of Naples, who had engaged my cousin, variety artist Lucia Johnson, ~~born~~ known under the name of Lucy D'Albati who gave me the idea to go on for ~~act.~~ on the stage.

For this motive I came to Naples where I was tried out & then I made my first appearance under the name of Katuscia, at the Theatre of the 4 Fountains in Rome, as a soukette.

June 1937, in Naples I was introduced by the Duke Roberto Luacciale of S. Vito to avv. Carlo Cosenza, with whom I saw the surrounding country.

(2)

In the autumn, after a stay at Ischia I returned on the stage while Lorenza went as a voluntary ^{solider} to Spain.

After a tour, I returned, to-wards spring, to Rome where I was joined by Lello Lorenza, back from Spain.

In 1938 I moved to first steps to-wards film-work and I was imitated by Lello Lorenza who also began to be interested in film work.

In the spring of 1939, in Rome, I met Francesco De Seta. After that De Seta was transferred to Pisa to fulfill his services at an aerodrome near there, while I went to Leghorn to make a film "~~the pirate~~" "I am the Pirate".

Continuing my relations with De Seta one evening, I accompanied him to the airport of Rome, I met his mother the Marchioness of De Seta. We did not see each other again while Francesco returned to Rome. During my brief stay in the capital, I only saw his mother once.

In July, 1941, I was interned in a concentration camp of Salsola, where I stayed 3 months, I was then transferred, for health reasons, & by the influence of the Marchesa herself, to Mercogliano where first Lello Lorenza came to see me, and then Francesco De Seta.

70

In 1942 as a result of a telegram from the Marchesa De Seta I was allowed to come to Rome, and then

(3)

owing to my precarious state of health I was not allowed to go back to Avellino.

I went to live then first in my aunt's house Tomhson, then with Francesco in the Marchesa's house, but in September we transferred to Via Zuccari 2.

In April 1943 Francesco died in an aeroplane accident, but the Marchesa continued to love me & she showed me in many ways her fondness for me.

The Marchesa in the meantime had married the Prince Pignatelli, who in May 1943 was nominated inspector of the first party.

In July 1943, the time of the fall of fascism, the Pignatelli's were in Calabria.

On their return to Rome I saw them a couple of times and I noticed, in my house, that even the Princess Lucrezia of S. Severino had kept her fanatical devotion to Mussolini.

The 30th August u.s.s. the Prince Pignatelli's went to Calabria in a car and on their arrival the Princess wrote me a letter describing their very difficult journey. 69

I was in Rome on the day of the armistice and being a Russian citizen I began to be even more afraid of the Germans & the fascists.

(4)

Towards the end of September the Prince's manager came to Rome of the name of Nino I think he is Tuscan, who was on his way to join his family. He told me that the Prince had told him to give me their news to the children ^{that} to send them a wireless message.

The man Nino then advised that he had to go & see Barnau, friend of the Pignatelli's, who would help him with the sending of the wireless message which was to tranquilize the Princess on the fate of her children.

Nino told me that he had every intention in the future, to return to Calabria, and I asked him if it would be possible for me to cross the line with him. He answered that if he decided to go & if I had the courage to do it, he would have accompanied me.

In the name of the Princess, who was afraid of that the Germans would deport me, he advised me to save myself.

He returned after some time, I think in October to Rome, but he said that as the line was so unchanged it would not be wise to try & get through.

68

He told me that Barnau had proposed to employ ^{him} and that he didn't know what to do, because he had every intention to go back to Calabria, but he

(5)

didn't want to tell Bauacu.

After that I saw him no more, I ignore the fact whether he managed to get to Calabria or not.

The first days of September, in Rome, I met again a certain Diego Cordole, a Belgian subject, who was connected with the German authorities in regard to his business of paper & cellulose works.

Cordole after some months managed to get from an office known as R.U.K. a declaration which declared "Miss Vittoria Odintsova", fiancée of Engineer Cordole, is known by us and we beg she may be protected and helped."

67

The 20th Dec: at the corner of Piazza Colonna, near the offices of the C.I.T. towards 12 o'clock, I met Boccafusa, with whom I had previously arranged the meeting place.

I had met Boccafusa a few days before introduced to me by Antonietta Paris, but I don't know whether he generally lived in Rome: I remember he told me he was a capitalist. Boccafusa, after a little, introduced me to a certain Paolo who invited us to lunch the same day. We saw each other very often and during one of our meetings I told him I was Russian and that I was frightened of the Germans. I begged him therefore, to

(6)

premise one an identity card so that I could circulate more freely in Rome.

A.D.R. Princeps Pignatelli in fact had ^{sent} ~~told~~ me ~~that~~ to-wait for the end of August, from Sellia, an identity card ~~wherein~~ which I requested being Italian with the name of Carmela Giannattasio, but it was so badly done that on advice of my friends I destroyed it.

A.D.R. Paolo gave me an identity card of a town in Sicily in blank & a paper of the governors of Rome declaring that I was a refugee.

During our meetings I realized that he had come from liberated Italy, but he gave me no details of his news over there. One afternoon a certain Maurizio, in the uniform of the P.A.I. militia, came to my house, on a motor ~~bicycle~~ bicycle, to fetch Paolo because the Germans had started one of their man-hunts. The 13 or 14th of January I saw Paolo for the last time.

I asked for his news on the telephone to Mosechini, where he slept but we could not meet as he was too busy. I think he stayed a few nights with Maurizio.

The 16th January I talked to him on the telephone for the last time and judging from ^{he was} the very reserved way I understood he was about to leave.

(7.)

In February if I remember rightly, I met Oscar Bacicchi a naval officer - introduced to me by Jeanne Volkoff, daughter of the ex-Bulgarian ambassador in Rome, who a few days later told me that Bacicchi's house had been perquisitioned by the German & Italian police sequestering his photograph, which would help them in searching for him. Not having any other place to go, at the time I took him to my house. After a few days I found him a place nearby and I helped him then in every-way.

Later he had to leave again & after a lot of troubles I had to keep him again introducing him to Moschini begging him to put him up.

The first days of April I went to see Moschini and was told that very probably Maurizio had been shot by the Germans; this news was later confirmed & that Maurizio had been betrayed by an informer, & the police having found a wireless transmitter he had had been shot for certain.

I then introduced Commander Bacicchi to Engineer Cordolle hoping he would be useful to him.

Cordolle had given me, once or twice, two identity cards to release & absolve some-one for working with

(8.)

the Germans, I gave one to Giorgio & the other to Paolo, if I rightly remember they were both unfitted.

The night of 14th or 15th April the secretary of

(C) Prof. Fugoni called me on the telephone inviting me to go to his house the next morning. I went the next

(C) day to Viale Bruelles and I was told by the secretary that my god-mother had arrived in Rome. Princess Pignatelli and had gone to the Marincola's in Viale Mastini Fascisti 47. I went to see her at the Marincola's

house. She told me that for a long time she had wanted to come to Rome, because she had been very worried about me & she wanted to save me from the Germans. She added that

(C) Paolo would not help her at first to cross the line & had proposed waiting for the Allied offensive & the liberation of

(C) Rome, and ^{so as} ~~that~~ she to make him help her had pretended she had received by wireless one of our usual messages which already arranged by us would mean that I was in imminent ~~danger~~ danger.

Only by ^{this} immediate danger did she convince Paolo to help her.

She told me to keep her visit a secret & to be ready to leave for shortly with her.

I asked her how we would affront the dangers of the

(9)

journey and she answered that I must keep calm & that everything would be alright.

I then left & I saw her the next day & then I didn't see her for a few days.

The morning of the 22 or 23 she telephoned saying that we would be leaving on the following Tuesday.

The 23rd I went to visit her & she advised me to bring all my luggage immediately to her house so as to be ready for any emergency; this I did the next day - the house is Viale Regina Margherita 290. where she had gone to a few days before. Tuesday, the 25th at 15 hours, I went to this house & we left in a "topolino" of a dark colour, driven by a fair man, dressed in black, who I only heard talk in German.

Along the via basilica, towards the open country we changed into a small truck, kaki colour, which I think had the red cross signs painted on the roof. The truck if I remember rightly was driven by a German in uniform, but I do not know what rank; by his side was another German military of whom I know no particulars. The driver had no rank, just dressed in a grey ^{green} uniform, every now & again the Germans would give him instructions in their language.

(10.)

The prisoners & I were seated inside the truck. Until we came to a village where you could hear distinctly the guns going, we then changed to another ^{german} car which had aboard three german officers.

A.D.R. During the journey I asked the Prisoners in which locality and where we would meet Paolo or his friends, but the Prisoners told me to be quiet. Actually, she had warned me not to say anything in the presence of the germans, that on the other side we were expecting help & I involuntarily had committed an indiscretion.

In the country just described the Prisoners & I stopped to change into boots & I changed ^{my} ~~my~~ shoes & put on in an abandoned peasant's house. We then got back into the car & we proceeded towards the ~~line~~ german line.

Towards dusk we left the car & accompanied by the two germans we went towards the Valley where we watched on unknown territory for about an hour & a half until we reached Castelforte where we took refuge in a cellar of a house which was being ^{shaken} ~~shook~~ by gun-fire.

62

We were received by a lieutenant who made some remarks to our companions in german. After about three quarters of an hour of waiting, employed by the

(11)

germans in searching for a certain Rossillo, indicated by
to Princes, who apparently, used him on the previous
journey, to Princes himself came to terms with Rossillo
himself to accompany us to the English lines. Rossillo
accepted the proposal, & we arranged to leave at 3
at night; so we then went to sleep in the cellar. At 3
o'clock we got up & accompanied by Rossillo, to
german officer who had come with us from Rome, &
other two german military, we crossed the ruins of
lastel forto, & we went to-wards the lines. After about
an hour & a half's walk the germans left us & we
then proceeded because the Princes said it would be
better that they should leave us alone, as most likely
a man would come to meet us, & if he saw german
military, he would most likely, run away.

