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Wade, Jilt

OSS BARI OPERATIONS AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO THE

"COMMITTEE OF FREE HUNGARIANS IN ROME"

30 October 1944

38

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Prepared by the I-2 Branch
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Washington, D. C.

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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The information contained in this report on the "Committee of Free Hungarians in Rome," and the relationship of its members to SI C-E Bari represents all the pertinent facts procured by, or made available to the X-3 Branch, Washington. X-2, Washington has been somewhat handicapped in the preparation of this report due to the unavailability of complete information concerning SI Bari Hungarian operations.

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SUMMARY

I

1. Shortly after the occupation of Rome by Allied troops, American and British intelligence agents interviewed and/or interrogated a number of Hungarian nationals resident in Rome for the purpose of obtaining political and other intelligence. The most important of these were: ~~(Baron) Gabriel APOR~~, until 7 June 1944 Hungarian Minister to the Holy See and an intimate friend of Regent HORTHY and ~~Zsolt ARADI~~, before the fall of Rome Hungarian Press Attache at the Vatican.
2. On 2 July 1944, under the leadership of Baron APOR, a "Committee of Free Hungarians in Rome" was organized, consisting of eleven Hungarian nationals. The professed aim of this group was to cooperate with all anti-Axis groups within and without Hungary on a non-partisan basis for the purpose of getting Hungary out of the Axis camp.
3. Early in July, Zsolt ARADI, a member of the above Committee, was recruited by Major CHAPIN, SI Central European Desk, Bari to work on the SI Hungarian Desk. Through ARADI and Baron APOR other prospective agent personnel were being investigated and information was being obtained as to contacts within Hungary for purposes of penetration. By 7 August 1944 two additional members of the Rome group had become attached to SI Bari, namely, KOVACS and Mgr. MAGYARY.
4. British security agents reported the following on Zsolt ARADI:

"In view of his close connection with APOR and SZASZ /see below/ we consider that he should be regarded as unsuitable for employment in the British Service. He has been deprived of his appointment, but not of his citizenship, by the SZTOJAY Government. Regrettable consequences have already arisen from the combination of his relationship with APOR, with his too sympathetic reception here. He is aware of an ISLD infiltration plan which on his own statement he has communicated to APOR. Not only this, but he has agreed to submit to APOR's scrutiny the names etc., of the contacts which he is going to suggest to the ISLD agent. This is, in our opinion, a disgraceful breach of security and ought to be fully investigated."

Similar negative reports were also given on most other Hungarian members of the Committee.

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5. Upon his return from Rome at the end of August 1944, where he held brief interviews with Baron AFOR and several American and British intelligence officers, the Chief of X-2 Bari also gave blanket disapproval to the above mentioned Hungarian nationals who were either in the employ of or closely connected with the Hungarian Government.
6. On 1 September 1944 the Security office in Bari revoked its "Limited Security Approval" of the above Hungarian nationals granted SI Bari 7 August 1944 and stated that their continued employment by Major CHAPIN would be entirely upon his own responsibility and without the approval of the Security Branch. This order was disregarded.
7. On 18 September a renewed request for X-2 vetting was made by Major CHAPIN. X-2 Bari referred this matter to Caserta from where in turn it was forwarded for action to the Chief, X-2 Branch, Washington.
8. Early in October (Lt.) Niklas DOMAN, head of the SI Hungarian Desk at Bari, was dismissed by Major CHAPIN when the former refused to assume responsibility for these enemy aliens after their "Security Disapproval."
9. In the meantime, it is reliably reported, Major CHAPIN firmly resists any attempt to disapprove and dislodge these Hungarian nationals who not only circulate freely through the Bari OSS Headquarters, but also "have access to all Hungarian and Czechoslovakian SI files and materials."
10. It is further reported that Major CHAPIN has assigned ARADI and KISS (it is not known when the latter was taken on) to the Budapest OSS Mission, and plans to introduce Mgr. MAGYARY as an independent OSS SICE Mission.
11. The MO Branch in Bari is reported to have protested to Major CHAPIN, asserting that the political involvement of Baron AFOR with the HORTHY Government, and the relatively well-known allegiance of Mgr. MAGYARY to the Royalists, will prejudice the success of the OSS Mission if they enter under our sponsorship. Assuming that Budapest will no doubt be Russian occupied, the mere fact of our employment of such people, it is stated, may prejudice the Russians to the extent of throwing out the entire group.
12. In the meantime, ARADI, KOVACS ~~of~~ the SI Hungarian Desk at Bari, are said to report directly to Baron AFOR, who allegedly directs their movements and sifts their information, having them report to OSS only what he approves.

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Thumbnail Sketches of Hungarian Personalities -- Certain C-E Aspects

13. A. APOR, Baron Gabriel

Nominal head of Free Hungarian Committee.

1. Pointed to the value of Tiber ECKHARDT as a spokesman to Hungary from the outside world.
2. Is an intimate friend of HORTHY, according to his own admission. Until mid-September was known to be in possession of a secret W/T transmitter and operator, imported from Hungary, by which it can be assumed he kept in touch with HORTHY.
3. Is in contact with at least two potential leaks of information on OSS Hungarian operations to the enemy SZASZ and LUTTOR.
4. Recommended and/or recruited the following suspect persons to work for SI, Bari: ARADI, MAGYARI, Pau KOVACS, Szabo KISS. At present ARADI, KOVACS and KISS report directly to subject, who directs their movements, sifts their information, having them report to OSS only what he approves.

B. ARADI, Zolt

Ex-Press Attaché at Hungarian Legation at the Vatican.

Recruited for SI Bari desk early in July, 1944. On 7 August 1944 the OSS Bari Security Office gave limited security approval on subject. On 1 September the Security Office revoked its approval and gave complete Security Disapproval of subject. On 18 September Major Chapin asked for X-2 vetting of subject, who was still in Chapin's employ.

1. Intimate associate of LUTTOR, known as Pasztor who replaced APOR as Minister to the Vatican. Subject was seen with LUTTOR as recently as early October.
2. Also close to SZASZ, another potential leak of operational information.
3. Works very closely with APOR and has long been his mouthpiece. From a British report:

"He has been deprived of his appointments but not of his citizenship by the HUNGARIAN Government. Regrettable consequences have already arisen from the combination of his relationship with APOR and his too sympathetic reception here."

"Claims personal influence with APOR."

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"He is aware of an ISLD infiltration plan which on his own statement he has communicated to APOR. Not only this but he has agreed to submit to APOR'S scrutiny the names, etc. of the contacts which he is going to suggest to the ISLD agent."

