

September 1939: a crucial date in the history of Ettore Majorana (1906-1939)*

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Abstract

Ettore Majorana is a famous Italian theoretical physicist, with long-lasting and continuously renewed reputation, due to his scientific results on atomic and molecular physics, nuclear physics, and elementary particles, not only important in themselves, but also sharing a peculiar shade of modernity. At the end of March 1938, he disappears under still mysterious circumstances, while he is professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Naples. His case has been the subject of numerous historical and scientific studies, together with novels, theatrical pieces, and even cartoons. By exploiting new archive document, we give evidence that without any doubt Ettore Majorana is deceased before September 1939. In particular, we report about the foundation of a Fellowship in his name, announced on November 3, 1939, in the Journal “The Missions of the Society of Jesus”, devoted to the education of jung missionaries, and about the correspondence exchanged to this purpose between the Administration of the Journal and the Family. We give a detailed description of the situation,

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also in the frame of the Police and Vatican inquires, after the disappearance, by exploiting new documents. Moreover, we give also some information on a biographical sketch of the life and disappearance of Ettore Majorana, written in September 1940 by his uncle Giuseppe (1863-1940) in Catania. These results show the total unfoundedness of the presumed localization of Majorana in Argentina, in Venezuela, or in other places, after 1939, or his presence in Germany during the War. The historical research related to the disappearance, at the end of March 1938, should therefore be concentrated on the motivation of this disappearance and the reasons of the decease, around one year later. Moreover, the new documents allow to consider the problems of the scientific activity of Majorana, in the years of silence (1933-1939), under a completely different light, by giving also an upper bound to the period under consideration. We plan to dedicate future work to an extensive treatment of this important issue.

1 Introduction

On September 14, 1939, a short sentence, appearing on the Bulletin of the Ministry of National Education, announces that Ettore Majorana is declared as resigned from his office as Professor of Theoretical Physics at the Royal University of Naples, in agreement with the Minister decree of December 6, 1938.

The history of this decree, and in general of the appointment and dismissal of Ettore Majorana from the Chair in Naples, is very interesting. We have given a full account in our paper [1] and further in our monograph [2].

Let us here recapitulate some facts.

The Minister of National Education, Giuseppe Bottai (1895-1959), under suggestion of the selecting Committee for a full professorship in Palermo, chaired by Enrico Fermi (1901-1954), appoints Ettore Majorana, while he is still one of the contestants, directly as full professor (*professore ordinario*) of Theoretical Physics at the University of Naples, with a decree dated November 2, 1937.

The motivation is clearly stated, as “the high reputation of singular expertise reached in the field of study of Theoretical Physics” (in italian: “per l’alta fama di singolare perizia cui è pervenuto nel campo degli studi di Fisica Teorica”).

The procedure is peculiar, but well inside the existing laws. In order to give an idea of the feelings of a segment of the academic community to the exploit of the young Ettore, we report here an amusing reaction by his uncle Quirino Majorana (1871-1957), the third son of the Patriarch of the Family (Salvatore Majorana Calatabiano, 1825-1897), a well established Physicist, Professor of Experimental Physics in Bologna, President of the Italian Physical Society, who will be recipient of the prestigious Mussolini Prize of the Academy of Italy in 1940. He writes (Box 183, Majorana Fund in Catania) to his first brother Giuseppe a letter dated November 27, 1937, just after the appointment of Ettore. As usual, we give a literal translation of the quite familiar colloquial text.

“[...] About Ettore I knew some time ago of the exceptional procedure. I really believe that something similar never happened. That is: on the eve of the judgment, the Committee suspends his work, and asks the Minister that a candidate be nominated outside the winning triplet, for exceptional merits. I believe that no man, even celebrated, would ever earn a similar honor: the Committee surely had the possibility to nominate him first in the triplet, and also to differentiate him with the highest priority with respect to the other two. But this was not their will. It is true that perhaps one should

consider that the Committee intention was to place four candidates, since no one could be excluded (one of them is the son of Gentile). Clearly this was an encouragement for the Committee to pursue such bold procedure. This was accepted by the Minister, a great honor for Ettore, and also for the name of our family, what is noteworthy.”

Clearly, the uncle Quirino, a well established scientist, feels with some concern that Ettore is overrunning him in the academic *gotha*, but after all he is happy because the honor bestowed to Ettore extends to the whole Family. The superior interests of the Family are a very well sensed issue, which surely has great relevance also on the history of the disappearance.

In any case, after the Minister direct appointment, Ettore Majorana assumes his duty in Naples, and gives lectures regularly, until he disappears at the end of March 1938, under still mysterious circumstances.

It is only on December 6, 1938, almost nine months after the disappearance, that the Minister issues a new decree, where Majorana is declared as resigned from his office, starting from March 25, 1938. The motivation is apparently well founded, and takes into account that “Prof. Ettore Majorana, full professor of Theoretical Physics at the Royal University of Naples, went away from his office on March 25, 1938, without justified reasons”, and moreover that “notwithstanding the performed researches, no notice about him is available”.

The decree is not registered by the Court of Accounts [2], who raises objections. The Minister replies by giving further evidence that Majorana is really disappeared, in particular two newspaper clips.

A careful perusal of all decrees of the Court of Accounts, in the period December 1938 - September 1939, shows that the decree has been never approved.

Therefore, we have been always puzzled by the fact that the Minister announces the dismissal of Majorana in September 1939, in a situation where his decree, issued nine months before, has not been approved by the controlling Authority.

