







## **ZODIAC KILLER - MONSTER OF FLORENCE**

By Francesco Amicone

MARCH 18, 2024BY FRANCESCO AMICONE

### "Joe Bevilacqua" Case Summary

Last revision: December 4, 2024

The following is a summary of the events that have involved me personally in the **Zodiac** and Monster of Florence cases from 2017 to today.

My first articles of the investigation on Joe Bevilacqua were published on tempi.it and il Giornale at the end of May 2018.

#### **INDEX**

**Click on the titles** below to go directly to the chapter.

**To return to the index**, simply click the "back" arrow on your browser.

- 1. THE INVESTIGATION
- 2. SUMMARY OF THE JOURNALISTIC INVESTIGATION

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Photo of Joe Bevilacqua from the 2010s wearing his San Francisco Giants cap. Source: Stella Bevilacqua

### 1. THE INVESTIGATION

The main documents of the investigation on Bevilacqua by the Florence Public Prosecutor's Office (2018-2021) and other related documents are **available here** .

#### 2017 - 2018. Admission and Report

Joseph alias Giuseppe Bevilacqua ( <u>biography</u> ) is an Italian-American <u>witness</u> in the Pacciani trial, **an ABMC official** in Italy from '74 to 2010 with **a 20-year career in the army** behind him.

In the spring-summer of 2017, the then 81-year-old Bevilacqua and I had a **series of interviews** at his home in Sesto Fiorentino and in Falciani, near the American Cemetery in Florence where he lived and worked in the 1970s and 1980s.

The interviews will be numbered seven in an <u>analysis of the records</u> of the Carabinieri of the ROS of Florence.

They focus on his life and the crimes of Zodiac and the Monster.

Zodiac is credited <u>with</u> five victims in the San Francisco area and north of the Bay Area between 1968 and 1969. He attacked couples on Lovers' Lane and a taxi driver in the city. He is best known for <u>the letters and coded messages</u> he sent to the press until 1974, when he disappeared.

The victims of the <u>Monster</u> are secluded couples killed in the countryside around Florence **between '74 and '85**. The crimes are linked by the .22 caliber pistol (always the same one) to a **precedent from '68**, with a final sentence never revised that, to this day, attributes it to **another person**.

A ten-year mystery over which looms the shadow of a **cover-up by the Monster** .

On September 12, 2017, I called Bevilacqua on the phone and, when I urged him, <a href="hete">he</a> <a href="hete">admitted</a> his responsibility for the crimes of the two serial killers. I did not secretly <a href="record the phone call">record the phone call</a>, even though Italian law allows it. The reason was ethical and <a href="professional">professional</a>.

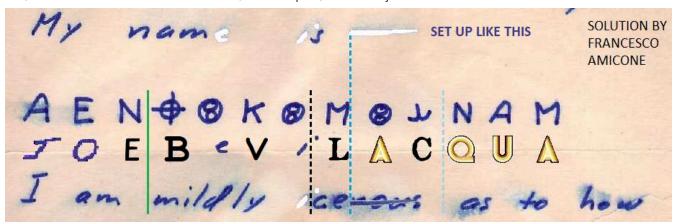
I made a commitment not to disclose information received from Bevilacqua without his consent.

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 PG of the Florence Prosecutor's Office on an informal meeting on 16 April 2018. Admission backdated by one day due to an oversight

This choice does not prevent me from <u>reporting</u> the admission on March 1, 2018 and, subsequently, from bringing documents on Bevilacqua's past useful to the investigation to the Florence Prosecutor's Office.

My credibility emerges **the day after** the investigation actually started (I'll talk about it later) but it is **ignored** by the Carabinieri and the Florence Prosecutor's Office.



Zodiac name solution obtained thanks to a tip from Joe Bevilacqua. The American admitted that his name was there when reading the stylized solution, on September 12, 2017. **Details here** 

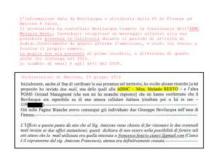
#### 2018-2021. Investigation and archiving

The criminal proceedings on Bevilacqua that arose from my complaint will be closed in 2021 after <u>a flawed investigation</u> by the Public Prosecutor's Office and the ROS of Florence, which was effectively concluded in November 2018.

**The** U.S. Department of Justice **will never be contacted** for verification or to inform the appropriate authorities on the Zodiac case of my complaint **until 2024** .

On May 29, 2018, coinciding with the publication of my <u>first article</u> on Bevilacqua's admission in Il *Giornale*, the deputy prosecutor **Luca Turco**, in charge of the Mostro case, effectively started the investigation with a delegation to the ROS of Florence led by Colonel **Giuseppe Colizzi**.







