

La Matina, Rocco.	Salvameni, Gaetano.
Landry, Robert J.	Serbini, Pio.
Lee, Cornelius R.	Simeone, T.
Manfred, Arthur (Manfred Abrahams).	Sergio, Lesa.
Manfredi, Ettore (Giuseppe Annania).	Stevens, Joseph.
Milano, Prof. P.	Sereno, Paolo.
Moore, William L.	Tabet, Duccio.
Mandesi, Joseph.	Tabet, Mrs. Duccio.
Neri, Hugo (Alfonso Vanacore).	Valenti, Gerolamo.
Pascal, Susan.	Vicirca, Dino.
Pavia, Enrico L.	Valuchek, Andrew J.
Pantaleoni, Goffredo.	

ORGANIZATIONS

Anti-Defamation League.	Parole Commission.
American Jewish Committee.	District Attorney.
American Jewish Congress.	Department of Correction.
Anti-Nazi League.	Court of General Sessions.
Short Wave Research.	Il Progresso.
Naval Intelligence.	Il Mondo.
Federal Bureau of Investigation.	La Perola.
G-2 Army,	The Golden Book.
Public Library.	Il Grida Della Stirpes.
Italians in New York.	Italian Barbers Benevolent Society.
Italian "Who's Who."	

Mr GAREY. Under a caption in the report entitled, "Belli's Admissions," the following also appears:

In all of his newscasting prior to April 1941, at which time the station required that all news be taken only from INS, Belli used as his principal sources Il Progresso, Corriere d'America, the News, Mirror, and New York American. (The two Italian newspapers were outspokenly Fascist. We know that the three English papers were sympathetic to isolationism and fascism.) He also admits that his employees have used the foregoing papers. He has made some payments to Il Grida Della Stirpe, Dominic Trombetta's rabid Fascist sheet.

So, in determining whether or not Belli should be kept from the air and barred from his business, the fact that he used the New York Mirror and the New York American and the New York Daily News was a factor that the Commission considered, because it claimed they were pro-Fascist and isolationist.

I would like to call, Mr. Chairman, a man named Renzo Nissin.

SWORN TESTIMONY OF RENZO NISSIN, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Mr. GAREY. Mr. Nissin, will you state your full name?

Mr. NISSIN. Renzo Nissin.

Mr. GAREY. That is spelled R-e-n-z-o N-i-s-s-i-n?

Mr. NISSIN. That is right.

Mr. GAREY. Where do you live?

Mr. NISSIN. 49 West Fifty-seventh Street, New York.

Mr. GAREY. Are you a citizen of the United States?

Mr. NISSIN. No. I have my first papers only.

Mr. GAREY. When did you come to the United States?

Mr. NISSIN. I came December 11, 1938.

Mr. GAREY. What is your business or occupation?

Mr. NISSIN. I am employed by Station WBNX as censor, and now I am making the news during the morning.

Mr. GAREY. That is, you are announcing; or, are you preparing the scripts?

Mr. NISSIN. I am preparing the news, selecting the news, preparing the news, and announcing it.

Mr. GAREY. Do you do any other script writing?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; for the Office of War Information.

Mr. GAREY. Do you also do certain monitoring at that station?

Mr. NISSIN. Pardon me? I didn't understand.

Mr. GAREY. Pardon?

Mr. NISSIN. I didn't understand what you said.

Mr. GAREY. Do you do any monitoring at the station?

Mr. NISSIN. No. There is a monitor.

The CHAIRMAN. Let me break in, if you don't mind, Mr. Garey, just to emphasize one point, and I think fairly so.

Mr. GAREY. Not at all, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. When did you come to the United States?

Mr. NISSIN. I came as a visitor in 1938, December 11.

The CHAIRMAN. You went back to Italy and then came back again?

Mr. NISSIN. I went to Cuba.

The CHAIRMAN. Anyway, you say you are not a citizen of the United States?

Mr. NISSIN. That is right.

The CHAIRMAN. How long were you in the United States the last time before you, as a noncitizen, were engaged to help carry on and conduct the business of the United States?

Mr. NISSIN. I am sorry; I don't understand.

The CHAIRMAN. When were you engaged to help conduct, help carry on the business of the United States? When did the Office of War Information call upon you?

Mr. NISSIN. I think that was in August 1942.

The CHAIRMAN. 1942?

Mr. NISSIN. About that time.

The CHAIRMAN. How long had you been here at that time?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, about 3 years—3½, I guess.

The CHAIRMAN. All right.

The point is, Mr. Garey, it seems that people in the Government service, in their effort to obtain personnel, could not find citizens of the country to engage, but followed the practice of grabbing the immigrants as soon as they arrived and put them to work in the conduct of the Government's business.

Mr. GAREY. In the Congressional Record on June 17, 1943, appears a list of 417 aliens who were employed by the Office of War Information, with salaries ranging from \$3,800 up to \$8,000.

The CHAIRMAN. I am wondering, and it is fair, too, to do so, as to whether they were engaged because of their understanding of our American system or was it because they were possessed of some brand of alien ideology.

Mr. GAREY. They were hired in order to sell the American people what American ideals were.

The CHAIRMAN. What American ideals were or what American ideals ought to be?

Mr. GAREY. Well, what they ought to be, and, therefore, what they were.

The CHAIRMAN. It is a story that ought to be shocking to the people of the country. It is a situation that ought to be cured, and cured as

quickly as possible. I say that without regard to the work of this particular committee.

Mr. GAREY. May I proceed, Mr. Chairman, with this witness?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Mr. Nissin, as an employee of a radio station, you made a personal history statement for the Foreign Language Radio War-time Control, did you not?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; I did.

Mr. GAREY. Let me show you what purports to be a photostatic copy of the personal history statement which you prepared. Is that a photostatic copy of personal history statement that you submitted to that committee?

Mr. NASSIN. I think so; yes.

Mr. GAREY. Look it over carefully and be sure, will you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. That bears your signature, does it?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. And you swore to the statements therein contained before a notary public, as appears on the back thereof?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes, sir.

Mr. GAREY. Let me direct your attention to question 15, which appears on page 2 of that statement.

That calls for a list of all organizations, both here and abroad, except labor unions or religious bodies, in which you now hold membership or in which you have held membership since 1934, does it not?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; that is right.

Mr. GAREY. It does not appear that you answered that question, does it?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Will you tell the committee why you failed to answer that question on this questionnaire?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, because I thought that there wasn't any organization to be put there; I mean, thought that—

Mr. GAREY. It said to list all organizations, both here and abroad, did it not?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. And you were a member of the Fascist Party abroad, weren't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. But in 1934, I think, I was already expelled.

Mr. GAREY. Yes. But, look at that question again. It says, "List all organizations, both here and abroad, in which you now hold membership or in which you have held membership since 1934".

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. I think that in 1934 I was already expelled by the Fascist Party.

Mr. GAREY. Well, why didn't you put that statement in here, then?

Mr. NISSIN. Because if I thought that I didn't belong at the time to the Fascist Party, I don't see any reason to put that organization in, which I didn't think I belonged to.

Mr. GAREY. You were a member of the Fascist Party, weren't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. I will tell you the story. I want to—

Mr. GAREY. Just a moment. Just please answer the questions, if you don't mind.

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You were born where?

Mr. NISSIN. Florence, Italy.

Mr. GAREY. In what year?

Mr. NISSIN. 1907.

Mr. GAREY. During the course of your school days, you became a member of the Fascist Party, did you not?

Mr. NISSIN. That is what I was going to answer to you.

When I wanted to become an assistant at the University of Florence, I realized that I couldn't get this position without paying my dues to the Fascist Party, and so I did just for once. Then, when I had my position, I didn't pay any more, and I was expelled, and I can't recollect exactly, but I think that in 1934 I was already expelled.

Mr. GAREY. Let me ask you this, and please follow my question carefully, and answer the questions I put to you, if you will.

Did not you join the Fascist Party when you were a student?

Mr. NISSIN. No. I think I joined the Fascist Party when I was looking for my position, as an assistant at the University of Florence, because there is a law, a Fascist law, that nobody can be an assistant or a professor—

The CHAIRMAN. In other words, in Italy you joined the Fascist Party to get the job? That is correct, isn't it? In order to make it possible for you to get a job you joined the Fascist Party?

Mr. NISSIN. It was my only way to live.

Mr. GAREY. When you got over here you quit the Fascist Party in order to get a job here?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, I don't know.

The CHAIRMAN. That is what happened; isn't that right?

Mr. GAREY. Let's see if your memory was any better on June 20, 1943, Mr. Nissin, than it is today.

Mr. NISSIN. Pardon me? Will you repeat that?

Mr. GAREY. Was your memory any better on June 20, 1943, than it is today?

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think so.

Mr. GAREY. You know Mr. McCall, who is sitting here at counsel's table, do you not?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You were examined by him on that date, were you not?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Let me ask you this: Was this question asked you by Mr. McCall at that time: "When you were in the University of Florence, did you belong to the student Fascist organization?"

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. And didn't you make answer to that question—

Mr. NISSIN. I said "Yes."

Mr. GAREY. Yes?

Mr. NISSIN. I will explain it to you.

Mr. GAREY. Just answer the question now, if you will, please.

Mr. NISSIN. I answered you.

Mr. GAREY. You did answer that question that way?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Was that a truthful answer you made June 20, 1943?

Mr. NISSIN. You know, there is two organizations; one is the student organization, the other is the Fascist Party. When I was a stu-

dent, I was in the student organization of the Fascist Party; and then, when I wanted to become a teacher at the University of Florence, I joined the party.

That is the reason why I said to Mr. McCall that when I was a student I belonged to the student organization of the Fascist Party.

Mr. GAREY. You were in the student organization of the Fascist Party?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. All right; let's take that answer.

As a member of that student organization, you took the Fascist oath, did you not?

Mr. NISSIN. No; not as a student. I took the Fascist oath when I entered the Fascist Party, after being graduated from the university.

Mr. GAREY. What year were you graduated in?

Mr. NISSIN. What is that?

Mr. GAREY. What year were you graduated from the University of Florence?

Mr. NISSIN. 1931.

Mr. GAREY. How old were you at that time?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, let me see. About 24, I guess. Now I am 36. In 1931 I was 24, I guess. Is that correct? Well, you can answer that question by yourself.

The CHAIRMAN. All right.

Mr. GAREY. If you are 36 now, and that happened 12 years ago, you would have been 24, wouldn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You were 24 years of age when you were graduated from the university?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Then you became a member of the Fascist Party?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. At that time you took the Fascist oath?

Mr. NISSIN. That is true.

Mr. GAREY. You paid your dues?

Mr. NISSIN. Just once.

Mr. GAREY. How much dues did you pay to the Fascist Party?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, that I can't recall exactly; about between 50 and 100 lire, I guess.

Mr. GAREY. You came to this country in December of 1938?

Mr. NISSIN. That is right.

Mr. GAREY. After you came here, what did you do?

Mr. NISSIN. For the first year I had a very hard time, and I remained practically without money at all, because my knowledge of the English language was very poor, and my health was not so good, and I tried very hard to work, and I couldn't find anything.

Mr. GAREY. There came a time when you did go to work?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. When was that?

