

*Vajta file*

Subject: Enrico INSABATO

Report No: FIR-1984

Place acquired: Rome

Date of Info: Prior to October 1947

Evaluation: C-3

Date Acquired: 1 August 1948

Source:

Date of Report: 10 August 1948

1. INSABATO Enrico is an Italian agrarian expert who has spent much time during the past 30 years in Central Europe and the Balkans and also in Egypt. INSABATO first met Ferenc VAJTA at Geneva during a League of Nations session, when VAJTA was junior member of, or attached to, the Hungarian delegation. INSABATO is also well-known through social contacts with Mr. GOWEN of the State Department and GOWEN, Jr. who was with the CIC, Rome. Original contact with INSABATO (sometime before the VAJTA affair) was based on a letter of introduction by his father.
2. VAJTA made contact on his own with INSABATO shortly after his clandestine arrival in Italy in 1946. He was brought to the vice-president of the Constituent Assembly, PECORARI, by INSABATO (who is a personal friend of PECORARI) in connection with a plan of VAJTA's to organize the emigration to Italy of Hungarian anti-Communist industrialists who had fled to Germany.
3. Early in 1947 the Czech government, through the Warsaw Polish Embassy in Rome, presented a demand for VAJTA's arrest and extradition, which, after passing through Italian ministerial channels, resulted in VAJTA's arrest. INSABATO appealed to PECORARI for assistance and the two went together to the Chief of Police to appeal for VAJTA's release. VAJTA, on PECORARI's order, was transferred from home to the Farfa Sabina internment camp from which he was released again on PECORARI's order, but without the revocation of the general order which had been distributed for VAJTA's arrest. VAJTA was taken from the camp by INSABATO who put him up temporarily at his own home in Rome. After a few days, by arrangement with PECORARI, VAJTA was taken to a Florence convent by PECORARI's secretary.
4. PECORARI's secretary was in touch with CIC, Rome Detachment and all details of the matter thus came to the attention of GOWEN, Jr. who, because he knew INSABATO, for the first time interested himself in the case.
5. The exact connection between VAJTA and INSABATO would therefore appear to be one of long standing personal friendship, which was reactivated by VAJTA when he came to Italy in 1946. It is also probable that the project for transferring Hungarian industrialists to Italy from Germany for some kind of financial or industrial combination in Italy which promised a profitable return. This last consideration undoubtedly operated to assure PECORARI's interest on behalf of INSABATO, as it is known that PECORARI, who is a political non-entity, was not at any time in direct contact with VAJTA.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2006