

# State of historical research to date on the activities of Pius XII in favour of the Jews in Rome

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(Translated by Livio Poloniato)

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News as of March 2, 2017

From October 16, 1943 until June 4, 1944, Pope Pius XII, along with the Vatican institutions and Father Pancrazio Pfeiffer, made 198 interventions in favour of Jews arrested in Rome and deported. For 7 Jews there were two interventions: one through official channels, another through unofficial channels. Thanks to these interventions, 60 arrested Jews were freed; 131 Jews were however deported. In total, 110 explicit requests were made for their release. All this shows the inconsistency of the Vatican non-intervention thesis in favour of the Jews arrested and deported.

Deacon Dominiek Oversteijns FSO Rome 2017 Congress Pope Pius XII

On March 12, 2014, we published some results of the study of the testimonies given by Jews in relation to what happened to them during the Nazi persecution that took place in Rome from September 8, 1943 to June 4, 1944. Now we are in possession of new testimonies of Jews, of new documents, sources and archives that confirm more and more generally the results that have been achieved and made known three years ago. Most of the numerical results reported here<sup>1</sup> are confirmed by the testimonies given by the Jews and their saviours with a degree of certainty ranging from 67% to 98%. We can divide the results in three moments:

- what happened before the raid of October 16, 1943;
  - what happened until the liberation on June 4, 1944; and finally
- + what has been done in favour of the arrested and deported Jews of Rome during these periods.

1. It is estimated, with certainty, that before the beginning of the round-up on October 16, 1943, there were 1,323 Jews, (1,116 Romans and 207 foreigners), outside their homes that found shelter in Rome and around the city. Among these, on their own initiative, 393 have found refuge in the villages perched in the mountains around Rome, 368 in private houses in Rome with friends; 18 found refuge in the Vatican and its extraterritorial territories; 44 in parishes and pontifical colleges and 500 Jews in 48 Roman convents, where they were protected by Pope

Pacelli and the Church with a sign indicating that these were places belonging to the extraterritorial property of the Vatican. Already for 9 of these convents we have a testimony that tells that Pius XII ordered to open them to give asylum to the Jews. Pacelli and his collaborators in the Vatican had helped 714 Jews already before October 16, 1943, by giving them financial and material support, hiding them in the monasteries. In short, this means that Pius XII and the Vatican helped 54%, or more than half the Jews seeking refuge, even before October 16, 1943.

Through unpublished documents and new testimonies made by Jews, we learned of 5 new convents that gave shelter and hid Jews before October 16, 1943. For example, through the testimony of Vittorio De Benedetti<sup>2</sup>, we know that in the Franciscan Missionary Poor Clare Institute of the Most Holy Sacrament, located at Via Vicenza, 33 (Loparco 54), before October 16, 1943, were hidden Gino De Benedetti with his wife and two children Nelda De Benedetti and his elder brother, Giuseppe Aboaf with his wife Gemma Donati (Gemma Aboaf) and two daughters Stella Aboaf and Lila Aboaf, (for a total of 8 Jews). Moreover, in the Istituto dell'Adorazione, located in Via Tommaso Salvini, 20 (Loparco 55) were hidden 11 Jews or Lilia Coen (Lilia Ascarelli) with her four children Adriana Ascarelli, Anna Ascarelli, Angela Ascarelli and Andrea Ascarelli (3 years old in 1944), also Mrs. Sestieri with her sons Valerio Sestieri and Giancarlo Sestieri; Mrs. Lucia Basevi, who was the wife of the fascist hierarch Lucio Mignati, with his two sons Maria Vittoria Mignati and Antonio Mignati.

Through the testimony of Paoletta Rinaldi d'Agata and Titti Uri, we know that Liana Giove brought the brothers Claudio and Giannetto Di Segni to Collalto from Rome, before October 16th. Before September 9, 1943, they were hidden in the home of Angelina Petrucci-Basili and after September 9 of the same year in the house of Marcello and Titti Uri, in a farmhouse around Collalto. Claudio remained hidden until the liberation. Unfortunately, Giannetto died of liver disease before the liberation<sup>3</sup>.

Where *moked.it* in its comment of March 12, 2014 was silent about this reality of the Jews who were hiding before October 16, 1943, *romereport.com* instead, with the movie of May 10, 2014 on youtube entitled "*How Pius XII helped Jews before the Nazi regime occupied Rome* ", gave considerable importance to the fact that already before October 16, 1943 the Roman Jews tried to go into hiding and that for them it was essential the help of Pius XII. The same did Rai I on March 12, 2014 in an interview in the news at 1:00 pm in which this event was central. Also Rai Tre Storia, in January 2016, with a documentary titled *Pius XII man of peace, and Pope of war* (= *Pio XII uomo della pace e Papa della guerra*) by Antonia Pillosio, put this fact at the center of the story. So this is the most accredited thesis and that continues to find new supporters, above all basic elements in support of what was the true history of Roman Jews.

