

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA: 57
SPECIAL AIR OR SEA POUCH

DISPATCH NO. RRJ-W-155

~~TOP SECRET~~
CLASSIFIED

TO : Chief of Station, TE: 30 December 1947
 ATtn:

FROM : Chief, Foreign Branch R

SUBJECT: GENERAL - Operational
 SPECIFIC - FERS - 2492

- Attached please find FIDA-1541 (FERS - 2492) re False Document Traffic in Rome, for your information and attention.

COPY

*no attachments for files.
Hdx.*

*Job 81-815R
Box 522*

SHH
FBP
TSCO *THB*

COORDINATING OFFICER

Opera

~~TOP SECRET~~
CLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
 NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
 DATE 2007

*81-815R
522*

TOP SECRET
(CONTROL)

Memo: PIRA-1541

6 October 1947

TO : Washington ✓

FROM : Italy

SUBJECT : General: False Document Traffic in Rome

Specific: 1) Dr. DELAST, fra, @ GHETALDI, Ivo
 2) RITTLER, fmu, @ Dr. KORTIS Pietro, @ CEPIC, IVO
 3) VON DALMATA, Kurt
 4) DOBEZ, Ernest
 5) BOE Sigrov @ PSENICNIK Srecko; Mrs. BOE @ Mrs. PSENICNIK Maria, nee LOVRENCIC
 6) LORENT, fmu
 7) SKOKO Marko
 8) ZUKARICZ Paolo
 9) KOVALSKY, fmu
 10) SCHMIDT, Aida Maria

SOURCE :

EVALUATION : B-2

DATE OF INFO: 20 September - 3 October 1947

ORIGIN : I. Introduction:

1. Rome has become one of Europe's principal centers of the false document traffic. Birth certificates, identity cards, passports, sojourn permits, visas, re-entry permits can all be bought; each has its own price and delivery is made within a relatively short time.
2. Sellers of false documents are mainly of two classes: Italian Government employees who are forced to such expedients in order to maintain themselves and their families, an impossibility on their meager salaries; foreign refugees who deal in the traffic in order to support themselves.
3. After having observed the traffic for about a month, Source has arrived at the conclusion that it would be impossible to suppress the false document racket, that it would be more advisable only to observe in order to gather potentially valuable data of a C.E. nature. Any attempt at suppression of the traffic would only force it deeper underground and would cause false document prices to rise.
4. Purchasers of false documents are comprised of the following classes:
 - a) War criminals
 - b) Espionage agents
 - c) Jews
 - d) Others who, for various reasons, wish to facilitate their emigration from Italy.

TOP SECRET
(CONTROL)

II. Dr. DELAST, fnu, @ GHETALDI Ivo (Photo and Photo-copy of Croat Red Cross Passport Attached):

5. A German, doctor of medicine, and self-styled war criminal who wishes to emigrate to Argentina, DELAST approached Source and requested that he obtain necessary documents. Thus far, the following documents have been issued:
 - a) Croat Red Cross identity card under the name Ivo GHETALDI, son of Paolo and of Maria nee MAYER, born at Ragusa, 13 September 1905.
 - b) Penal Certificate issued on 9 September 1947.
 - c) Good (civil, moral, political) conduct certificate issued 10 September 1947.
 - d) International Red Cross Passport No. 59017.
 - e) Argentine entry visa No. 20366, issued 24 September 1947.
 - f) Rome Questura sojourn permit issued 26 September 1947.
6. DELAST lives in a pensione at No. 6 Corso d'Italia, apartment No. 5, telephone No. 862-387. He is well supplied with funds which he spends freely, is very well informed on the general political situation, and has acquaintances among various secret service agents.
7. DELAST states that he has a friend who works for CIC, but Source has determined that the person referred to is one SPITZER @ TOGNANI (or TOGLIANI), who is an UNRRA employee in F.S.S. service. SPITZER has procured for DELAST a document attesting that the latter is an employee of UNRRA; the document is written in English and in Italian, bears a photograph, and carries UNRRA headquarters stamp.
8. On several occasions DELAST confided to Source that he had had occasion to see "Russian invasion plans" which are in the possession of CIC and FSS.
9. Asking Source if he would aid in despatching other contacts of his, DELAST suggested that Source come to Argentina and work for him. Posing as a Nazi, DELAST stated that he needed men of Source's caliber, "alert and ready for anything".
10. It has been impossible to determine the identity of DELAST's principals, but the Russian-German line is not to be excluded. DELAST's contacts in Austria are excellent; he has promised, for example, to obtain for Source a certificate of Austrian citizenship which will permit Source to obtain an Austrian passport.
11. At present DELAST is in Bolzano where, he stated prior to his departure, he is to collect a sum of 300,000 lire. Before leaving, he stated that he would send other acquaintances to Source for the purpose of being supplied with similar documents.
12. DELAST is a man of great culture, speaks Rumanian, Hungarian, German and English, and understands Croatian. He knows all of Europe well.

