

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NICOLAE MALAXA, OSCAR COLCAINE AND MAXIM MAXIMO.

Max EDELSTEIN ^{letter} ~~known~~ as Maxim MAXIMO or MASSIMO is ~~known~~ ^{also known} in the files of the International Police as an "international swindler of wide-spread activities." He has been expelled, within the past few years, from Switzerland, France and Italy, and now makes his home in the Republic of San Marino. He is known to have done business on a large scale with Rumanian Communists and is suspected in some quarters of being a Soviet agent. He is reliably reported to have represented himself in 1946, in Switzerland, as handling commercial affairs in that country for the Russians.

MAXIMO was part owner of the OFINA Company in Switzerland in which the Rumanian Communist agent Sokvan VITIANU ^{bought a 50% interest in 1948} ~~was a partner~~. (VITIANU was accused of economic espionage by the Swiss, tried, sentenced and deported. MAXIMO was called as a witness for the prosecution and was ^{for this purpose} given safe passage by the Swiss for a single trip to their country. While it is true that MAXIMO did testify against VITIANU, it is known that, on the basis of later evidence procured by the Swiss, they ^{would} have a standing order out for his arrest in the event he enters Switzerland. He is regarded by them as well as by the Italian government, as a Cominform agent.

Another individual involved in the ownership of OFINA is Carlo FLEISCHMANN, a wealthy former Rumanian businessman who was at one time close to King CAROL II. FLEISCHMANN is now reportedly acting as business representative ^{Rumanian arms magnate} in Switzerland for Nicolae MALAXA. FLEISCHMANN is ~~known~~ known to be associated in business with Emil BUEHLE, Swiss arms dealer who is also in contact with Karl Communist SCHARZENBOICH, known agent for the Soviet and Rumanian interests.

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MAXIMO is a friend of the former United States Assistant Military
Attache in Bern, Oscar COLCAIRE.

It appears that when TIME magazine published an article on MAXIMO
(August 1949) which was not very favorable to him, embodying as it did the
suspicions of certain San Marinense that he is a Cominform agent, ^{the editors} ~~they~~ received
a communication from COLCAIRE defending MAXIMO and indicating that the latter
had ~~been~~ rendered assistance to the United States immediately after the war.
^{the editors' reply}
He sent a copy of ~~his~~ ^{the} ~~letter~~ ^{editors' reply} and of the offending magazine article to MAXIMO,
pointing out that he had come to the latter's defense,
dated 15 August 1949

In another letter, COLCAIRE ~~expressed his interest in MAXIMO~~
~~and~~ asks MAXIMO to let him know in what way he can be
of help and how we can work together to clear your name and to do business in
the future. *He acknowledges the basis for U.S. suspicion.*

Another allusion of interest in this letter is to a situation between
MAXIMO and MALAXA, indicating some mutual interest in the past. To quote COLCAIRE,
"I understand that you have a question with him (Malaxa) but I know none of the
details. He has never spoken to me against you in any way. If you feel that you
have a just claim why don't you write me all of the details and what you want and
why you believe you should have it. My experience with MR. MALAXA has been that he
is not unreasonable and if there is any basis for your claim, he would do the right
thing. If he feels that what you want is not justified by the circumstances and is not
warranted, I also know that under no circumstances would he say anything." He also
states "I will not work against MALAXA but I firmly believe that it will be to your
future interest to work with him."

(MALAXA)
He is a strong and brilliant man and he has
gathered many Americans around him who are powerful and who believe in him and are
helping him in his defense against the attacks of his Rumanian enemies here."

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The following quotation may shed some light on the nature of the relationship mentioned above between MAXIMO and MALAXA. It is taken from a statement made by one Dan DRAGOMIRESCU, former Administrative Director General of the Malaxa Works in Bucharest (now nationalized). In this statement, DRAGOMIRESCU alleges that in 1946 MALAXA was in ^{close} touch, in Paris, with Ion MAURER, then Under Secretary for National Economy and member of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Communist Party. He also states that at that time "Mr. MALAXA and his collaborator FULGA, Alfred, had as their business representative in Paris Mr. MAXIMOS, now expelled from France and Switzerland." (This apparently refers to MAXIMO who ~~has~~ has been expelled from France and Switzerland in the meantime.)

Oscar Gleason, in a letter to Maximo dated 15 August 1949, has stated: "You attempt to do business with the Communists in Rumania & your association with VIZIANU (Vitamin) in Switzerland has of course left a black spot against you around the United States."

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