2. At the end of the harsh persecution against the Jews, that is to say June 4, 1944, it is estimated that there were 9,975 Jews in Rome, (8,000 Romans and 1,975 foreigners); 1,697 were killed, 50 died of natural causes, 117 survived deportation, 495 found refuge in the villages perched in the mountains around Rome, 1,324 in private homes of friends, 4,112 in 235 convents, 160 in the Vatican and its extraterritorial offices, 1,680 foreign Jews, finally, had the protection of the DELASEM Association. It is observed that, out of the 8,000 Roman Jews, the fate of only 290 is unaccounted. Pius XII together with his collaborators of the Vatican and the Church saved 336

Jews in the pontifical colleges and Roman parishes, 4,112 Jews in 235 Roman convents, 160 Jews in the Vatican and its extraterritorial offices and 1,680 foreign Jews with financial support of the DELASEM. In summary we know that Pius XII and his collaborators of the Church have saved and helped 6,288 Jews in Rome, which represent 63.04% of the total, which are two thirds of the 9.975 Jews present in Rome on June 4, 1944.

It is to be pointed out that the survival of 486 Roman Jews, who found refuge outside Rome on June 4, 1944, makes the thesis of the many claiming that no Roman Jew had survived outside Rome; that all those who left Rome returned to it before the end of the occupation did survive and that all those who remained outside the city were arrested, deported and killed is not true. The facts show the opposite: of all the Roman Jews who left Rome only 29 were arrested, deported and killed, while the remaining 486 survived.

It must also be considered that a new convent was found that housed 4 Roman Jews; it is the Canonichesse Regolari Monastery (= Monastero Canonichesse Regolari), Via Alberto da Giussano, 48 - 00176 ROME (Loparco NEW235) and here were hidden Isaia Calò, Elena Calò, Bassini Guido, Bassini Adriana Pisa<sup>4</sup>. The source is the "Pro memoria" of Father Giovanni da San Giovanni in Persiceto O.M. Cap of June 1944. He began to give shelter to the Italians in the cloistered convents only from December 13, 1943 almost two months after the round-up: a very late action. Therefore, he was not the first to open these 11 convents and bring people to them. We are in possession of many testimonies given by Jews and from the archives relating to these 11 monasteries, which testify that they were opened already before December 13, 1943 and that other people, who collaborated with the Vatican, had opened these monasteries. It is enough to read the testimony of Amalia Viterbo of Torino: it was professor Onorato Tescari, well known in the Vatican, to introduce his father and his grandfather in the monastery of the Santi Quattro Coronati, via Santi Quattro, 20, 00184 Rome (Loparco 152)<sup>5</sup>. The eight members of the family of Dr. Scazzocchio were there already present on December 1st 1943<sup>6</sup> and, in the diary of this Convent, we read that it was the Pope's own order to open this convent on November 4, 1943. This is affirmed by the testimony of Renato Astrologo of Rome, hidden in the convent of the Cistercian Monks of Santa Susanna (= Female Monks = Monache Cisterciensi di Santa Susanna), via XX Settembre (Loparco 157)<sup>7</sup>. It was Don Libero Raganella who broke the claustration in the night between October 16 and 17, 1943 and he also hid here 24 Jews. It can be concluded by affirming that the testimonies given by the Jews themselves, suppress the thesis according to which the *Pro memoria* is the first historical document that shows and highlights the existence of a person in the middle hierarchy of the Vatican, which autonomously broke the *clausura* to hide the Jews. Until now, this document in support of this thesis does not yet exist. The only historical value of this memory is that it shows the names of the Jews who were hidden in these monasteries and we can verify this through many other sources of that period.

It is noted that 98 new names of known Jews were found, which were present in these 235 convents. This increase was caused by the discovery of several new sources and testimonies. However, only the testimony of Vittorio De Benedetti tells us the detailed history of 50 Roman Jews.

A very beautiful detail of the testimony of Vittorio De Benedetti is the story of how a friend of his father, Monsignor D'Ercole, brought his father Giorgio De Benedetti with a Vatican car, on October 19, 1943 in the convent of the Daughters of St. Joseph (= Figlie di San Giuseppe), Lungotevere Farnesina 6, where he remained hidden until March 26, 1944, two days after the

attack on Via Rasella. On March 26, Monsignor D'Ercole again organized the transport, carried out by Msgr. Alfredo Ottaviani with the Vatican car, for Giorgio De Benedetti at the Lateran Palace. Here he obtained a passport as "*Attaché at the Pontifical Athenaeum*" in Italian but also in German with the false name of Galli Giorgio<sup>8</sup>. He was librarian of the Lateran Library until liberation and was a great friend for the rest of Msgr. Roberto Ronca, the rector of the Roman Major Seminary.

