Memo: PIR-850

SCI Unit 2

7 January 1947

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TO : AC of S, G-2 (CI), AFH,

SUBJECT: Interrogation of Kerl WILBACKER, Abwehr I (H) Agent

SOURCE: SCI/Z ____

EVAL. : B-2

1. Attached hereto is interrogation report of Subject prepared by this Unit.

- 2. Subject was arrested in Como, Italy on 5 August 1946 by the Como Questura and placed at the disposition of SCI/Unit/Z, Genos.
- 3. It is recommended that Subject be interned and sent to Germany for internment in an Allied camp.
- 4. May your decision be conveyed to 3 District, Northern Detachment, for onward transmission to our Genos unit?

JAMES ANGLETON
Capt., Inf.,
C.O. - SCI/Z Units

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SECRET



Karl WILBACHER

I. Personal Details

Date and place of birth
Address
Family Address
Profession
Education
Languages
Tarital status
Height
Build
Hair
Tyes
Complexion
Touth

Other characteristics

Stuttgart, Germany, 15 September 1395
6 riazza Alessandro Volta, Como, Italy
90 Corso Impero, San Remo, Italy
Businessman
High school diploma
German, French, Italian, English, Esperanto
Divorced
1.67 m.
Slender
Smooth, grey, bald in front
Light brown
Dark
Small
Emstache; wears glasses.

2. Father Mother Brother

.ife

Sons

Martin (deceased)
Adolfina MAYIR (deceased)
Wilhelm, 48 years old, businessman,
living in Friedrichhafen, Germany.
Clara LLVI, living in San Remo;
divorced since 1943.
Vittorio, 23 years old, working as a
clerk, living with his mother in S. Remo.
Rolando, 22 years old, student, living
with his mother in S. Remo.

II. Circumstances of Arrest and Interrogation

1. He was arrested in Como on 5 August 1946 by the Como Questura and handed over to Genoa Unit.

III. Organization for which he worked

1. He is suspected of having worked as an agent for ABABHR I (H), listed in the German Primer.

IV. Early Life

- 1. Subject was born in Stuttgart, and lived there with his family, pursuing his studies until the age of 17, when he received his high school diploma. Soon after, in January 1913, he went to Paris to perfect himself in optics and the French language.
- 2. In the Ophthalmic Institute in Paris he met an anglo-American oculist, Dr. John EDMARDS, with whom he went to North Africa six months later, to study eye diseases. Subject made this trip as Dr. EDMARD's secretary, and together with he and other doctors, visited many parts of North Africa.
- 3. Early in July 1914 Subject, Dr. EDMARDS, and two other doctors, sailed from Tunis for Italy, landing in Genoa, where Dr. EDMARDS had an exhibit of optical equipment which he had had imported. Later, Dr. EDMARDS opened an ophthalmic institute on Via XX Settembre, and Subject continued to be in his confidence.
- 4. In April 1915, a month before Italy entered the first World Mar, Subject left Dr. nDWARDS and went to Lugano, Switzerland. After the war was declared, Dr. nDWARDS closed his institute and went to London.
- 5. During the first few months in Lugano, Subject did not succeed in finding work, and received financial aid from Dr. ED.TARDS, with whom he corresponded. Later, Subject worked as the representative of the MARTELOTA brothers (of Roman origin), sellers of foodstuffs; and in his spare time he gave Esperanto lessons. Eventually he represented other companies, Degailler Dessus (in French Switzerland), and another firm in German Switzerland.

- 6. In 1915, the German Consul in Lugano forwarded him an order to return to Germany for military service. Subject did not obey this order, and was declared in default. He continued to live in Lugano, but subject to the control of the Swiss police, to whom he had to report twice a week because he no longer had valid documents, having been declared in default for disobeying the draft order. After the armistice, Subject was once again granted his regular German passport.
- 7. In 1919, Subject came to Italy as representative of various Swiss candy companies, including the Courvoier Co., in Versoix, and visited many Italian cities in this capacity. In Varese he opened a warehouse of his products, which he sold in many cities. He chose 16 Via Crocifisso, Milan as his residence. He traveled back and forth between Italy and Switzerland in connection with this work.
- 10. In Lugano he met Mrs. Clara VON ANDRASSY, wife of Count Gyula VON ANDRASSY, at a party in the home of friends. He subsequently became very friendly with Clara (nee LEVI), and eventually became her lover. The Count divorced her, and Subject married her in 1923. They went to live in Milan.
- Il. In Italy Subject had several traveling salesman working under him, selling his candy products all over the country. Subject himself made frequent trips abroad, to Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Germany, to buy new products which he brought to Italy. His salesman in Italy sold their goods and sent him the profits, to be used in making new purchases. Finally, however, these salesman sold him out and kept the profits for themselves, depriving him of all his capital. As a result, he was forced to go to Germany to initiate another line of work. He went to Magonza, Germany, where his father—in—law, Moses LaVI, had a textile warehouse, and went into business with him.
- 12. In 1924, when he had saved a sum of money, he returned to Italy and settled in San Remo. In this city he worked as representative of German and Austrian publishing and fine art houses, such as the Wolf Verlag of Munich, the Arthur WOLF company in Vienna, and the Knit Ehirlick of Berlin, on behalf of which he traveled all over Italy and Switzerland, making large profits.
- 13. In January 1925, Subject opened a bookstore of his own in San Remo, which his wife ranged. Later he opened another at Alassio and Mervi, and one at Viareggio during the summer months. In 1928-9 he made an agreement with the creditors of the San Remo bookstore, and eventually gave up the Alassio, Mervi and Viareggio bookstores.
- 14. In 1930, he opened the International Agency on Via Vittorio Manuele in San Remo, which handled the buying, selling and leasing of real estate, the administration of houses, collecting rent, etc. He and his wife worked together in this agency, and made a great deal of money. This work took him to the French cities on the border Menton, Montecarlo, Nice, etc.
- 15. After Hitler came to power in Germany, Subject made several trips to Germany to help Jews escape to Italy, his agency having been recommended for this work by Jews in Italy. He also worked as an intermediary in effecting the exchange of real estate, allowing German Jews to exchange their property in Germany for Aryan property in Italy. This exchange was sanctioned by both German and Italian law. These activities, which were highly remunerative, were brought to an end by the introduction of anti-Semitic laws in Italy.

V. METLBACHER's First Contact with an Information Service

1. In 1934 or 1935 an agent of the Venezia insurance company in San Remo, whom Subject had met in the course of his business dealings, asked Subject to give him information on certain foreigners in San Remo. This request was repeated frequently, and Subject finally thought best to inquire about the purpose to which this information was to be put. The agent said that his "chief" wanted the information - "his chief", whose name he did not give, being a very influential person who had free entry to the Prefect's office.

- 2. A few days later the agent of the Venszia came to see him and told him that San Remo was the center for an organization which was working for the annexation of the Upper Adige to Austria. Because of Subject's extensive acquaintances among foreigners, he was requested to help uncover this organization. The Venezia agent said that he had already mentioned Subject to his "chief", who had asked to see him in Bordighera a meeting which took place a few evenings later, in the hotel facing the Bordighera station.
- 3. They had a snack in the dining room of the hotel, and the "chief" questioned Subject about his general background and asked to see his passport. After Subject had handed his passport to him, he asked to be allowed to keep it for a few days, but Subject refused unconditionally. The "chief" had at first insisted, but had to submit to Subject's decision. He asked Subject to furnish information on certain persons, and Subject at first agreed to do so, but changed his mind and told him the following day that he was not prepared to collaborate with him. Subject never saw the "chief" after that, and his further contacts with the agent of the Venezia were of a strictly business nature.

