

ACC 10000|143|2703 266.02/04 SPERNI FAMILY

Apr. - Oct. 1945

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

REF.

WAN

12 October 1945

SUBJ/ST : British Renegades John C... Speri,  
Gerald Speri.

TO : K.G. Benton Lee, Visa Dept., British Embassy.

1. I believe you are fully aware of the cases of the above named, who were arrested and placed in Terai internment Camp for consideration as to whether they should be prosecuted.
2. In the case of Gerald this was not practicable and he was released.
3. He is now asking for the return of his Italian passport, which is attached hereto.
4. Capt. Gale who prepared the cases against them is of the opinion that the passport should not be returned, as their claim to Italian nationality is dubious and they were obtained from the Italian consulate in London by a friend of the family in a somewhat irregular way.
5. Gerald Speri is of no further interest to Allied Military Security, but I would be glad of any observations you may care to make on his application for the return of his passport.

*J.S.C.*  
John C. CHAPMAN,  
Colonel, J.A.C.D.  
Director Public Safety,  
Sub Commission.

00012

Copy to : WAN.SD/260.02/4       

SSB/ln.

HEADQUARTERS LIGURIA REGION  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
AFC 394  
PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

LVG/1a

Security	Divis. 209
Rec'd. 1/19/48	Book No. 2660 (1st)
File No.	Action . . .

R/T : LG/SAF/543

27 September 1945

SUBJECT : British Renegades :-

John C.A. SPERINI, Gerald SPERINI,  
Rhonaugh, M. ROBB alias ROBB-SPERINI.

TO : Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission,  
U.S. Allied Commission, C.M.F.  
(Attn. Major S.C. HARRY, Security Division).

1. Forwarded herewith are two Italian passports referring to the above-mentioned persons: -

- (i) Italian passport No. 939991/446, issued to "Giovanni Carlo SPERINI", by Italian Consulate, London, on 11 May, 1940.
  - (ii) Italian passport No. 898365/5426, issued to "Geraldo Filippo SPERINI" by Italian Consulate, London, on 10 October, 1939.
2. In view of the circumstances in which both passports were obtained (through a friend of the SPERINI family at the Italian Consulate, London) and the consequent doubt as to the right of these persons to hold them, it is considered inadvisable that they be returned to them. Their claim to Italian nationality is very flimsy and has not been established; moreover, the first-mentioned passport contains an unauthorized and illegal entry, viz, the inclusion of "Rhonaugh ROBB-SPERINI", as the wife of Giovanni Carlo SPERINI. This woman is certainly not married to him and she is, without any doubt whatsoever, a British subject.
3. In a separate sealed parcel are forwarded all original statements, and documentary exhibits mentioned in the prosecution reports, regarding the three individuals. These documents are forwarded for safe custody in Security Division, U.S. Allied Commission or for transmission to A.P.E.C. In view of the possibility that these persons might still come to trial or, in any event, that their cases might be the subject of official discussion, it is recommended that the seals be left intact.

*Horatio V. Gale*

LOUIS V. GALE Sanitary

John G.A. SPERMI, Gerald SPERMI,  
Roneagh, M. ROBB alias ROBB-SPERMI.

MC : Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission,  
E.S. Allied Commission, C.M.Z.  
(Attn. Major S.J. BAWAY, Security Division).

1. Forwarded herewith are two Italian passports referring  
to the above-mentioned persons: -

- (1) Italian passport No. 939991/446, issued to "Giovanni Car-  
lo SPERMI", by Italian Consulate, London, on 11 May, 1940.  
(2) Italian passport No. 898365/5426, issued to "Geraldo Zi-  
lippo SPERMI" by Italian Consulate, London, on 10 Octo-  
ber, 1939.

2. In view of the circumstances in which both passports were  
obtained (through a friend of the SPERMI family at the Italian Consu-  
late, London) and the consequent doubt as to the right of these per-  
sons to hold them, it is considered inadvisable that they be returned  
to them. Their claim to Italian nationality is very flimsy and has not  
been established; moreover, the first-mentioned passport contains an  
unauthorized and illegal entry, viz., the inclusion of "Roneagh ROBB-  
SPERMI", as the wife of Giovanni Carlo SPERMI. This woman is certainly  
not married to him and she is, without any doubt whatsoever, a British  
subject.

