

WWII Spy Deception Involved Rome and U.S.

Washington — One of the more astounding spy stories from World War II has recently been unearthed by sometime Courier-Journal writer Father Robert Graham, SJ, and the Washington Post newspaper.

Both Father Graham and the Post have documentation now through the Freedom of Information Act on the adventures of an Italian journalist, Virgilio Scattolini, who fabricated reams of reports to American intelligence operations, purportedly recounting the inner workings of the Vatican during the war.

According to a report by the Post's Thomas O'Toole, Scattolini's reports were so prolific and valuable that the OSS kept one man in Italy doing nothing but translating and cabling them to Washington. The Scattolini pieces were considered to be priceless pieces of European intelligence. Mr. Scattolini's recitations of the pope's secret audiences with the German and Japanese ambassadors to the Holy See rang so true that the cables were rushed to the White House for President Roosevelt.

The one problem with the reports was, and this only discovered later, Scattolini invented them out of whole cloth.

The U.S. Scattolini file reveals that the journalist and one-time writer of pornographic plays was paid \$500 a month for his reports. Scattolini in turn invented papal meetings, fabricated dialogue and lied for the better part of a year about what was going on in the Vatican.

One particularly juicy bit of Scattolini reporting had it that Pope Pius XII was considering appointing New York's Cardinal Francis Spellman as Vatican Secretary of State. The appointment,

Scattolini's pope said, could lead to Spellman's election as the first American pope.

Scattolini claimed close contact with the Vatican's Secretary of State, who was then Msgr. Giovanni Battista Montini, later Pope Paul VI. That placed Scattolini, Scattolini said, in contact with the Vatican's secret archives, the mother lode he would work for his reports to the U.S.

The Post said the documents reveal that Scattolini "transcribed" no fewer than 20 audiences he said the pope held and sent them along to the OSS. He passed the exact dialogue of audiences the pope supposedly had with Roosevelt aide Harry Hopkins, U.S. 8th Army general Mark Clark, U.S. ambassador Myron Taylor, Jesuit commander-in-chief Norberto De Boynes, Japanese ambassador Ken Harada and U.S. Army General Dwight Eisenhower. Nobody caught up with the fiction.

In fact, said Father Graham, no minutes were kept of any audience Pope Pius XII ever had. There are no records anywhere in the Vatican of audiences by Pius XII with diplomats, church leaders or anybody else.

"Even when Churchill came to see the pope after the fall of Rome, we have no record of their conversation," Father Graham said.

Scattolini's inventiveness and skill at creating papal dialogue is illustrated by one report in which he had the pope tell Cardinal Pietro Fumasoni Biondi: "Defeat will change Japanese mentality for the better; it will develop the best qualities of that people and Japan will become promising ground for the propagation of Catholicism."

"But Scattolini made a

major mistake that proved his undoing," O'Toole reported. "He invented a Vatican meeting between American ambassador Myron Taylor and Japanese ambassador Ken Harada at which he said they discussed the possibility of peace in the Pacific. It was the first face-to-face meeting of any American and Japanese diplomats since Pearl Harbor. U.S. intelligence circles were agog at Scattolini's dispatch.

"So, startled, in fact, that somebody asked the State Department to cable Taylor in Rome for more details of his historic meeting with Harada. Back came Taylor's historic reply: 'I have not seen or talked with Ken Harada, I do not even know Ken Harada.'"

However, even after this event, the OSS continued to fund Scattolini with his \$500-a-month until the end of the war in the Pacific.

Scattolini came to ruin in 1948 when during Italian elections Vatican "documents" started circulating in the hands of the communist Popular Democratic Front.

CIA counter intelligence presented the pope with proof that Scattolini was the originator of those documents. The pope in turn called the police and Scattolini was arrested under an obscure Italian law prohibiting the harming of relations between Italy and the Vatican. Scattolini admitted his frauds and was sent to prison.

When the OSS realized how badly it had been taken, it buried the 1,700-piece Scattolini file in a farm field in Maryland. The file was dug up in 1960, returned to the CIA, and now, after 20 years, is in the public domain.

Nimoy to Portray Van Gogh

Actor Leonard Nimoy will appear at Nazareth Arts Center in his production of "Vincent: The Story of a Hero," Friday and Saturday, Sept. 12 and 13 at 8:30 p.m.