VI. CETIBACHER's Meeting with 'r. and Mrs. SCHOLTZ

- 1. In april 1940 the German Consul in San Remo, Galbal, referred to Subject a certain Mrs. Imgeborg SCHOLTZ (nee STAPHAN, daughter of Theodor) who had just come from Berlin and was looking for a villa in San Remo. She did not find a villa to her liking, and took a furnished apartment on Corso degli Inglesi (Casa Berigo). A month later she received a carload of antique furniture, silverware, rugs, valuable paintings, etc., which had come to Italy through regular channels. Since Mrs. SCHOLTZ did not speak Italian, she left everything to Subject, who took care of the arranging of her house.
- 2. Early in May 1940 her husband arrived in San Remo and introduced himself to Subject as Gunther Hermann SCHOLTZ, ministerial counsellor of the German Ministry for Martime Production (his passport was issued by the ministry). At first SCHOLTZ visited Subject frequently at his agency, but his visits became more and more rare, and his attitude toward Subject more frigid. SCHOLTZ left for Milan two or three days before Italy entered the war.
- 3. On 10 June 1940, when Italy entered the war, irs. SCHOLTZ called and asked Subject to translate the Duce's speech declaring Italy's entry into the war side by Side with Germany.
- 4. The next day French airplanes made their first appearance over San Remo, and bombs fell near the SCHOLTZ house. Fro. SCHOLTZ was frightened, and again called Subject asking him to find means of transport enabling her to leave San Remo. Her husband had telephoned to her from Milan telling her to leave at once with their more valuable possessions. Subject succeeded in finding a vehicle into which he loaded fro. SCHOLTZ, her child and their valuables. They went to Genoa, where officials of the German Consulate General were awaiting her at the Colombo Hotel. The following day she left for Milan, and thence for Lake Garda, from where Subject later received news.
- 5. In September 1940 Mrs. SCHOLTZ returned with her child, Marion, a girl of 8 years, and took the same apartment in San Remo. Her husband returned to Germany. Mrs. SCHOLTZ demonstrated her gratitude to Subject by Inviting him often to her home. Their friendship became very close, and Subject alone was entrusted with Mrs. SCHOLTZ's affairs. Her husband came to visit the family in San Remo in November 1940.
- 6. On this occasion, SCHOLTZ came to thank Subject for all that he had done for his wife and child, and explained that previously he had been very cool toward him because the Nazi authorities in San Remo and the province of Imperia considered him to be an anti-Nazi and a suspected agent of the Deuxieme Bureau. SCHOLTZ warned him to be careful because the Nazi authorities were looking for an excuse to have him interned in Germany. He also advised Subject to divorce his Jewish wife, whom the authorities termed an "enery". SCHOLTZ left after a few days to return to Germany.
- 7. Mrs. SCHOLTZ told Subject that, in addition to being a counsellor of the Ministry of Wartime Production, her husband was also director of a chemical, pharrescutical, and dye syndicate, which had factories and branches all over Europe.

Branches in Italy were the S.A. Bohringer company in Milan and the Italcasa in Trieste, the latter being ceded subsequently to Montecatini, but with SCHOLTZ continuing as a member of the board of directors.

- 8. The declaration of war had paralyzed the work of the International agency; and when SCHOLTZ returned to San Remo in February or Murch 1941, Subject asked him for work as representative in Italy of the dyes of the Borlin company. This assignment was given him, but Subject was unsuccessful in his attempts to sell the products in Italy. In the meantime the Berlin firm sent word that it would not be able to export any more of its products for the time being because they were needed in Germany. SCHOLTZ advised him to apply at the Italcasa in Trieste, but Subject did not receive a favorable reply, because the firm was being reorganized.
- 9. Subject had in the meantime become Frs. SCHOLTZ's lover, and through her husband obtained in the spring of 1941 a laissex-passer for France (in two languages, French and German; a white card with a red line, issued in Paris by the Franco-German authorities and valid for crossing line of demarcation). The following itinerary was indicated on the paissex-passer: Paris, Marseilles, Mice, and vice versa. With this document Subject was able to travel almost anywhere in France. Subject had this pass renewed every three months through SCHOLTZ. Apart from the laissex-passer, Subject also applied for an exit and reentry visa at the Imperia suestura.
- 10. Subject continued to frequent the home of irs. SCHOLTZ. In the summer of 1941, Subject told her of his fear that he might be drafted, since other Germans living in the province of Imperia had been called up. Mrs. SCHOLTZ reassured him, saying that she would speak to her husband when he returned to San Remo, and that he would arrange everything. She explained that her husband was very influential, and confided that he was a member of the ABJER, depending directly from the Berlin head parters.
- 11. Then SCHOLTZ returned to San Remo in October 1941, he told his wife that she was to return to Berlin with all their household equipment. It was at this time that Subject began to work for SCHOLTZ.

VII. WEILBACHER'S Introduction to the ABWEHR

- 1. On the occasion of this trip, SCHOLTZ also went to Monte Carlo, taking Subject along with him. In Monte Carlo, SCHOLTZ stayed at the Hotel de Paris, while Subject went to the Hotel de Russie. In Monte Carlo SCHOLTZ told Subject that his wife had mentioned to him Subject's fear of being drafted and gave him to understand that he would take preventive measures.
- 2. In the course of their conversations, SCHOLTZ told Subject that he belonged to the ABAMIR and that in this service he visited the leading capitals of Surope.
- 3. SCHOLTZ promised Subject that from time to time he would give him a job to do, and told him to refer to him at once if he had any difficulty in San Remo about the draft or with the Mazi leaders. Subject accepted these proposals gladly.
- 4. Shortly thereafter, SCHOLTZ asked Subject to go to Marseilles to buy back copies for the last two months of the newspaper "Le Semafore" a navigation daily sold at all the newstands and published in Marseilles. Men Subject returned, SCHOLTZ asked him what his expenses had been, and paid for all the cost of the trip, including food and lodging.
- 5. Subject insists that for this and for other commissions done for SCHOLTZ he received no fixed pay nor indeed any pay at all except traveling expenses.
- 6. SCHOLTZ told him that he would extract interesting information from the French newspapers bought by the Subject to be sent to the service in Berlin, and boasted that he was able to do quickly what others would spend a great deal of time doing. Subject cannot, however, furnish any particulars on this work, for SCHOLTZ did not allow him to share in it.

- 7. SCHULTZ returned to Germany without having again gone to Italy. Subject returned from Monte Carlo to San Remo and helped irs. SCHULTZ to send her furniture to Germany.
- 8. In January 1942 SCHOLTZ who had just come from Paris, invited Subject to go to Monte Carlo, and Subject went to see him there at the Hotel de Paris. They had a conversation in the course of which SCHOLTZ asked Subject to find a neutral ship to be used by the German Nevy. This ship was to be sent to Italy to be used as a target for the aeric-torpedo school set up by the Germans in Italy. Subject at once began to make inquiries, and finally found a Danish ship in Marseilles harbor, the captain of which said that the firm which owned it would be willing to give it up. SCHOLTZ had gone back to Berlin in the meantime, and Subject wrote to him at the company of which he was the director, without receiving a reply.
- 9. In December 1941, Mrs. SCHOLTZ and her daughter had left for Garmisch-Patenkirchen, to pass the holidays with SCHOLTZ. In February 1942, all the SCHOLTZ family came back to San Remo and took a furnished apartment on Via Giorgi Pallavicini which Subject found for them. When Subject mentioned the Danish ship to him, SCHOLTZ said that he was no longer interested in it.
- 10. A few days later, SCHOLTZ and Subject went to farseilles to exchange an old painting which SCHOLTZ had bought from a Russian antique dealer named Zaccarias (Zaccarias BIRTSCHANSKY), formerly living in a small hotel in Marseilles the name of which Subject has forgotten. The latter had previously had a shop in Paris, and SCHOLTZ had been his client for some time. In Marseilles, SCHOLTZ took a room in the Hotel de Moailles which he had reserved, while Subject stayed in another small hotel the name of which he does not remember. The next day they went to see BIRTSCHANSKY to exchange the painting, and to make up the difference SCHOLTZ paid \$500. He also bought an antique jewel case for which he paid in dollars. BIRTSCHANSKY's wife was present at this transaction.
- 11. Subject says that SCHOLTZ gambled heavily and often visited the San Remo Casino and Monte Carlo. He always had large sums of money in foreign currency, particularly dollars.
- 12. On the occasion of the aforementioned transaction, BIRTSCHAWSKY mentioned a finteretto which he wanted to sell. Subject expressed his interest, wanting to take it to Italy. He asked for a photograph of the painting. BIRTSCHAWSKY did not have one on hand, but promised to bring one to him the next time he went to Monte Carlo.
- 13. After about 24 hours in Marseilles, Subject and SCHOLTZ left for Nonte Carlo. SCHOLTZ stayed at the Hotel de Paris, but Subject proceeded on his way back to San Remo. During the stay in Marseilles, SCHOLTZ had left Subject alone for a time, to attend to affairs related to his service. During the return trip from Marseilles to Monte Carlo, SCHOLTZ repeated to Subject the necessity of divorcing his Jewish wife, since severe measures were being taken against Aryans married to Jews and not yet divorced.

VIII. SCHOLTZ: Additional Details

- 1. SCHOLTZ is now about 48 or 49 years old. He is a native of Silesia, and has degrees in law and national economy. During the first world are he had been an artillery officer and had the rank of captain when he was discharged.

 Among other decorations he had the Iron Cross of the first order. After the 1918-9 armistice, he tried his hand at journalism, and then entered big business in the Rhine and Ruhr regions.
- 2. In his capacity as director of the DIMAG Chemical-Pharmaceutical Syndicate in Berlin, SCHOLTZ traveled continually to the leading cities in Europe (Brussels, Paris, Amsterdam, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, Bucharest, Belgrade, Sofia, and later Man and Trieste, and even Madrid).