3. In a separate sealed parcel are forwarded all original sta-  
tements, and documentary exhibits mentioned in the prosecution reports,  
regarding the three individuals. These documents are forwarded for sa-  
fe custody in Security Division, T.A. Allied Commission or for transmis-  
sion to A.P.E.S. In view of the possibility that these persons might  
still come to trial or, in any event, that their cases might be the sub-  
ject of official discussion, it is recommended that the seals be left  
intact.

*Louis V. Gale*  
LOUIS V. GALE, Captain

Regional Security Officer.

Forwarded as requested.

*M.J. Hefford*  
00011  
M.J. HEFFORD, Lt. Col.,  
Regional Public Safety Officer.

Received from Mrs. S. J. Harvey sealed pencil mentioned  
enclosed in para 3 of Capt. Gale's letter

C. Franklin Capt GOS

G-2 C 5 (2) AFHQ

2 October 1945

HEADQUARTERS LIGURIA REGION  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
APO 394  
PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

LVG/1s

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

REF : LVG/SAF/143

27 September 1945

SUBJECT : British Renegades :  
John C.A. SPERINI, Gerald SPERINI,  
Rhoneagh M. ROBB alias ROBB-SPERINI.

TO : Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission,  
H.Q. Allied Commission, C.M.F.  
(Attn. Major S.A. HARVEY, Security Division).

Forwarded herewith are two Italian passports referring

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to the above-mentioned persons: -

- (i) Italian passport No. 939991/446, issued to "Giovanni Car-  
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(ii) Italian passport No. 898365/5426, issued to "Geraldo Fi-  
lippo SPERINI" by Italian Consulate, London, on 10 Octo-  
ber, 1939.

In view of the circumstances in which both passports were  
obtained (through a friend of the SPERINI family at the Italian Consu-  
late, London) and the consequent doubt as to the right of these per-  
sons to hold them, it is considered advisable that they be returned  
to them. Their claim to Italian nationality is very flimsy and has not  
been established; moreover, the first-mentioned passport contains an  
unauthorized and illegal entry, viz., the inclusion of "Rhoneagh ROBB-  
SPERINI", as the wife of Giovanni Carlo SPERINI. This woman is certainly  
not married to him and she is, without any doubt whatsoever, a British  
subject.

2. In a separate sealed parcel are forwarded all original sta-  
tements, and documentary exhibits mentioned in the prosecution reports,  
regarding the three individuals. These documents are forwarded for sa-  
fe custody in Security Division, H.Q. Allied Commission or for transmis-  
sion to A.P.H.S. In view of the possibility that these persons might  
still come to trial or, in any event, that their cases might be the sub-  
ject of official discussion, it is recommended that the seals be left  
intact.

LOUIS V. GALE, Captain  
Special Officer

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TO : Director, Public Safety Sub-Commission,  
H.Q. Allied Commission, C.M.F.  
(Attn. Major S.A. HARVEY, Security Division).

1. Forwarded herewith are two Italian passports referring to the above-mentioned persons: -

- (1) Italian passport No. 939991/446, issued to "Giovanni Carlo SPERNI", by Italian Consulate, London, on 11 May, 1940.
- (ii) Italian passport No. 898365/5426, issued to "Geraldo Filippo SPERNI" by Italian Consulate, London, on 10 October, 1939.

2. In view of the circumstances in which both passports were obtained (through a friend of the SPERNI family at the Italian Consulate, London) and the consequent doubt as to the right of these persons to hold them, it is considered advisable that they be returned to them. Their claim to Italian nationality is very flimsy and has not been established; moreover, the first-mentioned passport contains an unauthorized and illegal entry, viz., the inclusion of "Monaghan ROBB-SPERNI", as the wife of Giovanni Carlo SPERNI. This woman is certainly not married to him and she is, without any doubt whatsoever, a British subject.

3. In a separate sealed parcel are forwarded all original statements, and documentary exhibits mentioned in the prosecution reports, regarding the three individuals. These documents are forwarded for safe custody in Security Division, H.Q. Allied Commission or for transmission to A.P.E.C. In view of the possibility that these persons might still come to trial or, in any event, that their cases might be the subject of official discussion, it is recommended that the seals be left intact.

