

# ZODIAC, MOSTRO DI FIRENZE

By Francesco Amicone

NOVEMBER 5, 2021 BY FRANCESCO AMICONE

## Joe Bevilacqua, a documented biography



[Psychiatric expertise on Amicone – 2024 \(excerpts\)](#)

[Download](#)

This biographical article on Joe Bevilacqua, born Joseph alias Giuseppe (1935 – 2022), originates from pieces of information on his life I received from him, several of which were noted during our talks/interviews in 2017.

The facts here reported are partly corroborated by official records obtained during my **journalistic investigation** into Zodiac-Monster connection of Florence and made public.

At the bottom of the post you can download the **responses** to my FOIA requests on Bevilacqua, with records relevant to his **career**, and a **press review** dedicated to him.

For years I have forwarded this and other documentation to the Florence DA's Office, which in 2018 opened an investigation into Bevilacqua following a denunciation I made for his admission of guilt in the Monster and Zodiac crimes (dismissed in 2021).

I also sent it to the competent authorities for the Zodiac case, before transmitting his genetic profile in 2023.

Although I give a brief summary in chapter 4, I delve into the topic of Bevilacqua's **undercover** operations at this link.

**LINKS TO MAIN NEWS ARTICLES (2018 – 2021) – TRANSLATION**

[Misdirection and mistakes \(Libero, 2021\)](#)

[The American lead \(Libero, 2021\)](#)

[The magazine \(tempi.it, 2020\)](#)

[The admission of "Ulysses" \(il Giornale, 2018\)](#)

[Zodiac-Monster connection \(tempi.it, 2018\)](#)

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## INTRODUCTION ON MY RELIABILITY

On March 1, 2018, I stated to the Carabinieri (Italian gendarmes) that Bevilacqua **admitted** to being responsible of the Zodiac and Monster's murders **in a phone conversation on September 12, 2017** (I backdated it to 11 due to an oversight). He would have turn himself in, but he changed idea.

I did not recorded the discussion for an ethical and professional reason.

Although one of Bevilacqua's daughters has publicly stated the opposite, in 2017 the Italian-American was in good health and showed **no signs of neurodegenerative diseases**. Indeed, he seemed to have a **sharp mind**. This last fact is **confirmed by his wife Meri Torelli** in a [hearing](#) of my defamation trial in 2023.

TESTE (TORELLI MERI) - Nel '17 quanti anni aveva? Aveva 82 – 83, è di dicembre.

GIUDICE (DOTT.SSA CANNATA') – Era una persona... Diciamo, stava bene, era lucida?

TESTE (TORELLI MERI) - **Si sì sì, è sempre stato lucido, dopo... Si sì, è sempre stato lucido mio marito.**

*Testimony of Bevilacqua's wife at my trial on October 12, 2023*

The admission of guilt followed a few [interviews](#) in person between me and Bevilacqua. Their existence was then confirmed by a [phone records analysis](#) by the Florence ROS Carabinieri in 2018.

According to Carabinieri's [analysis](#), I went to Bevilacqua's house **seven times between May 26 and August 10, 2017**. Most of the interviews lasted **three/four hours circa. Two, the shorter one**. They **focused first on his life**, then **on the Zodiac and Monster cases**.

**Both Bevilacqua and his wife Meri** ([transcription](#) of her testimony at my trial) **confirmed that the cases of the two serial killers were subjects of the interviews**.

It was also established that on 28 July, we moved to Falciani, as I tell in an account handed over to the Carabinieri and on Il Giornale in 2018.

When I disclosed Bevilacqua's admission, at the end of May 2018, **he publicly denied it in a statement** transmitted by his lawyer to the press and in a lawsuit for criminal defamation, without refuting other facts I wrote in the newspapers, though, and confirming the 2017 interviews.

**Bevilacqua was never heard on the admission by the police or a magistrate.** His official denials countersigned by him were **written by his lawyer Elena Benucci.**

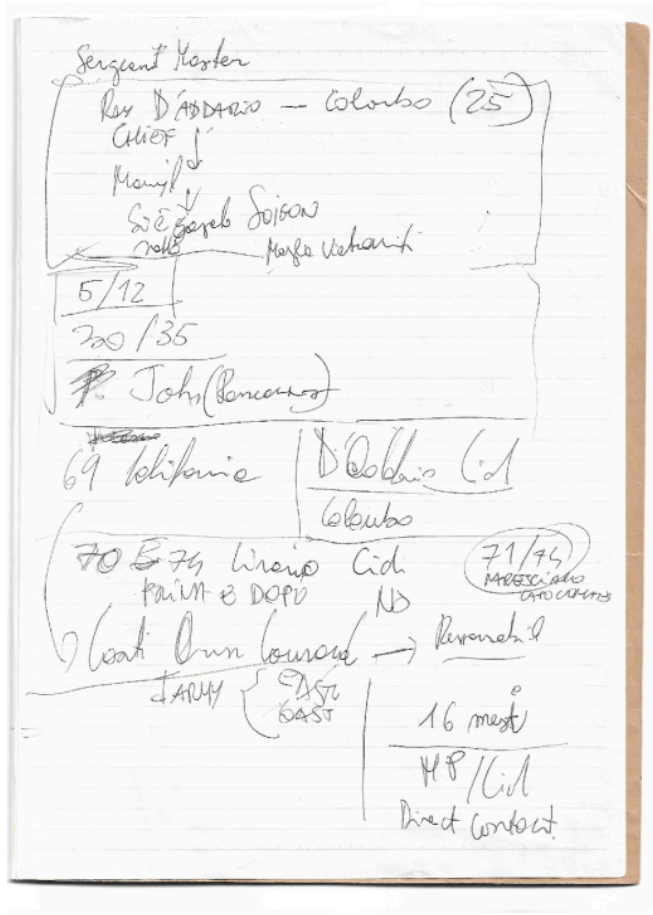
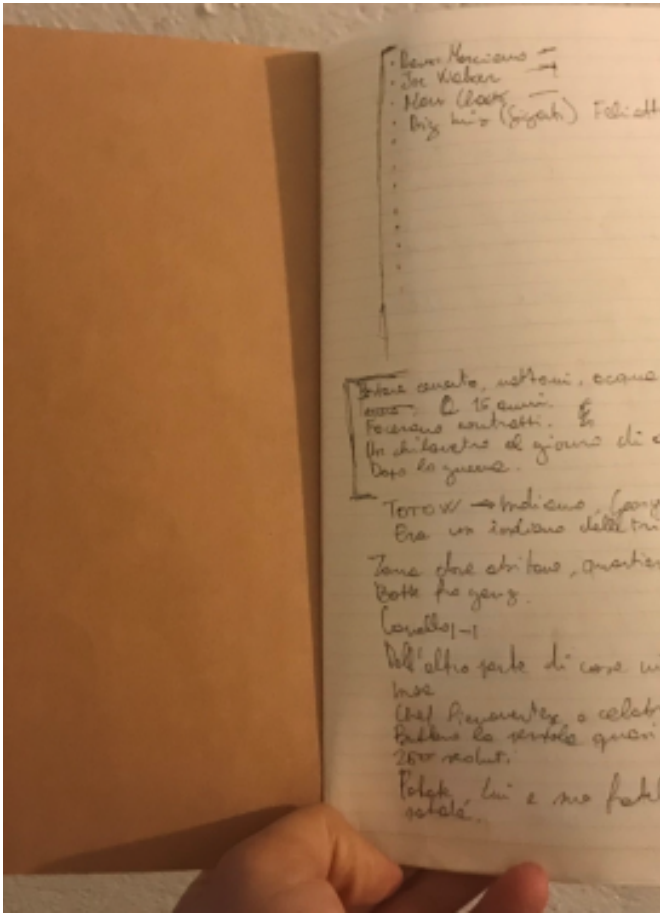
However, in his **lawsuit**, Bevilacqua **falsely stated** that my notes had been taken **on loose sheets** of paper and **not in a notebook** (which he had obviously seen), probably with the intention of making the investigators believe that I had made false notes.

A questo si aggiunga che Amicone non aveva mai voluto mostrare all'esponente (nonostante sollecitato in tal senso) il contenuto degli appunti presi in occasione degli incontri avuti nel tempo con lo stesso e che, cosa ancor più strana, erano stati **trascritti su piccoli foglietti di carta anziché su un normale taccuino o quaderno.** Quest'ultima circostanza, unitamente alla prima sopra descritta, aveva indotto nello scrivente il sospetto che Amicone intendesse scrivere su di lui una storia avente un contenuto del tutto diverso (certamente inimmaginabile!) da quello indicatogli al momento in cui gli si era presentato, oltretutto apportando evidenti forzature, se non palesi difformità rispetto al narrato.

*The false statement on my notes in Bevilacqua's lawsuit*

My notes examined by forensic psychologists of the **RaCIS Carabinieri** 2018 (report in Italian), compared with the documentation obtained subsequently, demonstrate that I reported **real names** of people, colleagues of Bevilacqua, **true facts** that were **not in the public domain**, some of which were **not even reported** in his official records – for example, his undercover activities for the Army CID.

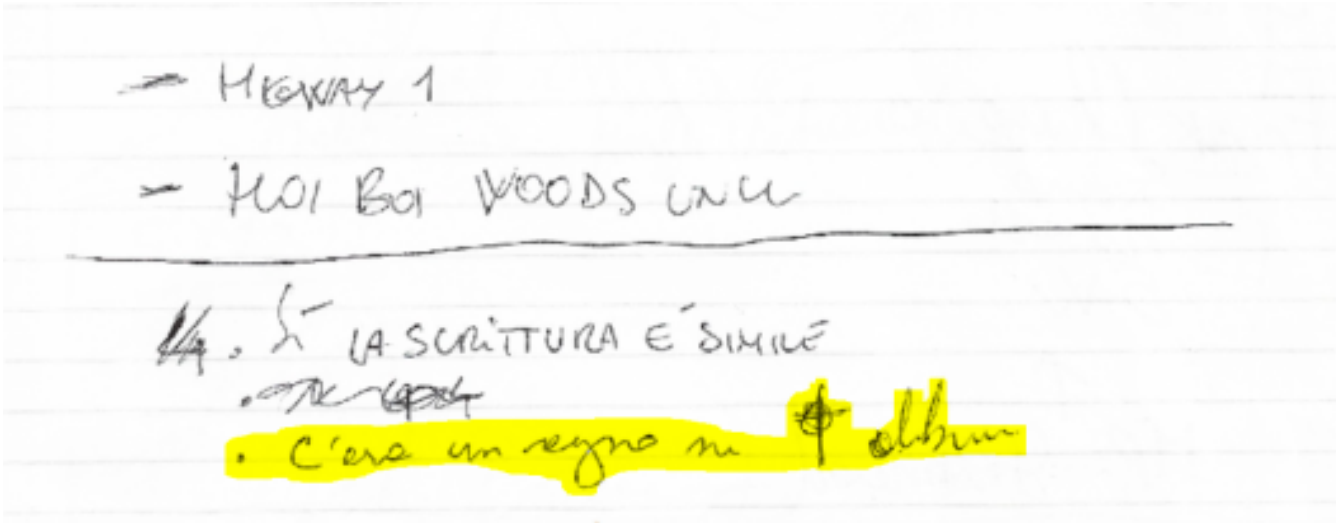
The notes contain true and valuable information that proved to be very useful during the subsequent research activity. I have gradually attached them to the supplements to my **denunciation**, over the years, and I have also **shared** them with the US law enforcement agencies.



Click to enlarge. On the left, first page of the notes examined by the Carabinieri in 2018. Right below, one of the references to his undercover activities for the Army CID

Considering it **counterproductive** to take notes while we were **discussing the Monster and Zodiac**, there are no direct references on these issues in my notes, apart from a note on the presence of a **Celtic cross** on a '60s photo album shown to me by Bevilacqua.

In any case, despite giving false information to law enforcement and judicial authorities, both Bevilacqua and his wife **Meri Torelli** (transcript of her testimony at my trial)) confirmed that Zodiac and the Monster were the subjects of our conversations.



Bevilacqua knew of my real interest in him even before we started discussing Zodiac and the Monster. He once brought me a photo album of his with a Celtic cross drawn on the title page

**The complete phone records** entered into the Bevilacqua case file by the Carabinieri in 2023 **confirm the existence** of the phone calls between me and the Italian-American of 12 September 12, 2017, the **“admission call”** I had backdated in my statements by one day due to an oversight.

In their analysis of five years earlier, however, **the Carabinieri “missed” these phone calls** that are not mentioned in the investigative notes by the then Florence ROS co, **colonel Giuseppe Colizzi**. A subsequent expertise in my defense found their presence in the records.

*affiancati in quanto avevano entrambi la caratteristica di colpire coppie appartate, l'Amicone rispondeva che era riuscito ad avere una confessione dal Bevilacqua durante una conversazione telefonica tenuta con il predetto in data 11/09/2017, che però non aveva registrato.*

*Note from the judicial police of the Florence DA's Office on an informal meeting on 16 April 2018. I backdated the admission by one day due to an oversight. The fact that it had not been recorded had to remain secret*

**I did not secretly record** the “admission call”, even though Italian law allowed it. The reason was **ethical-professional**. I had made a commitment not to disclose information received from Bevilacqua without his consent.

During the phone conversation, after telling me that he had not turned himself in **“not to get others into trouble”** (his family members), Bevilacqua and I discussed the fact that he should turn himself in.

