



**PW I 47287**

47287. 2/LT NAVA, Luigi. Surveyor.

24.10.44. Employer: E McCARTHY, South Merbein.

Engineers. Civil: Surveyor. Fascist but well behaved. Wishes to settle in Australia. Knows a good dealing about farming and is a gardener here. Should do well.

30.11.44 Employer considers him a very good worker but has been influenced by Guiducci's laments.

12.12.44 Ceased employment E McCARTHY

13.12.44 Commenced W, GRAHAM, Bonnie Cliffs via Boronga

12. 2.45. Very well spoken of by both employers. Has been happy with the latter. English poor.

NAVA Luigi

47287

2/Lieut

A

Known by sight to S/Sgt ANDERSON

PHOTO CHECKED

26.4.43 Letter written by **TONIZZO** TPO refers to friendship between them. Has not been noticed.

Works on officers' voluntary garden party outside the compound.

18.3.44 Remained in fascist cpd when the camp was divided on political grounds as he refused to sign a declaration of loyalty to his King.

23.10.44 Transferred to MILDURA PWCC.V20. Accompanying note. "Engineers. Civil - surveyor. Fascist but well behaved. Wishes to settle in Australia. Knows a good deal about farming and is a gardener here. Should do well."

24.10.44 Employer: McCARTHY Edwin, SOUTH MERBEIN

12/12/44 Transferred to Graham Bonny's Cliffs.

14.2.45. PWCC closed down. Returned to camp. Record fair.

12/10/45 Transferred to PWCC V20 YEA with SCATTONE and TONNINA to K.D. McALPIN, Fort William, via Seymour.

12.1.46 Ceased work with " " 14 .1. 46 Rejoined A Cpd

AUGUST 1944: NOTES: 31 year old officer of the Engineers with 4 years service prior to capture at Tobruk on 22 Jan 41. He is a surveyor in civil life. Since coming to this camp he has never come under unfavorable notice and has always been well behaved. Politically, he is an intransigent fascist and when the division of camps was made he elected to stay in the fascist camp. He has made statements that he would like to settle in Australia after the war. His particular friend is Lt GOVONI.

0103298

DATE OF EMBARKATION:

26 December 1946

SHIP .....

T. S. "ORMONDE"

DESTINATION:

ITALY

NAVA

K.D. McAlpin

O.C. (5)

S CATTONE

NAVA

TONNINA

26 Oct 45

→

These three, though working on a different property, share the same quarters. SCATTONE is the Cook.

DO NOT WRITE BETWEEN THE LINES.  
NICHT ZWISCHEN DIE ZEILEN SCHREIBEN!  
NON SCRIVETE TRA LE RIGHE!

Al Comandante del centro P.O.W.C.C.

Il sottoscritto. Stan. Norderburg  
P.O.W. N. 47.282. Chiedo di rientrare  
al campo.

Firmato  
Stan. Norderburg

29-12-1945

DO NOT WRITE HERE  
NICHT HIER SCHREIBEN  
VIETATO SCRIVERE QUI

### SERVICE OF PRISONERS OF WAR

THIS PAGE MUST BE USED FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY  
DIESE SEITE DARF NUR FUER DIE ADRESSE BENUTZT WERDEN  
QUI SI SCRIVE SOLO L'INDIRIZZO

Name and Surname } *Al Comandante del centro*  
Vor-und Zuname }  
Nome e Cognome }  
  
Street } *P.O.W.C.C.*  
Strasse }  
Strada }  
  
Suburb }  
Stadtteil }  
Sobborgo }  
  
City }  
Stadt }  
Città }  
  
Country }  
Land }  
Paese }

Name and Surname } *George Jones*  
Vor-und Zuname }  
Nome e Cognome }  
  
Number } *42288*  
Gefangenen-nummer }  
Numero dell'Internato }  
  
Rank } *Sgt.*  
Rang }  
Grado }  
  
Camp } *5-A*  
Lager-bezeichnung }  
Campo }  
  
State } *Wiltford (Victoria)*  
Stato (Landesteil) }  
AUSTRALIA }  
  
Sender }  
Absender }  
Mittente }



12 FEB 1945

PWCC REPORTS

NAVA

Very well spoken of by both employers. Has been happy with the latter. English poor.