Mr. NISSIN. In December 1939, I guess. I went to work in a factory near New York, and the work was so hard that I could not bear it.

Mr. GAREY. What work were you engaged in doing?

Mr. NISSIN. Just making some work at the counter, elastic web—just cutting elastic web.

Mr. GAREY. Cutting elastic web?

Mr. NISSIN. And putting it together, cutting the round portion; and I had to stand all day long, and I think they paid me \$15 or \$14 a week.

Mr. GAREY. How long did you remain in that employment?

Mr. NISSIN. Three months.

Mr. GAREY. Then what did you do?

Mr. NISSIN. Then I came to New York and I tried——

Mr. GAREY. By the way, where was this place of employment before you came to New York?

Mr. NISSIN. Haverstraw, N. Y.

Mr. GAREY. Then you came to New York; and what did you do when you got there?

Mr. NISSIN. I tried hard to find something to do, and I realized that being my English was poor, I had to find something in the Italian field, writing in Italian.

I went to the Italian radio station to find something to do. It happened that I had a little program for \$15 a week and I started to write. The program was a little successful, I guess. So, little by little, I built up my reputation as an Italian radio writer, which is not much in this country. But, anyway, I could make a little money.

Mr. GAREY. Did you ever work on the writer's project of W. P. A.?

Mr. NISSIN. No; never.

Mr. GAREY. Tell me a little bit about what happened after you came to New York.

Mr. NISSIN. I had this little program. It was entitled "Famous Trials."

Mr. GAREY. On what station was that?

Mr. NISSIN. It was, I think, at WHOM. They made transcriptions. For awhile——

Mr. GAREY. Who was the sponsor of that program?

Mr. NISSIN. Roman Macaroni Co. I never contacted the sponsor. I contacted only the agents.

Mr. GAREY. Who was the agent?

Mr. NISSIN. Mr. Rossi.

Mr. GAREY. Will you spell that name?

Mr. NISSIN. R-o-s-s-i.

Mr. GAREY. Just continue along and tell us what you were doing then. This is now 1940, is it, you are talking about?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; that is right, the first months of 1940.

Then I wrote for this program. Then, I think, in the same time—I can't recall exactly—but almost at the same time, I had a little job as a narrator in a dramatic company on WOV. The company was La Pella.

Then I was engaged by the station as a prompter, and I was the announcer at the same time as I was a prompter in the theater.

You know, here, after the radio, they put on the serials on the stage for the Italian people. And so I worked as a prompter.

Then I wrote something again—I specialized in writing. And then it happened that I had the programs for O. W. I.

Mr. GAREY. Tell us how you happened to go to work for O. W. I.

Mr. NISSIN. I think that Mr. Falk asked Mr. Hutton, who was the program director of WOV at the time——

Mr. GAREY. That is, Mario Ferrari Hutton?

Mr. NISSIN. That is right.

Mr. GAREY. About what time are you referring to now?

Mr. NISSIN. I think it was in August or so, I am not sure; August of the last year.

Mr. GAREY. Of 1942?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Are you sure it was 1942?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; I think it was one year and a half or one year ago.

Mr. GAREY. So you would say it was sometime around August 1942?

Mr. NISSIN. It must have been around that time—maybe a couple of months before.

Mr. GAREY. Just tell us what happened? Did Hutton talk to you or did Lee Falk talk to you?

Mr. NISSIN. No; Hutton talked to me. I was in the studio, and Hutton called me in to say that Mr. Falk was there and wanted to contact him, because Mr. Falk asked Mr. Hutton to tell him a writer, to indicate him a writer for some propoganda stuff for O. W. I.

Mr. GAREY. Just a minute, if you don't mind. When did you first meet Hutton?

Mr. NISSIN. I met Hutton at the station. I told you that I was working at the station as an announcer, and Hutton was the director of the station.

Mr. GAREY. When was that that you met him?

Mr. NISSIN. It must have been in 1941.

Mr. GAREY. And you met him in connection with your work at the station?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You weren't working for him, were you?

Mr. NISSIN. What?

Mr. GAREY. Were you working for him?

Mr. NISSIN. No. I was working for the company at the station. I was never on the staff of the station. I was employed by the dramatic company that was acting at the station.

Anyway, I contacted Mr. Hutton, and Hutton told me Mr. Falk—he gave to Mr. Falk my name—was kind enough to indicate me: that he thought I was a good writer in Italian.

Mr. GAREY. Did he tell you what kind of work Falk wanted someone to do?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. He told me that there was some propoganda stuff to write. Mr. Falk was in another room. I contacted—

Mr. GAREY. Just a minute. You see, you were present there and we weren't. We are trying to find out what happened.

Mr. NISSIN. Certainly.

Mr. GAREY. Hutton told you that Falk wanted a script writer?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. A writer who could write propoganda scripts?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Propoganda for what purpose?

Mr. NISSIN. Anti-Fascist propoganda.

Mr. GAREY. Anti-Fascist propoganda; prodemocratic propoganda?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. For what particular listeners?

Mr. NISSIN. For the Italian audience in America.

Mr. GAREY. For the Italian audience in America?

Mr. NISSIN. Domestic propaganda.

Mr. GAREY. What kind of propaganda were you to write?

Mr. NISSIN. What kind of propaganda did I write?

Mr. GAREY. What kind of propaganda did they tell you they wanted someone to write?

Mr. NISSIN. You want me to tell you what Mr. Falk tells me?

Mr. GAREY. All right; let's get to that. Was Falk in the office at the time?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Did Hutton bring you in and introduce you to Falk?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. Falk was in some office there in the station?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. He brought you in and he said, "Mr. Falk, this is Mr. —"

Mr. NISSIN. Mr. Nissin.

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. "Who is a writer for the station and I think that he can do something for your programs"; and Mr. Hutton told me that he had the idea of writing a program entitled, "Victory for America; Freedom for Italy" in which he wanted to describe the situation in Italy, with flashes, you know, of the situation in Italy, just to impress—

Mr. GAREY. Just take it a little slower, if you will, so we can understand what you are saying, because I think the committee is going to be very much interested in hearing what you have to say about what Falk wanted you to do.

Mr. NISSIN. I am here to help you.

Mr. GAREY. If you will be good enough, Mr. Nissin, to take your time and tell the committee just as much as you can of that talk you had with Mr. Falk—

Mr. NISSIN. As far as I can remember, I will tell everything.

Mr. GAREY. Fine. Now, go ahead.

Mr. NISSIN. I want to tell you that I am absolutely never going to conceal anything. I am completely—

The CHAIRMAN. There is no indication on your part of any desire to hide anything.

Mr. NISSIN. So, you ask me what Mr. Falk told me?

Mr. GAREY. That is right, if you please.

Mr. NISSIN. Mr. Falk told me that he had the idea of writing a program entitled, "Victory for America; Freedom for Italy"—with flashes of the Italian life to impress Italian audiences in America and destroy the Fascist propaganda they had before them. I think Mr. Falk gave me some idea of what the first program should be.

Mr. GAREY. You were to receive payment for this, were you?

Mr. NISSIN. What?

Mr. GAREY. You were to be paid for it, of course?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. I don't think we made any arrangement, because I thought that maybe I had to do it free, because it was kind of patriotic work. I didn't make any arrangement with Falk the first time.

Mr. GAREY. Fortunately, it didn't turn out that way.

Mr. NISSIN. Well, it was very little, anyway.

Mr. GAREY. Well, go ahead.

Mr. NISSIN. I will tell you how much it is.

Mr. Falk told me that he was going to send me the material for this program, and I had to put the material in a dramatic way and make out a program. That, in fact, was the thing. I received a couple of envelopes with material and—

Mr. GAREY. What was the nature of that material?

Mr. NISSIN. The first program, as far as I can remember, was entitled, "The Italian Starves To Feed Germans."

Mr. GAREY. "The Italians" what?

Mr. NISSIN. "Starves To Feed Germans."

Mr. GAREY. "The Italians Starve To Feed Germans."?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You were to write a dramatic story built around that theme?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. Did he give you any facts to use or were you to draw upon your imagination and artistry for that purpose?

Mr. NISSIN. Partially left to my imagination, partially he sent me some clippings from papers where there were facts about lacking of foods in Italy; I mean, people were starving, and so forth and so on. I can't remember exactly now. That was the first program, I guess.

The second one—

Mr. GAREY. Let's stop there for a moment before we get to the second one. You spent some time with Falk?

Mr. NISSIN. Not very much.

Mr. GAREY. Was Hutton present?

Mr. NISSIN. All the time? Not very much. I was going on the air, remember, in ten minutes, and we spoke very briefly.

Mr. GAREY. In any event, he concluded to hire you to do that work?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, he say that he is going to examine the script, and if the scripts were good—

Mr. GAREY. Did you write that script?

Mr. NISSIN. I did.

Mr. GAREY. Was it put on the air?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. He said—

Mr. GAREY. Do you know what stations it was put on the air over, Mr. Nissin?

Mr. NISSIN. I think it was released on all the Italian stations.

Mr. GAREY. They made electrical transcriptions of it?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes, through Muzak.

Mr. GAREY. They sent electrical transcriptions to all the foreign-language broadcasting stations in the United States, broadcasting in Italian?

Mr. NISSIN. That is correct.

Mr. GAREY. They were supposed, then, to take this electrical transcription and put this program that you had written at Falk's direction on the air to the Italian-American people?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Did Falk think you had done a pretty good job?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. He wrote me that he liked the script very much.

Mr. GAREY. And asked you to do some more?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Do you recall what your second topic was; what your second theme was?

Mr. NISSIN. The second topic was the situation—I am not sure that it was the second or the third because, you know, some time passed.

Mr. GAREY. Just do the best you can.

Mr. NISSIN. It was one of the first, anyway. It was the Situation of the Farmers in Germany, Sent to Germany from Italy. Mr. Falk wanted me to emphasize—

Mr. GAREY. Can you make that a little bit more clear? I don't quite understand it.

Mr. NISSIN. Mr. Falk wanted me to emphasize the fact that the Italian farmers—the Italian people were sent to Germany to work for the Germans, for Germany.

Mr. GAREY. I see. He sent you some material to use?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. What did you do then, build a little drama or play around it?

Mr. NISSIN. I made a drama.

Mr. GAREY. In which this theme that had been suggested was—

Mr. NISSIN. Was emphasized, was outlined.

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. It happened—I know that I received the material for the programs, not from Mr. Falk sometimes, I received them sometimes from Mr. Facci.

Mr. GAREY. Giuseppe Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. Joseph Facci. He is an Italian. He was, maybe, put in charge by Mr. Falk of the research material. Mr. Falk, so far as I know, does not speak Italian.

Mr. GAREY. No; Falk does not speak Italian. Did you write the scripts in Italian?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You submitted the scripts to Falk?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. In Italian?

Mr. NISSIN. In Italian.

Mr. GAREY. I suppose that Mr. Falk switched the script—sent them to somebody who could understand Italian?

Mr. NISSIN. I guess so.

Mr. GAREY. So, you think when Falk made up his mind that he liked your scripts, he was relying upon somebody else's judgment rather than upon his own?