It is evident, from the presence of three testimonies, that Msgr. Alfredo Ottaviani of the Vatican gave aid to the Jews: after July 19, 1943 Laura Scharf, her brother and mother were transported by Msgr. Alfredo Ottaviani with his Vatican car to the convent on Via Caetani Michelangelo (Loparco NEW 225)<sup>9</sup>; Colonel Mario Battistelli accused Msgr. Ottaviani to issue baptismal certificates to Jews and to host Jews in the Lateran Palace and annexed colleges<sup>10</sup>. Furthermore, on March 26, he took Giorgio De Benedetti with the Vatican car to the Lateran Palace. Monsignor Alfredo Ottaviani was a commissioner for the Holy Office and had a weekly audience with Pius XII<sup>11</sup>. More: Pius XII regularly asked Mons. Ronca to list the Jews hidden in the Roman Major Seminary with their true and false name<sup>12</sup>. There are 5 lists that Msgr. Ronca had drawn up for Pius XII reporting the following dates: December 11, 1943<sup>13</sup>, December 15, 1943, December 16, 1943<sup>14</sup>, December 18, 1943<sup>15</sup> and January 3, 1944<sup>16</sup>.

It is clear that Pius XII personally followed the story of the Jews hidden in the Lateran seminary, and the appointment of Giorgio De Benedetti with the false name of Galli Giorgio as librarian of the Lateran Library, are three clear reasons why Pius XII knew of the salvation of Giorgio De Benedetti and agreed with what happened.

In short, it can be said, in this historical context, that Giorgio De Benedetti was almost under the direct protection of Pius XII during these eight months and that he owed his life to Pius XII. The historical fact that these lists were drawn up during the eight months of Nazi persecution with the true and false name of the Jews hidden in the Vatican's extraterritorial headquarters denies the thesis according to which some people claim that no lists were made with names of the Jews, in order not to incur in the danger that they would fall into the hands of the Nazis, with the risk that everyone would be arrested, deported and killed. The story along with the facts shows that this reasoning was not followed.

It is noted that of the 235 convents in which the Jews were hidden, 84 were male convents and 151 were female convents.

There is an increase of 23 Jewish survivors in private houses of friends. One example, among many other new testimonies, is that of Mr. Elio Cittone who in 1943 was 16 years old. Some days after the raid he found refuge, together with his uncles Isacco Cittone and Roberto Cittone in the Portuguese College in Rome. It was the lawyer Alberto Luppolti who interceded for them with the rector of the Collegio, Padre Carreira. At the end of December 1943, there was a control of the Nazis in the convent. None of the Jews were found. After this, all three left the college and rented a private house. When the owner of the house began to suspect that they were Jews, they left immediately this house and hid themselves with an "anti-fascist military", with whom they lived until liberation<sup>17</sup>.

The actions carried out by Pius XII during these eight months of Nazi persecutions were accepted and made public by *moked.it* on March 12, 2014, but also by *The Catholic World*

*Report* on April 7, 2014. All the results were published in an article by Antonello Carvigiani with the title *Open the doors, save the persecuted* in the NSC (Nr. 5/2014) p. 132.

There are still people who believe that there were in Rome between 12,000 and 14,000 Jews during this Nazi persecution. If we analyze the studies of these people, we realize that they have no historical basis for their numbers and that they are only the fruit of thinking, feeling and dreaming. Even if we analyze the published data with the estimated number, inflation is observed. It always grows to the extent that time grows. When I had shown my numbers before the managers of Yad Vashem Italy, in February 2014, they too were in agreement that the numbers are highly exaggerated. Instead, they agreed with my numbers, which is around 10,000, at the date of June 4, 1944. So the numbers larger than 10,000 are canceled. Show me the historical source that allows you to get to these high numbers. I accept the number only if it is really found and witnessed. I allow the numbers reported by me to increase progressively only in the presence of an unprecedented testimony given by a *new*, not yet identified, Jew. Thus we have a controlled reliable numerical growth.

During these 8 months of Nazi persecution, 60 Nazi aggressions were known against the 235 convents<sup>18</sup> in which 39 Jews were arrested, deported and killed<sup>19</sup>. This fact cancels the thesis of some who believe that the monasteries were safe places. Historical facts demonstrate the opposite. And this without even calculating the deaths caused by the 15 different bombings that took place in Rome during these 8 months of nazi-occupation<sup>20</sup>.

