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DISPATCH NO. MSB-W-2209

SECRET
CLASSIFICATION

DATE: 6 July 1960

TO: Chief, Foreign Division M

FROM: Operational

SUBJECT: GENERAL - Michel OLIAN
SPECIFIC - Reference - MSBW-2102

1. The attached is a translation from a photostatic copy of a statement made by Michel OLIAN and Don Carlo GNOCCCHI before Gabriele QUINCO, Chief Commissioner of the P.S. and Dr. Vincenze AONESINA, Quastore of Milan.

2. This report was received from the same source as the material in the reference document. Source described the "SMITH" mentioned by OLIAN as being identical with Malcomb SMITH, formerly of British SCI in Italy. MSB-2509 reported that ARNOLDI attended the meeting, being introduced to OLIAN as Major STAFFORD-SMITH.

3. You will note there are various discrepancies between this statement and those made in the attachment to MSBW-2102.

Att.

Reg. No.

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INDEX

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INTELLIGENCE	
JUL 17 1960	
INTEGRATION DIVISION	
CONTACT	INDEX

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FORM NO. 51-29
APR 1957

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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Attachment

On this day, 4 July 1949, in the Questura of Milan, Mr. Michele OLYANS, son of Anna CHAFF and Leone OLYANS (both deceased), born at Riga on 27 July 1897, residing at the Hotel Principe de Savoia in Milan, Latvian citizen, banker by profession, declares the following:

Before the war I met Mr. JONES, an American. In 1947 I saw him again in Zurich, and about two weeks ago I met him in Milan. Since I knew that he was chief of the American Secret Service, I explained to Mr. JONES the difficult position I was in due to the fact that I had no passport and I was often obliged to travel in Europe for my business affairs. My position is that of a man without a country, and I am always subjected to lengthy bureaucratic delays.

Mr. JONES promised to help me. In fact, last Saturday, the 1st, when I was at the Hotel Principe di Piemonte in Turin on a business trip, he sent two gentlemen who introduced themselves to me in his name and stated that they were Colonel CROSS, English, and Major SMITH.

They told me that both my wife and I would obtain Italian passports at once, and also that in about three months the decree to become Italian citizens would be issued.

This surprised me, and believing, obviously, that some illegal money deal was involved, I asked them if and how much I would have to pay for these concessions. The two gentlemen replied that I would not have to pay anything for the passports, but that I would have to contribute the sum of two million lire to a charity institution which they themselves would indicate. They also stated that when I got the passports I myself could take them to the Questura and have their authenticity checked. It was understood then that they would telephone me today to tell me the date the passports would be delivered.

In spite of our agreements, my suspicions were aroused. I went to Rome and made a point of checking at the British Embassy to see if the two above-mentioned persons were indeed favorably known at the Embassy. It was confirmed that they were, but nevertheless I thought it best to make further inquiries, so yesterday I went to see Don GNOCCHI, with whom I had discussed some two months previously the possibility of obtaining Italian passports and citizenship through him in exchange for a villa of mine at Castelpessano which I had given to the Institute of War-Crippled Children of which Don GNOCCHI is director.

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I add that I had stated to Don GNOCCHI that if my request was granted I would make another gift of ten million lire to his Institute.

I explained to Don GNOCCHI everything that the two English gentlemen sent to me by Mr. JONES had told me, and he accompanied me this morning to the Questura to see Commissioner VECCHIONE of the Foreigners' Office and then to see the Masters.

According to our agreements, I waited until 1:00 P.M. for the two men to telephone me and arrange another appointment. But at 1:00 P.M. they and Mr. JONES came to the Hotel Principe di Savoia and delivered the two passports to me, one made out in my name and the other in my wife's name, issued by the Questura of Rome and bearing the numbers 1708111 and 1708112 respectively.

Upon receiving the passports I asked when I should pay the two million lire. They replied that there was no hurry; after the decrees relative to my Italian citizenship had been published in the Official Italian Gazette, we would discuss the matter again.

At 4:30 P.M. I went to Commissioner VECCHIONE and then to you to hand over the passports. As requested, I am now making this declaration.

To whom it May Concern: --I Have never conducted any informative activities on behalf of the English and American Services or of any other nation, and I am not disposed to undertake any such activities on behalf of anyone.

Read, confirmed, and subscribed to.

Olyans Michele

In the presence of the undersigned who affixes his signature as a confirmation of that part of the document which concerns him.

Don Carlo GNOCCHI

Gabriele BURDO, Chief Commissioner of
Public Security

Dr. Vincenzo AGNESINA, Questore of Milan

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