Mr. NISSIN. I think so.

Mr. GAREY. Then, I take it, this second drama was produced.

Mr. NISSIN. Yes, and many others.

Mr. GAREY. And electrical transcriptions of it were made?

Mr. NISSIN. All of them the same way.

Mr. GAREY. That was sent out to all the foreign-language stations that had Italian broadcast; or, had broadcasts in the Italian language?

Mr. NISSIN. Sure.

Mr. GAREY. So, you continued doing that work?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

I have to add something, if you don't mind, that that material, after a while, didn't come so regularly; so I had to work myself and find some material to make some other programs.

Mr. GAREY. You had to get your own material?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes, because it was a little slow to come and, of course, I wrote some letters asking if they thought that a certain kind of material was good and—well, they say, "Yes, we think this is good"; or, "You must add this or that", and then I made the program.

So, I had more to do after a while because I had to look for the material for the program.

Mr. GAREY. You got material that you thought would be useful in combatting what you called pro-Fascist propoganda here?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. I take it you were of the opinion that there was a great need for programs of that character?

Mr. NISSIN. You ask me if I thought that?

Mr. GAREY. There was a great need for programs of the character you were working on?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. Because you had the idea that most Americans, and particularly the Italian-Americans, were quite pro-Fascist, didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, many.

Mr. GAREY. I mean, that was a very definite opinion you had?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. And you thought something should be done to correct the American viewpoint?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You were rather convinced of that, weren't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, yes.

Mr. GAREY. You and Falk discussed that on a number of occasions, I take it?

Mr. NISSIN. Not very much; maybe it was taken for granted.

Mr. GAREY. Didn't you tell Falk that you thought the frame of mind or the attitude of mind of the Italians here in America was very definitely pro-Fascist?

Mr. NISSIN. You want to know if I said that to Falk?

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. Maybe. I can't—it is possible.

Mr. GAREY. But you were of that opinion yourself; were you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; that is true. That is absolutely true.

Mr. GAREY. You thought something ought to be done by the American Government about it; didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, not exactly by the American Government.

Mr. GAREY. You thought something ought to be done by somebody about it?

Mr. NISSIN. I tell you frankly, before Mr. Falk offered me the job, I didn't have the idea to make anything by myself, because I did not have the means. When they offered me the job, you know, I wanted to make the job the best I could.

Mr. GAREY. Yes; I understand that. But what I would like to get your testimony on is this: You were very definitely of the opinion that

something should be done to counteract the then prevailing opinion of the Italians living in America, or Americans of Italian blood or birth?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, that's not exactly what I—

Mr. GAREY. Suppose you put it in your words and tell me what you were thinking at that time.

Mr. NISSIN. Well, I thought very forcibly that the feeling of the Italians here was pro-Fascist. Your question was, if I was convinced that something should be done. That's a different proposition.

Mr. GAREY. All right. Suppose you tell us what the state of your mind was in that respect. First, you started out with a definite opinion, I take it, that the Italian population in America, whether native-born or foreign-born, was pro-Fascist.

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. That was my opinion absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. Definitely your opinion?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. Had you given any thought to what should be done about rendering any service to remedy the condition like that in the United States?

Mr. NISSIN. Myself? Yes; certainly. I thought of it.

Mr. GAREY. Had you discussed that with Hutton?

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think I discussed it particularly. We spoke sometimes about the situation of the Italian radio, or the Italian Fascist mind—of the Fascist mind of the Italian in America.

Mr. GAREY. Hutton was born in Italy too, wasn't he?

Mr. NISSIN. That I really don't know. I suppose so.

Mr. GAREY. He was not a citizen of the United States, was he?

Mr. NISSIN. That I don't know.

Mr. GAREY. You know he was a member of the Fascist Party, don't you?

Mr. NISSIN. No; that I really don't know.

Mr. GAREY. Didn't you know he was an intelligence officer in the Italian Army?

Mr. NISSIN. I really don't know anything—

Mr. GAREY. Did you know he was in charge of intelligence in Abyssinia during the Ethiopian campaign?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. You never learned that about Hutton?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. In any event, you and Hutton discussed the condition as it existed—the condition that existed in America among the Italian-Americans, and the nature and character of the programs that were being put out on the American radio in the Italian broadcasts?

Mr. NISSIN. That, no, not particularly. I spoke to Hutton a few times, and the only thing he did for me was to introduce me to Mr. Falk. I didn't carry on much long conversation with Mr. Hutton on this short subject.

Mr. GAREY. Did you get to know Falk pretty well?

Mr. NISSIN. I think I contacted Falk three or four times.

Mr. GAREY. Three or four times?

Mr. NISSIN. Only.

Mr. GAREY. From the time you first met him?

Mr. NISSIN. Maybe two or three.

Mr. GAREY. Up to the present time?

Mr. NISSIN. The first time I met him with Mr. Hutton. The second time—then, I stayed a long time without seeing him, just writing to him, of course.

Mr. CAREY. You wrote to him pretty regularly, did you?

Mr. NISSIN. What is that?

Mr. GAREY. Did you write to him pretty regularly?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, any time I needed to have some directions or some answer.

Mr. GAREY. You mean in connection with your O. W. I. work?

Mr. NISSIN. In connection with the script, of course.

Mr. GAREY. Did you write him generally about conditions as you found them in the Italian-American field?

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think I did.

Mr. GAREY. Did you ever discuss with him, or write him about people who were on these Italian language programs?

Mr. NISSIN. Maybe, but very shortly.

Mr. GAREY. I take it you know Falk well enough so that if you thought somebody was on the air that should not be on the air, you would have mentioned that to him?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Never told him that?

Mr. NISSIN. No; never.

Mr. GAREY. Did you ever write him about any of the people that were on the air that you thought were pro-Fascist?

Mr. NISSIN. Facci once wrote me a letter, I think I must say, because I want to say everything—Facci once or twice wrote me a letter and asked me information on somebody at Station WOV or some other station—but not political information, just he wanted to know what they do at the radio station, the kind of program they carried on, and so on, and so forth.

In good faith, I thought that it was my duty to say.

Well, in fact, I didn't know these two people, and I had to ask information through somebody else. So, I wrote very brief letters to Facci—a couple of letters to Facci—just saying that Mr. so and so had a program on WOV and was making certain kinds of work; but not political, I don't think I referred. Yes; to one I referred. I said he was an anti-Fascist; that I remember.

That was, I think, the two cases, when I wrote to the Office of War Information for something that didn't belong to my work—asked the question of just requesting information.

Mr. GAREY. Have you done any broadcasting for the Office of War Information?

Mr. NISSIN. If you release me from the oath of secrecy I made to the O. W. I. regarding this I will tell you, because I made an oath of secrecy regarding the Overseas Branch.

The CHAIRMAN. This committee has not the power to relieve you of any—

Mr. GAREY. It does have the power to direct him to answer, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. I understand, Mr. Garey; to relieve you of any responsibility you may have taken under oath to somebody else. But, the fact that you took the oath of secrecy does not give you the privilege here this morning.

Mr. NISSIN. Doesn't give me the privilege?

The CHAIRMAN. If the question tends to elicit information bearing upon the subject matter of this inquiry, of course, you must answer.

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think there is any reason for not answering. The oath of secrecy I made is regarding the kind of work I do.

I tell you frankly, I am an announcer for the Overseas Branch, but not as a steady announcer. They call me now and then for a couple of times a week.

Mr. GAREY. You are not the mysterious John Durfee, are you?

Mr. NISSIN. No; I am not.

Mr. GAREY. By the way, did you write that famous John Durfee speech for script?

Mr. NISSIN. No; absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. You didn't write about the "little moronic King"?

Mr. NISSIN. No, sir.

Mr. GAREY. How often do you broadcast for the Office of War Information?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, I have been called the first time a month ago, I guess. I made altogether 10 or 12 broadcasts.

Mr. GAREY. Tell me, when did you take this oath of secrecy?

Mr. NISSIN. When I was called the first time they made me take an oath that I would keep secret anything—

Mr. GAREY. What were you supposed not to reveal?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, the kind of work. Suppose I broadcast some kind of news, they don't want people to go around and tell anybody what kind of news they broadcast. I suppose that is it.

Mr. GAREY. Can you make that a little more clear? What is it you are not supposed to reveal?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, the oath of secrecy regards everything that belongs to the Office.

Mr. GAREY. That is, were you supposed to keep a secret the fact that you were an announcer on O. W. I.?

Mr. NISSIN. Really, I am not sure of my oath of secrecy, whether it regards the fact that I am an announcer or the fact that I should not reveal what I say as an announcer.

Mr. GAREY. That is, you don't know whether it is a secret of some kind that you should not reveal to anyone that you are an announcer? You think it may relate only to the fact that you shall not reveal what you broadcast?

Mr. NISSIN. Because anybody—

Mr. GAREY. Because what is put out on the air to the entire world should remain a secret?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, maybe that's it; I don't know.

Mr. GAREY. You broadcast it and then keep it secret.

What else in connection with the Office of War Information have you done?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, I spoke to you about that program, "Victory for America; freedom for Italy" already.

Mr. GAREY. Yes. You have been continuing to write those scripts right along?

Mr. NISSIN. Now, we stopped for a while, you know, on account of the situation in Italy; it is rather delicate, and I wrote a letter to Falk telling him that I really didn't know what kind of material to choose now because—

Mr. GAREY. That is, you think "Victory for America; Freedom for Italy" may not be exactly what the Italians want to hear about today?

Mr. NISSIN. No. I mean it is very difficult to find a subject now on account of the situation, which is delicate. You cannot speak about fascism, because fascism—

Mr. GAREY. Is pretty dead, anyway.

Mr. NISSIN. Is pretty dead, anyway. You can't speak about, for instance, the Allies taking over Italy, because maybe before the broadcast goes to Italy, the thing has changed already.

Mr. GAREY. You might have some trouble talking about Russia, I suppose?

Mr. NISSIN. What?

Mr. GAREY. You probably would have some trouble talking about Russia?

Mr. NISSIN. That I don't know. Maybe.

Mr. GAREY. So, for the present, you are not writing any more scripts on "Victory for America; Freedom for Italy"?

Mr. NISSIN. For the present I am just waiting for the Office of War Information.

Mr. GAREY. But you are still attached to and connected with the Office of War Information, are you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. They didn't—

Mr. GAREY. Are you writing any other programs for them?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. Mr. English of the Overseas Branch asked me to write some stuff for the Overseas Branch, some scripts, to be sent to Italy for propaganda purposes.

Mr. GAREY. That is, foreign broadcasts?

Mr. NISSIN. Foreign broadcasts.

Mr. GAREY. What is the name of that program?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, they make a certain series, you know. Now, the series—that is regarded in the oath of secrecy. We are, again, in the same situation. Well, I mean, there is nothing to conceal, but I really don't know really what to say, if I should say it or not.

Mr. GAREY. Suppose you give it for our purposes.

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think it is important.

Mr. GAREY. The name of the program that you are working on? Is it the "Voice of America"? Is it "Uncle Sam Speaks"?

Mr. NISSIN. No. That's a different kind of program. They make transcriptions. I don't think they have the slogan, "This is the Voice of America" because I didn't put it on the script. I didn't see it on the script when they copied the script.