We then proceeded another half hour until having
reached a valley we searched for a fallen tree, because
it was there we had to meet a certain Marco we
would then lead us through the English lines.

After having waited about an hour waiting for Marco to
arrive Rossillo accompanied us to a broken bridge; there
we separated. The guide turned back & we went on.

after another half hours walk we arrived at a village

(12)

occupied by the Allies. We were stopped by some soldiers and interrogated by an officer. After having been questioned as where we had come from. The Priuers replied that we had come from Castelforte & that she had a special mission and that he should inform therefore G.2. of Sessa.

We were sent on & they questioned the Priuers again what route she had taken to get through the lines. After that the Priuers said again that she had a special mission for G.2. of Sessa.

The officer in question then telephoned G.2. after which he accompanied us to a little house where we could change our stockings.

The Priuers was again interrogated which at the end they told her that they had already warned G.2. of our arrival.

After waiting about one hour & a half, we went in a Jeep & we were taken to a camp where an allied officer took us to a small hut where he said we could expect the arrival of Mister Paul.

In fact after a time Paolo Poletti together with a captain & another American soldier arrived. 60

By means of another car we went to Sessa & then to Naples. The Priuers & I stayed in the house in Via del Palascione 14. We were joined after some hours by Paolo

73.

who only stayed a few minutes & he warned me that he would have to accompany me for the interrogation.

Towards 4 o'clock Paolo came & saw us & a little later we went out to buy a pair of gloves.

We went to see Lt. Maltien (American) who was anxious to hear of the result of my journey, & then we went home.

After dinner Maltien, Paolo, the Princess & I went to the apartment in Via Guacceria 17 where we stayed late talking. except Maltien who left earlier.

The next morning Paolo sent the car to fetch the Prince Valerio in his house in Via del Belasione & took him to the apartment in Via Guacceria. In Paolo's meantime ^{by the chauffeur} we went out shopping. On our return we were told that the Prince had been taken away by English officers.

Paolo having heard the news went to see what it was all about, he wanted me to go with him but the Princess begged us not to leave her alone.

After some time Paolo came back with 3 English officers who after a brief discussion invited us to follow them.

We were taken to a house of Torre del Greco where we stayed until the day we were brought to this office. A.P.R. During one of my first visits to the Princess ⁵⁹ asked news of Carlo Cosenza who I knew was living

(14)

in Naples. The Princess answered that she had seen him in Naples, but I noticed she wasn't very enthusiastic about him because he had not helped her in her journey to Rome.

A.D.R. The Princess told me nothing of her journey to Rome.

She told me of no mission she had to do for Baucau; (in my presence one day she tried to speak to him on the telephone but she did not succeed, he being absent).

A.D.R. Last August, the Princess, before leaving for Calabaria, left me a letter of recommendation, in the German language addressing it to a German major serving in the German Embassy - I do not remember his name; I think it began with the particle "Von" followed by an M. - - - -

(I however never made use of this letter.)

A.D.R. I think it opportune to put clearly that, the Princess in regards to Cosenza - told me she had tried to hire a boat, but she imagined the plan had failed through Cosenza's fault.

A.D.R. The Princess on coming through the line when coming to Rome on reaching Castelforte was surprised by a violent air-raids during which she took refuge in a little house belonging to a certain Maria of whom I know no particulars.

58

A.D.R. I do not know if this Maria was introduced to the

(15.)

prisoners by Rossillo.

A.D.R. The prisoners on getting through the lines waited by a fallen tree to ~~await~~^{for} Marco, who missed the appointment, therefore at 6 o'clock in the afternoon I, my god-mother & Rossillo went to the broken bridge where we separated. We found Marco at Sessa & he justified his absence by saying that on account of the darkness he had arrived late.

A.D.R.

I do not know H^{on} Hainz.

I do not know whether she was a great friend or not of the Prisoners. I do not remember from whom I first heard her name mentioned.

A.D.R. During Paolo's stay in Rome I begged him to get a letter written by me to the Prisoners in liberated Italy, but owing to his sudden departure it was impossible.

A.D.R. I do not know Maria Belmondo, the Duchess of Lamenza & Marino Volpi.

57

A.D.R.

Because of my hesitating to affront the journey which I thought would be dangerous, the Prisoners told me that she had come to Rome with the help of Paolo, to get me & to take me back to safety & if she returned alone, Paolo would have ^{caused} ~~made~~ _{P.T.O.}

(1)

Primo Pignatelli's statement.

Verbal powers & interrogation of Maria Elia of Giovanni Emanuele
 & of Beatrice Benini born in Florence 15 24th March 1894. widow of
 The year 1944 6th June in Naples. Do Selà.

A.D.R.

Paolo Polletti was known to me as a friend of my children,
 I think in 1938 in Rome - I think I saw him again in Palermo
 during the war in the house of Giorgi-Balestreros.

A.D.R. Paolo Polletti never came to see me in our country
 place in Calabria.

A.D.R. During the war I never had as my guests at Sellia
 the family Di Giorgi.

A.D.R.

The 20th Dec: together with the prince I came ^{from} to Sellia to
 Naples and went & stayed at the Grimaldi Clinic.

A.D.R. Knowing that Carlo Cosenza lived in Naples I asked for his
 address from Andrea Chicchi and I went to find him, but I
 did not find him: later he came to find me, but he could
 give me no news of the Odintzova or my children.

A.D.R. In consequence of my assistance Cosenza, introduced
 me to a fisherman from Mergellina (which he brought to
 his house) whom I asked if it would be possible to go in a
 boat to the other side. The fisherman promised to find out
 about my request. In my second interview in the hut of
 Mergellina, he answered that he could not satisfy my ⁵⁶
 wish. I had the impression that Cosenza ~~or~~ had persuaded

(2)

him not to help me.

A.D.R. I exclude having ever given any money to the fisherman.

A.D.R. There was no discussion of details for the trip.

A.D.R. I do not remember having asked Casazza if it would be possible to cross the line by land.

A.D.R. The 8th January in the clinic sent from Casella a certain Dr. Boecafusco presented himself, doctor & ^{fisherman} fisherman, never seen by me before, who told me that, that same day he had seen Roberto Ducci, employed in the Foreign Office, who had seen my son Emanuele towards the end of September who was then waiting for an occasion to pass, by sea, to these parts. The Ducci managed to pass but not my son.

A.D.R. I do not remember the physical characteristics of Boecafusco. He was young, not fat, drives a car.

A.D.R. Teresa Compagna told me that she had received a visit from ^{LODA} ~~an~~ English naval officer, who had come from Rome on foot but without bringing any news of Vittoria or my children.

A.D.R. The 26th February my husband left in a hired car for Sella Marina returning the 2nd March.

The letters went one to my lawyer & administrator Saverio Barbieri, another to the lawyer Aldo Casalnuovo, another to Gidele Prato, my secretary, and the last to

(3)

to ~~Mr~~ H^{ro} Trapuzzano an elementary school teacher of Peresale to whom I sent some shoes for the children.

A.D.R. The first few days of March, the sub-lieutenant Nuvoletti whom I had met in the house of Baron Compagna came to visit us.

A.D.R. I exclude of having asked the sub-Lieut. Nuvoletti any military information about the 1st Canadian Division of whom he said he belonged. I declare that he said he was in service with the Canadians, who did not pay him, but who treated him well as regards to food.

A.D.R. The Nuvoletti wore a dirty knapsack, a leather coat and a military cap. I exclude having ever asked him if there were Italian troops at the front.

A.D.R. During one of his visits Nuvoletti told me that he had to go to fetch some things he had left in S. Vito Chietino, and so I asked him if I found the car if he would accompany me, promising to get ^{me} the permit. As regards to this I must say that the 31st January walking with my husband in the roads of Naples I bumped into Paolo Poletti, who gave us news of Vittoria & the children.

My husband also knew Poletti since the summer before in which H^{ro} Di Giorgi with her daughter Lina had been our guests in Rome after the death of H^{ro} Di Giorgi's son.

A.D.R. Poletti told us that he had just come back from Rome

(4)

where he had met by a coincidence Vittoria.

A.D.R. I do not remember how Paolo & Vittoria met, but I think they met in my house in Rome.

A.D.R. Paolo wore, as far as I can remember, the blue uniform of a naval officer with a white cap & belt.

A.D.R. I made use of the occasion to invite him to our house and learned that he lived in Via dei Mille with Prince Grafo della Rocella.

A.D.R. In one of his visits Paolo told me that he would have to return to Rome and therefore would take my news to the children and I especially recommended Emanuele to him.

His insistence on coming so much to visit us I thought was an excuse to see Mrs Di Giorgi an old flame of his, until one day he asked me for a photograph of Vittoria ~~and~~ which made me realize that he loved her.

I then told him of my great preoccupation for Vittoria, because of her Russian nationality and also Paolo confirmed his agony of mind until finally he asked my permission to marry her.

He then told me that he could no longer go to Rome, and even ^{if} it had been possible he could never have brought Vittoria through the line.

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One day Paolo came to me crying, because he had just heard

(5)

that a very dear friend of his had been shot by the Germans, and he then repeated that it now ~~is~~ quite impossible for him to go to Rome because he had been ~~signaled~~ given away.

And so I offered to go myself to Rome.

After many long discussions I eventually persuaded him.

Erasing every intention of first going to Abruzzi to visit the parents of my husband, I tried to come to terms with Muroloani because he knew that ^{part of the} country well, using the permit provided by Paolo through the U.S.S.

In fact to 2nd April in a car with Muroloani & a certain Avallo the owner of the car, complete with ^{an} authorization signed by Captain Frank Fortunato I left for S. Vito Chietino, where in the instructions given to me by Paolo I would have to present myself if possible to an American Command.