The American asked me twice if he should bring **“the gun”**, referring to the weapon with which the Monster shot couples in Florence between '74 and '85.

The admission was **heard by his wife Meri**, who denied it in court.

Immediately after that, Bevilacqua contacted a **criminal lawyer I knew** who had been advised by me to help him turn himself in.

**The next day**, Bevilacqua decided not to. We have not spoken since then.

After waiting in vain for him to turn himself in, and some informal reports to the DA's Office and the police, I reported Bevilacqua's admission at the Lecco Carabinieri office on March 1, 2018.



### DETTAGLIO TRAFFICO TELEFONICO ENTRANTE/USCENTE

ORGANO RICHIEDENTE : Procura Repubblica c/o Tribunale FIRENZE  
DESTINATARIO : luca turco  
DECRETO NUMERO : 000879/2018-45 DEL 04/06/2018  
PROGRESSIVO DRU FONIA FISSO : 2184151

INIZIO DATA	CONVERSAZIONE ORA	DURATA (SEC)	CHIAMANTE	OLO CTE	CHIAMATO	OLO CTO
-------------	-------------------	--------------	-----------	---------	----------	---------

12/09/2017	15:33:20	835	039		055	
12/09/2017	15:47:52	13	039	The "admission" call	055	
12/09/2017	15:48:36	197	039		055	
//	//	//	//		//	
12/09/2017	15:52:50	83	055		392	
12/09/2017	16:28:11	171	392	JB - attorney contacts	055	
13/09/2017	10:11:18	856	333	Last call	055	

Extract from Bevilacqua's home phone records. Calls dated 12-13 September 2017. The complete records were entered in the case file at my request only two years after the dismissal, in 2023

The Florence DA's Office and the judicial police ascertained the day after the actual start of their investigation that **Bevilacqua** had lied to the court at the Pacciani trial on the Monster homicides, obtaining **confirmation of my reliability**.

I had anticipated in the brief account of our meetings submitted to the **Carabinieri of Monza** on their request on **February 22, 2018**, that Bevilacqua had **lied** about his **knowledge of Pietro Pacciani**, the main suspect of the Monster case.

On April 16, **I delivered to the DA's Office an almost identical document** (the date of admission changes – in the first one I reported the correct one of September 12, 2017) **in which I reported the same information about Pacciani** (next image).

**""Do you want to break the Monster's balls?"**

Regarding the events linked to the Monster of Florence, on 28 July, **Bevilacqua told me that he knew Pietro Pacciani well**, and that **he had met him several times** in the woods **behind the Falciani cemetery** [TN the Florence American Cemetery]. He also knew Mario Vanni and Giancarlo Lotti..."

## "Vuoi rompere i coglioni al Mostro?"

Riguardo alle vicende legate al Mostro di Firenze, il 28 luglio, Bevilacqua mi disse che conosceva bene Pietro Pacciani, e che lo aveva più volte incontrato nel bosco dietro il cimitero dei Falciani. Conosceva anche Mario Vanni e Giancarlo Lotti, che definiva "il

3/5

16 April 2018. My account on the conversations with Bevilacqua

On May 30, 2018, Bevilacqua himself confirmed what I had previously reported about Pacciani, telling the Carabinieri that he had come across the "Vampa" several times near the cemetery, in contradiction with what he stated in '94, when he said to the court:

"No, I did not know who he was."

TESTE Bevilacqua: No, io non sapevo chi era.  
PUBBLICO MINISTERO: Lei non sapeva.  
TESTE Bevilacqua: No, no.  
PUBBLICO MINISTERO: Lei ha riconosciuto una foto e non sapeva chi era.  
TESTE Bevilacqua: Per foto solo.  
PUBBLICO MINISTERO: Oggi lei, in quest'aula, vede qualcuno che, sia pure con le sembianze di oggi, assomiglia a quella persona?  
TESTE Bevilacqua: Sì, sì.  
PUBBLICO MINISTERO: E chi è?  
TESTE Bevilacqua: Il signore là accanto all'Avvocato.  
PUBBLICO MINISTERO: Come mai crede di riconoscere...  
PRESIDENTE: Diamo atto che è il Pacciani, eh!

Pacciani ho avuto modo di  
la rete di recinzione  
ero Militare Americani  
gli Scoopeti. //

*Click to enlarge. Comparison between Bevilacqua's two versions of his knowledge of Pacciani dated 6 June 1994 and 30 May 2018. In 1994 he reiterated several times that he did not know who the accused was*

The officers in charge of the investigation in Florence decided to ignore Bevilacqua's false testimony and my reliability, making other mistakes.

Despite my reliability, Bevilacqua's false testimony, circumstantial evidence, and the legal possibility to do so, his home was not searched, the DA's Office did not take his DNA or contact and transmit his genetic profile to US law enforcement.

Bevilacqua's DNA was acquired in 2020 by Siena DA's Office, deputy attorney **Nicola Marini**.

In November 2023, thanks to an authorization from the Siense prosecutor, I managed to transmit the genetic profile of the Italian-American to the US authorities for defensive purpose in my defamation trial.

In data 12 settembre 2017, risultano esserci state tre telefonate fra le utenze intestate a Luigi Tommaso Amicone (039 [REDACTED]) e a Giuseppe Bevilacqua (utenza fissa 055 [REDACTED]). La più lunga è durata 14 minuti e 10 secondi. Allegato Nr. 01 (contiene 2 pagine)

Lo stesso giorno, successivamente ai contatti fra le utenze di Amicone e Bevilacqua, risultano esserci state due telefonate fra l'utenza (utenza fissa 055 [REDACTED]) di Bevilacqua Giuseppe e l'utenza mobile 392 [REDACTED] intestata a Francesco Moramarco. Allegato Nr. 02 (contiene 2 pagine)

Nelle stesse ore, si sono registrati molteplici contatti telefonici (vari SMS e telefonate) fra l'utenza mobile 392 [REDACTED] intestata a Francesco Moramarco e l'utenza mobile 333 [REDACTED] intestata a Francesco Amicone. Allegato Nr. 03 (contiene 6 pagine)

*Technical report (for my defense) on the phone records examined by the Carabinieri. The full document reporting the existence of the phone calls between me and Bevilacqua on September 12, 2017, is [available here](#)*

## 1. BIOGRAPHY IN BRIEF

Joseph aka Giuseppe Bevilacqua, **known as "Joe"**, was born into an Italian-American family in Totowa, New Jersey, on **December 20, 1935**. He died at the age of 87 in Sesto Fiorentino (Florence), on December 23, 2022. He is survived by his last wife, Meri Torelli, and three daughters.

### Job career

In '53, Bevilacqua attempts to enlist in the **Marine Corps** but is rejected because he is not yet of age.

In '54 he joins the **Army**, which he serves for 20 years, working for the **Army CID**, also carrying out undercover investigations in the last decade.

A **highly decorated** soldier with a tour of duty in Vietnam, after his honorable discharge in '74, Bevilacqua becomes an officer with the **American Battle Monuments Commission**, serving in Italy for 36 years.

### Involvement in the "Mostro di Firenze" case

In early '90s Bevilacqua contacts the Carabinieri to **"help"** the Italian police in the investigation on the **"Monster of Florence" case**, a span of homicides of couples occurred in the countryside of Tuscan capital **between '74 and '85** (linked to a '68 case), when he lived and worked in the crime area at the local American Cemetery.

In '94, Bevilacqua is called to testify at the Pacciani trial on the Monster case.

In his deposition of June 6, 1994, he claims he **spotted** the defendant at the edge of the **Scopeti woods**, in San Casciano Val di Pesa, **a few days before** the last definite double murder by the Monster.

He says **he did not know** who **Pacciani** was. He does not know him.

Bevilacqua also states that, in the same days, he saw Monster's **last victims** accamped in the spot where they would be killed, 300 yards away from the Florence American Cemetery.

c. **Mr. Joseph Bevilacqua reported for duty as Superintendent-Trainee on 1 July 1974 and served as such until 31 May 1975. On 1 June 1975, Mr. Bevilacqua was promoted to Assistant Superintendent.**

*75 ABMC annual report about first Bevilacqua's assignment to the Florence American Cemetery. The date falls within the 7 and a half months between Zodiac's disappearance and the definite beginning of Monster's crimes*

Bevilacqua retires in 2010 and goes to live in **Sesto Fiorentino**.

In 2017, we have talks regarding his life and the Monster and Zodiac cases, at his home and in Falciani, near the Florence American Cemetery. The existence of the meetings is confirmed by the subsequent ROS Carabinieri's analysis of the cell coverage of our phones.

Contrary to what he stated to the Court in the Pacciani trial in '94, **Bevilacqua tells me he knew Paccian**, as I report in an account on the talks given to the Florence DA's office on April 16, 2018.

On March 1, 2018, I report Bevilacqua to the police for an admission of guilt regarding the Monster and Zodiac Killer's crimes.

**I did not secretly record** the "admission call", even though Italian law allowed it. The reason was **ethical-professional**. I had given my word to Bevilacqua that I would not disclose information received from him without his consent.

He admitted after reading a stylized Zodiac's name cipher solution, discovered thanks to his indication and completed in the following years.

After I reported Bevilacqua's admission of guilt and the publication of my **first articles** on the Zodiac-Monster connection by tempi.it and Il Giornale, the ROS Carabinieri and the Florence DA's Office carry out **an investigation** committing various mistakes.

They **do not search** Bevilacqua's home, **nor collect** his DNA **nor contact** the US Department of Justice, even if they immediately obtains confirmation of his perjury at the Pacciani trial from the American himself.

Bevilacqua also confirm the content of the talks in our meetings, although he denied the admission.

In 2021, the case is **unlawfully and silently dismissed** by Florence assistant DA **Luca Turco** and his colleague magistrate **Gianluca Mancuso**, without citing my statements to the Carabinieri on Bevilacqua's admission of guilt and without notifying the offended parties.

In September 2022, I send the main results of my journalistic investigation on Bevilacqua and the Zodiac-Monster connection to the SFPD.

**Bevilacqua dies** of natural causes **on December 23, 2022**. He plays the role of "victim" in my defamation trial currently underway.

**Zodiac Killer** Mark tip as closed More Actions -

**Key Information**

Tipster Conversation

What / Subject  
Zodiac Killer

Where / Location  
San Francisco (1969) - Italy (1974-1985)

Details / Description  
Attached is a document for detectives in charge of the investigation.

Attachments

**Admin Details**

Status  
New

Source  
Web


Created  
09/22/2022 at 6:23AM EDT


Last Modified  
09/22/2022 at 6:33AM EDT

**Details**

Tip Alert Group  
**San Francisco Police Dept**

**Conversation**

 Anonymous  
Attached is a document for detectives in charge of the investigation.  
09/22/2022 at 6:23AM EDT

 Anonymous  
SFPD\_letter\_signed.pdf?x-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&x-Amz-  
[REDACTED]  
Here  
09/22/2022 at 6:33AM EDT

September 17, 2022  
Italy

To  
SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT - HOMICIDE DETAIL  
"ZODIAC KILLER" CASE - 111 pages.

This is Francesco Amicone, Italian independent journalist. I already informed [REDACTED] (Napa Sheriff's Department) and [REDACTED] (Vallejo Police) about the following facts.

In 2017, I met an 81-years man, an American citizen named Joseph Bevilacqua (Totowa, NJ, 12/20/1935), who had testified before a court in Florence, Italy, against the supposed "Monster of Florence" Pietro Pacciani in 1994. After some talks in 2017, Bevilacqua admitted to me his responsibility for Monster's span of crimes and, also, that of your "Zodiac" case. If you want to know something more, you may search my blog "ostellovolante".

In 2018, I filed a complaint against Bevilacqua and made public some of our talks. Italian authorities suddenly investigated me instead of him and I had not received any confirmation that they properly inform the Department of Justice about the case. I recently read the investigation records in the Bevilacqua file. Attached to this note are the interviews made by the Carabinieri (gendarmerie) in 2018 that can be of interest for you. Even if Bevilacqua told the Carabinieri a different story on his knowledge about Pacciani, Florence Assistant DA Luca Turco chose not to do research on him. Bevilacqua's interview is the only thing on him in the file. By the way, Siena Deputy DA Nicola Marini made Bevilacqua give the police his DNA for another case.

Bevilacqua is a former soldier (1954-1974) and ABMC employee in Italy (1974-2010). Son of Italians. Now he lives in Sesto Fiorentino, near Florence. He has an Italian wife (since 1984) and was married before. Three daughters (1965, 1970, 1982). One of them, Stella Celesta, works in the USA.

Luanne Forderwalt, mother of Bevilacqua's son in law, is from San Francisco. At the time of Stine's murder, her parents resided at 377, 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and she was attending the local state university. In the meanwhile, Bevilacqua was investigating into the "Military clubs and messes case" and the so called "Khaki Mafia" for the Army CID. Bevilacqua told me he has been both a cid and an undercover investigator from 1964 to 1974, even if his public official military file tells a partially different story. By the way, here is attached an email by his battalion commander in Vietnam who says Bevilacqua performed at least one undercover assignment, in 1968.

Bevilacqua told me he was working undercover (also) in California while formerly assigned at the Continental Army Command in 1969-1970. After years of research, I finally found three reports on cid's investigation on the Khaki Mafia conducted in San Francisco and the Bay Area during the Zodiac period which could have involved Bevilacqua. There is not Bevilacqua's name in those reports but he might have been interviewed by a Grand Jury in 1970 about the case that resulted in a trial in a federal court in Los Angeles.

