

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)  
☐ (2)(A) Privacy  
☐ (2)(B) Methods/Sources  
☐ (2)(C) Foreign Relations

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

SECRET

15 December 1944

MEMORANDUM #53

To: SAINT Rome  
From: SAINT Caserta  
Subject: BORGHESE

DEC 17 1944	
ARGENTS	READ
CARDING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OK FILE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACTION	
C + F	

The following is from DH001's letter of 24 November (X-1117) to Saint Caserta:

1. With reference to a report from CB015 dated 19 October 1944 on above subject, we had previously received the information in paragraph 1a from Algiers - our accession #VX002-8.22a.
2. We believe that the information in paragraph 2a, b&c all applies to one person. The following is a summary of all information we have on the subject.
3. (Prince) Junio Valerio BORGHESE - @ Hauptmann BORCHARDT. Born about 1906 - Rome. Son of Prince Livio BORGHESE - cousin of the ex-governor of Rome. Wife - Doria WASSILIEVNA (Russia), last reported to be living in Florence with an unidentified sister of Prince BORGHESE.
4. Attended the Royal Italian Naval Academy, LIVORNO? Rank of Capitano di Corvetta or Fregata. Commanding officer of the 10th Mas Flotilla and the San Marco Battalion. Has close relations with Kdo. 212 in which he holds the rank of Hauptmann.
5. It has been rumored that he was wounded in a Partisan attack and also that he was arrested by the Germans in June for treachery. One report states that it was rumored amongst his men that he was anti-Fascist, but this is not borne out by any other reports. His last headquarters were reported to be at Valdarno near Vicenzo.
6. Our description fits your a, with these additions: Robust figure, large nose, smooth grey hair, blue eyes.

ROME X-2 Pts 103  
FOLDER #1517

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X-2-9543

15 Dec 44

Capitano di Fregata Junio Valerio BORGHESE

7 JAN 45 Rome

cit - Italy

SALTY  
Zeddy

C+F

BORGHESE was born in 1906, his father was Livio dei Principe BORGHESE and his mother Valeria KHUN, of Turkish origin.

He entered the "R. Accademia Navale" of Livorno in 1922 and graduated in 1928 with the grade of "Guardiamarina" after having repeated the first year.

In 1929 he went on a cruise to South America in the "TRENTO". From 1929 to 1931 he was on Torpedo ships in the North Adriatic. After having completed the advanced courses in Livorno at the R. Accademia Navale, he graduated with the grade of S. Tenente di Vascello and started a course for "Palombari a Grande Profondità" after which he embarked on the "TITANO" in 1933 and was assigned to the "Scuola Palombari di Grande Profondità".

In the summer of 1933 he went on a sailing cruise to North America.

Upon his return he was promoted to "Tenente di Vascello" after having been transferred to the TITANO at La Spezia where he continued his studies of the "Palombari G.P." and was later transferred to the submarine TRICHICO based at Massaua where he remained during the whole of the Ethiopian Campaign.

He married a young woman of Russian origin called Doria OLSOUFIEFF, sister of Tenente di Vascello Alessio OLSOUFIEFF who was killed in combat in the Sicilian Canal during the present war.

Upon his return to Italy he was given command of the submarine IRIDE with which he participated in the Spanish war from Sept. 1937 to Feb. 1938.

He was awarded the "Medaglia di Bronzo al Valore Militare" with the following motivations:

"As Submarine Commander he completed numerous war missions on the Spanish coast operating against the Red warships, and against the contraband activities, showing an excellent offensive spirit and solid professional qualities. He resolutely attacked a destroyer by night with the submarine IRIDE, remaining on the surface and succeeding various times in eluding enemy units who tried repeatedly to damage the submarine with depth charges".

From 1938 to 1940 he was successively in command of the submarines ZAFFIRO, AMETISTA, NEREIDE, PISANI and DIASPRO.

commander of  
submarine  
attached to  
Flotilla MAS

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He was promoted to Capitano di Corvetta and was in command of the submarine SCIRE, initiating the first attempts at transporting and launching "Mezzo d'Assalto" by submarine.

In October 1941 he undertook his first war mission, which consisted of carrying three "Mezzi Speciali" to within two miles of Gibraltar. This attempt failed due to the irregular functioning of the machines. Only Lt. V. BIRINDELLI succeeded in penetrating the Port of Gibraltar, but the charge exploded 30 metres from the British Battleship.

In January 1941 he was awarded the "Medaglia d'Oro al Valore Militare".

In the summer of 1941, he assumed command of the Xth Flottiglia MAS and from then on he directed and coordinated the activities of the "Mezzi d'Assalto".

In December 1941 he succeeded in bringing the "Mezzi Speciali" in front of the Base at Alexandria which operated with great success in the harbor sinking and damaging two British Battleships. For this he was awarded the "Ordine Militare di Savoia" in March 1942 with the following motivations:

"Commander of the submarines assigned to the Xth Flottiglia MAS for operations with "Mezzi d'Assalto", after having completed three audacious and difficult missions. He studied and prepared a fourth mission with the view of forcing another enemy base with perfect technique and sagacity. Affronting the risks of enemy defense and vigilance with cold determination, he drew his submarine near to the well fortified port in order to put the "Mezzi d'Assalto" in the best position for the forcing of the enemy base. He then launched the "Mezzi d'Assalto" in an action which was crowned with brilliant success causing heavy damage to the two enemy Battleships."

He was also promoted to Capitano di Fregata for distinction in combat, and was awarded the Iron Cross 11 Class by the German Command.

In September 1943 he assumed a republican attitude and from the 14th of September 1944 was suspended from the Italian Navy for an indefinite period, awaiting penal proceedings.

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