The Berlin office had acquired, or was acquiring, chemical factories in those cities, which it was SCHAITA's duty to visit and inspect. These factories were acquired with discretion, in order not to arouse the suspicion of the country in which they were located. In a conversation which Subject had with SCHOLTZ in San Remo, the latter once said that he was very much worried because he needed a million pengoes to buy a pharmaceutical products factory in Budapest. SCHOLTS did not want to go to the German or Hungarian currency exchange agencies, and asked Subject to help him, since he had had wide experience in export problems, etc. Subject, therefore, made a deal with the Hungarian Ladislas KANITZ, co-owner of the flower export firm (Antonio CALCAGNO) in San Remo, whereby a million pengoes worth of flowers would be sent to Hungary, payment to be made in Italy in lire. (KANITZ knew nothing about the purpose to which the pengoes would be put in Hungary.) In this manner SCHOLTZ would have at his disposal the necessary capital, without arousing any suspicion. This plan was not carried out, however, because SCHOLTZ found another means. The factories acquired in this way retained their original names and personnel, but were directed by Germans sent from Berlin. Subject recalls that the director of the Hilan factory was the German SILBERZAHN.

- 3. It is Subject's opinion that SCHOLTZ's work on behalf of the Diwag corporation served as cover for his ABJEHR work. Then SCHOLTZ went to France, he always did his best not to appear to be a German. He always wore civilian clothes, and with Subject he always used the same name. No one would normally have suspected him of counter-intelligence work, because he always introduced himself as an official of the Ministry of Wartims Production. Subject says that SCHOLTZ was extremely reserved with him, and tole him only activities which he considered unimportant.
- 4. SCHOLTZ had a mistress in Monte Carlo name Jo. He had brought her from Paris, and she stayed with him at the Hotel de Paris. Subject states that in the summer of 1942 he took her to Berlin, and he is of the opinion that she was certainly his confident. In the fall of 1943 he took her to Madrid, where he had shortly before sent his wife and daughter. Thus he took both his wife and his mistress to Spain, providing for them through chemical establishment there. Subject never saw any of them after they left for Spain, and received no news from them.

IX. The Tintoretto Affair

1. At the end of March 1942, Subject went to Monte Carlo and saw BIRTSCHAMSKY in a hotel the name of which he does not remember. The latter gave him a photograph of the Tintoretto, fixing the price of the painting at 300,000 lire. It was agreed that the sum should be deposited in Florence with a person or bank to be designated by BIRTSCHAMSKY, since he intended to buy a villa or building near Florence where he would pass his declining years. SCHOLTZ had promised to clear him with the Italian authorities, thus facilitating his entry into Italy. Soon afterwards, Subject returned to San Remo and had several reproductions of the photograph made which he sent to various contacts all over Italy, offering to sell the painting for 1,500,000 lire.

X. Margherita SASSEN, GERKE, and Count FERPANCHE

- 1. In April 1942, a German woman named BERTRAND who had married an Italian and was living in San Remo introduced Subject to Margherita SASSEN, who was living in San Remo, in the home of a Swiss woman, Mrs. BERTSCHINGER, at No. 2 Corso 23 Marzo. (This house was requisitioned when SASSEN was arrested.)
- 2. SASSEN received money from Switzerland, the source and purpose of which was unknown to Subject; and also German acquaintances who had come to San Remo for a vacation or rest sometimes gave her Italian money before they left, exchanging lire for the marks sent by her family in Germany.
- 3. A certain GERKE, a friend of Subject, invited him to go to Rome. GERKE had previously lived in San Remo, and was then in Rome as interpreter for the ITALUFT or LAFL MAFFE. Subject decided to go spend a few days in Rome with his friend, but before leaving, he arranged with SASSAN to make the trip also, for she had expressed the desire to visit Rome.

She went to Rome shortly after he did, and he met her at the station. SASJEN also stayed in GERKE's home, a furnished apartment on Via (or Vicolo) San Pietro. She became Subject's mistress at this time. They returned to San Remo after about 4 days.

- 4. During his stay in Rome, Subject chanced to meet a certain Count PPRPANCHE at a German mess. GERKE had introduced PERPANCHE to Subject in San Remo while he was still living there. Count PERPANCHE belonged to an old family of the French nobility which had gone to Germany centuries ago to escape the religious persecutions (Huguenot). Count PERPANCHE had lived for a while in California, and then in Italy, settling first in Bolzano and later in San Remo. He was known to be anti-Fascist and anti-Nazi, and preferred to live in poverty in San Remo rather than go to Germany. At the end of 1941 he was called to serve as interpreter for the German army and was sent to Sicily. In Catania he was arrested by the Italian police because the Bolzano juestura had reported him to be anti-Fascist. He was sent from Catania to Rome to undergo a psychiatric examination, and was later sent to Munich. Subject heard nothing further concerning him.
- 5. GERKE was formerly a Naval (submarine) officer, during the first world war, and as such still receives a pension from the German State. He was married to a woman whose father was Aryan but whose mother was a Jewess. For this reason he had not been rehabilitated as an officer, but was called to serve as an interpreter. He was dismissed by the ITALUFT later for his anti-Mazi views.
- 6. In 1938, Margherita SASSEN had left Germany to go to Nice to visit a friend, a certain Kate CLETHTS (? Katbe Klementz), a woman of German origin but married to an Englishman. She lived at the Alhambra Hotel at her friend's expense. In 1940, she was interned by the French, but released after the French armistice and sent to Germany via Italy. Passing through San Remo, she stayed there for a time, awaiting the approval of the Italian authorities, which she eventually received and continued on her way to Germany. During her internment in France she had developed kidney trouble, and doctors advised her to live in a mild climate. Since the German climate was not conducive to her good health, she requested and obtained the permission of the German authorities to go to Italy. She decided to live in San Remo.
- 7. During her stay in Nice, she met an Austrian Woman, Ars. MASLOUM, who was married to a Brazilian Jew who was later arrested by the Gestapo and interned in the Trancy camp.

XI. The Tintoretto Again

- 1. Before leaving Rome, Subject asked GERKE to try to sell the Tintoretto, and sent him a photograph of the painting from San Remo. Subject did not leave San Remo again until October or Hovember 1742. Mrs. SCHOLTZ was in Germany, and Subject continued to be SASSEM's lover. Subject declares that he did not meet SCHOLTZ all that summer, and confined his activities to his International Agency. Late in October Mrs. SCHOLTZ returned to San Remo with her child, and Subject resumed his relations with her.
- 2. Movember 1942, Subject received a letter from GERKE in Rome, who said that he had found some one prepared to buy the Tintoretto, and asked him to come to Rome to make the sale. He told Mrs. SCHOLTZ about this, and she urged him to go to Rome (she was due to receive half of the profits of the sale of the Tintoretto, for her husband had not wanted to compromise himself, because of his position).
- 3. Subject went to Rome in the company of SASSEN. In Rome, GERKE introduced him to a German officer named RAUCH or RAUSCH, a former university professor who was in Rome to organize art expositions. RAUSCH was in touch with a German Commission of Art Experts who had come to Italy to buy antiques, and to whom he had shown the photograph of the Tintoretto obtained GERKE. The Commission had expressed interest and considered buying the painting for the Duce or for the King of Italy as a gift, once its authenticity had been established. Subject was told to bring the Tintoretto to Rome, and returned to San Remo, where he informed Frs. SCHOLTZ of these events. She in turn telegraphed to her husband, asking him to come and to give his approval to the sale.

