



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CARLO TRESKA

**PART 7 OF 10
(SECTIONS 7 & 8)**

BUFILE: 61-1335

Carlo Tresca

section 7



JKM: BK

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

April 2, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. P. M. LADD

Re: CARLO TRESCA, Victim;
Murder

Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	✓
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Kramer	_____
Mr. McGuire	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Beahm	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Pursuant to Mr. Tamm's instructions, I proceeded to the office of Mr. William Stanley of the law firm of Cummings and Stanley, 1616 K Street, Northwest, at 11:30 A.M. today. In accordance with his telephonic advice to the Bureau just before, Mr. Stanley had in his office Mrs. Carlo Tresca, the widow of the captioned individual.

Mr. Stanley was very affable and friendly and expressed his gratitude for the Director's consideration in having me call at his office. As a matter of interest, Mrs. Tresca is apparently a native born American who is very intelligent, apparently well educated, well read, and has an excellent knowledge of at least leftist ideologics, their workings, and the people connected with them. She impressed me as a woman of good breeding and very much "a lady."

Mr. Stanley, after introductions, spent some time reviewing his past contacts with Mr. Tamm concerning this matter and generally elaborating apparently to convince Mrs. Tresca he had expended considerable effort and shown a real interest in her case. He explained that he was particularly interested in having her talk to one of the officials of the Bureau so that she would fully understand the Bureau's position. I reiterated Mr. Tamm's comments to Mr. Stanley that the FBI is without jurisdiction in a matter of this kind and is, in fact, precluded by the phraseology of Congressional enactments from entering into such a case even on a volunteer or cooperative basis. In answer to Mr. Stanley's inquiry, I assured that in so far as the Bureau is concerned, the homicide squad of the New York Police Department is very capable and honest and that reliance could be rested in it to expend every possible effort to solve this case.

Mrs. Tresca expressed some doubt as to whether the investigation has been receiving sufficiently vigorous handling and felt that the hood of this being a "political murder" should justify the entrance of the FBI into the investigation. She mentioned Miss Dolores Faconti, the Assistant U. S. Attorney in New York whose name has come into this case and inquired as to why the Bureau could not enter the investigation because of the involvement of a Federal employee. I explained to her the fact that employees of the Government are subject to state criminal laws

61-1335-30

F B I
APR 12 1943



I think we ought to get all we can on documents. Had our desks so advised.

2 MAY 11 1943

*Copy to S. J. C. - S. J. #72
S. J. #22-48143 47713*

the same as anyone else. She then inquired as to whether the Bureau could enter the case if the Attorney General specifically requested it to do so because of the involvement of Miss Faconti. My reply to her was that any investigation the FBI was specifically instructed to make by the Attorney General would, of course, be made, but that the Attorney General would, of course, consider the Congressional restrictions on the Bureau in ordering an investigation. I further informed her that should he request an investigation of Miss Faconti, it would undoubtedly be for administrative purposes and would not be an investigation of the murder. (You will recall that the Bureau is conducting an investigation of Miss Faconti at the Attorney General's specific request.)

Mrs. Tresca then turned her inquiries to the subject of political murders and put forward several questions as to whether the FBI would not investigate if a murder were committed by an agent of and at the specific direction of a foreign government. I pointed out that to my best recollection there has never been such a set of facts encountered in this country, and that to my personal recollection the only Federal law applicable in such a situation would be the Foreign Agents Registration Act. Then, without specifically stating the basis for her inquiry, Mrs. Tresca inquired whether the Bureau could question one Sormmenti, an OGPU agent now in Mexico City. Since she mentioned no basis for her question, I answered her purely theoretically by advising her that any action undertaken by the Government outside the territorial limits of the United States was a matter for the State Department. Mrs. Tresca then explained that Sormmenti (Jesus Sormmenti Vidali, whose true name is Carlos Contreras) was an OGPU agent in Spain during the Civil War. His function was to assist in the liquidation of anarchists and other leftists who were not in accord with Russia. One individual liquidated by him was an Italian who was a protegee of Tresca. Mrs. Tresca pointed out that her husband was an anarchist and accordingly extremely anti-Communist. As a result of Sormmenti's liquidation of his protegee, Tresca made it a point in his paper to publicize and protest against Sormmenti's presence and activities in Mexico City where he now is. After this explanation, Mrs. Tresca again inquired whether it would not be possible to have Sormmenti questioned as to his knowledge relative to Tresca's death. I again told her that any such action would be a State Department matter, and inquired whether she had any information which could be used as a basis for such a questioning. She stated she had nothing definite, and when I asked her what, if any, admissions she thought could be expected from an OGPU agent during a voluntary interview, she conceded that there would be no purpose served in questioning Sormmenti. She did mention, however, that she has a picture of Sormmenti. Since the FBI is extremely interested in Sormmenti, I mentioned to Mrs. Tresca as I was leaving that since she had stated that Sormmenti is definitely known to her to be an OGPU agent who is now in Mexico, I would be interested in having a copy of his picture since

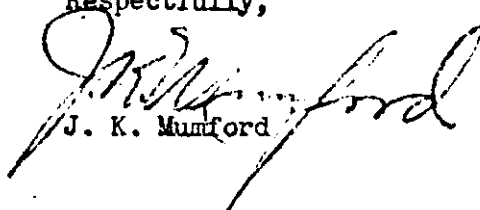
301

under its general obligations in connection with the internal security of the country, the Bureau is interested in knowing of any agents of any foreign government who are suspected, as she had said, of entering this country unannounced and unregistered. She stated she would send me a copy of his picture immediately upon her return to New York.

Conclusion

After this discussion which lasted about forty-five minutes, Mr. Stanley and Mrs. Tresca expressed appreciation and stated that should they receive any information which might appear to be of interest to the Bureau, they would make it available. Mrs. Tresca mentioned that her husband had frequently been contacted by FBI Agents and had furnished information. She stated that she would continue to do so at any time she might be helpful. She mentioned incidentally that she is on the Board of Directors of the American Civil Liberties Union. Mr. Stanley stated that he would contact Mr. Tamm or me in this matter later, and Mrs. Tresca asked if she might call at the Bureau should she develop anything of interest. I suggested that she feel free to come to my office.

Respectfully,


J. K. Mumford

April 9, 19

ARMANDO BORGHI

MAX MARTIN
ALBERTO MANGIACAPRA

P.O. BOX 71, ROSEVILLE STA.
NEWARK, N.J.

242 E. 14TH STREET

"(Quote transl) 'with bones broken because hefell...
...)' in the elevator my work remains unfinished)
DRAMIS
CARLO TRESCA

820 BROADWAY
dead.

"Writer states (quote lit. transl) 'To meet me on any street,
on any night I should have told them that they are FASCIST spies,
filthy and very poisonous snakes of the OVRA. They have never
come because spies crawl about in the dark, like spiders under
leaves and they bite.'

"Writer states that the Director of the F.B.I. now dead,
had disregarded his (writer's) warnings, with the result that
the work of the gang continues. Should anything happen to him,
writer indicates that the probable source would be ALBERTO CUPPELI,
with a FASCIST background.

"Writer names the following as members of the FASCIST group.

BRUNO
MALATESTA
CAVALCA
TONY IL SICILIANO

ANGELO CHIAVORELLA
MILANO
'IL ROMANO'
RATTIPAGLIA"

"EXAMINER'S NOTE - In a recent broadcast heard in WASHINGTON
the name of CARLO TRESCA, mentioned above, was linked with
the assassination of TROTZKY, in MEXICO."

For your information, the individuals mentioned in the first
part of the intercepted communication are almost all Italian Socialists
and former friends of the murdered Carlo Tresca. Some of the individuals
mentioned by the writer of the intercepted letter as being members of the
Fascist group have been identified as New York gangsters of Sicilian
descent.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NNB:EFB
U.S.Censorship

RECORDED

61-1335-301

April 9, 1943

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
VIA DIPLOMATIC AIR POUCH

*Delivered by 6049
1277*

S.S. #72

RE: CARLO TRESCA
Mexico Subversive Activities - S
(61-1335)

Dear Sir:

Refer to Bureau cable of March 22 and Bureau letters of January 28, February 3, and March 17, 1943, in the captioned matter.

The Bureau is ^{utterly dissatisfied with} astounded and amazed and at a loss to understand the extreme delinquency of this matter in your office. You are instructed to immediately treat this matter as a special case, and to assign at least two agents to the investigation in order to clear your delinquency.

Unless a reply is received from you in the immediate future, the Bureau may be compelled to take administrative action as a result

Mr. Tolson of the laxity indicated by your failure to reply to previous communication of Mr. E. A. Tamm in this matter.

Mr. Clegg _____

Mr. Coffey _____

For your information and assistance in conducting the requested

Mr. Glavin inquiries, there follows an excerpt from an intercept submission in con-

Mr. Ladd nection with a letter dated February 23, 1943, from one "O. R." in New

Mr. Nichols York City to Vittorio Vidali, alias Carlos J. Contreras, Calle Loteria

Mr. Rosen Nacional 1-D to 6, Mexico, D. F.

Mr. Tracy _____

Mr. Carson _____ "ANARCHIST ACTIVITIES IN MEXICO"

Mr. Harbo _____

Mr. Hendon _____

Mr. McGuire _____

Mr. Mumford _____

Mr. Piper _____

Mr. Quinn Tamm _____

Mr. Nease _____

Miss Gandy _____

"Writer states that for a year he has made known to (Ex. does not specify what)"

CITIZENSHIP SECTION
GIROLAMO VALENTI
PIETRO ALLEGRA 12
GIUSEPPE LURIS
ALBERTO CUPELLI P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

80 E 11th STREET
59 CHRISTIE STREET
80 4TH AVENUE (OF 401)
7909

W
July 18

55 MAY 6 1943

April 8, 1943

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to:

Mexico, D. F.

CABLE - SPECIAL CIPHER PAD

RE: CARLO TRESKA. REFERENCE BUREAU CABLE MARCH TWENTY-TWO LAST AND BUREAU LETTERS JANUARY TWENTY-SIX, FEBRUARY THREE, MARCH SEVENTEEN LAST. BUREAU AMAZED AT EXTREME DELINQUENCY THIS MATTER. BY CABLE IMMEDIATELY ADVISE STATUS THIS CASE YOUR OFFICE. COVER LEADS AND CABLE REPORT.

Serial # 88

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Winter _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Encoded and sent State Dep't.

Date: 4-9-43
Enc: HMB:EPB

4700

61-1335-202

Mr. Ladd after approval, please return to Mr. Carson's Office for transmittal to the Mr. Nichols laboratory to be put into code.

APR 20 1943

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Checked by: [Signature] Time 4:23
Filed by: [Signature]

55 MAY 6 1943

SENT VIA Cable

M Per [Signature]

Cap. Trov. 24

April 30th

FED. BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Miss Jean Wundlich : 175-27 Wexford Terrace : Jamaica, N. Y.

Mr. Biddle

The Carlo Tresca murder should be solved. Because of its international complications, this case calls for Federal action.

I urge that you take this case up without further delay.
Sincerely,
Jean Wundlich

61-1335-303

EX-52 RECORDED & INDEXED

F B I
26 MAY 4 1943

L130

APR 25 1943
H 25-13

ACS:vj
61-1335-303

RECORDED

May 12, 1943

Miss Jean Wunderlich
175-27 Wexford Terrace
Jamaica, New York

Dear Miss Wunderlich:

This will acknowledge receipt of your card of recent date, by reference from the Attorney General.

With regard to the matter mentioned in your communication, the jurisdiction of this Bureau is limited to investigation of violations of certain Federal Statutes. Inasmuch as the matter which you referred to does not appear to constitute such a violation, I am sure you will understand that this Bureau cannot comply with your request.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED 6
 ★ MAY 12 1943 P.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

8 MAY 14 1943

61-1335-303

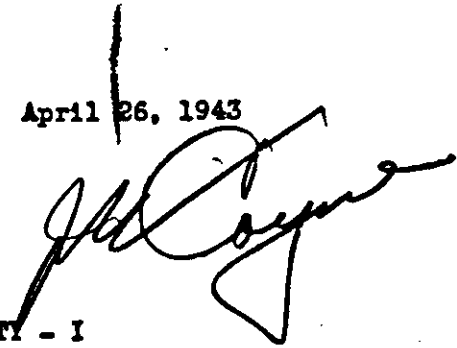
Handwritten initials or mark.

Handwritten signature or initials.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

JTG:ESS
100-9744

April 26, 1943



DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: CARLO TRESCA;
INTERNAL SECURITY - I

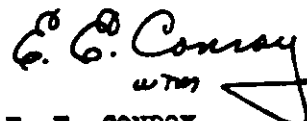
Dear Sir:

I am enclosing herewith a booklet published by the Executive Committee of IL MARTELLO in commemoration of CARLO TRESCA by representatives of labor organizations and individuals prominent in labor circles.

Some of the articles are in the Italian language and if the Bureau has any of them translated and believes they may be of interest to the New York Field Division, it is requested that a copy of the translated article be forwarded to this office as information for our file on the subject.