Mr. GAREY. Are you writing in connection with some particular—for some particular program?

Mr. NISSIN. The series I am making is entitled, "Heroes of Democracy."

Mr. GAREY. "Heroes of Democracy?"

Mr. NISSIN. In which I dramatize the lives of the anti-Fascists who died for the cause. For instance—

Mr. GAREY. Are they American heroes or Italian heroes?

Mr. NISSIN. We start now with Italians. You know, I think we can put very well some American heroes.

Mr. GAREY. That is, you are telling the people in Italy, in these scripts you are writing, about their heroes?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. This is a broadcast from America to the people of Italy?

Mr. NISSIN. They send the record to Italy, or to the outposts in Europe.

Mr. GAREY. Yes; but to reach the Italian people?

Mr. NISSIN. To reach the Italian people in Italy.

Mr. GAREY. As an American broadcast?

Mr. NISSIN. As an American broadcast, I suppose; yes.

Mr. GAREY. That is, America is telling the Italian people about the Italian heroes?

Mr. NISSIN. That is right.

Mr. GAREY. Didn't you also write for O. W. I. programs known as "The Voice of Freedom"?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. This is not an original program of mine. This is a translation from the original English script.

In other words, Mr. Falk send me the English script, what is already used in the American stations for domestic propaganda here. I translate it. I am to translate it in Italian the best I can in a liberal way, of course, because it is difficult to—

Mr. GAREY. That is, what you were doing there was taking English scripts that had been used by O. W. I. in English on an American station?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. And translating it into Italian?

Mr. NISSIN. Into Italian.

Mr. GAREY. For broadcast on American stations to Italian residents of the United States?

Mr. NISSIN. That is correct.

I remember that I suggested to Mr. Falk not to do it because—and I did it contrary to my own interests.

Mr. GAREY. By the way, did you ever work for Short Wave Research?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Did you ever have any contact or conversation with them?

Mr. NISSIN. I accompanied a friend of mine who was going there to see Miss Keene.

Mr. GAREY. Yes. Do you know Miss Keene?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, I just was introduced that time to Miss Keene by that friend of mine.

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. She asked me what I was doing, and I think I said to her—I told her I would like to make an application to find something to do. I think I made an application for a job.

Mr. GAREY. Did you ever get a job through them?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Did you ever get any money from the Short Wave Research?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Have you told us all you have ever done for the Office of War Information?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; I think so.

Mr. GAREY. You have been working for them for about a year now?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; about that—maybe a couple of months more.

Mr. GAREY. During the period from, say, August of 1942 to along in April, perhaps, March 1943, were you doing anything else other than working for the Office of War Information?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. You weren't working on any radio station?

Mr. NISSIN. No. I was working at WOV on a program; it was something completely apart.

Mr. GAREY. You did get some new work along in March or April of 1943?

Mr. NISSIN. You mean from the Office of War Information?

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. Well, I think I told you that I had this engagement by Mr. English for the radio outposts.

Mr. GAREY. By the way, O. W. I. did pay you for this work, didn't they?

Mr. NISSIN. You mean, for this new—

Mr. GAREY. The work you were doing for them.

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; they paid me.

Mr. GAREY. Suppose you tell us what the basis of your compensation was?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. For "Victory for America; Freedom for Italy" I got \$15 for every script.

Mr. GAREY. That is, writing the script in Italian?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. For the translation I got \$20.

Mr. GAREY. That is, in translating it from the Italian into the English—

Mr. NISSIN. For the original scripts, \$15, and for the translations, \$20. Maybe I can't understand the reason it was done. The translation was done on a translation basis of a penny a word. So, they had to pay me that money because the script was—

Mr. GAREY. Let's see if I understand you, and if I don't, you correct me.

First, you were paid \$15 to write the script in the Italian language?

Mr. NISSIN. For the ones I was composing. I was writing myself; namely, "Victory for America; Freedom for Italy."

Mr. GAREY. Then you were paid \$20 to translate what you had written from Italian into English?

Mr. NISSIN. I was getting \$20 to translate in Italian another program entitled "The Voice of Freedom," the one I told you that was used—

Mr. GAREY. That was connected with the "Voice of Freedom" that you got the \$20 for translating from English into Italian?

Mr. NISSIN. That is right.

Mr. GAREY. Then you got a fee or compensation for producing these dramas also; did you not?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. I produced the programs for a long time without any compensation. Then I had to get something too, because I had some expenses. I had to give the men at WOV—

Mr. GAREY. Quite naturally.

Mr. NISSIN. Nothing remained in my hands after. So, I asked Mr. Falk if he could pay me something. He secured me \$10 for every

show for "Victory for America." but he refused to give me anything for the other program.

Mr. GAREY. Did you ever write anything for this O. W. I. program, Uncle Sam Speaks?

Mr. NISSIN. No, no.

Mr. GAREY. Did you ever announce that program?

Mr. NISSIN. No. If you want to know who translates that program, I know.

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. Well, now they dropped it, I think. I think that Mr. Serreno was translating the program. He is an announcer on Station WOY.

Mr. GAREY. Did you write anything for the program, the O. W. I. program called The Voice of America?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Then you also get paid from O. W. I. as an overseas announcer, do you not?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; \$20 a script. So far I made only two. You know, I don't know if I will continue, because I can't do everything; I mean, I am too busy now.

Mr. GAREY. You also get paid for the work you are doing under English's direction, don't you?

Mr. NISSIN. You mean, for the scripts?

Mr. GAREY. Yes, that you are writing under English's direction?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; for the outposts.

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Now, in addition to that, you are also working for Lido Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. That is right.

Mr. GAREY. When did you first meet Lido Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. I received a letter from Lido Belli—I can tell you the exact date, because I have the letter right here. March 19, 1943.

Mr. GAREY. What is the substance of that letter, Mr. Nissin?

Mr. NISSIN. The letter reads as follows:

Please telephone me immediately upon receipt of this letter as I would like to arrange an appointment with you.

Mr. GAREY. Did you know Mr. Belli at the time you received that letter?

Mr. NISSIN. No. I had heard about him, of course, but because he was in the radio field.

Mr. GAREY. You knew who Lido Belli was but you never had met him?

Mr. NISSIN. That is right.

Mr. GAREY. After you got that letter, what did you do?

Mr. NISSIN. I think I called Belli by telephone, and Belli partially told me that he wanted to see me to offer me something to do at WBXX, and I was a little surprised about it because—well, not knowing Belli, I didn't know why Belli was calling me and, in fact, I think after one or two days, I don't remember exactly, I went to Belli's office and I spent with Belli—I had with Belli a long conversation, a very long interview, and Belli told me that he had my name through Mr. Facci.

Mr. GAREY. Is that the Facci of O. W. I.?

Mr. NISSIN. I think he got the name through Facci. He told me maybe he got my name through the Office of War Information in Washington; I am not sure.

I don't know if he told me it was given him by the Office or Mr. Facci. He told me the old story. I felt——

Mr. GAREY. Had you heard from Facci or anybody connected with the Office of War Information before you went up to see Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. No. That is the strange thing.

Mr. GAREY. What really happened was this, I take it: After you got that letter from Belli, you called him up?

Mr. NISSIN. By telephone.

Mr. GAREY. Yes. And then an appointment was made?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. For you to see Belli at his office?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You went over there?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Then Belli started telling you about his difficulties?

Mr. NISSIN. He told me all his story, and I felt sympathetic with Belli because, you know, after——

Mr. GAREY. Rather an incredible story, wasn't it?

Mr. NISSIN. Rather incredible story; yes.

Mr. GAREY. I suppose, as a newcomer to America, you were amazed to think that a situation like that could obtain in free America?

Mr. NISSIN. I can't deny it.

Mr. GAREY. It shocked you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes, I felt sorry for him.

Mr. GAREY. He told you how he had been picked up on December 9th, did he?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. He told me everything.

Mr. GAREY. He told you about all the efforts he had been making to find out why this had happened to him?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Did you finally agree that day to go to work for him?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. He told me that he needed a person there to take care of the station, to censor the scripts, and to put on new programs; and, in a word, to direct the Italian time.

Mr. GAREY. So after you had agreed to accept employment with Belli, you hear from Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. That is right.

Mr. GAREY. Tell me, what did Belli suggest to you you were to do for him?

Mr. NISSIN. Belli told me that he should have put in the programs more propaganda stuff and prodemocratic stuff because he wasn't, you know—he was away for a while, and the station went practically disrupted.

Mr. GAREY. You mean his business had been seriously impaired during the period that he couldn't take care of it?

Mr. NISSIN. No question about it.

Mr. GAREY. Tell me, Mr. Nissin, did he tell you about the talk he had, just a few days before he talked with you, with Falk and Cranston and Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, yes. He told me that he went there and he was making efforts to be put back on the air, you know.

Mr. GAREY. And he told you they had criticized the passivity of his programs?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. And he told you they wanted programs that had some propaganda in them; that were full of punch for the so-called pro-democratic theories?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; I think he told me this, too.

Mr. GAREY. He told you pretty much what these three men had talked about to him in Washington?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Did he tell you that they had suggested to write to you?

Mr. NISSIN. Excuse me?

Mr. GAREY. Did he tell you that these three men—and I am referring now, of course, to Cranston, Falk, and Facci—that he had written you at their suggestion?

Mr. NISSIN. I don't remember if he told me that at his suggestion, or all three. He told me he got my name through the Office of War Information. That is what he told me.

Mr. GAREY. By the way, we might revert and see how well you know these men in the Office of War Information.

Mr. NISSIN. I don't know Mr. Cranston.

Mr. GAREY. Do you know Mr. Cranston?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Never met him?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. You had met Lee Falk on a few occasions?

Mr. NISSIN. A few occasions.

Mr. GAREY. Did you know Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; Facci. I think I saw Mr. Facci five or six times, and I wrote him very often about the scripts. When I went to Washington, we stayed together a couple of hours speaking and talking together.

Mr. GAREY. But at this meeting that you had with Belli for the first time, he discussed with you what you were to do when you went to work for him, didn't he?

Mr. NISSIN. Belli?

Mr. GAREY. Yes, Belli.

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. He told me that I had to take care of the programs, to look over carefully the scripts.

Mr. GAREY. You were to be a censor?

Mr. NISSIN. A censor, and he wanted me to put some new programs on the air.

Mr. GAREY. That would mean that you were to be a script writer?

Mr. NISSIN. Possibly, if the occasion would arise.

Mr. GAREY. Were you to do any announcing?

Mr. NISSIN. At the station?

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Any monitoring?

Mr. NISSIN. Any monitoring?

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. You weren't to do any monitoring?

Mr. NISSIN. No; because Mr. Alcorn was looking for a monitor. There was a law that on April 1st, the monitor should have been put in charge of the station.

Mr. GAREY. The scripts that were put on the air over Station WBNX on the Belli programs had to be censored by the station, didn't they?

Mr. NISSIN. That was what he wanted a man to monitor, to stay in the control room.

Mr. GAREY. Yes. That is right. Now, let's confine ourselves to this thought for the moment, if you will go along with me. You were going to censor Belli's programs, weren't you; no question about that?