But clearly the Minister has good reasons for his behavior.

In fact, we have found new documents in the archives of the Society of Jesus, of the Department of Physics in Rome, of the Political Police, of the Vatican State Secretariat, of the Majorana Family in Catania, which show beyond any reasonable doubt that Ettore Majorana should be considered as deceased before September 1939.

The death is not directly related to the disappearance in March 1938, but intervenes more than a year later.

The purpose of this paper is to analyze these new documents, in the

proper historical perspective. A preliminary account, in Italian, can be found in [3]. These results give a new light to the main problem of reconstructing the scientific activity during the years 1933-1939.

The paper is organized as follows.

Section 2 is devoted to the foundation in 1939 of a Fellowship in the name of Ettore Majorana, on initiative of the Family, to the purpose of supporting missionaries of the Society of Jesus. The correspondence between Salvatore (1903-1972), the oldest brother of Ettore, and the Jesuit authorities is particularly impressive. Here, the decease is explicitly mentioned, and understood as the motivation for the foundation of the Fellowship, a common practice at the times, on occasion of losses in the family.

In Section 3, we deal with a reconstruction of some aspects of the research activities by the Police and the Vatican Authorities. We can exploit the Bulletin of Inquires, a reserved periodical issued by the Police Central Direction, and new documents found in the Central State Archive, in the Secret Vatican Archive, in the Archive of the Ministry of Exterior Affairs. The search for Majorana receives in the Bulletin a special treatment, well beyond any other missing person. The involvement of the Vatican State Secretariat is also intense, stimulated both by the Family, and by the Embassy of Italy at the Holy Siege. The efforts of the Central Police Direction produce a continuous flow of communication with the peripheral Organs, suddenly interrupted around April 1939.

Section 4 deals with an unpublished biographic profile of Ettore, written in Catania in 1940 by his uncle Giuseppe, the head of the enlarged Family, after the death of the Patriarch Salvatore. The final chapter of this profile is a real necrology, expressed in the typical rhetorical and highly emotional style of the time.

Finally, we devote Section 5 to some conclusion and outlook for future research, especially in connection with the full reconstruction of Majorana scientific activity.

2 The Fellowship for the Society of Jesus

Starting from 1915, the bimonthly journal *“Le Missioni della Compagnia di Gesù”* (“The Missions of the Society of Jesus”), with headquarters in Venice, is involved in a comprehensive and detailed exposition of the missionary activities developed by the Society all over the World.

While browsing this journal, one meets a sensational discovery. In fact, in page 447 of the issue of November 3, 1939 (fig. 1), there is a short insert (fig. 2, 2bis), under the title “IL PENSIERO MIGLIORE” (“THE BEST

THOUGHT”), with the following announcement: “ A Fellowship has been founded, for the education of a missionary, to the name of the disappeared ETTORE MAJORANA, who will be participating to all spiritual advantages connected with this foundation. The sum (20.000 Lire), while the capital is left intact, will be the way to give successively new redeemers to the unfaithful people”.

We spend a few words to make clear the meaning of the announcement.

In all journal issues, on an appositely dedicated page, it is explained what a Fellowship (“Borsa di studio”) is, and what are the advantages of the founder. So we learn that a Fellowship is some amount of money, whose financial interests are exploited to support a young Jesuit up to the priesthood. A capital of 20.000 Lire is requested, either in cash, or by the equivalent in financial assets.

The amount can be delivered all at once, or can be split in monthly or yearly rates. It is not necessary that a single person be the founder of the Fellowship, but there can be an agreement among many people. Moreover, it is possible to grant initially any amount, and let other people complete the requested sum.

The person who gives the whole amount is considered as the *Founder of the Fellowship*. There are many advantages for the *Founder*, as the power to give a name to the Fellowship, for example by dedicating it to the protecting Saint, or to some person, alive or dead. Moreover, the *Founder* participates, in life and death, to the Spiritual Treasury of more than *one hundred thirty two thousand* Holy Masses offered each year by the Company to its supporters, and to other advantages.

In the wisely adopted financial mechanism, the capital sum is kept intact, while the yearly interest, amounting to around one thousand Lire, continues to support new candidates. For this reason, the foundation of a Fellowship gives to the Church a “perpetual missionary”.

Starting from 1926, in all issues of the journal, there is a detailed record of the money offered to the various active Fellowships, under formation. Year after year, the active Fellowship are around ten, and share names usually of religious character, as Holy Trinity, Redemption, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Mater Boni Consilii, Mater Dolorosa, and similar.

The Fellowship to the name of Ettore Majorana enjoys exceptional features. In fact, it is the only case where the entire sum is provided just from the beginning. Moreover, he himself is considered as the *Founder*.

Let us recall that at the time the amount of 20.000 Lire is a considerable value. The monthly salary of a specialized industry worker is less than 1.000 Lire. The yearly stipend of a University professor is around 25.000 Lire.

It is really astonishing that Ettore Majorana is considered as the *Founder*

of the Fellowship entitled to his name.

Very significant light on this problem is given by the correspondence between the Family, in particular the oldest brother Salvatore, and the administration of the journal. Here, we limit ourselves to provide the content of a letter (fig. 3) written by Father Ettore Caselli S.I., head of the administration of the journal. The content of the letter is unequivocal. It is very disconcerting and surprising that this letter has never been mentioned before.