9. MAGYARI, Gyula

A Catholic Priest.

First recruited for SE Bari in July 1944. On 7 August the Bari Security Office gave limited security approval of subject. On 1 September, on information from a higher Echelon Security, the approval was revoked and Security Disapproval of subject was given. Eighteen days later Major Chapin, who had kept subject on nonetheless, asked for X-2 vetting of subject. According to a report of 22 September, subject was then training, along with Paul KOVAOS, outside the OSS Bari Office for various missions into Hungary. They were said to be going out on a mission soon.

1. A strong Monarchist who has been in contact with Otto von HAPSBURG and was one of the contact men of the Hungarian Monarchists to DOLFUSS and SCHUSCHENIGG.
2. Made a trip to Hungary as late as December 1943.
3. May be a source of information for one man BALDAS who communicates with MEYER, important R.P. official in Italy, through a German agent Eugenio FIANDRO.

10. FISS, Isido

A script writer for the moving picture industry and story writer.

Was in contact with the British from October 1943. Worked for PWB film division in Rome from June to August 1944. Was then recruited for the SE Bari Hungarian desk. On 12 September Major Chapin asked X-2 to vet subject and judge his qualifications as a member of the Hungarian desk staff, training agents, as an instructor of Hungarian POWS, as a member of the future OSS unit in Budapest. Is an ardent Communist.

1. Was in contact with an OS agent, OIPOLLA, from the summer of 1943 to 1944. Relations with OIPOLLA are not clear.

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I. TOYACS, Paul

Highly trained precision tool mechanic.

Was recommended to SI Bari by Szolt ARADI and hired as an SI agent. Was granted limited Security approval by the OSS Bari Security Office on 7 August 1944. On 1 September this approval was withdrawn and Security Disapproval ordered on the report of a higher Echelon Security. On 18 September Major Chapin requested a vetting of subject whom he had retained in spite of the Security Disapproval. According to a report on 28 September, subject and MAGYARI were being trained outside the OSS Bari office for certain SI missions in Hungary and were expected to go out on a mission shortly.

I. APOR (Mons. Francois)

Hungarian Minister to the Vatican since APOR resigned the SZTOJAI government.

Known to be pro-Nazi. Was formerly a close associate of APOR and is still close to ARADI, with whom he was seen in Rome as late as the beginning of October. Is a possible leak to the enemy of SI Bari operational information obtained from ARADI.

II. SZASE, Viktor

Director of the Hungarian Legation to the Quirinal, now under Swedish protection.

Has neither resigned nor been dismissed by HORTHY or the SZTOJAI Government. Therefore is regarded as an enemy alien. Is still diligently distributing anti-Alliance propaganda. Maintains contact with APOR and ARADI and is therefore another possible leak of operational information to the enemy.

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BARON APOR -- HUNGARIAN OPERATIONS -- AND OSS-SICE, BARI

I. Creation of the "APOR Hungarian Chain"

1. In July and August 1944, the Chief, SI Central European Desk, Bari, launched on a program which, it was hoped, would procure for the OSS Hungarian political and military intelligence. For this purpose, contacts were established with a Hungarian group under the nominal leadership of Baron Gabriel APOR -- until 7 June 1944 Hungarian Minister to the Vatican and an intimate friend of Regent HORTHY. Through this group limited prospective agent personnel were being investigated early in July, and information was being obtained as to contacts within Hungary for the purpose of penetration.
2. Due to a scarcity of suitable Hungarian agent personnel, the above project was slow in getting started. Original plans to use a radio operator who had been in the service of Baron APOR and who expected to be repatriated by Hungary, fell through. Several other plans to establish contacts, after lengthy deliberations, were also considered insecure.
3. Zsold ARADI -- until recently Hungarian Press Attache, attached to the Hungarian Legation to the Holy See and an intimate associate of Baron APOR -- early in July became attached to the SI Hungarian desk at Bari.

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With Earl FULLER, SI, Hungarian Desk, ARADI made a special trip to Rome for the purpose of exploring in some detail possibilities for Hungarian operations.

4. The Chief of the SI Hungarian Desk and ARADI did obtain a commitment from a Catholic teacher (Magyar?) who had been in the Vatican. He reportedly had numerous exceptionally good contacts within Hungary and was willing to go back if accompanied by a radio operator.
5. Shortly afterwards, Sgt. Steve CATLOS, a Hungarian-American radio operator fluent in the Hungarian language and fully trained in clandestine radio operations, was found who was anxious to go on this mission.
6. In the meantime, Baron APOR -- concerning whom the British professed to reserve their confidence*, in American circles, however, was believed to be wholeheartedly on the Allied side -- proposed to form a non-partisan committee of "Free Hungarians." This committee was not to be obligated to any Hungarian political party. Its sole function was to be the stimulation of resistance toward the Nazis within Hungary. Baron APOR invited Baron KORNFIELD, -- who reached Lisbon on the German Lufthansa from Berlin in late June with full assistance from the Nazis -- to join his group in Rome. Baron APOR was also interested in having the following join his group:

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Tibor ECKHARDT, alleged to have been since 1940 "HORTHY's second iron in the fire in case of a Nazi defeat" and now residing in Washington, D.C.; Dezso UJVARY, dissident Hungarian Consul General in Istanbul; and Laslo VELISC, dissident Minister of Hungary in Athens. Therefore, Baron APOR transmitted to the chief Central European Section, SI, messages inviting the latter three in his name to proceed to Rome for the purpose described above.

7. * (Note: Shortly after the occupation of Rome by Allied forces, British staff member of PWB had an interview with several Hungarians in Rome. It was decided that as further useful information might be obtained for propaganda use and also as political background, Major DUNLOP, head of the Hungarian Section, PWB, should proceed to Rome for further interviews. In view of the likelihood of interesting political intelligence being obtained, it was agreed that Captain R. LORIMER, PIC, should accompany him with a watching brief. During the first two days the following personalities were interviewed: (1) Mons. Zsold ARADY, ex-Press Attache to the Hungarian Legation at the Vatican; (2) Dr. LENART, a physician; (3) vitez SZASZ, Councillor and Director of the Hungarian Legation to the Quirinal; and (4) Dr. KOVACS, a physician. On the third day Mr. STEWART, Political Adviser of PWB, Bari, joined the party and an interview with Gabriel APOR, Hungarian Ambassador to the Vatican, was arranged. The decision of the British to reserve their confidence concerning the "Free Hungarians" in Rome reportedly was based on conversations with the above.)