✓  
 Io. NAVA Luigi.....47287  
 Prigioniero di guerra No. 47287  
 avendo richiesto occupazione  
 remunerativa in industria  
 campestre, convengo volontaria-  
 mente che, soggetto sempre alla  
 supervisione delle Autorita'  
 Militare Australiane con  
 rispetto al mio grado come  
 ufficiale, eseguire tale lavoro  
 in industria campestre che puo  
 essere domandato da me dal  
 principale con cui saro'  
 assegnato. Di piu convengo  
 volontariamente di essere  
 sottomesso alle condiziona,  
 restrizioni e la scala di  
 pagamento che viene applicata  
 ad un soldato prigioniero di  
 guerra occupato in un impiego tale.

..... *Sten Nava Luigi* .....  
 (Firma del prigioniero di guerra)

Testimonio: *J.M. Murphy Lieut* .....  
 Date 24 / 10 / 44

I. NAVA Luigi.....47287  
 Prisoner of war No. 47287  
 having requested remunerative  
 occupation in rural industry  
 voluntarily agree that, subject  
 always to the supervision by the  
 Australian Military Authorities  
 having regard to my status as an  
 officer, I will perform such  
 work in rural industry as may be  
 required of me by the employer  
 to whom I am allotted. I further  
 voluntarily agree to be bound  
 by the conditions, restrictions  
 and rates of working pay applic-  
 able to a private soldier pris-  
 oner of war engaged in similar  
 employment.

..... *Sten Nava Luigi* .....  
 (Signature of Prisoner of War)

Witness: *J.M. Murphy Lieut* .....  
 Date 24 / 10 / 44



TRANSLATION

FROM PWI 47282 2/Lieut Luigi NAVA, A Compound  
TO Camp Commandant, No.5 PW Camp, Myrtleford, Vic.  
1 May 45

Sir,

The decision concerning the picture show of the 30 Apr 45 taken by our Compound Leader, was personal and did not reflect in any way the will or the desire of the undersigned. I bring to your notice that, on his appointment as Cpd Leader, Col FAGA' publicly declared that the Compound would never take up a political attitude. With his behaviour of the 30 Apr concerning the abolition of the picture show, Col FAGA' has broken his promise to us. I take this opportunity to point out that the undersigned has never participated and will not participate at any political manifestation, it being contrary to the line of conduct previously laid down for himself.

(sgd.) 2/Lieut Luigi NAVA

Mystleford. 1-5-1945.

Al Comando Australiano del campo  
prigionieri di guerra italiani.

La decisione del 30 Aprile riguardante lo spettacolo  
cinematografico presa dal nostro Camp. Leader, è  
stata personale e non rispecchia in nessuna ma-  
niera la volontà, o il desiderio del sottoscritto.

Si fa presente che all'assunzione della sua qualifi-  
ca di Camp. Leader, il Colonnello Faggi dichiarò  
pubblicamente che il campo non avrebbe preso  
nessun atteggiamento politico.

Con l'atteggiamento del 30 Aprile riguardo l'abo-  
lizione dello spettacolo cinematografico, il Colo-  
nello Faggi è tenuto meno alle sue promesse  
fatteci.

Con la presente intendo chiarire che il sottoscritto  
non si mai partecipato e non parteciperà  
a nessuna manifestazione politica, essendo  
contrario alla sua linea di condotta precedentemen-  
te assunta.

Firmato

Italo. Nervo Luigi

Al Comando Australiano

Del Campo prigionieri di guerra

Myrtleford

P.W. No. 47282 NAME..... *Sten Nels Larsen*

A COMPOUND

No. 5 P.W. GROUP MYRTLEFORD AUSTRALIA



2 / **NAVA**  
NAVA 2/Lt (PWCC V20) to MARCHI 2/Lt (PWCC V20) - 29 Jan 45

Even now and again we approached the farmer who continuously said that he had engaged us especially for that job. Over and above this monotonous and laborious work he showed an offensive attitude towards us, and then there were so many little things that it would fill an exercise book to jot same down. To conclude, all these things added together brought the two to the highest pitch so that various indispositions accumulated in significance to them.

