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OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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REPORT MADE AT:	DATE:	PERIOD COVERED:	MADE BY:
Rome	26 August 1946	1944-45	Source
SUBJECT:	Statement by Guido ZIMMER		STATUS
			Closed

SOURCE: ZIMMER

REFERENCE: JRX-3748, LWX-733 of 27 July 1946

COMMENT:

1. Attachment is translation prepared by this Unit of a brief statement submitted by Source through our Amzon colleagues. We have selected only those sections which amplified the ZIMMER Notes already published by this Unit. The excerpts are complete as far as their original content is concerned. The paragraphing of the original has been retained.

2. Paras. 1, 2, 23 and 26 may be of interest to Genoa and Milan for follow-up.

3. Attention is directed to Source's statement on SENISE (para 5), and PARILLI (para. 6).

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Comment continued from page 1.

4. Amzon Note: It seems probable in view of the brevity of the statement on the latter, that Source will be asked to prepare a more detailed statement covering his contact from their first meeting, preferably on the basis of the reports he forwarded to HUEGEL. (see ZIMMER notes). This will be necessary in order to assess the value of ZIMMER's reports to HUEGEL as it is possible that the reports were written to hide the degree of personal control exercised by PARRILLI over ZIMMER.

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SUBJECT: Translation of Excerpts from Statement by
Guido ZIMMER.

1. Dottore BERGER, Italian citizen, formerly working for the "Sicherheitspolizei" (Security Police) in Nizza. I had an extraordinarily bad impression of his character. It seemed he wanted to work neither for the cause itself nor for money, but only to be under German protection. I suppose he enriched himself in France in a doubtful way. As he did not really accomplish the tasks I gave him, but on the one hand denounced people of whom he warned me on the other hand, I broke off relations with him after a short time.

2. A young Italian lieutenant of the Carabinieri from Imperia or Savona offered me his services. I don't remember his name, but his mother lived in Asti and his uncle was head of the Carabinieri in Imperia or Savona. He was about 25 years old, 1.85 cm tall and rather heavy. He had a French friend whose name was Max Sardi and he frequently went to the Hotel Continental in Milan. However, his intelligence was insufficient for the work he was supposed to do and so he went as an officer to the X.MAS.....

4. ZAMBELLI. Since May 1944 Z. provided me with informative material. I gathered from conversations that he was no neo-Fascist and therefore our relations soon became sincerer. I learnt that he was ashamed of having become a "Collaborationist". He would have preferred to leave the service already about the middle of last year, proof of which was the fact that he sent me no more reports. I did not exercise any pressure on him, well knowing that he had started to collaborate with patriots near Parma. I even gave him the necessary permits for his personal security during his trips. I believe it was in August 1944 that he told me of the disadventure of his friend, Colonello MINETTI, who had been arrested and sentenced to death by the SS-headquarters in Parma. We tried to think of some means by which to help him. Personally, I had no influence on the Executive Department of the Security Police and as the charges against MINETTI were very serious, the only way to get him out was trying to bluff the Security Police. My plan was successful and even MINETTI himself could scarcely believe it. We could not tell MINETTI the full truth about our trick, otherwise Z. would have been compromised as my retributed agent.

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From this moment, however, Z. was sure he could trust me completely and regularly asked me for false documents etc., so that he and the friends of Col. MINETTI could travel safely. Mrs. MINETTI too was later on freed in the same way. My concluding opinion about Z. is as follows: Collaborationist until about May, June 1944, then however clearly adhering to the cause of the Italian patriots. I could trust him and in particular of course Col. MINETTI so much that I informed them in time of my collaboration with the Americans and of the coming capitulation, in order to enable them to inform the Milan patriots. I should like to add that, already in autumn 1944, I asked for MINETTI's and ZAMBELLI's assistance in order to establish illegal relations with the British and Americans. We made several journeys and set up a courier service, but our tentatives were unsuccessful.

5. Dottore SENISE, a relative of the former Italian police chief. Dr. S. came to me from Stockholm with a letter of recommendation. His service with me did not last long. He apparently did not pursue any other object but to escape safely to a neutral foreign country with a false passport which he hoped to get from me.....