II. Committee of Free Hungarians in Rome.

8. The only information available to X-2 Washington on the Committee of Free Hungarians in Rome has been obtained from ARADI himself. Accordingly, this Committee met for the first time on 2 July 1944 at Rome. It consisted of eleven members. APOR naturally presided at the meeting. Questioned further, ARADI stated that this committee

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would rely on thirty Hungarians in Rome. These were not such people as the Committee could deal with. He was at pains to emphasize that the Committee had decided to stand above politics; it had indeed been chosen to represent all classes, and its members ranged from APOR to two working men. It not only contained two Social Democrats of old standing (20 years and more having elapsed since they left Hungary) but even one near-communist (TOTH -- also described by LENART as a "modern romantic, an artistic individualistic socialist"). Asked what was the program, ARADI said that the agreed object of the committee was to get in touch with the F.O. A further question as to what it proposed to do then was answered by a rather vague statement of intention to organize internal resistance to the Germans, and to contact diplomatic committees (particularly Bakash BESSENYI (?) of Berne), and other Free Hungarians such as the London Group, with ECKHARDT thrown in as an afterthought. What struck one here was his anxiety to get hold of a transmitter, ostensibly for the purpose of communicating with individuals in Hungary.

III "Free Hungarians" Approved by Robert MURPHY

- 9a. In the middle of July plans to formulate a committee of "Free Hungarians" who would work in close conjunction with the proper Allied officials on Allied-controlled territory in the effort against the Nazis in Hungary were discussed by Robert JOYCE, SI Balkan Desk, and

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MERRILL of the State Department with Mr. Robert MURPHY in Naples. Mr. MURPHY reportedly approved the attempt to form such a committee under the leadership of Baron APOR.

- 9b. It was stressed at this time that the individual members of this committee of "Free Hungarians" would be able to supply much wanted information from within Hungary and also that the relations with Baron APOR would unquestionably give the OSS a clearer picture of Hungary's political developments in liberated areas.

IV. Notification to the Department of State

10. By the end of July notification of the above, the approval of Robert MURPHY and the situation involving Tibor ECKHARDT had been reported favorably to the Department of State in Washington.
11. In the meantime Major CHAPIN, the chief, SI Central European Desk, Bari asked for authority from Washington to go ahead with the arrangements to bring WJYORY from Istanbul, and VELISE then in Cairo, to Italy as had been suggested by Baron APOR. It was felt by the above that the presence of these dissident ex-diplomats in Rome would have definite value in the plans to penetrate Central Europe, and more particularly, Hungary.

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12. At about this same time the State Department representative in Madrid, ^{Vatican} BUTTERWORTH, informed the Department of State that ever since the end of March they had given informal encouragement to reliable staff members of the Hungarian Diplomatic Mission in Madrid to make contacts with groups in the interior of Hungary who might organize resistance against the Germans. The State Department representative further commented that they were now informed by a Hungarian diplomatic representative in Spain that contacts with resistance groups had at last been made and that the following paraphrase of their communication had been transmitted:

"All parties of Hungary, including such extremes as the Christian Socialists and Extreme Left, have now come to agreement as to what is to be done. The accord is signed by leaders of the workers, the clergy, the League of Peasants, Social Democrats, the Party of small landowners and various other social groups. Never before the war was such cooperation ever seen in Hungary. These people have the use of a printing press and can produce a paper for secret distribution. The United Nations are expected to give moral encouragement. If radio programs could be broadcast telling the Hungarian people of the good will which they will inspire if they work against the Nazis the cause would be much advanced. A communication indicating how and when to begin full activity is desired. We would like to know when to begin editing the clandestine paper. Instructions can be sent by the same channel through which this letter has been sent."

In conclusion, BUTTERWORTH stated that Count Gabor BETHLEN, son of the ex-Premier, and himself the ex-First Secretary of the Legation in Madrid, was one of the group with which he was in touch. It was through him and his associates that messages were being transmitted to resistance bodies in Hungary.

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V. Further Developments at Bari OSS Base

13. Early in August Lt. DOMAN, a naturalized American with a Hungarian background, arrived in Italy from Cairo. It was recommended that FULLER, SI Hungarian Desk, Bari, be returned to Washington headquarters in order to review the present plans and immediate needs for the future Hungarian operations and "to establish a clear distinction between the APOR, ECKHARDT, and Rome groups." During FULLER's absence Lt. Doman was put in charge of the SI Hungarian Desk.
14. While still in an unorganized state, the Hungarian group in Rome led by Baron APOR reportedly was becoming of increasing use to the Bari SI Hungarian Desk. Clearance from Washington headquarters on the proposal to bring UJVARY and VELISC to Rome had already been received at the end of July. It should be added that UJVARY was to bring with him all available intelligence and operational possibilities from Istanbul, leaving full information with the Istanbul office in the event communication lines could be worked from there.
15. Dependent on a number of variables--getting agents, contacts inside Hungary, setting up an advanced base, defining specific intelligence objectives -- attempts at this time to outline precise plans, proved rather futile. It was felt, however, that the developments in the near future would make it possible to bring forth a much clearer definition of resources, etc., and thus provide an opportunity for the sound planning of specific operations and especially coordinate lines of penetration from a chosen base.

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VI. SI Washington In Principle Approves Plan to Organize Hungarians in Rome

16. In the meantime, SI headquarters Washington approved in principle to organize the Hungarians in Rome. Due to the fact that AFOR was an influential person among the Hungarians and had good Vatican connections, it was felt that he should be "built up". It was made clear, however, that in the using of UJVARY and VELISC, the OSS position should be not that of principle but of agent only. It was also directed by Washington that Baron KORNFIELD not be used.

VII. Limited Security Approval Granted Certain Hungarians

17. On 7 August 1944 "limited security approval" was granted by Major KUBLER, ~~OSS Security Officer at Bari,~~ on the following Hungarian nationals: Paul KDVACS, Gyula MAGYARY and Zsolt ARADI. (It will be recalled that ARADI already had become a member of the SI Hungarian Desk at Bari in early July, apparently without either security approval or X-2 vetting.)

VIII. Contact Established via Madrid with Hungarian Resistance Groups

18. On August 10, 1944, SI Washington cabled Major CHAPIN and Robert JOYCE, chief SI Central European Desk and SI Balkan Desk respectively, informing them that the Department of State had received a wire from its Madrid representative advising that contact had been arranged

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there with a group of Hungarian diplomats. Count Gabor BETHLEN, son of Hungary's ex-Premier was one mentioned as having established communications with a strong resistance within Hungary. These resistance units, it was also stated, were desirous of securing through radio broadcasts the moral backing of the Allies. Directions and instructions for the maintenance of undercover activities and for the publishing of secret newspapers reportedly also were desired by this group. JOYCE and CHAPIN were also informed that the chief, OSS Mission, Spain, Gregory THOMAS, had been notified by cable to get busy on contacts immediately and examine communications channels and prospects regarding contacts in Hungary.