NOTE: This extract is a reply to an inquiry by MARCHI as to the reason why his former companions (GUIDUCCI & GOVONI) were returned to the Compound.

The job referred to is "draining" which requires the digging of channels, about 4' feet in depth, between rows of vines. The 3 PW at present engaged on this block have NOT complained about this work.

GERACI 2/Lt- to 2/Lt NAVA, A Compound 26 May 45  
51vii What are the mystics saying about the conduct of your Lombard countrymen- they will certainly consider them savages and traitors.

NAVA 2/Lt- to 2/Lt GERACI, PWCC V21 8 Jun 45  
52vii With regard to the mystics- up to the last minute they tried to tell lies but after the feats of my Lombard countrymen, they had to shut their mouths; now they have become lambs.

NAVA 2/Lt- from brother, NOVARA 25 Sep 45  
77viii Perhaps you asked yourself what I have been doing between the 8 Sep 43 and Apr 44 but it is only now that fascism is dead and I can tell you all about it. It would have been dangerous to do so before. During those 7 months I was in hiding because I would not sign up with the fascist government, and I was afraid of being deported to Germany.. Last week mum and Aurelio went to PAVIA to meet Capt PIZZOCARO to hear your news. We learned from him that you are well, in good health and also about your adventures during these long years of captivity. According to what he explained to us I would advise you to follow his advice and imitate his conduct, separating yourself from the mentality of certain friends of yours from VERONA and the south.

(NOTE:- "friends of VERONA and the South": 2/Lt RIGON, and SCATTONE with whom he associated. )

NAVA 2/Lt- to brother, NOVARA 28 Nov 45  
87viii In reply to the information given to you by Capt PIZZOCARO I want to assure you that I never cared a bit for fascism or for any party. During these 5 years of captivity I always acted as a PW and that was that. (REF:- p 77, viii)

NAVA 2/Lt- to mother, MORTARA (Pavia) 17 Jun 46  
56ix I am longing for my return home- the reasons being, among other things, not to hear any more the usual talk of the Fascist bosses. For me they are nothing but dry leaves which blow about with the wind. In other words; they were Fascists yesterday and today they are Communists or socialists and anti-Catholics. All this because Fascism fed them yesterday and now they try to get a feed out of the Communists.

NAVA

13 JUL 43

Me These days I am brushing up my Topography, together with my friends.

NAVA

25 AUG 43

I would like to hint at an idea of mine; I didn't venture to mention it to you up to date....To settle in Australia after the wwar.

NAVA 2/Lt

1 Jan 44 - believes will be here 1/1/45.

NAVA 2/Lt- to mother, MORTARA (Pavia)

15 Aug 44

Unfortunately, once again I had the occasion to see that even the Vatican sends messages only to those to whom they want to; I will keep this too in mind for the future.

NAVA 2/Lt- to parents, MORTARA (Pavia)

28 Aug 44

61 I am always worried about Carlo. I hope he is still near home; it is with great pleasure that I think of the day he was admitted to the new corps.

NAVA 2/Lt- to 2/Lt GERACI, B Compound, No 5 Camp. 7 Nov 44

45v

V20

First of all, I would like to describe our trip. Let it be said at once that, from the Australian Command, we received excellent treatment. From what I am going to describe to you you will see yourself how well we have been treated.