3. Up to now the arrest of 2,228 Jews (2,113 Roman and 115 foreigners) is known in Rome. It is estimated that 30 Jews fled directly after the arrest of October 16, 1943, before being transported to the military college and that 39 Jews were able to free themselves through acts of corruption. Of 2,159 Jews, (2,044 Romans + 115 foreigners), certainly arrested, 345 were liberated and 83 were killed before deportation. Of the 1,731 deportees 1,614 were killed and 117 survived deportation.

On the memorial stone of 1964, placed on the Via del Portico D'Ottavia, it is written that 2,091 Jews were deported during the Nazi persecution, out of which few returned; I informed the heads of Yad Vashem of Italy in a report in February 2014 that the numbers given on the headstone are not correct for five reasons<sup>21</sup>:

- 1- on the memorial stone 32 more are reported to have been arrested;
- 2 - among them there were also 111 foreigners;
- 3 - 309 were released;
- 4 - 83 were killed before deportation;
- 5- 117 of 1,731 deportees survived;

These figures and reasons were accepted by them. I was very happy when a professor of Rome informed me that on 2 June 2015 the Jewish community of Rome had published in the newspaper *Repubblica* the results of the study conducted in their archives on the subject of deportation and found that the plate on the Via del Portico di Ottavia reported inaccurate data and that therefore the deported Jews were not 2,091 Jews but 1,769. Thus we see a correction made by the Jewish Roman community 14 months after I had indicated it. And their number is

now much closer to mine. The difference is less than 3%.

Of the 345 known liberated Jews, 30 they were released after the arrest at the request of the Red Cross (3), after a ruse by DELASEM, De Fiore and doctors (20), for espionage activities for Koch (2), freed from prison on June 4, 1944 (4) and for unknown reason for liberation (1).

On October 16th in the afternoon, with false documents, 7 other Jews were released, while 3 other foreign Jews were released for unknown reason.

Then 60 other Jews were freed following the intervention of Pius XII, at the request of the Vatican and of Father Pfeiffer from October 10, 1943 until June 4, 1944. There were actions performed by Pius XII, by the Vatican and by Father Pfeiffer during that period, for as many as 131 Jews, but they had not found positive feedback for their liberation. For 110 arrested Jews, an explicit request for release by Pius XII was made, or at the request of the Vatican or of Father Pfeiffer. We have already found some Jews for whom a double action was carried out for their liberation: and the question was presented to the German ambassador von Weizsäcker, and to Father Pfeiffer to ask privately to Kappler or another instance. From October 16, 1943 to October 22 we find 2 Jews freed after the interventions of the Vatican, Pius XII and Father Pancrazio Pfeiffer and 42 interventions for Jews arrested without the consequent release. We obtained all this information from the lists of Father Pancrazio, in which we find 126 Jewish names<sup>22</sup> and in the *Actes et Documents du Saint Siège relatifs à la Seconde Guerre mondiale*, Libreria Editrice Vaticana, Nr. 9, 1975 and Nr. 10, 1980.

- The Attorney of the Roman Rota, Mr. Foligno, was released a few hours after his arrest by an intervention of the Vatican Secretariat of State<sup>23</sup>. Following his release, he had to hide in a convent<sup>24</sup>.

- The Vatican Secretariat of State sent a request through Father Tacchi Venturi S.I. to the German Embassy<sup>25</sup>. It must have been the late evening of October 16, 1943 or the early morning of October 17, 1943, because it speaks of the liberated Jews, and of what happened on October 16, 1943 in the afternoon. The letter was given to Dr. Ludwig Wemmer of the German embassy in the early morning hours of October 17. Seeing that the letter came from Father Tacchi and having as content the release of two nominated Jews, it was clear to Wemmer that this was a cry for help from the Pope and informed Kappler, who could free the two arrested<sup>26</sup>. They are very likely the same two Jews freed from the deportation train a few minutes before the departure of October 18, 1943 at 13.45<sup>27</sup>.

- Request of October 16, 1943 of the release of Emilio Segrè made by Father Pancrazio Pfeiffer, who was sent to the Military College by Mons. Traglia, Vicegerente<sup>28</sup>. Emilio Segrè was a known physicist who moved for a few years, in 1938, from Italy to the USA. He was a professor in Rome until 1935<sup>29</sup>. In the Vatican he was known. They were not aware of his transfer outside Italy, but they immediately became interested in saving him at least.