Written under letterhead of the Administration of the journal “Le Missioni” (“The Missions”), dated Venice September 22, 1939, and addressed to Mr Salvatore Majorana, Rome, the literal translation of the text is as follows:

To yours of yesterday, received with great gratitude. We sincerely admire your generous act on behalf of the mourned Ettore Majorana. Let the Lord prize your great faith and your holy affection for the beloved extinct. We can assure you that there is no difficulty to entitle the Fellowship to the name of Ettore Majorana, by considering him as the Founder, participating to all spiritual advantages connected with the foundation. With distinguished greetings

Father Ettore Caselli S.I.

A copy of this letter is kept at the Historical Archives of the Department of Physics of the University of Rome “La Sapienza” (Box: Materiale pervenuto).

The interpretation of the letter is very clear. The explicit expressions in Italian “*il compianto Ettore Majorana*”, “*il caro estinto*”, with their crude and precise meaning, “*the mourned Ettore Majorana*”, “*the beloved extinct*”, point to the fact that Ettore has to be considered as deceased by the time when the letters are written. The Family communicates the decision to finance a Fellowship, through the mentioned letter of the brother Salvatore, provided some conditions are met, in particular that Ettore should be considered as the Founder.

As we have seen above, the institution of the Fellowship, announced in the issue of November 3, 1939, follows precisely the promises made by Father Caselli.

The text of the announcement on the journal contains the word “disappeared”, which in principle has two meanings. However, in all occasions reported on the journal, the word “disappeared” means always “deceased”, as confirmed by the letter of Father Caselli.

Let us notice that the religious cultural frame, here involved, with its strict moral obligations, seems to exclude that the decease is due to suicide, either at the time of the disappearance, or later. In this case, there would have been no offering of support for a Fellowship, neither acceptance.

That there was no suicide on the occasion of the disappearance, is also confirmed by an intriguing letter (see [2], fig. 80) of Gilberto Bernardini (1906-1995), then a brilliant young physicist, to Giovanni Gentile jr (1906-1942), both close friends of Majorana, written few weeks after the disappearance. Let us recall the first sentences:

“Dear Giovanni – as you can imagine the news about Majorana has given to me a great pleasure. Perhaps it is not very beautiful, however it is not a so tragic thing as we were thinking, and we can be happy about that.”

It is clear that both G. Bernardini and G. Gentile are well aware of the destiny of their common friend Ettore. They are happy, because a “*tragic thing*” can be excluded, as for example suicide. It remains to understand why they add the remark: *perhaps it is not very beautiful*.

Let us end this Section with an obvious comment.

From the letter of Father Caselli, we know that Salvatore Majorana writes on September 21, 1939, about the intention of the Family to promote a Fellowship, by putting some conditions, immediately accepted.

By taking into account a reasonable delay between the decease and the foundation of the Fellowship, also for the need to collect a so large amount of money, it is of no surprise that the Minister announces officially the dismissal of Majorana in the Bulletin on September 1939, even if his decree has not been approved by the Court of Accounts. At the time, there is nobody who could appeal against the decree.

3 Police and Vatican inquires

It is also useful to consider the problem of the disappearance in the frame of the Police inquires.

We know [4] that the inquire starts at the highest level of the Central Police Direction in Rome, a branch of the Ministry of Inner Affairs, on the initiative of Oliviero Savini Nicci (1887-1955), very influential State Counselor, related to Ettore Majorana, as the husband of Elvira, sister of Fabio (1875-1934), the father of Ettore.

He meets the Head of the Police in Rome, in the morning of March 31, 1938, and leaves a detailed memorandum (see [2], fig. 78), which is at the basis of the first phase of inquire. A telegraphic circular letter is sent to all local Police commands (*Questure*) of the Kingdom, asking to localize Ettore Majorana, without letting him understand that he is searched after.

An automatic effect of the circular is that the name of Majorana is written into the *Rubrica di Frontiera* (Frontier List), a list of names, available to all

Police border stations, of people who should be identified if they attempt to cross the national borders. The name of Majorana is kept on the List, until April 22, 1939, when the Central Police Direction issues the order to cancel it.

The Police Central Direction in Rome is in constant and capillary contact with all peripheral Police offices, through the daily emission of a set of announcements and recommendations, arranged in ordered items for each year, forming the so called *Bollettino delle Ricerche* (Bulletin of Inquires). The Bulletin is strictly reserved and available only to Police authorities. Due to the times, most of the content of the Bulletin refers to problems of State security, but there are also numerous announcements referring to the search of people responsible of common crimes, of various gravity. A small fraction of announcements deals also with disappeared persons who should be found.

We have discovered that the case of Ettore Majorana plays a role of great continuous relevance on the Bulletin.

The first announcement comes from the Head of Naples Police (Questura di Napoli), dated April 25, 1938, (item 1997, fig. 4, 4bis), and reads as follows: “Having left Naples on March 25, 1938, bound to unknown destination, showing **suicide** purposes”. The attached picture, belonging to the Family collection, refers to many years before, and shows a very young Ettore.

Then there is a *crescendo* of announcements.