We went from the camp to the station by MT and Col CHISHOLM came to the station to farewell us. Having arrived at WANGARATTA we stopped there for half an hour to change trains; I cannot describe what an impression it made on me to see, after so long, the characteristic movement of civilian life. At a station between WANGARATTA and MELBOURNE we received a marvellous carton lunch. On arrival at MELBOURNE we were taken by MT to a camp where we stopped until 1900 hrs. - about 50 yards from us there was a women's camp. I had a chance of seeing the great traffic of the station and portion of the city, I can only say that I seemed to live again. Prior to leaving MELBOURNE we had our tea, then we went by MT to the station. An hour before arriving at MILDURA we received a carton breakfast. Half an hour before reaching MILDURA we began to pass through vineyards. (I shall continue later).  
Regards to BENTIVENGA.

NAVA, 2/Lieut, to 2/Lieut GERACI, B Cpd,

15 Nov 44

56v

V20

I hope my first letter has arrived so I think I'd better continue my description. As I said, from Mildura Station we were taken in M/T to the PWCC and so we had the chance of seeing the town... The place is well settled, about every 500 yds there is a house, blocks average 30-60 acres; all vineyards... The farmer is a bachelor about 48 yrs old, so we have to cook for ourselves; we have a kitchen, bedroom, sleep out and bath. Having to cook is most inconvenient for us and a great worry. Next time I shall tell you about the work. Regards to you and BENTIVENGA.

NAVA 2/Lt- to 2/Lt GERACI, B Compound

29 Dec 44

8vi

V20

As you will already know from GUIDUCCI I am now with SANGUINETTI and SOCINI... In my new place I have nothing to complain about as regards either work or quarters... The farm we are on (about 100 acres) cultivates carrots for seed. Our work consists in weeding and irrigating. The work is not heavy and is pleasant.

GUIDUCCI 2/Lieut to 2/Lieut NAVA PWCC V20 26 Jan 45

41vi

My wife writes me that my town has been destroyed - all the houses burned....she does not tell me how this occurred but seeing that the war has not yet arrived there, you too, can easily imagine what could have been the reason. I suppose it was an act of reprisal.



47287. 2/Lt NAVA, Luigi - EXTRACTS OF CORRESPONDENCE

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V20 SANGUINETTI and SOGINI... In my new place I have  
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carrots for seed. Our work consists in weeding and  
irrigating. The work is not heavy and is pleasant.

MARCHI 2/Lt. (V20) - to 2/Lt. NAVA (V20). 19 Jan 45

Of course at the beginning it wasn't all a bed of roses, someone  
mentioned that we were going out too often, but never mind, now  
we do not go out any more. As a recompense we lead a life as  
members of the family without concerning ourselves too much about  
others.

NAVA 2/Lt (PWCC V20) to MARCHI 2/Lt (PWCC V20) - 29 Jan 45

Every now and again we approached the farmer who continuously said  
that he had engaged us especially for that job. Over and above  
this monotonous and laborious work he showed an offensive attitude  
towards us, and then there were so many little things that it  
would fill an exercise book to jot same down. To conclude, all  
these things added together brought the two to the highest pitch so  
that various indispositions accumulated in significance to them.  
NOTE: This extract is a reply to an inquiry by MARCHI as to the  
reason why his former companions (GUIDUCCI & GOVONI) were returned  
to the Compound.

The job referred to is "draining" which requires the  
digging of channels, about 4' feet in depth, between rows of vines.  
The 3 PW at present engaged on this block have NOT complained about  
this work.

(2) 25 Oct 44 GUIDUCCI GOVONI & NAVA

Bachelor - good employer. Quarters quite good except there is no stove. Bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, sleepout. Contented and quite happy.

(Page 4) 31 Oct 44. GUIDUCCI, GOVONI & NAVA.

Both parties remarked that either could not be more satisfied. Mr. McCarthy speaks in laudatory terms about their work, initiative etc.

(6) 8 Nov 44 GUIDUCCI, GOVONI & NAVA

From this visit there was nothing new to report.

