

(SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH)

SECURITY INFORMATION

DISPATCH NO. NRMA 09735

**SECRET**  
CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, SR  
Chief, EE

DATE: 23 May 1952

FROM : Chief of Station, Frankfurt

~~KAROK~~

DESENSITIZED

SUBJECT: GENERAL—REDSOX/LCHOMELY

SPECIFIC— PRQ Part II of Mario K. Giordano

Ref: WASH 38920

As requested in reference, PRQ Part II for Mario K. Giordano is hereby forwarded.

Approved:

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AM	<del>OS</del>
AR	<del>OS</del>
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PS	
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DBB	WFD
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IR	ESP

Distribution:

- SR w/2 Att's. (direct)
  - 1 EE (direct)
  - 2 COS w/1 Att. [ ]
  - 2 MOB w/1 Att. [ ]
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To SR  
28 May 52  
f/ho KAROK

[ ]  
CLASSIFICATION

51-28A

130A-13

100H-18

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2006

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DESENSITIZED~~PERSONAL RECORD QUESTIONNAIRE

36. Mario K. Giordano.

37. Giordano tried to establish an intelligence contact with the U.S. in 1949 through Colonel SHIPP, on whose advice he sent two letters to Colonel Robert A. SCHOW, then Deputy Director for Intelligence Division, EUCOM. The letters were never answered, and Giordano's first contact was through [redacted] in December 1950, after [redacted] had recommended Giordano to [redacted] as the most qualified Estonian agent trainer. Giordano expressed to [redacted] his willingness to work on an American-Estonian enterprise, and reaffirmed this willingness when contacted by [redacted] jointly on 18 February 1951. A contact with Giordano was signed in September 1951.

38. Giordano could be turned over to any DYCLAIM officer by any other DYCLAIM officer through personal introduction or pre-arranged recognition signals.

39. Giordano is primarily motivated by a desire for the restoration of the independence of Estonia, and a personal desire to make that restoration possible through his own contribution. Strong feelings of patriotism, of love for country, and of his duty as a professional army officer combine to make this participation in the restoration the predominate motive for his actions. His secondary motivation is hatred of Communism, acquired through personal experience, and expressed in the belief that Communism will eventually destroy not only Estonia but the entire Western world if it is not combatted now. Not to be disregarded, is Giordano's desire to continue working in his profession, intelligence work, and particularly in his speciality, agent training and dispatch. Although Giordano is an extreme nationalist, this nationalism could be sublimated to Giordano's other motives. As attested by his war-time record, Giordano can be influenced to undertake anti-Communist work not related to Estonia if convinced that such an indirect contribution to the liberation of Estonia is the most valuable contribution he can now make, (particularly if this work lies within the field of agent training and dispatch). As stated in the carriage test, Giordano has considerable powers of auto-suggestion. This trait can be used to assist us in sublimating his motivation.

40. Giordano has been checked with CIC, ID EUCOM and DYCLAIM files which include, in the case of the latter, considerable biographical information obtained in British interrogations in 1945/6 with which biographical data submitted by Giordano conforms. No derogatory information has been received through traces.

41. The following factors contribute to our control of Giordano:

- A. Giordano's motivation as outlined in no. 39.
- B. Giordano's conception of soldier's honor on the basis of which he undertook work with DYCLAIM. (See his statement "Base of Work" forwarded as Attachment to MGMA 09625.)
- C. Physical presence of Giordano's wife and two sons in the U.S.
- D. Realization on the part of Giordano that only through our assistance can we hope to rejoin his family in the U.S. whether as an immigrant or a visitor.
- E. Realization on the part of Giordano that having turned down opportunities for emigration to countries other than the U.S., he now has little chance of leaving Germany without our assistance.

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Attachment to MGMA UJ135

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F. Financial dependence on his salary, increased by the necessity for maintaining his family in a separate location, and by his own realization that there are few remunerative jobs for displaced persons in Germany today.

Control over Giordano would be considerably increased by enabling him to emigrate to the U.S., which would bring him physically under U.S. government control, morally under obligation of loyalty to the U.S. above all other governments, and practically under our control during the probationary period before he could become a full citizen. Control would also be increased by giving Giordano an opportunity to do the type of work for which he was hired, as our inactivity and indecisiveness has led him to doubt our intentions, a doubt which will eventually lead to his feeling his obligations towards us less binding.

42. Until recently, Giordano stated that he did not know by which branch or cover organization of the AIS he was hired. He later claimed to have discovered the true name of the organization by deduction. As it was felt that further conversation on this point might give him an opportunity to deduce information he did not already have, no effort has been made to learn the accuracy of Giordano's deductions or whether they pertain to the real name of BYCLAIM or one of its cover organizations in Germany.

43. Giordano worked for the Estonian Intelligence Service from May 1929 until July 1940, attached throughout this period to the General Staff and from January 1934 to July 1940 to the Second Division of the General Staff in which he became director of subdivision A. Subdivision A was concerned with intelligence on western countries, controlled the Estonian attaches in those countries and liaised with foreign attaches stationed in Estonia. On 3 July 1940, Giordano was removed by the Soviets, subsequent to his refusal to work for the Soviets as an agent, and escaped with the assistance of CELLARIUS and KORNER. From July 1940 until July 1944, he worked with both the German and Finnish intelligence services against the Soviets, starting this work on his own request for the assistance of the Germans in working for the liberation of Estonia. His first assignment, from September 1940 to June 1941, was the compilation of reports on Soviet industry from studying Russian technical literature and newspapers in the National Scientific Division of I.G. Farben in Berlin. Concurrently he visited camps of resettled Volksdeutsche, many of whom were actually ethnic Estonians, trying to locate volunteers for work in the liberation of Estonia and disseminating confidential pamphlets in the camps to counteract Nazi propaganda and maintain the spirit of Estonian nationalism.