~~DEFERRED REPLY~~

Very truly yours,



E. E. CONROY
SAC

1 ENCLG. e



12/2/43
Encl.

ENCL. BEHIND FILE

4/29/43
gpc

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

61 - 1335 - 304
B
G APR 29 1943



JPC:cgb

RECORDED

61-1335 -304

May 21, 1943

SAC, New York

CARLO TRESCA
INTERNAL SECURITY - I.

Reference is made to your letter dated April 26, 1943, with which you enclosed a booklet published by the Executive Committee of "Il Martello" in commemoration of Carlo Tresca.

In pursuance of the request outlined in the last paragraph of the referenced communication, there are enclosed copies of a summary translation which has been made of the articles contained therein which are written in the Italian language.

Enclosure

PUBLICATION FILE

ENCLOSURE

1 NCL BEHIND FILE

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED 2
 ★ MAY 21 1943 P.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

485
 CPT
 F
[Handwritten signature]

30 MAY 29 1943 245

[Handwritten initials/signature]

SUMMARY FROM THE ITALIAN

Booklet published by the Executive Committee of "IL MARTELLO", is a memorial to Carlo Tresca and what he stood for in labor circles. It gives detailed account of the major strikes which he led during the many years in this country. There appears to be nothing of interest to the Bureau to be gathered from the various articles except that he fought against fascism even before the American authorities recognized it as a potential enemy. In no article is there any mention of an individual or any organization which in any way may be responsible for his death. It is the general opinion or belief of the writers of these various tributes, however, that it was his fascist enemies which killed him to silence him in his untiring battle against fascism and its advocates in this country.

EXAMINED BY: Marie G. Macaluso
5-11-43
100-9744
pc

ENCLOSURE

61-13357-304

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

April 27, 1943

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to: SIS #72

CABLE

RE CARLO TRESCA. ENDEAVOR OBTAIN AND FORWARD BUREAU PHOTOGRAPHS
OF CARLOS CONTRERAS. GIVE PREFERRED EXPEDITIOUS ATTENTION.

Note: After approval, please return to Mr. Carson's office for
transmittal to the Radio Communications Section.

Encoded and sent State Dep't.

Date: 4-28-43

By: Stone (MR)

61-1335-305

3407

Call to
Stone

Serial 1-1327
61-1335-305 - checked

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

4937

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

MAY 2 1943

M Per

WGH

JAS:WED
Broadcast: 9:00 P.M.
Dictated: 11:00 P.M.

April 25, 1943

MR. LADD

Re: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
APRIL 25, 1943

The following comments which appear to be of interest to the Bureau were made by Mr. Winchell in his broadcast on the above date:

I. REGISTRATION ACT AND SEDITION MATTERS

A. George Sylvester Viereck and Sedition Conspiracy Case

Mr. Winchell stated: "Washington. The second trial for George Sylvester Viereck, the admitted Nazi agent, is scheduled some time in June. Prosecutor O. John Rogge will convene a special grand jury for the thirty-four Sedition cases some time next month."

The Bureau has been advised by the Department that the Viereck trial will be held in June and the Bureau is also in receipt of a request that a jury investigation be conducted of the jury panel.

You will recall that Mr. O. John Rogge has been designated as a special prosecutor to succeed Mr. William Power Maloney in the case involving thirty-four individuals previously indicted for conspiracy to violate one of the conspiracy statutes. Mr. Rogge is reviewing all the evidence which was presented to the previous grand jury under the direction of Mr. Maloney, who obtained two indictments against these individuals, and Mr. Rogge contemplates representing the entire case to a new grand jury for the purpose of obtaining a third indictment.

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

B. Hamilton Fish Bill

Mr. Winchell stated: "Washington. The terrible and horrible news announced by the President this week that the Japs butcher American flyers after the Tokyo raid contained this grim irony: One of the Congressman who demanded vengeance and more bombing for Tokyo was the ardent Hamilton Fish of New York. Not very well known to the general public, however, is this, that Congressman Fish offered a new bill in the House affecting all persons

RECORDED

INDEXED

61-1335-306

FEB 24 1943

RECEIVED

INVESTIGATION

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FILE

59 MAY 18 1943

accused of trying to undermine this Government before Pearl Harbor. This new Congressman Fish bill would handcuff the Department of Justice and the FBI in prosecuting the thirty-four persons now charged with Sedition, one of whom, Ralph Townsend, was convicted for being a Japanese agent."

The bill to which Mr. Winchell referred is being followed by the Bureau, and the same was placed in the hopper on March 31, 1943 by Congressman Fish. This bill relates to Section 9, Title 18, United States Code, which is commonly referred to as the "peacetime Sedition statute".

The Hamilton Fish bill amends the present statute with reference to conspiracy prosecutions under that section and makes it obligatory that the prosecution show that each one of the engaged in an overt act in furtherance of the conspiracy. The bill further provides that venue for trial will lie only in the district where the particular defendant resides. It is retroactive to December 8, 1941, and if passed would make it necessary to prosecute each of the thirty-four persons now under indictment for conspiracy to violate this particular section in the district in which he resides. The consolidation of these cases in the District of Columbia, of course, would be impossible under the Fish amendment to this section. No action has been taken on this bill to date, and it is now understood to be in the House Judiciary Committee.

C. Joe McWilliams

Mr. Winchell stated: "Chicago. Joe McWilliams spotlighted by me over this network many times continues goosestepping in the swastika parade. His latest propaganda plan praises democracy which he once condemned on the street corners of New York. Joe McWilliams, in case you are among the gullibles, spoke from the same platform with German-American Bund leaders and praised Hitlerism. He now works out of Chicago where it is reported his propaganda booklets are published and supported by one Alice Rand - R A N D. This lady's name, however, is really Mrs. Alexis DeTarnowsky, wife of an officer in the Army of the United States. How do you like that?"

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____

Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. McGuire _____
 Mr. Mumford _____
 Mr. Piper _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

The present activities of McWilliams are being completely covered by the Chicago Office. The Attorney General has authorized a technical surveillance which is now in effect. The propaganda booklet to which Mr. Winchell referred is undoubtedly the recent publication of McWilliams called "Serviceman's Reconstruction Plan". Alice Rand, to whom Mr. Winchell referred, is now associated closely with McWilliams and runs the Barrington Band Press, Barrington, Illinois. She and McWilliams are putting out a weekly booklet, the purpose of which is to publicize and encourage the purchase of McWilliams' Book "Serviceman's Reconstruction Plan". McWilliams' speaking in New York is, of course, well known to the Bureau inasmuch as his activities while there were completely covered.

II. ITALIAN ACTIVITIES

A. Carlos Tresca

Mr. Winchell stated: "A wild pamphlet now being distributed in the East and purporting to give clues of the mysterious murder of Carlos Tresca, an enemy of Mussolini and Fascism, has aroused the District Attorney of New York. The police are searching for the author. The case, which is the hottest since the murder of Arnold Rothstein, has international angles. Governor Dewey may step in to it in his old role of crime buster."

The pamphlet to which Mr. Winchell referred is undoubtedly a treatise prepared by a Mr. Essio Tadel and Mrs. Tresca, in which it is charged that Communists were responsible for Tresca's murder. They did not specifically name him, but by choice of language referred to Jesus Sorikenti Vidali, most commonly known as Carlos Contreras, reported to be a GPU agent and gunman for the Communist Party in Mexico. SIS information from Mexico indicates that Contreras was seen in Chihuahua, Mexico, about five days before the Tresca murder, and an unknown woman reported to a newspaper in New York that he was seen in New York immediately before the murder. Contreras is reported to have engaged in several killings on Communist Party instructions, and while in Chihuahua shortly before the Tresca murder is said to have killed a rabid anti-Communist. Since the Tresca murder, he is also reported to have killed another anti-Communist in Mexico.

While the Bureau is not actively investigating the Tresca murder, which is, in fact, being covered by the New York police, the Bureau is endeavoring to check and follow the activities of Contreras.

Mr. Tolson III. COMMUNIST ACTIVITY

- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

A. Relationship between the Communist Party and General Franco

Mr. Winchell stated: "Mexico City. The Communist Party of South America has been ordered to temper its attacks against Franco. Experts frankly state that Stalin is hoping for a better relationship with the Vatican and many highly informed diplomats believe that a public understanding pointing to Hitler as a common enemy will be reached by the Vatican and the Kremlin."

It might be noted that there is, in fact, no "Communist Party of South America", since the party is divided into units within the various countries of South America, and there is a Communist Party of Chile, Communist Party of Argentina, etc.

Mrs Carlos Tresca

as I think ought to be cleared up on Contreras H.

No information has been furnished to the Bureau indicating that any of the various Communist groups in South America has been instructed to discontinue attacks against Franco. The attitude of the Communist Party in the United States has been strongly against Franco and, in fact, has openly advocated the overthrow of his government by the use of guerrilla bands. The Communist Party in the United States has continually complained to the State Department because of the State Department's attitude toward Franco, complaining particularly against the shipping of oil to Spain and against the continued imprisonment of Loyalist soldiers in North Africa.

A memorandum was recently prepared on the Communist Party's attitude in this connection at the request of the Attorney General, who, in turn, had received a copy of a communication addressed by the State Department to the White House with reference to the current attitude which the Communist Party had taken toward the State Department.

IV. MATTERS OF GENERAL INTEREST TO THE BUREAU

A. Sweden

Mr. Winchell stated: "Stockholm. Sweden may be the next nation to join the allies."

The New York Office advised yesterday that a confidential informant indicated that Robert M., formerly a confidential informant of the Bureau, furnished information to Mr. Winchell concerning the Finnish-American relations advising him that all members of the United States Legation at Helsinki had been transferred by plane to Stockholm, Sweden, and stated further that Sweden might declare war on Germany if Germany goes into Finland. Robert M. requested that Mr. Winchell give this story prominent place. No information was available indicating Robert M.'s source of information.

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Egan _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. McGuire _____
 Mr. Mumford _____
 Mr. Piper _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

B. California Committee to Investigate Subversive Activities

Mr. Winchell stated: "Sacramento. The California State Committee probing un-American activities in California has issued its report which demands wider circulation, I think. This organization of alert Americans pointed out that the subversive groups among us are not dead, that they are again coming out of their holes and unless something is done to curb them, they will plague the nation after the war. The California investigators are among those who have also been attacked by certain peculiar representatives in Washington, D. C., whose red tape does all it can to bind them. This is to remind all of you ladies and gentlemen that the red tape which seals another man's lips may one day be used as a rope around your neck."

The committee referred to is frequently known as the Jack Tenney Committee and is a state committee for the investigation of subversive activities in California. The Los Angeles Office of the Bureau has been maintaining contact with a representative of this Committee, and has furnished to the Bureau whenever information was believed of interest to Bureau cases. The San Francisco Office has been requested to obtain a copy of the Committee's report referred to herein, and the same will be reviewed as soon as it is received, and any information of particular Bureau interest will be called to your attention.

C. Congressmen Gerhard, Lambertson and Senator Nye

Mr. Winchell stated: "Attention Mr. and Mrs. United States. Some of the Congressmen continue to fight our allies instead of the common enemy. That might be Sedition if spoken by an American soldier in Tunisia is not Sedition when it is spoken on the floor of the House of Representatives. I refer to the remarks by three of them who apparently do not realize that our country needs no allies to preserve the Constitution which gave these legislators immunity. The least they might do is remember that there is no immunity on a battlefield. Congressman Gerhard, for instance, with our own men crashing in planes on the Continent, and our flyers murdered in Japan, Mr. Gerhard publicly worries whether or not our trade treaties might have appeased Mr. Hitler instead of being concerned how the United Nations can exterminate them. Congressman Lambertson the other day criticized Dorothy Thompson, the noted commentator, by saying that she is non-American because she will soon be married to a gentleman from Czechoslovakia. Mr. Lambertson forgets that many Czechs have died and are still fighting on our side for the very principals which he, Lambertson, is able to hold office, and with the dead of the glorious British Eighth Army lying all over the desert from Suez to Sfax, Senator Gerald P. Nye attacks the country for which they died. The British Eighth Army may not hold the right views perhaps for Senator Nye, but more important, the British Eighth Army tonight is holding the American red flank in Tunisia."

D. Byron Price - Elmer Davis

Mr. Winchell stated: "Washington. A large and important group of anti-New Deal newspapers will launch a campaign within the next few days to have Byron Price placed in charge of the Office of War Information, in the event that is, Elmer Davis resigns. This is to advise all concerning that Mr. Davis has absolutely no intention of quitting despite all the petty squabbles around him."

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. McGuire _____
 Mr. Mumford _____
 Mr. Piper _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

E. Recovery of Escaped Georgia State Prisoners

Mr. Winchell stated: "Macon, Georgia. Leland Harney and D. C. Black, two of the twenty-five men who broke out of Patnor Prison have been recaptured near Macon, Georgia."