The next (items 2581-2590, fig. 5), dated June 10, 1938, comes from the Ministry of Inner Affairs (Police Direction). The picture is the same, but there is no reference left to the suicide purposes. All peripheral Police offices are ordered to intensify the research to find him. It is also said that the Family is willing to grant a prize of thirty thousand Lire. For the first time, in order to help the researches, it is revealed that Majorana has a long **cicatrice** (scar) on the hand. Of dubious value is the amusing communication that the missing Majorana has a serious expression on his face. It is important to remark that a great relevance is given to this announcement. In fact it is preceded by some special signaling at the very beginning of the daily Bulletin (item 2581).

Still from the Police Direction, only a month after, with date July 7, 1938, there is next announcement (items 2939-2949, fig. 6), with the customary initial signaling. Now the given picture is more recent, and is the same as that appearing on the matriculation sheet as a Professor (see [2], fig. 74). Quite surprisingly, an impressive additional scar is revealed. It is on the leg, sutured by more than forty surgical stitches.

Next announcement (items 4494-4507, fig. 7), dated November 5, 1938, is similar to the previous one. However, it is signed by the Ministry of Inner Affairs, without mentioning the Police Direction. This could be a sign that

the research on the missing Majorana has been shifted to the superior level of the Minister.

The last announcement is dated March 23, 1939, (items 866-882, fig. 8), around one year from the disappearance. It is analogous to the previous two, and is still signed as Ministry of Inner Affairs.

Among all missing persons to be found, the case of Ettore Majorana appears to be treated with a very special care. It is only for him that a series of announcements appear in a regular long cadence. Only for him, the announcements are reinforced by special signaling at the beginning of the Bulletin.

It is important also to notice the regular continuous increase of the hierarchical level of the Authority signing the announcement. First the Head of Naples Police, then the Central Police Direction, finally the Ministry of Inner Affairs. The regularity of the announcements would suggest a reiteration in the Fall of 1939. But there are none, after the last of March.

The scar on the leg, of considerable magnitude, has never been revealed in all numerous publications on the life of Ettore Majorana, even though it is reported in three issues of the Bulletin.

Recently, we have located in the Central State Archive an unknown reserved folder on Majorana, belonging to the Special Secretariat of the Head of the Police.

Clearly, this folder should have contained all information gathered during the long inquire, put at the disposal of the highest Police Authority.

Unfortunately, the present content of the folder is quite meager, showing that most of the documents have been misplaced, and are still unknown. Here, we find only a circular letter of the Head of the Police (Arturo Bocchini (1880-1940)), addressed to all local Police Heads (*Questori*) of the Kingdom, dated June 17, 1938. The text is as follows:

Re: Prof. Majorana Ettore - inquires

With reference to the announcements included into the Bulletin of Inquires - items 1997 and 2581 of the current year - relative to the disappearance of Prof. Majorana Ettore, son of Fabio, Your Authorities are kindly asked to arrange that the inquires should be given the highest possible impulse.

The possibility has been put forward that the missing is residing in some private rest home, for the reason that he had shown symptoms of nervous illness, due to excessive mental application.

It is the first time that an official Police document makes mention of

a possible nervous illness for Majorana. It is not difficult to understand that the source of this information comes directly from the Family, who has been completely unaware of the peculiar character of the scientific activity of Majorana as a Theoretical Physicist, a very recent and largely misunderstood profession. This is also confirmed by the naive motivation for the illness: excessive mental application.

On October 31, 1938, there is an official intervention of the Government on the Vatican Authorities. In fact the Embassy of Italy at the Vatican State, stimulated by the Ministry of External Affairs, writes that some enquires are necessary toward religious Institutions, since the Family has communicated evidence of contacts of the disappeared with some convents in Naples area.

The reply of the Vatican Authorities is prompt and exhaustive. In a letter of November 16, 1938, they say that the State Secretariat has taken great interest on the problem of the disappearance of Prof. Ettore Majorana, by letting the official Vatican newspaper "*L'Osservatore Romano*" publish three announcements, in short time intervals (June 6, June 19, July 3). Moreover, the Sacred Religious Congregation had been ordered to facilitate all enquires, promoted by the Family, at the religious Institutions under its control. If the researches, "*come si ama sperare*" (as it is loved to hope), will get some results, then the Embassy will be immediately informed.

There is no further correspondence on the subject with the Embassy. However, the Vatican archives keep important additional information. In fact, in a letter of March 1940, the State Secretariat sends to the Family words of consolation and communicates that there is no practical utility in continuing the research. In fact, the Vatican Authorities had already organized direct visits in all convents of Naples, and the surrounding region, moreover enquires had been directed toward the convents of the three franciscan Orders of Central and Southern Italy, and the Provincial of North Italy. It is also reported that announcements had been published on the journal "*L'Osservatore Romano*", regretfully without any result.

Therefore, contrary to what it has been sometime stated, the collaboration of the Vatican Authorities is prompt and exhaustive, albeit without results, both in regard to the Embassy and the Family.

In conclusion, from all existing documents, it seems that the Police enquires are well extended up to around March 1939, when the Bulletin publishes the last announcement, and cease around next April, when the name of Majorana is cancelled from the Frontier List. The indirect suggestion, not a proof for sure, points to the indication that in the meantime the disappeared has been found.

In this context, let us report about a kind of gossip, found in a *post scriptum* of a letter of Quirino from Bologna to Giuseppe in Catania (Majorana

Fund, Box 186).

“P.S. Here the rumor spread out that Ettore was finally found: in Sicily, in happy company. It was a doctor in Medicine, here for the State examination, to disseminate such fantastic news. Is there anything similar told in Catania?”