- 4. Subject went immediately to Nonte Carlo along, to talk with KIRTSCHANSKY. He found him at the hotel at which he had given him the photograph (he had since settled there). BIRTSCHANSKY was overjoyed by the news brought to him by Subject, but said that he could not hand the painting over immediately because it was not in his possession. Subject had the impression that this was merely an excuse, and that BIRTSCHANSKY distrusted him because he scarcely knew him. In fact, BIRTSCHANSKY said that he did not want to conclude the deal unless SCHOLTZ was present. Subject said that he would return soon with SCHOLTZ, whose wife had already wired him to come. Subject returned to San Remo to await SCHOLTZ's arrival.
- 5. Early in December 1942, Subject returned to Monte Carlo with SCHOLTZ. Subject stayed at the Hotel de Russie as usual, while SCHOLTZ stayed at the Hotel de Paris, where his mistress JO was waiting for him. They went together to see BIRTSCHARSKY who had the Tintoretto with him. It was agreed that the painting should be turned over to Subject, with SCHOLTZ serving as guarantee for him. If the painting was not sold within two months, it was to be returned to BIRTSCHARSKY or else paid for by SCHOLTZ. No money was paid in security since SCHOLTZ was a good client of long standing.
- 6. The painting was packed without its frame and taken to San Remo by Subject, who went through the customs at Menton without declaring it. SCHOLTZ stayed in Monte Carlo with his mistress. In San Remo the painting was left in Mrs. SCHOLTZ's room in the Swiss pension.
- 7. After three or four days, Subject took the painting to the Parodi Art Gallery in San Remo, to try to sell it. A German Living in San Remo, Hermann CRILL, served as middleman between METLEACHER and three or four prospective buyers. No decision was made, and everything was postponed until the next day. That afternoon Subject learned that the San Remo Public Security Commissar, GARGANO, was looking for him. He presented himself voluntarily at the police station, and was asked whether he had a Tintoretto in his possession. Subject replied in the affirmative, and GARGANO asked to see it. Subject went to the Swiss Pensione with two police agents, and brought out the Tintoretto, which he took to the Commissariat. The Commissar, GARGANO, then asked him where it came from and how he had brought it into Italy. Subject at first refused to answer, but finally confessed that the painting came from Monte Carlo and was the property of an antique dealer named ZACCARIAS, who had entrusted him with its sale in Rome. Subject did not mention SCHOLIZ or any one else, nor the price, 300,000 lire, agreed upon by BIRTSCHANSKY. He told the Commissar that the Tintoretto was valued at 1,300,000 lire. The Commissar accused him of having crossed the border without paying duty on the painting, and told him to consider himself at the disposition of the police. He kept the painting at the police station because he entertained doublts regarding its origin.
- 8. The same day Subject was put in prison without further interrogation, and remained interned for about three and a half months. During this period Subject asked to be allowed to communicate with the German Consul in San Remo, GRABOUSKY, with Mrs. SCHOLTZ, and with his mistress Margherita SASSEN. He sent Mrs. SCHOLTZ a letter asking her to tell her husband of his arrest, so that he might help him to be released. He also wrote to the German Consul, and GRABOUSKY came several times to the prison to see him. GRABOUSKY knew that Subject was working for the Abwehr because he had told him so, but when he wrote to Genca and Rome to have information on him, none of the authorities knew of him. GRABOUSKY told Subject later that Mrs. SCHOLTZ had gone to Germany and that SCHOLTZ himself had sent a wire saying that he would arrive in San Remo in January 1943. February came, however, and SCHOLTZ still had not appeared. He later sent a telegram to GRABOUSKY saying that he was not able to come to San Remo. GRABOUSKY asked Subject to tell him the name of some Abwehr officials who would be able to help him. Subject says that he did not give him any names for the simple reason that he did not know any.
- 9. Subject also maintained correspondence with Margherita SASSEN, and when he saw that GRABONSKY's attempts to help him were fruitless, he told his mistress to go to Rome to see the German Ambassador. Since Subject admits that relations between GRABO SKY and himself were not of the best, it is curious that GRABON-SKY wrote a letter of introduction for SASSEN to the Ambassador in Rome.

Subject admitted that the letter was written only after the intervention of the SCHOLT's. SASSEN went to Rome and spoke with the German Ambassador. Either by reason of this interview or merely as the result of the investigations made by the Italian Public Security, WEILBACHER was released twenty days after his mistress returned from Rome.

- 10. During his stay in prison, other Germans living in San Remo, and particularly a woman name RMINE, had occasion to revile METLBACHER and his mistress and to express the wish that Subject stay in jail for a long time. It was for this reason that Subject wrote to SASSEN that he would like to send ERMINE to Dachau. Subject's actual words may be found in the letter attached, Appendix man.
- 11. Subject was released in March 1943, and, to thank GRABO SKY for his efforts on his behalf, sent a bouquet of flowers to his wife. He gave his passport to the Consul for renewal, for it had expired. His French laissez-passer, given him by SCHOLTZ, had also expired. He was, therefore, inactive all that spring and summer.
- 12. Immediately after his release, the San Remo Public Security Commissariat sent him a notice informing him that the Tintoretto was being held at the Imperia province customs office because it had been brought into Italy without payment of duty. Subject went to Imperia and paid 22,000 lire duty for the painting, which was then given back to him. He brought it back to San Remo. In the fall of 1943 Subject deposited the Tintoretto in a bank in Merano. It was removed in October or November 1945 and taken to his new residence in Como. It was later taken to Milan and left with Prof. Ivan BERNAIM, at 2 Via Dino Compagni, where it was found and confiscated after the arrest of Subject.

MII. Renewed Contact with the AB./EHR

- l. Because of poor health and also because of the lack of a passport, Subject remained inactive until October 1943. During that period, he wrote to SCHOLTZ and his wife, but received no answer. In October 1943 he was asked to report to the German Consulate General in Genca. In Genca he was received by a person who had replaced the Consul General (whose name he does not remember) who told him that he was to go to Berlin and report to Lt. Col. ROSEMENTAR at the Abwehr general command. He was given a passport and visa and left shortly afterward for Berlin, where he reported to Lt. Col. ROSEMENTAR, who told him that he had received a request for information on Subject, who was mentioned as being a member of the Abwehr. He also asked Subject about the Tintoretto, and Subject explained how he and SCHOLTZ had reached an agreement about the painting, and how SCHOLTZ had afterwards lost interest and left him for three and a half months in jail in San Remo. ROSEMENTER did not know of SCHOLTZ's relations with WEILBACHER until later, when SCHOLTZ himself explained the circumstances of his recruitment of Subject. After Subject had given his explanation, ROSEMLETTER gave him 200 marks for the expenses of his trip and sent him to the Eden Hotel, telling him to report again the next day.
- 2. The next day, as he was returning to ROSEMLEITEM's office, he met SCHOLTZ accidently in the office of the secretary. Of course Subject asked him why he had not done anything for him while he was in prison. SCHOLTZ begged his pardon and said that he had had urgent business in Hungary and Bulgaria which had made it impossible for him to go to Italy. SCHOLTZ had already explained the entire affair to ROSEMLEITER, who wanted to talk to Subject again. SCHOLTZ said that he was about to leave for Paris, and from there to go to Madrid, where he had left his family. He was going there for reasons pertaining to his intelligence work, and refused to give Subject his address in Madrid. He promised Subject that he would do his best to have him transferred to Madrid, but the transfer never took place. Subject states that he never saw either SCHOLTZ or his wife after that. SCHOLTZ had told him that he had settled the matter of the Tintoretto with BIRTSCHANSKY, and that Subject should sell it and give him half of the profit. Subject says that he did nothing more to try to sell it, and it remained in his possession.

- 3. Subject had his second conference with Lt. Col. ROS MLEITER, who asked him first of all whether he were still living with his Jewish wife. Subject said that he was, but that he was about to secure a divorce (he was logally divorced shortly afterwards). Col. ROSELLITER then gave him an AB MAR mission. The Johnmacht had prepared a guide of all the factories in unoccupied southern France, and Subject was to go to Toulon and Menton and vicinity and check the information for accuracy. Then he had done this, he was to send a report to Col. ROSELLITER at a Feldpost number which Subject has forgotten. ROSELLITER gave him 500 marks, 10,000 francs, and 2,000 lire to cover his expenses. He gave him a laissez-passer valid from Berlin to Marseilles, and a letter for the Prufstelle in Marseilles, where he later obtained a laissez-passer for occupied and unoccupied France. ROSELLETTER recommended to Subject that he become a permanent member of the Abwehr, saying that if he fulfilled his missions he would be well paid.
- 4. Subject also met a Capt. BAUER, Col. ROSENLETTER's aide. Then all agrangements had been made, Subject left Berlin for Marseilles, where he was given a laissez-passer for all France. He visited the various German commands along the Riviera, learning details relevant to his work, which he complemented by referring to directories and telephone books. He then drew up a report and sent it to Col. ROSE HEITER. Two months passed and no news came from ROSENLEITER, though Subject wrote to him regularly. Finally, he received a letter from ROSENLEITER stating that inadequate lines of communication made it impossible to give him another assignment, but invited him to report to a command near at hand. Subject admits having dealt in the black market between France and Italy in the two months during which he was awaiting ROSENLEITER's reply.