A.P.R.

According to the instructions given to me I should have given the authorization to the officer who would then have guided me through the ~~time~~ English line. Instead of which Muroloani accompanied me to an English Command where I was kept from the 3rd to the 8th of April. The day of the 9th April I returned to Naples without ^{ever} having seen Muroloani since the time when he accompanied me to the English Command. 52

A.P.R. I don't know why they would not let me carry out

(6)

The mission. They told me they did not know the O.S.S. office, A.P.R. For the coming out of the mission I assumed my maiden name Maria Elia.

A.P.R. To my companions of the journey I said that I was going to S. Vito Chetino to look for the manager of the place who should be in that ~~game~~ those parts.

However I told Murotani of my intentions to cross to line A.P.R. Polaki advised me that once having crossed the English line I should pretend to be escaping. I had on me only an identity card made out to Maria Elia and my pass-port, not valid, also under the same name.

I told Murotani that on arriving in the territory occupied by the Germans I had a great friend in Barbara Mainz wife of the Polizei-Inspector. I told him she was in Rome and in fact she was.

A.P.R. Last August before leaving Rome I gave Vittoria a letter of recommendation for an officer of the office of the military attaché Major von - - - - - (I don't remember the name)

This person was young, thin, tall, and he had his office in the port's house which surprised me very much. 51

I met him in August because I went to the Embassy to ask if it was possible to get a passage to go to Calabria

(7)

A.P.R. I say precisely that I went to see the Ambassadors and as she was absent I turned to this officer who only saw ~~him~~ me once.

A.P.R. I think I met in Naples a lot. Guarino a friend of my husband's.

A.P.R. It is exact that Poletti hesitated to give me the job of going to Rome, although he was so attached to Vittoria and anxious about her, he was worried about the risks in a similar journey.

So as to overcome Poletti's reservations my preoccupation for Vittoria in those days ~~where~~ grew in consequence of a dream which I thought to be pre-eminent - I told him that I had received a wireless message from Vittoria and that she was evidently in danger.

A.P.R. I crossed the line near Castelforte; I was accompanied in a car by Captain Aprignani, Paolo and a chauffeur to Sessa Aurunca, then always in the car after three days to S. Pastrese where they introduced me to a certain Marco.

We then proceeded in the car to ^{place} ~~an~~ unknown to me, and there we began our journey on foot, I, Marco, Aprignani, Paolo, and another militair.

50

And at a certain point only Marco & I continued - after a certain time Marco, it was shown, indicated a

(8)

a group of houses at a distance of about 500 metres, and said to me that there, there would be German ^{sentries} sentinels, and he retraced his steps advising me to walk well in the open.

Arrived at the group of houses I shouted loudly in the German language "Hilfe" but nobody appeared. I continued walking, ~~and~~ entered Castelforte and I was very perplexed because the artillery was firing. While I hesitated beside a cross-roads undecided which way to go I ran into a large number of people who had abandoned Castelforte, and they asked me if I had seen any Germans and where had I come from. Having taken indications they went towards the English lines. In that moment I saw an old woman whose name was Maria who advised me to wait until the bombardment was over. In fact after some time she accompanied me to a certain Francesco Rossillo who in his turn took me to the German camp.

A.P.R. With that Rossillo left me.

I was interrogated by some German military to whom as soon as I ^{was} presented to them I declared that I had escaped from Southern Italy, without giving my name, and I begged them to conduct me to the back-lines, saying I would give major indications to an officer.

The soldiers telephoned to a command held by a ⁴⁹major and they accompanied me to a locality about two hours

(9)

March away. I was then interrogated by a major to whom I gave my name as Prince Pignatelli. I told him that it was my desire to reach Rome where I wanted to speak to his Excellency Baracca who would be able to tell them who I was and the intentions of my journey.

A.P.R. After such a declaration, without asking me any more questions or requisition they put at my disposal a small motor vehicle in which I was taken to a villa near Anagni.

A.P.R. During my stay in Castel Gale German military asked me news of a military character of the zone which I had crossed and of the road I had followed to get through the line.

I kept silent during this questioning received by me from Paolo & Aprigiani.

A.P.R. Paolo had told me to refer to the Germans that I had swum the river on a raft guided by Marco instead of over a bridge.

A.P.R. To the questions asked about the placing of guns, tanks, trucks and others, I answered that I had seen nothing because I had crossed the line during the night & that it had been very dark.

A.P.R. Entering the Villa of Anagni I met a ^{German} officer

(10)

(I think he was a lieutenant) Talsfeld or Talsberg who came towards me and saluting said "good-morning princess how are you"

A.D.R. The officer said he had met me in Rome in occasion of certain studies he had made on the Roccella in Calabria, but I do not remember ever having seen him before. A.D.R. After lunch Talsfeld together with a very young major began to ask me numerous questions on my route, on what I had seen during my journey, on the signs on the troops passed by me, on what there was at Serra Arunca, on the number of divisions in the line and

I answered that by a private car with the sign of the red-cross which indicated that it belonged to sanitary ^{depot} with a doctor, who by his help I had been able to reach S. Costrese where I had found the well-known Marco. I added that before my departure my husband had organized with Marco and with the doctor, the journey.

A.D.R. At a certain moment after having declared that I could give them know indications as to the military situation of Serra Arunca because I had passed it during the night, that I had not noticed the various signs of the troops because they had none, the questioning was interrupted on Talsfeld's proposal.

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He proposed to the Major to accompany him and me to Rome and to continue the questioning the next day; the Major agreed and after some time towards sundown in a car with Col. Tansveld himself, we left for Rome where we arrived at about 23 hours. We went first to a few German offices situated in Corso Italia where I telephoned to my house in Piazza Lovatelli No:1, but I heard from an unknown voice that Miss De Seta did not live any longer in that apartment and they did not know where she had gone. I telephoned to Prof. Frugoni; his Secy. answered in his absence telling me that she did not know where my daughter was whether she was with my mother or at the Marincola's. I asked and received hospitality for that night and Col. Tansveld in the car accompanied me to Frugoni's house. As soon as I arrived; I telephoned to Bona at the Marincola's and we arranged to see each other the next morning.

The same evening I telephoned to Vittoria's flat in Via Zuccari No:2, but I had no reply.

As it was so late, I went to bed.

A.D.R.- On the morning of the 14th my daughter Bona came to Frugoni's house and together we went to the Marincola's. In the meantime, Frugoni's Secy. had managed to find Vittoria who, on the same day (14th) came to see me in the Marincola's house.

Later Tansveld, with two other German officers, joined us - they were in civilian clothes. Tansveld went away and the two Germans started interrogating me. They both spoke Italian well: one was tall, thin, dark; about 30, insignificant: he asked me very few questions and gave me the impression that he was the inferior officer; the other was robust, fat, going bald, round face and gave the impression of being plethoric.

A.D.R.- Inasmuch as Aprigliano and especially Accame had told me to answer tranquilly any questions the Germans would have to ask me, I answered everything they asked me.

A.D.R. It is true that they asked me the names of Italian officers collaborating with Marshal Badoglio.

They asked me if I knew Marshal Messe and General Capono, but I answered I did not know them and that I had not even seen Marshal Badoglio who knew me since I was born.

The fat man asked me if I knew whether General Agrifoglio was in Naples and who had he worked with in Africa, to this person question I replied that I had never seen him nor heard his name mentioned.

I told them, however, that I knew General Accame who was in Naples and Col/ LA REVERERIA but they did not answer me.

A.D.R. They asked me if I knew any allied officers - I answered No

A.D.R.- I knew that General Accame in November had come from Rome because he gave me the news of the death of my sister Formiglia.

A.D.R.- I knew that Accame could not return to Rome.

A

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because when I asked him if he could help me go to France he said No.

A.D.R. They asked me if there were Canadian troops in Naples, then French American, negroes, New Zealanders, and I knew whether Marshal Badoglio had sent Italian troops to the front. As regards the Italians I answered that I did not know, for the others I answered Yes. They told me that they knew that in Corsica there was a great concentration of troops and they feared a landing in Elba; in consequence they asked me if I had heard anything about it. I said No.

They asked if I had heard anything about other landings and I answered yes giving the following localities as possible landing places: Civitavecchia, Leghorn, Genova, south of France, Trieste, Fiume and Abazia.

A.D.R. - They asked me how the troops were treated and I answered they were very well treated and that their rations were very good and they had a great deal of money.

A.D.R. - They asked me about the relations between the allied troops and the population and I answered very good and that especially the Americans were very expansive and cordial.

A.D.R. - They asked me news about the Royal Family and I answered that they were very well.

A.D.R. - At Castelforte they had asked me if I had crossed mined ground, so in Rome they did not ask me any of these sort of questions.

A.D.R. - They asked me the names of Italian liberal papers, telling me that they received them. They asked me news of the various parties, of the Government and a lot about Communism.

A.D.R. - They were on the whole, very well informed on the economic, political and social life of liberated Italy.

A.D.R. - General Accame was introduced to me by my husband in the street in Naples, towards the end of January.

I saw him again a long time afterwards when he told me he had been ill. He frequented my house, coming to lunch and to tea and I had occasion to speak to him about five or six times. I knew that the son of General Accame was a prisoner in Poland and on this ~~argument~~ subject we often conversed.

A.D.R. - I stayed in the house of Baron MARINCOLA 3 or 4 days. During this time I received two visits from Germans in civilian clothes one of the two already described, the other from a German who said he knew General Agrifoglio.