The letter is dated March 14, 1939, a sensitive period, as we have noticed. We ignore the origin of this gossip, and whether there is any foundation for it. In any case, it is an indication that up to that time no tragedy is felt as involved in the disappearance.

4 The biography of Ettore, written by his uncle Giuseppe

The Majorana Fund, kept in Catania (Sicily), at the Regional University Library *Giambattista Caruso*, is an invaluable source of information on the Majorana Family, in general, but also on the life and disappearance of Ettore Majorana.

The preserved material is gigantic, amounting to more than one hundred thousand documents, not all completely classified in a complete catalog.

Among the numerous documents concerning Ettore Majorana, we would like to report on a short unpublished biographic sketch written by the uncle Giuseppe, about the life and the disappearance of Ettore, ending in a touching necrology.

Giuseppe, as the first son, is considered as the Head of the enlarged Family, after the death of the Patriarch Salvatore. One important concern for him is to keep track of the history of the Family. In particular, he writes about the life of his brother, the fifth son of the Patriarch, Fabio, father of Ettore, who dies prematurely in July 1934, after a devastating illness.

Moreover, we can find, among his notes, a kind of biographic sketch of the nephew Ettore, written in 1940 (Box 218), including important new information about the disappearance. Here, for our purposes, we limit ourselves to report about the final chapter 12, through a literal English translation of the highly emotional and rhetoric original Italian text. After having recalled a presumed letter of Enrico Fermi to Benito Mussolini (1883-1945), written in July 1938 in order to stimulate the Police enquires, Giuseppe concludes as follows:

“ 12. - A salute and an expectation.

It is left to us to associate ourselves to so authoritative voices, auguries, and wishes, that are the same as those of the ruling classes and of the Country, in the present moment and scientific awakening.

But after 31 months of impenetrable silence, what should we think? That Ettore Majorana, the brave and happy boy or man of 31 years, is simply an entity in the Afterworld, from where to nobody is given to come back, and vanished, being destroyed, in that aggregate of molecules and atoms object of his studies? Or, more likely, does not he live in the Hades as a power textured by effulgent light, expression of his elect mind and studies, which should have given so much glory to the family and the fellow citizens, and let so much hope rise about him? But another brave Young Man and Fellow Citizen and Great Sicilian disappeared, and we must bend to the tragedy, by taking part, for what it is possible and we can not escape, to the incommensurable deep sorrow of the mother and brothers. Oh mostly happy father, you who did reach before him the gates of the Other Abode.

*Catania October 22, 1940 - XVIII
GIUSEPPE MAJORANA”*

The ending of this transparent necrology is very significant. Fabio is considered an happy Father because he passes away before the Son, Ettore, and so he is spared the terrible sorrow.

5 Conclusion and outlook

As we have seen, the new documents here presented, in particular those concerning the foundation of the missionary fellowship, without any doubt, point to the evidence that Ettore Majorana should be considered as deceased before September 1939. Some additional investigation is necessary in order to find the reasons of the disappearance at the end of March 1938, and the cause of the decease, more or less one year later. These results are very relevant for the important task to reconstruct the scientific activity after the return from Leipzig in 1933, and hopefully to locate possible missing documents and manuscripts, in that they give a definite upper bound for the corresponding period in the form (1933-1939). These problems will be considered in a subsequent paper.

References

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Figure captions.

- 1. Front page of the Journal “Missions”, November 3, 1939.
- 2. The page with the announcement. 2bis. The announcement.
- 3. Letter of Father Caselli.
- 4. Item 1997 in the Bulletin. 4bis. Sample pages of the Bulletin (May 5-6, 1938).
- 5. Items 2581-2590.
- 6. Items 2939-2949.
- 7. Items 4494-4507.
- 8. Items 886-882 (year 1939).



fig. 1. Front page of the Journal "Missions", November 3, 1939.

gli Angeli del Missionario

LABORATORIO MISSIONARIO CENTRALE DI VENEZIA

OFFERTE PERVENUTE

N. N. a mezzo Sig. Prosdocimo, 500; Magdali Tessier, 200; A. M. a mezzo Sig. Prosdocimo, 50; Rosa Vidal, 10; Ada Beccari, 20; Co. Lusser, 50; Loy Adalgisa, 100; Rina Piemonte, 15; Battistin Giuseppina in onore di S. Antonio, 20; Dr. Ulisse Cav. Canziani, 30; Alcune persone di S. Giobbe, 20; Luigi Cappellin in morte Sig. Tivan, 25; Laura Taboga in morte Sig. Penzo, 25; Bianca Boccassini in morte di Suor Stanislaa Zezi, 25; Bastasi Emilia, 150; Famiglia Cardazzo, 30; Sorelle Costantini, 6; Giovanna Muneratto, 50; Clelia Boselli, 23,50; In morte della Sig. Pia Piemonte la famiglia, 50; Bice D'Arman, 15.

OGGETTI DONATI

Angelina Meneghel, tovaglia completa per altare - Bruscaignin Anna, pizzi per tovaglie - Barovier Frisca, pizzi per purificatori - Taboga Elena, un pacco di rocchetti - Co. Maria Lusser, oggetti vari ed indumenti - De Nat Anna, sottana seta nera e biancheria - Scabbia Angelina, pizzo per tovaglia - Fabris Rina, vestito di viluto - Maria Serrano Saunbo, sete di vari colori - Alba Locatelli, scampoli per vestiti - D'Arman Bice, lana per gollotti - Maria Insom, copri-pisidi, borse per viatico e Olio Santo, una bellissima lampada - Laura Antico, merli per tovaglie e vestifini - Moda Rosetta, dipinto S. Teresa del Bambino Gesù - Borsatto Lucia, biancheria - Superiore sordo-muti, Roma, un camice con grande pizzo all'uncinetto - De Biasi Maria, indumenti di seta.