XIII. Raoul GHEZZI. Dolne IFHAN, and Prince COLONNA

- 1. Subject made frequent trips between San Remo and France, and it became his custom to take French perfumes to Italy and to return to France with foodstuffs. A certain BUGLICNE, an Italian living in San Remo at that time but a former resident of Monte Carlo, where he owned a butcher shop, whom Subject had met in connection with his International Agency, asked him to take food supplies to his friend Raoul GHEZZI, an engineer, in Monte Carlo. Subject agreed, and thus made the acquaintance of GHEZZI, who later introduced him to Prof. Dolne DEHAN, a Belgain living in Monte Carlo, and Frince COLONNA, an Italian living in Monte Carlo. Subject eventually joined these three in working on wartime inventions on behalf of the Germans.
- Engineer CHEZI is a native of Lombardy. During the first world war (1915-18) he worked with the Italian SIM as an agent in Berne. He was later put on trial in Italy for having appropriated funds entrusted to him to pay his informers. He subsequently went to France and took a degree in engineering in Paris. He married a French girl and settled in Monte Carlo as advisor at a Condaminc factory. He then founded the Inventors' Association of the Principality of Monaco and was appointed secretary. At the outbreak of the recent war, GHEZZI was one of the few Italians who was not interned. It is thought that he may have been connected with the French IS, but no definite proof is available. Then the Germans arrived, he placed himself at their disposition, offering them all the inventions produced by the partnership. It is likely that he did intelligence and counter-intelligence work on behalf of the Germans, but evidence is lacking. During one of the trips he took to San Remo with Subject, GHE ZI was arrested at the frontier by the Italian police for an undetermined reason. However, there was a German commander from Onte Carlo in the car who intervened and secured his release. The grow went together to San Remo and returned to France. CHEZZI has probably not returned to Italy since that time. Two weeks before Subject left France, GHEZZI left Monte Carlo for an unknown destination. During his stay in Milan, Subject learned that GHEZZI is now in Mice, and that his home has been requisitioned by French authorities.
- 3. In the spring of 1944, Subject was introduced to Prof. Dolne DEHAN by CHEZZI. Dolne DEHAN was born in Liege, Belgium, and was a Fellow in the University of Liege, on the electro-chemical faculty. During the first world war he served with the French General Staff. After the war, he spent his time with his inventions, the more successful ones being exhibited at the Anvers Exposition. He later went to Monte Carlo (exact date unknown) and set up a small electrochemical laboratory.

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He went into partnership with GHEZZI and he also worked for the Germans. In August 1944 he came to Italy with Subject and settled first in Sale, then in Tilan Varese, and Como. In June 1945 he left Como with his wife (also a Belgian) for Switzerland, and is probably now in Lausanne.

4. Prince COLONNA stated that he is married to an Englishmoman, whose uncle, a certain HALT or HOL (HALL?), is head of the London IS. Through this contact COLONA secured work with the British IS, and also with the British Havy, as an inventor, during the first world war. He came to Italy after 1918 and worked for the Italian IS. He later went to Monte Carlo and got in touch with GHEZZI. Like GHEZZI, he was not interned at the outbreak of the recent war, and subsequently put his inventions at the disposition of the German command. In June 1944, the German SD Major Hours of the country of the country wards. mand. In June 1944, the German SD Major GOHL (a man much feared along the French Cote Azure), on his return from Berlin, went directly to Prince COLOUNA in Honte Carlo and had many secret talks with him at which GHEZZI also participated. Since COLONNA and GOHL had not previously met, the well-known VOL-RINGER introduced the two before these conversations could take place. On this occasion, COLOTNA turned over to GOHL and CHEZZI plans for an invention and relevant documents, which GOHL sent to Berlin immediately by air. Subject learned all these facts from Dolne DEHAN, having been given the task by the Paris Heereswaffenamt of finding out who the person was who came from Berlin to get in touch with the inventors who had been working for them. Subject went to see Capt. FORSTER, post commander in Nice, who accompanied him to the SD head warters in Nice, located in a villa in Cimiez, where he spoke with the commander, NEIL or KEIL. He learned that the individual who had come from Berlin was Maj. GOHL, who had an office in that very building. They went to see him, and were told that GHEZZI's and COLONNA's inventions were of immediate interest to the Berlin SD, and that they did not want any one to interfere, including the Paris command. Subject reported to Paris, and the command there replied that it would get in touch with Berlin directly. The Allies landed on the Cote Azure shortly thereafter, and Subject had no further contact with GHEZZI and COLONNA.

XIV. WEILBACHER'S Activities in France

- 1. When Subject met GHEZZI and learned that he had been in touch with the Germans for over two years and was working on secret weapons for them, he offered to intervens for GHEZZI at the Heereswaffenamt Command in Paris, to which he had offered his inventions. Thus it happened that after a period a German Major came from Paris in the company of SCHOLLERPER, an engineer, to examine their work, outlines of which GHEZZI and Dolne DEHAN had sent to Paris. At this time, Subject was introduced to the visitors, and he served thereafter as intermediary between the Monte Carlo inventors and the Paris Command. During the course of this activity, Subject had the opportunity of going a few times to Paris, Cannes, Marseilles, and Nice. In Paris he was given a document allowing him to circulate freely through occupied and unoccupied France and in Italy as far as San Remo. Within this radius he had the right to ask any German command for aid.
- In February 1944, Subject settled in the Hotel de Palmier in Monte Carlo with Margherita SASSEN. During this period he had constant contact with the wonte Carlo command and with the Naval Command in Nice, and occasional contact with the SD in Nice (particularly with Maj. GOHL). He sometimes went to the Hotel Montfleury in Cannes to talk with the head of the TODT organization. Subject asserts to have maintained these contacts in relation to the scientific work of the Monte Carlo inventors. These circumstances persisted until the Allied landing in Southern France, at which time Subject left France for Italy.

XV. WEILBACHER'S Additional Contacts in France

1. During his stay in Monte Carlo Subject met Professor Ivan BERMAIM, a Jew, who is now living in Milan at 3 Via Dino Compagni. Subject first met him at the Hotel de Palmier in Monte Carlo, early in 1944. He later moved to the Holder Hotel. At that time all Jews living in the Principality of Monaco had to have residence permits issued by the German command and valid for only three months. Subject intervened for BERNAIM to secure the renewal of his permit, and this was the beginning of a warm friendship. BERNAIM had been living in Milan, but had fled to France to escape race persecution. He had left his mother and his sister behind in Milan, and it was thought that they were deported by the Germans.

In Monte Carlo he worked as an antique dealer. Subject states categorically that he never used BARNAIM as an informer and that he does not believe that he ever worked as an informer either for the French service or for the German police. Subject left BARNAIM behind in Monte Carlo when he returned to Italy, but met him later in Milan. BARNAIM offered at that time to help him in the sale of antiques. Subject gave him the Tintoretto to sell, but no buyer had yet been found at the time of Subject's arrest.

- 2. Another acquaintance of Subject in Honte Carlo was a certain LARSEN, of Danish origin, from Paris, where he conducted a technical agency the purpose of which was helping inventors to obtain patents. He lived at the Hotel de Palmier in Honte Carlo, as did Subject. Subject declares that LARSEN did not carry on any activities.
- 3. Another of Subject's contacts was the former Ambassador of Poland to Rome, whose name he does not remember. He was the last Polish Ambassador to Rome, and, not wanting to return to German-occupied Poland, he had settled in Monte Carlo.
- 4. Subject also knew Mr. and Mrs. FECCHINO, Italians, but naturalized French citizens, who owned the Hotel de Palmier. Subject insists that with these persons, as with LARSEN and the Polish Ambassador, he had no relations other than merely friendly ones.
- 5. Werner VOHRINGER, a German working with the ARMERR, had been in San Remo at the outbreak of the war and had stayed there doing nothing. Subject met him there in 1940. He was working at that time for a flower export firm in Bordighera. Late in 1943, Subject met him again in Monte Carlo. At that time he had a luxurious automobile and lived at the Regina Hotel; he confided to Subject that he was working for the ABMERR under a certain KIRSTEN in San Remo. Subject made a few trips with him from and to France, but he denies working with him in the service. Regarding VOHRINGER's work, Subject states that he knows only that when he was in Monte Carlo, VOHRINGER was interested in French prisoners in concentration camps in Italy.
- 6. Subject also knew Capt. Gino PONZI, an Italian officer whom he had met at the Hotel de Palmier, where he was staying. Relations with him were on a friendly basis. When the Allies landed in Southern France, Subject accompanied PONZI in his car to a point near Turbie (?) bordering on the partizan zone. He learned after the liberation that PONZI had died near Ventimiglia (See OSS SI-Nice Mission Pros-Gino).
- 7. Jacques SABATIER lived at the Regina Hotel in Monte Carlo, as did VOHRINGER, and was introduced to Subject by VOHRINGER. He is of French nationality, and was working for the Abwehr under VOHRINGER. Subject met him two or three times, always in VOHRINGER's company, but never had any relations with him. In April 1945, during the uprising in northern Italy, Subject met SABATIER on a street car in Milan but did not speak to him.
- 8. Bernard PORTSCII, of Swiss nationality, secretary of the Regina Hotel in Monte Carlo, was a close friend of VOHRINGER, but Subject does not know whether he was working for the Abwehr. Subject had only a speaking acquaintance with PORTSCH. He learned later through VOHRINGER that PORTSCH had lost a leg when he was machine-gunned in Italy. Subject states that he has not seen PORTSCH since he left Monte Carlo. He insists that he did not know any one else who was in touch with the Germans.

