

I. S. R-Employers

10000/148/1136
to: mail HS

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

Ref : SD/607

26 May 1945

Subject : Italian State Railways - Alleged demand of bribes.

To : Director Transportation Sub-Commission
(for attention of Col. Sieff).

1. As a result of the statement made by Mario CIUFFARELLA of Ferentino, exact address not given, I have to-day visited the Rome Divisional Transportation Office situated at 67, Via Regina Eleonor, Rome.

2. This office is under the control of Capt. E.W. DEAN (B) of Transportation Sub-Commission and the staff consists of two Italian employees of I.S.R., POLICICCHIO and FRANZINI and an interpreter. All occupy the same office and the staff are under the constant and personal supervision of Capt. DEAN.

3. It appears that on or about 1st May, 1945, CIUFFARELLA called at the offices to enquire as to whether he had been successful in securing the allocation of two railway trucks to transport agricultural machinery, he was told by FRANZINI to call on Monday or Tuesday of the following week when the allocations for that week would be known.

4. On Friday 4th May, FRANZINI states CIUFFARELLA entered the office and he told him in the future to knock before entering and not to smoke and later requested him to wait for the return of Capt. Dean. He was also told that he had been advised to call at the beginning of the following week and not on that day. After waiting for a little over half an hour CIUFFARELLA left saying he had other important business to do elsewhere.

5. Capt. Dean informs me that the bid of CIUFFARELLA was accepted and trucks would have been allotted owing to the importance of the goods to be moved, i. e., agricultural machinery but before the final allotment was made a man named Umberto PIZZUELLO asked if the bid could be transferred to him as he was now purchasing the machinery as CIUFFARELLA was unable to pay for it.

6. I closely questioned FRANZINI and he stoutly denies having even suggested that CIUFFARELLA should pay anything to secure trucks and I am

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6. I closely questioned FRANZINI and he stoutly denies having ¹⁹⁴⁵ suggested that CIUFFARELLA should pay anything to secure trucks and I am of the opinion he is speaking the truth. He told me that after CIUFFARELLA's last visit, PIZZUELLO called to enquire about the bid and attempted to give him some notes which he refused to accept.

7. I have no evidence to support this, but I think it is a possibility that CIUFFARELLA was perhaps acting as an agent for PIZZUELLO in securing rail transport and the high rate of commission demanded caused PIZZUELLO to try and secure it himself.

8. After interviewing the two railway employees in this Divisional office I am unable to find evidence to support the allegations of CIUFFARELLA and doubt if any such illegal demands could be made without Capt. Dean becoming aware of it as all work in the one small office.

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9. FRANZINI, the clerk who had all the dealings with CIUFFARELLA, has 26 years service with I.S.R. and was specially selected by POLICICCHIO who I understand holds quite an important position within this organization. As previously stated I am of the opinion that FRANZINI did not make any demands on CIUFFARELLA.

10. The original statement of CIUFFARELLA together with English translation is returned herewith.

A.H. Ellis
A.H. ELLIS,
Captain,
Security Division

AHE/bd

10-7-45

1239

TO : 10., Transportation Sub-Commission.

The undersigned, Mario Ciuffarella, Ferentino (Frosinone Prov) declares under his responsibility that on the 8th May 1945, went to the Allied Office (Capt. Dean) at the Capo Compartimento Rome asking for information about two bids for agriculture machinery, requested under the name of Pezzullo Umberto.

During the first visit, present Capt. Dean, I was received by assistant of Mr. Policicchio, who told me that he could not find my request saying that I should come back at 12,30 hrs. Coming back at that hour, still present Capt. Dean, the same clerk told me to wait in the corridor. In the meantime I saw Capt. Dean leave the office and soon afterwards I was called into the officem where we were alone.

Entering the clerk, the clerk told me that initially the bid had been accepted, but later it had to be cancelled for excess tonnage. Seeing no way the difficulties, I asked him to ask Capt. Dean in order to obtain the two cars, but he replied that it was impossible and that only way was to make some present to the personnel of the Allied Commission, Transportation Sub-Commission. He made me understand that 10,000 lire were needed for each car, at which request I observed that it was enormous and asked whether it was not possible to have a reduction (reduction to which I was prepared to consent, owing to the absolute need of the machinery). The clerk went to the phone speaking for 5 minutes. Coming back he told me that he had been able to reduce the figure to L. 3,000 for both cars. He asked me to bring him the 3,000 lire at 15,00 hours p.m.

Signed :

Mario Ciuffarella

Rome 9/5/45

1238

Spett. A.C. Sotto Commissione Trasporti - Roma.

Il sottoscritto Mario Ciuffarella da Ferentino (Frosinone) dichiara sotto la sua responsabilità, che il giorno 3-5-45 si è portato all'Ufficio Alleato (Capt. Dean) Capo Compartimento, Roma per chiedere informazione su due richieste di trasporto per macchinario agricolo a nome Rezzullo Umberto.

Durante la prima visita, presente il Capitano Dean, fui ricevuto dall'assistente del Sig. Polidichio il quale mi rispose che non trovava i documenti e mi pregava di tornare alle ore 12,30. Tornato a tale ora presente ancora il Capt. Dean lo stesso impiegato mi pregò di attendere nel corridoio dell'ufficio medesimo nel frattempo vidi il Sig. Capt. Dean allontanarsi; poco dopo fui nuovamente richiamato dalla persona suindicata nell'ufficio dove eravamo soli.

Appena entrato il suddetto impiegato mi faceva presente che la mia richiesta in un primo tempo era stata accettata ma che poi, per esuberanza di tonnellaggio la stessa era stata decisa. Trovatomi allora in condizioni disastrose perché nulla potei ottenere, chiesi allo stesso di pregare il Capitano suo Capo Ufficio affinché concludesse qualche cosa, questi mi rispose che era impossibile e che solamente tramite regalia al personale dell'ufficio competente della Sotto Commissione Alleata dei Trasporti si poteva ottenere qualche cosa. Lo stesso mi fece capire che per ottenere i carri occorrevano per lo meno L. 15.000 a carro, sentendo un prezzo così elevato io chiesi se si poteva avere una riduzione (riduzione alla quale io mi piegavo sempre per la necessità delle macchine). Questi a sua volta si mise al telefono e dopo aver parlato un cinque minuti riattaccò l'apparecchio dicendomi che aveva trattato con il personale dell'ufficio competente per L. 3.000 complessive, fui pregato di portare a lui le lire 3.000 nel pomeriggio, e con ciò fui congedato.

In fede.

Mario Ciuffarella

Roma, 9/5/45

1257

1633