OFFERTE DEI PICCOLI ZELATORI

Fratelli Traldi, 13,70; Ravetta Guido, 4,20; Mazuccato Filippo, 10; Bohm Maria, 2; Fratelli Me-

negazzi, 8,50; Vizzardelli Vittorio, 5; Poli Paola, 7,35; Luca Vilma, 2,45; Bisconcin Valeria, 6,49; Gobbatto Mary e Onorio, 9,75; Rossetto Giorgio, 15; Fratelli Azin, 11,80; Guadagnini Loredana, 18,80; Volpato Silvio, 41,50; Vianello Luciano, 2,05; Michelon Milena, 4,40; Vianello Sandro, 3,20; Muneratto Franca, 5,90; De Biasi Giovanni, 12,35; Fuga Gianna, 7,15; Sarpellon Maria Lucia, 9,90; Fratelli Da Prat, 15; Adami Anna, 25,55; Maso Amalia, 12,80; Piacentini Annita, 8,65; Battistin Mario, 39,50; Bevilacqua Gian Luigi, 10,50; Candiani Antonietta, 15; Pianaro Enrico, 20,30; Prior Giorgio, 2,65; Prior Vittorio, 2,70; Rovati Mario, 1,40; Sorelle Fusaro, 15,20; Pontello Giorgio, 10; Castraberti Sergio, 4,90; Bianchini Giuseppe, 6,20; Seno Angelo, 9,78; De Biasi Vittorio, 14,95; De Biasi Luigino, 11,30; Vivenzi Mario, 60,20; Cavallari Anna, 3,60; Vianello Giovanni, 4; Dal Gesso Luciano, 2,85; Bevilacqua Franco, 10,15; Rossi Claudio, 13,55; Rossi Primo, 39,05; Rossi Giuliano, 8,20; Rossi Pierantonio, 34,45; Seno Gigetta, 7,15; Classe III Fosso, 19,40; Colovini Giovanni, 4,80; Barzani Rita, 5,75; Fasano Luigi, 11,85; Fasano Maria, 10,55; Socol Silvana, 20; Morucchio Emo e Giorgio, 50,50; Morucchio Marcela, 30,20; Castraberti Marisa, 4,35; Fr.lli Nardin, 26,75; Boccassini Franco, 7,20; Boccassini Giorgetta, 8,25; Venchierutti Luciana e Lina, 20,50; Ravetta Ugo, 4,55; Diana Elide, 6,50; Moretti Lanfranco, 9,30; Miotto Mario, 12,30; Marone Luigina, 2,10; Ripetizione Alberi, 3,85; Taria Franco, 12,05; Vizzardelli Maria, 4,75; Schepis Mario, 14,65; Nordio Mario, 9,75; Gioacchin Vittorio, 10,55; Lezzari Roberto e Liliana, 3,75; Veneziani Maria, 6,40; Dall'Alba Ada e Voltolina Maria, 15,15; Fratelli Bruscaignin, 15; Rottigni Teresa, 24; Manfrin Giorgio, 5,35; Classe Moniego, 8.

IL PENSIERO MIGLIORE

E' stata fondata una Borsa di studio per l'educazione di un missionario al nome dello scomparso **ETTORE MAJORANA**, che sarà partecipe di tutti i vantaggi spirituali inerenti a tale fondazione. La somma (L. 20.000) restando intatto il capitale, diverrà il mezzo per dare successivamente nuovi salvatori agli infedeli.

CENTRI MISSIONARI — Per informazioni riguardanti le Missioni dei Gesuiti Italiani, i lettori si possono rivolgere a qualsiasi Casa o Collegio della Compagnia di Gesù. Vi sono però delle sedi che in modo particolare hanno lo scopo di lavorare per determinate Missioni.

Per la Missione della Grecia e fra i Santal dell'India: *Procura delle Missioni: Rettoria di Casa Professa* — Palermo 117.

Per la Missione del Ceylon (Galle): *Procura della Missione - Via S. Sebastiano, 48* — Napoli 173.

Per la Missione della Cina (Pengpu): *Procura della Missione - Piazza del Gesù* — Roma 117.

Per la Missione della Cina (Pengpu): *Procura della Missione - Via Barbaroux, 30* — Torino 103.

Per la Missione dell'India (Mangalore - Calicut - Bangalore): *Procura della Missione - Corso Porta Nuova, 7* — Milano 112.

Per la Missione dell'Albania e per tutte le altre Missioni: *«Le Missioni», Fondamenta Nuove 4885* — Venezia 119.

fig. 2. The page with the announcement.

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Per la Missione del Ceylon (Galle): *Procura della Missione - Via S. Sebastiano, 43* — Napoli 173.

Per la Missione della Cina (Pengpu): *Procura della Missione - Piazza del Gesù* — Roma 117.

Per la Missione della Cina (Pengpu): *Procura della Missione - Via Barbaroux, 30* — Torino 108.

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Per la Missione dell'Albania e per tutte le altre Missioni: *«Le Missioni», Fondamenta Nuove 4885* — Venezia 119.

fig. 2bis. The announcement.