8. The Frenchman PALMERI who was in possession of a German passport under the name of Wilhelm^xBAUER and who constituted the head of a real gangster band composed of his brothers, friends and lovers, by far surpassed the above named SARDI. P. had escaped during the occupation of France and was trying to get in touch with a German office, in order to be able to continue his somewhat dirty activities. As I had taken away all his documents and fire arms, he made a protest to Berlin with the effect that I got order to take care of him. Nevertheless, a collaboration with him did not take place, as I saw him only on 2 or 3 occasions. The other times he called on me, I had my presence denied. One of my agents had previously informed me about the personality of P.....

10. See above, Uriarte. In May or June I saw U. and Y. at Lugano. I informed Dr. Waibel about it.....

15. Bruno FASSI acted as manager of G., in order to make money of his invention. He had already worked before with KAPPLER in Rome. When he realized in Milan that there was no business to be done with the apparatus, he started a blackmarket for an SS-office in Foro Buonaparte.

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Later, he was denounced and charged to have requisitioned cars which he sold afterwards to other German offices, always abusing of a personal document issued by the Rome Security Polico. He was arrested and engaged for labor in Germany.....

23. One of the brothers CORSETTI was in Turin as agent for the office VI of Verona. The agent under N.9 (Miodraz YEVREMOVIC) received orders from Verona to provide him with a Spanish passport under the name of COMEZ, by means of which he intended to go to Switzerland. Of course the Swiss authorities did not grant him the visa to enter the country and so his journey did not take place.....

26. The only agent I had for myself in Turin was a former Captain who served in the army in Brescia till November 1944. He was recommended to me by CARENZI (see N.3). I had the impression that this Captain who - as far as I knew - was a lawyer, only wanted to take his leave from the army. After I and C. had helped him to attain his object, I heard from him only twice shortly, and what he reported about was absolutely insignificant.

It may be that I did not mention some agents I knew because I don't remember them, but I did not leave out names of people who directly worked for me. In order to prevent any people to be unfoundedly suspected because they might have been seen with me and therefore could be denounced, I also want to nominate those persons who were my friends or personal acquaintances, but with whom I did not pursue any object relating to my service.

1.) Don Claudio OTTOLINI VISCONTI. I had many political conversations with Don Claudio, but he rather got information from me than I from him. I also helped him to get his orderly out of the Fascist army and further trusted him so much as to inform him of the near capitulation, in order to enable the Liberation Committee to be informed by him in time about the agreements taken. (Besides OTTOLINI and MINETTI I did not speak to anybody for the same reasons).

2.) Commendatore MEYER, Swiss citizen, owner of the Achillo Banfi Company. He was introduced to me by a common friend. We met a few times. I believe I could do him a favor and he did the same for me when my child was ill.

3.) Col. MINETTI, see under N.4.

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4.) Family MARINI, Milan (see N. 12, omitted). When I was invited for lunch there, I heard for the first time by one of those present about the infamies of the police group KOCH. On the same day still I went to complain and get information about it of Standartenfuhrer RAUFF who advised me to speak to Hauptsturmfuhrer SAEVECKE about the matter. SAEVECKE declared them all for idle stories and fibs and said he had convinced himself that the house was alright. I succeeded however, to get detailed and precise information about it by N. 12 and went to complain several other times about the thing. SAEVECKE then promised he would occupy himself with it. Indeed, two or three days later the whole KOCH group was arrested, but as far as I know, by an Italian organization.

5.) A Captain named DECIO and his wife called Pucci, living in Milan, Corso Magenta. DECIO had been detained in San Vittore and I succeeded in freeing him by the assertion that he worked for me and had therefore to play an anti-fascist role. I had lunch with that family some two or three times. In spring of this year D. was again arrested in Turin. But this time I could not help him, because I had no more credit with the competent persons in the Hotel Regina.

6.) On the same occasion I got to know certain Carletto ROSSI, Milan, and the Swede Magnus LYREK. My friendship with ROSSI was of absolute personal character. I could be useful to him by providing him sometimes with documents which permitted him to pass the numerous German controls.

7.) Ursula ALTMANN, German citizen, Turin, Corso Italia 122. I first knew Miss A. at Corvinia. She was to be arrested by the German authorities, because she was of Jewish descent. Several times I succeeded to prevent her being arrested, alleging that I tried to have her fiance work for my service, who was the owner of a well-known Turin radio firm. All this caused me great difficulties, as a report had gone about it to the "Gestapo" in Berlin. Only two or three times we spoke together over the phone from Milan.

Apart from the above named people and friends I had another very sincere friend in Baron Luigi PARRILLI. I owe him greatest thanks for it was he who helped me to find the right way. He will be able to tell best who were the people we managed to help.

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