The production is based on the dramatic and at times humorous life of the artist Vincent Van Gogh. Nimoy plays both Vincent and his brother Theo, an art dealer.

Volunteers Needed

The American Cancer Society needs volunteer drivers to transport patients to area hospitals. The patients live outside Monroe County and are housed at the Daisy Marquis Jones Hope Lodge at 1400 N. Winton Road.

Volunteers are needed to drive the 12-passenger van each morning, Monday through Friday. For further information, the number is 288-1950.

Pilgrimage

Mr. Anthony Guido of Falls Church, Va., travel director for Queen of the Americas Guild, will lead a pilgrimage to Mexico to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Oct. 15-22. For more information, call Mary Kelly at 586-1664.

Dolores Curran



Talks With Parents

Part-Time Job Woes

About this time of summer, offspring in thousands of homes across America are threatening to self-destruct. Their summer jobs are the worst in the world. Never has there been misery this.

Gone is the memory of their arduous search for the job last spring and the elation upon finding it. Faded are the anticipation and challenge of the first days of work. Diminished even is the miracle of the weekly paycheck. Replacing all this is the tedium of sameness every day, the hot grind of sun in outdoor work, the increasing nastiness of children in childcare jobs and the relentless odor of french fries in restaurants.

About this time, the youngsters begin a not-so-subtle campaign to get their parents to suggest they quit their jobs. The alternatives proffered are insanity, depression, or death by boredom.

Some parents capitulate. I look at the summer job differently. Parents aren't responsible for the unpleasantness of their children's jobs. Parents shouldn't feel guilty if their children aren't having a pleasant-while-profitable summer. Parents put up with a lot of unpleasantness, from diapers to tax forms. It's a part of life and this is a way of teaching children to get used to it.

There's a vast difference between emphasizing with a child experiencing his first large lesson in the world of work — that all is not jolly out there — and answering for the drawbacks involved. Once parents begin doing the latter, they become responsible for the child's summer happiness.

More important, though, is the purpose of the job. While money is certainly the basic motivation, the value of the summer job is its impact act in later school or work life. Doing lawns over and over in the summer has a way of making algebra assignments attractive in September to even the most recalcitrant student. Serving coffee in 90 degree cafes makes endurable the long

registration lines, sometime neurotic professors and meaningless term papers that follow in higher education.

Posting bills at a desk all day while realizing that the gray-haired woman at the next desk has done this for 18 years and plans to do it another 18 gives a valuable perspective on work to young people just about to enter the work world.

The real value of the miserable summer job, in short, is that it puts future work into perspective. It is a short term experience with long term values. Sometimes, of course, the summer job is a joy and then young people may have to re-evaluate their future plans. They may decide not to go back to school, change jobs or join the army as planned but to stay in the temporary job because it is enjoyable.

As parents let's not be hasty in removing the summer job from our children's lives. I remember a hot summer spent in a paper box factory as a 15-year-old. I was miserable to live with. I was hot, tired and bored. I complained, suffered and put a new value on money.

But in retrospect, that job probably had more to do with any success I've had in life than all the term papers I wrote later. It taught me deadlines aren't so bad. I'm awfully glad now my parents didn't let me quit then.

Parade to Start Fall Festival

Elmira — Our Lady of Lourdes Parish will conduct a Fall Festival Saturday, Sept. 13 and Sunday, Sept. 14 on the parish grounds.

Saturday's events will begin at 1 p.m. and run until 9 p.m.; on Sunday, activities will get underway at noon, and wind up at 6 p.m.

A parade will kick off the events at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday. Co-sponsored by the West Elmira Fire Department, the parade will have several marching units, and will travel along West Church Street from Durland Avenue to Our Lady of Lourdes.

Three musical groups will perform Saturday. At 4 p.m., Act Four, a singing quartet, will perform. At 6 p.m., Phil Leyton and the Big Band Sound will be on stage, and at 7:30, The Phones, rock musicians, will be on tap.

A choir and three dance groups will perform Sunday. At 1 p.m., the Lourdes Folk Choir will sing. Polish dancers will take over, and they in

turn will give way to square dancers at 3 p.m., and to Irish dancers at 4 p.m.

A wide variety of food will be available, including a spaghetti supper from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday in the church hall. Craft, plant, and white elephant booths will be among the many offerings continued throughout the event.

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