Click to enlarge and scroll through images. One of the many errors made by the Florence Prosecutor's Office in the Bevilacqua investigation shelved in 2021

On May 30, 2018, despite the seriousness of the complaint and various circumstantial evidence, **Bevilacqua was questioned at his home in the <u>presence of three relatives</u>, instead of alone or with his lawyer at a Carabinieri station.** 

This decision, according to Colonel Colizzi who approved it, <u>does not allow</u> the Carabinieri to collect Bevilacqua's DNA, which will be acquired only two years later by the Siena Prosecutor's Office, at the request of the deputy Nicola Marini.

Si rappresenta infine che in considerazione dell'età e dello stato di apprensione del sig. BEVILACQUA Giuseppe l'escussione è avvenuta nella sua abitazione alla presenza della moglie, della figlia e del nipote e per tale motivo non è stato possibile acquisire discretamente alcuna traccia DNA.

Alla presente si allega verbale di sommarie informazioni rese dal sig. BEVILACQUA Giuseppe il 30/05/2018.

IL COMANDANTE

Already on May 30, 2018, the Carabinieri obtained <u>confirmation</u> of **my reliability** and **proof** of **false testimony** by Bevilacqua about his **knowledge of Pietro Pacciani**, the main defendant in the Mostro case.

**The two knew each other**, contrary to what Bevilacqua claimed at the trial in '94.

This fact is **completely** ignored by investigators and **omitted** from investigative documents.

While checking **the phone records** during the first weeks of the investigation, due to an apparent error, the Carabinieri **let slip the "admission phone call"** immediately preceding the contacts between Bevilacqua and the lawyer I suggested he contact to help him turn himself in. Contacts that, instead, they manage to verify.

The **commander of the ROS** of Florence at the time, **Giuseppe Colizzi**, asked for <u>advice</u> from the forensic psychologists of the RaCIS Carabinieri, only to then **not adhere to their real conclusions** on the possible involvement of Bevilacqua in the crimes of Zodiac and the Monster, which was not excluded by the experts.

Riferite agli aspetti personologici e comportamentali risulta di sicuro interesse la biografia del BEVILACQUA che, per gli elementi a tutt'oggi a disposizione di questo Reparto, appare costellata da lunghe e diversificate esperienze insite di particolari di interesse psico-criminologico.

Excerpt from the conclusions of the RaCIS report

In 2019, I deliver <u>official documents</u> and an email from a former army commander of his confirming Bevilacqua's <u>undercover</u> investigative activity , but they are not even evaluated.

There is no evidence in the archived file of any checks on Bevilacqua's background that did not come from my research.

**The Prosecutor's Office** is not even able **to trace the transcript** of his statements on the Pacciani case made to the Carabinieri in **1992**, which should be in the case file in the custody of the instigators of the investigation.

V. As Asborde che il vintale Man 2
stato refersto.

Se comunche

I PRUCUPATORE DELLA REPUBBLICA

Luca Turca Agg.

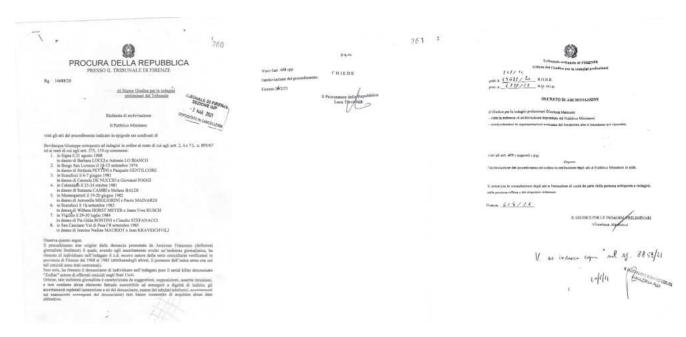
September 18, 2023. Response from the deputy prosecutor of Florence Luca Turco to the last of the many requests to obtain the transcript of Bevilacqua's statements from '92

**At the end of 2020** I was informed that the **Siena Prosecutor's Office** had collected Bevilacqua's **DNA**, which was then shared with the **Florence Prosecutor's Office**, **which had not yet acquired it** two and a half years after the start of the proceedings.

On April 6, 2021, the **murder case** against Bevilacqua was **shelved** (without my knowledge) by investigating judge **Gianluca Mancuso**, **without the victims' families having been previously informed**, in **violation** of the criminal procedure code.

In <u>justifying</u> his request for archiving, **the prosecutor Turco fails** to cite the content of <u>my statements</u> to the Carabinieri on Bevilacqua's <u>admission</u>, <u>furthermore he states</u>, contrary to the truth, that there is no evidence in my <u>journalistic investigation</u> and that no objective data emerged from the ROS investigation of 2018.

Filing without notification to the injured parties **prevents** them from **detecting errors and gaps, and from challenging** the filing in a timely manner by requesting further investigation.



Click to enlarge. Request and decree of archiving of the proceedings for the Monster murders against Bevilacqua arising from my 2018 **complaint** 

In 2022, the prosecutor **Turco denies** a deepening of the investigation and **a comparison with the DNA of the Zodiac case requested by my lawyers**, **Simona** 

**Buccheri and Patrizia Gottini**, in my trial for the alleged defamation of Bevilacqua.

Despite the archiving of the investigation on the American obtained without notifying the injured parties, it is considered **superfluous to carry out a check** before requesting my referral to trial, ordered by the same investigating judge Mancuso.