XVI. Transfer to Italy: Activities and Contacts

1. Subject left France with Margherita SASSEM shortly after the Allied beachhead on Cote Azure. They went in the car driven by Mario CORTI, a professional driver. They drove to San Remo, stayed there for two days, and proceeded to Guazzora, near Alessandria, where they stayed in CORTI's home. They stayed there for a week, during which time Subject returned to Monte Carlo to get in touch with Dolne DEHAN, who was to find an automobile with which the two would return to Italy. He succeeded finally in reaching Monte Carlo, traveling by any means available. Dolne DEMAN had found a Fiat (Balilla) which they bought for 35,000 French francs from a salesman in Monte Carlo named CURTI. GHEZZI had left Monte Carlo two weeks before, but Prince COLONNA was still there. Dolne DEMAN and his wife returned to Italy with Subject. Subject returned to CONTI's home, where he joined his mistress, while Dolne DEMAN and his wife stayed at the Canale d'Oro Hotel in Sale.

- 2. Since the automobile they had bought in France was in very poor condition, and had in fact broken down, Subject took it to the Garman repair shop in Sale, where it was repaired free after Subject had presented the document given him by the Paris Command. In the meantime Dolne Dahan went to Varese, and from there to Milan, and finally to Como, while Subject, Margherita Salsan, and a certain District, a German living formerly in San Remo and suffering from tuberculosis, stayed in Guazzora.
- 3. They had been in Guazzora for about a month when Subject received a letter from Dolne DEMAN in Como asking him to come visit him. Subject took DIETRICH along with him and left him with Dolne DEMAN because the latter did not speak Italian. Then Subject arrived in Como, he learned that Dolne DEMAN had already got in touch with an office corresponding to the Paris command, located in Tavernola and directed by Gen. VON HORSTIG. He had also contacted the Platz Kommandantur in Como, and a naval command there. DEMAN had not been able to explain himself well, and he asked Subject to explain his invention to Gen. HORSTIG and tell him at what point he had arrived in his work. A telegram was sent to Berlin, and it was announced that a commission of experts was to be sent from Berlin to Como to examine Dolne DEMAN's discovery, PEROXID a substance which is supposed to make the air in submarines chemically pure. In order to be closer to Dolne DEMAN, Subject moved to Como in October 1944 with Margherita SASSEN, living first at the San Gottardo Notel and later at 12 Via Garibaldi, in Villa Corti Negretti.
- 4. At Villa Corti Negretti, Subject met Hans VON ROHR, alias RICHTER, allegedly of German nationality, and presumably an SD informer. Subject did not know exactly what RICHTER's activities were, however, for he was not in close touch with him.
- 5. During the San Remo period, Subject had met Hugo STUNCHLER and his Swiss mistress, Vernea KELLER, who exported flowers from the Riviera to Switzerland. In November 1944 he met Vernea KELLER by accident in Como. She was living at the Olindo Inn on Via Garibaldi, and she said that she was in financial difficulties. She said that she was engaged to marry a member of the SS, a German named Gustel KRATSCHMANN, who was then in Sesto Calende with Rudy HENSEL, and that she had given her fiance 70,000 lire and her typewriter to buy some clothes. Subject went to Sesto Calende with Verena KELLER and learned that KRATSCHMANN and HENSEL were really SS members and had returned to Berlin after taking a naval assault boat piloting course in San Remo.
- STURCHLER came to Como later, and Subject agreed to take Verena KELLER to San Remo for 100,000 lire plus the cost of the gasoline. Subject traveled with a laissez-passer issued to him by the UDA, with the approval of the Como Command. In San Remo she was to resume her work as a flower exporter. Then they arrived, Subject went to see RATER at the SD, to clear Verena KELLER, for she had been previously arrested by the SD and instructed not to leave San Remo without permission an order which she had disobeyed. STURCHLER had given Subject a statement signed by a general in Milan to the effect that KELLER's flower exporting was in the interest of the Mehrmacht. He easily persuaded REMTER to overlook her infraction of their order. REMTER told Subject that her previous arrest had lasted for a period of two days and had been the result of a preliminary refusal to report to the SD to answer questions regarding her flower business. After she was arrested, KRET-SCHEANN had worked for her release. Subject went to see Lt. HECKMER about obtaining German trucks for shipping flowers, and HECKMER said that whenever there were empty trucks available, they might be used for that purpose.

 SPEISER director of the Mafalda Hotel, also took a hand in this business. After attending to these affairs, Subject returned to Como. Thereafter, he met STURCHLER several times in Chiasso, where he conducted his flower business. In April 1945, Subject had to take another trip to San Remo with Verena KELLER, after an alleged theft of 3,000,000 lire, which she said was stolen from her. Eventually she confessed to having kept the sum for herself and had given a portion to Miss MELPOWENE her traveling companion. (Subject learned these facts later through PATTI; former member of the Mational Guard.)
- 7. In addition to his trips made on behalf of Verena KELLER, Subject also continued to concern himself with Dolne DEMAN and the technical commission expected from Berlin. The commission never arrived, however, and the Maval Command in Come gave Dolne DEMAN a 35,000 lire liquidation fee and told him to discontinue his research because the invention no longer was of interest. During this period, Subject was living a very retired life, going out only for occasional visits at the Kommandantur and to see Gen. VON HORSTIG in Cernobbio, always on business pertaining to Dolne DEMAN's inventions. Nothing of interest happened between this period and the liberation.





8. Subject was in Como at the time of the liberation. He was not bothered in any way, and no measures were taken against him. He continued to live in Como on his savings. In the danca del Credito Italiano he had a vault containing about 150,000 lire and some documents which he withdrew in the presence of an Allied officer, who examined the contents of the vault. He stayed in Como until 5 August 1946, when he was arrested by the Como juestura and handed over to the SCI Unit Z in Genoa.

XVII. Additional Statements made by JETLBACHER

- 1. Further contact with Verona KELLER: On the night of 25 April 1945, Verena KELLER came to Subject's home together with Rudy HERSEL and Martin NEUTANN, and all three spent the night there. They stayed in Subject's home for about two weeks, during which time HERSEL told Subject that he was a captain in the SS and that he was being sought in many places because of his misdeeds. One of his operations had been the arrest in Prague of the secretary of the former Austrian Chancellor SCHUSSNIG. He said that he also belonged to the Merewolf organization, the structure of which was so perfect that it could resist for 50 years. In Finland there had been a price on his head. NEUMANN, who gave himself up to the Allies, said that HENDEL was a notoriously fanatical and dangerous person, whose goose would be cooked if he returned to Germany now because of his Nazi past. After two weeks Verena KHILIR sent HETSEL to Switzerland clandestinely, paying about 140,000 lire to the men who took him across the border and 400 Swiss france for the taxi to Minusio from the border. She had STURCHLER refund her this last sum, saying that she had used it to transport herself and her luggage. Subject never saw HMISEL afterwards. In about June 1945, Verena KEILER, who was bringing suit against STURCHLER in an effort to win a certain percentage of the profits of the flower export business, asked Subject to sign a declaration to the effect that STURCHLER had collaborated with the Nazis. She did not offer him any money. Subject did not give her such a statement because he did not know anything about STURCHLER's activities and did not want to perjure himself. Yerena KELLER was later arrested and there was no further talk of a signed statement.
- Week after his arrival in San Remo, at a variety show given for wounded Italians and Germans in San Remo, at a variety show given for wounded Italians and Germans in San Remo and in which Subject's son Rolando participated. Because Subject's wife was Jewish, GRAWOWSKY was scandalized that Subject's son should have taken part in the performance. His next contact with GRABOWSKY came on the occasion of his arrest because of the Tintoretto affair. On the occasion, GRABOWSKY again mentioned Subject's Jewish wife and warned him that he was headed for Dachau. Then Subject mentioned SCHOLTZ's name to GRABOWSKY, he changed his attitude completely, becoming more polite and even giving Margherita SASSEN a letter to the German Ambassador in Rome. (Subject states that he knew nothing about the letter at the time.) He met GRABOWSKY again when he turned in his expired passport, after his release. (He picked up his new one in Genoa when he prepared to leave for Berlin.) When Subject returned from Germany, GRABOWSKY called him in and wanted to know what he had been doing and what he intended to do in the future. Subject tole him only that he was working for the Abwehr, and pointed out that the Fushrer's Ten Commandments state that one should attend strictly to one's own business. After that he rarely saw GRABOWSKY, except on consular business.
- 3. GRABO.SKY: Personality and Contacts: Subject describes GRABO.SKY as a fanatical Nazi, cruel, ambitious and a member either of the Gestapo or of the SD. He came to San Remo from Paris. He was incompetent in the consular field and did not belong to the diplomatic corps. His work as Consul was merely a cover for his Gestapo or SD work. He had worked as a merchant in Belgium. In San Remo his favorite pastime was sending Germans back to Germany. He had a little intelligence network which watched German residents carefully. His friends (probably informers) were the following:
 - a. A general who later joined the Partisans but was expelled by them for unknown reasons. It was rumored that the Partisans intended to execute him. Then he returned to San Remo, he was arrested by the Italian police but released when GRABOEKY intervened. This leads one to believe that the general had been working for GRABOEKY all the time, even when he pretended to be a Partisan.