III. RITTLER, fnu, @ Dr. KORTIS, Pietro @ CEPIC Ivo (Photograph Attached):

13. An acquaintance of DELAST, RITTLER also states that he is a German war criminal desirous of emigrating to Argentina. For him, Source has procured the following documents:
 - a) Croat Red Cross Passport issued under the name of Ivo CEPIC, son of Pietro and of Hilde nee BOGNER, born 24 November 1912 at Bakar.

TOP SECRET
(CONTROL)

- b) Penal Certificate issued 9 September 1947.
- c) Good Conduct Certificate issued 10 September 1947.

14. RITTLER speaks much less than DELAST, and seems to be a person of lesser importance. RITTLER's address is unknown, but his telephone number is 859-010. RITTLER has set no definite date for his departure, seems to be in no hurry to leave Rome.

IV. VON DALMATA, Kurt:

15. VON DALMATA, also a friend of DELAST, has been supplied Penal and Good Conduct Certificates (issued under dates indicated above) by Source. He frequently travels to Switzerland where he has made three trips since contacting Source. He travels on a regular Austrian passport.

V. DOBEZ, Ernest:

16. A contact of DELAST, DOBEZ lives at Bolzano. Further details are not known.

VI. BOE Sigrov @ PSENICNIK Srecko; Mrs. BOE @ Mrs. PSENICNIK Maria, nee LOVRENCIC:

17. BOE, a Jew, is about 30 years old, medium height, has blond straight hair. His wife is about 25 years old, medium height, blonde, attractive, very well dressed. The couple lives at the Pensione Francini, 146 Via Veneto, apartment 1, room 24, telephone No. 45850. BOE is in possession of a regular French passport and arrived in Rome from France, probably with his wife, on about 15 September 1947.

18. For his wife and himself, BOE has acquired the following documents at a total cost of \$300.00:

- a) Birth certificate
- b) Wedding certificate
- c) Yugoslav Welfare Society Identity Cards No. 1621 and No.1622. (Both documents were signed by Dr. Dinko SULJAK. Source has heard that the documents were issued upon payment of 4,000 lire.)
- d) Penal certificates
- e) Good Conduct certificates
- f) International Red Cross Passports issued on basis of the above documents.
- g) Argentine entry visas issued 20 September 1947
- h) False sojourn permit No. 784 C.S. bearing the stamp of the Padova Questura (data known to Source because it was he who acquired the blank form and filled it out.)

19. All the above documents were issued under the names PSENICNIK Srecko and (Mrs.) PSENICNIK Maria nee LOVRENCIC. Source was unable to obtain further personal data but did learn that both the BOE's were born at Peregada in Croatia.

20. The BOE's undoubtedly have an interesting background. BOE speaks Bulgarian, Czechoslovak, German, French, and English. He has travelled in Africa, Arabia, Syria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Germany, France, Italy, and England.

21. BOE is well supplied with funds which he spends in a reckless manner; for even the shortest trip in the city, he takes a taxi.

22. It is Source's opinion that BOE is in some way connected with the Irgun Zvai Lomdi.

23. Mr. and Mrs. BOE left for Genoa about 25 September 1947, to await their sailing. Before leaving, however, BOE indicated that their departure would not take place in the near future. The couple plan to begin using their alias PSENICNIK only at the moment of departure.

TOP SECRET
(CONTROL)

VII. LORENT, fnu:

24. On several occasions Source has seen BOE in the company of the Zagreb Jew LORENT. Source knew the latter by sight in pre-war Croatia, but believes that he used a different name at that time. LORENT is a member of a group comprised chiefly of Polish Jews which resides at Ostia near Rome.

VIII. SKOKO, Marko:

25. Source's original contact with BOE was established through Marko SKOKO, a Croatian ex-Partisan (Communist) and blackmarketeer who currently specializes in obtaining United States transit visas. At present he is said to be attempting to obtain documents for the Ostia Polish-Jewish group mentioned above.

IX. ZUKARICZ, Paolo:

26. ZUKARICZ, a Polish national born in Hanover, Germany, is likewise a member of the Ostia group. He recently obtained a United States transit visa through the American Consulate in Naples. The fee for procurement of this visa was either \$400 or \$600, \$200 of which were paid to an employee of the Naples American Consulate, and the balance of which went to Marko SKOKO as his personal profit.
27. The name ZUKARICZ is an alias, and its bearer is in possession of a false Naples Questura sojourn permit obtained by Source.
28. Source is of the opinion that ZUKARICZ represents a link in a Communist-Irgun Zvai Leumi tie-up.