Bevilacqua was conferred a Purple Heart because injured in Vietnam in November 1968. Bevilacqua did not tell me, but I think he might move in San Francisco from Saigon in December 1968 to have a check-up at the Letterman Hospital. I cannot know it for sure because I am not allowed to request his health records as any other record not releasable to the public.

One more thing. Raymond Elia D'Addario (also Daddario), one of Bevilacqua's cid fellow, moved to Santa Rosa, h5190 Montecito Avenue, just before the last known letter by Zodiac in 1974. D'Addario's relatives still live in the area.

If you think I am not a fool or an idiot, you may ask for Bevilacqua's handprints for a comparison with that print on Stine's cab. Bevilacqua's DNA should be within the Italian police database. I am sure he did not lick any stamp, by the way. Sorry for my poor English. Kindly regards,

Francesco Amicone [REDACTED]@gmail.com

Amicone Francesco  
22.09.2022  
11:31:42  
GMT+01:00

Click to enlarge. First page of the report I sent to the San Francisco police in 2022. It contained almost all the main results of my investigation, including excerpts from CID reports on the "Khaki Mafia"

### Bevilacqua's DNA profile transmitted to US Authorities

In 2020, Siena deputy DA Nicola Marini had Bevilacqua's DNA collected, with his consent, for the murder case of cab driver Alessandra Vanni occurred in Castellina in Chianti in '97.

Bevilacqua's DNA did not match with that obtained from the DNA under victim's nail nor the samples in the Monster case (which are not directly attributable to the killer).

In March 2022, Florentine prosecutor Turco denied the request made by my lawyers to transmit Bevilacqua's genetic profile to US law enforcement agencies.

So, in 2023, I ask and obtain a copy of the profile from prosecutor Marini to defend myself from the accusation brought forward by Florence DA's magistrates in my defamation criminal trial.

In November 2023, I transmit Bevilacqua's genetic profile to the US authorities in charge of the Zodiac case, which I have informed in vain for years.

In the following months, I send my decryptions of the Mt. Diablo Code, the Z408 final anagram, Zodiac's name cipher to the FBI.

OGGETTO: Verbale di consegna di copia del profilo genetico di Bevilacqua alias Joseph Bevilacqua, nato a Totowa (Stati Uniti) il 20/12/1935 deceduto il 23/12/2022 a Sesto Fiorentino.

Il giorno 06 novembre 2023 alle ore 13.15 in Siena presso gli uffici in intestazione innanzi al sottoscritto Agente di P.G. Ass. Capo Coordinatore Nicola LEONARDI è presente TRINCHIERI Daniele, identificato a mezzo PG, delegato dal signor Amicone Francesco al ritiro di copia del profilo genetico di Bevilacqua alias Joseph Bevilacqua, nato a Totowa (Stati Uniti) il 20/12/1935 deceduto il 23/12/2022 a Sesto Fiorentino.

Come da delega del PM dott. Nicola Marini, questo Agente di PG, procede alla consegna di copia cartacea a colori del profilo genetico di cui in oggetto, nonché a fornire copia in formato PDF dello stesso in apposito supporto USB messo a disposizione dal Trinchieri. Documentazione trasmessa a questo Ufficio dalla Direzione Centrale Anticrimine della Polizia di Stato, Servizio Polizia Scientifica, Terza Divisione.

Il Trinchieri Daniele firma il presente verbale per ricevuta di quanto sopra.



**Zodiac case. Man's DNA profile**

1 message

Fra <[redacted]>  
To: [redacted]@countyofnapa.org

7 November 2023 at 22:04

Good morning,

This is Francesco Amicone, Italian journalist.

I attached here a pdf with Joe Bevilacqua's genetic profile extracted by the Italian police for a case of murder occurred in Siena, Tuscany, in 1997 (no match).

Regards

4 attachments



JB Dna profile.pdf  
773K

Click to enlarge. On the left, the report of the Procura di Siena on the delivery of Bevilacqua's profile to my delegate Daniele Trinchieri. On the right, one of the emails I sent to the US authorities with the profile

**Photos**

In the gallery below, Bevilacqua as superintendent of the Sicily-Rome American Cemetery (1989 – 2010) is in the company of prominent public figures. From top left to right, presidents **Bill Clinton** and **George Bush Sr.**, vice president **Dick Cheney**.



Bevilacqua with two US presidents and a vice

Bevilacqua's **medals for valor** (proved to be authentic) can be glimpsed on his ABMC cemetery superintendent's uniform in the next picture with the then speaker of the House **Newt Gingrich**. A Soldier's Medal, two Bronze Stars with V device, and a **Silver Star**, the third honor for valor awarded by the US armed forces.



*Bevilacqua and Newt Gingrich*

### **Physical appearance**

As a young man, Bevilacqua resembled eyewitness descriptions of Zodiac.

Bevilacqua's military card shows his height in his youth, **68 inches, i.e. 5' and 8"**, approximately 1.73 m, like **Zodiac's height**, according to four **eyewitness accounts** in '69.

Bevilacqua also shares two other somatic characteristics with the serial killer: he too was **stocky** at the time, and he had a **prominent stomach** (also when elder), like Zodiac's, as noted by surviving victim **Bryan Hartnell**.



DATE OF BIRTH	WEIGHT	HEIGHT	HAIR COLOR	EYE COLOR
1935DEC20	190	68	BR	BR

DD FORM 2 (RETIRED) OCT 93 PROPERTY OF US GOVERNMENT  
OUSD(P&R) NOV 2002

*A copy of Bevilacqua's military id card (I narrowed the edges)*

The strange stocky man who was walking “bent forward” with a “shuffling lope”, “almost limping”, nearby Stine's cab soon after his murder, as **described** by officer **Donald Fouke**, accords with my personal experience of Bevilacqua's way of walking. The conflicting testimonies on the color of Zodiac's hair (light brown, dark, reddish) suggest that the serial killer dyed it or used wigs.

Bevilacqua has **dark brown hair** that has been bleaching since the '80s.



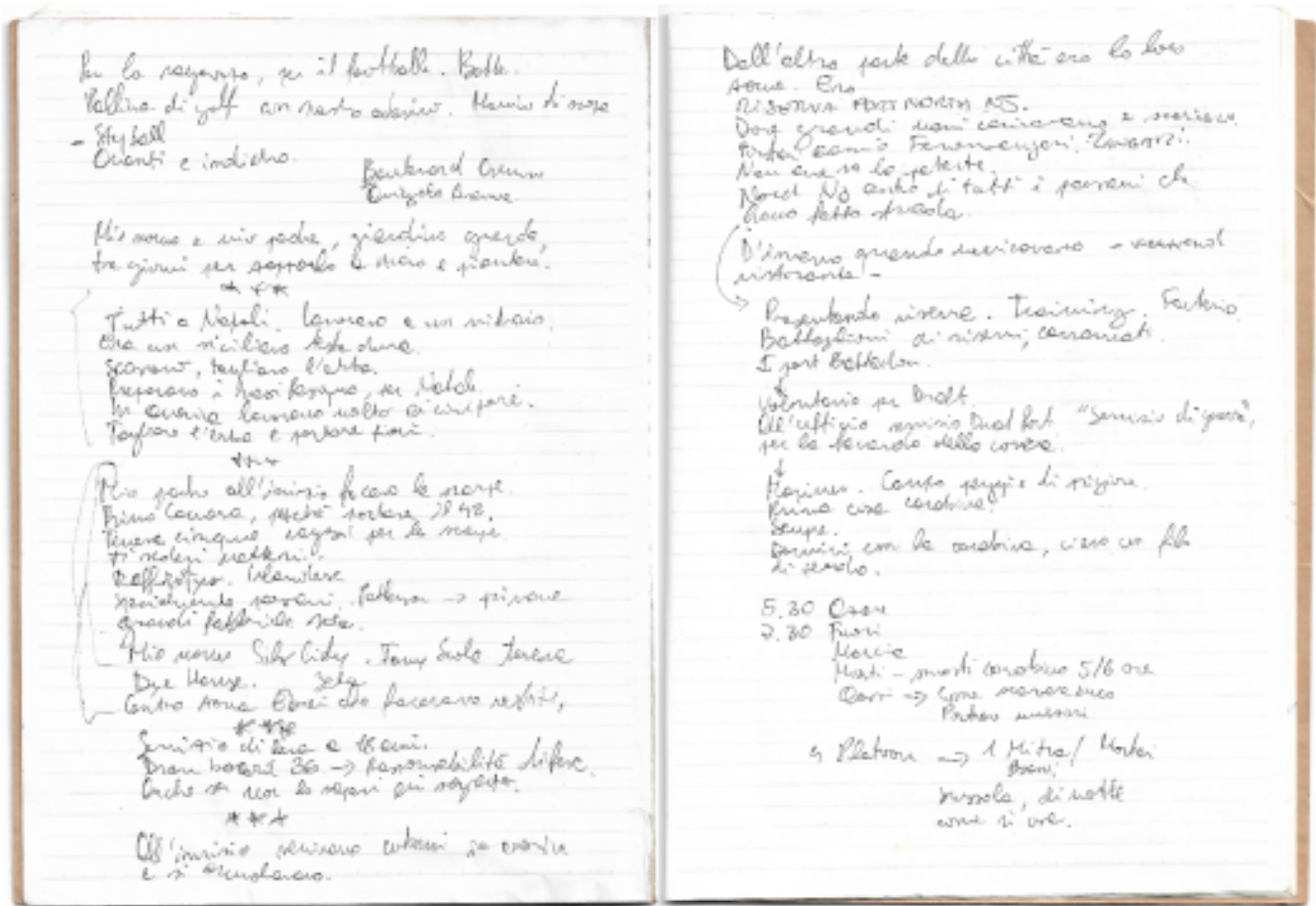
Click to enlarge. On the left, draft of the sketch of Zodiac with a "big stomach" as seen at Lake Berryessa. On the right, Bevilacqua in the 2000s – source: senator [Lucio Malan's website](#)

## 2. PRIVATE LIFE

Joe Bevilacqua is the eldest son of **Michael Bevilacqua**, a shoemaker, and **Celeste Zaccaro**, a housewife. He has three brothers, **Anthony, Michael, Patsy**, and a sister, **Irene**.

**In my notes** examined by the Carabinieri in 2018 ([RaCIS report](#)) I note that his father Michael is a shoemaker at **Rafferty** (Paterson, NJ, ed.).

The information is confirmed by his obituary which I published in the [press review](#) (p. 25) which can be found together with other documents at the bottom of this page.



Two pages of my notes. On the left, Bevilacqua's childhood. The American mentioned step-ball and talked about his paternal family. On the right, I reported his attempt to enlist in the Marine Corps

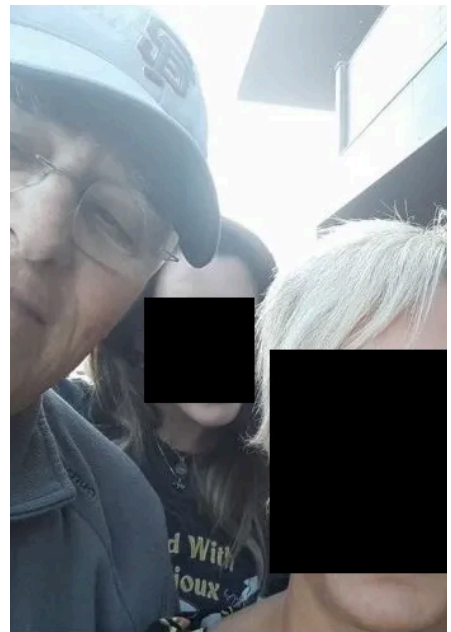
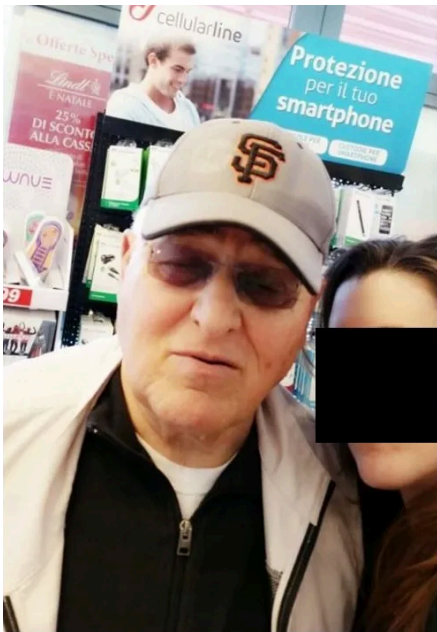
According to the same article, Michael Bevilacqua was also a member of the local **Merchant Marine band**. His paternal grandfather, Joseph, was a member of the **Regia Marina Society**.