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Forwarded as requested.

*Louis V. Galle*  
LOUIS V. GALLE, Captain  
Regional Security Officer.

*B.J. Helford*  
B.J. HELFORD, Lt. Col.,  
Regional Public Safety Officer.

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED COMMISSION  
C.M.F.Public Safety Sub-Commission  
Security DivisionNew File No. 266.01-6P  
29 May 1945

Reference : S.D. 266.02.4.04

Subject : British Refugees  
 "SPERMI family"  
 To : A.O. of C-2, A.P.U.Q.  
 (Copy to A.C.A.S G-2 R.A.B.C.)

Investigations have been completed in respect of the members of the SPERMI family - ST.PANCRAZIO, London, who left England in June, 1940 on "re-migration" to Italy. The particulars in June, 1940 on "re-migration" to Italy. The particulars of those persons are as follows:

- (1) JOHN CHARLES ANTHONY SPERMI, alias Giovanni Spermi.
- (2) Enonagh Maureen ROBB, alias MARGARET SPERMI. Cleains to be wife of above, but not in fact married.
- (3) Gerald Philip SPERMI alias Geraldo Spermi. 00009
- (4) Hubert SPERMI.
- (5) Margaret SPERMI, nos Scott-Way, wife of No(2), above. Accompained by one child.
- (6) Nancy SPERMI alias Annunziata SPERMI sister of Nos (1), (3) and (4).

2. Individual reports have already been submitted regarding Nos (1), (2) and (3) together with the evidence to "substantiate prosecution on charges under the Treason Acts and Defence regulations."
3. Individual reports have already been submitted regarding Nos (1), (2) and (3) together with the evidence to "justify their collaboration with the enemy which would criminal disloyalty as charge of criminal disloyalty as

Reference : S.D. 266.02-7.04  
Subject : British Venetian  
          Family - SPERNI

To : A.C. of C-2, A.P.U.Q.  
(Copy to A.C.A.S G-2 R.A.D.C.)

1. Investigations have been completed in respect of the members of the SPERNI family - ST. Pancras, London, the 1st Britland in June, 1940 on "re-patriation" to Italy. The particulars of those persons are as follows:

- (1) JOHN CHARLES ANTHONY SPERNI, alias Giovanni Sperni.
- (2) Margaret Lawrence ROBB, alias ROBB-SPERNI. Spains though married ROBB, but not in fact married.  
to wife of above, but not in fact married.  
Accompanied by two children.
- (3) Gerald Philip SPERNI alias Geraldo Sporni. **00009**
- (4) Hubert SPERNI.
- (5) Margaret SPERNI, nee Scott-Hill, wife of No(4).  
above. Accompanied by one child.
- (6) Nancy SPERNI alias Annunziata SPERNI sister of Mrs (1), (3) and (4).

Individual reports have already been submitted regarding nos (1), (2) and (3) together with the evidence to substantiate prosecution on charges under the treason Acts and Defence Regulations.

With regard to (4), (5) and (6) enquiries have not revealed any evidence that those persons have carried on any form of collaboration with the enemy which would justify as being tried upon any charge of criminal disloyalty as British subjects. Their activities seem to have been innocuous.

3. The only charge which seems likely to be successful is that of having entered enemy territory without proper authority (Contrary to Defence General Regulations 1939).

4. Margaret SPERNI (5) was interrogated by 4/Sergeant CRAWFORD Victor N°1428680 of 97 F.S.Section, a copy of whose report is attached. She is at present employed as a switchboard operator with Provost Company, CMP (British) Rome.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016  
6. Nancy Mary SPERMI N°(6) was questioned by Captain L.V.GALE,  
Security Division, Allied Commission. A copy of his  
interrogation report is attached. She is at present employed  
as a typist at the American Embassy, Rome.

7. Hubert SPERMI N°(4), who has for some time been employed as  
an interpreter by 501 Provost Company at Cassa Giova near  
Caserta; he is not known to have been interrogated, but  
from enquiries and the interrogations of his wife Margaret,  
and his brother Gerald, it would appear that his activities  
and movements have been harmless.