**Bevilacqua died on December 23, 2022** at the age of 87 without ever having been heard by a Florentine magistrate as an injured party or as a suspect.



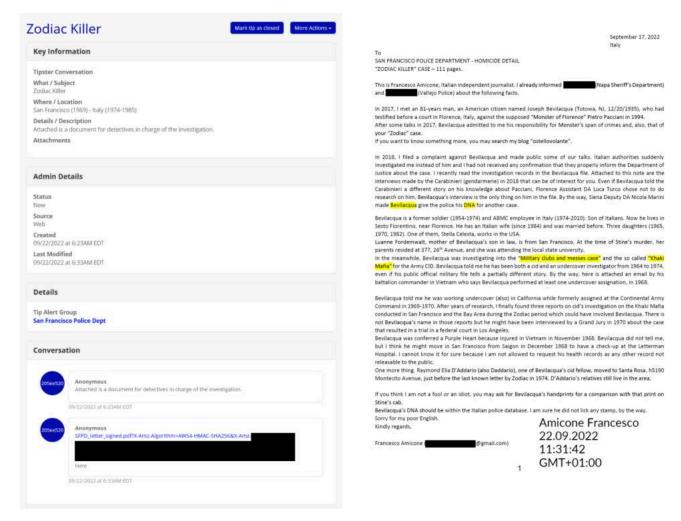
Florence American Cemetery. Credit: Meriadoc Brandibuck

#### 2022-2024. DNA Profile and My Research in the USA

**Since 2018**, I have been providing a lot of **information to Italian investigators and American investigators** investigating the Zodiac case.

In 2020, **I informed** two detectives in charge of the Zodiac case of the acquisition of **Bevilacqua's DNA** by the Siena prosecutor **Marini**, who had it acquired in the investigation into the murder of **Alessandra Vanni** in Castellina in Chianti in '97. The comparison with the DNA under the taxi driver's nails is negative. Even in the Mostro case there is no match, but there are no samples that can be referred with certainty to the serial killer at the time of the comparison.

**In September 2022**, I sent the **San Francisco Police Department** a document of my **research**, including material from the **Khaki Mafia** investigation that Bevilacqua told me he was involved in. Several **investigations** into that case took place **in the San Francisco area** in conjunction with the Zodiac criminal activity.



2022 Report to San Francisco Police on Bevilacqua, DNA and "Khaki Mafia" Investigation

**In November 2023**, to defend myself in the defamation trial, I transmitted Bevilacqua's **genetic profile** to the American authorities in charge of the Zodiac case.

Over the years, **some partial DNA** potentially attributable to the American serial killer has been isolated and Bevilacqua's DNA has never **before been compared** with these samples.

They might find a match.

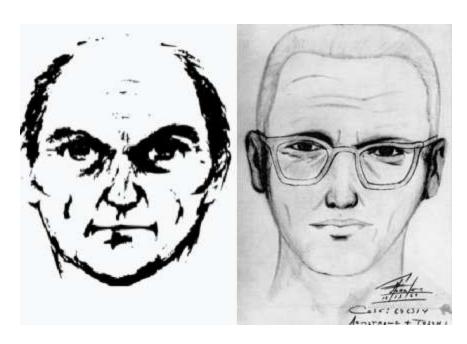
**Between January and July 2024,** I will submit to the FBI the **complete results** of my **journalistic investigation** into Bevilacqua and the Zodiac-Monster connection, as well

as my solutions to the unsolved Zodiac ciphertexts: <u>the anagram</u> of Z408, the <u>code</u> <u>"Mount Diablo,"</u> and the <u>name of Zodiac</u>, which includes a summary of the <u>solution to</u> the Halloween Card <u>riddle</u>.



Click to enlarge. On the left, the report of delivery of the genetic profile. On the right, one of the emails sent to the American authorities with Bevilacqua's genetic profile

# 2. SUMMARY OF THE JOURNALISTIC INVESTIGATION



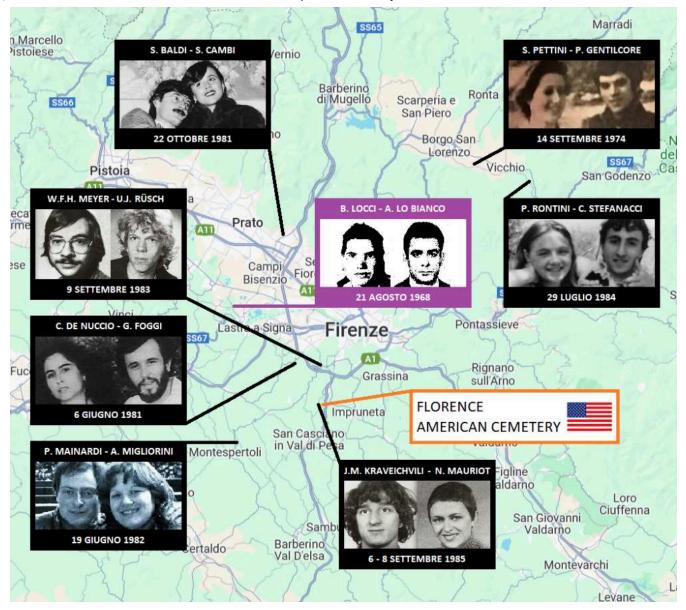
Identikit of the Monster and Zodiac. Only the American one on the right is based on a certain sighting of the serial killer