Quality Shoe Repair rear 572 Lafayette av Hwthn  
**Rafferty Shoe Rebuilders Inc 61**  
**Broadway and 215 Market**  
 Riccardi Anthony 205 W Broadway  
 Riccardi Rocco 381 Graham av

**REAL**  
 —John (Ann M) tchr music 10 N 12th Hwthn h do  
 —Josephine J winder Paterson r 47 Plantn rd PP  
 —Marie J Mrs h 1 Prescott pl PP  
**Bevilacqua Joseph in USA Army r 128 Union Blvd TB**  
 —Joseph (Irene M) finisher Scorpes Piece Dye Wk r 128 Union Blvd TB  
 —Michael (Celesta) shoe repr Paterson h 128 Union Blvd TB  
 Beyer Alfred C (Augusta) shovel opr h 151 Bogert TB

Paterson phone directories of 1950 (left), and Totowa, 1957 (right)

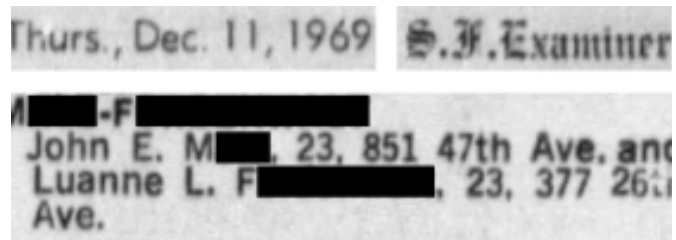
Bevilacqua's favorite game in childhood is step-ball, noted in 2017. Passionate about baseball, he will become honorary president of the **Nettuno Lions**. In the photos with his family (images above) he is often seen wearing a San Francisco Giants cap.



Bevilacqua surrounded by his wife and daughters wearing his San Francisco Giants cap. Source: Stella Bevilacqua's FB profile

John David M., **Bevilacqua's son-in-law**, is from **San Francisco**. His mother, **Luanne F.**, resided in the city and attended the local university during **Zodiac's time**.

Cognome [REDACTED]  
Nome JOHN DAVID  
nato il [REDACTED] in SAN FRANCISCO (STATI UNITI D'AMERICA)  
[REDACTED]  
(C.F. [REDACTED])  
Cognome BEVILACQUA  
Nome ANNA MARIA  
nata il [REDACTED] in FIRENZE (FI)  
[REDACTED]  
(C.F. [REDACTED])



[Click to enlarge](#)

Ms. Luanne F. graduated from **Sisters of the Presentation school** whose theater, the "Presentation Theater", for years sent on scene the performances by the **Lamplighters**, a San Francisco company locally famous for staging the works of the **Gilbert and Sullivan** duo.


In '69, shortly after the Stine murder, and in April '70, when Zodiac sends his **encrypted name**, the Lamplighters act in a successful version of "**The Mikado**", an operetta **mentioned two times by Zodiac** in his letters, including an excerpt used as a **signature**.



In the 60s - 70s, Bevilacqua has two daughters from Valeriana T. (Italian), Maria and Stella.

On **August 23, 1984**, he married **Meri Torelli** in San Casciano Val Di Pesa (Florence), who the following year was resident with her husband together with their little daughter Anna Maria in via Scopeti n. 136, municipality of San Casciano. From Bevilacqua's testimony it can be deduced that it was the house number attributed to the American Cemetery, which is no longer in use today.

Since he has been married to Mrs. Torelli, Bevilacqua **has been mentioned** in official Italian documents **sometimes with the name "Giuseppe" sometimes as "Joseph"** (next images).

  
**COMUNE DI**  
**SAN CASCIANO IN VAL DI PESA**  
 (Provincia di FIRENZE)  
**ESTRATTO PER RIASSUNTO**  
 DELL'ATTO DI MATRIMONIO n.11 p.I anno 1984

Dal registro degli atti di matrimonio risulta che


il giorno **23-08-1984** alle ore dieci e minuti venti  
 hanno contratto matrimonio in **SAN CASCIANO IN VAL DI PESA (FI)**

<b>BEVILACQUA</b> nato a <b>NEW JERSEY STATI UNITI D'AMERICA</b> (atto )	<b>GIUSEPPE</b> il <b>20-12-1935</b> residente in <b>SAN CASCIANO IN VAL DI PESA (FI)</b>
e	
<b>TORELLI</b> [redacted]	<b>MERI</b> [redacted] residente in <b>SAN CASCIANO IN VAL DI PESA (FI)</b>

Annotationi: Con dichiarazione resa nell'atto di matrimonio controscritto, gli sposi hanno scelto il regime della separazione dei beni.

Esente da bollo ai sensi art. 7 c.5, legge 29/12/1990, n. 405

**SAN CASCIANO IN VAL DI PESA, il 23-04-2020**

L'Ufficiale di Stato Civile  
  
 [redacted]

Il presente certificato non può essere prodotto agli organi della Pubblica Amministrazione o ai privati gestori di pubblici servizi (Art. 15 L. 12 novembre 2011, n. 183)

 **COMUNE DI SAN CASCIANO IN VAL DI PESA**  
 PROVINCIA DI FIRENZE  
**SERVIZI DEMOGRAFICI**

**STATO DI FAMIGLIA STORICO**  
 L'UFFICIALE DI ANAGRAFE

Visti gli atti d'ufficio

CERTIFICA

che alla data del 01/01/1985 risultava iscritta la seguente famiglia residente in Via Scopeti n. 136

<b>BEVILACQUA</b>	<b>JOSEPH</b>
nato a New Jersey (USA) il 20/12/1935	
<b>TORELLI</b>	<b>MERI</b>
[redacted]	
<b>BEVILACQUA</b>	<b>ANNA MARIA</b>
[redacted]	

**SAN CASCIANO IN VAL DI PESA**, li 02/07/2020

Rilasciato in carta resa legale

Ricerca d'archivio: € 15,00  
 Diritti di segreteria: € 0,50  
 € 15,50



Il presente certificato non può essere prodotto agli organi della Pubblica Amministrazione o ai privati gestori di pubblici servizi (art.15, legge n.183/2011)

*Bevilacqua appears both as "Giuseppe" and "Joseph" in the records of the Municipality of San Casciano. "Via Scopeti 136" was a temporary address of Bevilacqua's residence inside the American cemetery*

A check on the vehicle registration documents by researcher **Valeria Vecchione** confirms that Bevilacqua used the **two names with two different tax codes at the same time** for decades.

According to the Municipality of Florence, Mrs. Torelli lived in Florence in **Viale Fratelli Rosselli** from '69 to the summer of '84, when after her marriage to Bevilacqua she moved to the American cemetery. Here **residence was near where Susanna Cambi** was staying at the time she was killed by the Monster, on 22 October 1981 (Anna Maria Bevilacqua was born the following year).

Bottom right, a map showing the walking distance between the two homes.

**Gabriella Caltabellotta**, killed on 29 February 1984, lived in the same area. Her unsolved murder is included by some researchers among the possible cases attributable to the Monster.



Click to enlarge. On the left, Mrs. Torelli's residence in the Florence phone directories of '82-'83

Four months after Bevilacqua's marriage, between 14 and 20 December 1984 (the Italian-American's birthday and a date which also occurs twice in the Zodiac case), the issue of the magazine identified by **Valeria Vecchione** that il Mostro di Florence will use the letter to **Silvia Della Monica** for its "last act" in 1985.



Title from which the Monster took the only whole word, "della", and the last letters on the envelope to Della Monica, the E for water and the Z. **Water** is a recurring theme in the Zodiac case

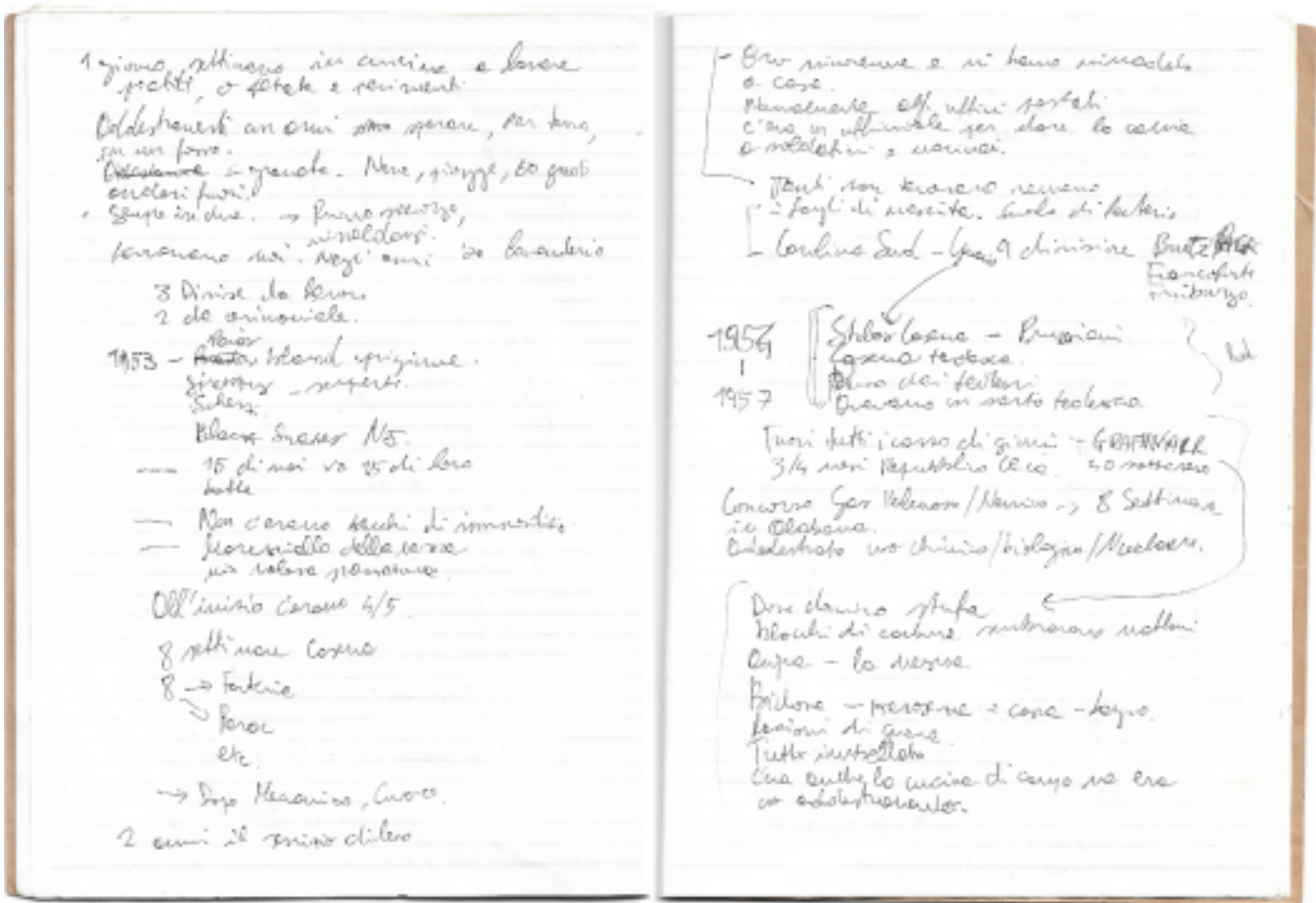
After his retirement in 2010, Bevilacqua returns to live in the province of Florence, in **Sesto Fiorentino**. He found a little company, "**G & G spic and span the cleaning man**", with some relatives.

At the bottom, records of the *Camera di Commercio* relating to Bevilacqua, who appears under the name "Joseph". Below, an excerpt.

Denominazione (*)	Stato impresa	Carica
G & G SPIC AND SPAN THE CLEANING MAN S.R.L. C.F. 06097520487	cancellata	

### 3. CAREER IN THE ARMY

In 2017, Bevilacqua talks to me about trying to join the **Marine Corps in '53**, and about **his training on Parris Island**. He says he was **sent back** because a minor.



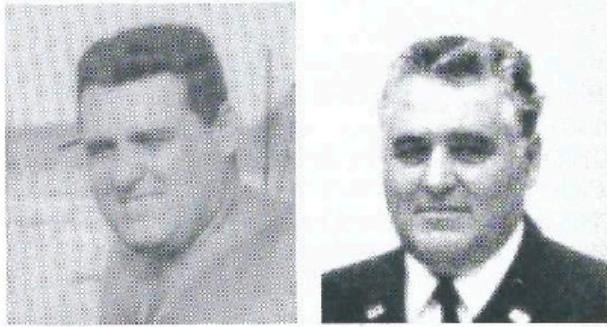
Notes from 2017. Some notes on the training at Parris Island in the Marines continue. Bevilacqua talks about joining the army and his transfer to Butzbach in '54 after initial training

The first official public record attesting to Bevilacqua's military career is just a **Marine Corps muster roll from '53**, where his name is present.

BEVILACQUA JOSEPH	1366885	E1	9900	01	14	07	53
-------------------	---------	----	------	----	----	----	----

The information is found in his **official records**, denying that provided in his **autobiography** (next image), in which he claims to have been part of it for two years.

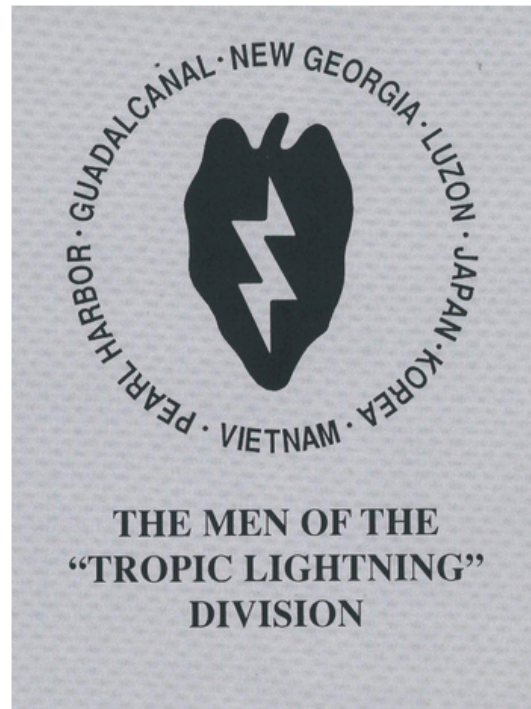
**JOSEPH BEVILACQUA**, born Dec. 20, 1935 in Paterson, NJ. Served with the USMC 1952-1954; Army 1954-1974. He was stationed at Ft. Dix, NJ; Ft. Jackson; Ft. McClellan, AL; Germany-Korea; Vietnam; Italy. He achieved the rank of first sergeant.