Mr. NISSIN. No question about that.

Mr. GAREY. After you got through censoring the Belli programs, then the station had to censor them before they could go on the air?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; that is about it.

Mr. GAREY. Of course, the station monitored them?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. This was all discussed with you and Belli on the occasion of your first meeting?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Didn't Belli go a little further at that first meeting than you have yet indicated? Didn't he tell you that he could not run his business?

Mr. NISSIN. That he couldn't run his business?

Mr. GAREY. Under the conditions of his parole.

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You knew he couldn't run his business?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. You knew he couldn't hire or fire anybody?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You knew he couldn't even go in his own office?

Mr. NISSIN. That is when I was there, he was.

Mr. GAREY. I should not have put that question in that form.

He couldn't even go in to Station WBNX?

Mr. NISSIN. As a matter of fact, he didn't tell me particularly about this thing, but I could see the thing by myself, because Belli didn't come to the station. I mean, he was coming and staying out of the studio or something like this.

Mr. GAREY. So you were more or less to take charge of his business, weren't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Is that correct?

Mr. NISSIN. That is correct; not the commercial part of the business.

Mr. GAREY. The operating part of it?

Mr. NISSIN. The operating.

Mr. GAREY. Did you ever hear from the Office of War Information about Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Didn't Facci write you?

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think so.

Mr. GAREY. Well, now, think carefully about that.

Mr. NISSIN. If Facci wrote me something about—well, maybe, yes; when I was in charge of the station. I wrote to Facci about what I was doing at the station, of course.

Mr. GAREY. Let's see whether I can refresh your recollection.

Do you recall that Mr. McCall asked you this question, to which you made the answer I am about to read to you:

"How does Facci come in? Did you know him before you went with Belli?"

Mr. NISSIN. Oh, yes.

Mr. GAREY. I am going to read your answer, first, and see if this is going to refresh your recollection.

Mr. NISSIN. No. I met Facci only because I think he is the chief of the Italian section of the—

Mr. GAREY (reading).

Did you meet him after you went with Belli or before?

Answer. Before. I think he gave my name to Belli. I believe Facci or Falk must have given my name to Belli.

Question. Then, after you were hired by Belli, Facci spoke to you about—

Answer. Facci wrote me a letter telling me that he had given my name to Belli as a person to take care of the station, and to be a censor and supervisor. I should say, and then Belli—no, Belli called me, and after one or two days I received a letter from Facci, and he told me that my name was given to Belli; I don't know if by Facci himself or Falk, and that he was glad I had to write to him about anything I needed to increase the propaganda side of the station, because the O. W. I. was anxious to have more propaganda program presentations on WBNX.

Do you recall having made those answers?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. Those answers, are, of course, truthful?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Does the reading of this testimony that you heretofore gave serve to refresh your recollection that you did receive a letter from Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes, I did receive a letter. It didn't speak to me about Belli. That is why I tell you—I thought you were asking me if Facci spoke to me about Belli's speaking about the situation or anything.

Mr. GAREY. Oh, no. But, Facci did write you a letter and told you he had given your name to Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. He had given my name to Belli.

Mr. GAREY. As a person to take care of the station, and to be a censor and supervise Belli's business?

Mr. NISSIN. That I don't know, if Belli was asking Facci for some names.

Mr. GAREY. That is what Facci told you he had given your name for?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. I don't know if he gave my name at the request of Mr. Belli, or just taking the initiative; that I don't know.

Mr. GAREY. You went to work with Belli, didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Did you make any change in the personnel in the Belli organization?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, yes. First of all, I knew that the only change I made was a man called Franci.

Mr. GAREY. Let's see. Before we get to Franci, when you went on, Hugo Neri was let out, wasn't he?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. Neri was still there when I took the job on WBNX.

Mr. GAREY. He had to go off the station?

Mr. NISSIN. He was fired already.

Mr. GAREY. He couldn't even enter the offices or the building, could he?

Mr. NISSIN. At that time he could. At that time he was broadcasting. But, Belli told me—excuse me.

Mr. GAREY. He was barred from coming in to the offices?

Mr. NISSIN. No. At the time Belli was working full time.

Mr. GAREY. I am talking now about Neri.

Mr. NISSIN. Yes, Neri.

Mr. GAREY. Isn't that true?

Mr. NISSIN. Neri was working, but Belli told me that Neri should leave very soon.

Mr. GAREY. He told you that Falk and Facci were against him, didn't he?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, I don't remember that he told me that somebody at the Office of War Information, or somebody at the F. C. C.—I can't remember this—but he told me that he was obliged to fire Neri.

Mr. GAREY. That is, he told you that F. C. C. or O. W. I. had told him that they would have to—that he would have to get rid of Neri; is that your testimony?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Did he tell you what the trouble was with him?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, as a matter of fact, in Belli's opinion, Neri was a good man, and nothing wrong was with him. So, Belli was a little sorry for it, but couldn't help it. As a matter of fact—

Mr. GAREY. You meant he felt pretty bad about having to put Neri out?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. I told Mr. Belli we could keep Mr. Neri at the station, and Belli, when I say that to him, because I like to keep everything except one man, of whom I will speak after—I fired because he was no good—because in my opinion everybody in the station was very good, including Neri, and I told Belli that maybe we could save Neri of being fired, and Belli said, "No, no; absolutely, I have to get rid of Neri. There is no question about it because I don't want any trouble. I have to fire him." That is what he told me.

Mr. GAREY. Did he tell you what was the matter with Neri?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. He told me they found that some news he made a long time before was not so pro-democratic.

Mr. GAREY. It wasn't that it was pro-Fascist; it was just undemocratic?

Mr. NISSIN. It was something against England, I guess. I don't remember. Something was wrong in some newscast Neri gave.

Mr. GAREY. That is, he said that either one of these Government agencies that you have referred to claimed he had done that?

Mr. NISSIN. Pardon me?

Mr. GAREY. Belli told you that either the O. W. I. or the F. C. C. claimed that Neri had done that?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. He told you——

Mr. NISSIN. Or, maybe some other office; I don't remember. He told me that some Government office had protested against Neri.

Mr. GAREY. And he told you it wasn't true

Mr. NISSIN. Well, he told me that he thought that Neri was a good man and had lived in America for a long time, and, in his opinion, was a very good man.

Mr. GAREY. And he told you he didn't want to let him out, but that he had to?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Who do you know in the F. C. C.?

Mr. NISSIN. Mr. Guest. That's the only person.

Mr. GAREY. He is the senior attorney here in the New York office?

Mr. NISSIN. I guess so.

Mr. GAREY. Did you talk to him about Neri?

Mr. NISSIN. Let me see. Possibly. Mr. Guest came to the station to contact me after I got the job with Belli.

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. He told me that he was glad that I was there and so on and so forth.

Then he told me to let him know what kind of changes I would have made in the personnel of the station.

Mr. GAREY. That is, after you had made the changes in the personnel, just wanted you to report to him?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; just to tell him the names and maybe the background.

Mr. GAREY. How did you work the Neri situation out? He remains a solicitor or salesman working for Belli, I take it?

Mr. NISSIN. He remained as a salesman; that is right.

Mr. GAREY. But he does come on the station?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Or come in the office?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. He stays down in the lobby?

Mr. NISSIN. He goes in Belli's office.

Mr. GAREY. He goes where?

Mr. NISSIN. In Mr. Belli's office. He goes in Belli's office, but he doesn't go in the studios. He doesn't come into the station.

Mr. GAREY. He is not permitted to come in the station, is he?

Mr. NISSIN. It is kind of a pitiful situation. Any time I see him I feel sorry for him.

The CHAIRMAN. You feel he is being mistreated; every time you see him, you feel sorry for him?

Mr. NISSIN. That is right.

Mr. GAREY. May we take a short recess here?

The CHAIRMAN. We will take a 10-minute recess.

(Short recess.)

The CHAIRMAN. All right, Mr. Garey.

Mr. GAREY. I take it, Mr. Nissin, that you were, in the beginning, of the opinion that there was nothing the matter with Neri, and you had great sympathy with the predicament that Falk and Fucci and Cranston had put him in?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. That is correct, isn't it?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You wanted to help him?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, in fact, I didn't do anything.

Mr. GAREY. I take it, you suggested to Belli that he find some work for him to do off the station in order to keep him on the pay roll?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, no; I didn't suggest anything.

Mr. GAREY. That is what you wanted done?

Mr. NISSIN. I would have helped Neri if I had a chance, because I felt sorry for him.

Mr. GAREY. You approved of Belli doing that, didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Keeping Neri? Yes; I approved.

Mr. GAREY. Did you tell Falk or Facci in due course that it was all right for Neri to be doing this kind of work; that you felt sorry for him, and you didn't want to see him lose the job?

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think I had the chance. They did not ask me.

Mr. GAREY. Who else was on Belli's pay roll? There was a man named Capalone, wasn't there?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. That was Franci?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. That is the only one I suggested to Belli he get rid of. He was a very, very bad newscaster.

Mr. GAREY. Wasn't it Guest that said that Neri was not to enter the studios?

Mr. NISSIN. I really don't know that.

Mr. GAREY. Are you sure about that?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Let's see if I can refresh your recollection. I am going to read some questions and answers that the transcript I have shows were put to you on July 8, 1943. You were in my office on July 8, 1943, were you not?

Mr. NISSIN. I think so; yes.

Mr. GAREY. Mr. McCall asked you certain questions?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You recall that, don't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Let's see if I can refresh your recollection. I will read the question and then the answer.

Question. Neri is still with you, isn't he?

Answer. Neri? No.

Question. Doesn't he work for Belli?

Answer. I think that Belli wants him to contact some customers and bring business, but he can't even come to the station. When he comes, he just remains out of the station, he stays in the lobby, doesn't come in.

Question. Who keeps him out of the office?

Answer. Pardon me?

Question. Who keeps him out of the office?

Answer. Because he goes to Belli's office to say, to speak about customers. I really don't know.

Question. You make me think that he can't physically go to Belli's office.

Answer. Well, physically—well, he goes there and goes around to see if he can have some sponsors for the station, and I think that Belli did that not to have him completely lose his salary.

Question. Does Belli have to talk to him out in the hall?

Answer. No; because Belli has an office.

Question. Neri does not come in the studio?

Answer. He doesn't come in the studio.

Question. But he goes up to Belli's office?

Answer. Yes; Belli's office.

Question. Who keeps him out of the studio?

Answer. I think Mr. Guest, the F. C. C., expressed the desire not to have him enter in the studio.

Question. Expressed the desire to whom?

Answer. To Belli, maybe.

Did you give that testimony?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; I think Mr. Belli maybe told me Mr. Guest told him so.

Mr. GAREY. You testified to the truth here, didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. Maybe at the time I recollected.

Mr. GAREY. So, it was Guest of the F. C. C. that told Belli he should not have Neri enter the studio?

Mr. NISSIN. I think Belli told me so. That is the reason I gave that answer.

Mr. GAREY. Did you put any people on the station?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Who did you put on the station?

Mr. NISSIN. Nino Di Salle was one of the men I suggested to Belli as an announcer to take the place of Neri.