The full article on the journalistic investigation is **available here** .

#### 1960s - 1980s. The Monster of Florence and Zodiac

The Monster is a serial killer who targets secluded couples in the Florentine countryside **between '74 and '85**, killing **14 young people** with the same gun, probably a Beretta. He attacks the bodies of most of the women he kills, in **some cases** removing their **pubic area** (in '81, '84, '85) and their **left breast** (last two attacks).

In '82 the series is linked to another **possible double homicide** dating back to **'68**, but it will **not** be attributed with **certainty** to the serial killer. The original **sentence** of '73 that condemned the husband of one of the victims, **Stefano Mele**, will never be **revised**.



Click to enlarge. Map of the Monster's murders. In purple the '68 crime of dubious attribution

The American serial killer **who called himself "Zodiac"** acts before the Monster.

The **peak** of his "official" activity can be traced back to the two-year period **'69 – '70**, when he killed five people in **San Francisco** and in the **north of the Bay**, sending letters and coded messages, especially to the press.

The certain beginning of his activity dates back to **December 20, 1968** (Joe Bevilacqua's 33rd birthday), with the murder of a couple in the Vallejo area, but the **first claim of responsibility**, following a new attack, came in **July '69**.



Click to enlarge. Zodiac Murders Map

Like the Monster, Zodiac targets **couples**. He attacks **four** in so-called **lovers' lanes**, alleys and lay-bys in **remote areas** where young people take refuge in search of **intimacy**, and kills **a taxi driver** after he is driven to a residential area of **San Francisco** near the **Presidio military base**.

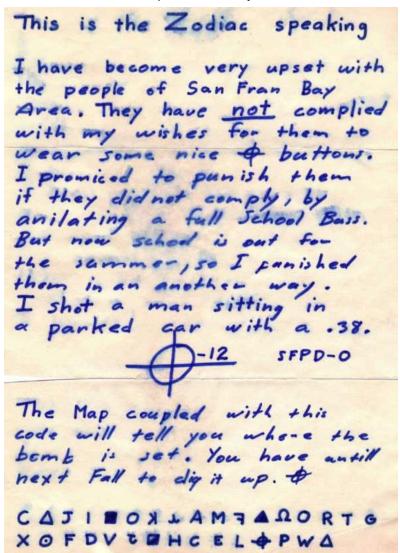
Zodiac has been "unofficially" linked to two other possible murders. That of **Cheri Jo Bates**, in '66 in Riverside (confirmed by Zodiac <u>in '71</u>). And that of <u>Donna Lass</u>, in '70, in the Lake Tahoe area. Both committed in California, as was the '62 murder of taxi driver **Ray Davis**, recently **listed** among his possible crimes.

A DATE IN HIGH SCHOOL. BUT MAYBE IT WILL NOT BE EITHER. BUT I SHALL CUT OFF HER FEMALE PARTS AND DEPOSIT THEM FOR THE WHOLE CITY TO SEE. SO DON'T MAKE IT TO EASY FOR ME. KEEP YOUR SISTERS, DAUGHTERS, AND WIVES OFF THE STREETS

Alleged Cheri Jo Bates Killer Threatens to Cut Off His Future Victim's "Lady Parts" in <u>'66 Letter</u>. Zodiac Apparently Didn't Follow Through. Monster Did, in the '80s

"Zodiac" stole his **nickname** and the **Celtic cross** he signed with from a **watch brand**. **He is** known above all for his "loquacity".

He wrote about twenty <u>letters</u>, mostly to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, also enclosing coded messages.



**Letter**of Zodiac with the Mount Diablo code.**Here is the solution** 

For criminologist **Sharon Pagalin Hagan**, the Zodiac murders (and subsequent claims of guilt) are part of a "bizarre marketing technique." The intent is to gain visibility in the American media.



Click to enlarge. Envelope of the letter to the lawyer Melvin Belli stamped "20 December 1969

<u>The last letter</u> attributed to the American serial killer dates back to **January 29, 1974**, and was sent to the *Chronicle* after a **break of about three years**. A farewell. He must have been about forty years old, according to the testimonies of '69.



The Chronicle on Zodiac's Last Letter. Where Was the Serial Killer Between '71 and '74?