A.D.R. - Two days after my arrival in Rome, I met Barbara MAINZ whose husband was a POLICE INSPECTOR in Germany. I told her my desire to be helped to return to Naples and she told me ~~she~~ to return the next day promising to introduce me to a man who would be useful to me. The next day, as arranged, Barbara MAINZ was waiting for me in Via Paesello 39, in the flat of my son-in-law Emanuele and she was waiting for me in the garden. I was brought from Viale Martiri fascisti 47 by a Topolino dark coloured driven by a civilian, dark, with dark hair dressed in grey, and spoke Italian. Having got into the car, after having gone a little way, the car stopped and H.E. BARRACU got in and together we went to Via Paesello 39. In the garden we found Mrs. MAINZ with a man. I introduced BARRACU to Mrs.

MAINZ and she in turn introduced me to Lt. HORNER, who was in civilian clothes. I went away to look for the keys of the house and not finding them we stayed in the garden to talk. Because we were in the open, BARRACU arranged for another appointment with Lt. HORNER so as to have a greater chance of talking, about going through the lines; for my son and other things.

A.D.R. - H.E. BARRACU had no idea of my reasons for journeying to Rome and while in the car I explained the motives. I also told him that the reason for the visit to Mrs. MAINZ and her friend was to seek help.

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A.D.R.- When I arrived in Rome H.E. BARRACU was not there. He arrived two days later as the result of a telephone call made by the President of the CONSIGLIO who had told him that Mis De SITA wanted to see him urgently.

The next day, Lt. HORNER came to see me in the MARINCOLA's house and he told me that that same evening another car would come and fetch me to take me to dinner with BARRACU and he also told me that BARRACU was ~~in~~ taking an interest in my case. After that the officer left.

That evening a closed car driven by a Sardinian took me near the Stadium where BARRACU was waiting for me on another car. He got into my car and we went to a ~~restaurant~~ in PRAI where we had dinner. During the dinner H.E. BARRACU told me that he had spoken to various Germans - amongst whom was KESSELRING - but he had been able to do nothing in Rome, and it was necessary to go to Verona, where I also wanted to go to get a permit to visit my son who was in a Concentration Camp at Salsburg. Towards 23 hours I returned to MARINCOLA's house accompanied by BARRACU; my daughter was waiting for me and I think also the Baron MARINCOLA who however said nothing.

The next day, I prepared to leave and was fetched at 18 hours by L. HORNER who accompanied me in a car towards Ponte Millio. There there were two cars: in the first there was BARRACU and I got into that one; in the second there was the guard who was accompanying them - Mr. OLNER got into this one.

The next day at about 10 o'clock we arrived above Verona at BARRACU's house which was an hour away from Verona. I stayed all that day and

the next and heard from BARRACU that it was impossible for me to go to Salsburg.

The next morning, about 9 o'clock, I returned to Roma alone, while BARRACU remained at Verona. In the car there was I, the driver, and another person associate of BARRACU.

A.D.R.) We arrived in Rome at 22 hours on the 19th, the last went to Via Flavia, where Lt. HORNER lived and he informed him of my arrival. Lt. HORNER asked me to wait and then came with a man called TOMMASI with whom we went to a flat in Viale Regina Margherita 290. I there stayed until my I left Rome.

A.D.R.- In TOMMASI's house, my son Emanuele, my daughter Bona, Mr. HORNER (two or three times) came to visit me. Also the Baroness and the Baron MARINCOLA and Vittoria ODINEVA.

On the 21st Lt. HORNER came and told me that on the 24th I could leave for Naples.

A.D.R.- I do not remember precisely the day on which I told BARRACU to send a special message to Naples as follows, "Naples, Maria BERTUCCI" which was meant to inform my husband that I had arrived safely in Rome. The 21st. I told Lt. HORNER to send another message as follows "Vittoria BERTUCCI, Naples Alba Mercatale" which was meant to tell Paolo and my husband that day of our arrival, in the same place where we had crossed the lines previously. My husband should have then sent MARCO to fetch me.

A.D.R. The Lt. HORNER had said that the reason for my journey to Rome was to speak to H.E. BARRACU about my children.

A.D.R.- On the 24th, towards 15 hours, Vittoria came to the house and we left immediately in a Topolino driven by a civilian, who drove us towards the Via Casalina. Two cars were waiting for us in a place I don't remember

(14)

~~in the first car~~ Vittoria & I got into the first car and a very young lieutenant; in the second car there was Lt. Horner and others. We arrived late in the evening at Castelforte where we stayed a few hours in ^{an} shelter. They searched for a certain Francesco Russillo and with him we crossed the lines. Lt. Horner did not reach Castelforte because of a break-down of his car.

At the arranged meeting place Marco did not turn up and we waited some time. Russillo went back and Vittoria & I proceeded on foot until we reached a little village where we presented ourselves to an American command which had us taken by car to the next "division", where we met Paolo & Cap. Aprignani who had come from Naples to fetch us. They took us first to Sersa & then on to Naples. During this journey we were not interrogated by the Americans.

- At Naples on the 25th, on Lt. Matthieu's suggestion, Paolo, Vittoria & I changed from Piazza Calasione to via Calaceio 17. The morning of the 26th the English arrested my husband who had stayed on at ^{Piazza} Calasione, and then towards lunch-time they came & arrested myself & Vittoria.

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A.P.R. The English requisitioned a leather bag containing about £500,000, of which they gave me no receipt, and another ^{black} bag containing about £40,000 and other objects of which I received a regular receipt from the English.

(15)

A sapphire ring I left in Piazza del Campidoglio in a blue silk bag, in which my husband had his money which he told me was about £40,000, also a gold ring, ~~and~~.

The English took us to Torre del Greco, to a country house belonging to De Falco. And then we were brought here.

A.R. I declare that I was not visited to dinner by Marshal Kesselring during my stay in Rome.

A.D.R. I exclude that I came home some-times after 12 o'clock (mid-night) when staying in Marincola's house. Only the night I dined with Baracca did I come home between 23 & 24 hours, and if I am not mistaken my daughter Bona & Bruno Marincola were waiting up for me.

A.R. I did not visit Mussolini, although Baracca did suggest that perhaps he would want to see me. I saw no other personalities of the Italian social republic.

A.D.R. I gave no one any detailed description of my journey. I only told my children ^{perhaps} & Bruno Marincola that Baracca had interested Mussolini for the release of my son Vittorio from his concentration camp, and that he was almost sure of a favourable result.

A.D.R. During the introductions made by Mrs. Mainz I had the impression that Baracca & Horner had never met before.

(1b)

A.D.P. When J. Hume was taking me to Lestelforte he wore a long leather coat of military type & cap.

(11)

Verbal interrogation of Valerio Pignatelli of Cerkara.

Following answers were given on 15 May 1943.
Naples.

In May 1943 I was nominated Inspector of the P.N.F. which post I held until 25th July u.s. for which, despite my very poor health, I travelled about Central Italy & to South.

During a journey to-wards Rome, to Salerno I heard on the morning of 15 26th July 1943 the fall of the fascist regime, and ^{the reason of} as my journey was to refer to what had been told to me by the commander of the 31st C.A., his Ex: Mercalli who had given me ~~this~~^a very confidential charge, I presented myself to the War Ministry, going into conference with the Head of the Cabinet his Ex: Sorice. Having delivered my charge I returned to Calabria presenting myself to his Ex: Mercalli, to whom I declared that although the King was now summoned, I had thought it opportune to refer it to the Cabinet of his Ex: Sorice what Mercalli himself had told me. At the end of the conversation I declared to the General that although I was mutilated by the war & not in at all a good condition I would have accepted any job he would have liked to confide in me. 40
I heard from his Excellency himself that the Ex-federale

(2)

of Eatauzaro Baracchi had assumed his military service with the 31st C.A. - which news induced me to think that Baracchi being a good Italian had been able to surmount any difficulties of party ideas, seeing the case of the war.

This was later confirmed to me by Baracchi himself when I had the occasion on seeing him in Rome.

After that meeting I returned to my private life staying almost the whole time running my saw-mill & wood industry at Sellia Marina. In the mean-time my health got steadily worse & on medical advice (Dott. Tallarico of Setzale,) I started a antemibic cure.

My lorry which had been sent to Rome for repairs, not being able to return for reasons well-known, not being able to be repaired through the shortage of material, was put up for sale, and for that reason I went to Rome towards the first half of August, accompanied by my wife who was very anxious to enquire about her 3 sons of whom one was an aviator who was suffering from wounds received during the war, the other was doing a course for becoming an officer in the navy at Brioni, and her daughter was to stay with her maternal grand-mother in Rome.

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During my stay in Rome I was disturbed by high temperatures so much so that I had to go & see prof. Frugoni who had already assisted me on other occasions.

(3)

I then stayed another 15 days in Rome partly in bed and partly in seeing about the selling of the ferry, which was then sold to a person whose name I cannot remember for a million lire of which 500,000 was paid to me in bank-notes and 500,000 in cheques (cambiali). The papers concerning the selling was in a bag at the time of my arrest and I think was sequestered by the English.

I saw in Rome besides Baracca, to whom I tried to get sent either to the front or a place at the Ministry at Rome. Baracca was on leave in Rome. He explained that he had had to leave the 31st C.A. (Calabria) as a result of a ^{general} disposition that forbade the ex-gerarchi of the P.N.F. to give their military services in the provinces where they had enjoyed political functions.

I saw Baracca two or three times, that owing to the present war, he had overcome every ^{party} question and had no other desire than to serve his country. He never gave me to understand that he was antimonarch against the royal family.

With Baracca we visited Carlo Scanga, in which he confirmed his well known telegram of adhesion to Badoglio, and who declared to us that he was ready to resume his military service not having any other

(4)

ambition except to save his country.

I had met no other ex-fascist genera; and I add that my meetings with Bavacu & Senza had no political meaning, but were for reasons of our very long friendship during our military services spent together in Italy (1915-1918) was in the Ethiopian & Spanish wars.

Having heard of the bombing of Catanzaro and surroundings, my wife & I, having seen about the children, thought it our duty to return amongst our dependants in Calabria, which we did leaving to 30th or 31st of August in a hired car.