- Request of October 16, 1943 for the release of a family member of Maria Ricchetti, made by Father Pancrazio Pfeiffer who received the order from the Congregation of the Rites (Ritenkongregation) of the Vatican<sup>30</sup>.
- Request for the release of Clara Sereno, arrested on October 16, 1943 at 07.00 and deported on October 18, 1943. Father Pancrazio wrote on a slip of paper that on October 22, 1943, the secretariat of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs was showing interest in Ms. Sereno. She was a baptized, and at the end of the leaflet it can be read: "His Holiness has personally been interested in the same question"<sup>31</sup>. It is very interesting to note that on October 22, 1943 the

release of five Jews was requested by the Secretariat of State of His Holiness. Their names are listed, but not printed in the ADSS. Their baptismal records are kept at the Secretariat of State of His Holiness. It is read here that there is "particular concern for the liberation" of these mentioned Jews<sup>32</sup>. It is more than likely that one of these 5 people listed is Sereno Clara. It is an example of how two parallel actions were put in place: an official one, with the German embassy and an unofficial one with Father Pancrazio. In fact, Pius XII was behind these operations. Only a phone call from the Nazis would have been enough to free her, but it was not made because the Nazis were against Pius XII. Serena Clara was killed in Auschwitz on October 23, 1943.

- We also note in the same document the "particular interest in the liberation of the under-noted people, arrested because of their race". This makes one to understand the intention of the Secretariat of State when it wrote to the Embassy of Germany : "It was asked particular interest for the following notice about people arrested because of their race"<sup>33</sup>: the release of these 29 named Jews. That this was the intention is confirmed by the fact that also the lawyer Foligno's name was written. All this reaffirms the desire for the liberation of these people: Foligno was released! It should also be noted the fact that the expression of "special interest" was used as a prudent, diplomatic language with the intention of determining the liberation. In my opinion, the written formula was so subtle, that it could indicate the point that the Jews had not yet been deported. Here we have an example of how for 29 people the liberation was requested on October 18, 1943, but for 28 Jews it was not granted!

- Sonnino Guglielmo was arrested on November 21, 1943 and was locked up in the prison of Via Tasso. On November 25, 1943, Father Pancrazio was sent by the Vatican Secretariat of State to request his release. He was released<sup>34</sup>. The same happened with Sergio Sonnino who was arrested on November 20, 1943 and locked up in the Regina Coeli prison. He was freed after the intervention of Father Pancrazio in synergy with the Vatican Secretariat of State<sup>35</sup>.

These were just a few examples among the many cases. In short, with these historical facts, the thesis according to which no one would do anything for the Jews arrested and deported is annulled.

It can also be shown that the 245 Jews freed on the afternoon of October 16, 1943, were freed because of the intervention of Pius XII with General Stahel<sup>36</sup>, but we postpone the demonstration for further study at another conference. So we can say that Pacelli, the Vatican and Father Pancrazio have freed 302 Jews arrested in Rome.

If one reads the stories of the arrested Jews, it is clear that more than 50% of the 700 Jews who were arrested and deported from October 19, 1943 until June 4, 1944, were arrested by the Nazis alone or in collaboration with the fascists. And if we read the testimonies of the 60 acts of violence perpetrated against the convents, in those 8 months of persecution, we find that in many cases they were made by the Nazis. And knowing that these convents enjoyed, in that period of protection, by virtue of the status: "Extraterritorial territory of the Vatican", it is clear that these historical facts make the thesis that Pius XII had concluded a pact with the Nazis shortly after the October 16, 1943 is utterly false; a pact according to which the Nazis would no longer arrest Jews and would not enter the Vatican's extraterritorial offices. Just think of Koch's irruption along with the Nazis at the convent of the Benedictine Fathers (= padri benedettini) in San Paolo fuori le mura on February 3, 1944.

4. It is evident that no Jews were present on Castel Gandolfo on June 4, 1944. This is why we wrote "0" here. This number is justified because until now no Jew in the world has witnessed to have survived here. Later the Director of the Pontifical Villas of Castel Gandolfo, Emilio Bonomelli, in his war diary, in which he described everything that happened in the 8 months of persecution<sup>37</sup> speaks only of some baptized Jewish families who were hidden in some rooms on the top floor of the Propaganda Fide building. Unfortunately, the building was bombed on February 10, 1944 and the approximately 12 baptized Jews present were killed. For the rest Emilio never speaks of Jews present at Castel Gandolfo. He does not even mention in the introduction of his diary, published 20 years later, of the presence of Jews. Not even a collaborator of Emilio Bonomelli testified that he saw or helped a Jew. Then if we study where the 8,000 Roman Jews ended up, we see that they are not identified in Castel Gandolfo, but in other places in Rome. Having a group of 3,000 Jews in an extraterritorial location would have been too risky. Pius XII's strategy was to send the Jews, who sought refuge in the Vatican, in small groups in the convents, hidden in the great city of Rome. It can be proved that the Pope was right, because the violent acts towards the Vatican - City and its 26 extraterritorial territories were 3 times more numerous and bloody than convents and the probability of surviving in a convent was 15 times higher than in the Vatican - City and its 26 extraterritorial territories<sup>38</sup>. Here, in Castel Gandolfo, about 12 Jews were present temporally, a normal number if we consider the number of Jews hidden in the various mountain locations around Rome. And therefore, there were no lists of Jewish names present there, because there were no Jews. These facts cancel the thesis that at Castel Gandolfo there were 3,000 Jews, or perhaps a few hundred. In fact, these 3,000 are located in other places: about 1,700 protected by the DELASEM Organization and 1,300 in private houses of friends. The fact that it was published in a newspaper, in Palestine, a few days after the liberation of Castel Gandolfo and that here there were several thousand hidden Jews, now turns out to be only a propaganda action.