His memorable experiences include the battle at Hoc Mon Woods. After a human wave attack, though second attempt turned out to be wild pigs. First good meal in weeks. 25th had many good Hawaiians who bar-b-qued real well.

Awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star, (3 awards), Purple Heart w/3 Oak Leafs, Air Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Soldiers Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, and the Air Commendation Medal w/ 3 Clusters.

Married and has three daughters. He was a U.S. Government employee in Italy. Superintendent of WWII Military Cemetery.



*Publisher's note: All members of the 25th Infantry Division Association were invited to write and submit biographies for inclusion in this publication. The following are from those who chose to participate. The biographies were printed as received, with only minor editing. The publisher regrets it cannot accept responsibility for omissions or inaccuracies within the following biographies.*

Thanks to Anonimo Veneziano for this autobiography by Bevilacqua taken from the book of the fiftieth anniversary of the 25th Infantry Division

The official records on Bevilacqua's Army career are contained in the [Official Military Personnel File](#) (excerpt downloadable along with [a supplement](#) at the bottom of the page).

I obtained these documents after the interviews.

To request them, it was not enough to provide the veteran's name and surname but also other information such as the base where he was enlisted and the place of discharge.

In them, much of what my notes report is confirmed, but not his [undercover activities](#), which are obviously not mentioned (on the other hand, I get feedback from one of his commanders in 2019, [next chapter](#)).

Bevilacqua's military file is in the custody of the [National Personnel Records Center](#) in Saint Louis and includes the main information on his military career, such as the list of assignments and the list of his military awards.

The [downloadable file](#) is an excerpt obtained through a request under the Freedom Of Information Act (FOIA).

I have had three responses from the NPRC: in 2018, 2019, and a supplement in 2023.

NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER  
 LAMAR DRIVE ST LOUIS, MO 63124-1000  
 www.nprc.gov



November 16, 2018

FRANCESCO AMICONE



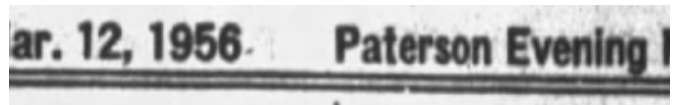
RE: Veteran's Name: BEVILACQUA, Joseph  
 SSN(SN):  
 Request Number: 2-22179270815

INFORMATION RELEASABLE UNDER THE FRI	
NAME:	BEVILACQUA, JOSEPH
BRANCH OF SERVICE AND SERIAL/SERVICE NUMBER(S):	REGULAR ARMY/RA 51 314 031
DATES OF SERVICE:	REGULAR ARMY: MAY 18, 1954 TO JUNE 30, 1974
DUTY STATUS:	RETIREMENT
RANK/GRADE:	1 <sup>ST</sup> SERGEANT

Official records confirm that Bevilacqua joined the army in '54.

The American tells me that he was **transferred to Germany** with the 8th Infantry Regiment at the **Butzbach shloss-kaserne**, after the initial training.

A photo of Butzbach Castle from the mid-1950s, showing the insignia of the 8th Regiment, and articles finded on newspapers.com, confirm the information in the notes (images below).



**Joseph Bevilacqua Stationed in Germany**  
Sgt. Joseph Bevilacqua, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bevilacqua, 128 Union Blvd, is a member of the 4th Infantry Division in Germany.  
Sgt. Bevilacqua, a squad leader in Company A of the division's 8th Regiment, entered the Army in April 1954 and arrived overseas the following September.

The source of the photo of the castle is the Municipality of Butzbach. First to publish it was the site [usarmygermany.com](http://usarmygermany.com)

In the line relating to the transfer to Butzbach it is noted that Bevilacqua's list of assignments also **contains some inaccuracies**. For example, it is reported that the young recruit would have been a squad leader, i.e. a trainer (unlikely). Additionally, **the word USA is missing four letters** to form the correct acronym for US Army Europe, **USAREUR**.

EFFECTIVE DATE	DUTY MOS	PRINCIPAL DUTY	ORGANIZATION AND STATION OR THEATER
(AD 4-Jun53-14-Jul53)		Trainee 1 mo Rct USANC)	
18May54	-	Casual	Co B 1299th Su Rc Ft Dix, NJ
27May54	111.00	Basic Tng	69th Inf Div Ft Dix, NJ
24Jul54	111.00	Adv Ind Tng	101st Abn Div Ft Jackson, SC
28Oct54	111.70	Squad Ldr	Co A 8th Inf Regt APO-98 USA
31May56	941.10	First Cook	Co A 14th Armd Cav APO-26
1Dec56	941.10	First Cook	Co A 14th Armd Cav APO-26
21Nov57	534.50	Instr Cbr	Co Fsc Sp Tng Regt, Ft Dix NJ

Bevilacqua tells me that he remained in German territory for three years, **moving from infantry to an armored unit** that patrolled the **Fulda gap** along the Iron Curtain. And to have opted for the **job of cook** to be carried out as a **secondary task** in addition to patrol activity. He claims that back then it was not as professional a job in the Army as it is nowadays.

He tells me that he worked alongside former Nazi soldiers.

The two lines following the assignment to the 8th regiment show the transfer to the 14th cavalry regiment which guarded the border with East Germany.



*Jeep on patrol along the Fulda gap. Bevilacqua tells me about this activity in 2017. Credit: Department of the Army*

In '57, the American is selected for being a **chemical, biological, nuclear (CBR) instructor**. He remains in this sector of activity until '64, when, in Livorno, he enters the **5th CID (Criminal Investigation detachment)** of Military Police in Livorno and becomes "assistant criminal investigator", maintaining his specialization in the CBR sector.

Asst Crim Invest & CBR NCO	USA Leg Gen Det (AF619) (SD 5th MP (CI) Det)
Asst Crim Invest & CBR NCO	8th USA Log Comd Aug APO 09019 (SD 5th MP (CI) Det (E3008) USAREUR

*Bevilacqua's official assignments in the 5th CID of the military police in Livorno between '64 and '66*

Bevilacqua's records do not show any assignments in the Army investigative units after the two-year period as assistant detective in Livorno.

In 2017, however, the retired sergeant confides to me that he worked for the **Army CID** until '74, carrying out **undercover assignments** (I get confirmation in 2019, **next chapter**).

In August '66, Bevilacqua returns to his homeland.

Between February '68 and February '69 he is in **Vietnam** where he earns a **Silver Star**, **two Bronze Stars**, **a Soldier's Medal**, and a **Purple Heart**.

He is transferred to the Continental Army Command, **CONARC** (headquarters in Virginia), in '69-'70. Under the CONARC there are all the continental armies including the 6th Army headquartered in the Presidio of San Francisco.

<u>#</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Military Manpower</u> <u>30 June 1971</u> <u>(3112)</u>	<u>Location</u>
	<b>CONARC</b> b/	752	<b>Fort Monroe, Virginia</b>
	1st U.S. Army b/	454	Fort Meade, Maryland
	3rd U.S. Army b/	467	Fort McPherson, Georgia
	5th U.S. Army b/	695	Fort Sam Houston, Texas
	<b>6th U.S. Army</b> b/	582	<b>Presidio of San Francisco, California</b>
	MDW	162	Fort McNair, Washington, D.C.

In March 1970 he was formally assigned to command the 7th Army in Heidelberg, Germany. In that period, investigative activities were underway on the so-called "**Khaki Mafia**" in connection with various locations, including San Francisco (**next chapter** - I'll go into more detail **here**).

Bevilacqua was stationed at Camp Darby for three years between '71 and '74.

He concluded his active career in the Army with the rank of First Sergeant in **June 1974**, moving to the Florence American Cemetery where he was hired by the American Battle Monuments Commission as a trainee Deputy Warden (**chapter 5**).

2Feb68	-	Casual	Enroute to USARPAC-Vietnam
5Feb68	11G50	1st Sgt	CoB1stBn27thInf25thInfDiv-Vietnam
9Jun68	11F50	Opns Sgt	HHC1stBn27thInf25thInfDiv-Vietnam
16Oct68	11F40	Inf Opns Intel Sp	HHC1stBn27thInf25thInfDiv-USARPAC/RVN
7Feb69	-	Casual	Enroute to CONUS
17Feb69	11F50	Inf Opns Intel Spec (DCSLOG)	HQ CO USCONARC(2500) Ft Monroe VA
9Apr70	-	Casual	Enroute to USAREUR
27Apr70	11F50	Op Sgt	ODCSOPS, HQ USAREUR&7A(W2B1-AA)USAREUR
31Dec70	-	Casual	Enroute to HQ 8th Log Comd USAREUR
4Jan71	76Z50	1st Sgt	HHD, 8th Log Comd USAREUR
1Apr71	76Z50	1st Sgt	HHD, 8th Log Comd USAREUR
29May72	76Z50	1st Sgt	HHD 8th Log Comd USAREUR
730614	-	Honorable Discharge	
730615	76Z50	1st Sgt	HHD 8th Log Comd USAREUR-Italy
731201	76Z50	1st Sgt	sup 8th Log Comd USAREUR-Italy

## 4. UNDERCOVER INVESTIGATIONS

On October 30, 1966, student **Cheri Jo Bates** was killed in Riverside. Zodiac confirms responsibility for this murder (to date unattributed) in a letter from 1971.

Has Bevilacqua been at Riverside in '66?

I ask him three times on **July 28, 2017**, and three times he says "yes".

During the homicide period, "Joe" appears as a **"mess steward" at Fort Dix**, New Jersey. It is an **anomalous** occupation for a former CBR instructor who has just concluded a two-year job as an Army CID "investigative assistant".

However, that is what is on his assignment list.

1Jun64	534.60	Asst Crim Invest & CBR NCO	USA1stGenDet, AP619(8D5thMP(CT)Det)
27Sep65	534.60	Asst Crim Invest & CBR NCO	8th USA Log Comd Aug 480 09019 (8D 5th)
			MP (CT) Det (R3008) USAREUR
1Aug66	-	Casual	Enroute to CONUS
6Sep66	9AB40 W	Mess Steward	Co A Sp Trps ISAG (1A-1262) Ft Dix NJ
8Dec66	9AB40 W	Club Steward	Co A Sp Trps ISAG (1A-1262) Ft Dix NJ
11May67	11B40	1st Opns Inf	HqCoComGpISATCI(1A-1387-00) Ft Dix NJ
3Sep67	-	Honorable Discharge	
6Sep67	11B40	1st Opns Inf	HqCoComGpISATCI(1A-1387-00) Ft Dix NJ
2Feb68	-	Casual	Enroute to USARPAC-Vietnam

Bevilacqua joined the **5th Criminal Investigation Detachment** in Livorno, Italy, in '64.

He tells me that chief warrant officer **Robert Colombo** is leading that unit, information later confirmed to me by his **military records**.

Colombo's name appears several times in my notes, being mentioned together with that of **Raymond D'Addario** (I delve deeper into the topic **here**).

Bevilacqua was assistant investigator **until the summer of '66**. A two-year period that seems to correspond to the **apprenticeship to become a detective**. Instead, his official records show that he returned to Fort Dix, where he previously worked as a CBR trainer, and carried out a task related to **messes and clubs**.

Why?

And why is there no reference to the military police between '66 and '74, if what the Italian-American told me in 2017 is true, telling me that he worked with the **CID units until his discharge in '74**?

The answer is that Bevilacqua carried out **undercover investigations**. In 2017, he told me that for this very reason his real investigative assignments from that period are not present in his official records. They had to remain secret.



Col. Henry H. Tufts, CID agency and USACIDC co 1969-1974

Colonel Tufts. As I said when I started, Senator Gurney, I don't have the documentation, but if you will remember back, I believe early in 1969, this subcommittee sent its staff to Vietnam. This kicked off a series of what we call club and mess investigations. The CID Agency was just in its infancy, had just been activated. We investigated the Maredem case, which has now resulted in action in California, and out of this came many other cases.

**FRAUD AND CORRUPTION IN MANAGEMENT  
OF MILITARY CLUB SYSTEMS**

**ILLEGAL CURRENCY MANIPULATIONS AFFECTING  
SOUTH VIETNAM**

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1971

U.S. SENATE,  
PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS  
OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,  
Washington, D.C.

Statements by col. Tufts on the "Khaki Mafia" case. To learn more [click here](#)

The assignment as a canteen and club attendant is in line with the subject of the investigation into the "Khaki Mafia" in which Bevilacqua tells me he participated.

This is a series of investigations conducted by the CID in the second half of the 1960s which mainly focus on the **management of military clubs and messes**, as confirmed by **Colonel Henry Tufts**, commander of the CID Agency, in a Senate hearing in 1971 ( previous image).