8. There are no security grounds for the detention of N°s (4),  
(5)-and (6) of the SPERMI family, nor do such grounds render  
it necessary to dismiss them from their present employment.  
The ethical grounds, however, that these are British  
subjects who deserted the country of their birth-when it  
was in desperate circumstances, renders their continued  
employment distasteful to say the least. Consideration might  
be given to charging them in England for embarking without  
proper authority and subsequently entering enemy territory.  
They could be arrested on arrival in England as there is no  
purpose in effecting the arrest here.

*Louis V. Gale*

LOUIS V.GALE, Captain.

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(SECRET)

Ref. 97/4/70.

*Capt. Gale*

To : Capt. L.V. GALE,  
Security Division,  
HQ., A.C.  
  
From: O.C. 97 F.S.S.  
  
Date: 19 April 1945.

SPERNI nee SCOTT-WRAY, Margaret fu Thomas.

Herewith copy of interrogation report on Subject,  
as requested by you.

*J. Branch*

C.M.F.

D. Branch Lieut.,  
Officer i/c 97 F.S.Section,  
Intelligence Corps.



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**SECRET**

**Ref. 974/70.**

Interrogation report of: SPERONI nee SCOTT-WRAY, Margaret f/n Thomas.

- Documents      a) birth certificate issued in GLASGOW, Scotland, April '07.  
                  b) Marriage certificate issued HOLBORN, London, 11 Aug. '34, when  
                  Subject married an Englishman viz SPERONI, Hubert, a builder  
                  who was resident in LONDON at that time.  
                  c) "Soggiorno degli Stranieri" in Italia", issued ROME 11 June '44.  
                  Subject was educated at Whitehill High School, GLASGOW.

Education

July 1940      Subject came to Italy, with her husband and small daughter on the Italian Diplomatic ship "Monarch of Bermuda". Subject does NOT know why she and her husband should have come to Italy, for her husband is British born and of British parents, but his grand-parents on his father's side were Italian. She believes false papers were obtained for him by his father who was pro-Italian but British born. Her husband is at present employed as an interpreter by SOI Provost Coy., C.I.P. (Br) at CASSA GIOVA, near CASERTA, and I recommend that before this case be closed he should be rigorously interrogated to determine whether he is a renegade or not.

Subject's life in Italy.

Subject, her husband and daughter arrived in ROME July '40. They had NO acquaintances here, and after remaining for 6 or 7 days, they decided to go further north as the climate here was too hot for the child. They went to FLORENCE where they stayed at a small hotel near the main railway station for two weeks. (Subject does NOT remember the name of the Hotel).

From FLORENCE they proceeded further North to PARMA, her husband knew a family called PRIORI, which he had known previously in LONDON. They remained in PARMA until March '43, where they lived in a small apartment and in very poor financial conditions for the husband was unable to find employment and they had NOT brought much money with them from England.

In March '43 they decided to go and live further north at a village called SPERONIA in the prov. of PIACENZA, where they thought that the cost of living might be cheaper. AT SPERONIA they lived with an Italian family called CROCE.

After being there for ten or twelve days, however, the husband was arrested by the Italian Police and interned in the south of Italy.

Subject and her child remained at SPERONIA until three or four Sept. '43 and then left with the intention of trying to go to BRINDISI in order to contact her husband whom was interned in that district. She arrived as far as ROME, however, and decided to remain there. The Armistice had been signed a few days prior to her arrival in ROME.

In ROME she went to live at the Albergo Senato, Piazzza del Pantheon, where she is still living. In Dec. '43 Subject reported to the Swiss Legation in ROME and asked if she could be repatriated. They did NOT give her a direct answer, however, but they did give her L. 3000 per month until Dec. '44. The Com-

who was resident in LONDON at that time.  
o) "Soggiorno degli Stranieri" in Italia", issued ROME 11 June '44.  
Subject was educated at Whitehill High School, GLASGOW.

Education

July 1940 Subject came to Italy, with her husband and small daughter in the Italian Diplomatic ship "Monarch of Bermuda". Subject does NOT know why she and her husband should have come to Italy, for her husband is British born and of British parents, but his grand-parents on his father's side were Italian. She believes false papers were obtained for him by his father who was pro-Italian but British born. Her husband is at present employed as an interpreter by 501 Provost Coy., C.I.P. (Br) at CASA GIOVA, near CASENTINA, and I recommend that before this case be closed he should be rigorously interrogated to determine whether he is a renegade or not.