- THOMAS*
19. On 20 August JOYCE and CHAPIN notified ~~CHAPIN~~ in Madrid that they would be able to drop two men in the next moon period if the Hungarian diplomatic resistance group in Spain could provide them with pin-points and arrange a reception committee. One of these men was described as both capable and trustworthy, as having been procured through Baron AFOR. The other one was described as a ~~Hungarian-American~~ *Hungarian-American*, a W/T operator and instructor. Madrid OSS was requested to advise SI Bari immediately of any prospects. In the event contacts could not be established through the Spain group SI Bari planned to exploit other possibilities in order to eliminate any delay in Hungarian plans.
20. On 25 August Madrid OSS notified SI in Bari that codes, signal plan, and crystals had been dispatched by messenger to group (Presumably to members of the Hungarian diplomatic

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mission in Madrid considered reliable, who reportedly were in contact with anti-Nazi resistance groups in Hungary). A duplicate signal plan with crystals and code was also dispatched to Bari for use once contact had been established according to signal plan.

21. On about 12 September, according to a Madrid OSS cable, a Hungarian courier left Madrid, Spain, apparently for Budapest. He had in his possession a signal plan crystals and cipher equipment. He was reported later to have reached Germany where he disappeared. He has not been heard of and a Madrid cable dated 14 October presumes that courier is captive or dead.

IX. X-2 Attempts To Get The Facts

22. On 26 August 1944 the Acting Chief of X-2 Washington sent a memorandum to the Acting Chief of SI Washington in re current cable traffic on Hungarians. The memorandum reads as follows:

"Referring to current cable traffic on certain Hungarians in Rome, their associates, and proposed operations, X-2 Branch believes that it is responsible for checking the entire group and their plans for considerations of CE interest. We believe that SI interests require this action and assure you that, within the authorization of existing directives, any resultant studies and recommendations will be brought to your attention.

Will you kindly issue appropriate instructions to insure the delivery to the X-2 MEDTO Theater Officer, Lt. Colonel Carroll Gray, or to the Desk Head for Hungary. Mr. Peter Klassen, of all communication traffic which will contribute to a complete understanding of this matter. We have requested back cable traffic on this subject from Mr. Waddell of the main Registry Cable Desk and he has replied that these cables were not received by him but were retained in your office files."

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23. Sometime early in September the Acting Chief of SI Washington returned the above memorandum with a notation, explaining, among other things, "that AFOR & Co. were not 'agents'". It was presumed, therefore, by I-2 Washington, that the above had become a dead issue.

X. Security Office Bari Revokes Limited Security Approval

24. On 1 September 1944 Major L. E. KIRKLEH, Security Officer, Bari, notified Major CHAPIN, SI, Central European Desk at Bari that he had just received further information from "higher echelon security" on the following names: (1) Paul KOVACS, (2) Gyula MAGYARI, (3) Zsolt ARADI. The security officer stated that "it is therefore necessary that Security Disapproval be given these subjects." He further stated that "we wish to make it clear that if you continue to employ these Subjects you will do so entirely upon your own responsibility and without the approval of the Security Branch."

XI. Testing of Hungarian Personalities by I-2 Bari

25. On 22 September 1944 I-2 Bari sent a memorandum to I-2 Caserta concerning the following Hungarian personalities: (1) Zsolt ARADI, Rev. Julio (Gyula) MAGYARI, Paul KOVACS, and Lazzio KISS (Ladislao KISS). This memorandum reads in part as follows:

1. The above subjects were recruited and/or recruited as suitable agents for SI work in Hungary either by ARADI or Baron AFOR, former Hungarian Ambassador to the Holy See.

2. ARADI and KISS are working at present with SI Hungarian Desk in the OSS building, Bari. MAGYARI and KOVACS, on the other hand, are being trained (outside of Headquarters) for certain SI missions in Hungary and are expected to penetrate that

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country very shortly. As to further possible use of ARADI and KISS by OSS, note last paragraph in enclosure No. 1.

3. The OSS Security Office, Bari, has given security disapproval to KOVACS, MAGYARY, and ARADI. (See Major Kubler's memorandum to Major CHAPIN, enclosure No. III.)

4. Upon his return from Rome at the end of August, 1944, where he held brief interviews with Baron APOR and several American and British intelligence officers, the Chief of I-2 Bari, has given blanket disapproval to the Hungarians from Rome who were either in the employ of or closely connected with the Hungarian regime. This was conveyed to the Chief of SI verbally. I-2 pointed out, however, that Zsolt, or any of the individuals concerned, could be used to great advantage by OSS as sources of information or in an advisory capacity. The employment of these people as personnel attached to the desk or penetration agents, in the opinion of I-2, is considered risky for the following reasons:

a) All of them are enemy aliens, and were until the fall of Rome, officially or otherwise in contact with or to a certain degree under the control of the Nazis or Fascists.

b) Key members of this group were until recently in the service of the HORTHY Regime, maintaining contact with functionaries of that still enemy government.

c) Baron APOR, the central figure in the Rome Hungarian circle, is an intimate friend of HORTHY; was, until a few days ago, in possession of a secret W/T set and an operator, imported from Hungary. His former associate at the Legation, Rev. LUTTOR, the present Hungarian representative to the Vatican, is admittedly pro-Nazi (this from APOR), and associates with the German and Japanese representatives to the Holy See.

d) Attention was also called to SZASZ, Hungarian representative with the QUIRINAL (under Swedish protection), and a certain VASVARY, whose whereabouts have not been clearly established.

e) Before joining OSS, some of these subjects were in British service [dismissed by British for reasons of security]; others are known to the British as OSS agents.

26. In the same memorandum, quoted in part above, I-2 Bari asked I-2 Caserta for further careful vetting of the above mentioned Hungarian nationals; and the formulation

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of "authoritative statements concerning the suitability of the above named individuals, based upon your findings and an objective review of their case."

XIII. X-2 Caserta Situation Report on OSS Bari

27. In re the above X-2 Caserta on 10 October 1944 forwarded to the Chief, X-2 Washington, all pertinent vetting data on the Hungarian personalities involved, a copy of the memorandum quoted above, and a separate memorandum requesting X-2 Washington action. X-2 Caserta summarized the OSS Bari situation as follows:

1. The attached memorandum /quoted in para. 25 above/ is one of the most important matters that has arisen in this Theater, and is slowly developing into what may not only be an organizational tempest but also another cause celebre.