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
UNITED STATES ARMY CID AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20315

CLUBS AND MESSSES

In June, 1969, a task force was established by USACIDA to investigate criminal activities within NCO open mess systems in the Republic of Vietnam and elsewhere. On 15 January 1970, the task force configuration was dissolved and the 1st MP Detachment (CI) was charged with the responsibility to bring these investigations to a conclusion.

In the course of this massive effort, 2,486 mandays were expended. During the period 1 July 1969 through September 1970, 90 investigations were initiated; 71 were completed and 19 were nearing completion.

Many of these cases attracted a great deal of national attention; the investigations led to inquiries into a great number of related and unrelated crimes and the results caused marked impact on the improvement of Army policies, procedures and practices relative to club management and procurement. USACIDA investigators traveled to many countries during which they interviewed more than two thousand people in the course of their investigations.

In January 2019, I obtain direct evidence of Bevilacqua's undercover activity from his commander in Vietnam, Lieutenant Colonel Mark. L. Reese.

This is what Reese wrote to me:

*"When I assumed command of the First Wolfhounds in September, 1968, **SFC Bevilacqua was my Operations Sergeant...** I considered him an outstanding soldier.*

*Shortly after I assumed command, the Division Commander charged him with a **special undercover assignment.***

*He was sent to the Division NCO Academy to determine if illegal activities were being committed within that unit. It took him about a week to get the **goods** on several NCO's and, I believe, at least one officer, **for dealing in drugs and prostitution.***

*When he returned to my command, he had a very interesting story to tell."*

Mark Reese



Da: Mark Reese

A:



Data: 11 gen 2019, 23:13

[Visualizza dettagli sulla sicurezza](#)

I assumed command of the First  
battalions in September, 1968, SFC  
Bevilacqua was my Operations Sergeant  
I considered him an outstanding soldier. Since  
I assumed command, the Division  
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recovery assignment. He was sent to  
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reports from several NCO's and, I believe, at least one  
sergeant, for dealing in drugs and prostitution.  
When he returned to my command, he had an  
interesting story to tell

[Cita questo testo](#)

# San Antonio Express

Thursday, April 17, 1969 ★ ★ Page 10-H

## Army Officer Recognized For Heroism

The former professor of military science at the University of Texas at Arlington, recovering at Brooke General Hospital from injuries received in a helicopter crash in Vietnam, has been cited for heroism and outstanding achievement.

Lt. Col. Mark L. Reese Jr., whose wife, Barbara, and their four children reside in Arlington, was presented the Silver Star for gallantry in action and the Legion of Merit for his "remarkable initiative and astute organizational ability," during a special ceremony Wednesday by Brig. Gen. William H. Moncrief Jr., commander of the hospital.

Col. Reese, who commanded the 1st Battalion of the "Wolfhounds" (27th Infantry) 25th Infantry Division, was serving his second tour in Vietnam.

Col. Reese was cited for heroic actions on Nov. 17, 1968, when an element of his "Wolfhounds" came into heavy contact with the enemy. According to the citation accompanying the nation's third highest award for valor, "With complete disregard for his own safety, Col. Reese brought his helicopter into a rugged landing zone to deliver a medic and extract a wounded man. While under fire from hostile positions, Col. Reese returned to the area of contact to resupply his men with ammunition."

*Reese's email on the left. On the right, an article about the awarding of the Silver Star and the Legion of Merit to the intrepid lieutenant colonel*

D'Addario is likely Bevilacqua's supervisor during this undercover activity. At the time Reese talks about, in fact, D'Addario was a CID detective assigned to the 25th Infantry Division, as [his military records](#) confirm. In my notes, just under his name, I write the word "**chief**" in relation to Saigon and Maryland, where the CID [First Region](#) headquarters is located at the time.

I would attach Reese's email to a supplement of the denunciation filed with the Florence DA's Office on March 19, 2019. It is within the file on the investigation into Bevilacqua dismissed in 2021.

In [his statements](#) to the Carabinieri on May 30, 2018, the Italian-American never **mention his "undercover" work** and his presence in the San Francisco Bay Area during Zodiac's attacks.

Rev D'Addario - Colombo (25)  
 Chief  
 Mandy  
 Soibon  
 Soibon  
 Mandy Vetrarik

Note with D'Addario and Colombo

**The Khaki Mafia**

In 2017, Bevilacqua tells me several times that he worked in California in '69.

I also report it in my notes taken during the interviews, associating this information with CONARC and a 16-month "undercover" activity.

On July 28, 2017, after a few seconds of silence, Bevilacqua responds in the affirmative when I ask him if he was at Lake Thaoe in '70. In this area, that year, a possible Zodiac victim, Donna Lass, was kidnapped.

**RE: Veteran's Name: BEVILACQUA, Joseph**

2Feb68	-	Casual	Enroute to USARPAC-Vietnam
5Feb68	11G50	1SG	CoB1stBn27thInf25thInfDiv-Vietnam
9Jun68	11F50	Opns Sgt	HHC1stBn27thInf25thInfDiv-Vietnam
16Oct68	11FA0	Inf Opns Intel Sp	HHC1stBn27thInf25thInfDiv-USARPAC/RVN
7Feb69	-	Casual	Enroute to CONUS
17Feb69	11F50	Inf Opns Intel Spec (DCSLOG)	HQ CO USCONARC(25CO) Ft Monroe VA
9Apr70	-	Casual	Enroute to USAREUR
27Apr70	11F50	Op Sgt	DCSOPS, HQ USAREUR&7A(M2B1-AA)USAREUR
31Dec70	-	Casual	Enroute to HQ 8th Log Comd USAREUR
4Jan71	76Z50	1st Sgt	HHD, 8th Log Comd USAREUR
1Apr71	76Z50	1st Sgt	HHD, 8th Log Comd USAREUR

Cid → Tonko  
 27 Tonko  
 25 Division  
 May 1969  
 HHC 1st Bn 27th Inf 25th Div  
 HHC 1st Bn 27th Inf 25th Div

69 California D'Addario Col  
 Colombo

16 months  
 HP/Cid  
 Direct Contact

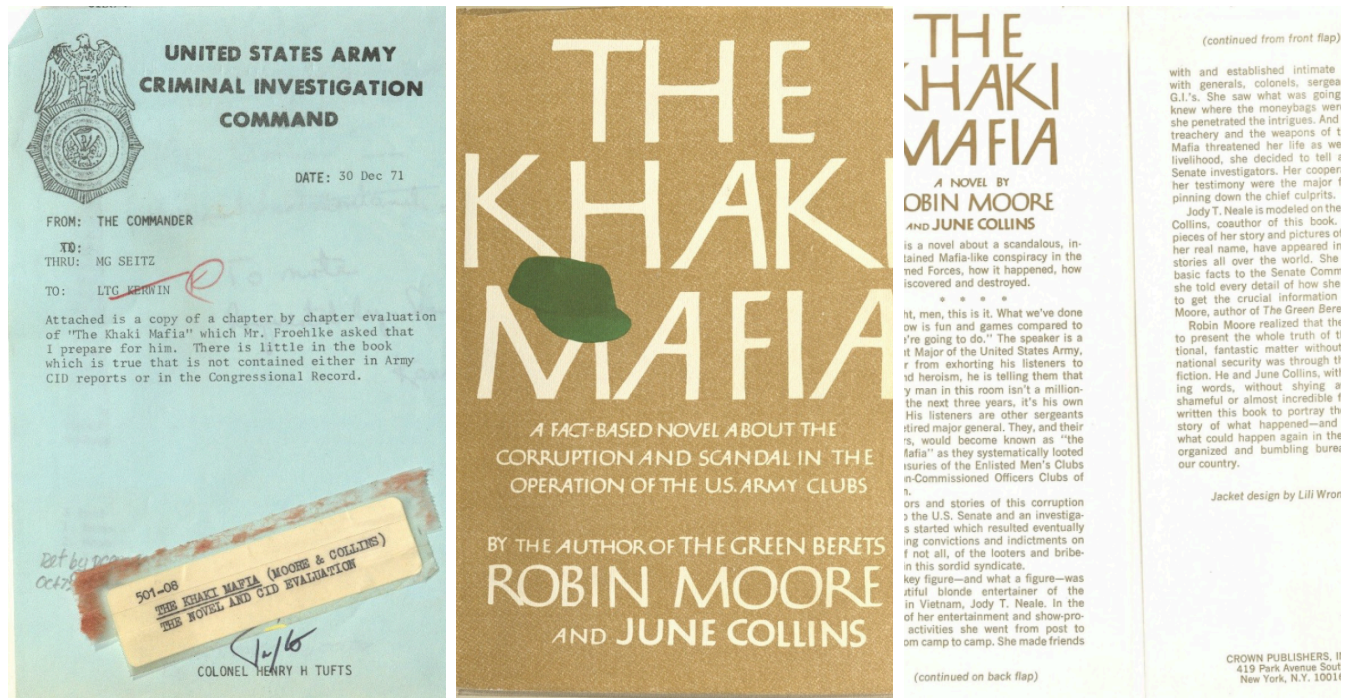


The Italian-American doesn't give me precise information on what he was doing in California.

**"I can't talk about my job,"** he repeats when I ask him about investigative assignments.

Precisely because of the secrecy of his activity, during the **"admission call"**, he tells me that it cannot be proven that he was in California during the Zodiac period.

On the other hand, however, during the meetings he advises me to read the book **"The Khaki Mafia"**, claiming to have participated in the investigation into malfeasance in clubs and military messes from which this story set in Vietnam is based.

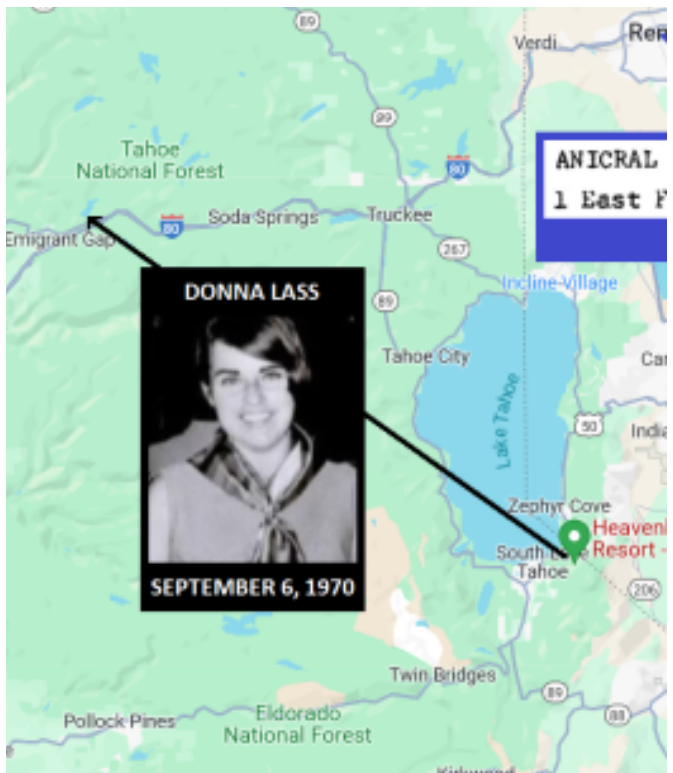


On the left, a note on a summary of the truth novel "The Khaki Mafia" prepared by col. Tufts. On the right, the cover and back cover of the book by Robin Moore and June Collins inspired by the story. [Details here](#)

**"Khaki Mafia"** is a journalistic label given to a group of Army noncommissioned officers following the first Sergeant Major of the Army **William O. Wooldridge** who are **indicted in Los Angeles** in February '71.

Director and story teller **Hugo Berkeley** will advise me on the importance of this case in summer 2018. For further information, see the **"Khaki Mafia" chapter** of the post on the **journalistic investigation**.

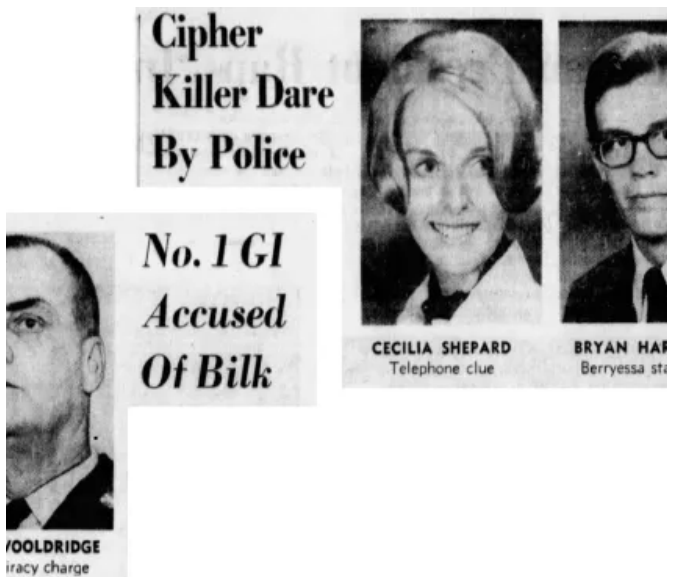
By carrying out research between 2018 and 2021, **I will trace the CID investigations** into the Khaki Mafia that took place in **the San Francisco area** during the period of **Zodiac's activity**. As well as other investigations compatible with his assignment to Germany at the same time as his presence in **California in 1970**, including Lake Tahoe which we talk about in the meeting of **28 July 2017**.



