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From: Director of Naval Intelligence  
To: Distribution List

Subj: Neo-Fascist-Nazi Movement

Encl: (1) Two copies Intelligence Security Officer,  
CINCPAC Secret ltr to DNI ser 002 of  
6 Feb 1953 same subj (w/encl)

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded herewith for information.

*William Abbott*  
William Abbott  
By direction

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)  
(2)(A) Privacy   
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6 February 1953

From: Intelligence Security Officer, CINCNELM  
(Detachment, Naples, Italy)  
To: Director of Naval Intelligence

Subj: Neo-Fascist-Nazi Movement

Ref: (a) COMSUBCOMNELM secret dispatch 040844Z February 1953.

Encl: (1) MEMO FOR THE FILE dtd 3 February 1953, same subject

1. Enclosure (1) furnished as information and is self explanatory.
2. CAS representative this area cognizant of contents of enclosure (1).
3. Further information will be disseminated when available.

Copy to:  
CINCNELM-IO

W. M. HALL  
LCDR, USNR

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3 February 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE:

Subj: Neo-Fascist-Nazi Movement - POMONIS, Francis Denis

1. At about 1300 Friday 30 January 1953, LCDR John P. Starks, Senior Shore Patrol Officer reported that he had been called to the office of CDR. A.D.S. DEMURO, USN, HSA, about 1230 (this same date) and had met a Francis Denis Pomonis, an American Citizen who stated he had been approached by his wife's cousin with the proposition of joining an underground Neo-Fascist-Nazi movement. Starks said the movement was explained as being engineered by a German ex-Gestapo Major, who had escaped from an Italian Prisoner of War Camp. At this time Starks explained that he understood Pomonis' reason for coming to DEMURO was the fact he knew the latter to be the personal friend of his (Pomonis') father-in-law, a Signor (fnu) SABATTELLI. Starks stated that Pomonis claimed to have consented to join the movement, and was to get further information that night (30 January 1953) from his wife's cousin, who was supposed to have had a rendezvous with the German in Naples the previous night. Starks stated he had been furnished no proof of Pomonis U.S. citizenship. Starks was instructed to return to Demuro's office where Pomonis was waiting, and attempt to get more facts on the identify of Pomonis and then suggest that Pomonis return when he had further information on the subject matter.

2. At 1320 this same day Starks called by phone and said that Pomonis' citizenship was established by examination of a U.S. Passport in his possession. The reporting officer immediately visited Demuro's office and arranged to speak with Pomonis that same day at 1600.

3. At 1600, 30 January 1953 Pomonis visited this office and furnished the following information:

a. Concerning his background: He stated he was born on 18 April 1921 at Hull, England; that he had been raised in Australia; and that he had become an American Citizen and had served in the USA and the USAF. He stated that in 1947 he was on duty with the USA in Italy and had met and married his wife, Lea SABATTELLI; and that they had three small children. He stated that he had had U.S. Army service in Germany, service with the USAF in England, and that he had been on duty at the Patrick Airbase in Florida, when he was discharged 3 September 1952. He stated he was presently living in Naples at Via Delle Acacie #1, with his wife and children and was waiting for authorization from the Veterans Administration to start to school here under the G.I. Bill of Rights. He stated he was presently broke and that he had been unable to get a job to pay his everyday living expenses. He presented his U.S. Passport #52654 issued 24 September 1952 at New York, N.Y.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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EMKA

b. Pomonis stated that the other German was reported to have the last name EMKA; that he was an industrialist from Austria; and that Hass was EMKA's representative in Milan. Pomonis said that Emka was in the Tinplate export import business and also the manufacturer of a "50 shot" gas pistol.

c. He stated that Ugo had reported to him that during this rendezvous nothing more was said about organizing the "Neo-Fascist-Nazi underground movement"; that the primary purpose for Hass and EMKA being in Naples was now reported to be to buy "coral"; and that they were to leave Naples that morning, 31 January 1953, for Rome.

d. Pomonis said he had asked Ugo about "the job" and that he was told there was no job to be had. Pomonis said that EMKA had promised to send Benito a price list on Tinplate from Austria. At this time Pomonis showed the reporting officer a business card for a "Pomonis & Co.". He stated that this company was in his wife's name and had been organized about a year; that he had invested all of his money in it, and to date they had had but one contract amounting to less than \$100.00; and that the company was interested in tinplate products, and had hoped to get connected with the canning industries in the Naples area. Pomonis stated that Benito had apparently told EMKA about this company, which obviously originated the idea of EMKA sending a price list on Tinplate in the near future. Pomonis further stated that Ugo had reported having told Hass that he (Ugo) had an American cousin (referring to Pomonis) living in Naples.

5. During this interview Pomonis' demeanor still expressed a straight forward, frank, and sincere attitude. He did however appear somewhat apprehensive about the possible necessity of bringing this matter to the Italian authorities. He said he would hate to see his wife's relatives brought to task, for "just being propositioned by these Germans about the underground movement", but he immediately stated that he still considered it his duty to report the matter, and that he would rely on the decision of the authorities in handling the matter. He admitted that it appeared strange for the subject of "recruiting" to have been dropped so quickly, but that Ugo had not given any further explanation. He volunteered that possibly their interest in buying "coral" was to finance their underground movement.