2. Within the organization the following obtains:

a. CHAPIN, head of SICE, has firmly resisted any attempt to disapprove and dislodge these Hungarian nationals. He refuses to accept the FWB-PIC document /summarised in appendix/ as any authoritative reason for security approval of these men. He has further assigned ARADI and KISS to the BUDAPEST OSS Mission, and plans to introduce Msgr MAGYARY as an independent SICE mission.

b. DOMAN, head of Hungarian desk (SICE) at BARI, was dismissed by CHAPIN about ten days ago, when he refused to assume responsibility for these enemy aliens after their security disapproval. I have since talked to him here, and found that they have access to all Hungarian and Czechoslovakian SI files and materials.

c. MO, BARI, have vehemently protested to CHAPIN that the political involvement of Baron APOR with the HORTHY regime, and the relatively well known allegiance of Msgr MAGYARY to the Royalists will prejudice the success of the OSS Mission if they enter under our sponsorship. As BUDAPEST will no doubt be Russian occupied, the mere fact of our employment of such people may prejudice the Russians to the extent of throwing out the entire group.

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d. With SECURITY, MO, and (formerly) DOMAN lined up against CHAPIN, JOYCE (Intelligence Officer) and GREENE (Commanding), BARI is an armed camp. Meanwhile these aliens circulate freely through the Headquarters thereat.

3. Without the organization, the following is reported:

a. ARADI, KOVACS and KISS report directly to Baron APOR, who directs their movements and sifts their information, having them report to OSS only what he approves. (B-2) (27 Sept)

4. The tenacity with which CHAPIN is holding on to these men leads me personally to suspect there is more to their employment than meets the eye. One would almost believe there is a governmental interest in these men and the regime they represent in Hungary."

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XIII. X-2 Washington Biographical Data on Hungarian Personalities in Rome.

A. APOR, Baron Gabriel

1. The following information comes from the X-2 Washington files:

Baron Gabriel D'Altorja APOR, Hungarian Minister to the Holy See, is described as being pro-Allied in sympathy. As a leader of the Free Hungarian Movement (chairman of the Committee of Free Hungarians), he was not deprived of his citizenship as were the other dissidents after 19 March. It was stated that he continued to have access to diplomatic cipher facilities even though no longer continuing in office as Envoy to the Holy See. Reportedly APOR still acknowledges Admiral HORTHY though dissenting from the Hungarian government. As a part of his activities in forming the Committee of Free Hungarians, he wired all other Hungarian envoys to join him in forming this committee which, he stated, was to reestablish the constitutional liberties of Hungary. As a part of the plan, it is understood, he agreed to establish a movement headed by Tibor ECKHARDT. It is understood PELENY and OTTO were to assist with this plan.

According to another report, APOR, despite his pro-Allied sympathies, worked with the HORTHY government as a part of a plan to cope with the Nazis, while the recent Rome movement is designed to cope with the Anglo-Americans. In other words, APOR, with a small group of Hungarians, is pursuing a policy of Hungary for the Hungarians, i.e., the Magyar clique.

It is reported that APOR broke with the Hungarian government when he repudiated its policy of persecuting the Jews.

Two Hungarian envoys, BAKACH-BESSENYI and BARCZA, were in agreement with APOR's suggestion on the Committee of Free Hungarians. They sent a message to APOR, asking him, in turn, to agree to a joint personal appeal to be made over the Hungarian radio for popular support for the new plan. This request was delivered via TITTMAN of the American Embassy, the Vatican, with the approval of Secretary of State HULL.

During a period of about four years, APOR's confidential secretary was on Felix PARCHER.

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2. The following information on APOR is particularly revealing. On 5 July 1944, APOR was interviewed by Mr. J. D. Stewart, British Political Advisor to PWB. APOR spoke at length on how it must be the policy of all Hungarians abroad to sink their differences and concentrate their endeavors to the encouragement of resistance in Hungary. Subject then expressed the following opinions:

Tibor ECKHARDT: APOR pointed to the value of ECKHARDT as a spokesman to Hungary from the outside world. He was a brilliant orator, sympathetically regarded, known to have left Hungary with the knowledge of TELEKI and HORTHY, unexceptionable to the Allies, and leader of a party with a generally acceptable policy (the Smallholders).

IMREDEY: APOR was asked why IMREDEY, who doubtless had German support, had not been chosen as Premier in March. He replied that HORTHY had not appointed him because he hated him. Asked whether this implied that HORTHY had appointed SZTOJAY, he replied in the affirmative, but made a rather rapid but stumbling recovery exonerating HORTHY on this point. He followed up with a report of statement made by HORTHY to VON MACKENSEN when the latter visited Budapest in 1938, to the effect that Germany could never beat the Allies since she had no fleet. This he said had been reported to HITLER who was furious. APOR described IMREDEY as having a power-complex, "rather like a schoolboy who will accept first prize but never the second." IMREDEY had become pro-German and convinced in German victory when he visited Germany in 1938. HORTHY and SZOMBATRELY had not been similarly impressed during their visit.

3. After his interview, Mr. STEWART gave the following judgment of APOR:

During the whole interview the impression was gained that APOR was nervous and extremely sensitive both as to the impression he was creating upon his listeners at every point, and as to the possible implication of questions and statements put by them. One was conscious that he was testing his ground and the attitude of the listener. The nature of the interview tended to produce little in the form of factual intelligence, but considerably more in the form of a guide as to what

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Hungarians in his class and position may be thinking and feeling. He is not likely to prove of great constructive use to the Allies unless and until he can be persuaded or obliged to place himself in a less equivocal position and to produce information and communications which must clearly be at his disposal.

4. Following the interview of APOR and a number of his contacts, three British PWB-PIC officers, Mr. STEWART, Major A. F. DUNLOP, and Captain R. LORIMER, summed up Baron APOR's position as follows:

a. From various sources it is known that:

APOR, on the occasion of the entry of the German troops into Hungary and the nomination of M. SZTOJAY as Premier, had informed the Regent that he no longer felt bound to the Hungarian Government (a course followed by other Hungarian diplomats in neutral capitals). According to a member of the Hungarian Foreign Office he did, however, specifically assure HORTHY of his continued personal allegiance to him.