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Subject's life in Italy:

Subject, her husband and daughter arrived in ROME July '40. They had NO acquaintances here, and after remaining for 6 or 7 days, they decided to go further north as the climate here was too hot for the child. They went to FLORENCE where they stayed at a small hotel near the main railway station for two weeks. (Subject does NOT remember the name of the Hotel).

From FLORENCE they proceeded further North to PARMA, her husband knew a family called PRIORI, which he had known previously in LONDON. They remained in PARMA until March '43, where they lived in a small apartment and in very poor financial conditions for the husband was unable to find employment and they had NOT brought much money with them from England. In March '43 they decided to go and live further north at a village called SPERONGIA in the prov. of FLACCIZZA, where they thought that the cost of living might be cheaper. AT SPERONGIA they lived with an Italian family called CROCE.

After being there for ten or twelve days, however, the husband was arrested by the Italian Police and interned in the south of Italy.

Subject and her child remained at SPERONGIA until three or four Sept. '43 and then left with the intention of trying to go to BRINDISI in order to contact her husband whom was interned in that district. She arrived as far as ROME, however, and decided to remain there. The Amritsice had been signed a few days prior to her arrival in ROME.

In ROME she went to live at the Albergo Senato, Piazza del Pantheon, where she is still living. In Dec. '43 Subject reported to the Swiss Legation in ROME and asked if she could be repatriated. They did NOT give her a direct answer, however, but they did give her L. 3000 per month until Dec. '44. The Consulate was already in possession of her British passport, which had been obtained from the Italian Police. Subject remained in ROME, keeping contact with other civilians until July '44, when her husband arrived in ROME, having been released. He stayed in ROME 3 or 4 days and returned to CAPUA taking Subject with him. She remained with him only 3 or 4 days, however, and returned to ROME, giving her reason: "I did not like CAPUA". Since that time Subject has continued living at the Albergo Senato and has obtained work with I Provost Coy., CMP (Br), as a switchboard operator. Her husband has stayed only three visits to ROME since July, the last visit being at New Year.

NOTE: It seems that relations between Subject and her husband are very strained and Subject, who is in poor health and of poor financial conditions, would like to go back to Scotland and would be quite willing to have her husband ~~as~~ <sup>essere</sup> will he will consent to leave Italy. She does NOT think her husband ~~as~~ <sup>essere</sup> will do this, and is prepared to go without him. Interrogation of her husband is essential in order to obtain details of their "repatriation", if it may be called such, to Italy in June '40.

S E C R E T

Ref. 97/4/79

TO : Capt. L.V.GALE,  
Security Division,  
HQ., A.C.  
  
FROM: O.C. 97 F.S.S.  
  
DATE: 19 April 1945.

SYNTHI and SCOTT-WRAY, Margaret fu Thomas.

Herewith copy of interrogation report on Subject,  
as requested by you.

**00005**

D. Branch Lieut.  
Officer i/c 97 F.S. Section,  
Intelligence Corps.

O.M.P.

Security Division

Recd..... 20/4  
Book No 6850  
File No...  
Action....

S O R T

Ref. 97/4/70

Interrogation report of: SPERMI nee SCOTT-WRAY, Sergeant in Thomas

- Documents  
 a) birth certificate issued in GLASGOW, Scotland, April 07  
 Subject was born 18 April '07.  
 b) marriage certificate issued HOLBORN, London, May. '34  
 when subject married an Englishman viz SPERMI, Hubert  
 a builder who was resident in London at that time.  
 c) "Soggiorno degli stranieri in Italia", issued ROMA 11 -  
 June '44.

Education :  
 July 1940  
 Subject was educated at WHITWELL HIGH SCHOOL, GLASGOW  
 daughter in the Italian diplomatic attaché research or  
 Berlino". Subject does NOT know why she and her husband  
 should have come to Italy, for her husband is British  
 born and of British parents, but his grand-parents on  
 his father's side were Italian. She believes false pa-  
 pers were obtained for him by his father who was pre-  
 employed as an interpreter by SOI Provost Coy. G.M.2.  
 (Br) at CASE GIOVA, near ASSENZA, and I recommend that  
 before this case be closed he should be rigorously  
 interrogated to determine whether he is a renegade  
 or not.