On arriving at Catanzaro I went immediately to the Mayor of Monzani putting myself at his disposition.

He asked my wife to look after the civil hospital which had been abandoned by the personnel (doctors & nurses with the exception of a mother doctor & a young assistant) with more than a hundred people with wounds received by bombing left in the hands of the nurses. At the same time the Prefetto made me temporary commissary for the civil hospital. As the bombing continued the civil hospital under the direction of my wife, was transferred to a village of the Pre-Sila. In the bombing of the 7th to 8th Sept. in fact the civil hospital was hit.

(5)

That work completed and named at my request by the Prefect of Catanzaro, a permanent commissioner my wife and I went to our residence at Sella Marina.

The evening of the 8th of September going in to Sila to our property in Butaro, we heard of the armistice, but we had no details except by radio a few days later.

In the mean-time as I said before - the conditions of my health were rather worse so that I was nearly always in bed. One day Dr. Tallaro having come to visit me the doctor of Sersale who had served many years in the colonies, diagnosed my illness as a neglected amebiasis and therefore very easily curable. He advised me to undergo a treatment of Emetina, but, above all, he advised me to go to a place where I could be cured better.

It was then that I decided to go to Naples as I was in a continuous state of not being able to sleep, to see a specialist. Great difficulties presented themselves for our journey to Naples, difficulties which were overcome towards the end of December, when we managed to get two places in a hired car which was going from Catanzaro to Naples.

A.D.R. Towards the end of Sept: after the arrival of the allies - our manager of Sella Marina, Fiorindo Biscardi,

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known as Nino Toscano, came to me and asked me for my authorization to go & join his family who about two months ago had gone to Tuscany to join his ¹¹⁶ parents of the same manager to avoid the bombing and any war actions which was foreseen, would have taken place in Calabria.

(The man Nino was so alarmed about his family that I hadn't the heart to stop him going especially as he was an extraordinarily good worker, I told him of the dangers he would come up against; but I told him that I could not advise him & that in this case he must follow his own conscience.

I told him however, that if by any chance he should reach Rome, which was almost certain, if he would go to our house & give our news to the ~~boys~~ children & to our ~~god~~ ward.

A.D.R. I understand that Nino knew personally Bauer who every time he came to Catanzaro as federale & came to Sella or to Butaro, Nino would always accompany him, ~~the~~ Bauer having a great sympathy for him.

A.D.R. From that time I have heard no more about him.

A.D.R. Arrived at Naples towards the end of December 35 I went to the Grimaldi clinic. where I was treated by Prof. Jacono who said the same thing as P.D. Tallavico

(4)

who was then proceeded by a long treatment for Amebiasis.

In the Grimaldi Clinic I stayed about a month which time I spent nearly always in bed, without seeing any body. From the clinic I went to the International hospital which was more comfortable and after 15 days, towards the end of February, I began to get up & to take brief walks. The first days of March although still continuing ^{under} the care of Prof. Jacono I was authorized by him to leave the clinic & return to Calabria. If it had not been for my wife who distressed by not getting news of her children, begged me to stay a little longer at Naples where every now & again it was possible to get some news from Rome.

She was especially worried about the fate of the youngest because no-body seemed to know what had happened to the privates ^{officers} of complement of the Royal Navy, already in Brioni. My wife even asked Marshal Badoglio but he answered that he was not able to give her any precise information.

In fact a sort of union was formed between families who had among at the ex-officers of Brioni who almost daily exchanged news & "I have heard" etc. 34

I declare that my wife literally lived on these

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rumours & sayings and would think over them & remark on them for entire days.

About that time news reached us that her older son ~~on~~ ~~arrived~~, the 26th Oct: (or Sept.) had left Rome with three friends in an attempt to cross to German lines towards Teuacina.

Please note, near Teuacina there is a property of the mother of my wife Countessa Elia. Evidently, the boy with his friends was being helped by the tenants of the property.

This news brought on a highly nervous tension & agony to my wife to such an alarming state that I did not insist on taking her to Sella Marina where the state would have become much worse.

I decided therefore to please her & stay a little longer in Naples. I knew that the organizing of a journey through the lines to Rome had become an obsession, so as to be able to see & get news of her children.

I did not put any objection in the way because I was firmly convinced of the impossibility of it ever being put into practice.

Sometimes when the plans seem to be maturing, 33
myself saw that the plans would be upset without my wife knowing anything.

(9)

In any case all this planning served to distract her to the great benefit of her psychological condition.

I will give a short note on the facts that proceeded one after the other in the space of a very few months which would have shook an even stronger woman.

(1°) The 1-5-1943 my wife ~~received~~ received at Sella the sad news of the death of her eldest son Francesco, an aviator-pilot, who fell near Fittoria. The sad journey from Sella to Rome, the recovery of his ^{body} remains, the transport of these ^{from} to Rome to Calabria and their temporary burying in the cemetery of Sersale, naturally upset the soul of she who had lost her favorite son who had been her greatest comfort.

(2°) ~~Just~~ Because of my being nominated Ispettore of the P.N.F. just at that time, a job which kept me absent for weeks at a time, all the cares of my saw-mill & wood works fell into the shoulders of my wife. We were at the moment working intensely for orders given to us by the command for the defense of ^{Sicily} Italy. Therefore the workers were almost triplicated including many 32 strangers (Trentini, also Abruzzini & Venetians) a dozen long's with their respective shivers and in consequence organization for new messes & dormitories for people

(10)

difficult to please, coupled with the grave problem of the feeding of more than a hundred people at Sella Marina and of a thousand odd in the various forests of the Sila.

To this I must add that owing to my industry being of recent construction, my directing staff was not at all efficient and everything was based on my own work.

Therefore in my absence everything fell to my wife, who needing something to distract her after her recent sorrow worked very hard, but soon her ^{health} physique gave way, and working all day, she could not sleep at night.

(3°) The happenings of the 25th July, new motive of agony for my wife because I having left Sella for Caserta - Naples - Rome, on the afternoon of the 24th July, I could not manage in any way to send her my news for about ten days during which the most various rumours reached my wife even of my arrest, and also that I had been shot.

(4) A journey to Brimi, in August, to see her son Vittorio: 31
 was made by my wife to see her son who with a high temperature and ^{via} gastro-gellic disastrous state of health so much so as to oblige prof. Frugoni her doctor to prescribe her a long period of rest & a complicated cure which she never carried out

(II)

5°) The short, but intense period of work when moving to hospital from Caturzo amongst dead bodies in putrefaction & wounded which was impossible to give to minimum disinfection.

6) From the beginning of September in front of our factory situated on the sea-road Jonica, began the episode of the disarmed military of the 31st P. A. of which entire regiments ~~went~~ past stealing animals etc for days in front of our eyes.

The spectacle of this mass of ex-soldiers, bare-footed, sore-ridden, hungry and disarmed, & their continuous violence profoundly ^{shocked} hurt the soul of my wife, who at first tried to organize a rest-house, which was completely emptied & restored two or three times until finally was given up alto-gether.

30

7) The forming of the allied front was the beginning of the period without news of her children & of her god-daughter.

8) As my illness gradually getting graver, seeing me in a state of continual sleepiness, the permission of D^r Tallarico who had thought it opportune to write a letter to my wife to solicitate my ^{removal} ~~recovery~~, urgently with clinic proper surroundings, the shortage of medicines & the difficult diet I had to undergo proved new & grave worries to her.

9) Specially the first month past in the grimaldi clinic very gloomy & not at all comfortable and the need for

(12.)

her to be continually with me because of the prolonged condition of my sleep-sickness, was another cause for her grave psychiatric conditions.

- 10) The arrival towards the beginning of February of the vague news of her son Emanuele who with three friends at the end of September had left Rome to cross the lines & never arrived, another reason for further despair.
- 11) About the same time an extremely alarming news came about her god-child. I ^{don't know} ~~ignore~~ where this news came from.
- 12) My wife stayed for hours in the morning ^{evening} near the radio to hear the news that came from Rome, the messages sent by the Italian resident ^{on} the other side of the lines, always with the hope of receiving news especially of her ^{god} daughter.
- As the weeks ^{of silence} past, her agony increased.
- 13) The letter from her son Vittorio from a prison camp in Germany provoked in her a real collapse, and I found her one day on her knees in front of the photo of her children asking them to forgive her for not having helped them.

Every one of these reasons should be sufficient to justify a state of agony in even the strongest of women.

I never could persuade her to consult a specialist because she immediately became alarmed even if I mentioned such an idea.

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To all appearances, except with the exception when we were alone, she was calm & in perfect equilibrium.

From various symptoms to one that most alarmed me was her habit of telling every one of her strong ambition to cross the lines.

Often she would go shopping at the market places near Mergellina where she would converse with the sailors always trying to find out if there was any truth in the sayings that from Procida & from Torre Guacola that motor-boats (for fishing purposes) went over the line taking passengers. In one of these conversations she found a sailor who gave her some hope which she thought might develop into something.

When she related these conversations to me, I never failed to point out the risk she incurred in talking like she did &

that she might very easily be mis-interpreted.

So as not to contradict her I consented to talk to the sailor myself, who however gave me the impression of having not the slightest chance of doing what my wife wanted, but only out to gain a few hundred liras if it was possible.

That in fact was what happened & nothing more was spoken of the affair

(14)

Despite this ~~failure~~ failure of this effort, she continued in her innocuous maniacal manner in asking whomever she thought had or knew something about crossing the lines, to be accompanied in trying to do so.

A.D.R. I do not exclude that the sea-man of whom I do not know his name - was introduced to my wife by Carlo Cosenza who knowing he could do nothing but wanted to placate the mania of my wife commonly known amongst our friends.

This she did with as far as I remember with Lt. Accame (of whom she suspected after went to Rome) with Paolo Poletti, who we had ~~not~~ already known before & who we met again by chance in Naples.