At the personal request of the Regent he remained at his post pending the Allied occupation of Rome. When this happened he sent a further message to the Regent and made a statement to Reuters that he regarded the SZTOJAY Government as a quisling Government imposed by the Germans and that he declined to recognize it as the Government of Hungary. SZTOJAY telegraphed to APOR that he had learned of the Reuter statement and "assumed that it was not true." It is believed that no reply has been made by APOR to this telegram.

APOR has apparently not withdrawn his allegiance to the Regent but avoids making any positive statement to that effect, maintaining rather that his allegiance is to the "Crown of St. Stephen."

APOR still occupies the Embassy and continues to enjoy the diplomatic facilities of the Vatican. He has indicated no departure from his status of Hungarian Ambassador.

b. Against the background of confused and self-contradicting attitudes, his behavior in the face of the Allied occupation of Rome is peculiar and ambiguous. Reference is made to the following specific circumstances:

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He has assumed a role, if not the leading role, in a band of Hungarian ex-diplomats who have, willy-nilly, been "liberated" by Allied progress in the war, or who have revised their attitude towards the Hungarian Government. This embryo group strives after some composite representation of Hungary in the outside world.

He has mooted the formation of a Committee for the Restitution of Hungarian Constitutional Rights.

He has been elected President of a newly formed Free Hungarian Association in Rome (SZABAD MAGYAR SZOVETSEGE, RCMA) comprising both Hungarians, such as himself, still enjoying diplomatic status and privilege as Hungarians in the Vatican, and independent Hungarians stranded in Rome. It is his desire to see this group welded in some way into a united Free Hungarian Association on an international basis.

- c. It is submitted that the status and attitude of other Hungarian diplomats in neutral capitals should undergo careful scrutiny to establish whether the same disqualification applies.

Certain Hungarians from Rome having already been employed by Allied organizations for tasks ranging from simple translation work to eventual infiltration, and APOR being in possession of information of these tasks, with the channels still at his disposal for communicating them via Berlin to Hungary (it is thus the channel runs), urgent action is desirable to clarify the existing situation.

5. APOR's principal contacts:

- a. Subject is an intimate friend of HORTHY, according to his own admission (see above). Until mid-September subject was in possession of a secret W/T set and operator, imported from Hungary, by which it can be assumed that subject kept in touch with HORTHY.
- b. Formerly closely associated with Msgr. LUTTOR, whom subject admits is pro-Nazi. (See LUTTOR report.)

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c. Zsolt ARADI is one of subject's closest associates. Was formerly subject's go-between in the Ambassador's dealings with the Hungarian colony in Rome. (See report on ARADI for details.) Subject and ARADI together recommended and/or recruited the following persons for SI work in Hungary: Rev. Gyula MAGYARI, Paul (Pal) KOVACS, Lazslo KISS. (See their individual reports.) At present ARADI, KOVACS, and KISS report directly to subject, who directs their movements, sifts their information, having them report to OSS only what he approves.

d. Associates with SZASZ, still the official representative of the Hungarian Government. He has come under the protection of the Swedish Legation since the liberation of Rome. (See SZASZ report.)

e. Subject protected VASVARY, a collaborator, on the liberation of Rome. A report on VASVARY by the British FWB-PIC group follows below:

"In the middle of May the food situation in Rome, being very severe the Hungarian Embassy, with the approval of the German Government, arranged to send a messenger to Budapest with a lorry to collect food for distribution to the Hungarian colony in Rome. The man selected for this mission was a Jew by the name of VASVARY. This man had been acting as interpreter for the Nazis.

He proceeded to Budapest about the middle of May, armed with both German and Hungarian documents. He returned with supplies of food about the 2nd of June. This food was then distributed to the Hungarians in Rome as arranged. To one individual he proudly produced the Nazi armband with which he had been supplied for the journey.

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On the arrival of the Allied troops in Rome, he was given protection in the Embassy to the Vatican by Gabriel APOR. Two days later, owing to his fascination for railways he went out and down to the main station. While there he was recognized and denounced to the Italian police as a collaborator by one of the crowd. He was promptly arrested and imprisoned; so far, efforts to trace his whereabouts in gaol have been unsuccessful, but he is known to be still in custody."

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B. ARADI, Zsolt

1. Personal details, from X-2 Bari:

The following information was submitted 22 September 1944 by X-2 Bari at the request of Major Howard CHAPIN, Chief SICE Bari, for X-2 vetting of subject to determine his qualifications for work either on the SI Hungarian Desk at Bari, handling agents, or on the OSS Mission to Budapest. Major CHAPIN requested X-2 vetting on 18 September, 18 days after the OSS Bari Security Office had officially disapproved subject for any kind of OSS work and nearly two and a half months after his appointment to the SI Hungarian Desk at Bari.

Age:	36
Address:	Rome, Via Giuseppe de Notaris No. 5, Tel. 875005
Nationality:	Hungarian
Place of birth:	Zombor, Hungary
Date of birth:	29 April 1908
Marital status:	Married. Children: Claudio, 11; Juliana, 5; Michael, 2.
Religion:	Catholic (Father was a Jew)
Occupation:	Writer--Hungarian Press Attache, attached to the Hungarian Legation to the Holy See. In this capacity from June 1943 to May 1944. Previously attached as Press Attache to the Hungarian Consulate at Milano from June 1941 to June 1943. From 1928 to 1943, free lance journalist and writer in Hungary and Italy.
Education:	University of Budapest (law).
Name of father:	Arpad ARADI, Inspector of Schools, Hungarian. Present whereabouts in Hungary unknown.
Name of mother:	Julia SZALAY, school teacher. Hungarian. Present whereabouts in Hungary unknown.
Wife:	Margaret Erdmute ACH. German descent, Hungarian national. Address: Via Giuseppe de Notaris No. 5, Rome. Tel. 875005.

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2. Comments from X-2 Bari:

ARADI is an intimate associate of the former Hungarian Ambassador to the Holy See in Rome, Baron APOR, whose address is Via Martiri Fascisti 75. Subject was at one time editor of Kouuk Szava, Budapest; one of the editors of Nemzeti Ujsag; also of Uj Kor, all Hungarian publications. He has a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in Rome, and is particularly well-known in Hungarian circles of that city. Among others, he knows intimately Rev. LUTTOR, present head of the Hungarian Legation to the Holy See, and SZASZ, Director of the Royal Hungarian Legation at the Quirinal. (This Legation is now under the protection of the Swedish Embassy.)

Subject is now attached to the Hungarian Desk, Bari. X-2, Bari, believes he could be of considerable value as a source of information.