Subject's life in Italy!

July '40. They had NO acquaintances here, and after remaining for 6 or 7  
 days, they decided to go further north as the climate here was too hot  
 for the child.

They went to FLORENCE where they stayed at a small hotel near the main  
 railway station for two weeks. (Subject does NOT remember the name of  
 the hotel).

From FLORENCE they proceeded further North to PAVIA, her husband knew a  
 family called PRIORI, which he had known previously in LONDON. They re-  
 mained in PAVIA until March '43, where they lived in a small apartment  
 and in very poor financial conditions for the husband was unable to  
 find employment and they had NOT brought much money with them from  
 England.

In March '43 they decided to go and live further north at a village call-  
 ed SERRONEA in the prov. of PLACENZA, where they thought that the cost  
 of living might be cheaper. At SERRONEA they lived with settlerian fam-  
 ily called CROON.

After being there for ten or twelve days, however, the husband was arrested  
 by the Italian police and interned in the south of ITALY.

June 44.

Education : Subject was educated at WHITHILL HIGH SCHOOL, GLASGOW

July 1940 Subject came to Italy, with her husband and small daughter in the Italian diplomatic ship "monarch of Bermuda". Subject does NOT know why she and her husband should have come to Italy, for her husband is British born and of British parents, but his grand-parents on his father's side were Italian. She believes false papers were obtained for him by his father who was probably British born. Her husband is at present Italian but British born. Her husband is at present employed as an Interpreter by 201 PROVOST COY. C.M.P. (Br) at Casso GIOVA, near CASSMIA, and I recommend that before this case be closed he should be rigorously interrogated to determine whether he is a renegade or not.

Subject's life in Italy:

Subject, her husband and daughter arrived in Rome July '40. They had NO acquaintances here, and after remaining for 6 or 7 days, they decided to go further north as the climate here was too hot for the child.

They went to FLORENCE where they stayed at a small hotel near the main railway station for two weeks. (Subject does NOT remember the name of the hotel).

From FLORENCE they proceeded further North to PARMA, her husband knew a family called PRIORI, which he had known previously in LONDON. They remained in PARMA until March '43, where they lived in a small apartment in very poor financial conditions for the husband was unable to find employment and they had NOT brought much money with them from England.

In March '43 they decided to go and live further north at a village called SPERONGIA in the prov. of PIACENZA, where they thought that the cost of living might be cheaper. At SPERONGIA they lived with a Italian family called CROCI.

After being there for ten or twelve days, however, the husband was arrested by the Italian Police and interned in the south of Italy.

Subject and her child remained at SPERONGIA until three or four Sept. '43 and then left with the intention of trying to go to BRINDISI in order to contact her husband whom was interned in that district. She arrived as far as ROMA, however, and decided to remain there. The Airlines had been signed a few days prior to her arrival in ROMA.

In ROMA she went to live at the Albergo Senator, Via del Pantheon, where she is still living. In Dec. '43 Subject reported to the Swiss Legation in ROMA and asked if she could be repatriated. They did NOT

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give her a direct answer, however, but they did give her L.3000 per month until Dec. '44. The Consulate was already in possession of her British passport, which had been obtained from the Italian Police. Subject remained in ROME, keeping out of contact with other civilians until July '44, when her husband arrived in ROME, having been released. He stayed in ROME 3 or 4 days and returned to CAPUA taking Subject with him. She remained with him only 3 or 4 days, however, and returned to ROME, giving her reason: "I did not like CAPUA". Since that time Subject has continued living at the Albergo Senato and has obtained work with I Provost Coy. GMP(Br), as a switchboard operator. Her husband has paid only three visits to ROME since July, the last visit being at New Year.

NOTE: It seems that relations between Subject and her husband are very strained and Subject, who is in poor health and of poor financial conditions, would like to go back to Scotland and would be quite willing to leave her husband with her if he will consent to leave Italy. She does NOT think her husband will do this, and is prepared to go without him. Interrogation of her husband is essential in order to obtain details of their "repartiation", if it may be called such to Italy in June '40.