Respectfully,

J. A. Sizoo

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
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Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

April 26, 1943

JTG:LCM
100-9746

John Genco

Director, FBI

DEFERRED RECORDING

RE: CARLO TRESCA
INTERNAL SECURITY - I

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for your information are two copies of a pamphlet entitled "THE TRESCA CASE" by EZIO TADDEI, which was furnished to Special Agent Joseph G. Genco, of this Office by Mr. TADDEI. The pamphlet was published by TADDEI and has been distributed among members of the Italian Colony in New York. It gives the outline of the TRESCA case, the details of which have been previously furnished to the Bureau. The pamphlet is in both English and Italian, the English being the exact duplicate of the Italian.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy
w/m

E. E. CONROY
SAC

11/11/43
Enclosures - 2

RECORDATION FILE

~~DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES~~



*memo to Mr. Ladd
5-6-43
J.C.C.*

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1943

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The
**TRESCA
CASE**

by
EZIO TADDEI

WHEN Giacomo Matteotti, Italian socialist deputy was assassinated in Rome in 1924 by order of the head of the Italian government, Benito Mussolini, nobody succeeded in silencing the Italian press. Chief accomplices in Matteotti's murder were Cesare

Boasi, head of the Office of Publications and General De Bono, head of the police, but despite their frantic attempts to hush the press, the papers of Italy came out in a tumult of charges and revelations against the guilty parties. The head of the government was incapable of halting the printing presses of Italy. Freedom of the press took on a new and real meaning. It meant more than a constitutional guarantee; it was felt by the people as a protector of their dignity.

When, however, in Berlin, in 1933, Hitler and Goering ordered the burning of the Reichstag, the German newspapers issued a series of accusations against the Communist party knowing full well that many innocent persons would be arrested and persecuted as a result. But in spite of the newspapers, nothing could stop the people of Germany from thinking their own thoughts—thoughts against which Hitler is still incapable of defending himself.

We are in America. The fact that a man can be murdered and that the killer can receive protection from a network of financial and semi-public interests, enabling him to instill fear in the hearts of public and semi-public officials, should cause every honest man to pause and reflect upon the moral fragility of our social institutions. The conviction that certain public officials, instead of being motivated by political ideals or doctrine, are motivated by dark forces of the underworld, thus allowing agents of the black-hand to influence our political life, should bring about a more sincere evaluation of our civic institutions.

The most important point I want you to remember is that in the assassination of Carlo Tresca, concerning which this pamphlet is written, the American press, while free to print a series of false charges and insinuations against a political party, maintained a fearful silence concerning the actual killers. Its silence continued even when it became necessary to speak in order to prove that the newspapers of America cannot be browbeaten by lies and threats, that defamation and distortion of facts are not part of the legitimate practice of a free press.

It is for this reason that we write these pages—not anonymously. We are well aware of the risk involved, but by our words we wish to show—the timid that their fear is a sad spectacle, and we wish to say to them—a little more courage on their part would be enough to free them from the influence of the underworld.

Ezio Jaldesi

(The following is the text of a speech made by Ezio Jaldesi at a meeting held at the Hotel Adelphi on Sunday, February 14, 1943.)

THE speakers who have preceded me have told you that this is not a commemoration, but rather a political meeting, and you have perhaps by your response that you are ready to fight against a dark affair which is now shaking the American as it were by its very roots. Remember, we Italians understand the methods of reaction.

In 1929, the ruling class of Italy went to the underworld to find a group of killers whom they had commissioned to assassinate Giovanni Lavagnini! The fascist-dominated police tried to blame the very commission of Lavagnini for his cold-blooded murder, thus leaving the real culprits free to carry out other assignments of political assassination, so as to prepare the ground for the new government which was to be installed in Italy until its overthrow, which we hope will come about soon.

If, as we know, freedom came to prevail in this manner in Italy, then we are free to face with a fearless spirit the fight here in your United States. Of this we are absolutely certain. While our present situation is fixed upon the fields of battle, we have been doing our utmost to be demoralized by the fifth column.

The authorities, no less open, compromise, are not doing enough to expose these poisonous elements. The lack of unity among the various fascist, plus the sad collaboration of official institutions, which is possible in America the same state of affairs to which the Italian masses finally succumbed.

If, as happened in 1929 and 1931, we are unprepared to withstand the shock of the fascist attack, there will be a new effort by us, the poet might say in the history of the working class.

It is therefore necessary that the responsibility for the assassination of Carlo Tresca be justly placed upon the guilty. I ask that from this anti-fascist forum of justice there be issued a moral condemnation. Europe, before I pronounce my indictment, I ask you to put under my judgment, justice—prejudice which can only result in postponing you.

At the beginning of our story we find the same obsessions which we meet in the final act of this tragedy, and if we study the fundamental elements involved it will be easy to trace the psychological development which motivates the action of our story from 1924 up to 1934.

In 1924 an Italian anti-fascist daily newspaper called *Stampa Libera* was being published in New York City under the direction of Giuseppe Valentini and supported by the immigrant Italian masses. The newspaper effectively fulfilled its obligation to the Italian cause. This can be attested to by the presence of letters by the Italian Commission on that score. Another proof of the courage of the *Stampa Libera* was the fact which gripped the publisher of the magazine—fear caused by the Stamps's attacks against him. These attacks were sharp and methodical. They were based not only on his fifty years' experience in the underworld of New York, but also on the fact that he constantly sought to poison the mind of the immigrant Italian masses with propaganda which could only benefit a foreign government, that is, the government of Benito Mussolini.

Around the 15 of September, 1934, two men visited the office of La

Stampano Libera. They sought to speak with the editor, Valenti. Valenti being absent at the time, the men were interviewed by the then business manager, Clelio Cancellieri. The men warned Cancellieri to cease the attacks against Genesee Pope. They reminded Cancellieri that this was not their first visit, but that it would be their last. They added, "You know what we mean." One of the two men was identified as Frank Garofalo, executive member of the notorious "Maresco" gang. This gang operates in New York and is known as one of the most dangerous in the city. As we shall see later, it is under the political and economic protection of Genesee Pope, and therefore is at his service.

After the above-mentioned threats, and before the directors of Stampano Libera had a chance to decide what course to take, Carlo Tresca, editor of the weekly Il Martello, published a violent front-page attack against Pope, headlined: "We Accuse Genesee Pope of Being a Gangster and a Racketeer." In his article, Tresca also attacked Pope for threats which he had made against other anti-fascist papers, among them La Folie, whose editor, Marinio Sica, had been forced by Pope's gangsters to accept his ultimatum of silence. Tresca's article ends with a legal declaration which the author has left to his comrades to his attorney, and to you. This legal declaration presages the final act of this drama. It states: "Morris Ernst, my attorney, knows all the facts. He knows that if an anti-fascist is assaulted or killed, the investigator is Genesee Pope."

I ask you not to forget this statement. It will appear once more in a telephone conversation of Tresca's a few weeks before his murder. This statement gives the victim a living role in the search for his killers. Although Tresca's article succeeded in preventing Pope's gangsters from carrying out their threats, it did not succeed in preventing Pope and his minions from continuing their work of infiltration and intimidation. And so it went, a veritable battle of polemic and bold attacks by Tresca against Pope, and a counteroffense of bribery and intimidation by Pope against Tresca. This state of affairs continued uninterrupted until December 7, 1941, when Pope and his fascist cohorts changed their political line, desperately anxious now to be recognized as anti-fascists.

Pope's attempt to achieve respectability was and is being aided by Luigi Antonini. In other words, Antonini tried to open the anti-fascist door to Pope, but Antonini's help was fruitless because Carlo Tresca recognized the scheme in time. Tresca methodically blocked Pope's every approach to the anti-fascist camp. He stated to Pope's supporters that the ex-fascist would never be admitted or recognized as an anti-fascist so long as he, Tresca, were alive.

At this point the friends of Pope were looking for a suitable opportunity to get him to participate in an anti-fascist function. They found the opportunity in an Italian-American War Bond banquet organized by Paulino Gerli for the 10th of September 1942 at the Manhattan Club.

About an hour before Tresca left for the banquet to which he had also been invited, he telephoned Marcel Gironi for the purpose of finding out whether Pope would be present at the banquet. Gironi said that Pope would not be there. In order to check, I also called Gironi. The answer was the same. Tresca could rest assured that Pope would not be present. Tresca

(3) Not to be confused—as Asst. District Attorney Parravano did even after he was told of the difference—with the two Manuel Aldo Societas "Caristiamare del Galder" one of which is in Brooklyn and the other in Manhattan.
(4) Gerli, Carmine (last name), alias name, is a young lieutenant by Neolino Bonanno and Frank Gerlando.
(5) It is common knowledge that Luigi Antonini, head of Local #9 of the ICGWU, has always tried to favor Genesee Pope, notwithstanding the opposition of Carlo Tresca and myself.

then decided to attend, telling me that if perhaps Pope came to the Manhattan Club that night, he (Tresca) would leave the banquet.

I accompanied Tresca part of the way to the Manhattan Club. We parted with the understanding that we would meet after the banquet in a restaurant on Bedford Street.

About a half hour later Tresca returned. He was excited and he related to me what happened during the previous thirty minutes. He told me that Frank Garofalo, who was accompanied by a woman, Tresca, explained by telling me that as soon as he saw the trio enter the room, he indignantly arose and said to his friends Caspary, El Gio, Spina and others: "This is too much. Not only a fascist but also the gangster." With that Tresca hurriedly left the hall's.

That very night Tresca told me that he was worried over what the outcome of the incident might be. He asked me to be on guard. We did not and could not possibly know what Pope, Garofalo and the woman must have said to each other about the Tresca incident. It was not until the next day that we began to get the first hint of what to expect. The day began with a telephone call from the City Treasurer, Almerindo Portofino. He asked Tresca to keep silent about the incident of the night before. Tresca told Portofino that he need have no fear. He promised to say nothing of the matter.

There are a few questions which we must ask ourselves at this point. Why did the City Treasurer ask with so much insistence that Tresca refrain from making public this incident? He knew that the other guests were well aware of the whole thing. Why was he the only one to ask Tresca to remain silent, while none of the other guests were in the least concerned? What is that Pope, Portofino, Garofalo and the woman have in common? A half hour after the Portofino telephone call, Tresca received another call from a Dolores Pasconi, Assistant Attorney General. It was she who had accompanied the gangster Garofalo the night before. Like Portofino, she begged Tresca to keep silent about the incident. Tresca promised the woman that he would not make any mention of the incident. However, she was not satisfied and asked Tresca for an interview at the Martello office. Forty-five minutes later she arrived at the office to continue her conversation with Tresca.

Tresca spoke to her in a paternal tone. He asked her to think of her future and warned her of the danger of the gangster Garofalo. At the end of the conversation the woman promised Tresca that she would leave her gangster lover and that she would not do anything again which would endanger her reputation. Tresca accompanied her to the door. He told her to stop worrying and that everything would turn out alright. After this conversation I noticed that Tresca's face was dead with worry.

"Wait," he said. "This is urgent. I've got to settle the F.B.I." He immediately called Inspector Gano of the F.B.I.
So after six years, from 1937 to 1942 we find the same newspaper, which produces the same effect. In October 1944 Tresca left us a clue in his newspaper as to the probable contents of this anti-fascist. This clue was also given to me in the form of a statement. In 1942 Tresca

(1) Present at the banquet were: Paulino Gerli, Paulino Bonanno, Marcello Sica, Dr. Pavli, DIGNA, Marco Altomonte, Carlo Gerlando, Neolino Bonanno, Frank Gerlando, Zevard Corbi, and Almerindo Portofino. The N. Y. State Industrial Commission has stated that the above-mentioned names are the same as those of the 10th of September. It is common knowledge that Luigi Antonini, head of Local #9 of the ICGWU, has always tried to favor Genesee Pope, notwithstanding the opposition of Carlo Tresca and myself.

Inform the F. B. I. of his danger. Throughout both statements he repeats the warning: "If I'm murdered, look for Genesee Pope."

Ask the District Attorney whether he is willing to collect this testimony which would constitute a basic element in the investigation!

Let's take another incident. Last November, 1942, the so-called Berte banquet was held at the Hotel Commodore. The friends of Genesee Pope tried to get the officials of the banquet to invite Pope. Carlo Tresca, as usual, fought against this proposal and won. Pope, anxious to avoid an official refusal which would be tantamount to his official repudiation by the Italian-American anti-fascist movement, was forced to organize another banquet for the same night, so as to explain his absence from the Berte banquet. Various figures of the American Labor Party were lent to Pope that night so as to make his banquet "respectable."

Things must not be allowed to go on in this manner. There must be a decision. Garofalo is within arm's reach.

In the meantime, Dolores Faconti returned to visit Tresca. She related to him that her lover had "kicked her out" because she dared humble herself before Carlo Tresca. She also told Tresca that Garofalo had physically maltreated her. After this visit by the Faconti woman, Tresca again warned me that we must be on guard. By that he could only mean that he was in danger.