It is often read that the **Monster** , unlike the Zodiac, **only killed couples** . This is not the case.

It is only an assumption.

In the 1980s, investigators chose to **limit their investigations** into the serial killer to **crimes in which the same weapon** was used .

As in the case of the Zodiac, it is considered possible that the Monster may have killed other victims before, during and after the murders officially attributed to him.

The Monster sends only one message, at the end of the trail of blood that he wanted to claim. But in that single text there is a **peculiarity** (below) and a **reference to water** compatible with Zodiac.



A word divided by a hyphen accompanied by a double consonant error in the Monster's message links him to Zodiac. Note how the "Italian" serial killer goes to a new line with "CA" on the same line as Florence

#### Joe Bevilacqua

I began to deal with the Monster case in January 2017.

I suspect that that series of murders could be linked to the disappearance of Zodiac in California in '74 and to Joe Bevilacqua.

The reasons are many ( **I go into more detail here** ), but the three parameters that lead me to this hypothesis at the beginning of the research are three.

The Monster:

- he is American (possible, given the anomaly of the crimes);
- contacted investigators (possible, according to the FBI).
- He has already targeted couples in his homeland ( <u>lovers' lane</u> killer).

On the third parameter I have fewer expectations. But if it has precedents similar to the Monster in the United States, who could it be?

Zodiac is the first on my list.

I am inspired by a comparison in the book "An Almost Normal Man" by **Ruggero Perugini**, **Sandro Federico** 's successor as head of the anti-monster squad established by the police between '86 and '94.

There is a point where Perugini mentions the "loquacity" of the American serial killer, observing that even the Monster is "communicative" in his own way. Only that, unlike claiming responsibility with words, he prefers to do so with a weapon, the same .22 caliber pistol with which he signs seven double murders from '74 to '85 after having orchestrated, I believe, the diversion of the Signa crime.

This is the beginning of a long research that will continue for years, **even after the interviews**, **the admission**, **the complaint**, with the aim of reconstructing, documenting it as best I can, a complex and detailed story that I try to explain in the post "Journalistic investigation".



Photo of Bevilacqua from the 90s

I am not the only one who thinks that the serial killer could be a foreigner. Below, an article recently brought to my attention that reports the opinion of criminologist **Franco Ferracuti**.

In *Die Welt* on August 6, 1984, the well-known expert urged the Italian police **to check the large community of foreigners** in Florence because of the peculiar connotation of the double homicides, anomalous in the Italian context but with **several precedents in Northern Europe and**, above all, **in the United States**.

"...A new theory is now being supported by the famous Italian criminologist Franco Ferracuti . He suspects that the couple killer may be a foreigner living in Florence, since these murders in Italy are anomalous, while they belong to a category of crimes in Anglo-Saxon countries . Florence has always been the favorite city of English and American tourists . Ferracuti advises the police to concentrate their research in the colony of Florentine foreigners ..."

#### Montag. 6. August 1984 - Nr. 182 - DIE WELT

#### Kriminologe mit neuer These

In der toskanischen Landschaft rund um Florenz fielen dem Unbekannten 1974, 1981, 1982, 1983 weitere zwölf junge Männer und Frauen zum Opfer. Methode, Mordwaffe und Ritual änderten sich nie. Vor allem daraus ziehen die Ermittler den Schluß, daß immer ein und derselbe Täter am Werk war. Für Kritiker freilich rätselhaft, daß die Polizei immer noch ohne heiße Spur dasteht.

Eine neue These vertritt inzwischen der bekannte italienische Kriminologe, Franco Ferracuti. Er hat den Verdacht geäußert, daß es sich bei dem Pärchenmörder um einen in Florenz lebenden Ausländer handeln könnte, da Delikte dieser Art in Italien äußerst ungewöhnlich sind, in angelsächsischen Ländern hingegen durchaus zur Verbrechens-Typologie gehören. Florenz ist von jeher die Lieblingsstadt englischer und amerikanischer Dauertouristen. Ferracuti gibt der Polizei den Rat, ihre Recherchen auf die Florentiner Ausländerkolonie zu konzentrieren.

Pia Rontini, das jüngste Opfer, war gerade von einer Urlaubsreise aus der dänischen Heimat ihrer Mutter zurückgekehrt. Ganz Florenz trauert mit den beiden betroffenen Familien. Nach der neuen Mordtat wird allen Verliebten dringend abgeraten, fernab von Wohngegenden zu flirten. Solche Romantik kann in Florenz den Tod bedeuten.