V. CRAWFORD SGT.

1418680 97 F.S. SECTION

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Report of Interrogation of Nancy Mary SPERI  
also known as Annunziata SPERI, British  
subject, born 15 January, 1914 at London

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On 30 April 1945, at the American Embassy, Rome,  
I interviewed the above, in the company of Lieutenant  
Claude J. LOVE, American Officer, G-2, Rome Allied Area  
Command. I informed Miss SPERI that she might be the  
subject of charges for offenses arising from the circum-  
stances under which she left England in June, 1940. She  
was cautioned by me that she was not obliged to say any-  
thing and that anything she said might be used in evidence.  
She then gave her personal particulars as indicated  
above, adding that both her parents were born in England,  
her mother being British by birth and parentage and her  
father being British born but of Italian parents.

Continuing, she said that the first intimation  
which she had that any of the SPERI family intended to  
leave for Italy, was in May, 1940, when she learned from  
her half-brother - Hubert SPERI and his wife, Margaret,  
that they intended to make arrangements to leave for Italy.  
She expressed a wish to accompany them but took no  
steps, personally, towards that end. On about 12 - 14th  
June, 1940, after the Italian declaration of war, she heard  
that her name was on a list for re-patriation to Italy. She  
could not remember who told her this but stated that it was  
one of the members of the family. Neither did she know who  
had made these arrangements on her behalf.

On about the above date she left London, at **00002**  
Station, with Hubert, his wife and child and went to the  
~~British~~ <sup>French</sup> ~~Government~~ <sup>Government</sup> of Paris.

I informed Miss SPERI that she might be the subject of charges for offenses arising from the circumstances under which she left England in June, 1940. She was cautioned by me that she was not obliged to say anything and that anything she said might be used in evidence.

She then gave her personal particulars as indicated above, adding that both her parents were born in England, her mother being British by birth and parentage and her father being British born but of Italian parentage.

Continuing, she said that the first intimation which she had that any of the SPERI family intended to leave for Italy, was in May, 1940, when she learned from her half-brother - Hubert SPERI and his wife, Margaret, that they intended to make arrangements to leave for Italy.

She expressed a wish to accompany them but took no steps, personally, towards that end. On about 13 - 14th June, 1940, after the Italian declaration of war, she heard that her name was on a list for re-patriation to Italy. She could not remember who told her this but stated that it was one of the members of the family. Neither did she know who had made these arrangements on her behalf.

On about the above date she left London, at ~~Busby~~  
Station, with Hubert, his wife and child and went to the Port of Glasgow, where they boarded s/s "Monarch of Bermuda". She said that she was travelling without documents of any kind and was able to embark on the authority of her name being on the approved re-patriation list and being vouched for by an Italian Consular official who was in charge of the party.

They sailed to Lisbon and there changed to the Italian ship, "Conte Rosso", subsequently being landed at Messina, Sicily, going on immediately from there, via Naples to Rome.

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She was lodged at the Hotel Senato, Rome, and stayed there for about three years afterwards, except for a period of about three months, when she stayed with her half-brother, Hubert and his wife in Parma Province.

On about 12 July, 1942 she commenced work at the Swiss Legation, British and American Affairs Section, as a correspondence clerk, and since the Allied Occupation of Rome has been working at the American Embassy as a shorthand-typist. She has been living for about twelve months at Via Collins 23 (Int. 1), Rome. The aforementioned employment, she said, had been her sole employment whilst in Italy, apart from a few lessons in English which she gave in Rome in order to make a living prior to her becoming employed at the Swiss Legation in July, 1942.

She declared that she had never been employed by any department of the former Italian Government, but there is evidence that application was made through some third party for her employment at the Ministry of Popular Culture, Rome. When questioned about this, she said that she knew nothing about it and that the application must have been made on her behalf by friends, without her knowledge.

The document which was found at the Ministry of Popular Culture does not indicate in what capacity her employment was sought, nor does it show through whom the application was made. It is believed that her half brother - John C.A. SPERI - made the application on her behalf, but in any case the evidence found shows that the Ministry was not interested in employing her. *Tucci / Gale*

Louis V.GALI & Captain  
L. Allied Commission  
Rome

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Louis V. GALE Captain  
E.Q. Allied Commission  
Security Division.

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