Click to enlarge. On the left, map with the official Zodiac murders. On the right, the one about the kidnapping of Donna Lass in 1970. In blue, connections with the Khaki Mafia investigations. [Info here](#) and [here](#)

After years of research, I was able to identify at least **four investigations** into the Khaki Mafia carried out by the **CID in the San Francisco area** in conjunction with the Zodiac's crimes and communications.

Again, I talk about it [here](#).



The investigations into the "Khaki Mafia" took place in conjunction with the Zodiac case as can be seen from this edition of the San Francisco Examiner

### Alibis?

Putting aside both the Khaki Mafia and the hypothetical connection between the Monster series and the Signa crime (never confirmed by the sentences, and over which the **enigma of the gun** looms), there are assignments in Bevilacqua's official records that seem to provide alibis to him.

Of particular interest are the entries relating to assignments in **Vietnam, in '68, and in Germany, in '70.**

It should be noted that the list sent to me by the NPRC **does not exclude** Bevilacqua's presence in San Francisco on December 20, 1968, when Zodiac commits a murder near Vallejo, and sporadically between the end of April 1970 and March 1971, when he sends some letters from the city and the Bay Area, starting with a card postmarked on **April 28, 1970**.

I address Bevilacqua's alleged alibi for the Zodiac crime of December 20, 1968, separately here.

From reading the Pan Am time tables of December 1968 there are no particular difficulties in reaching the Californian city from Saigon (image below).

**PAN AM** **PACIFIC SERVICES**  
PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS, INC.—PAA

**U.S.A.—CENTRAL PACIFIC—PHILIPPINES—VIETNAM—  
SINGAPORE—INDONESIA**

**PAGE 16**      **DECEMBER 1-31, 1968**      **EASTBOUND** Read Down

Hours from G.M.T.	CLASS→ FLIGHT NO.→ JET AIRCRAFT→ FREQUENCY→	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY
		800/110 707	824 707	814 707	842 707	822 707	812 707	
		<b>DAILY</b>	<b>DAILY</b>	<b>TU</b>	<b>SU</b>	<b>FR</b>	<b>WE</b>	<b>SA</b>
<b>+8</b>	<b>SAIGON</b> ..... (Ar/Lv)	—	—	13 10 14 20	11 00	9 55 11 05	11 50	11 50
	(International Date Line)	Arrives Honolulu <b>ONE DAY EARLIER</b> due International Date Line						
<b>-8</b>	<b>SAN FRANCISCO (R)</b> (Ar/Lv)	6 15 8 45	—	19 45	16 15		—	—

**Bevilacqua** was apparently **transferred from the United States to Germany in April 1970**. Zodiac's correspondence includes **some letters subsequently sent from San Francisco**.

An alibi?

First, it should be noted that **it would not have been difficult to reach San Francisco even from the Seventh Army headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany**, to which Bevilacqua was assigned between April and December 1970, and where his daughter Stella was born that same year.

**Frankfurt Airport** is less than an hour's drive from Heidelberg and is also one of the **busiest airports in the world**.

# Atlantic Services



PAGE 6 APRIL 26 TO JUNE 30, 1970

Westbound READ DOWN		Class	Flight No.	Jet Aircraft	Frequency
ATLANTIC	Hours from GMT	2	103	59	747
			747	747	747
		DAILY	DAILY		
		PAN AM'S 747		PAN AM'S 747	
+1	Frankfurt	AR	12 30	8 30	
		LV			
+1	London (Heathrow)	AR	13 35	9 55	
		LV			

PAGE 7

Westbound READ DOWN		Class	Flight No.	Jet Aircraft	Frequency
ATLANTIC	Hours from GMT	2	121	747	747
			747	747	747
		DAILY	DAILY		
		PAN AM'S 747		PAN AM'S 747	
+1	London (R) (Heathrow)	AR	15 45	15 45	
		LV			
-7	San Francisco (R)	AR	21 35	21 18	
		LV			

Flights 59 and 103 on Page 6 Connect at London to Flights 121 and 123

Polar Route

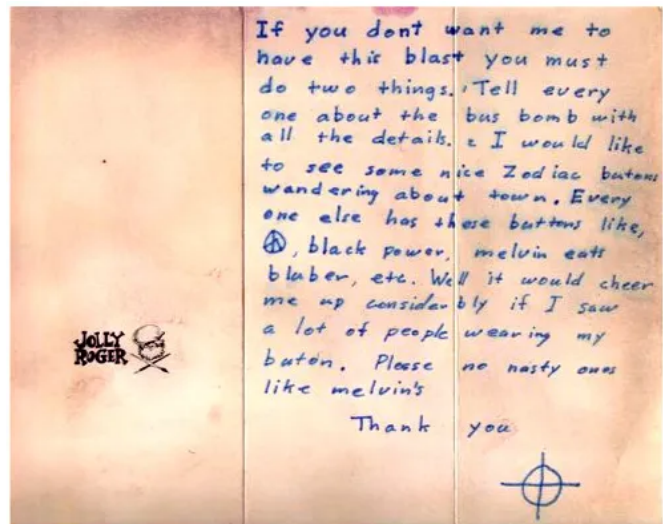
Click to enlarge. Extract from a [Pan Am timetable](#) with flights from Frankfurt to San Francisco in late April 1970

Bevilacqua was assigned to Heidelberg starting **April 27, 1970**. Zodiac's first communication after this date is a postcard depicting Don Quixote and Sancho Panza called "**Dragon Card.**" The stamp on the envelope reads "**April 28, 1970, afternoon,**" meaning the day after Bevilacqua's transfer.

At the time, San Francisco mail was generally picked up and postmarked twice a day.

What could have happened?

Perhaps "Zodiac" sent the postcard before boarding the plane, **on Saturday or Sunday morning, and the envelope was postmarked late**, as **Valeria Vecchione** suggests. Even assuming that this is not the case and that Bevilacqua was indeed in Heidelberg on **April 27**, the undercover CID detective would still have **two flights with a stopover in London available** that would make him arrive **in San Francisco that same evening**, as the [Pan Am timetable](#) of that period proves (extract above). Once in the city, Bevilacqua would have time to buy **a postcard** at a kiosk, jot down a few humorous and threatening phrases with the **usual blue felt-tip pen**, and send it, before it is stamped by the post office the afternoon of the following day.



If it is true that the passage to San Francisco during the Christmas period of '68 is compatible with a short leave ([I explain it here](#)) and with the fact that the attack by Zodiac on December 20, 1968 (Bevilacqua's 33rd birthday), is claimed only in July of the following year, one wonders why the gallant sergeant was assigned to an **overseas command**, traveling to California

several times.

The answer, once again, is found in the chapter "Khaki Mafia" in the article on the steps of the Monster-Zodiac investigation.

In any case, using **investigators stationed at other bases** to carry out undercover activities in the **restricted military environment** in which to start should be a practice of CID departments. I will find an example of this relating to **an anti-drug operation carried out by the Carabinieri and the CID at Camp Darby**, Livorno, dating back to when Bevilacqua is stationed there in '71 (next image).

**"A florentine and four Americans were arrested for drugs in Tirrenia**

Large-scale trafficking around the Camp Darby base has been stopped - 700 grams of narcotic substances have been seized by the Carabinieri - an investigator disguised as a hippy - sensational developments are expected..."

"....The chief of the local CID, Cornelius, had an officer come from Germany who, with the appearance of a hippy, managed to camouflage himself in certain environments entering quite easily and without arousing too much suspicion in the circle of drug users..."

3 agosto 1971 LA NAZIONE

# Un fiorentino e quattro americani arrestati a Tirrenia per la droga

*Stroncato un traffico di grosse proporzioni intorno alla base di Camp Darby - Sequestrati dai carabinieri settecento grammi di sostanze stupefacenti - Un investigatore travestito da hippy - Sono previsti clamorosi sviluppi*

Il responsabile locale del CID, Cornelius, fece venire un funzionario dalla Germania, il quale con l'aspetto di un hippy è riuscito a mimetizzarsi in certi ambienti e ad entrare con una certa facilità, senza destare sospetti, nel giro dei consumatori di droga.

If the description given by the military to the press was false, the "blond" and "lanky" hippy detective could also be **Bevilacqua**. In fact, his transfer from the base in Germany where he was officially assigned to Camp Darby seems **concomitant with this investigation**.

27Apr70
31Dec70
4Jan71

ODCSOPS, HQ USAREUR&7A(W2B1-AA)USAREUR
Enroute to HQ 8th Log Comd USAREUR
HHD, 8th Log Comd USAREUR

Bevilacqua apparently served in the 7th Army Vice Chief of Staff's "operations" office in Heidelberg, Germany, before returning to Camp Darby in '71

From March 1971, **Zodiac stopped writing for three years**, which roughly corresponds to the period of **Bevilacqua's assignment to Camp Darby, Italy (1971-1974)**.

The last letter attributed by the police to the serial killer is sent on January 29, 1974, five months before Bevilacqua's discharge from the army.

D'Addario has recently moved to Santa Rosa, north of the San Francisco Bay Area.

## San Francisco Chronicle

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1974

### Zodiac Mystery Letter --the First Since 1971

By Paul Avery

## 5. Career in the ABMC

**In the summer of '74**, between the last letter from Zodiac and the first definite attack of the Monster of Florence, Bevilacqua retires from the Army with the rank of first sergeant and **settles near the Italian city**, in the local American Cemetery, where he works for the American Battle Monuments Commission.

**AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION  
MEDITERRANEAN REGION  
BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET**

**Name:** Joseph Bevilacqua

**DOB:** (b) (6)

**Current Position:** Superintendent, Sicily-Rome AC GS-1630-12

Previous ABMC Positions	Location	From (mm/yyyy)
Asst. Superintendent-Trainee	Florence AC	July 1974
Assistant Superintendent	Florence AC	June 1975
Superintendent	Florence AC	February 1977
Superintendent	Sicily-Rome AC	January 1989 - Present

**Home of Record in the US:** (b) (6)

**Prior Government Service:** *Military:* 21  
*Civilian:* 0

**Highest Military Grade:** First Sergeant E-8

**Information on Dependents:**

Name	Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	Relationship
(b) (6)	(b) (6)	(b) (6)

Name, address, and telephone number of closest relative in the US who should be notified in the event of an emergency:

**Name:** (b) (6)  
**Address:** (b) (6)  
**Telephone:** (b) (6)

*Bevilacqua's ABMC assignment sheet attached to a FOIA response from 2019*

The records on Bevilacqua's assignments by the ABMC (US Congressional agency that manages monumental war cemeteries) states that the Italian-American began working and residing at the Florence American Cemetery from July 1, 1974, until end of '88, before being transferred to Nettuno.

According to the **ABMC annual reports**, at the time of the first three confirmed murders of the Monster ('74, '81) there would be no other American officers resident in the cemetery apart from Bevilacqua.

74-75

104

ANNEX B  
Florence Cemetery and Memorial  
Italy

1. Personnel

a. At the end of the fiscal year, personnel consisted of two U.S. civilians and 13 local nationals. Mr. Thomas T. Valacich served as Superintendent from 1 July to 3 September 1974 in which time he was transferred to the Bevilacqua Cemetery in Rome. Superintendent duties:

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75-76

114

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b. Major projects completed included the installation of a new water purification system and the construction of a new office and visitor building. Personnel consisted of two U.S. civilians and 13 local nationals. Mr. Thomas T. Valacich served as Superintendent from 1 July to 3 September 1974. Mr. Joseph Berlingo, Assistant Superintendent, was assigned temporary duty from 14 to 17 September 1974. Mr. Joseph Berlingo was assigned as Superintendent throughout the reporting period.