Mr. GAREY. That was after Neri was put off the station?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. That was within the first few days after you came to work?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; within a few days.

Mr. GAREY. Di Salle is a cousin of Carlo Tresca? Is that correct?

Mr. NISSIN. Correct.

Mr. GAREY. Did you know him before you hired him?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; of course.

Mr. GAREY. How long had you known him?

Mr. NISSIN. Maybe—let's say 1½ or 2 years. I met him because he was an artist on the Italian programs at WOV.

Mr. GAREY. You met him in America?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. Is he a citizen?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; I think he is.

Mr. GAREY. Who else did you hire?

Mr. NISSIN. I hired Mr. Rava. Mr. Rava is a good friend of mine. I have known him for a long time in Florence.

Mr. GAREY. So, you hired him?

Mr. NISSIN. I thought he was good.

Mr. GAREY. I say, you hired him?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. He is not a citizen, is he?

Mr. NISSIN. He is not.

Mr. GAREY. He came to this country about the time you did, didn't he?

Mr. NISSIN. Maybe some months later.

Mr. GAREY. Did you know him in Italy?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; very well.

Mr. GAREY. In what capacity was he employed?

Mr. NISSIN. In Italy?

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. He was the owner of a bank, a private bank in Italy, and he was graduated doctor of law.

Mr. GAREY. He works for the O. W. I. also, doesn't he?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Who else does he work for?

Mr. NISSIN. As far as I know he works on N. B. C. for the overseas branch. He told me so.

Mr. GAREY. So he works for N. B. C., he works for O. W. I., and he works for Lido Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. No; now he dropped the job with Lido Belli, because he was very tired.

Mr. GAREY. He had too much work to do?

Mr. NISSIN. Too much work to do.

Mr. GAREY. So he dropped the Belli job?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Before you actually put these men to work, did you take up with O. W. I. whether or not they were satisfactory to them?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Who did you talk to?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, I think I spoke on the telephone to Facci. I didn't speak to Falk. I asked them if they had any objection to have those men at WBNX.

In good faith, I thought that the Office of War Information had the right to ask me, because it was a Government branch—and so I felt it a duty to inform them about these men I hired.

Mr. GAREY. And you talked to Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. I think I talked to Facci; yes.

Mr. GAREY. And Facci told you that they were all right, to put them to work?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You also talked to Guest before you put them to work, didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Let me see. I think; yes. I must say this, that Mr. Facci told me that he didn't want anything to do with hiring men; that he had confidence in me, and that he relied on me just hiring the personnel on WBNX.

Mr. GAREY. As a matter of fact, you wrote a letter to Facci, didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; I did.

Mr. GAREY. That's how you took the matter up with him?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. And asked him whether or not it would be all right if you put these two men to work for Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. That is true.

Mr. GAREY. And Facci told you it would?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. I think he called me by telephone. He did not write me.

Mr. GAREY. Then you also took the matter up with Guest, and asked Guest if it was all right if they went to work for Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. That I really don't remember; if Mr. Guest asked me about these two men after I put them on the job and wanted to know who they were; or, if he asked me before. I don't think he asked me before I hired them.

Mr. GAREY. Let's see, again, if I can refresh your recollection. Perhaps this will help you, if I read your testimony given on the occasion I referred to when Mr. McCall examined you in my office.

The testimony, so you will understand what it refers to; he is asking you whether or not Di Salle was recommended to you by Falk, and so the question was put in this form:

Question. Was he recommended to you by Mr. Falk?

Answer. No. I just wrote to the Office of War Information to have their O. K. about Di Salle and the other one.

Question. You wrote to them before you put him on?

Answer. Certainly.

Answer. Who did you write to?

Answer. With Belli; we wrote that letter, or Belli or I. I don't remember if I signed the letter or Belli signed the letter saying that we wanted to hire these two men and if we had any objection about it; and I think I spoke to Mr. Guest, too, before I—

Question. What did Mr. Guest say?

Answer. Mr. Guest say it was all right, he didn't have any—

Question. No objection?

Answer. No objection. Do you want to know something?

Question. Did you get a letter back from O. W. I., or did they call you up?

Answer. I think we spoke by telephone.

Question. Can you recall who you spoke to?

Answer. Then I saw Mr. Guest a couple of times.

Question. Do you know who you spoke to in O. W. I., Falk or Mr. Facci?

Answer. Facci.

Question. Facci?

Answer. Mr. Facci speaks Italian, and when I have to ask something, Falk has too many things to do, and Facci knows better that particular field of the Italian.

Question. But you did speak to Mr. Guest several times?

Answer. A couple of times; about Di Salle; yes.

Question. Who is the other man?

Answer. The other man is Ettore Rava; and that man I know, I have known for about 20 years.

Do you recall giving that testimony?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Was that testimony true?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. So then we can—

The CHAIRMAN. When you make your answers, do so by word of mouth rather than by shaking your head, because it makes it easier for the reporter.

Mr. GAREY. So what happened then was that before you put these men to work, you did two things: one was, you wrote O. W. I.—

Mr. NISSIN. I remember that very clearly.

Mr. GAREY. I take it that you wrote Facci and O. W. I.?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. I remember that very clearly.

Mr. GAREY. And Facci replied either by calling you on the telephone or you called him on the telephone after you had written him?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. In any event, he gave his approval by telephone?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Now then, you saw Mr. Guest several times before you put these men to work?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, that is the thing I don't remember. I remember that I spoke to Mr. Guest about the two men but I can't remember

if I saw Mr. Guest before I hired the two men or after. That's the truth.

Mr. GAREY. Mr. Guest did tell you whether it was before or after you hired them, that he had no objection to them?

Mr. NISSIN. He told me that he had no objection, but I don't remember if he did—

Mr. GAREY. He told you it was all right for you to hire them?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. That he approved? He approved of you hiring them?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. That there is no question about that in your mind?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Your recollection in that respect is very definite, isn't it?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. When did Rava come to the United States?

Mr. NISSIN. That I don't know exactly, but I can figure that he came in 1939; that's about—let's say maybe in the middle of the year or something.

Mr. GAREY. In what capacity was he to work for Lido Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. He was the newscaster. He was writing the news and announcing the news on the radio.

Mr. GAREY. What kind of work was he doing for O. W. I.?

Mr. NISSIN. I think he is an announcer.

Mr. GAREY. He is on the pay roll of O. W. I., isn't he?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. I think you referred to his status in your testimony which you gave in answer to questions put to you by Mr. McCall that he was a civil-service employee of the Government.

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. That is correct, isn't it?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. He, of course, is paid by Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. Was paid by Belli; yes.

Mr. GAREY. Up to the time he left?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Di Salle is paid by Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. What did you do with—strike that question.

I take it you have many friends in the Office of War Information?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. I am referring to my friends who came from Italy. I don't mean the officials. I have friends because practically all the announcers in the Office of War Information for the Overseas Branch are my friends.

Mr. GAREY. You have a great many friends up there at the Office of War Information?

Mr. NISSIN. Not with the officials.

Mr. GAREY. Among the employees?

Mr. NISSIN. Among the employees.

Mr. GAREY. You talked to them a great deal from time to time?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes, certainly. We are friends.

Mr. GAREY. They knew you and knew what you were doing?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You, of course, told them what your thoughts were on various matters?

Mr. NISSIN. Maybe; yes.

Mr. GAREY. Are these friends of your in the same department that Facci is the head of?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Who is the head of this department in which your friends are employed?

Mr. NISSIN. It is Mr. English.

Mr. GAREY. Mr. English.

Mr. NISSIN. He is the Chief.

Mr. GAREY. Is Mr. English under Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. No. It is a complete different branch. Mr. Facci is in the Foreign Language Branch for Domestic Propaganda. Mr. English is in the Overseas Branch for the propaganda for the short wave. One office is in Washington, the other is in New York.

Mr. GAREY. Let's see if I can help you about this Guest situation. Do you remember this testimony.

Question. You wrote to O. W. I. about Rava, about whether he would be acceptable?

Answer. Yes, we wrote a letter or we spoke through the phone—that I can't remember—asking the permission and the O. K. to hire these two men, asking if they had any objection to them to make; and Facci, I am sure, gave me his O. K., and Mr. Guest, too.

Question. You told Mr. Guest, too, that you were going to put him on?

Answer. Yes, absolutely. As a matter of fact, Mr. Guest came there and investigated those two men and he questioned them a couple of times.

Question. Do you know anybody else in the F. C. C. besides Mr. Guest?

Answer. No, no; really I don't.

Question. All your business with the F. C. C. has been with Mr. Guest?

Answer. Yes, and I met Mr. Guest on the occasion of my getting the job at WBNX. The first time I met Mr. Guest was then.

Do you recall giving that testimony?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Was that testimony correct?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You made truthful answers?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. In that event, doesn't it serve to refresh your recollection as to what you did in getting Rava and Di Salle okayed by both the O. W. I. and F. C. C. before you put them to work?

Mr. NISSIN. The only thing I don't remember is this. I don't remember if I spoke about Rava and Di Salle before I put them on the job, or if I spoke to Mr. Guest after they got the job at WBNX. I remember that I spoke about them to Mr. Guest.

Mr. GAREY. You have been in constant communication with Guest, haven't you?

Mr. NISSIN. I wouldn't say, "constant." I saw Mr. Guest a couple of times.

Mr. GAREY. Suppose I use the word, "frequent"; would that be agreeable to you?

Mr. NISSIN. No; because Mr. Guest saw me at WBNX the first time. Then I went to his office once to speak about these two men, and that, I remember was after they were hired.

Mr. GAREY. Let's see. There came a time when you thought Rava ought to be let out, fired, in fact?

Mr. NISSIN. From WBNX?

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. No. Mr. Rava himself told me that he was too busy.

Mr. GAREY. How do you account for the fact that your memory is so different today than it was just a month ago? Let me again read to you and see whether or not I can help your memory.

Do you remember this question being asked you:

Question. Well, besides Neri were there any other changes in personnel at WBNX?

Answer. In the Italian program? No; I don't think. They were the only changes. Now I have to tell you that Mr. Rava, we had in mind to fire Mr. Rava, because he is always very tired, because he has the other job at O. W. I. Well, he is complaining a little, he wants more money, and Belli does not feel like giving him more money, and maybe we had give up to have him. In that case, I will ask—I will think of somebody else, if necessary, and I will ask the F. C. C., Mr. Guest, or O. W. I. and any person I know, for the O. K., if I will replace him. Mr. Belli's idea, as a matter of fact, is not to replace Mr. Rava and to have the news made by Mr. Di Salle or Capalone, one of the announcers.

Did you give that testimony?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; that is true.

Mr. GAREY. That was truthful testimony?

Mr. NISSIN. It is true, too.

Mr. GAREY. Was it truthful testimony?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Did you take up with Guest the question of whether or not you could dispense with Rava's services?

Mr. NISSIN. No; absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. You never took that up with him?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Did you take it up with Facci or anybody else in the O. W. I.?

Mr. NISSIN. If you want me to tell you what happened, I can tell you. We had in mind to replace Rava because he was complaining; he was tired, and so forth, and so on. And before we decided, Rava himself, maybe because he felt a little uncomfortable, said he wanted to leave.