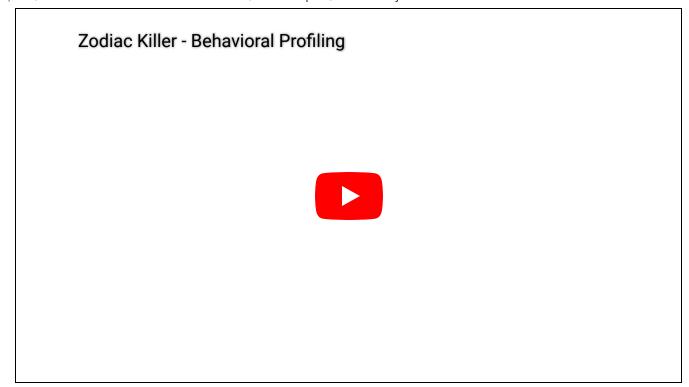
I will not go into the merits of the psychological framework of Zodiac and the Monster on which many experts have expressed themselves over the years. **I talk about it here** .

In addition to the type of preferred victims, couples, there are differences and **similarities in the modus operandi** of the two serial killers. I will only mention the main analogies in this article.

The claimed attacks preferably occur on weekends or holidays after sunset and are distributed in isolated areas around a reference city

. In both cases the weapons used are **pistols and knives** , even if in California the use is alternative and not complementary as in Florence.

Both serial killers seem to find pleasure in **terrorizing the population** of the affected area. From the facts it can be deduced without forcing that like Zodiac also the Monster is not satisfied with killing, or mutilating his victims, but is **constantly seeking the challenge with the police and fame** .



Criminologist Sharon Pagaling Hagan highlights Zodiac's obsession with fame

Could the Monster be the American serial killer known as "Zodiac"? Possibly.

At this point **I** check whether there could be a compatibility between **Zodiac** and an ambiguous American who sought contact with the investigators by becoming a witness, **Joe Bevilacqua** .

As soon as **I cross-reference** some **dates and the coded name** of the American serial killer with the name and known movements of Bevilacqua, three facts jump out at me. The number of letters in his **name is compatible** with the number of symbols **in** Zodiac's coded name.

The **date of the** American's birthday, December 20, occurs **twice in the Zodiac case**. Once **also in the Monster case**, which will be discovered when the <u>magazine</u> from which the clippings glued to the envelope sent to Silvia Della Monica were taken is identified.

Bevilacqua moved to the American Cemetery in Florence under the command of the ABMC in **July '74** (I will have the certainty from the American government documents that I make <u>available here</u>), that is, in the short **interval between Zodiac's disappearance** in January '74 **and the first certain crime of the Monster** in September of the same year.

Coincidences or clues?

To exclude this or that alternative there is only one possible path. **Go and meet Bevilacqua**.

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.

ABMC Annual Report 1975. The document can be **downloaded here** 

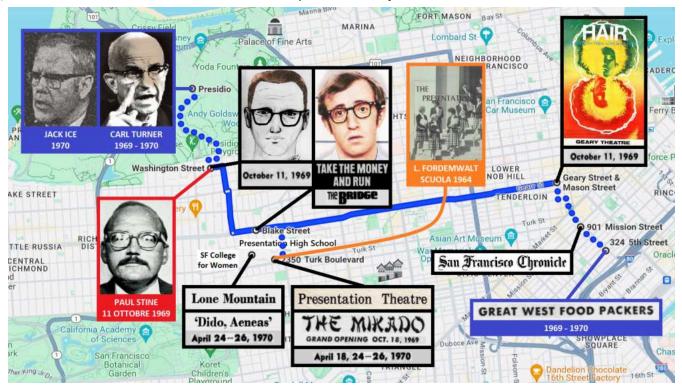
I will discover that Bevilacqua had been stationed in Italy since '71, at Camp Darby, near Pisa, and that in '74 a former comrade in arms of his that he will tell me about, **Raymond D'Addario**, had recently moved to Santa Rosa, north of the San Francisco Bay. These two pieces of information are compatible with Zodiac's disappearance between '71 and '74 and the isolated sending of his **last letter**.

THE REGISTER, Napa, Calif.

Thursday, Dec. 11, 1975

# What Is The Zodiac Killer Doing Now? Where Is Zodiac?

Bevilacqua had already been in Livorno in the mid-60s, when he became an investigator in the 5th CID, under the supervision of its commander **Robert Colombo**. In the following years, he was in Vietnam and carried out various **undercover investigative activities** that also took him to California. **I talk about it here**.



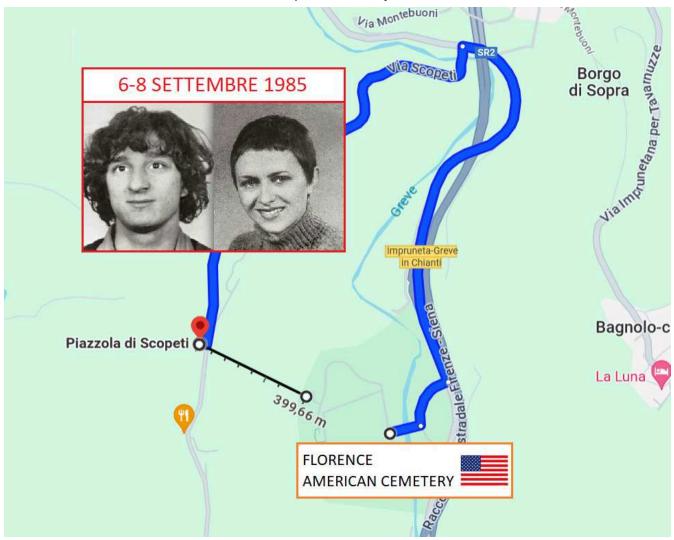
Route of Paul Stine's taxi killed by Zodiac on October 11, 1969. Connections to Joe Bevilacqua that emerged from my research are highlighted. In blue, **Khaki Mafia** case . In orange, a **family connection** 