5. We find Pope Pacelli who, along with the Vatican and the Church, is already helping 500 Jews, hiding them in 48 convents before the round-up. He was a Pope who, together with the Vatican and the Church, did everything to put an end to the raid and save many Jews, opening convents before, during and after the raid of October 16, 1943 until June 4, 1944. A Pope who did everything, together with the Vatican and the Church, to free the arrested Jews and a Pope who remained silent, in the dark days of the raid, and who did not publicly protest against Hitler and the Nazis. Is any reason for this behaviour? Here is the explanation: because he did not want to risk the lives of the many thousands Jews who were, in those days, hidden in the convents in Rome. A protest of this kind would have determined the risk that the Nazis as a revenge would break into convents, the Vatican - City and its 26 extraterritorial territories. The Pope was aware of this risk having in mind the example of Archbishop Jan de Jong of the Netherlands. This Prelate had, in the name of the Catholic Church, publicly condemned the arrests of Jews made by the Nazis in July 1942. The consequences were that a week later towards the beginning of August the Nazis as a revenge arrested 115 baptized Jews, who were immediately deported and killed. Saint Edith Stein was one of them. And after the war for the rest of his life until his death,



Cardinal Jan de Jong, who courageously condemned the Nazis, sending to death 115 Catholic Jews, was persecuted by strong feelings of guilt because, if he had not publicly condemned the Nazis, these 115 people would still be alive<sup>39</sup>!

Reading the news of the arrests of the Jews, but also the testimonies of the hidden Jews, we find that 5% of them possessed a certain substantial capital, able to make them self-sufficient economically<sup>40</sup>. Then we find that as of June 4, 1944, 1,281 Roman Jews found refuge in the homes of friends,  $1,281 / 8,000 = 16\%$ . We also find that 500 survived in the mountain resorts near Rome and before the raid, 500 in the 48 convents, helped by the pope already before 16 October 1943,  $(500 + 500) / 8.000 = 12.5\%$ .

This means, for a reason of homogeneity that, out of the 8,000 Jews in total, of the 1,032 arrested on October 16, 1943, a figure of 5% could still have hidden on time in a house before October 16th, thanks to their capital and 10% could find already a shelter with friends, should they have been informed in time, and 10% would have found support from the Pope and the Vatican, or would have sought refuge outside Rome in mountain villages.

This means that, if Dante Almansì and Ugo Foà, the leaders of the Jewish community in Rome in September 1943, had executed the counsel made on September 10, 1943 by the chief rabbi Israel Zolli (Eugenio Zolli) to disperse the Jewish community<sup>41</sup>, to destroy the lists of synagogue members and distribute the capital to all members of the Jewish community, statistically had they given this order, the picture would be as follows:  $5\% + 10\% + 10\% = 25\%$  of the 1,032 Jews arrested on October 16, 1943 for being deported, this is about 250 persons,—that would not have been arrested. Thus the silence of Foà and Almansì caused 250 more, unnecessary deaths.

Here is the contrast between the wise silence of Pius XII and that of Almansì and Foà.

6. It is noted that the Nuncio Pacelli in Germany had publicly condemned in 40 speeches 15 points of the 25 aspects of the NSDAP program from 1924 until 1929. He called Hitler a diabolical voice and made three public special interventions in favour of Jews. Here you have an Eugenio Pacelli much loved and esteemed by the German people. It is worth exploring this aspect in another symposium.

Thank you!

Deacon Dominiek Oversteyns FSO,

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<sup>1</sup>Dominiek Oversteijns F.S.O.: *De geschiedenis van de Hebreeërs in Rome tijdens de nazibezetting en vervolging in Rome, en de rol van de Eerbiedwaardige Paus Pius XII in het redden van hen*, Volume I + II + III., Editie 2, Privaat - Rome, 2017 (from now on **Vol2. I + Vol2. II + Vol2. III**), 559 p. + 474 p. + 686 p.

[Dominiek Oversteijns: *The history of the Jews in Rome during the Nazi – Fascista persecution and the contribution of the Venerable Pope Pius XII for their rescue*, Volume I +II +III, Edition 2, Privata – Roma, 2017 (from now on **Vol2. I + Vol2. II + Vol2. III**)].