Mr. GAREY. So that you didn't have to go to Guest or the Office of War Information?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. But in the event you were going to let Rava out you felt you would have to take the matter up with Mr. Guest or the Office of War Information first to get their approval; did you not?

Mr. NISSIN. Maybe yes; and maybe I would have done this, because, in good faith, I thought that was my duty.

Mr. GAREY. You thought that the Office of War Information and the F. C. C., having put these people in, they should be consulted before you let them out?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, I thought that they should be consulted if I should have replaced them with somebody else.

Mr. GAREY. That is, if you were going to fire Rava you would want to take up with them who they wanted put in his place?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, may give some name and ask for the approval?

Mr. GAREY. There was also a man named Lamberti working for Belli; was there not?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Did he remain with Belli after you came to work?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Did you find him a good man?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. You found there was no objection against him?

Mr. NISSIN. No objection.

Mr. GAREY. You approved him?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, you know, to be true, Belli told me that all the people on WBNX was a little suspected of being pro-Fascist.

Mr. GAREY. You investigated him, didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, just to try to find out by myself. I found him a very good man.

Mr. GAREY. You found he hadn't done anything that anybody could criticize?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. Did you tell Facci and Falk that?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. You told Guest that, too, I assume?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Another person they had there was Capalone?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Is he still working for Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. He is.

Mr. GAREY. His continuance, I take it, meets with your approval?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You found Capalone was a good man?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. There was nothing the matter with him?

Mr. NISSIN. Not in my opinion.

Mr. GAREY. Did you so tell Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, yes. When I went to the station—when I got my job with the station I expressed the opinion that everybody should be kept on the station because they were good announcers and were good people, with nothing to complain about them.

The only person I suggested Belli to fire was Franci, and I was trying to give you this answer before, because Franci didn't really know how to write in Italian, and the news was very poor.

Mr. GAREY. The only reason you fired Franci was not because he was pro-Fascist but because he wasn't as well educated as you thought he should be?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Your quarrel with keeping Franci, I take it, from what you have told us, was that you thought he wasn't well enough qualified for the task?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. He was a carpenter trying to do a job of cabinet-making?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely; that is the truth.

Mr. GAREY. There was nothing so far as his prodemocratic sympathies were concerned?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. He was prodemocratic?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. And not a bit pro-Fascist or pro-Nazi?

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think so.

Mr. GAREY. You told Facci that; didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. About Franci? I don't know if we spoke particularly about Franci.

Mr. GAREY. The only reason why you let Franci out was because of a lack of sufficient competence?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. You wanted to get a better man?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. One who had more education?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. And Belli told me he was just—for a long time he thought that Franci wasn't good for that work.

Mr. GAREY. That is, good from the standpoint of his ability?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; I mean from the point of his ability.

Mr. GAREY. So that when—so we had Franci on the station, we had Capalone on the station, we had Lamberti on the station, and we had Neri on the station, and you investigated them all; didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. And you found they were all okay as far as their pro-Fascist—

Mr. NISSIN. You know, I tried to speak to them and find out what was their opinion so to be sure that—

Mr. GAREY. And then you reported that to both Guest and Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. Generally speaking, I say that I thought that everybody at the station was all right, and that I didn't see any reason to fire anybody, including Neri, but Neri was already decided to—

Mr. GAREY. Did there come a time when you discussed with Facci or Falk this burden that was resting upon Belli, that was preventing him from going back?

Mr. NISSIN. Mr. Facci?

Mr. GAREY. On the air?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You took it up with Mr. Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Where did you see Mr. Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. I had the occasion to go to Washington and to discuss my scripts with Mr. Facci and, of course, Facci asked me—

Mr. GAREY. This was in connection with your work for O. W. I.?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You had to see Facci in connection with some of the scripts you were preparing?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. We took over a conversation about what was happening in the station, and I told Facci what was going on.

Mr. GAREY. You made a pretty full report to him?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, I can't say that; I told him everything was all right, everything was under control, and new programs were put on the air. I told him I thought the station would be better as time went on.

Mr. GAREY. That is, you thought that what you were doing in connection with the programs and the personnel would meet with Facci's

approval when he saw how well it was working out along the lines he wanted it worked out?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. That is about what you are saying?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

I remember very clearly that I spoke to Facci about Belli and I say that I felt sorry for Belli, because I thought honestly that Belli was a very good man, a very sincere man, and I sympathized with Belli from the very first time I saw him, and I think—

Mr. GAREY. Did you find he was a pro-Fascist?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely not.

Mr. GAREY. Did you find he was pro-Nazi?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Did you find he was antidemocratic?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely not.

Mr. GAREY. You found Belli to be the kind of a person you could like?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. And trust?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You thought it was all right for Belli to be engaging in the work he was engaged in without democratic ideals being jeopardized?

Mr. NISSIN. No question about it.

Mr. GAREY. And you told all this to Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. I told Facci that something should be done about Belli, because as far as I knew, Belli was a very, very good man, and he was ready to do anything for the war effort, and I didn't find a thing like this against him.

Mr. GAREY. By the way, you had made these investigations of Belli and these people largely at the suggestion of Facci, hadn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, Facci didn't tell me to investigate anybody, but I thought it was my duty to do it just to be sure that everybody at the station was all right.

Mr. GAREY. Did Falk ask you to investigate them?

Mr. NISSIN. No. He didn't say anything. He didn't suggest me anything.

Mr. GAREY. How do you reconcile that statement with the statement you made on July 8. Let me read—

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Garey, permit me to ask this question:

In giving this testimony in July, from which counsel quotes, have you had any conversation with anybody in the F. C. C. or O. W. I.

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think I saw Mr. Guest again after this conversation.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you been in the office of the F. C. C. here in the court building?

Mr. NISSIN. Not after that testimony.

The CHAIRMAN. I mean recently?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you talked with anybody in the F. C. C. since you gave this testimony?

Mr. NISSIN. No; I don't think I did after maybe I met Mr. Guest at the station, at WBNX, just to say "hello"; that's all.

Mr. GAREY. Let me read this and see whether it will serve to bring back to your mind certain facts. You were asked this question:

Question. Do you think that Mr. Falk and Mr. Guest would oppose Mr. Neri?

Answer. Would be what?

Question. Do you think they would oppose him coming back?

Answer. Mr. Falk; yes. They had something against, something definite against him, and he was the only person whom they suggested to fire without any discussion. As far as the other two were concerned, I am speaking about Lamberti and Capalone, they asked me just to inquire and see what was their behavior on the microphone, what was their feeling, and, as far as I can see, they are both all right.

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. But I thought you asked me about if I investigated them—you know, if I made an investigation of the station.

Mr. GAREY. Who asked you to do that, Facci or Falk?

Mr. NISSIN. I didn't speak to Falk ever about WBNX.

Mr. GAREY. Facci was the one who asked you to do it?

Mr. NISSIN. Facci.

Mr. GAREY. This talk you are referring to now that you had with Facci in Washington was more or less of a general report that you were making to him, bringing down to date the situation as you found it to exist or obtained on that station?

Mr. NISSIN. That is true.

Mr. GAREY. What did Falk say when you told him Belli was the kind of person he ought to be?

Mr. NISSIN. In fact, Facci agreed with me. He said that he was persuaded, too, that Belli was all right. Facci told me that he was doing everything in his power to put him back on the air. That is what Facci said.

Mr. GAREY. What else did you and Facci talk about that time about Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. Nothing; just that I suggested that Mr. Belli be put back on the air, because I thought he was all right, and that I felt sorry for him, and if they let him out of the business of the station, the Italian time at WBNX would be destroyed completely, because in a short time there wouldn't have been any customers.

Mr. GAREY. Belli was put back on the air following this talk you had with Facci?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. I don't know what the connection was between my talk with Facci and Belli being put back on the air. In fact—yes; after a short while Belli was put back on the air.

Mr. GAREY. You say you don't know whether or not there was any connection? You made the statement; did you not—

Mr. NISSIN. I think I helped a little.

Mr. GAREY (continuing). That you were responsible for getting Belli back on the air?

Mr. NISSIN. That is not true. I was not responsible. I did my best trying to convince Facci to do something for him.

Mr. GAREY. My question was a little bit more direct than the one you just answered. I asked you whether or not you did not make the statement that you were the one who got Belli back on the air.

Mr. NISSIN. That is not correct. I say that maybe I help him a lot because the office put Belli back on the air when the Department of Justice, I guess, and I didn't see anybody over there. The only thing I did is to recommend Belli to Facci, and I thought that maybe that

helped a little in getting Belli back his job. Maybe I am wrong; I don't know.

Mr. GAREY. When you left Facci this afternoon in Washington, it was pretty well understood between you that he was going to get Belli back on their—back on the air; wasn't it?

Mr. NISSIN. Facci told me he was in a good trade.

Mr. GAREY. He was back in Facci's good graces, and he was going to get him back on the air?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. That means having the restrictions contained in his parole lifted; is that correct?

Mr. NISSIN. That is true.

Mr. GAREY. They were lifted?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You haven't had the Office of War Information around lately, have you?

Mr. NISSIN. You mean, if I—I don't understand your question.

Mr. GAREY. The Office of War Information hasn't been around checking up lately on you or Belli?

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think so; no.

Mr. GAREY. Are you in touch with Facci once in a while, and do you keep him informed as to how things are going?

Mr. NISSIN. I tell you frankly, after a while my connection with the Office of War Information, as far as the personnel of WBNX was concerned, stopped. I didn't—

Mr. GAREY. Do you think that was because of you, Mr. Nissin; or do you think it was because the committee started to look into conditions in this field?

Mr. NISSIN. Really, I can't say.

Mr. GAREY. Did it occur to you that it might be the activities of this committee inquiring into the unlawful activities of the F. C. C. and the O. W. I. in these things, that stopped these station owners and the people employed on them, from being hounded by these two agencies?

Mr. NISSIN. Well—

Mr. GAREY. And their gestapos?

Mr. NISSIN. I couldn't say that. I don't remember if my relation with the Office of War Information, to speak, to inform them about the personnel and the policy of the station stopped before the inquiry of the committee or later. I really don't know.

Mr. GAREY. It is a fact that the F. C. C. is not now on your neck or Belli's neck?

Mr. NISSIN. No; it is not.

Mr. GAREY. And the Office of War Information is not, either?

Mr. NISSIN. That is true.

Mr. GAREY. There isn't any other Government agency now giving you any trouble?

Mr. NISSIN. Not as far as I know.

Mr. GAREY. In connection with the operation of your business?

Mr. NISSIN. As far as I know there isn't.

Mr. GAREY. Just a few questions, and I think we can excuse you.

Do you know Mr. Tabet? I am referring now to Duccio Tabet. How long have you known him?

Mr. NISSIN. I met him here in America, because he was put in charge as a censor at WOV and so I met him.

Mr. GAREY. You knew his family in Italy, didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; they lived in Pisa, and I lived in Florence, and they are small cities. I know where he comes from, and his family. I don't know him personally.

Mr. GAREY. He is not a citizen, either, is he?

Mr. NISSIN. No; he is not.

Mr. GAREY. Do you know Mrs. Zevi?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Is she a citizen?