3. Additional information given by three British officers, Mr. J. D. STEWART (PWB), Major A. F. DUNLOP (PWB), and Capt. R. LORIMER (PIC), after subject's interrogation:

Political Background

He has always been a member of the KERESZTENY Party and claims to have attached himself to the group in this party inspired by vitez Zichy JANOS. Tends to exaggerate the progressive and social intention of this group but does not pretend that the Christian Socialist Unions were anything else other than an organ of the employers for influencing Roman Catholic workmen. He ignores, in describing NEPARTAS as a Democratic and anti Nazi Party, the fact that this Party was not suppressed after the putsch of the 19 March.

Contacts

While working on Nemzeti Ujsag he often had conversation with SEREDI, the Prince Primate of Hungary. In these conversations SEREDI declined to endorse the aims of any particular party; with the formal authority of the Roman Church. He said that he knew SZENTMIKLOSSY extremely well and mentioned him with palpable admiration. He also knew Szegedi MASZAK and Count Gyula DESSEWFFY. He tends to stress his acquaintance with the last three who were all members of the KALLAY group. During the course of the conversation he did not claim close relationship with many other important Hungarian personalities. He stated in passing that he was acquainted with Peyer KAROLY, but did not appear to be very familiar with the name of Anna KETHLY. He had no personal acquaintance with Imre KOVACS or any other of the SZABAD SZO group. He had been a colleague of Istvan MILOTAY on Magyarasag, and appeared to have a low opinion of his integrity. About IMREDY he said that "he knew him like a picture."

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IMREDY had become a liberal Catholic in order to curry favor with POPOVICS, the Governor of the Bank and an influential Roman Catholic, but finding, however, that these efforts were fruitless, he turned to the Germans to help him achieve his ambition. Among emigre Hungarians he knows Buday GYORGY well.

He was very well acquainted with the group of Hungarians associated with the Legation to the Holy See, and was APOR's go-between in the Ambassador's dealing with the Hungarian colony in Rome.

Since the war he has been Press Attache to the Hungarian Embassy to the Holy See, and is a great personal friend of Gabriel APOR, the Hungarian Ambassador. Owing to his "left-hand" reputation he was recalled by the new Government after 19 March. He told the Ambassador that owing to his mixed parentage it would be suicide for him to go. He had to resign his diplomatic status, and during this period was protected by the Ambassador. According to ARADI a day or two after the 19 March the Ambassador APOR sent a telegram to the Regent saying that, as he considered the Government unconstitutional, he could no longer be associated with it. In reply he received a special letter from the Regent begging him to continue as a personal favor to the Regent. He continued to act as Ambassador until Rome was relieved by the Allied Forces. ARADI says that he used his influence against his continuing to act as Ambassador and on 7 June APOR sent a telegram to the Regent breaking his relations with the present government. When pressed to say whether APOR had also severed relations with the Regent, ARADI became evasive, expressed the opinion that APOR would break with HORTHY if HORTHY was proved to have collaborated freely with the Germans; pointed out that the sovereignty of the Hungarian State is not vested in any person, but in the Holy crown of Saint Stephen. At the same time it was announced that the Ambassador had called for the formation of a Committee for the Preservation of the Constitutional Liberties of Hungary and dispatched telegrams to all the other Hungarian diplomats who had been deprived of their Hungarian nationality. Since 19 March all telegrams from the Embassy to the Vatican have had to be routed via Berlin. It seems reasonable to suppose that this telegram was stopped en route for a telegram reached the Vatican from Prime Minister SZTOJAY stating that Reuters had carried a report that the Ambassador had called for the formation of a Free Hungarian Committee, and had appealed to the other dismissed Hungarian Diplomats. Would the Ambassador confirm this report? No reply was despatched to this request. The position therefore remains that the Ambassador, while he has refused to treat with the Government, is still the official Hungarian Representative to the Holy See for he has neither been dismissed from his post by the Regent nor has he been deprived of his nationality by the Government, as in the case of the other dissident diplomats.

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Relation of Zsolt ARADI to the Committee of Free Hungarians, Rome.

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This Committee met for the first time on 2 July 1944, at Rome. It consisted of eleven (sic) members. APOR naturally presided at the meeting. Questioned on the point, he stated that it would rely on thirty Hungarians in Rome. These were not such people as the Committee could deal with. He was at pains to emphasize that the committee had decided to stand above politics and that it indeed had been chosen to represent all classes: its members ranged from APOR to two workmen. It not only contained two Social Democrats of old standing (20 years and more having elapsed since they left Hungary) but even one near-communist (TOTI--also described by LENART as a "modern romantic, an artistic individualistic socialist"). Asked what was the program, ARADI said that the agreed object of the committee was to get in touch with the F. O. A further question as to what it proposed to do then was answered by a rather vague statement of intention to organize internal resistance to the Germans and to contact diplomatic committees (particularly BAKACH-BESSENYI of Berne) and other free Hungarians such as the London Group, with ECKARDT thrown in as an afterthought. What struck one here was his anxiety to get hold of a transmitter.

4. Recommendations made by the British in regard to using subject:

In view of his close connection with APOR and SZASZ we consider that he should be regarded as unsuitable for employment in the British Service. He has been deprived of his appointment but not of his citizenship, by the SZTOJAY Government. Regrettable consequences have already arisen from the combination of his relationship with APOR and his too sympathetic reception here. He is aware of an ISLD infiltration plan which on his own statement he has communicated to APOR. Not only this, but he has agreed to submit to APOR's scrutiny the names etc. of the contacts which he is going to suggest to the ISLD agent. This is, in our opinion, a disgraceful breach of security and ought to be fully investigated.

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C MAGYARI, Gyula (Julius)

1. Personal details from X-2 Bari:

The following details were submitted by X-2 on 22 September in response to a request of 18 September by Major Howard Chapin, Chief SICE Bari, for X-2 vetting of subject and three other Hungarian agents. Major Chapin made his request after the OSS Bari Security Office had, on 1 September, officially disapproved of subject:

Born: Szolnok, Hungary
Address: Via della Sagrestia 7, Rome. Phone 50766
Age: 42
Parents: Hungarians
Occupation: Catholic Priest
Professor of penal law of the Propaganda Fide University of the Holy See

Former Director of Hungarian Priests College at Vienna (parmanum).

One of contact men of Hungarian Monarchists to DOLLFUSS and SCHUSCHNIGG. Member of secret organization of Hungarian Monarchists. Collaborated in Rome with Austrian group recognized by Allied Authorities (br. PROELICHSTHAL).

2. Comments from X-2 Bari:

Subject is very close to Baron APOR. He has always been a Monarchist, and has been in contact with Otto von HAPSBURG and ZITTA. He made a trip to Hungary as late as December, 1943.