Owing to the situation we took a flat in via Calabrone 14. with the intention of remaining only a few weeks.

It was during this period that we met the sub. Lt. Muvolari, knowing him in the quality of liaison officer with troops in Abruzzo my wife asked him to accompany her towards Vestò so as she could see our manager of Pescara.

The plan was that this journey would bring her nearer the lines so as to be able to try to get through. 27

This second part of the plan was completely ignored by Muvolari. I who was meant to procure the car for this

15.

adventurous journey was continually creating new obstacles so as to try & stop the adventure.

Towards the end of March my wife confided to me that she had been engaged in a very special mission to go to Rome on the part of the American information service; & she had therefore decided to go.

In the meantime her physical situation had become worse because she received a letter from her son ex-officer of Briani who was a prisoner in Germany together with many of his companions, because they would not give their services to the Republican Government.

My wife was so sure that on going to Rome especially with the help of Barbaeu, she would get her son released from Germany & permission to bring him with the aviator through the lines.

She was still rather restless, because she was not sure of the consent of the American secret service.

All her doubts however disappeared however when she saw the permit all in order and signed by a captain - precisely Captain Fortunato of the above secret service, that authorized the journey of my wife.

I then thought I had better give up interfering and myself begged Nurstan to accompany my wife towards

(16.)

Torino di Sangro where he had to hand her over to an American command and then leave her.

I procured a car & on the morning of the 2nd April my wife left with Nuvolari.

I had every reason to suppose - as to facts now shown to be true - that as soon as my wife managed to get to a German command & told them that she had to be accompanied urgently to the under-secretary of the presidency of the Republican government, she would have been immediately helped by them. Instead of which on Easter day towards 6 o'clock in the morning my wife returned & told me that because of a misunderstanding arisen between the English & American commands she had been held a few days in between Torino di Sangro & Paglieta & then sent back to Naples.

A.I.R. My wife started her journey with documents ^{made out} ~~intended~~ in her paternal name, Maria Elia, under which name are some documents at Cantanzano & at Bersale. Further the permit given to her by the Americans was also in this name.

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The agent Poletti of the American service organization of this mission (which should have been the only one by her express desire) came to me to tell me of the incident

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which happened in Abruzzo the night before, telling me that my wife was on her return journey & would arrive that same night. He in fact stayed the night in my house waiting for her arrival. My wife spent the whole day sleeping, and she then told me some of the unpleasant incidents which happened to her, she told ^{me} she wanted to try again, but first she wanted to rest a few days.

Towards evening Politti came in & told me that he was ready in Via Monti di Dio with a military car & some officers who had been charged to accompany my wife to Sessa where at dawn she could have crossed the lines. I told him that my wife was in no physical condition to support another such a tiring journey & would he please leave her ^{alone} ~~transport~~. He insisted in his desire to speak to my wife personally, I tried to stop him telling him to wait for me in Via Monte di Dio where I would bring him an answer. I went to my wife & told him of Politti's & the ^{american} officers plans, & advised her to give up the idea for the moment. My wife begged me to let her speak to Politti, so I then went to Via Monte di Dio where I found a car in which there were people american officers, but being so dark I could not recognize who they were. I called Politti took him to my wife who tried to insist on the plan being put off.

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but Poletti answered that captain Aprignani had come himself, (head of the service) so as to assure the success of the plan & therefore it could not be put off. He added that he was afraid that my wife hadn't confidence in his service, and that if they didn't leave immediately the whole thing would have to be put off for two or three weeks, which would perhaps mean the failure of the whole plan.

This last threat put my wife into a terrible state & made me say to her that if she felt like going I would have nothing to be contrary.

In fact she took as her own in which to get ready & I accompanied her to the car which was waiting in Via Monte di Dio, my wife left about 21 hours on Easter Day.

I since learned that my wife stayed 3 days at Sessa Aurunca and on her protest for the unnecessary hurry she was answered by the American officers that they thought she was regretting & did not want to leave.

A.D.R. The first permit was given to my wife by Poletti on her arrival the morning of the 9th April.

A.D.R. Towards the last days of my stay at the international clinic I thought it opportune to present myself to H.K.H. the Prince of Piemonte, to whom I had already been presented to, for a two-fold reason.

(19)

To make an act of homage.

To declare to him that I was ready to take the place of one of the superior officers ^{Italian} generals, who I knew had either fallen in battle, or had been taken prisoner by the Germans in a ~~secret~~ ^{separate} confidential mission.

I asked for an audience, which was granted. H.R.H. took note of my request assuring me that he would have spoken to the necessary functionaries and that he would have communicated any eventual decisions taken on my behalf. I have had no news in ~~prospect~~ since.

A.D.R. When I realized that the O.S.S. effectively was helping my wife & that in her journey to Rome she would be able to get in touch with her children, not only did I not try any more to stop her, but profited to find out the intentions of my old companion in arms Bauer, who having been one of the nearest of Mussolini's collaborators, in that moment, could have had the possibility of helping me.

In fact I had a sensation or feeling that between the fascist Republican government & in consequence to Nazi-government & Bolshevism despite the fierce battle underway, there was a beginning of some doctrinal understanding which might have had eventually some effects on future developments.

(2b.)

I must declare that in as much as I am anti-Bolshevik, I am not anti-communist - persuaded as I am in the necessity of a better distribution in the future of the riches of this world.

What I cannot understand in ^{integral} Bolshevism its ideas which I have had occasion to see put into practice in all its ferocity during my stay in Hungary.

(at the time of Bela-Kun), in Russia between 1922-24, & in Spain during the anti-Bolshevik war. I was then far an enthusiastic.

of fascism who amongst all her postulants of mercenism is in substance to some of the first years of the fascist movement.

On the other hand, knowing the military past & the high attachment to the monarchy of my friend Barracu, until the end of the month of August, I could not understand his sudden violent anti-monarchy ideas of Barracu himself held all these last months. 21

It was for this reason that I told my wife to go to Barracu, sure that he would have done anything to keep resolve any eventual difficulty with the Germans, - and I was sure that he would help in every way unless by his own judgement the venture would have been

(21)

dangerous & then he would have kept my wife in Rome. I therefore begged my wife to consult Barracu before returning through the lines.

In the mean-time I communicated to Barracu that in my opinion ~~that~~ in the South of Italy that there was no idea of starting fascism anymore, and that the majority of the people, were completely disinterested, in any sort of politics, and gave one the sensation to have no other desire, but to live in peace hoping for a long permanent stay of the allies with the relative supplies.

Continuing, my wife left with the following instructions. On behalf of the Americans. to tell the Germans if interrogated which was a certainty "everything that she had heard said and anything that happened to think of or came into her head as regards military information.

On my behalf to ask the Germans to be immediately put into contact with Barracu & to trust herself to him. These instructions were carried out by her.

A.D.R. What I told Barracu was of a purely personal matter and I do not feel authorized to refer it as an official document.

I exclude in any-way to have been mandated to send any news to Barracu.

(22.)

A.D.R. I do not know Engineer Bernasconi who was named to me, ~~was his name~~. I do not even know him by name.

A.D.R. Dr. Griffio - Dentist - now a & refugee in Catanzaro, he traveled with me & my wife in the same hired car which brought us to Naples in December 1943: it was Griffio who told me to go to the Grimaldi Clinic because it was conveniently near the Gesù Maria Hospital where the center of tropical diseases was ~~now~~ situated. Directed by Prof. Jacono.

We met Dr. Griffio the day we left Catanzaro.

After a visit he paid me two or three days after I had settled in the Grimaldi Clinic I had no further occasion to meet him.

A.D.R. I know the name of avv. Filosa and I cannot say that I have never met him.

He was a lawyer of not long standing in the party state, pretty short, strong build, with very vivacious eyes who frequented the Cosenza federation. I think I could recognize him.

19

I have had no occasion to meet him after the 25th July nor have I exchanged any correspondence with him.

A.D.R. When I left the Clinic, if I remember rightly, the first days of March ~~the~~ I was taken by a car whose proprietors were (I think) a supplier of food to a

(23.)

studied at Naples, at Sella Marina.

The car was driven by a man of the name of Papaleo of Catanzaro, but who lived in Naples. He took me to Sella Marina & then the next day he came & fetched me from there. We left that evening & we stayed the night at Catanzaro because of a car break-down.

A.D.: The notes found in my house about Caroleo I think refers to the lawyer Caroleo of Catanzaro & whose son is a prisoner of the Germans together with ^{my wife's} the youngest son Vittorio. I think he is called Nuzzio. The addresses found I think refer to helping the boy from Rome.

A.D.R. I met Gen. Guido Accame many years ago & I met him again in various places. The last time quite casually one morning in the streets of Naples. In consequence he came to see me more frequently during my wife's absence.

A.D.P. I met in Compagna's house R. Nuvoletti who was introduced to me as a friend of Compagna's son, who was at that time (Compagna's son) ~~he~~ is hiding in the other part of Italy.

18

Having understood the sad situation of this boy who away from his family & without means, I tried to help him.

As he often came to my house, it is more than probable that I spoke to him of my idea to approach the Prince of

(24)

Piemonte to find young & energetic elements which could form the structure of a new party in support of the Monarchy.
A.D.R. I never could understand what F.^o Nuvolari's exact military situation was, especially as regards to the Canadian Division which he was meant to be a liaison officer.

A.D.R. It was only natural especially during the first visits Nuvolari made to us, that I should be interested in his life and in consequence we talked about the command in which he said he belonged to, but even to-day I ignore which Canadian Division Nuvolari was attached to.

However I exclude in any way of having ~~made~~ asked him any technical questions or to constitution of others or the troops in question. I do not remember that Nuvolari told me anything about the forming of an armoured Canadian corps, nor how he could have even known anything about it, as he had been away from his command ever since I had known him.