- b. A colonel whose name is not known was also in constant touch with CRABO.SKY.
- c. Luigi ZUCCO was one of CRABOUSKY's constant companions, and even went to France with him, usually to Paris. CRABOUSKY had given him a travel permit for France, in spite of the opposition of the Ventimiglia Prufstelle. The permit was obtained through the Milan Prufstelle, which was superior to the one in Ventimiglia.
- d. Aldo GAZOIA was in close contact with GRABO SKY and often went to see the latter's wife.
- 4. Subject is of the opinion that GRABO.SKY had belonged to the Gestapo even during his Paris period, for he treated badly all those who had known him in Paris. He had evidently been sent to San Remo because the two Consuls that had preceded him there had been known to be anti-Nazi. GSCH.TGAR, his predecessor, was later killed after the attempt on Hitler's life. After he had settled in San Remo, GRABO.SKY kept in close touch with RETSCHECK or REDZECK, head of the Gestapo in Nice for all scuthern France, who lived in the Hermitage Hotel together with his co-workers, It. LAUTEN-BRUINAR and It. GAUTHLER. Relations with these three were extremely cordial and were undoubtedly pertinent to the work they had in common. They came to San Remo frequently to see GRABO.SKY, and he often visited them in Nice. GRABO.SKY's wife, who had been his secretary, always accompanied her husband, both in Italy and abroad, and it is therefore likely that she too belonged to his organization. She also attended meetings he held at the Consulate with his collaborators.
- WEITBACHER's Certificate of Partisan Activity: In December 1944, when Subject was in Como, he took occasional trips to Milan, where he met a certain Mrs. MARIA (lnu) in the Motto pastry shop in Piazza S. Babila. Subject had known her in San Remo, when she had a delicatessen shop there. She was the mistress of the Swiss Consul at Ospedaletti, a certain SCHWEITZER. She had helped Subject's Jewish wife to escape from San Remo when she seemed to be threatened with arrest. She told Subject that a certain SIRICANO, an accountant, whose wife was with MARIA, was imprisoned for his partisan acti-vities in San Vittore, and that they were trying to secure his release. Subject was not able to do anything for her other than give SIRICAWO's wife money to support her for the time being. He later met other partisans. After the liberation, he found that he needed a document in order to move about, and asked MARIA whom he met at the Motta pastry shop, to try to get him a partisan document. Athin a few days she gave him a partisan certificate, for which she said that she had paid 30,000 lire. Subject reimbursed her and gave her an extra 3,000 lire. He asked her to go to Como with him to secure the signature of the vice-questor there, CAPPUCCIO, a member of the Communist Party. She complied with this wish, and CAPPUCCIO counter signed the statement from the 114th Brigade "P". GARANZINI", to which MARIA belonged and which was headed by SIRICANO, who had signed the document. He did not pay CAPPUCCIO anything for his signature. He does not know how MARIA obtained the certificate or whether she had actually paid 30,000 lire for it.
- 6. Contact with SIRICANO, Partisan Chief: SIRICANO tried to get Subject a job with the Italian police, but was unsuccessful. Later he introduced Subject to a certain Lt. JEAN (Jean VIGNES) of the French police, who had come to Como with SIRICANO, MARIA, and another partisan of the 114th Brigade named LOTBANDO. They dined with Subject at his home and later left VIGNES alone with Subject. The French lieutenant asked him to collaborate with him in tracking down possible members of German intelligence organizations left behind in Italy and particularly those who had worked in France. Subject gave him the names of Verena KILER and the address of her lover Rudolf HENSEL. He also gave him GRABO SKY's name and that of HELLEPHAL, the German Consul in Monte Carlo. Then Lt. VIGNES returned to Como a second time, he asked Subject about his past and particularly what work he had done for Germany. Then he returned a third time, he said that information about Subject was favorable. He proposed that Subject find groups of persons and commercial firms prepared to work now and in the future on behalf of France.

Subject realized that VIGNES was a member of the Deuxieme Bureau, and was hazy in his reply. Subject went to SIRICANO and suggested that he would have preferred to work with American agents, and asked him to see what he could do for him. VIGNES had given Subject his telephone number in Milan, 430073, with instructions to call him if he had any news pertaining to his proposition. After two months, Subject was called to SIRICANO's office at 3 Via San Tecla, Milan, where he met VIGNES again and whom they told that Subject would prefer to work with the Americans. VIGNES seemed surprised, but did not make any objections, saying merely that Subject should not tell the Americans that he had had contact with the Deuxieme Bureau. That was Subjects last contact with Lt. VIGNES.

7. The same day he was introduced to an American major in SIRICANO's office. The major worked in Rome, but was about to be transferred to Milan. Subject describes him as about 55 years old, 1.68 m. tall, normal build, frey hair, with glasses. He spoke Italian prefectly and said that he was interested in members of the SS, SD and Gestapo. He took notes about Subject and said that he would look him up through SIRICANO when he came to Milan again. Subject heard later through SIRICANO that the major had been transferred to another station. Subject continued to be on friendly terms with SIRICANO, and always went to see him when he was in Milan. Together they went to visit Prof. BERNAIM and his wife, who were staying at the Continental Notel.

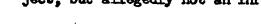
XVIII. Comments

- 1. MILBACHER is intelligent, shrewd, and corrupt, ready to give his services to any political group for the sake of money. He was recognized as politically dangerous by the Italian police before and during the recent war, and was branded as a suspected agent not only of the German secret service but also of the French service, as well as a man of dubious morality. He knows what punishment awaits him for his many misdeeds, and persists in denying them in spite of the relentless interrogation to which he was subjected for several days. The fact that he has not told the truth may be demonstrated by the following instances:
- 2. Subject declares that his first contact with the abwehr was in 1941, but it is to be assumed that he was working for the abwehr long before that date. The first job he did for SCHOLTZ was in October 1941, yet, already in the spring of that year, he had a laissez-passer issued by the French-German authorities in Paris. Subject's statement that he had secured this permit through the intercession of the wife of SCHOLTZ, then his mistress, does not ring true.
- 3. Subject states that he was always anti-Fascist and anti-Nazi. Yet the fact remains that he threatened the German woman RUINE with internment in Dachau, when she spoke against him and SASSIN during his imprisonment in San Remo. During his stay in prison, he also wrote Mussolini a very "fascist" letter asking to be released. (See Appendix "A")
- 4. Subject tried persistantly to protect Margherita SASSEM, but it is obvious that she was his collaborator as well as his mistress.
- 5. Contrary to Subject's declaration, he was in constant contact with GNABO.SKY, an agent of the Gestapo, as well as with all the German commanders of the cities he visited. These facts are evident from the interrogations of the driver ario CORTI and the typists ROLLERI and STELLA, employed at the San Remo consulate. Subject made frequent visits to the Montfleury Hotel in Nice, headquarters of the German SD. Moreover, his traveling permit allowed him to go everywhere, and he was able to have his automobile repaired free of charge in a German military garage. Such considerations would hardly have been given to an anti-Nazi.
- 6. Subject likewise concealed his true relations with the inventors CHEZI, Prince COLONNA, and Dolne DEHAN. The past of these individuals is well known, and there is no doubt that their scientific research served as cover for intelligence work on behalf of the Germans.
- 7. As for the Tintoretto, it is obvious that SCHOLTZ and MEILBACHER took advantage of their powerful position to get the famous painting into their hands. If Subject had been accused merely of having failed to declare the painting to the customs officers at the border, the Guardia di Finanza would have handled the case, not the Public Security. It was the latter that kept him in prison for three and a half months. In August 1945, the wife of Zaccarias BIRTSCHANSKY, the Russian antiquarian, Alessandra BIRTSCHANSKY, born in Moscow, a French citizen, reported to the Guardia di Finanza of Ponte San Luigi, asking for information about the painting by Tintoretto of the Doge Pietro Loredano, allegedly stolen from her on 13 December 1942 by the German MEILBACHER. (See Appendix "C")
- 8. The most blatant example of Subject's venality and general bad faith is his contact with the French Lt. Jean VICNES, agent of the Deuxieme Bureau. His denunciation to the French service of his Nazi collaborators for the sake of money and also to save his own skin requires no further comment.
- 9. Recommendation: It is recommended that Subject be interned and repatriated to Germany.