80-81

180-181

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81-82

181-82

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UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

180-181

181-82

82-83

182-83

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83-84

183-84

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84-85

184-85

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85-86

185-86

ANNEX B  
Florence Cemetery and Memorial  
Italy

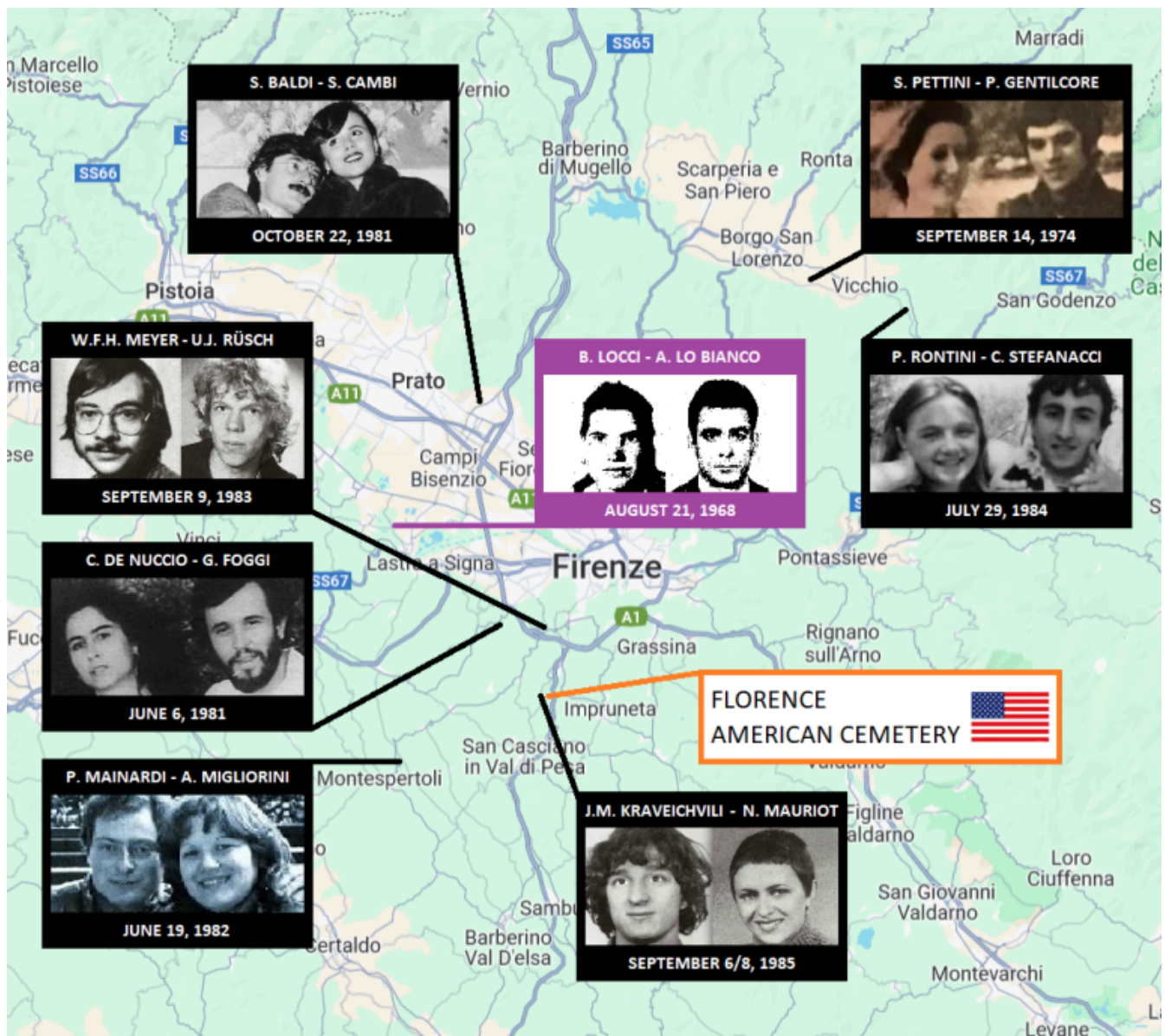
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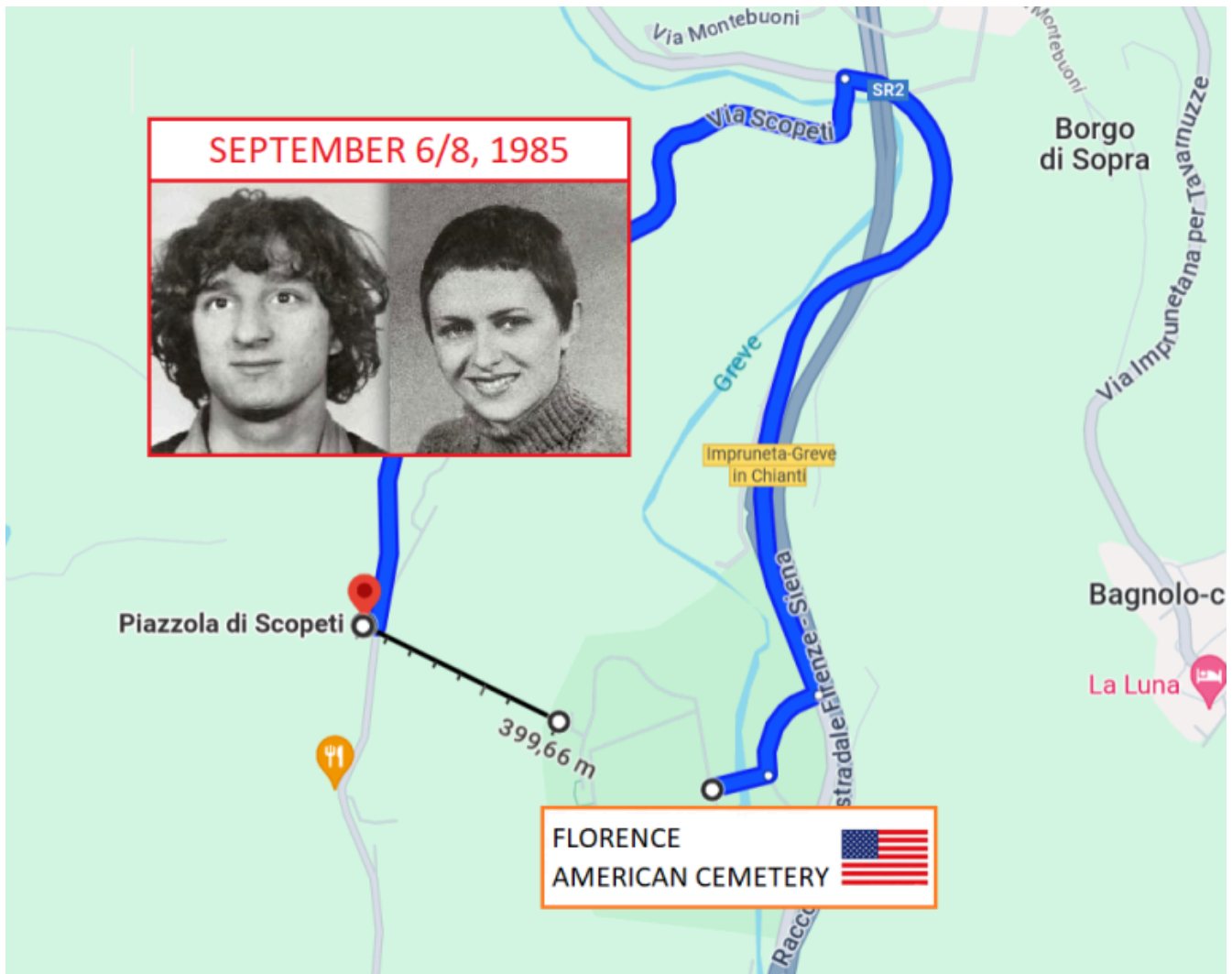
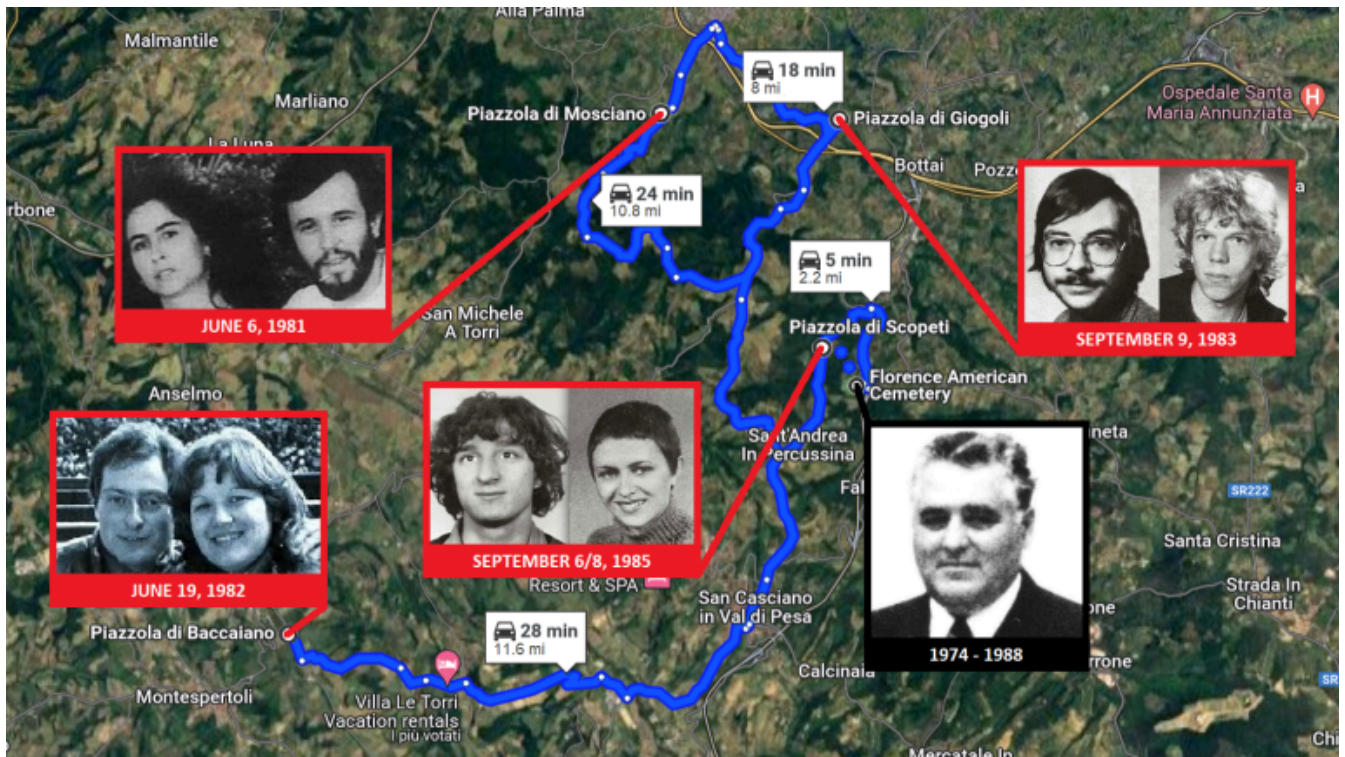
ABMC annual reports confirm that Bevilacqua resided and worked in Florence during the years of the Monster's definite murders

## 6. INVOLVEMENT IN THE MONSTER OF FLORENCE CASE



Map of the Monster murders. The '68 case at the center is not officially attributed to the Monster

While Bevilacqua resides in the Tuscan capital, the serial killer of couples labeled “Monster” by the media kills 14 people in the countryside areas surrounding the city. Four out of seven double homicides are committed **within a half-hour’s drive** of the American cemetery. However, the former CID investigator appeared as a witness at the Pacciani trial on the Monster case, claims that he had not “followed” the story (next video).



Click to enlarge. Map of the Monster murders committed near the American Cemetery where Bevilacqua lived and worked between '74 and '88

Bevilacqua's deposition focuses on the Monster's last double murder, dating back to '85. The attack occurred about **three hundred yards as the crow flies** from the cemetery where he lived and worked until '88, when he was transferred to Nettuno, near Rome.

The Italian-American **claims** to have **spotted the defendant and the victims** a few days before their deaths. He makes a serious mistake, claiming to have learned of the murders the morning after the crime, when the news had not yet been disclosed.

In his testimony, Bevilacqua **avoids mentioning his military background** and, above all, **states** that he does **not know Pacciani**.

In 2017, he **tells me he knew him** and will confirm the same to Carabinieri in 2018.



### FULL TESTIMONY. Joe Bevilacqua's testimony in the Monster of Florence case

Ostello Volante



Watch on

*Bevilacqua's deposition at the Pacciani trial*

#### 2017 talks and admission

Between **May 26 and August 10, 2017**, Bevilacqua and I have **seven talks** of approximately two to three hours each (verified by the Carabinieri).

On 1 March 2018 I filed a denunciation stating to the Carabinieri that Bevilacqua made **an admission of guilt** relating to the crimes of the Monster and Zodiac killer during a phone conversation dated September 12, 2017 (at the time I reported "September 11" for a mistake).

**I did not secretly record** the "admission call", even though Italian law allowed it. The reason was **ethical-professional**. I had given my word to Bevilacqua that I would not disclose information received from him without his consent.

However, **the phone records confirm that**, soon after that conversation with me, **Bevilacqua contacted the criminal lawyer** I suggested to him to help him turn himself in, as I states in a interview with the Carabinieri.

The analysis of the phone records, my statements and many other documents from the investigation resulting from my 2018 denunciation can be found in Italian [at this link](#).

A few translations are [here](#).

After the publication of the **first articles** of my journalistic investigation on [tempi.it](#) and [Il Giornale](#) in 2018, Bevilacqua sued me for defamation.

In 2021, the Florence DA's Office obtains the **dismissal of the Bevilacqua case**, without contacting the offended parties in **violation of the Italian law**.

Although the Carabinieri of the ROS of Florence have **evidence of my reliability** and **Bevilacqua's perjury** in '94 since the day after the actual start of the investigation resulting from my denunciation, **they do not search his home nor inform the US Department of Justice. His DNA is not collected**. It is acquired by the Siena DA's Office, prosecutor Nicola Marini, in 2020.

**In November 2023**, one year after Bevilacqua's death, I [send his genetic profile](#) to the US authorities in charge of the Zodiac case **to defend myself from the accusation** of having defamed Bevilacqua **brought forward by** his family and **the Florence DA's Office**.

## 7. RECORDS

### PRESS REVIEW (1954 – 2008)

[Press review on Bevilacqua 1954-2008](#) Download

### MILITARY RECORDS (1953-1974)

[Marine Corps muster roll \(1953\)](#) Download

[Service System registration card \(1954\)](#) Download

[Joe Bevilacqua's OMPF Foia](#) Download

[List of assignments – page 2 \(2023 update\)](#) Download

### ABMC ASSIGNATIONS (1974-2010)

[Bevilacqua's ABMC bio sheet Foia](#) Download

[ABMC Annual Reports excerpts \(1974-1986\)](#) Download