Towards the end of December Tresca told his friends: "It seems as though there's going to be another funeral—the Faconti woman threatens to commit suicide." Why should this woman want to kill herself? We went to the District Attorney to ask the same question. Why did this woman want to kill herself after receiving solemn assurances from Carlo Tresca that he would not make public the incident of the Manhattan Club? Why should she want to kill herself even before the assassination of Tresca had been executed? A few days later—and we come to the night of the 9th of January 1943. From here on, events speed us towards the only conclusion. That night an automobile tried to run down Carlo Tresca on 12th Street, in front of the New School for Social Research.

Was it an accident or was it attempted murder?

Tony Riharich, who accompanied Tresca that night related that the car was travelling along the center of the street. As the car approached Tresca, it swerved directly towards him. When it was only a couple of feet away it turned on its bright headlights. Luckily Tresca stepped back in time to avoid being hit.

Why were the bright headlights turned on at that moment? Was it in order to blind Tresca and his companion so as to prevent them from recognizing the occupants of the car? Later that night, after Riharich had accompanied Tresca to his home, he saw the very same car parked on Sixth Avenue. He was almost certain that the whole incident was the cause of drunken driving.

(1) In the so-called "12th Street Banquet", given by the Marxist Society, Assistant Secretary of State Berle was to have made an important announcement to the Italian-Americans. The press and informed circles published this fact. It was said that at the banquet, the formation of an Italian National Committee would be announced, which would represent the Italian-American community in the United States. Pope was to be present at that banquet. In addition, he had had American circles, especially in Washington, to believe that he was a leader of the Italian-American community and that his absence would have been mystifying. In other words, Secretary Berle and the other American officials were to be present at that banquet and without Pope's presence, the announcement would have been incomplete. One of the most strenuous advocates of Pope's inclusion was Carlo Tresca. At the banquet, Berle did not make the promised announcement and the Italian National Committee was postponed indefinitely.

THE TRESCA CASE

Two days later Carlo Tresca was murdered by two hoodlums. The results of the police investigation are the subject of a book by Elio Taggeri, Galante and the finding of an abandoned automobile were the first clue. The car was found on 12th Street.

Who is this Carmine Galante? He is a man who could have a personal or political difference with Carlo Tresca. The investigation concerning him leads us however, to some very interesting connections.

Galante was seen by the police of the Puerto Rican Consulate in the car which was later abandoned on 12th Street. They stopped the car and the murder. Galante used for a long time to be a member of the Italian-American anti-fascist movement. He is a man who could have a personal or political difference with Carlo Tresca. The investigation concerning him leads us however, to some very interesting connections.

A few more questions are suggested. He is supposed to be working for the Knickerbocker Trucking Co. The company is supposed to be engaged in the trucking business, but only on paper. Galante is supposed to be employed by this company but the fact is that he has never actually worked for the outfit, although he received a steady salary from the corporation. The Knickerbocker Company handles having a question, several vice-presidents and all the other personnel necessary for a normal corporation, also has a corporation attorney. The attorney is Juan de Pablo, well known Godson of Genesee Pope. A natural question arises: Could there be a connection between Pope and Galante's business or the Knickerbocker Company is under the supervision of Pope's partner, Dr. Galante? When will the directors of the Knickerbocker Company tell us why they hired Galante, why they paid him for no work, and why they got the money for hiring him?

The other clue which we have already mentioned is the finding of the abandoned automobile on 12th Street near the home of the girl. The license doors of the car were left open. Why? There was no one in the car. The occupants must have had to get out of that car in a terrible hurry. That Galante had entered the car two hours before, the witness is a fact established by the police. Any doubt we might have had as to whether the car was actually used in the murder, disappears when Tony Riharich himself finds the car as the same person had told him, the night of the 9th of January.

Nine days after the murder, E. Martello (Tresca's partner) received a letter from a Madison Ave. real estate man by the name of Belmont. Belmont in his letter made an offer to buy Tresca's home. We asked Belmont to see us and he told us that he represented a wealthy anti-fascist Italian. We told Belmont that we would be necessary to know the name of the man he represented. By some agreement, we made an appointment to see each other the following day. On the following Tuesday, Belmont as we had not heard from Belmont, we decided to call him. He informed us that his client had changed his mind and that he had the firm being he would let the matter drop.

Further investigation showed that Belmont was acting as an agent for Pope. Belmont denied that he was acting for Pope on the contrary, he stated that he was acting under the name of Belmont. First Belmont said "You I want to buy your paper for nothing" and then he said "No I don't want to buy your paper and I am not going for anything." Did Pope have a say in these transactions? Why did Belmont say that he was representing Belmont?

(4) Attorney Dr. Pablo, who was the partner of Galante, was also the partner of Galante. He is also the partner of Galante. He is also the partner of Galante. He is also the partner of Galante. He is also the partner of Galante.

There have been attempts at bribery and there have been threats. Dolores Faconti has again threatened to kill herself. It is too late even for that.

We have patiently followed the tracks of the murderer. We have gathered up and pieced together all the words and all the incidents. When our work resulted in a concrete accusation, we presented our story to the authorities and to the press. Up until today, we have received no reply. To those who have asked whether we would make public these facts, we have answered, yes.

We must make public these facts. Our silence would be a crime. We would be guilty if tomorrow innocent men were accused and sentenced.

It is for this reason that I beg you, in the name of the martyr, not to rest until his murderer is brought to justice.

Remember him lying on the sidewalk of Fifth Avenue, his eyes still open. I beg you to see to it that his sacrifice be not in vain, and that this case be not the cause for new and greater sorrow.

Perhaps the killer has someone here in this auditorium who is listening to my words. If so then I want to tell him: "Assassin. Your motherland sent you to this country not to cover yourself with the shame of crime, but to bring honor to her name through your hard work, through the culture she had given you."

And to Dolores Faconti, agent of justice of the Federal Government, who still threatens to kill herself, I ask her to be judge of herself. I ask her to search her soul for the truth, with the same insistence which she uses in the halls of justice where she practices her profession.

To the widow who has sought the help of the head of the Department of Justice, we say, "Rely upon the workers, for they are honest." Another widow before you did as you have done but her reply was derision and the corpse of her husband."

To us the story is clear from its beginning, and of our fallen comrade Carlo Tresca, all we can say is that his ashes will, some day, be placed in the Italian hall of martyrs. That day will be the day when from the four corners of Italy there will rise the triumphal cry of the hymn of the Revolution.

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

1. On the night of January 11th, Tresca remained later than usual in his office. This rarely happened. But that night, Tresca had an appointment with four people who had been nominated with him by the Mazzini Society to form a committee for anti-fascist agitation.

At the last meeting of the New York chapter of the Mazzini Society, Carlo Tresca had vividly sketched fascism, as shown by the series of the meeting, and had demanded with great insistence that the Mazzini Society create itself of fascist elements. He had also demanded the furnishing of public meetings to prevent the activities of fascist leaders who, masquerading as democrats, were attempting to get fascist positions. For these reasons the anti-committee was formed.

Tresca had sent out letters the previous day to inform the other Committee members that the first meeting would be held in his office on January 11th. The Committee members were: Yanni Montanu, Luigi Antonini's secretary and Professor, Director of the Italian-American Labor Council; Professor Lanzillo and Giovanni Sala.

2. The widow works on weekdays with T. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle, in

THE TRISCA CASE

At approximately, on the evening of January 11th, Tresca left Luigi Calabro, who was in his office and he would have been there, in the way of the office. Tresca received no reply from Luigi Calabro. However, he did not feel any possibility to attend. The only person who was in the office was Luigi Calabro and secondly, the crime occurred at 11:25 P. M. as stated in the report of the police for news and also in the report of the newspaper. The crime occurred at 11:25 P. M. as stated in the report of the newspaper. The crime occurred at 11:25 P. M. as stated in the report of the newspaper.

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Il fatto che un uomo possa essere ucciso, e che...
...per questo noi scriviamo queste pagine, non anonime. Siamo consapevoli
del rischi che esse comportano, ma vogliamo dimostrare ai limidi che è ben
coraggio civile per liberarsi dal controllo della criminalità.

Ezio Taddei

(Discorso pronunciato da Ezio Taddei alla "Rand School", in New York, il 14 febbraio 1943).

Gli oratori che mi hanno preceduto vi hanno detto che questa non è
una commemorazione ma una protesta, e voi avete dimostrato di es-
sere pronti a levarvi contro uno stato di cose minaccioso che oggi ha
i suoi inizi in America come li ebbe in Italia in un tempo remoto.
Per questo voi siete qui convenuti.
Vi ricordate? Noi l'abbiamo visto nascere il fascismo.
Così fece, nel 1920. La mano del padronato italiano si tuffò nei bassi-
fondi della città di Firenze per tirarne fuori un gruppo di delinquenti che
ebbero l'incarico di uccidere Sparzaco Lavagnini. La polizia tentò subito di
addossare la colpa del delitto ai compagni stessi del Lavagnini, in modo che
i colpevoli, rastrenati dalla prova, potessero continuare nella serie crescente
dei delitti omicidi e preparare le basi della nuova politica che doveva dominare
l'Italia fino al rovescio di oggi.

Lo storico Lavagnini, complice, ingegnere delle ferrovie dello stato, ucciso a Firenze
nel 1920, nel suo ufficio. Per gli altri delinquenti, come Sparzaco Lavagnini, primo
indiziato, e Celenzo, che partecipò anche come testimone, morirono in un
carcere.

Se così nasce il fascismo, allora non si dovrebbe...
...che da quest'aula prima di quella dove noi abbiamo...
...potrebbero condurvi in un'altra...
...Se come nel 1920 e 1933 noi non avevamo...
...E' necessario, dunque, che questo...
...do che da quest'aula prima di quella dove noi abbiamo...
...potrebbero condurvi in un'altra...

Non troviamo all'Italia, l'ideologia...
...sulla scena finché di questo...
...ininterrottamente, dal 1934, per non...
...Dunque nell'anno 1934, a...
...fascista che ha per nome...
...costante della massa degli...
...la sua ideologia, e la...
...dimori del direttore e...
...viene moltiplicata...
...suo luogo, passato che...
...d'averlo, ma anche per...
...tra le masse qui...
...glare gli interessi...
...Un giorno verso la...
...taro nella veduta del...
...che chiesero di parlare...
...La natura della...
...minacce ai...
...dovera sospendere il...
...vittoria era stata...
...che non sarebbe più...
...vogliamo dire.

Dati due uomini uno fu...
...dell'associazione e...
...nella città di New York...
...metropoli, e come...
...di Giuseppe Poppe, ed...
...Dopo la minaccia...
...prendesse una...
...venuto a conoscenza...
...prima pagina del...
...Noi Accendiamo...
...In seno...
...accidenti ad altri...
...era stato...
...stretto ad accettare...
...L'articolo di Carlo...
...scrittore lascia al...
...preludio dello sviluppo...

L. Ernest è al fianco della situazione. Egli sa che se un antifascista verrà

agredito, il mandante è Generoso Pope. Lo vi prego di non dimenticare questa frase, noi la riterremo, prima scritta, ma sul filo del telefono alla fine del 1942 qualche settimana prima della morte di Carlo Treves, ed essa ci valga a tenere presente che la vittima

incende essere parte vivente di questa causa, che si deve pur svolgere. Se Carlo Treves poté con questo articolo mettere i gambaletti di fronte ad un'accusa preventiva e dissuaderli dai loro propositi immutabili, non inter-

ruppe la loro opera né il lavoro di infiltrazione fascista di Generoso Pope. Così a tutta una fitta battaglia che si svolge, di polemiche, di attacchi spietati da parte di Carlo Treves e di tentativi di intimidazioni e costrizioni da parte del Pope.

Questo stato di cose al protrarsi ininterrotto fino all'entrata in guerra degli Stati Uniti d'America, momento in cui la politica di Generoso Pope e dell'ambiente fascista muta improvvisamente atteggiamento per mettere su di una base antifascista che noi tutti conosciamo.

Lo sforzo di Generoso Pope è secondario nascoctamente da qualcuno, che cerca di favorirlo nel suo mutamento repentino. In altri termini si vuole aprirgli la porta dell'antifascismo. Ma tali tentativi rimasero sempre inutilmente e sempre dichiaro ai favoreggiatori, che il Pope non sarebbe passato fino a tanto che era in vita lui.

A questo punto gli amici di Generoso Pope cercarono l'occasione più opportuna per arrivare al fatto compiuto, e la trovarono nel banchetto dei buoni di guerra indetto da Paulino Gerli il 10 settembre nei locali del Manhattan Club.

Qualche ora prima di recarsi a tale banchetto Carlo Treves chiamò al telefono Marcello Grossi per sapere se fra gli invitati c'era anche Generoso Pope. Grossi rispose di no. Per accertarmi telefonicamente anche io a Grossi ed ebbi la medesima risposta; allora Carlo Treves decise che sarebbe andato, dicendomi che nel caso ci fosse stato Generoso Pope lui sarebbe uscito dalla sala.