X. KOVALSKY, fma:

29. KOVALSKY, a friend of BOE, sought out Source whose address he had received from BOE, and requested Source's aid in procuring false documents. KOVALSKY stated that he had previously been dealing with Marko SKOKO but wished to break off that contact because of the latter's slowness in consigning requested documents. KOVALSKY also stated that he had called five men to Italy from Palestine on SKOKO's promise that he would procure documents for the group's transfer to South America.
30. Source agreed to do whatever he could for KOVALSKY in procuring documents, and promised that he would try to persuade SKOKO to hasten the issuance of other papers on which he was working.
31. KOVALSKY indicated his desire to purchase from Source an International Red Cross passport, already provided with Venezuela emigration visa, which is the property of Giuseppe GLAMUZINA, and which was issued under the latter's alias of Ilija PINJUH. The passport is no longer of any use to GLAMUZINA, because he is now well-known to all the various police services because of his recent arrest and two months incarceration.
32. KOVALSKY stated his intention of remaining in Italy and establishing an export-import firm.
33. Thus far KOVALSKY has not reappeared and Source is unable better to identify him.

XI. SCHMIDT, Aida Maria (Photo and Photo-copy of Croat Red Cross Passport Attached):

34. On 29 September, Source was approached by a man, NU, who requested that an International Red Cross passport be issued for a "female friend" of his. The "friend" in question, Aida SCHMIDT, is either German or Austrian.

XII. Comment:

35. In submitting the above report, Source most strongly advises against proceeding to the arrest of any of the principals named maintaining that a much greater profit can be drawn from the situation merely by keeping it under close observation. He has been instructed for the time being to maintain contacts with all the persons mentioned above and to try to establish contact with others involved in the false document traffic.
36. [] reports that his income from activities described above during the month of September 1947 amounted only to 12,000 lire, a sum too small (from his own point of view) to warrant his engaging in false document affairs unless it can be of value to the local station. A future report will deal in detail with Source's "techniques".
37. On 3 October, [] was approached by Marko SKOKO, who offered to procure a United States transit visa through the Rome Consulate General for \$1000. [] has been instructed to follow the proposal as far as possible in an effort to determine which Consular employees, if any, are involved in abusive practices.

XIII. Traces:

38. With the exception of those listed below, the local station holds no applicable traces:
- a) DOBEZ, Ernest: GIS Staff Bulletin No. 51 of 15 July 1945 lists one DOBESCH, fnu, as attached to Abt. IV, AK Parma.
 - b) GLAMUZINA, Giuseppe @ PINJUH, Ilija: PIRA-576, 1103.
 - c) PSENICNIK, Srecko (@ used by Sigrov BOE): See JRX-4845. It is to be noted, however, that the true Srecko PSENICNIK, personally known to both [] and [] left Italy for Argentina some months ago. Attempt will be made to determine whether the present fraudulent use of his name involves PSENICNIK's collusion.
 - d) SKOKO, Marko: JZX-6017.
 - e) SPITZER, fnu, @ TOGNANI (or TOGLIANI): A No. 3 S.C.I. Unit, Milan Detachment, report dated 1 December 1945 (local file 2-8-1096) contains the following notation regarding SPITZER, Kurt, possibly identical: "Jugoslav Jew; according to SLAVIK, in 1944 and early part of 1945 he was living in Trieste under the name of MIRKOVIC. Was imprisoned in 1945 by the Germans for black-market transactions; was connected with Dr. HRADECKI and Dr. HELL (HELL ?), both of the SS in negotiations with the Partisans in Gorizia to arrange a bloodless occupation of Trieste. Now claims to be working for CIC".
 - f) SULJAK, Dirko: PIR-150, PIRA-562.

Distribution:

Washington (2) (Attachments)
[] (Attachments)
Vienna (Attachments)
[] (Attachments)
Heidelberg (Attachments)
[]
[]
[]
State