Venezia, 22 / 9 / 39
Telefono 24-192

AMMINISTRAZIONE



Sig. Salvatore Majorana
Roma

A graditissima V. Piero...
ammiriamo sinceramente il
V. atto generoso per il compianto
Ettore Majorana. Il Signore premi
la V. grande fede ed il vostro san-
to affetto per il caro estinto.

Possiamo assicurarvi che non vi
è nessuna difficoltà per l'intentaria-
re della Borsa di Studio al nome
di Ettore Majorana, considerandolo
come il fondatore e rendendolo par-
tecipe di tutti i vantaggi spirituali
connessi alla stessa fondazione.

Con Distinti onori,

LE MISSIONI D. C. D. G.

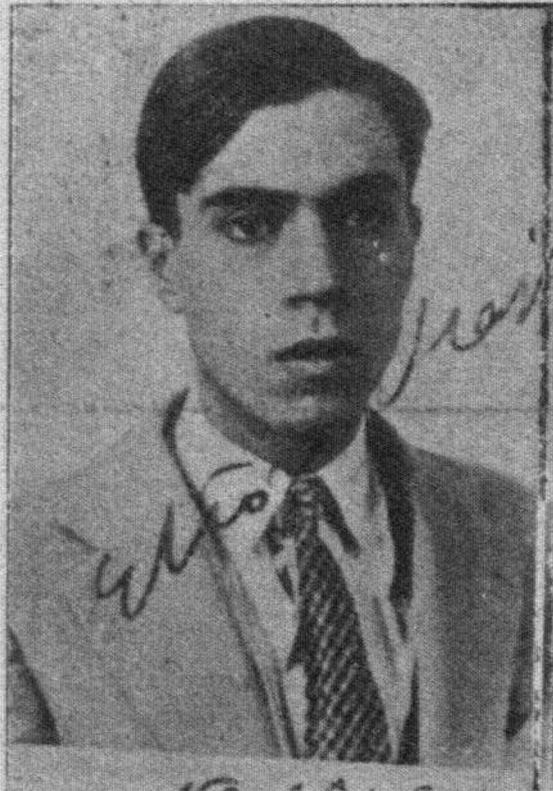
Pietro Caselli

fig. 3. Letter of Father Caselli.

1997

MAIORANA Ettore di Fabio, nato 5. 8. 906 a Catania, residente a Napoli, ordinario Università di Napoli.

Allontanatosi da Napoli il 25. 3. 938 per ignota direzione, manifestando propositi **suicidio**.



Connotati: - statura alta, corporatura piccola, capelli neri lisci, occhi marroni, viso lungo. Vestiva abito e soprabito marrone-scuro.

Questore Napoli, 25. 4. 938.

fig. 4. Item 1997 in the Bulletin.

SCOMPARI

1993
LUBRANO LAVADERA Bartolomeo fu Biagio, nato 14. 3. 901 a Procida, ivi domiciliato.
Falle avviso 90. 4. 938 Ospedale Psichiatrico A versa.



Connotati: - statura alta, bruno roseo, capelli castani folli, occhi castani, naso rettilineo rialzato, testa larga, fronte bassa, viso lungo, zigomi sporgenti, mento alto, orecchie strette, cicatrici e tatuaggi.
Questore Napoli, 15. 4. 938.

1994
LAVADERA Bartolomeo fu Biagio.
Vedi scheda N. 1993 anno 938 sotto LUBRANO LAVADERA Bartolomeo fu Biagio.
Questore Napoli, 15. 4. 938

1995
BELELLI Abramo di Giuseppe, nato 14. 5. 913 a San Martino in Rio, residente a Gattulico, ex guardia giurata.
Allontanatosi dal tetto coniugale il 11. 2. 938, abbandonando moglie ed una figlia di mesi 9, senza dare notizie di sé.
Connotati: - statura bassa, pallido, capelli neri, occhi castani, naso concavo, testa piccola, fronte stretta, viso tonfo, zigomi appiattiti, mento stretto, orecchie piccole, accento reggiano.
Questore Reggio Emilia, 27. 4. 938.

1996

SIRIANO Giuseppe fu Gabriele, di anni 54, nato a Sovريا Menelli (Cosenza), residente a Ponticelli (Napoli).



Allontanatosi dal tetto coniugale il 3. 3. 938 portando seco lire 19.000 senza dare più notizie di sé.
Connotati: - statura media, bruno, capelli brizzolati, occhi castani, dentatura giusta, mancante due incisivi.
Questore Napoli, 28. 4. 938.

1997

MAIORANA Ettore di Fabio, nato 5. 8. 906 a Catania, residente a Napoli, ordinario Università di Napoli.
Allontanatosi da Napoli il 25. 3. 938 per ignota direzione, manifestando propositi suicidio.



Connotati: - statura alta, corporatura piccola, capelli neri lisci, occhi marroni, viso lungo. Vestivo abito e soprabito marrone-scuro.
Questore Napoli, 25. 4. 938.



Bollettino delle Ricerche

MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLA PUBBLICA SICUREZZA
DIVISIONE POLIZIA - SEZ. I^a

CATTURANDI

1998
CANCELLERIN Luigi fu Giulio, nato 2. 12. 97 all'Arezzo, residente a Grosseto, iraceinate.
Colpo mandato cattura Giudice Istruttore Grosseto per furto aggravato.
Questore Grosseto, 4. 5. 938.