LIST OF PERSONALITIES

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- 1. <u>Dr. John EDWARDS</u>: Anglo-American oculist living at the Ophthalmic Institute in Paris in 1913.
- 2. Gyula YON ANDRASSY: First husband of Clara LEVI, Subject's wife.
- 3. <u>Gunther Hermann SCHOLTZ</u>: Hinisterial counsellor of the Ministry of Wartime Production in Berlin; lived in San Remo at the Casa Berigo on Corso degli Ingleal. Abwehr member, Subject's superior. About 48-9 years old, 1.75 m. tall, robust, brown hair, bald in front; wears glasses.
- 4. Zaccarias BIRTSCHANSKY: Russian antiquarian, stateless, living in Monte Carlo; owner of Tintoretto; 55 years old, 1.65 m. tall; robust build; bald; brown eyes.
- 5. <u>Ladislas KANITZ</u>: Hungarian, co-owner of Antonio CALCAGNO flower export firm in San Remo. (See JRX-3014).
- 6. STEREZHAN: Director of Boringer Factory in Milan depending from Berlin "Diwag" of which SCHOLTZ was director. Subject never saw him.
- 7. Bernard GERKE: Former German naval captain; living in Rome on Via or Vicolo San Pietro in 1942. Later settled in San Remo on Corso 23 Marzo. 56 years old, 1.75 m. tall, slender, brown eyes, greying hair.
- 8. Count PERPANCHE: Member of French nobility; anti-Nazi living in San Remo; in financial difficulties; valled to serve as interpreter with German Army, later arrested and deported to Germany because of his anti-Nazi views.
- 9. Hans CRABOWSKY: German consul in San Remo in 1912 and after; almost certainly a member of the Gestapo; 58 years old, 1.78 m. tall, robust, greying hair, light eyes, glasses. (See JRX-4868, 4979).
- 10. ERETNE: German woman living in San Remo. Threatened with Dachau by Subject because of her complaint about his morals.
- 11. XROSENLETTER: Abwehr Colonel in Berlin who gave Subject a mission. 60 years old, 1.70 m. tall, stender, greying nair.
- 12. Captain BAUER: ROSENLEITER's aide; 45 years old, 1.85 m. tall, robust, blond hair.
- 13. Raoul GHEZZI: Engineer; Italian living in Monte Carlo. Worked on inventions for the Germans. 55 years old, 1.75 m. tall, brown eyes and hair, oval face. (See JZX-6767).
- 14. Dolne DEHAN: Belgian, GHEZZI's co-worker in Monte Carlo; went to Switzerland after liberation. 58 years old, 1.75 m. tall, slender, white hair, glasses.
- 15. Prince COLONNA: GHEZZI's collaborator. 50 years old, 1.68 m. tall, black hair, dark eyes; left Monte Carlo when the Germans withdrew. Subject did not see him after that.
- 16. Maj. GOHL: Member of the SD, went to Nice to examine inventions of GHEZZI and company. 45 years old, 1.80 m. tall, robust, black hair, brown eyes. (CSDIC Reports on MASSON, BLUMBERG, HUEGEL, RAUFF, SESSIER; JZX-1443, 1615, 2020; JRX-594, 601, 635-A).
- 17. Werner VOHRINGER: Wember of Abwehr, formerly in San Remo. 47 years old, 1.63 m. tall, brown eyes and hair, glasses. Arrested. (See JRX-563; 574; 579; 593; 660; 628; 645; JZX-7552; 3037; 4013; 5292; 5556; 7919).
- 18. Captain FORSTER: Naval commander of Nice zone. 50 years old, 1.67 m. tall, robust, bald.
- 19. BEIL or KEIL: Head of SD in Nice. 45 years old, 1.60 m. tall, robust, blond, bald. (See JZX-5126, 5284; CSDIC/CMF/SD 80 LENIZ KURFESS).
- 20. Ivan BERNAIM: Now living in Milan at 2 Corso Dino Compagni. A friend of Subject, but allegedly not an informer for the Germans. A Jew.



- 21. <u>LARSEN</u>: Of Danish origin. Friend of Subject, living in same hotel in Monte Carlo (Hotel De Palmiers). 50 years old, 1.65 m. tall, robust, brown hair, slightly bald.
- 22. Mr. and Mrs. FECCHINO: Owners of Hotel de Palmiers in Monte Carlo.
- 23. KIRSTEN: Head of Abwehr in San Remo. 45 years old, 1.65 m. tall, stout, brown hair.
- 24. Capt. Gino PONZI: Subject met him at the Hotel de Palmiers. Later killed by ROCCA in Ventimiglia. (JRX-595, 635-A).
- 25. Jacques SARATIER: French subject living in Regina Hotel in Monte Carlo and working for VOHRINGER. Arrested. (JRX-586; 574; 563; 645; 579; JZX-14; 560; 3037; 6346; 6611; 6886; 7705).
- 26. Bernard PORTSCH (or PORTCHES): Swiss, secretary of Regina Hotel in Monte Carlo. Lost a leg in Italy. Friend and perhaps confident of VOHRINGER. 29 years old, 1.76 m. tall, slender, dark eyes and hair. (See JRX-560; 574; 563; 645-B; 3622; JEX-2044; 5053; 5418; 5897).
- 27. Mario CORTI: Driver. Already interrogated.
- 28. <u>DIETRICH</u>: German subject afflicted with tuberculosis, formerly in San Remo. Now in Como.
- 29. General VON HORSTIG: Head of Heereswaffenamt in Tavernola; contacted by Dolne DEHAN, in Como.
- 30. Hans VON ROHR alies RICHTER: Agent working for Germans; Swiss, arrested. (See CSDIC/CMF/SD 63 MARKHART Eva; JRX-5063, 4985; Berne MSB-85).
- 31. Verena KELLER: Arrested. (PIR-616).
- 32. Rudolf HENSEL: (See KELLER interrogation PIR-616).
- 133. Hugo STURCHIER: (See KELLER interrogation PIR-616).
 - 34. Capt. Oscha REITER: Head of SD office in San Remo. 40 years old, 1.70 m. tall, robust, reddish hair. (See CSDIC Reports RAUFF, SESSLER: JZX-1445; 5801; 5467; JRX-635-A).
 - 35. _rnesto SPEISER: Former director of Mafalda Hotel in San Remo.
 - 36. <u>Gustel KHETSCHMANN</u>: One of Verena KELLER's lovers; Subject never saw him. (See JRX-5063).
 - 37. It. Jack HECKNER: Commander of KdK Flot. 611, San Remo. 38 years old, 1.65 m. tall, slender, brown eyes and hair. (JRX-5063, JZX-6938).
 - 38. Chiara MELPOMENE: Friend of Verson KELLER.
 - 39. <u>Martin NEUMANN</u>: Friend of HENSEL who gave himself up to Allies after having stayed with Subject in Como for two weeks.
 - 40. Luigi ZUCCO: Italo-French, living in San Remo, friend and informer of GRABOWSKY.
 - 41. RETSCECK: Head of Gestapo in Nice. Unknown to Subject. Killed on Russian front. (Source, Felix).
 - 42. IAUTENBRUNNER: SD officer, aide to RETSCECK, in Nice. Never seen by Subject.
 - 43. Lt. GAUTHER: Iden.
 - 44. MARIA: Partisan of 114th Brigade Garanzini who secured partisan document for Subject for 30,000 lire. 37 years old, 1.64 m. tall, slender, dark eyes and hair.

- 45. <u>CAPPUCCIO</u>: Vice-Questor in Como, Communist, countersigned Subject's partisan document.
- 46. SIRICANO: Partisan head of 114th Brigade; signed Subject's partisan certificate. Now living in Wilan at 24 Via Carcano.
- 47. LONBARDO: Partilisan of 114th Brigade.
- 48. <u>Lt. Jean VIGNES</u>: French officer of French military mission in Wilan; address 10 Via Telesio; telephone No. 43073; offered Subject work with Deuxieme Bureau.