#### "Eyewitness"

On June 6, 1994, **Bevilacqua** testified at the Pacciani trial on the Monster murders, declaring that he had identified the main suspect of the Florence Prosecutor's Office, the farmer Pietro Pacciani, as an unknown man spotted near the last crime scene.

In the same days, he would have noticed the victims of the last alleged attack of the Monster, Nadine Mauriot and Jean-Michel Kraveichvili, camped along Via Scopeti in Falciani. A second time they were in the parking lot where the two French tourists were allegedly killed, again along Via Scopeti. The crime scene was located near the American monumental cemetery of which Bevilacqua was director.

This version was <u>reiterated</u> to the Carabinieri **in 2018**, with the sighting of the French dating back to the day before the murder.



In his deposition, Bevilacqua states that the Monster's last crime scene was 3/400 meters from his home. The actual distance on Google Maps matches

Bevilacqua's testimony does not seem different from others. At first glance, the American seems almost "suggested", a **"mythomaniac"**, as some researchers of the Mostro case say.

Something is out of place, however. Even Pacciani's lawyers, **Rosario Bevacqua** and **Pietro Fioravanti** 

, notice it , and try to put him in a bad light during the trial.

In particular, his almost namesake, after a confrontation between the witness and the accused, approaches the President of the Court **Enrico Ognibene** provocatively insinuating:

"What if he was the Monster?"



In his closing **speech**, Bevacqua fuels **new doubts**, as does his colleague **Fioravanti**. The former alludes without proof to the fact that the American could be **responsible** for a bloodbath against a comrade in arms in **Vietnam**, the latter points out that the witness placed the moment in which **he learned of the Monster's last certain crime** in the morning after the murder, **when the news had not yet been released**.

It is probably a **defensive strategy** against a dangerous testimony, but in the words of the two lawyers one can detect **the shadow of a genuine suspicion** .

Before replying to the two defenders, the prosecutor **Paolo Canessa** turns to the American Embassy which **informs him** that the Italian-American was a **brave soldier** .

In 2004, Pacciani had already been dead for six years when Fioravanti was questioned **by Giuttari**, head of **GIDES**, and by the officer **Davide Arena**, on behalf of the deputy prosecutor of Perugia **Giuliano Mignini** as part of the investigations into the death of **Francesco Narducci** (full **statements here**).

The former Vampa lawyer has no vested interest in exposing his doubts about Bevilacqua to investigators.

He recalls that **Pacciani muttered the word "infamous"** when the American approached during the **height confrontation** .

According to Fioravanti, Bevilacqua **knew more** than he reported at trial.

Voglio dire un'altra cosa, e cioè che il custode del cimitero americano nella zona dell'ultimo duplice omicidio, tale Bevilacqua, sapeva dell'omicidio degli Scopeti prima che la notizia venisse fuori. Tale fatto l'ho contestato in Tribunale. Ritengo che lui ne sapesse di più anche perché sentii durante il processo che Pacciani mormorò al Bevilacqua la parola "infame" mentre erano vicini per l'accertamento dell'altezza.

Statements from 2004 to GIDES by lawyer Pietro Fioravanti. Pacciani had been dead for years. The lawyer had no reason to defend him to the bitter end, pointing out the witness Bevilacqua as a suspect

#### **Preparations**

What is Bevilacqua's real past?

At the time, there was not the extensive information about his past that **I will collect** and **share** starting the following year on this blog, gathering it in a post on his **biography** .

The information available online in 2017 says that the former director of the American Cemetery of Florence is a **baseball fan**, knows something about **gardening**, was a **soldier**, and fought **in Vietnam**.

I can make some additional deductions from the medals pinned on the uniform of the cemetery director of the ABMC in a photo that portrays him with the then Speaker of the House **Newt Gingrich** on the coast of Anzio in the 1990s.



Former Speaker Gingrich and Bevilacqua

He wears the same military decorations in the photos that portray him next to two US presidents in office at the time, Republican **George Bush Sr.** and Democrat **Bill Clinton**, and Vice President **Dick Cheney**.

There is a Purple Heart for a war wound, two Bronze Stars with V device and a <u>Silver</u> star , the third decoration for valor provided by the US armed forces.

They are all prestigious medals obtained for actions in combat.







Bevilacqua together with two US presidents and a vice president

My main interest is to know when he was in Vietnam.