Accompagnai quella sera per un tratto di strada Carlo, e separandoci rimanemmo interi che lavrei aspettato in un ristorante di Bedford Street. Circa mezzora dopo, lo vidi tornare Treves, salì le scale affannato e mi raccontò rapidamente quello che era successo.

Oltre a Generoso Pope fra gli intervenuti al banchetto c'era il di lui rhenophista Frank Garofalo in compagnia di una signora. Carlo Treves mi raccontò che appena visti entrarono questi ultimi, s'era alzato ed aveva detto agli amici che gli stavano vicini: Cupelli, Di Già, Marziale Sica ed altri: Questo è troppo, oltre ai fascisti anche colta malavita. — Ed era uscito indignato dalla sala.

La notte stessa Carlo Treves mi comunicò alcune sue preoccupazioni per quello che sarebbe potuto avvenire dopo e mi raccomandò di fare attenzione. Che cosa mi dissero all'uscita del banchetto Frank Garofalo, Generoso Pope e la donna noi non lo sappiamo: solo l'indomani si ebbero i primi accenti, una prima rivelazione. Incominò con una telefonata il Signor Portofolio, teoriete della città, che si raccomandava a Carlo Treves di tenere su quello che era successo. Carlo Treves rispose rassicurando che non avrebbe detto nulla e che stesse tranquillo. Ma quello che noi dobbiamo dedurre da questa telefonata è una domanda. Perché il teoriete della città di New York chiedeva con tanta insistenza

Il silenzio se di un fatto di questo genere, se non è conoscenza di tutti gli invitati della sera precedente? Perché tutti gli invitati della sera precedente sono in possesso di un pubblico documento di lavoro del 1941? Che cosa è questo Garofalo per arrivare a una simile interrogazione?

Ma cosa dopo la telefonata del Signor Portofolio, fu una donna, che chiamò, ed era Dolores Pionelli, assistente storico-generale. Era in compagnia di Carlo Treves, e mi raccontò che si era recata a casa di Carlo Treves, e gli aveva detto tutto quello che sapeva della città.

Treves promise che si sarebbe occupato di tutto, ma la donna, che si riferiva al marito, e che dopo avergli detto tutto quello che sapeva, si era per marciare con Carlo. Carlo Treves tentò di spiegare la signora Pionelli, l'averla a conoscenza di una donna, e all'uscita della conversazione la donna promise che si sarebbe diretta dal suo amante e avrebbe discusso di tutto.

Carlo Treves accompagnò alla porta dell'ufficio la Pionelli e la salutò dicendole: Non vi preoccupate, tutto sarà arginato. Dopo questo colloquio l'ufficio di Carlo Treves tornò improvvisamente preoccupato.

Aspetta, — mi disse. — Questo è grave, bisogna che avverta l'FBI. Prese il telefono e chiamò l'ispettore Genoa. Dunque ci riferivano a noi tutti di distanza, dal 1941 al 1942, e la nostra prima preoccupazione problema il medesimo affetto.

Nell'ottobre del 1941 Treves lasciò la Treves del probabile assassinio nel suo giornale e la comunità di suo difensore. Nel 1942 egli avvertì l'FBI. Ma sempre con questo vuol dire che nel momento il mandante è Generoso Pope, e che il prodotto è un documento di lavoro.

E' evidente che si tratta di un fatto banale, quello che chiamano di Barte. I sostenitori di Generoso Pope vorrebbero il suo intervento. Carlo Treves si oppone ancora, e Generoso Pope per non rendere ufficiale la sua equità morale e il ripudio del movimento antifascista, è costretto a tenere un altro banchetto per la medesima sera con i membri del Labor Party che gli sono forniti per coprire la sua posizione insostenibile.

Questo però non può essere. Ci deve essere una decisione. Garofalo è a portata di mano. Intanto Dolores Pionelli è già tornata a visitare Carlo Treves. Gli racconta che il suo marito ha parlato per la giustizia perché era socialista e lui, l'ha anche maltrattata.

E Carlo dopo questa visita della tale mi ripeté che bisogna stare attenti, e questo vuol dire che c'è un pericolo. Verso la fine del mese di settembre Carlo Treves disse agli amici: Ora ci avremo un altro banchetto. Quelle Pionelli al volo amministrativo. Perché si volere vedere questa donna, se Carlo Treves la aveva prima messo di tacere, e se il dubbio non era stato ancora completamente

(1) Nel banchetto di Park... (2) Nel banchetto di Park... (3) Nel banchetto di Park...

Pochi giorni ancora e sariva al 9 gennaio. Qui tutto sembra precipitare verso la conclusione.
La sera del 9, un'automobile tenta di investire Carlo Trecca alle 12 strade West di fronte alla New School.

È un incidente? È un attentato?
Il compagno Kibartich che è insieme con Trecca quella sera, depone che l'automobile in corsa nel mezzo della strada, quando fu ad una certa distanza si diresse repentinamente su di loro e a due passi accese bruscamente i fanali.

Perché questi fanali? Forse per evitare che si vedessero i visi di quelli che erano seduti dietro il vetro della macchina?
Tony Ribartich, dopo aver lasciato Carlo Trecca alla sua casa incontrò ancora la solita automobile ferma all'angolo della 6th Avenue, ed ebbe la quasi certezza che si trattasse d'ubriachi.

Due giorni dopo, la sera dell'undici gennaio, Carlo Trecca veniva ucciso da due colpi di rivoltella e i primi risultati delle ricerche furono l'arresto di un uomo a nome Carmine Galante e il sequestro di un'automobile abbandonata alle 18 strade con i quattro sportelli aperti.

Carmine Galante, chi è costui?
Un disgraziato che non poteva avere nessun rancore politico con Carlo Trecca e nemmeno personale.
Le indagini svolte a suo riguardo portano però a delle conclusioni che devono preoccupare.

È lui che fu visto salire sulla medesima automobile abbandonata poi alle 18 strade, e lui ci deve dire perché ci montò, in compagnia di chi era, dove era diretto, perché questo avvenne solamente due ore prima del delitto.
Ma non basta. Carmine Galante risulta impiegato nella Knickerbocker Inc., Corporazione incaricata di trasporti e ricca di un unico truck, Carmine Galante risulta impiegato, ma risulta anche che non abbia mai lavorato realmente, pur percependo oltre ad avere tutto il personale necessario ad una corporazione, ha un consulente legale che è l'avvocato De Falco, il notorio figlio di Giuseppe Pope. Allora si domanda, quali rapporti vi erano fra il Galante e il Pope se la Knickerbocker era sotto il controllo di quest'ultimo?

E quando i dirigenti della corporazione ci diranno perché assunsero il Galante, perché gli pagavano gli stipendi, e da dove prendevano i fondi se il Galante non prestava il suo lavoro?
L'altro risultato delle prime ricerche fu il sequestro di un'automobile, come vi abbiamo detto nei pressi del luogo del delitto.

Aveva i quattro sportelli aperti. Perché? Non c'è che una risposta: Le persone che vi erano ebbero la necessità di uscire a precipizio e questo appunto nell'ora del delitto.

Su quell'automobile c'era dunque montato Carmine Galante. Questo è accertato. Ma con tutto ciò si può pensare di trovarci di fronte a degli indizi che però diventano prove, dico prove, quando Tony Ribartich riconosce l'automobile delle 18 strade per quella che tentò l'investimento di Carlo Trecca due giorni prima nei pressi della 6th Avenue alle 12 strade.

Novi giorni dopo l'assassinio di Carlo Trecca, il 20 gennaio, arrivò al Maritello una lettera di certo Belmont, resi estate di Madison Avenue. Belmont indicava delle trattative per la compra del giornale. Invitato da noi Belmont dichiarò che agiva per conto di un signore italiano ricchissimo e affascinato. Noi dicemmo al Belmont che avremmo voluto conoscere il compratore e si risse di comune accordo un appuntamento per la settimana seguente.

Il martedì non avendo avuto noi più notizie chiamammo al telefono il Belmont ed esso ci dichiarò che il signore aveva cambiato idea, e che per

Della vittoria ricordo quindi che il signor Belmont agiva per conto di Giuseppe Pope, e di Trecca che era galante come il Pope non avendo nulla di tutto questo, ma che in genere era stata progettata dal Belmont e non ci torriano farci del bene. Per l'acquisto, e ad un certo punto Pope deve essere stato informato che il signor Belmont aveva comprato il giornale. Ha risposto a questo: "Ma che cosa mi fa dire che il signor Belmont è domandato. Perché?"

Ci sono stati dei tentativi di seduzione, di sesso stato abbassato. Distinguiamo i vari stadi per come.

Noi abbiamo parlato con il signor Ribartich, rilevandone la parola, gli avvenimenti e quando il signor Ribartich ha accusato la società dell'auto e accusa, l'abbiamo deposto al tribunale, di rappresentanza della stampa.

Fino ad oggi non abbiamo potuto avere nessuna risposta, ed è di lì che domando se non avremmo mai potuto i fatti, abbiamo risposto di sì. Sì, perché il nostro è un lavoro che non ha mai avuto un solo giorno di dominare per un dolore irrimediabile della sera, gli uomini liberi possono tornare sotto la mischia, ogni volta.

Per questo lo vi prego di avere dopo all'angolo della 72th Avenue. Ha gli occhi aperti.

Guardatelo, egli è ancora dopo all'angolo della 72th Avenue. Ha gli occhi aperti.

Che questo sacrificio non lo faccia e ad che la guerra di un nuovo dolore.

Forse colui che fece commettere l'assassinio, ha poi, in questa sala chi si accolla per lui. Allora lo vedete parlare, per dire esattamente che la patria gli aveva mandato in questa sala, non per essere avvertito del delitto, ma perché il suo nome fosse scritto, e la bonta della sua opera e la gentilezza dei confronti che essa si ebbe.

E a Dolore Fratelli, a questo donna-magistrato, che implora e minaccia sua anima con la medesima, e ancora grido di se stessa, di lasciare la sua anima il suo maliziere.

È alla vedova che si oppone, ed andare dal capo della giustizia per chiederle luce: Rimani con gli occhi, che sono oscuri?

Un'altra vedova non può mai avere un cadavere in risposta e una derisione.

Per noi la cosa è dovuta sulle precipitazioni della storia. E di Carlo Trecca, le ceneri, saranno domani gettate sulla piazza del maritello in Italia ed i morti, morti, quando dal muretto della porta entreranno gli inni della riproduzione.

NOTIZIE PRELIMINARI

1. La sera del giorno 11 gennaio, Carlo Trecca si recava più del solito nel suo ufficio. Questa non era una sua abitudine. Questa sera Trecca aveva un appuntamento con una signora, una signora che aveva una macchina con lei per portare un comitato di assistenza sociale.

Nell'ultima riunione della società della Maritello Society di New York, Carlo Trecca aveva attaccato violentemente il governo, come risulta dal verbale della seduta, e aveva chiesto per un mese di esenzione della società degli elementi fascisti. Aveva insistito per un mese di esenzione di pagare per sostenere la rivista del capi fascisti (per un mese) e il governo di democratici, sostenne di acquistare posizioni di controllo. Per questo, i dirigenti lo nominarono il nuovo presidente.

Carlo Trecca aveva sempre agito bene. In del giorno precedente, gli altri

(1) Ho veduto Trecca sempre agito bene. In del giorno precedente, gli altri

quattro componenti il comitato, della prima riunione che era stata fissata per quella sera.

I quattro erano: Vanni Montana, segretario di Luigi Antonini, della locale 89, e direttore di Pubblicità dell'Italian-American Labor Council; l'ingegnere Profenna, Lanzillotti e Giovanni Sala.

Alle otto e trenta Carlo Tresca avvertì un suo compagno: Luigi Ciccone, che si trovava in ufficio, che poteva lasciarlo solo poiché a momenti sarebbero arrivati i quattro per la riunione stabilita. Invece nessuno di essi venne, e Tresca non ricevette nessuna telefonata che avvertisse il ritardo o l'impossibilità degli invitati a intervenire.

Venne solamente l'avvocato Calabi, che rimase in compagnia di Carlo e l'accompagnò quando egli decise di uscire.

2. Il delitto avvenne alle 9.45 P.M. Alle 11 P.M. Luigi Antonini telefonò alla polizia per avere notizie e dare le prime informazioni. Alle 11.30, negli uffici della squadra degli omicidi, il nome del presunto assassino era quello di Vittorio Vidali, appartenente al partito comunista e domiciliato nella Città del Messico.

Qualche ora dopo, ai posti della frontiera Messicana, erano arrivate le segnalazioni per il fermo del Vidali, e al porto di N. Y. l'ordine di vigilanza dei piroscafi in partenza per la Russia. Fu supposto anche che il Vidali si fosse servito di mezzo aereo per il ritorno a Città del Messico.