In June 1941 Giordano was released from I.G. Farben and was assigned to the German KOF which liaised with the Finnish Communications Division of the General Staff. His job was to instruct Estonian agents to be sent to Estonia, and to control communications with the dispatched agents. He continued this work in Tallinn, arriving there in September 1941 immediately after the liberation of Tallinn. In Tallinn he was assigned to Abwehrstelle I, and then to the Aufklärungskommando 102, until the latter left Estonia in mid-July 1944. From this time until May 1945, Giordano worked with the German intelligence service only. After a period of service as liaison officer, he transferred in October 1944 to Frontaufklarungs Kommando 166 (M) under Captain NEUMANN, again instructing and dispatching agents to Estonia. The teams he dispatched during this period were secretly instructed by him to remain in Estonia until it would be possible, at the end of the war, to make contact with the western allies and fight the Soviets

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with their aid. To accomplish this, while still in Rostock, Giordano sent two Estonians equipped with w/t sets through the German lines across the Elbe to contact the Americans and ask their assistance. The men were arrested by the Germans and the attempt failed. Giordano was himself interned for fifteen months after reporting himself to the British authorities in Hamburg on 4 May 1945. He remained in contact with the British until Spring 1947 when all of his men had been released and rehabilitated.

His connection with the British was then broken until Spring of 1950 when the British Intelligence Service recontacted him and he flew to London to discuss their offer. Giordano did not accept because the British could not guarantee the safety of his family in the case of emergency, and could offer him no hope of emigration. He did, however, serve as interrogator for the British in the case of the Estonian provocateur who arrived in Berlin as a German repatriate in 1950. So far as we can ascertain Giordano is not now in contact with any intelligence service other than DYCLAIH.

44. Giordano has furnished good information on the activities of Estonian emigre organizations, on individuals of potential operational use, and on former intelligence associates and their current activities. He is not primarily suited to information gathering although he is a capable and experienced intelligence interrogator.

45. Giordano was hired to be chief trainer and w/t instructor for the training and dispatch of an Estonian group, and was expected to assume the duties of recruiter and assessor if necessary in setting up the group.

46. Giordano has been given no training by DYCLAIH. Prior to World War II, he had experience in information compilation, intelligence liaison and collection, and wireless operation. During World War II he had experience in interrogation, recruiting and assessing agents, training Estonian and Russian agents, managing w/t communications for dispatched agents, and participated in the training and dispatch of the following teams:

- Five 3-man Estonian teams from Finland to Estonia in July 1941.
- Two 7-man Estonian teams from Finland to Russia in 1942.
- Five 3-man Russian teams from Finland or Pleskau to Russia in 1942/4.
- One 2-man Latvian team from Germany to Latvia in December 1944.
- One Estonian team from Germany to Estonia in December 1944.
- Five 3-man Estonian teams from Germany to Estonia in April 1945.

47. From personal and ex-professional contacts.

48. Giordano's contract, signed in September 1951, provided him with 700 DM per day on authorized trips, and 30 days notice on the part of either party prior to termination of service.

49. Giordano feels that commitments concerning aid for his emigration have been made although he realizes that he has no concrete basis on which to assume that these commitments bind us to a guarantee of his emigration.

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Giordano might be able to pass as a native German, but could not pass as native of any other country.

51. Middle class from lower middle-class family.

52. Giordano is extremely devoted to his family and is probably not subject to temptations of the opposite sex. He drinks very moderately and has an almost old maidish horror of excessive of which he has a fairly limited conception.

53. Giordano has strict concepts of honor and obligation to which he adheres, is sincere, intelligent, diligent, and does not consider himself above lowly tasks. He is extremely thorough and systematic, and used to very hard work. He is self-reliant and is capable of great self-discipline and of living an isolated life. As a professional army officer, Giordano is accustomed to receiving and following orders, some of which may be based on information to which he will never have access.

However, Giordano is inclined to stubbornness, which occasionally renders him difficult to handle. This can be counteracted by clearly defining, in writing, Giordano's job and the lines and limits of his authority in performing that job, and enforcing strict adherence to those limits.

54. Giordano would collaborate with any western power which could offer him the opportunity to work for the liberation of Estonia. He is personally opposed to the British, the Swedes, and the Germans, but would use the aid of any of these to accomplish this end. However, he feels that the U.S. offers the greatest if not the only hope of assistance to all the Communist-dominated countries and prefers collaboration with the U.S. to all other countries.

55. Giordano's language abilities, contacts with Estonians and with intelligence personalities, experience in the fields of intelligence collection, intelligence compilation, interrogation, w/t, agent instruction, agent operational planning and dispatch, as applied to Latvians and Russians as well as Estonians, make him suitable for the training of Estonian or non-Estonian agents for dispatch, or for various jobs such as: w/t instructor, interrogator, intelligence analyst, leg-man, interpreter, translator, paramilitary instructor, etc.

57. Personally from subject.

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