

NAME OF PROJECT: *Italian Canadians as Enemy Aliens: Memories of WWII*

TRANSCRIBED BY: Grant Karcich

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ACCESSION No.: ICEA2010.0008.0022.a-b

- **ICEA2010.0008.0022.a**

Recto [t-b, l-r]:

[typed] DOMINION OF CANADA / PROVINCE OF ONTARIO / COUNTY OF YORK / TO WIT: / IN THE MATTER OF THE WAR MEASURES / ACT, AND IN THE MATTER OF THE / REGULATIONS REGARDING TRADING / WITH THE ENEMY, AND IN THE / MATTER OF GUISEPPE (JOSEPH) / GRITTANI. / I, LIBERO SAURO, of the City of Toronto, / in the County of York, Ordained Minister of the United Church of / Canada, DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:- / 1. I have known Guiseppe Grittani for [blank space] years. / He was a member of the Order known as the Sons of Italy, which / is a mutual benefit Society. In this Society I held the office / of Grand Administrative Secretary. / 2. As such I had several discussions with Mr. Grittani. / He was particularly interested in matters pertaining to the / publication of the news of the activities of the Society. This / news was being published in the columns of "Il Bollettino", a / fascist newspaper published in the City of Toronto, the director / of which was Tommaso Mari, who was also a Grand officer of the / Sons of Italy. Mari, who was actively interested in the Fascio / was publishing the news with regard to the Sons of Italy in such / a manner as to create a false impression in the minds of the general public as to the character and purposes of the Society. / The news as he was publishing it suggested that this was a / political Society and of a fascist character, which was not the / case. / 3. Mr. Grittani was strongly opposed to such / publication and actively advocated the forming of another news- / paper to present the news of the Sons of Italy in a true and / honest form. He went so far as to guarantee the financial / banking required for such publication and the necessary / advertising support. / 4. Because of the influence of Tomasso [sic] Mari in the / organization, Mr. Grittani's offer was not accepted.

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Recto [t-b, l-r]:

[typed] -2- / 5. From my contacts with Mr. Grittani I am positive that / he was not in favour of the formation of a fascist political / group in Canada. / AND I make this solemn Declaration conscientiously believing / it to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and / effect as if made under oath, and by virtue of "The Canada / Evidence Act." / DECLARED before me at the / City of Toronto, in the / County of York, this 24th / day of January, A.D. 1941. / A Comm. &c,