Il primo aeroplano che sia possibile prendere dopo delle ore 9.45 pomeridiane diretto a Città del Messico è quello delle 7.52 pomeridiane del giorno dopo (in questo caso del martedì) e che dopo il cambio a Brownsville, arriva a Città del Messico alle 11 e 55 del giorno seguente, dunque il mercoledì. Ma non ostante tutte queste ore a disposizione, le autorità non telegrafarono alla polizia Messicana per gli appositi accertamenti, malgrado che il tempo sarebbe stato sufficiente ad essa per recarsi al domicilio del Vidali e constatare se questi fosse o no nella sua abitazione.

Se ciò fosse stato fatto, la risposta della polizia Messicana, sarebbe stata: o un no, cioè che Vidali non si trovava nella Città del Messico, e quindi la polizia avrebbe dovuto controllare il suo ritorno, e sottoporre il Vidali a un interrogatorio per informazioni riguardanti la sua assenza. O avrebbe risposto un sì: cioè che Vidali si trovava nel suo domicilio, e in questo caso diventavano inutili le ricerche lungo la frontiera e nei piroscafi, e soprattutto il sopralluogo fatto dieci giorni dopo, in una farna del N. J., che dietro l'indicazione di Luigi Antonini e Vanni Montana sarebbe stato il luogo in cui il Vidali si teneva nascosto.

Da queste considerazioni scaturiscono delle domande: perchè le autorità rifuggono da un accertamento così semplice che avrebbe dimostrato l'erroneità della pista? Perchè dieci giorni dopo il delitto si continuò a cercare il Vidali fra gli alberi del N. J., senza preoccuparsi di sapere se era o non era nella sua casa di Città del Messico? E quali erano gli interessi che spingevano gli informatori a mantenere la polizia su una tale pista?

3. Luigi Antonini e il suo segretario Vanni Montana non sostennero la sola tesi anticomunista, ma a un certo momento ne tentarono anche una antianarchica, scartando invece quella che conduce al gruppo Galante, Garofalo, Pope, e l'Antonini in un lungo articolo tentò recentemente di dimostrarla menzognera. (Giustizia, numero del mese di Marzo).

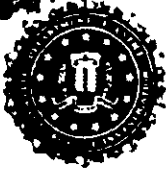
4. Carmine Galante fu pedinato due ore prima del delitto dagli agenti del Parole Board, i quali lo videro salire in un'automobile. Essi dicono che il Galante era eccitato.

Carlo Tresca abitualmente lasciava il suo ufficio la sera dalle sei e mezzo alle sette. Solo rare volte si tratteneva fino ad ora tarda.

Una domanda: come faceva il Galante a sapere alle sette e trenta, dal suo posto, che avrebbe fatto in tempo ad arrivare alle 15 Strade e mettersi in appostamento? Da che cosa derivava la sua eccitazione che fu notata al Parole Board?

Se egli pedinò Carlo Tresca nelle sere precedenti, doveva essere certo che sarebbe arrivato troppo tardi, per quanto rapidamente egli avesse potuto fure.

Allora si domanda: se nessuno sapeva di questo insolito orario, e di questa insolita solitudine di Tresca, come faceva il Galante a saperlo? Chi gli disse che quella sera Tresca sarebbe rimasto fino a tardi e sarebbe uscito solo?



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

May 10, 1943

JPC:cgb

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: Carlo Tresca

Reference is made to the attached excerpt from the New York Daily Mirror of May 10, 1943 entitled "Ready to Ask Indictment of 3 for Tresca Murder." According to this article, the District Attorney of New York County will go before the Grand Jury and ask for an indictment of three men who will be charged with the murder of Tresca. Only one of the trio is specifically named: Carmine Galente.

From the information available it appears that Galente, an ex-convict and subject of frequent arrests, appeared at the office of the Parole Division, 90 Centre Street, New York City, an hour and a half before Tresca's murder, in order to make his weekly report inasmuch as he is under parole supervision until 1945, having recently completed the service of a twelve-and-one-half-year sentence for armed robbery. Two investigators from the Parole Board placed Galente under surveillance immediately after he left the office. He was observed getting into an automobile which was parked near the office with the motor running and another man behind the wheel. The surveilling officers took the license number of this car and later it was determined that the same license number appeared on the automobile which was used by Tresca's assassin. Police records on Galente reportedly show four aliases; eight arrests on charges including juvenile delinquency, assault, robbery and homicide; as well as four convictions. The last paragraph of the attached newspaper clipping refers to a privately printed pamphlet which "discusses the Tresca shooting and names, among others, an editor, an Italian-American woman attorney, a gangster, a labor leader, and a city official as enemies of Tresca. It claims to expose facts concerning relations of those named with Tresca, implying that all had reason to hate and fear him."

The referenced pamphlet was prepared by a close friend of Tresca, Ezio Taddei, and it has been examined by the Bureau. The editor referred to is Generoso Pope, who was unquestionably an enemy of Tresca. The Italian-American woman attorney is Miss Delores Camilla Faconti, Assistant United



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EX-145
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ENCLOSURE
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States Attorney, Southern District of New York. The "gangster" is Frank Garofalo, an alleged gunman and former employee and bodyguard of Generoso Pope. The identities of the "labor leader" and the "city official" are unknown.

ACTION: The foregoing is supplied for informative purposes and no action is necessary.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

F. L. Welch

FLW

Attachment

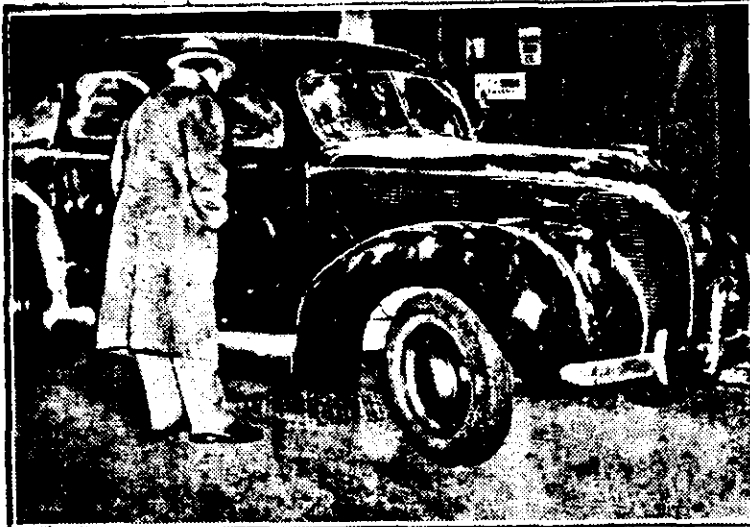
Of 3 for Tresca Murder

By WILLIAM FALVEY

After four months of unceasing work, police have amassed enough evidence to enable District Attorney Hogan to go before the Grand Jury and ask for the indictment of three men who will be charged with the murder of Carlo Tresca, the Mirror learned yesterday. Police allege that a man in custody since February is the killer, and that the others were co-conspirators. Tresca, widely known in Italian-American circles as an anti-Fascist agitator,

- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Kramer _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

W. J. ...
[Handwritten signature]



Car in which Tresca's assassin escaped was found abandoned later five blocks from scene of crime. Carmine Galante (right), ex-convict on parole, was picked up and questioned.

radical labor exponent and vitriolic editor, was shot on the night of Jan. 11, at Fifth Ave., and 15th St., while walking with a friend.

The killer jumped from a car parked at the curb, fired the shots and jumped back into the auto, which sped away.

It was found later, abandoned five blocks from the scene. Police say there were two other men, besides the killer, in the car. The driver can be picked up at any time, but the third man whose identity also is known, is being sought throughout the city by detectives under Inspector Conrad Rothengast.

While authorities are certain they have an airtight case against the killer, they have not established a motive, it is said. They are confronted with at least a score of theories, all plausible because of the vast number of enemies Tresca made in his activities.

More than a dozen attempts to kill or kidnap Tresca have been uncovered by police. They say he narrowly escaped death two nights before he was murdered, when a car with blazing headlights deliberately tried to run him down.

Always Colorful

Tony Ribarich, a friend of Tresca's, pushed him from the path of the car, which had been waiting at the curb at 5th Ave. and 9th St. Ribarich later identified the car which the killer used Jan. 11 as the one which tried to hit Tresca Jan. 9.

Tresca always had been a colorful, battling figure, with countless political and ideological enemies. On the night he was murdered, he was making plans to conduct an anti-Mussolini cam-

Slain Anti-Fascist



CARLO TRESCA.

Shot while walking with friend. Authorities believe they have an airtight case against his killer.

New York Daily Mirror

MAY 10 1943

ENCLOSURE

61-1235-308

paign in Italian language newspapers and to purge the Mazzini Society, of which he was a member, of its Fascist element.

Several hundred detectives were assigned to the case at once, on direct orders of the Mayor. Shortly after the murder, Carmine Galente, an ex-convict on parole, was picked up and placed near the murder scene at the time of the shooting.

A key figure in the investigation has been Giuseppe Callabi of 415 Central Park West, who was walking with Tresca at the time of the shooting.

A privately-printed pamphlet, given wide circulation in Italian-American and radical circles, will be shown the Grand Jury. Its apparently libelous content never has been repudiated.

The pamphlet discusses the Tresca shooting and names, among others, an editor, an Italian-American woman attorney, a gangster, a labor leader and a city official as enemies of Tresca. It claims to expose facts concerning relations of those named with Tresca, implying they all had reason to hate and fear him.

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- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JKM:EK
Call: 9:10 A.M.
Transcribed: 9:20 A.M.

May 11, 1943

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: CARLO TRESCA MURDER
Dolores Camilla Faconti

ASAC Donegan, New York, called at this time with reference to a teletype sent to the Bureau last night which read: "USA, SOUTHERN DISTRICT NEW YORK, REQUESTS THAT ALMERINEO PORTFOLIO, CITY TREASURER, BE INTERVIEWED RELATIVE TO ALLEGED PHONE CALL MADE BY HIM TO CARLO TRESCA. UNLESS ADVISED TO CONTRARY, THIS INTERVIEW WILL BE CONDUCTED ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 1943."

Mr. Donegan advised that he is definitely against having such an interview conducted and it was pointed out that this is not in connection with the Faconti matter, but is directly connected with the murder itself. I told him that we have advised the Attorney General by memorandum on several occasions that we are having absolutely nothing to do with the investigation of the murder case. Donegan indicated that Correa would be happy to get some publicity through the investigation of the Tresca matter.

I told Mr. Donegan that he should advise them that the request to interview Portfolio had been referred to the Bureau and that they are awaiting the Bureau's answer. He stated that the Agent will be instructed not to interview this man, and that no action will be taken pending further advice from the Bureau.

Respectfully,

[Signature]
J. K. Mumford

cc - Mr. Welch

*memo Rose 5/11/43
gbc
Advise Dept*



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&
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61-1335-310

18 MAY 17 1943

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5/11/43
61-1335 - 310
77-9044

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INDEXED

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES HOWE, JR.
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: Dolores ~~Camilla~~ Faconti

Reference is made to the memoranda which I recently transmitted to you relative to the inquiries which were conducted by this Bureau concerning Miss Dolores Camilla Faconti, Assistant United States Attorney, Southern District of New York. You will recall that our investigation of Miss Faconti was instituted in pursuance of the request outlined by you in your memorandum dated March 16, 1943.

This is to advise that Mr. Mathias F. Correa, United States Attorney, Southern District of New York, recently requested our New York Office to make arrangements for Mr. Almerineo Portfolio, City Treasurer, New York, New York, to be interviewed by an Agent of this Bureau relative to a telephone call that was purportedly made to Carlo Tresca by Mr. Portfolio. As you are aware, Carlo Tresca, the editor of the anti-Fascist and anti-Communist Italian language newspaper "Il Martello", was murdered in New York City on January 9, 1943.

Subsequent to the assassination of Tresca, I directed several memoranda concerning this murder case to the Attorney General and to Mr. Edward J. Egan, Director, Alien Enemy Control Unit. In these communications I pointed out that since the investigation of this murder case would be contrary to the established policy of this Bureau, and in view of the fact that the Attorney General is in accord with the FBI's policy of refraining from concerning itself with cases solely within local law-enforcement jurisdiction, no investigation would be undertaken by this Bureau concerning ~~Tresca's~~ assassination.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Piper
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

It would appear that the interview requested by Mr. Correa is concerned primarily with the aforementioned murder case rather than with the inquiries which this Bureau has conducted regarding Miss Faconti; accordingly, compliance with Mr. Correa's request, is not contemplated by this Bureau. It is believed that this procedure is particularly desirable at this time, inasmuch as several New York newspapers reported on May 10, 1943 that the District Attorney of New York County is expected to go before a Grand Jury for an indictment of three men who will be charged with the assassination of Carlo Tresca.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
★ MAY 13 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

61-1335-310

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MAY 12 1943

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

57 MAY 24 1943
164

Mr. James Rowe, Jr.

- 2 -

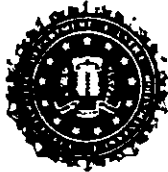
Inasmuch as this Bureau's inquiries concerning Miss Faconti have been completed and because the FBI is not conducting any investigation relative to the previously-mentioned murder case, the interview requested by the United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York will not be conducted.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

May 6, 1943

jpc:pgb

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: CARLO TRESCA

Reference is made to Mr. Sizoo's memorandum to you dated April 25, 1943, entitled "WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST, April 25, 1943".