1999
CASORIA Sebastiano di Luigi, nato 9. 12. 36 a Resina, residente a Napoli, istruttore.
Trasgressore alla libertà vigilata.



Connotati: - statura media, bruno pallido, capelli castani, calvizie fronto-parieto-occipitale, occhi ardesiaci, naso rettilineo, testa lunga, fronte rettilinea, zigomi sporgenti, mento alto, orecchie piccole, cicatrice mandibola destra.
Questore Napoli, 24. 4. 938.

2000
SPATOLA Gaetano di Francesco, nato 7. 9. 911 a Ragusa Ibla, residente a Modica Alta, venditore ambulante di carta e penne.
Colpo mandato cattura 20. 1. 938 Giudice Istruttore Callianissetta per rapina e violenza carnale.
Connotati: - statura media, bruno, capelli neri, occhi castani, naso rettilineo.
Questore Callianissetta, 23. 4. 938.

2001
ABATI Mario di Augusto, nato 26. 1. 909 a Rezzo di Cento, ivi domiciliato, contadino.
Condannato 7. 4. 938 Tribunale Bologna a 9 anni reclusione e L. 4500 di multa per vari furti.
Connotati: - statura alta, adiposità poca, roseo, capelli e occhi castani, testa piccola, viso lungo.
Vedi schede N. 2094 e 2081 anno 937.
Questore Ferrara, 27. 4. 938.

2002

VISCA Ettore fu Francesco, nato 1. 3. 99 ad Aquila, residente a Napoli, rappresentante.
Colpo mandato cattura 4. 4. 938 Giudice Istruttore Napoli per appropriazione indebita.



Connotati: - statura bassa, bruno, capelli neri ricciuti, corporatura grossa, occhi marroni piccoli, naso rettilineo, testa e orecchie piccole, fronte rettilinea, viso tonfo, mento piccolo.
Questore Napoli, 26. 4. 938.

2003

AINO Salvatore fu Giuseppe, nato 12. 7. 90 a Napoli, ivi domiciliato, calzolaio.
Trasgressore alla libertà vigilata.



Connotati: - statura media, bruno pallido, corporatura piccola, adiposità poca, calvizie temporale, calvizie fronto-parieto-occipitale, occhi castani, naso rettilineo, testa corta, fronte alta, viso stretto, zigomi sporgenti, mento alto, orecchie larghe, andatura zoppicante.
Questore Napoli, 25. 4. 938.

fig. 4bis. Sample pages of the Bulletin (May 5-6, 1938).

2581

AVVISO

Con richiamo alla schedina N. 1997 del Bollettino corrente anno - concernente la scomparsa del Prof. MAIORANA Ettore di Fabio, s'interessano gli Uffici e Comandi ad intensificare le indagini per il di lui rintraccio, avvertendo che la famiglia ha promesso un premio di lire trentamila.



Si comunica la fotografia dello scomparso e si completano i di lui connotati: - statura 1.68, corporatura snella, colorito bianco, occhi scuri, capelli nerissimi, **cicatrice** lunga sul dorso di una mano, espressione seria.

SCOMPARI

2590

MAIORANA Ettore di Fabio.
Vedi notizie all'Avviso N. 2581 anno 938.
Ministero Interni (D. P.), 10. 6. 938.

fig. 5. Items 2581-2590.

2939

AVVISO

A complemento delle precedenti inserzioni di cui ai N. 1997 e 2581 del Bollettino Ricerche corrente anno, concernenti la scomparsa del Prof. Ettore MAJORANA, si comunica una di lui recentissima fotografia, soggiungendo che il medesimo, oltre la



cicatrice sul dorso della mano, ne porta altra su una caviglia, suturata con oltre quaranta punti chirurgici.

SCOMPARI

2949

MAJORANA Ettore di Fabio.
Vedi notizie all'Avviso N. 2939 anno 938.
Ministero Interni (D. P.), 7. 7. 938.

fig. 6. Items 2939-2949.

AVVISO

4494

Con richiamo ai precedenti Avvisi N. 1997 - 2581 - 2939 del Bollettino Ricerche corrente anno, si ripete l'inserzione della fotografia più recente dello scomparso Prof. Ettore MAIORANA, perchè ne sia-



no, col massimo impegno, continuate le ricerche. Si ricorda che il medesimo oltre la **cicatrice** sul dorso della mano, ne porta altra su una coscia, suturata con oltre quaranta punti chirurgici.

4507

MAIORANA Ettore di Fabio.
Vedi notizie e fotografia all'Avviso N. 4494 anno 938.
Ministero Interni, 5. 11. 938.

fig. 7. Items 4494-4507.

866

AVVISO

Con richiamo ai precedenti Avvisi N. 1997 - 2581 - 2939 e 4494 del Bollettino Ricerche 1938 si ripete l'inserzione della fotografia più recente dello scomparso Prof. Ettore MAIORANA, perchè ne siano,



col massimo impegno, continuate le ricerche. Si ricorda che il medesimo oltre la **cicatrice** sul dorso della mano, ne porta altra su una coscia, suturata con oltre quaranta punti chirurgici.

SCOMPARI

882

MAIORANA Ettore di Fabio.
Vedi notizie all'Avviso N. 866 anno 939.
Ministero Interni, 23. 3. 939.

fig. 8. Items 866-882 (year 1939).