

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Serial 019216  
Op-16-B-10  
A805/QQ  
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(Sc)

JUN 12 1942 13 16 00

From: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations.  
To: The Assistant Secretary of the Navy (SOGED) *K1409*  
Subject: SIRIGNANO, John, alias SIRIGNANO, John alias SIRIGNANO, J.  
Enclosure: (A) ONI conf. file; same subject.

1. On April 18, 1942, subject was discharged from the Sperry Gyroscope Company, Brooklyn, New York, for "Fascist activities."  
2. This discharge was requested by the Commandant of the Third Naval District acting under the authority conferred by the Secretary of the Navy, (SecNav conf. ltr. 22 Jan 1942, (SC)A8-5/QQ, Op-16-B-10 A8-5/QQ, Serial 019216).

3. On May 14, 1942, subject requested a review of his case in a letter to the Resident Inspector of Naval Material at the Sperry Gyroscope Company, affirming his loyalty as an American citizen.

4. The subject is known to be a Fascist agent on the basis of the following information:

- (a) Subject, an American citizen of Italian birth, was formerly confidential secretary to Italo VERRANDO, of the Italian Line, New York City, and was a close confidant of VERRANDO and Raulo OCHIPINTI, Assistant Manager of the Line, until the entrance of the United States into the war.
- (b) A confidential informant stated that subject visited Italy in January, 1941, returning to the United States by the way of Spain in April 1941, bearing with him the official secret orders of the Italian Government for the sabotage of Italian ships in United States Harbors, which occurred in May, 1941.
- (c) This information is corroborated by telegrams and correspondence in the files of SIRIGNANO at the Italian Line offices, concerning full details of the arrangements made for SIRIGNANO's trip to Italy on "urgent business of the line". SIRIGNANO's files contain a telegram sent in March, 1941 from the head of the Line in Genoa to VERRANDO stating that certain secret orders which could not be sent by cable would be handed to SIRIGNANO at Genoa for transmittal to the United States.

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(d) A comparison of signatures definitely establish the identity of subject employee with the Sperry Company with subject Secretary of the Italian Line.

5. After a full consideration of the facts in this case, the Vice Chief of Naval Operations recommends that the Secretary of the Navy confirm the action of the Commandant of the 3ND in requesting the discharge of subject, John Sirignano.

*W. S. Wharton*  
W. S. Wharton  
By direction.

Dictated June 11, 1942  
Dictated by Lt. Earl  
Typed by E. L. Hoying, Y2c

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