You will recall that in the aforementioned communication it was pointed out that Mr. Winchell made the statement that "A wild pamphlet now being distributed in the East and purporting to give clues of the mysterious murder of Carlo Tresca, an enemy of Mussolini and Fascism, has aroused the District Attorney of New York". Mr. Winchell likewise commented, "The police are searching for the author."

This is to advise that copies of the referenced pamphlet have been transmitted to the Bureau by the New York Field Division. The periodical in question is entitled "The Tresca Case", and was prepared by Mr. Ezio Taddel, who has for the past several years been a close friend and collaborator of Tresca.

Taddel's treatise on the life and death of Tresca has been carefully reviewed, and it contains little information which would be considered of assistance in determining the identity of Tresca's assassin. The pamphlet contains numerous discrepancies, as well as several unsubstantiated allegations relative to several individuals whom Taddel thinks might be responsible for the murder.

Inasmuch as the information recently received indicates that the most logical suspect in this case is the alleged G.P.U. Agent Vittorio Vidali, it is pointed out that on page 9 of Taddel's treatise it is stated that Vidali was reported to have been seen in New York City just prior to the murder which occurred on January 11, 1943. As you are aware, the Bureau received this information some time ago, and at present the SIS Section is making extensive inquiries in the vicinity of Mexico City relative to the whereabouts of this suspect at the time Tresca was assassinated. Likewise, the border offices in Texas are making inquiries relative to the reported travels of Vidali from Mexico to this country.

- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Headon
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Piper
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy



55 MAY 24 1943

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-1335-311

9 MAY 14 1943

ACTION: The data set forth hereinbefore are supplied merely for informative purposes, and no further action is recommended relative to the pamphlet prepared by Taddei, inasmuch as it contains numerous discrepancies and because it has obviously been prepared by an individual who is biased in his opinion of the instant case.

You will be apprised of all additional pertinent information that is received relative to Vittorio Vidali, the leading suspect in the Carlo Tresca murder case.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch

F. L. Welch

In reply refer to
File No. 61-1335

May 13, 1943

SIS #396

DECLASSIFIED BY 6049
1-27-77

Re: Carlo Tresca

Dear Sir:

Carlo Tresca was shot and killed on January 11, 1943, as he left his office on Fifth Avenue, New York City. The murderer has not been identified although the New York City Police Department has conducted an extensive investigation to locate him.

Tresca was an anarchist and the publisher of a newspaper. He was intensely disliked by both Fascist and Communists whom he vitriolically attacked in his journal. Although the Bureau is not investigating Tresca's assassination, it is interested in any information pertinent to the case.

Mr. Tolson _____ Perhaps the most important suspect in the matter is Carlos
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____ Contreras, alias Jesus Sornrente Vidal or Vidali. This individual is
Mr. Clegg _____ an Italian who spent many years in Russia and also the Commander of the
Mr. Coffey _____ Communist Lister Brigade in Spain during the Spanish Civil War. He has
Mr. Glavin _____ the reputation of being a very dangerous character having been accused
Mr. Ladd _____ of several political assassinations both in Spain and in Mexico. There
Mr. Nichols _____ appears to be little doubt but that Contreras is at least an important
Mr. Rosen _____ Communist functionary, if not an actual O.G.P.U. agent.

Mr. Tracy _____ His present residence is in Mexico, but information has been
Mr. Carson _____ received to the effect that since he came to Mexico on April 17, 1939,
Mr. Harbo _____ he has made several trips to the United States and Cuba.

Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McGuire _____ The Bureau is presently conducting an expedition and intensive
Mr. Mumford _____ Contreras' activities in both the United States and in
Mr. Quinn _____ Mexico. Inasmuch as Contreras has reputedly traveled to Cuba since 1937,
Mr. Tamm _____ you are instructed to make inquiries through sources available to you in Cuba.
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED
&
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61-1335-312

INVESTIGATIVE

MAY 15 1943

MAY 13 1943 P.M.
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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to ascertain whether these trips were a reality as well as to determine his activities and contacts while in Cuba. This matter should be given preferred, thorough, and vigorous investigative attention and a report submitted to the Bureau as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

15

RECORDED

JPC:igb

April 26, 1943

SAC, New York

Re: CARLO THESCA

bl

Dear Sirs



In the event any additional pertinent data are received by the Bureau relative to this case, your Office will be appropriately advised. At the same time, the New York Office should furnish the Bureau with all relevant information which is received from time to time in connection with this case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____

W
Enclosure

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F. B. I.

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

61-1335-313
Law
John

73 JUN 26 1943

JPC:ogb

April 30, 1943

PERSONAL ATTENTION

~~61-1333~~ 3/3
100-new

SAC, San Antonio

Re: JESUS SORRENTE VIDALI

Dear Sir:

The Bureau is vitally interested in securing all information available relative to the captioned individual, who is presently residing at Avenida Juarez No. 4, Mexico City, Mexico. The following is a summarization of the information presently in the Bureau's possession relative to the captioned subject.

Jesus Sorrente Vidali is known to have utilized the following aliases during the recent past: Jesus Sorrente Vidali; Vittorio Vidali; Vittorio Vidali Sorrenti; Jesus Vidal, Carlos Jimenez Contreras; Carlos Contreras; Carlos Sorrento; Enea Sorrenti; and "Comandante Carlos." The Bureau files reflect that the subject is an Italian; that he spent many years in Russia; and that he was Commissar of the Communist Lister Brigade in Spain during the Spanish Civil War. The subject, who is most generally referred to as Carlos Contreras, is considered by reliable informants to be a most dangerous character. Vidali has been referred to as a Comintern Functionary, as a G.P.U. agent, and as one of the principal influential contact men between "Free Germany" and the Mexican Communist movement.

From the data available it appears that the subject in 1923, a year after Mussolini seized control of Italy, fled his homeland and came to the United States where he aligned himself with Communist elements. He later proceeded to Mexico and was allegedly deported by that country, subsequently turning up in Spain where he fought as a Commandant in the Spanish Loyalist Army during the recent Civil War in that country. Vidali later returned to Mexico and posed as a Spanish refugee, affiliating himself with Vicente Lombardo Toledano, a Mexican labor leader and alleged adherent of the Communist Party in Mexico.

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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Another report has been received indicating that Vidali was seen in New York City during the first or second week of January, 1943.

At this time the Bureau is particularly interested in the various trips which the subject is reported to have made to the United States. Accordingly, it is desired that the San Antonio Office and the Offices receiving copies of this letter contact the appropriate representatives of the Immigration and Naturalization Service at the various ports of entry mentioned hereinbefore, for the purpose of securing all available information relative to the travels of Vidali. The Philadelphia Office should make similar inquiries at the headquarters of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in Philadelphia for the purpose of securing any data in the possession of that Service relative to the captioned subject.

This is a matter in which I am particularly interested and, accordingly, it is desired that the foregoing instructions be complied with in sufficient time to insure the submission of the requested information to the Bureau not later than May 15, 1943.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC: El Paso
Miami
Philadelphia

61

PLACE

DATE

REPORTED BY:

MAR 29 1943

4-16-43

[REDACTED]

TITLE:

CARLO TRESCA

CHARACTER:

MEXICO
SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES - S & C

UK

SYNOPSIS:

[REDACTED]

COMMENTS:

[REDACTED]

*Let. to Am. Embassy
El Paso
CO. Mexico
St. Louis
March 29 1943*

STATUS:

= P =

[REDACTED]

REFERENCE:

[REDACTED]

Made available to:

(Embassy/Consulate)

Copies RECORDED & INDEXED

5 - Bureau

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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CARLO TRESCA

4-16-43

An article containing the following information appeared in "Excelsior" dated April 4, 1943:

JULIAN GOMEZ GORKIN, who was wounded during the assault on the Centro Cultural Ibero-Mexicano, Venustiano Carranza #50, stated that the Communists in México are resorting to terror in order to impose their will on all objectors in México. He stated that the O.G.P.U. is working openly in México upon instructions from the Comintern. JULIAN GORKIN accused the following persons as leading the assault on the Centro Cultural Ibero-Mexicano:

ANTONIO MIJE
JUAN COMORERA
JULIAN CARRILLO
CARLOS CONTRERAS

The article continued that CARLOS CONTRERAS, who uses various names, has been able to travel with facility to Cuba and to the United States. At the present time, the New York Police are seeking CONTRERAS in connection with the assassination of CARLO TRESCA, which crime was carried out by the G.P.U.

An article in "Excelsior" dated April 8, 1943, by JORGE PIÑO SANDOVAL, reflects that additional aliases of CARLOS JIMENEZ CONTRERAS are ENEA SORMENTI and "COMANDANTE CARLOS".

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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For your information: _____

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61-1335-313 (REPORT), pages 9 and 10.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
500 Widener Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

May 10, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: ~~JESUS SORRENTE VIDALI~~, with aliases.
Internal Security
(Bureau File No. 61-1335)

Dear Sir:

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Reference is made to Bureau letter concerning the above-captioned individual addressed to the Special Agent in Charge, San Antonio, dated April 30, 1943, a copy of which was furnished to the Philadelphia Field Division. A request was made therein that inquiries be made at the headquarters of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Philadelphia, for the purpose of securing any data relative to the captioned subject. *Italy*
Mex

A check of the records maintained at the headquarters of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 15th and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, under the following names used by the subject, ~~JESUS SORRENTE VIDAL, VITTORIO VIDALI, VITTORIO VIDALI ROBERTI, JESUS VIDAL, CARLOS LINENEL CONTRERAS, CARLOS CONTRERAS, CARLOS SORRENTE, ENRIQUE SORRENTI, and "COMANDANTE CARLOS,"~~ revealed information only as to one CARLOS CONTRERAS, 201 Lexington Avenue, New York, who apparently is not identical with the subject of this communication.

Information in brief concerning CARLOS CONTRERAS, 201 Lexington Avenue, New York, as reflected in the Immigration and Naturalization files, is as follows:

CONTRERAS was born in Antofagasta, Chile, on August 10, 1900, of Spanish American parents, GUILLAMO CONTRERAS, father, and HERMIWIA CARMONA, mother. He first entered the United States at the age of eighteen as a seaman from LeHavre, France, aboard the vessel BUFORD on September 13, 1918, arriving at the port of New York, New York. He was naturalized in the United States District Court, New York City, February 17, 1941, Petition No. 355223, Certificate No. 4957012.

He has been employed as a butler by MARSHALL H. RUSSEL, Esq., at Aiken, South Carolina. According to these records, CONTRERAS visited Bahamas, B.W.I., for a period of three months for reasons of his employment with MARSHALL H. RUSSEL in 1937. A Re-entry Permit No. 1132033 was

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61-1335-317
MAY 15 1943

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MKS
11
Carlo Contreras

40 MAY 23 1943
164

Director

- 2 -

May 10, 1943

issued him on March 6, 1937. He re-entered the United States at Miami, Florida, aboard the vessel "PILOT I" on May 6, 1937.

In view of the above information, no further inquiries will be made by this office in the absence of a request from the Bureau or offices receiving copies of this communication.

Very truly yours,

J. F. Sears
J. F. SEARS
SAC

GPF/mjm
100-19687

cc San Antonio
El Paso
Miami

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

San Antonio, Texas
May 13, 1943

AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

Carlo Tresca

Director, F.B.I.

Board
Moynihan

Re: ~~JESUS ORRMENTE VIDALI~~

Dear Sir:

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Reference is being made to Bureau letter dated April 30, 1943, Bureau File No. 61-1335, in regard to the above-entitled individual.

Please be advised that a check of the records of the United States Immigration Service at Brownsville and Hidalgo, Texas, was made with negative results. Neither was there a record of a departure at either of the above ports of entry, inasmuch as outgoing passengers or travellers are not recorded by the U. S. Immigration upon their departure from the United States unless the traveller is travelling by air. All air manifests of both outgoing and incoming passengers, however, upon being searched, likewise failed to reflect any record.

Italy

b1



Although none of the above sources possessed any information relative to this person's travels, the Immigration stations did have on record a confidential bulletin from

61-1335-315



26 MAY 24 1943

SE
[Handwritten initials]

Letter to Director, Page 2, May 13, 1943

Re: JESUS SORRENTE VIDALI

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

No further inquiry is being conducted in regard to this individual and this case is being closed in the San Antonio Field Division, subject to being re-opened in the event information is received in regard to the subject.

Very truly yours,

R. C. Suran
R. C. SURAN
SAC

JFE:CL

b1

100-4194

May 19, 1943

SIS #72

DECLASSIFIED BY 6049
1-27-77

Re: Carlo Tresca

Dear Sir:

For your information and possible assistance in conducting investigations pertaining to Carlo Contreras, there is enclosed herewith a photostatic copy of an intercept submission in connection with a letter dated April 8, 1943, from Mario Contreras, Mexico, D.F., to "L'Unita del Popolo," New York City.