3. Further information from a July, 1944 report in the X-2 Washington files indicates that subject may be a source of information for a certain von BALDAS who communicated certain opinions of subject to MEYER, an important S.D.

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official in Italy. The message was relayed through a German agent, Eugenio FIANDRO, stating that subject feared that the Hungarian Partisans were preparing a flank attack behind the German-Rumanian defenses to meet the Russian Offensive on the Rumanian oilfields.

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D. KISS, Lázlo
(KISH, Ladislaw)

1. Personal details from X-2 Bari:

On 18 September 1944 Major Howard Chapin, Chief SICE, Bari, requested that X-2 Bari vet subject. He specifically asked for X-2's opinion on subject's qualifications for the following positions:

- a. As a member of the staff of the Hungarian Desk of this Section, performing the same functions as Reolt ARADI.
- b. As an instructor of Hungarian POWs with his activities confined to that function.
- c. As a member of the OSS unit which will be established in Budapest after that city is occupied by the Allies.

2. Bari's information follows below:

Born: Debracen, Hungary, 15 February 1904.

Parents: Father, Adolf KISS. Both parents dead.

Brothers: Two, living in Hungary: Endre, age 43, commercial representative, Budapest; Jenő, age 45, bank clerk, Budapest.

Sister: One, Ilona (Mrs. Alexander VANOS.) Husband, assistant director of the local mills, Karczag, Hungary.

Education: High School at Debracen, Hungary. Dramatic School at Budapest.

1923-25: Actor, Budapest.

1926-29: Student of philosophy and actor, working for UFA.

1930: Assistant stage manager and script writer, Paris, Paramount.

1931: Worked for Rex Ingram at Nizza.

1932: Art director with Lumitone, Buenos Aires, Arg.

1933: With Pathe Film, Paris.

1934: Married Ellenore ADAMIANEZ, now 36. Armenian ballet dancer. She had a ballet school in Paris. Now has one in Rome.

1935: Worked for Alexander KOEHN in London and Paris.

1936: Stayed six weeks in Hungary, filming certain subjects for the London Film Company.

1937: Story and script writer for Ideal Films, London.

1938: In Paris, prepared script for three films, none of which has been produced. Considers his permanent home at 132 Avenue de Villiers, Paris, where he lived off and on from 1934 to 1940. Claims to be the owner of the building.

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- 1939: Worked for a small concern, name of which he has forgotten.
1940: (March) Went to Rome on contract and filmed Piccolo Alpino. Lived at the Hotel Imperial. (June) Wife arrived from Paris and rented present apartment.
1941-42: Engaged in film industry and among others worked for the Sabaudia Film Co.
1943: Was engaged in story writing, mostly as a ghost writer. After 1943, contacted

PARTITO D'AZIONE and PARTI in Rome. Subject cannot recall names of individuals connected with the former party, but mentioned the Communists, Dr. MORETTI and Alvari MACHINI.

From October 1943, in touch with the British, particularly Major Manda d'ARCY, the SCI Rome, Major HOOPER and Captain YOUNG; also with the U.S. through Capt. TORIELLI. He passed information on to the British under the code name of ORSO. On behalf of his information, he claims the British have been successful in arresting 62 spies and capturing 14 radio sets in Rome. From June 1944 until August 1944, worked for the PWB Film Division in Rome.

Comments: Subject speaks Hungarian, German, Italian, French and English. He is now attached to the Hungarian SI Desk, OSS, Bari.

3. Further, information from files of X-2 Washington indicates that subject is an ardent Communist who has been involved with an S.D. agent, CIPOLLA. According to CIPOLLA, recently interrogated, he met subject in the summer of 1943 through the film business. Subject introduced him to other Communist leaders and during the period of CIPOLLA's attachment to SS Headquarters at Via Tasso, CIPOLLA often passed warning to subject about Communists which the Germans were about to arrest. In May 1944, according to CIPOLLA, subject was arrested for running contraband. At this time CIPOLLA secured subject's release from prison through MEYER, important S.D. official in Italy. Subject was urged to join CIPOLLA's "espionage group," but reportedly refused.

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I. KOVACS, Paul

1. Personal details from X-2 Bari:

The following details were submitted by X-2 on 22 September in response to a request of 18 September by Major Howard Chapin, Chief SICE Bari, for X-2 vetting of subject and three other Hungarian agents. Major Chapin made his request after the OSS Bari Security Office had, on 1 September, officially disapproved of subject:

Present address: c/o OSS, Bari.
Residence: Via Luigi Tosti 23, Rome; phone 762585
Nationality: Hungarian
Place of Birth: Peteshaza, Hungary
Date of Birth: 11 January 1902
Marital Status: Married. One daughter, Gertrude, born in Vienna, 26 May, 1927.
Wife: Sophie MATEJKA, born in Vienna, 15 May 1905, and is of Czechoslovak origin.
Religion: Catholic
Occupation: Technician
Previous employment: Glass and Vacuum works for the firm S.A.B., Via Giuseppe Notaris 5, Roma.
Employer: Ing. CESARE MARINICCI, Roma
Name of Father: Pal KOVACS. Nationality, Hungarian.
Name of Mother: Katalin KOVACS. Nationality, Hungarian.
Comments: Subject is a highly trained precision tool mechanic; chemist. Claims to be a social democrat. Recommended by Zsolt ARADI.

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F. LUNETOR, Monsignor Francis (Slovak)

1. Information from X-2 Washington files:

Address: Via Galilei 1, Rome. Tel: 52-054

Hungarian Minister to the Vatican since he was appointed by Prime Minister SZTOJAY to replace Baron Gabriel APOR who repudiated the SZTOJAY government. Before this appointment subject had been Ecclesiastic Counsellor at the Vatican since 1928.

Subject is a Priest. He was President of the Hungarian College in Rome. Is known to be pro-Fascist, according to a very reliable source. This same source adds that he is not necessarily an enthusiastic Nazi nor did he have any illusions about the future of the SZTOJAY regime, but accepted the post simply because he believes only in authority.

According to a memorandum of 22 September 1944 from X-2 Bari to X-2 Caserta, Baron APOR himself admitted that subject was pro-Nazi and associates with the German and Japanese representatives to the Holy See. Subject also was a close associate of APOR before the latter broke officially with the SZTOJAY government.

A very reliable report of 3 October states that ARADI was recently in Rome and was seen in subject's company. It would appear that there is a possibility that subject may be disclosing the nature of SI Hungarian operations at Bari obtained from ARADI of the SI Hungarian Desk to the enemy.

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