6. He again mentioned that when this German was caught again, he hoped Hass would be sent back to the U.S. Section of Germany where the Americans would see that he didn't escape again. This comment reflected again that in his "mind" the most important thing was to recapture the German. In explaining his motive for agreeing to join this movement, Pomonis had stated it was to assist in recapturing the German.

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7. According to Pomonis, Ugo described Hass as about 41 years of age, graying hair, an idealist, and impatiently waiting for the next war. Further, that Hass is reported to carry a note book with the names of - not his friends, but of his enemies; that instead of having escaped from Italian Prisoner of War Camp five times, it has been seven times; and that each time he is picked up the person whose names appear in the note book are also picked up. It was at this point in the conversation with Pomonis that he reflected his apprehension about the Italians learning about the matter, which might result in the arrest of his wife's two cousins, Ugo and Benito.

8. Pomonis was requested to bring any further information he acquired directly to the reporting officer. He said that he would likely get further information as to the identity of EMKA when the "price list on tinplate arrived".

9. Pomonis was instructed to phone this office for an appointment when he wanted to discuss the matter in the future.

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b. Regarding the Subject matter:

(1) Pomonis stated that on Wednesday night 28 January 1953, Ugo D'Esposito, his wife's cousin came to their home for a visit, which was not an unusual incident. In a somewhat general manner Ugo asked him (Pomonis) if he would like to earn some money as a German spy, stating he had met an old acquaintance - inferring it had been that same day. This acquaintance was described as being an ex-Major of the German Gestapo, whom Ugo had worked for and been paid by, when he was in the Italian Intelligence Service during the war. Pomonis stated that Ugo claimed this German was in the area for the purpose of organizing an underground Neo-Fascist-Nazi group, and that he was to meet him again the following night for more details. Pomonis stated he learned the German was named Haas or Hass; that he was an escapee from an Italian Prison Camp, having escaped five (5) times; that he was posing as an industrialist in Milan; and that he, with German General Kesselring, and a man named Dolman, had been held responsible for the Ardeates Cave massacre. Pomonis stated that the rendezvous on Thursday night with this German was also to include Benito D'Rovera, another cousin of his wife. Pomonis stated that he had been impressed by the information he received, and that he considered it important enough to bring to the U.S. authorities; that his reason for contacting DeMuro, was that he knew him through his father-in-law; and that he could have an excuse for speaking with DeMuro, since he had previously tried to get a job with the U.S. activities through him. Pomonis stated that no one was aware of his bringing, or intending to bring this information to the authorities and that the only people he had talked to about the matter were LCDR Starks and CDR DeMuro and the reporting officer. Pomonis further stated that he had agreed with Ugo to join the organization if it was worth while and quoted his comments to Ugo as follows "You know I'm broke - sure I'll join if its worth while". In answer to Pomonis' query for whom the German was working, Ugo is claimed to have said - "Not for or against the Americans, but against the Russians".

(2) Pomonis appeared to attach significance to the necessity of recapturing this "Kraut". He said that if he had decided to come to DeMuro earlier with the information, he ventured the idea that it might have been possible to capture the German during the rendezvous on Thursday night. He stated that one reason he had not entrusted the information about his "turning in the information" not even to his wife, was because "he didn't trust the Italians and blood ran thicker than water". He further described his wife's family as either being members of, or in favor of the MSI party, which he claimed to understand as being closely alligned with Fascist ideas.

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(3) Pomonis stated that Ugo D'Esposito was about 30 years of age, single, and worked as a bookkeeper, where or for whom he did not know. He did not know Ugo's address but stated he could acquire it. He described Ugo as a person of better than average intelligence and possessed the characteristic of being constantly "jovial" and a person who "never worried". He stated Ugo had been assigned to Intelligence duties during the war and had been held in a British Prison Camp in Northern Italy.

(4) He stated that Benito D'Rovera is about 30 years of age; that he is married and has a couple of small children; and that he is presently employed with Cooks travel agency in Naples. He stated Benito was also in the Italian Intelligence Service during the war, and that he also was a prisoner of war, held by the Italians in Rome.

(5) Pomonis stated that when Ugo broached the subject of working for the German, he (Pomonis) had gathered that Benito might be in on the deal, or was to be contacted about it, but it was his opinion that Benito would likely not jeopardize his position by joining such a venture.

(6) Pomonis' entire demeanor during this interview was one of straight forwardness and frankness. Several times he made comments which indicated that the important thing in his mind, was the "recapturing of the German".

(7) Pomonis stated that he would return to report what ever he learned from Ugo, resulting from the latter's rendezvous with the German Thursday night 29 January 1953.

4. On Saturday morning 31 January 1953, Pomonis came to the office and reported the following:

a. He stated that on Friday night 30 January 1953, Ugo had again come to his home and told of what happened during the rendezvous on the night of 29 January 1953. He said Ugo had reported that the rendezvous had been held at Benito's home; that Hass, Benito, Ugo, and another German had been present. He stated that H-A-S-S was established as the spelling of the German ex-Majors last name, but the first name was still unknown. He said that Hass carried an Italian passport; that he was a representative of a concern in Milan called the EMKA Company; and that the name on his Italian Passport was an Italian name, which he had assumed to cover his identity. He stated further that Hass was married to an Italian.

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