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VIA: Air Pouch
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DISPATCH NO. MSBA-2610

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, Foreign Division

DATE: 23 December 1949

FROM []

SUBJECT: GENERAL

SPECIFIC

Re: MSBA-2505 []

No. 5

8 December - Zurich

After you had left I went to eat in the Hotel St. Gotthard and as it was crowded, sat down at a table with a man who later, when he noticed I was reading an English book, started to talk to me in very good English. On finishing dinner he invited me for a coffee somewhere near where there was an orchestra. He finally gave me his name as William SCHMIDT, living in Bern, but always traveling about Switzerland and very often in Lugano. He seemed very reluctant to tell me what he did, but asked if he might ring me when in Lugano. I gave him my number and then asked him for his. He hedged and said he could only give me Poste Restante, Bern, but if I were coming up to write him there and we could meet for dinner in Bern. We went on to a bar for a drink and I had noticed he had a small address book where he noted down my address which he left in his overcoat pocket. I pretended to go to the WC and went to our overcoats and took a look at it. In the front was, William SCHMIDT, Police des Etrangers, Bern.

Our meeting was an accident, for it was I who sat at his table, but he has telephoned me twice from Bern during these last twelve days, asking if I was coming up and if we could not meet for dinner either in Bern or Zurich. I said I had no business to take me up at the moment, but would telephone him if I could when I might be coming. He replied that since he was always traveling he could not give me a number, but would ring up again and see if we could not arrange a meeting. (NOTE: In reply to source's question as to how he should conduct himself at any future meetings with SCHMIDT, we told him to play his perfectly normal role. We considered the possibility that SCHMIDT's strange action in calling source twice from Bern after this casual meeting might indicate he had looked up

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MSBA-2610
23-12-19

He was in a hurry to get off before the snow got any worse, and rushed off to put his car on the train at Biasca to cross the Gotthard.

In December

Off to Milano at 10:48, and directly to lunch with Mr. GOLLIAN and his lawyer, Dr. BOLDINI (MSBA-2252), Via Trivio 35, Milano. Dr. GOLLIAN and I have known each other since 1945 when I met him in the "entourage" of Cardinal JONAS, for whom he is lawyer. Together we worked out the "Domanda" for GOLLIAN's passport, and GOLLIAN put in a long distance telephone call to Rio de Janeiro for me to speak with Don Carlo FIOCCHE (MSBA-2504) who is there on an official mission for the Vatican, and staying at the Italian Embassy there. I explained to Don Carlo what I needed for documents about the gift of the villa at Pisco to the Italian Government and the one hundred million endowment that GOLLIAN has just given to the Italian Government for the upkeep of the villa. Don Carlo was most friendly and said if I could notify him when the papers were to MARAZZA (MSBA-2509) in Rome he would have the Vatican put a little pressure on MARAZZA to sign them and get them up before the Council of Ministers as soon as possible.

Meeting with CIGARINI (MSBA-2505, 2458, etc.) at his office but Madame RUSSOLINI present and no talk possible. (NOTE: Madame RUSSOLINI is Bruno MUSCOLINI's wife and CIGARINI's mistress. See MSB-W-1171/).

Meeting with friend MARAZZA (WASH-573, MSBA-2505, etc.) who will not be ready for Spain before the New Year as he is waiting for the key from the mother of the German. Reports that business with gift packages most successful, and to note his complete new outfit, new watch, etc., I should say he must be telling the truth. He started to say he had a lot to tell me about orders for his partisans, but I was most uninterested, and got him immediately off on something else, and let him see that I definitely was not very interested. (NOTE: This was in compliance with our instructions to go very slow and cautiously with MARAZZA for the moment. As remarked to source at the time, the above description of source's disavowal of interest does not sound very subtle, but source assured us it was all done perfectly normally and should have made the right impression).

I incidentally checked on the LOMBARDO () protecting him, and he formerly was Minister of Foreign Trade, but at present is secretary of the PSI (Italian Socialist Party), and is forming a new dissention group in the Saragat party, now considered too rightist, and his group will vote with PCI and Nenni party. This should check on MARAZZA then, as this protection was probably asked for by PCI and put into effect by LOMBARDO.