(7) 21 Nov 44 GUIDUCCI GOVONI & NAVA

Requesting that they be returned to Compound, each PW was asked detailed to write out a separate application. It is believed that Guiducci's constant complaints has spread dissatisfaction to not only Govoni and Nava but also to Napoli. It appears that he is not only capable of working but also has a willingness. Mr McCarthy complaining strongly about Guiducci confirms that Govoni though not constitutionally strong was willing to do his best. Nava is less anxious to return to Compound and expressed a wish to be transferred to another block, with another PW owing to his inability to speak English and where it was not required to cook for themselves. The employer much regrets losing Nava as he considers him a very good worker and one who never complained. Meal arrangements did influence the PW but it is considered that the complaint about the work is unjustified, and that the employer studied their welfare as much as can be expected. Nava writes to Geraci, B Compound. Regards to Bentivenga.

(9) 6 Dec 44 NAVA

V20

At the employer's (E. McCarthy) request Nava was at the same time as Govoni taken to Dr MacMillan. He has a little influenza but it is believed that with some rest he will soon be better.

GRAHAM

(10) 12 Dec 44 NAVA

V20

With the departure of Guiducci and Govoni, it was decided to remove Nava from E. McCarthy to W. Graham, joining Sanguinetti and Socini, a vacancy existing there for some time. All three PW were advised of pending transfer and unanimously agreed.

(10) 13 Dec 44 SANGUINETTI SOCINI & NAVA

V20

Sanguinetti and Socini share a hut containing six bedroom and dining room with fire-stove and ice chest. Employer has given these PW the option of removing their beds to a large room (at present occupied only by Nava) adjoining a nearby house. It would enable them to use the vacated section as a sitting room.

Sanguinetti is Cook. Nava is now normal in health.

(NOTE: Socini's previous employer, Mr Forsyth, had made some complaints about his work. Mr Graham states that he works very well, and it is clear that PW will require to work on this block as most of the property is being cleared.)

(12) 15 Dec 44 SANGUINETTI SOCINI & NAVA

V20

All three PW are much happier than at former places of employment. Mr Graham speaks highly of their work.

14 SANGUINETTI SOCINI & NAVA (2 Jan 45)

V20

PW were in very bright spirits. They have just occupied a recently and comfortable house with two bedrooms, dining room, kitchen and bathroom (porcelain bath). SOCINI believed these quarters had been given to them as employer had observed that they are prepared to work. Employer often eats with them.

It was apparent that SANGUINETTI and NAVA were suffering with eye trouble and they were advised they would be taken to the doctor next week.

2

16 11 Jan 45 SANGUINETTI NAVA  
V20

The above, suffering with conjunctivitis, were taken to Dr MacMillan, treated, and returned to their quarters. NAVA confirmed the belief that GOVONI, though willing, was incapable of manual work whereas GUIDUCCI, though also incapable was NOT so willing

17 22 Jan 45 SANGUINETTI SOCINI & NAVA  
V20

It was noticed that Sanguinetti's and Nava's eyes still appeared sore but they say they are quite alright. Occasionally these PW are required to do shift work but in no way are they troubled.

NAVA Very well spoken of by both employers. Has been happy with the latter. English poor.

21 Novembre 1944

Al Commandante del Centro Controllo P.O.W.  
MILDURA

Il sottoscritto S.Ten Nava Luigi N. 47287 impiegato presso il Sig.T.McCarethy, ha constatato di non essere idoneo per i lavori a cui e' stato adibito, essendosi detti lavori dimostrati troppo pesanti e dannosi al proprio fisico. Chiede percio' di essere trasferito presso altra fattoria, dove vi sia da non farsi la cucina e lavori meno duri. In caso contrario chiede di essere inviato al campo.

Firmato

S.Ten Nava Luigi

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TRANSLATION

21 Nov 44

To the Officer Commanding P.O.W. Control Centre  
MILDURA

The undersigned 2/Lt NAVA Luigi N. 47287 employed by Mr. T. McCarthy has reached the conclusion that he is unable to cope with the duties allotted to him, as ~~he~~ this work has proved too heavy and detrimental to his health. Therefore he requests to be transferred to another block, where it is not required to fend for oneself, and where the work is less arduous. Alternatively he wishes to be ~~tra~~ returned to Camp.

Signed

2/Lt Nava Luigi

*Decided to transfer him to J Graham, 12 Dec 44*