<sup>2</sup>**Vol2. I:** KH: 1: (NR: 1.157): Testimony of Vittorio De Benedetti with four meetings from 27-11-2014 up to 15.01.2015.

<sup>3</sup>Testimony of Paoletta Rinaldi D'Agata and Titti Uri November 24, 2016 at 5 pm with Paoletta at her home in ome.

<sup>4</sup>Father Giovanni da San Giovanni in Persiceto O.M. Cap. Pro-memoria, in: *Brief van 21 bladzijden van Dario Merli van 14.03.2014 in: Pius XII archief FSO Rome onder archiefnummer: Art. Ital Merli* : Lettera del 14 maart 2014, 21 pages, Pius XII – FSO - Archiefreferentie nummer: 48.93.x; **Vol2. I:** KH:12.1.2.:

<sup>5</sup> Amalia Viterbo: *Con gli occhi di una bambina*, 30 Giorni, N. 7/8 July / August 2006, p. 40 - 46; **Vol2. I:** KH: 12.1.5.1.2.10.1.2.1: De korte geschiedenis van de familie Viterbo van Turijn in Rome; Daniel Della Seta: Ora Mai Più. *Le leggi razziali spiegate ai bambini*, Associazione culturale ex-alunni scuola elementare Umberto I - Roma, 2006, p.136-137.

<sup>6</sup> *Father Giovanni da San Giovanni in Persiceto O.M. Cap. Pro-memoria, in: Brief van 21 bladzijden van Dario Merli van 14.03.2014 in: Pius XII archief FSO Rome onder archiefnummer: Art. Ital Merli Dario: Lettera del 14 marzo 2014, 21 pages, Pius XII – FSO - Archiefreferentie nummer: 48.93.x; Vol2. I: KH:12.1.2.; **Vol2. I:** KH:12.1.5.1.2.8.1.1.1: *Overzicht van de namen die ook voorkomen in de de kroniek van de Monache Agostiniane van de Quattro Coronati*; **Vol2. I:** KH:12.1.3: *De inhoud van het dagboek van 1943 tot 1944 van de Monache Agostiniane dei Santi Quattro Coronati Roma, published in 30 Giorni*, N.7/8 luglio/agosto 2006:p. 37-38; Amalia Viterbo: *Con gli occhi di una bambina*, 30 Giorni, n. 7/8 July/August 2006, p. 40 - 46.*

<sup>7</sup> Padre Giovanni da San Giovanni in Persiceto O.M. Cap. Pro-memoria, in: *Brief van 21 bladzijden van Dario Merli van 14.03.2014 in: Pius XII archief FSO Rome onder archiefnummer: Art. Ital Merli Dario: Lettera del 14 maart 2014, 21 pages, Pius XII – FSO - Archiefreferentie nummer: 48.93.x; Vol2. I: KH:12.1.2.; **Vol2. I:** KH:12.7.1: *Het Dagboek van de periode 8 september 1943 – tot 5 juni 1944 van de Monache Cistercensi di Santa Susanna, via Venti Settembre, 14, 00187 Roma*: p. 42-46.; **Vol2. I:** KH:12.7.2.1: Het geschreven getuigenis van 16.09.2008 van Renato Astrologo; **Vol2. I:** KH:12.7.2.3: Verslag van het gesprek van 24.04.2014 om 17.00 van Diaken Dominiek met Renato Astrologo, zijn vrouw Margerita en de Zusters Monache Cistercensi di Santa Susanna en van 05.05.2014 op de via Sicilia 137 B, int 4 in Rome, het bureau van Renato Astrologo; **Vol2. I:** KH:12.7.2.5: Het geschreven persoonlijk getuigenis van Renato Astrologo op 28.04.2014; **Vol2. I:** KH:12.7.3.1.2.7: De geschiedenis van de familie Giuseppe Astrologo verteld volgens Don Libero Raganella in zijn dagboek-memoires: Don Libero Raganella: *Senza sapere da che parte stanno. Ricordi dell'infanzia e 'Diario di Roma in Guerra (1943-44)*, Bulzoni, Roma – 2000 (Ristampa 2003), p. 159-160, 181, 228-230.*

<sup>8</sup> Spiritual Family Archive The Work - Pius XII, Rome: Art. Ital RM 48.92.C9: 1: Nr.1 - Nr.2.

<sup>9</sup>Della Seta: op. cit., p.167-169, NB 1: This monastery is not on the list of Sr. Grazia Loparco. It's new. The reference is: Loparco NEW 225 !; **Vol2. I:** KH: 1: (NR:1.32).

<sup>10</sup>Andrea Riccardi: *L'inverno più lungo*, Publisher Laterza, Rome - 2008, p. 79.

<sup>11</sup>Andrea Riccardi: cit., p. 79.