Name
Name
Ime *Ivo*

Christian Name
Vorname
Prezime *Ghetaldi*

Profession
Beruf
Zanimanje *bolničar*

Place of birth
Geburtsort
Rodno mjesto *Dubrovnik*

District
Bezirk
Kotar *Dubrovački*



Ivo Ghetaldi
Signature of Holder
Unterschrift des Inhabers
Vlasjornoni potpis

Particulars
Geburtsdag
Osobni opis *13-XI-1905*

Married
Verheiratet
Brucuo stanje *neženjen*

Height
Gesamt
Stav *srednji*

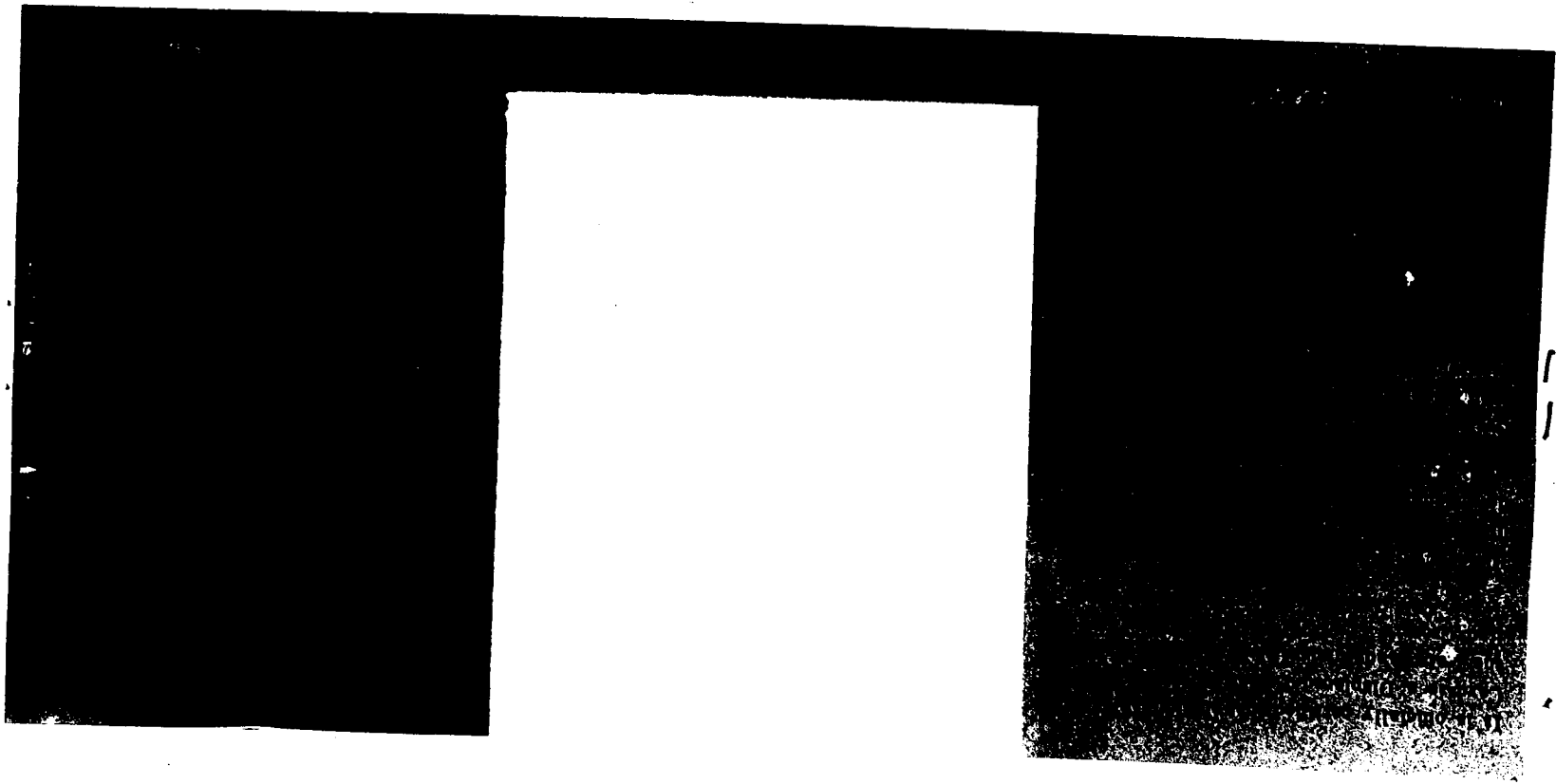
Features
Gesicht
Lice *oblo*

Hair
Haare
Kosa *posjeda*

Eyes
Augen
Oči *plave*

Nose
Nase
Nos *pravilan*

Special marks
Besondere Kennzeichen
Osobni znaci *nema*



Name SCHMIDT
Name
Ime

Cristian name Aida Maria
Vorname
Prezime

Profession kućanica
Beruf
Zanimanje

Place of birth Sarajevo
Geburtsort
Mesto rođenja

District
Bežirak
Kanton



Aida Maria Schmidt

Signature of Holder
Unterschrift des Inhabers
Vlastoručni potpis

Particulars 20.V. 1922
Geburtsdag
Osobni opis

Married
Verheiratet
Bračno stanje

Height visok
Gestalt
Stas

Features okruglo
Gesicht
Line

Hair smeđe
Vlasna
Kosa

Eyes smeđe
Augen
Oči

Nose pravilan
Nase
Nos

Special marks
Besondere Kennzeichen
Osobni znak



FSRO-2491