A.D.R. F.^o & Sub-F.^o Stausfeld of the English Navy known by us, from Casella, came to see us two or three times, being a porcelain collector, and as my wife possessed in Palermo a noted collection of dinner services and odd pieces, they used to talk for hours on this subject, exchanging

(95)

little works of art which they would find in Via
Constantinopoli.

A.D.R. As I have already said my wife many times tried
to lay a plan to go to ~~Via Abruzzi~~ ^{by way of Abruzzi} in Rome using
the help of Novotari. I don't know however if
Novotari had understood my wife's intentions
because we used to talk to him as if it was just
a trip that my wife was to take towards Vasto
or Torino di Sangro, where she was to meet my
manager who had come from Chieti who had been there
already quite a time.

The plan was all so vague that I never worried
much about it myself thinking it would not
materialize, limiting myself at the impossibility
of procuring a car for the journey.

A.D.R. I cannot verify that my wife confided in Novotari
her plan to cross the lines and to get into occupied Italy.
He only knew about ^{it} ^{one} ~~the~~ morning of the 2nd April
at the moment of leaving when I showed him the
American permit and I gave him instructions as
regards to his conduct.

A.D.R. It had been arranged, with the Americans, that my
wife, through Baracca, would have sent a radio

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message on her safe arrival in Rome and as a signal for the day & date at which she would have returned to line.

All this was carried out over the Rome Radio, and in the presence of the American agent Poletti who since the day my wife crossed the line lived continually in hiding in our house.

A.D.R. I had an aide put up in my house in Via Palasone especially, because as my friend Gen. Accame used to come about 17½ hours the time London used to transmit the news in Italian language, and I wanted him to hear it as clearly as possible. In fact I left orders with my porter that even in my absence he was to let the General in by giving him the keys of my house.

The transmission of my wife's messages took place on only the Rome medium wave-length.

Each of these messages was repeated two or three times approximately

- one referring to her arrival in Rome.

- another to re-assure me.

- the last to communicate the day & hour of her arrival from Rome.

We had established a conventional ^{code} language

(27)

That is "Mario Bertucci" signified that one of the children or Vittoria Orizzova were not well - Vittoria Bertucci all well etc. etc.

Also this was in full understanding with the ^{american} O.S.S.

and although not at all convenient, because of the smallness of my house I had to except the conditions

so that as soon as I got up, I had constantly in my presence the agent Politti during the hours of transmission.

A.D.R. I have no reason to think that the princess told

Muvolari that she intended to visit Mussolini, perhaps very likely she had that idea in case Baracca could not have helped her to liberate her son from Germany, and in order to send her other son down south.

14

A.D.R. I know that at one time, when she was the Marchesa de Selva her friendship with Mussolini was a very cordial one, but since then she has had no occasion to see him.

A.D.R. H²? Barbara Mainz is a German who has often stayed in my wife's house with various jobs. I do not know her only by name but I know that a few years ago she married a functionary of the Gestapo. I know that my wife, if she could not have seen Baracca was counting on the help of this woman. I do not think that she found her in Rome or that she used her but

(28)

I am almost certain she did not. Very likely her name was mentioned to Nuotani so as to avoid speaking of Bauau.

A.P.R. The evening of the 24th or 25th April, one day or two before the arrival of my wife, I had spoken to various people amongst who General Accame. I said, turning to the last named, that my wife should be arriving the morning of the 26th and I added: you will ^{see} what a lovely girl she will be bringing with her. When he asked me who she was, I answered, a Russian girl, a god-child of my wife's - he looked surprised and said "but how is that, if her Russian god-child is in Rome" at which remark I tried to cover up by saying that she had since been transferred to Palermo quite a long time.

Accame however insisted saying that my wife had definitely told him that her god-child was in Rome.

I broke short the conversation saying that I knew more than he did about the matter.

A question. For what motive do you precise - on being interrogated that after the 25th July, you had had nothing more to do with Avv. Filosa.

13

The answer. I repeat that I am not even sure that the person mentioned was really the Filosa. On the other hand I could have had no motive in precising that after the

(29)

25th July ~~that~~ I had had not more contact with Filosa.

I think that it must have been mentioned during a conversation, and perhaps for some interrogation on the part of my questioner.

At Cosenza, I went through, on my return from Rome - towards the first days of August, and I stopped because the car broke down. I arrived at night about 9 or 3, & the car was put up, and I started again that same morning by the first train for Catanzaro, having slept a few hours at one of the two hotels where I had stayed previously. The car was a military one given to me by Mercalli.

I returned to Cosenza after some time towards the end of August & the return journey with my wife, but the town was completely deserted. I only saw the prefect at his house, who was alone.

Question. Did you receive any communication ^{that} ~~from~~ Filosa had been told by the federation of Catanzaro, at the end of July, to keep a liaison between you & the federation?

Answer. I received know such communication as regards to Filosa when I went to Catanzaro the first days of August - the federation had already been broken up. In any case I exclude in every way of ever had any such a

(30)

a communication from or for Filosa. I remember a certain lawyer of Loserza, by me seen in the federation, who, according to what has been said, to me might have been the lawyer Filosa, but I do not remember the person.

He should have been a blondish person, of normal height, vivacious eyes, strong, the person who might be the lawyer Filosa. That person above described I saw two or three times at the federation of Loserza which he frequented. I do not know if he had any especial job there. I have never spoken to this person who I suppose to be Filosa, outside the federation of Loserza, I repeat I have never had any communication neither from him, or for him.

Question. You realize that a ^{reference to this} ~~proposition~~ there is a letter in the federation of Catanzaro.

Answer. I repeat that I never had any communication and I know nothing of the existence of a letter in the federation of Catanzaro for the reason between myself & the federation through Filosa. I cannot understand the reason of such a disposition of the federation when normally I lived in the province of Catanzaro & I was frequently in Catanzaro on business, very often, they would easily spoken to me personally.

11

question. But you realize that the federation sent you this well-

31.

known letter for the liaison. What was the motive? Did you receive it?

Answer. I repeat that I received no letter in which you spoke refers to the federation.

Question. Tell me of your friendship with Sig: Lorda of the federation of Catanzaro.

Answer. Before I was nominated inspector of the fascist party I had never put my feet inside the federation of Catanzaro. Therefore I did not know the various functionaries, so much so that I always considered that I belonged to the Rome section where I had been given my tessera (party card) after some time my papers had been sent to Sellia. (party papers)

After having been nominated Inspector I went to the federation on many occasions & therefore was introduced to nearly all the members. Perhaps I met also Mr. Lorda, who however I cannot remember. However the name is not new to me. I think Mr. Lorda must be one of Baracca's close friends. However that is a mere supposition.

The reason I did not go often to the federation was because I did not approve the outlook of the last federals, proceedings of Baracca.

Question. Is it true that last February you went by car to Catanzaro in the uniform of a 1st Colonel of the army

(31)

and why were you in uniform?

Answer. Owing to my quality of "Military Order of Savoria"

I am authorized to wear my uniform. Owing to the grave difficulties in traveling during the first few months of this year, when I went to Sella, in February or the beginning of March to such time that I went there in my uniform of 1st Lt. of the cavalry.

Question. Is it true that you received three special messages.

Bertucci Maria, Vittoria Bertucci & Alba Mercata?

Answer. I received various ^{special} messages, over the wireless, by a code arranged by my wife before she left. The messages were sent through Banach. I was in accordance with my wife & the Americans with the message "Bertucci Maria" which if necessary was to signify that something had gone wrong with Vittoria or one of the children.

With the message "Vittoria Bertucci" "Alba Mercata" meant that my wife & Vittoria at dawn on Wednesday would be at the same place where my wife had gone through the lines, where they should have met the Americans who would then bring them safely through. The messages were repeated two or three times during my wife's stay in Rome. They had no address. The wireless would say we are going to send out ~~some~~ special messages.

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or "We are transmitting a special message" Vittoria Bertucci "Alba Mercata".

A.D.R. I do not know of the following people whom you ask me about.

1st Lapocasale Pietro di Petroni.

2nd - 1st Bruni Vittorio ~~di~~ from Caserta.

Caporal-Major Pampana Mario of Cesano di Rome.

Giordini ~~Per~~ Ferdinando S. Pietro in quarant' offices on leave.
Pastore Teodoro of Caspanzano.

I ~~do not know~~ ^{met} 1st Arcuri of Catanzaro I do not remember where & under what circumstances. I saw him again in Naples once quite casually in the street. He was with other officers & we stopped & talked for only a few minutes. He has never come to my house.

A.D.R. I met Monti Augusto, perhaps an ex-head of a militia Squadron, I cannot remember exactly, but I think he acted as a go between buying a car which however I did not ~~eventually~~ buy owing to the exaggerated price demanded.

8

A.D.R. I repeat, I ^{not} consider possibly if Monti knew me before the above occasion as ~~my~~ being a fairly well-known officer and used to be stopped by ex-military people who had been at some time

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under my ^{command} ~~orders~~, or who had met me through my various dependents.

I began my first war in the first conquest of Libya and I finished with the present one, having taken part in all the ones during these last 30 years. Therefore everyday I would be stopped by some one who I would have met during these many services or by having heard my name.

A.D.R. I tried to buy a car, because all my cars had been requisitioned and I having been left in Calabria with only a very large "Packard" which went by gasoline and which did not work. I asked various people, I don't remember if it was I myself who asked Monti or whether he first approached me.

A.P.R. I cannot be certain whether I knew Monti for only these particular circumstances or whether I knew him before.

A.D.R. Perhaps I may have seen Monti in the shop of Volpe in the gallery, where I had been to get information about this car, knowing that Volpe was interested in many things.

A.D.R. As a matter of fact Monti accompanied me to a ⁷ court-yard in Via Roma to show me the car. I do not know what the proprietor's name was.