You will note that the enclosed photostat contains information to the effect that Contreras is now a member of the Executive Committee of the Garibaldi Alliance and that the latter stands ready to prove the falseness of attacks against him by Trotskyites in Mexico.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
MAY 19 1943
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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67-7335-316
MAY 21 1943

55 JUN 15 1943

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Title of letter (or subject of letter (including))		To be photographed:	To whom photograph is to be sent:	DISPOSAL OF ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS:
Previous relevant records:		For reference use by A. C. or D. C. only:	Station distribution:	
Language:		Previously censored by:		Field () Released () Continued () Returned () The number () Or deal with comment to:

Division (or Station)	Title	Number (Comm-Cable)	D. A. C.	Date	Typed Name
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APRIL 11, 1943 6:51 APRIL 14, 1943

COMMENT

Enclosed also is a comment by writer, Mario Montagnana, in which writer describes the meeting called by Trotskyites in Mexico to commemorate Carlo Tresca and the executed Polish spies, Erlich and Alter, with Victor Serge, Julian Gorkin, and Leo Tolson, designating as a Frenchman Paul Chevalier, as speakers. The meeting was broken up by Mexican Antifascists, with several wounded, Julian Gorkin being taken, and all the arrested antifascists were immediately freed.

Writer states that a local reactionary newspaper reports on a meeting with Gorkin in which latter accuses Spanish Communists and Comrade Carlos Contreras (Vittorio Vidali) of having organized this protest against Trotskyites, and accuses Comrade Vidali of being responsible for the death of Carlo Tresca. Writer states that it would be unnecessary to bother with the worn Leo Tolson if he, along with other Trotskyites and criminals were not a director of the Mexico Chapter of Spanish Society. Writer states that both the Mexico Chapter and the U. S. Spanish Society should repudiate these tactics openly in order not to be considered Trotskyites themselves.

WRITER'S NOTE: Writer is Communist and Secretary of Geribaldi Alliance, Antifascist Society which accepts Communists, unlike the Spanish Society which excludes them. Geribaldi Alliance has been crying bloody murder on all antifascists. Addressed to Communist newspaper. Mario Montagnana is a Communist. (Enclosed was a letter from the Spanish Society to the Mexico Chapter and the U. S. Spanish Society.)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

In Reply, please refer
to File number 100-2989

Post Office Box 1679
El Paso, Texas
May 12, 1943

①
Carlo Tresca

Director, FBI.

RE: ~~JESUS SORRENTE VIDALI~~

~~Mexico~~
~~Italy~~

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to a copy of your letter dated April 30, 1943, and addressed to the San Antonio office, in connection with the above captioned person.

Following receipt of a copy of the reference letter, Special Agent [redacted] of this office, contacted Inspector GORDON CORNELL of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service, Santa Fe Bridge, El Paso, Texas, who advised that a careful check of the records in that office against the name of the Subject and all his reported aliases, failed to reveal any record showing his entry into the United States or his exit therefrom through the Port of El Paso, Texas.

No further investigation in connection with this matter is contemplated at the present time, unless this office is advised otherwise.

Very truly yours,

D. A. Bryce
D. A. BRYCE,
Special Agent in Charge.

b7c

TLK:mlg

RECORDED

6-1335-317

MAY 15 1943

[Handwritten signature]



57 JUN 22 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

**THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
CHIEF POSTAL CENSOR
WASHINGTON, D. C.**

In reply, refer to
Examination Section:

May 7, 1943.

Mr. John Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Attention: Mr. R. D. Douglas

Enclosed are copies of numerous submission slips
comprising the back traffic filed under the names of Vitorio
Vidali, Vitorio Vidali Sarmeni, Carlos Contreras, Carlos Sorrento,
and Enea Sarmeni, in compliance with your request of May 13, 1943.

As reported to Mr. Douglas by telephone, additional
submission slips have been recorded on these names, but copies are
not included because the master sheets are not available. All of
these have been allocated to you previously. The numbers have been
supplied to Mr. Douglas and if any are missing from your files, I
will be glad to furnish microfilm copies upon request. Also enclosed
are NYC-176328-A and NY-366406 which constitute the back traffic on
Madeleine Gaucheron.

There is no record of any communications to or
from George Wilfert, alias Wilfret.

Sincerely yours,

Ralph Burkholder
Ralph Burkholder,
Assistant Chief Postal Censor.

Enclosures:
Numerous cps. of submission slips.

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

CONFIDENTIAL

File in 61-1335

61-1335-2018

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

15 MAY 22 1943

FILE

55 JUN 1 1943

*These detached +
sent to
Cayson
5/8/43 R.A.D.*

*Evans advised
R.A.D.*

*Part of
Back traffic returned,
the rest has been
destroyed - JPC*

1 ENCL. 13

DI 112

	To be photographed:	To be classified:	
1352 1383 1390 1397 1429	For reference use by A. C. or R. C. only:	Status distribution:	Released (2) Continued Deleted In Progress On Hold (1)
	Language: ENGLISH	Previously covered by: NONE	

Classification: ONE Date: 12/28 R. A. C. Date: FEB. 25, 1943 alh: FEB. 27, 1943

COMMENT

Handwritten:
 Classified
 WRS-177

ARCHITECT IN MEXICO ACCEPTS MEMBERSHIP IN AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

Writer expresses his appreciation and accepts Honorary Membership in American Institute of Architects.

MEMORANDUM: Writer has been contacted by a man also known as Carlos E. Contreras (RAF 1500, VA, 1920), Italian Communist, a Director of Garibaldi Alliance (SA 1500), former Commander of Fifth Regiment in Spanish War. Apparently no connection between these two men. Writer is architect and has been invited to contribute article to "The Architectural Record", 111 Madison Ave., N.Y.C., an architectural magazine edited by Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs for his participation in Planning Conference and by Gen. Fagnoli of the Army.

MEMORANDUM: Vittorio Fagnoli (Carlos E. Contreras, as listed in SA 1500), S. A. Valaz, Abraham Gonzalez 29 and/or officials of Mexican Consulate, Avenida Juarez 2, Mexico, D.F. The latter address is known to Carlos Contreras, the architect and one of the men mentioned above. Address appears to be 111 Madison Ave., N.Y.C.

FROM: CARLOS CONTRERAS ARCHITECTO, BELFICHO # 1A AVENIDA SIENES MEXICO, D.F. MEXICO			
Date of letter (or postmark if letter undated): DEC. 3, 1942	To:	Subject:	Reference:
Previous relevant records: NONE	For intelligence use by A. C. or D. C. only:	Section classification:	Mail class:
Language: ENGLISH		Previously covered by:	To read with comment to:

Division (or Section) REGISTRY	Table 9	Serial 12392	S. D. & R. N/3297	Date DEC. 7, 1942	File 1771
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COMMENT
POLITICAL

ADJ
ASST
ATTY
CLERK
DIR
IDENT
INSPE
INTE
LAB
LEGAL
MAIL
RECORDS
TRAINING
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Declassified
by NARS
1977*

MEXICAN SUSPECT DENIES MEMBERSHIP IN U.S. POLITICAL SOCIETY

Writer expresses serious skepticism as to the possibility of address for membership in American Institute of Architects. Writer says: (quoted) "Please check on third member who, as a friend of mine, was a signatory. I have no recollection of his name." (end of quote)

In enclosed application blank, writer states he was born, March 20, 1902, in Mexico, attended Columbia University from 1907 to 1913, earned B.S. degree. Writer claims to be a member of the American Institute of Architects.

For handling of the - N. C. case	Section 100-100000
Language & style	Previously approved

COMMENT

GERIBALS ALLIANCE DIRECTOR INCENSED AT CASTRO'S CAMPAIGN AGAINST TRESCA'S ASSASSINATION

Castro states that he has just learned of the propaganda campaign of lies launched against him in U.S. and Mexico of Carlos Tresca as a basis.

The Mexican Press has not printed any of this propaganda. He has been told that this is the case.

Castro states that this campaign is so farcical that he cannot take it up, although writer has offered to devote his efforts to his ideas and his party, especially in the U.S. and Mexico.

Castro hopes that this campaign will have some effect on the minds of the people.

Castro hopes that this campaign will have some effect on the minds of the people.

Handwritten notes:
 carefully
 all
 all

Handwritten notes:
 1111

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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For your information: _____

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61-1335-322

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

FROM: A. Marchiani
Mazzini Society
1775 Broadway
New York

TO: 18124
P.O. Box 18124
Avenida Republica Sal-
vador, 19 also
Mexico City

REF: Of 4601, 2108, 2980

Date of letter (or FOREIGN LETTER) Feb. 18, 1945	To be photographed: No	To whom photograph is to be sent:	GENERAL OF POLITICAL INFORMATION
Previous relevant records:	For interoffice use by A. C. or D. C. only:	Station distribution: Division of Reports	Field Office National Office International To be sent with comment to:
	Language: Italian	Previously covered by: None	

Division: S.A. Political
Table: 215
Number: 2324
D.A.C. 2324
From: [illegible]
Date: [illegible]

COMMENT

*Discharged by
JAS
1977*

LEADER OF MAZZINI SOCIETY
EVIDENCE THAT SHOWS
there is published in [illegible] and whether that daily published newspaper article linking the murder of [illegible] City with a certain [illegible] (Carlo Contreras, an Italian [illegible] who [illegible] [illegible])



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
May 20, 1943

JPG:cgb

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. McGuire	_____
Mr. Mumford	_____
Mr. Piper	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Beahm	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WELCH

Re: Carlo Tresca -

bfw
bl

In view of the Bureau's interest in the murder of Carlo Tresca, the Espionage Section, in pursuance of my request, secured the back traffic filed under the names of Vitorio Vidali, alias Vitorio Vidali Sormenti, Carlos Contreras, Carlos Sorrento, and Enea Sormenti, who is considered by the District Attorney of New York County as one of the leading suspects in the instant case.

In reviewing these intercepts I have observed that although the vast majority of them are concerned with an individual residing in Mexico City by the name of Carlos Contreras, this individual is not identical with Vitorio Vidali, despite the Censorship Examiners' ~~notes to the contrary~~.



The suspect in the Tresca murder case, Vitorio Vidali, who is better known as Carlos Contreras, apparently resides at Calle Loteria Nacional I. Dpto. 6, Mexico, D. F., Mexico. Although the files of the Office of Censorship contain several references to this suspect, there is no information contained therein which would appear to be of value in the solution of this case. A review of these intercepts, however, indicates that the Garibaldi Alliance, a Communist organization in Mexico City, has directed numerous



24 JUN 1 1943

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EX-57

61-1335-320
MAY 22 1943
Am...
S. B. B.

communications to Unita Del Popolo in New York City disclaiming the "scandalous and base campaign of lies launched against Contreras in the United States, using the assassination of Carlo Tresca as a basis." From the information presently available it would appear that Unita Del Popolo has become overrun with Leftist elements to such an extent that it may well be classified as a Communist-front organization.

ACTION: Inasmuch as the back traffic on suspect Vidali, alias Contreras, contains no information which would be of assistance in establishing or eliminating this individual as Tresca's assassin, no action is necessary relative to the data set forth hereinbefore.

Respectfully,


J. P. Coyne



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____

JPC:cgb
61-1335

May 25, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: Carlo Tresca

Handwritten initials and large 'b' and '1' marks.

In order that you may be apprised of the current status of this case the following information is set forth relative to Jesus Sormente Vidali, better known as Carlos Contreras, who is apparently the chief suspect in the Carlo Tresca murder case.

[Large redacted section consisting of multiple thick black bars covering the body of the memorandum.]



28 JUN 2 1943

61-1335-321

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F B I
26 MAY 27 1943

[REDACTED]

OBSERVATIONS: It would appear from the data available that Contreras is not identical with Tresca's assassin. However, since his whereabouts on January 11, 1943 has not been definitely established, the Bureau is continuing its inquiries relative thereto, both in the United States and in Mexico. On April 30, 1943 the San Antonio, El Paso, Miami, and Philadelphia Offices were instructed to secure all available information relative to the travels of Contreras from the Immigration and Naturalization Offices in those Districts. To date no affirmative information has been secured as a result of this action.

[REDACTED]

ACTION: A second communication is being directed to the border Offices mentioned above, together with photographs of Contreras, in order that these pictures may be displayed to the representatives of the Immigration and Naturalization Service who are responsible for the control of international passage. As previously indicated, our investigation of Contreras in Mexico City is being continued. As additional data are received concerning this case you will be appropriately advised.

Respectfully,

F. L. Welch
F. L. Welch

bl

JPC:ogb
61-1335

Date: May 25, 1943
To: SAC, New York

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject: CARLO TRESCA



As additional data are received pertinent to the captioned case you will be appropriately advised.

Enclosure

b1

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

61-1335
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 MAY 28 1943
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED
 ★ MAY 27 1943 R.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

55 MAY 31 1943

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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