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think so.

Mr. GAREY. She is working on Station WOV?

Mr. NISSIN. As far as I know, yes.

Mr. GAREY. She is monitoring over there, isn't she?

Mr. NISSIN. I think she does.

Mr. GAREY. Do you know Mr. Lupis?

Mr. NISSIN. Very slightly.

Mr. GAREY. Guiseppe Lupis?

Mr. NISSIN. Very slightly.

Mr. GAREY. Do you know Carlo a'Prato?

Mr. NISSIN. I met him just once, because I made an application for announcing at the Office of War Information a long time ago, and I had a short interview with Mr. a'Prato.

Mr. GAREY. He was at that time in charge of the Overseas Branch of O. W. I. in New York?

Mr. NISSIN. Correct.

Mr. GAREY. Do you know a man named Gerbi?

Mr. NISSIN. Very well.

Mr. GAREY. Is he a citizen?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. He is with WOV, isn't he?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. He is announcing over there?

Mr. NISSIN. Absolutely.

Mr. GAREY. Did you know Gerbi in Italy?

Mr. NISSIN. You know, our families—we are relatives, but I didn't meet him in Italy, but I knew who he was, because we have common mutual friends, and we are relatives.

Mr. GAREY. Did you know George Brunner?

Mr. NISSIN. George Brunner?

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. No; I saw him at WBNX because he works—after I leave he comes to WBNX for his program.

Mr. GAREY. You knew he was on a German program?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You didn't like Brunner, did you?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, you know, once I was joking with Belli, and I say that Brunner had a very Nazi-like attitude; but I was joking.

Mr. GAREY. You didn't like him?

Mr. NISSIN. He is an officer, and so he behaves like a German officer.

Mr. GAREY. I say—

Mr. NISSIN. That's the only remark I can make.

Mr. GAREY. You didn't like him, did you?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, I wouldn't say that. I mean—

Mr. CAREY. You said that on July 8, didn't you?

Mr. NISSIN. I didn't like at the time because once I was shouting at the telephone—

Mr. GAREY. Let's see. You didn't like him on July 8 but you don't know whether you like him today or not; is that it?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, maybe now I have a different opinion about him.

Mr. GAREY. Did you know the lady who works for him?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, very slightly. I exchanged a few words with her because she is working just in the same office where I am working, taking care of the German program.

Mr. GAREY. You know Serreno?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. How long have you known Serreno?

Mr. NISSIN. I met him here in America.

Mr. GAREY. He is an alien, isn't he?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. He works for the Office of War Information?

Mr. NISSIN. Well, as far as I know, he was making a translation of the program entitled, "Uncle Sam Speaks."

Mr. GAREY. Serreno was?

Mr. NISSIN. But now they dropped the program.

Mr. GAREY. Did you work with Serreno on any of those scripts?

Mr. NISSIN. Together with Serreno?

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. On "Uncle Sam Speaks"?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Are you sure about that?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. Do you recall telling Mr. McCall about the fact that you were the men who wrote the scripts for "Uncle Sam Speaks"?

Mr. NISSIN. No. I said to Mr. McCall that the "Voice of Freedom"—

Mr. GAREY. My question is directed to a very definite subject. Did you tell Mr. McCall on July 8, 1943, that you were the person who prepared the scripts for the broadcast entitled "Uncle Sam Speaks"?

Mr. NISSIN. If I said that, it must be a misunderstanding, because this is not the title of my program. This is another translation which they made from English and Mr. Serreno was—

Mr. GAREY. But you did tell Mr. McCall that on July 8?

Mr. NISSIN. No; I don't remember. Mr. McCall asked me—that's possible. I never translate the "Uncle Sam Speaks." I never did.

Mr. GAREY. Well, do you think Mr. McCall might have misunderstood a statement that you were—

Mr. NISSIN. Maybe I misunderstood a statement of Mr. McCall. There is nothing to conceal. I mean, if I were working for "Uncle Sam Speaks" I would say "yes," because there is nothing to be ashamed of. This is not true; I mean, I didn't translate on "Uncle Sam Speaks."

Mr. GAREY. Did you recommend a program to Belli entitled "Martyrs of the Italian Independence"?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. Mr. Facci sent me some episodes from Washington and he asked my opinion about them. He asked me if I thought that they were good for a serial on WBNX, and I read the scripts. They were not so well written, but they were fairly good, and I answered back to Facci, telling him I thought the program could be done on WBNX.

Mr. GAREY. Facci wanted you to put this script on the air, did he?

Mr. NISSIN. He didn't make any pressure on me. He just asked me if I liked the scripts, and I answered yes, and so we did the program on the air.

Mr. GAREY. Has Facci been in the habit of asking you to put various O. W. I. material—

Mr. NISSIN. Not much.

Mr. GAREY (continuing). On the air on the Belli programs?

Mr. NISSIN. Not much.

Mr. GAREY. Not much?

Mr. NISSIN. No.

Mr. GAREY. He occasionally sends some material over that he asks you to use?

Mr. NISSIN. The Office of War Information sends some material to all the Italian stations—scripts—

Mr. GAREY. I am not talking about that run-of-the-mill stuff they send out, I am talking about requests that Facci makes of you because of your connection with him.

Mr. NISSIN. No; that is the only one.

Mr. GAREY. You have some programs that you put on in which Doctors Gerbi and Landi appear?

Mr. NISSIN. Doctor Gerbi didn't appear. Appeared only Doctor Landi, I think Doctor Landi was the only one, because the Medical Association—

Mr. GAREY. You did intend to put a program on?

Mr. NISSIN. On medical efforts.

Mr. GAREY. With Gerbi and Landi?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Is Gerbi related to Gerbi who is here on the radio station?

Mr. NISSIN. He is the brother.

Mr. GAREY. Is the Doctor Landi who is referred to related to Landi who is on Station WHOM?

Mr. NISSIN. No relationship.

Mr. GAREY. Do you know that Landi?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes. No relationship.

Mr. GAREY. This Doctor Landi is not related to the Landi on that station?

Mr. NISSIN. It is a very strange thing—both had a different name originally, and they both are Levy, and they both choose the name of Landi. That's the story. That's very strange, but there is no relation between the two.

Mr. GAREY. Is Doctor Landi an alien?

Mr. NISSIN. Doctor Landi—I don't know, because Doctor Landi married an American, and maybe—

Mr. GAREY. Aliens have been known to do that, you know.

Mr. NISSIN. And maybe the time has passed to get the citizenship.

Mr. GAREY. He has only been in this country a reasonably short period?

Mr. NISSIN. Maybe 4 years or so.

Mr. GAREY. Gerbi—is he also an alien?

Mr. NISSIN. The doctor, you mean?

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. It is the same thing. He married an American. Maybe he got his citizenship. I am not sure.

Mr. GAREY. He has come over here recently, say, within the last 3 or 4 years?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. Mr. Nissin, you have had various talks with Mr. Guest about the character of the program that you intended to, and would and have put on the Belli hour?

Mr. NISSIN. You mean I talked with Mr. Guest about it?

Mr. GAREY. Yes.

Mr. NISSIN. I remember that I wrote a letter to Mr. Guest once referring to a program of a man at WBNX.

Mr. GAREY. You have been reporting to him, have you not, the type of censorship you were doing?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You have also been reporting and getting his approval to the type of program you were going to work out?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. You discussed, for instance, with Guest, putting these doctors on the air?

Mr. NISSIN. That I don't recall. Yes. Maybe I wrote to Guest asking him if he would like to have some doctors have some programs about giving suggestions to Italian-Americans how to behave in time of war.

Mr. GAREY. Doctor Funero was one of the doctors that you were going to put on the air?

Mr. NISSIN. The Medical Association didn't want the doctors to come—they didn't like the idea. They couldn't get the permission from the Medical Association.

Mr. GAREY. Was Doctor Funero an alien, too?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; he is.

Mr. GAREY. The Medical Society wouldn't let him appear on the kind of a program you wanted to put on?

Mr. NISSIN. Not because he was an alien, I think.

Mr. GAREY. No, no.

Mr. NISSIN. They don't want any doctor to go on the air.

Mr. GAREY. I understand. You discussed that matter, and the type of program you were going to put on with Guest?

Mr. NISSIN. I don't think I discussed it with Guest. I think I wrote maybe a letter to him telling him I was going to put some doctors on the air. That's what I can't recall. I don't recall if I spoke to him personally.

Mr. GAREY. You discussed with Guest the time you were going to give the Mazzini Society?

Mr. NISSIN. That I don't remember.

Mr. GAREY. Did Guest, by the way, approve this program of putting the doctors on the air?

Mr. NISSIN. I can't remember. I am sorry, I can't remember.

Mr. GAREY. Did he approve your giving time to Professor Provia of the Mazzini Society?

Mr. NISSIN. I really think I didn't speak to Guest about all these things.

Mr. GAREY. How would you think that Mr. Guest knew that Professor Provia of the Mazzini Society was slated to do news comments once or twice a week?

Mr. NISSIN. Maybe I wrote a letter just telling Mr. Guest that I was going to ask the doctors to come, and Provia to come, and maybe I wrote a letter to him—I really don't remember.

Mr. GAREY. Have you been pretty faithfully reporting to Guest what you have been doing over here, either by person or letter?

Mr. NISSIN. Personally, not. In letter, I remember only to have written a couple of letters to Guest.

Mr. GAREY. Did you write Guest a letter pointing out to him the kind of censorship you were doing?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes.

Mr. GAREY. How many times did you write him on that?

Mr. NISSIN. I can't say. Maybe two, maybe three; I don't know.

Mr. GAREY. You wrote them on April 10, 1943—you wrote Guest on April 10, 1943, about a program you had just censored, did you not?

Mr. NISSIN. That I remember. The reason why I wrote to him—

Mr. GAREY. All right; tell us what the reason was you wrote to Guest.

Mr. NISSIN. I thought that a certain sentence in a program given over WBNX was not good, because it stressed something I didn't like about racial differences between Italians and Americans. I don't remember exactly. There was something wrong. I thought that I had to write to Guest about it and report the thing to him. If I did so, I did so in good faith, because I thought—

Mr. GAREY. You thought you had to tell Guest about that in order to get his cooperation and his approval of what you were trying to do?

Mr. NISSIN. Yes; as part of my good faith.

Mr. GAREY. I don't think I have any further questions to ask this witness.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Nissin. You may retire, sir.

The Chair will take a recess until 2 o'clock.

(Thereupon, at 12:40 p. m., a recess was taken until 2 p. m. of the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION

(The subcommittee reconvened at 2 p.m.)

The CHAIRMAN. All right, Mr. Garey.

Mr. GAREY. Mr. Chairman, in an effort to comply with the committee's direction to conclude this phase of the hearings by Friday evening—

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Garey, the committee has no disposition to speed you up.

Mr. GAREY (continuing). May I have deemed read into the record the testimony of certain witnesses that was taken by Mr. Ambrose V. McCall in New York City on June 17, 1943?

That testimony has been transcribed, Mr. Chairman, and submitted to the witnesses for verification, and they have examined the testimony and sworn to the accuracy of the statements made by them before Mr. McCall as transcribed.