(36)

A.D.R. As a matter of fact during the bargaining for the buying of the car, Monti came to my house, many times. I have the vague impression that on one occasion

During one of his visits, just for a matter of conversation, I asked him some questions as regards to his life & to

which he answered to have been a recent prisoner of war. Perhaps I may have told him that I was an ex-inspector of the fascist party.

A.D.R. I do not know whether I told Monti that I wanted to help the family "Tilena", having heard about the sad situation they were in. I do not exclude having said this to him. I do not know Tilena but the motive in helping him

was merely a human one.

A.D.R. I do not desire to tell of my ~~at~~ acts of ~~benefit~~ good-works or if I have done any.

A.D.R. At the end of February or the first days of March, having realized my wife's decision to remain in Naples for some time for the reasons already given further back, I was obliged to go to Sella Marina to see to various questions to do with my industry, to get food, clothes & linen etc. With a hired car I went directly to Sella Marina where I stayed a day & a half, the car then came back to fetch me. On the return journey

(36)

having reached Catanzaro, the car had to be repaired
and I passed the night in the house of my lawyer
Comm. Barbieri, and then left the next morning. I hardly
had the occasion to leave Barbieri's house and I saw
no one. I returned to Naples that night and since that
time I never left the city again.

Both ways we took the Litoranea Tirrenica route
(sea route). because large falls of snow blocked
the inside route for Lascaris.

A.D.R. I have no more to add to this.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED OFFICIAL COMMISSION
SECURITY BRANCH
APO 334

REF: 22/149.01

20th AUGUST 1944

Subject: Suspected Enemy Agents. (Prince & Princess Pignatelli & Odinsona)

To : C.S.I.B., A.A.I.

- (1) Prince Valerio Pignatelli
- (2) Princess Pignatelli
- (3) Vittoria Odinsona
- (4) Lieutenant Carlo Consenza
- (5) Lieutenant Andrea Nuvoletti
- (6) Col: Gerardo Luigi
- (7) Ave. Wilton Luigi
- (8) Colonel Antonio

1. With further reference to my report of the 2nd August, 1944, respecting subjects 1, 2 and 3.

2. I have continued the enquiry but I am afraid there is not the slightest possibility of bringing any of these people before an Allied Military Court on a charge of espionage.

3. My further enquiries now throw some doubt on whether or not there is sufficient evidence to prefer a charge against subject No. 1 of having communicated with a person in enemy occupied territory.

It did appear at one time that the Prince had sent a letter to Barruca by his wife, but it has now been ascertained that this was only a verbal message, and that the letter referred to was one from Barruca to the Prince, the contents of which the Prince refuses to divulge, stating that they were only of a private nature.

4. The further obstacles are the death of Pignatelli, who is undoubtedly the person who briefed the Princess on her mission, and the

- (2) Princess Margherita
- (3) Vittoria Odinsova
- (4) Lieutenant Carlo Corbelli
- (5) Lieutenant Andrea Nuvolari
- (6) Col. Gaetano Luigi
- (7) Avv. Fileno Luigi
- (8) Colonel Antonio

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It did appear at one time that the Prince had sent a letter to Barracu by his wife, but it has now been ascertained that this was only a verbal message, and that the letter referred to was one from Barracu to the Prince, the contents of which the Prince refused to divulge, stating that they were only of a private nature.

4. The further obstacles are the death of Pollett, who is undoubtedly the person who briefed the Princess on her mission, and the absence from this theatre of operations of Majors Rolles and Koch. The two majors being executive and operational officers respectively, of the G.S.S., unit which sponsored this venture.

5. As far as subject No. 3 is concerned there is no evidence at all that she is anything but a pawn in the game. From the evidence that has been made available to me it is doubtful if she can even be termed a security danger. I make this statement bearing in mind that there may be evidence, such as from subject No. 4, that may put a different complexion on her case, but as far as the papers that have been submitted to me are concerned subject No. 3 appears to be of little or no importance from a security point of view.

6. There is no evidence that subject No. 4 committed any acts which could be described as being contrary to the interests of the Allies. In fact he seems to be as much a pawn in the game as subject No. 3 in as much as it was subject No. 4, interest in subject No. 3 that in any way interested subject No. 4 in the Margherita's.

7. The only thing that could be attributed is that he attempted to organize a trip for subject No. 2, to Genoa occupied territory. He states that at the time he was making arrangements he told the witness he appeared, that the journey was not to take place, but that he was only doing this in an attempt to pacify subject No. 2.

This is corroborated by the witness concerned and also by subject No. 1.

8. Under all these circumstances it is difficult to see sufficient security importance for the detention of subject No. 4, as it is quite clear that his only interest in the whole matter was the safety of subject No. 3, who was at one time quite obviously his mistress.

9. Subject No. 5 is a potential danger to security if only by virtue of his stupidity in having been guilty of such careless talk, as he admits in his statement. There are several points in the statement of subject No. 5, which are not all clear. It is difficult to understand how he came to be in Naples at all when he was the liaison officer to the Christian Division, especially bearing in mind that he did not have very much money, and was forced to live by the assistance he obtained from his friends.

10. The information that he gave to subject No. 2 is undoubtedly information that would be of value to the enemy. But, although this on the surface would appear to have some elements of espionage, the main element of espionage, i.e. intent, is missing.

11. With the case in its present stage, and I am no longer of carrying the matter further, this is only "careless talk" which if subject No. 5 were in the United Kingdom, or even a British subject here, would be dealt with under the Defence (General) Regulations 1939, Regulation 5, which carries a maximum penalty of 2 years imprisonment and/or a fine of £500.

12. As far as I can ascertain there is no evidence at all that subject No. 6 has committed any offense against either the Allied Govts., or the Italian Govts. He appears to have been arrested as a security measure, because of his association with the Magatelli's during the period the witness was negotiating her trip to Rome.

13. I have conferred with I.I.L. regarding subject No. 6 and they inform me that they have no evidence against him. Under these circumstances his own statement, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, appears to clear his position.

14. There appears to be no connection between subjects 1 - 6 inclusive and 7 - 8 except that subject No. 8 states that he understood subject No. 1 was the leader of the new fascist movement in Calabria. However there is no evidence to substantiate this.

as he admits in his statement. It is difficult to understand how he came to be in Naples at all when he was the liaison officer to the Canadian Division, especially bearing in mind that he did not have very much money, and was forced to live by the assistance he obtained from his friends.

10. The information that he gave to subject No. 2 is undoubtedly information that would be of value to the enemy. But, although this on the surface would appear to have some elements of espionage, the main element of espionage, i.e. *SECRET*, is missing.

11. In the case in its present stage, and I see no hope of carrying the matter further, this is only "careless talk" which if subject No. 2 were in the United Kingdom, or even a British subject here, would be dealt with under the Defence (General) Regulations 1939, Regulation 3, which carries a maximum penalty of 2 years imprisonment and/or a fine of £500.

12. As far as I can ascertain there is no evidence at all that subject No. 6 has committed any offense against either the Allied Govt., or the Italian Govt. He appears to have been arrested as a security measure, because of his association with the Magenta's during the period the Princess was negotiating her trip to Rome.

13. I have conferred with S.I.M. respecting subject No. 6 and they inform me that they have no evidence against him. Under these circumstances his own statement, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, appears to clear his position.

14. There appears to be no connection between subjects 1 - 6 inclusive and 7 - 8 except that subject No. 8 states that he understood subject No. 1 was the leader of the new Fascist movement in Calabria. However there is no evidence to substantiate this.

15. The officer from S.I.M., Capt. Paris informs me that the offenses committed by subjects 7 and 8 and their associates were to the prejudice of the Anglo-Italian Government. Although this is indirectly an act against the Allied Military Government I think the investigations and any subsequent prosecutions can be left to S.I.M. and the Italian Courts.

FOR THE DIRECTOR.

S. J. HARRIS.

SECURITY BRANCH.

MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA
SCUOLA SUPERIORE DI POLIZIA
SERVIZIO CENTRALE DI IDENTIFICAZIONE

Prot. N.II8

Rome, 18th August 1944

To Major HARE - ROME

In reply to your letter of the 15th August, I am sorry to communicate you that we could not present the prisoners Prince and Princess Pignatelli, Odinzova Vittoria, Lt. Col. Guarino, Filosa Luigi, Morelli Gaetano, Cosenza and Nuvolari, because at the prisons, they wanted the authorisation of the Office of via Sicilia, 59, and this authorisation was refused.

/s/ The Questore
(Dr. Ugo Sorrentino)

Isabella Formigoni

Dear & valued

I have arranged to

send you

Capt. Ker

authorisation of the Office of via Sicilia, 77, and this authorisation was refused.

/s/ The Questore
(Dr. Ugo Sorrentino)

Yolanda Formigoni

*Dear & valued
I have arranged photos to*

*Capt. Ker
be taken*

2

Yolanda Formigoni



MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO

Direzione Generale della Pubblica Sicurezza

SCUOLA SUPERIORE DI POLIZIA
SERVIZIO CENTRALE DI IDENTIFICAZIONE

Mod. 600

Prot. N° 118 Allegati _____
Risposta a nota _____

Roma li 18 agosto 1944 A
VIA DELLE MANTellate 7

del _____
Dir. _____ Sez. _____ N° _____

M. Chiarissimo
Signor Maggiore HARE

ROMA

OGGETTO: _____

In risposta alla vostra lettera del 16 corrente sono spiacente comunicarvi che non si è potuto provvedere al segnalamento dei detenuti: principe e principessa Pignatelli, Odinzova Vittoria, ten. col. Guarino, Filosa Luigi, Morelli Gaetano, Cosenza e Muvolari perchè, alle Carceri, desideravano l'autorizzazione dell'Ufficio di via Sicilia 59 e tale autorizzazione è stata negata.

Ossequi

IL QUESTORE

dr. M. Ponzanico

2172