<sup>12</sup>Andrea Riccardi: cit., p. 60 - 61.

<sup>13</sup> Andrea Riccardi, cit., p.59.

<sup>14</sup>Andrea Riccardi: op. cit., p. 61; Pietro Palazzini: *The clergy and the German occupation of Rome. The role of the Roman Major Seminary*, Apes - Rome, 1995, p. 28.

<sup>15</sup>Pietro Palazzini, cit., p. 27, 59 - 65.

<sup>16</sup>Pietro Palazzini, cit., p. 27, 67 - 72.

<sup>17</sup>Antonio Marujo, *And the priest of Fatima saved the << VIP >> in Rome. From the archives of the Portuguese College emerges the story of Father Carreira, the rector in '43 hid 40 Jews and known personalities sought by the Germans*, in: Avvenire (16-02-2013) p.23; Antonio Maruji, *A lista do Pai Carreira, Vogais* (publisher) Amadora

(Stad in Portugal) - 2016, p. 160 - 164; E-mail: Antonio Maruji van 22 februari 2017 om 09.24: Interview met de familie Elio Cittone 2015; **Vol2. I:** WH: 1: (NR: 3.151) :.

<sup>18</sup>**Vol2. I:** KH: 5.6 .

<sup>19</sup> **Vol2. II:** EH: 7.2.11.3.2.3.

<sup>20</sup>**Vol2. II:** EH: 8.4.3: - EH: 8.4.17.

<sup>21</sup>The numbers for the following paragraph are based on the status of the 2014 research.

<sup>22</sup>Stefan Samerski, *Pancratius Pfeiffer, der verlängert Arm von Pius XII*, Ferdinand Schöningh, Paderborn - 2013, p. 255 - 311. We note that even in the so-called "altri" list we still find many names of Jews!

<sup>23</sup>ADSS, Vol.IX, p. 507: 369. Notes de Mgr Montini, 370. Notes de la Secrétairerie d'Etat.

<sup>24</sup>Andrea Riccardi, cit., p. 116.

<sup>25</sup>ADSS, Vol.IX, p. 507: 370. Notes de la Secrétairerie d'Etat.

<sup>26</sup>Stefan Samerski, cit., p. 123 - 124; Article by Dr. Ludwig Wemmer in the National-Zeitung, 24.02.1978 (No. 9).

<sup>27</sup>Pinchas Lapide, *Rom und die Juden*, Freiburg / Br. 1967, p. 95.

<sup>28</sup>Archivum General Societas Divini Salvatoris (AGS): Rom, AGS: Coll.13-06.02.21\_26; **Vol2. III:** HH:3.11:3.7.2.1: 1.1.1.1:.

<sup>29</sup>[www.nobelprize.org / nobel\\_prizes / pfysics / laureates / 1959 / segre-bio.html](http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/pfysics/laureates/1959/segre-bio.html).

<sup>30</sup>Stefan Samerski, op. cit., p. 255: No. 24; **Vol2. III:** HH:3.11:3.7.1:1.2.1.1:.

<sup>31</sup>Stefan Samerski, op. cit., p. 304: No. 349; **Vol2. III:** HH:3.11:3.7.1:1.2.1.2:; E-mail Stefan Samerski 13.10.2014 at 5.15 pm; Rom, Archiv des Generalats SDS, P. Pfeiffer 11-2,6.2.21 Laici S-Z, coll. 27, fol. 78-79: According to Stefan Samerski the request was made on 16.10.1943.

<sup>32</sup>ADSS, Vol. IX, p. 517: 381. La Secrétairerie d'Etat à l'Ambassade d'Allemagne; **Vol2. III:** HH:3.11:3.8.2:1.1.4:

<sup>33</sup>ADSS, Vol. IX, p. 517: 377. The Secrétairerie d'Etat à l'Ambassade d'Allemagne.

<sup>34</sup>Stefan Samerski: cit., p. 305 Nr. 70

<sup>35</sup>Ibidem.

<sup>36</sup>**Vol2. III:** HH:3.12.2.2.6:; **Vol2. III:** HH:3.12

<sup>37</sup>Emilio Bonomelli: *Cronache di guerra nelle Ville Pontificie di Castel Gandolfo*, Suburbicaria diocese of Albano, Renzo Palozzi - Marino, 2009, 46 p.

<sup>38</sup>**Vol2. II:** EH: 8.6.1:.

<sup>39</sup>Jan Brouwers: *Kardinaal Jan de Jong*, in: Tilburg School of Catholic Theology - Lucepedia.nl (24.06.2015); Vol2. III: HH:3.12.1.111.4.2:.

<sup>40</sup>**Vol2. II:** DH:14.11:.

<sup>41</sup>Andrea Riccardi, cit., p. 5.