I know from his Vietnam service medal that he served in four campaigns. He should therefore have been there sometime between 1967 and 1971.

Determining this precisely is important to verify the presence of an alibi for the murder of Signa, apparently linked to the others by the cartridge cases and bullets found in the Mele file. And for the Lake Herman Road case of December 20, 1968, claimed by the serial killer in July 1969.

After the interviews and the admission, I will give myself some answers that I will set out in an article dedicated to the cover-up and in one on the Saigon-San Francisco flights.

After initial research, on **April 7, 2017, I asked for a message** to be delivered to Bevilacqua.

My interlocutor was a former colleague of his at ABMC, the director of the Rome-Sicily American Cemetery, **Melanie Resto** .

In the message (below) I ask Bevilacqua for advice on a biography of an American **soldier with a little-known past** who perhaps served in the military police in **California** during the Vietnam era.

At the Pacciani trial in '94, Bevilacqua declared that he had been part of the "criminal police".

If he were really Zodiac, he would understand the allusion.

From: Resto Mélanie

Sent: Monday, April 10, 2017 8:53 AM To: 'francesco.fenicio.cianci@gmail.com' Subject: RE: messaggio per Joseph Bevilacqua

Buongiorno Sig. Cianci,

Il Sig. Bevilacqua preferisce che lei lo chiami al numero qui.

Sig. Bevilacqua tramite: 339

Regards,

Melanie Resto Superintendent

American Battle Monuments Commission | Sicily-Rome American Cemetery Unit 9500 | Box 11 | DPO AE 09624-0011 Piazzale Kennedy 1 | 00048 Nettuno | Italy T +39 06.98.80.284

From: Francesco Cianci <francesco.fenicio.cianci@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, April 7, 2017 6:19:10 PM

To: Resto Mélanie

Subject: messaggio per Joseph Bevilacqua

#### Buonasera

l'ho chiamata questo pomeriggio per avere un contatto con l'ex Soprintendente Joseph Bevilacqua. Ecco il messaggio che vorrei gli fosse recapitato (se possibile).

Grazie per la cordialità e la disponibilità!

"Salve, sono Francesco Cianci,

la contatto perché sto scrivendo una biografia su una persona che servì per l'Esercito USA fra il 1960 e il 1968.

Della sua vita in quel periodo purtroppo si sa poco. E non so da dove iniziare per le mie ricerche, che partono solo dal fatto che nel periodo del Vietnam doveva essere di base in California e forse faceva parte della Military Police.

Sono del tutto incompetente dell'ambiente militare e avrei bisogno di orientarmi per scrivere questo capitolo che dovrebbe rivestire una certa importanza nel complesso della storia di questa persona.

Contatto Lei per la sua esperienza e perché mi hanno suggerito il suo nome.

Sarebbe disponibile a concordare un colloquio telefonico o anche per email?

Grazie,

Francesco"

Click to enlarge

I call Bevilacqua a few weeks later.

Apparently at that moment he seems just a little nervous, not upset.

"My name is Joe, not Giuseppe," he tells me.

The Italian registry office thinks differently. But it is also true that in some interviews they call him Joe, short for Joseph. He invites me to meet in person.

"My house is next to the only baseball field in the province, you can't miss it."

I should go and visit him at the beginning of May, when I go to Florence to meet the lawyer and criminologist **Edoardo Orlandi**, whom I have already interviewed by telephone, but I prefer to postpone.

After careful **consideration** of the benefits and risks **I will decide not to record the conversations** with Bevilacqua.

Considering the circumstances I do not have much choice.

- Recording openly **is not an option** . My interlocutor is a possible **serial killer** that the police seem completely unaware of and what I need is **truthful information** that could harm him. If he knows that I am recording him, he is **unlikely to tell me the truth** . The priority is not to document, but to acquire true information.
- There would be the possibility of secretly recording, but Bevilacqua is not a corrupt
  politician or a television con man. He is a former "criminal cop" who I will discover has
  carried out <u>undercover</u> investigations. In other words, an expert.
   I do not have a single chance.

If he discovers me, at best he will throw me out of the house and the only result I would obtain would be to have put him **on alert**, also ruining possible future police investigations.

So I decide not to take any risks and not to record the conversations. I plan to treat him as if he were a source.



View of Florence from Piazzale Michelangelo. I went there for the first time as a child in the 90s, at the time of the trials of the companions of snacks. I remember that I associated the word "Florence" with the Monster

#### **Interviews and admission**

The seven <u>conversations</u> in 2017 between me and Bevilacqua **found by the ROS** in their **analysis** of the telephone records took place at his home and in Falciani over six days.

- May 26th
- May 27th
- June 30th
- July 28 (with a visit to Falciani)
- August 9th morning
- August 9th afternoon
- August 10th

On the first day, Bevilacqua is scared. He doesn't hide his **anguish** when he looks out onto the balcony and asks me the real reason why I came to visit him.

He takes me up to his apartment after making me repeat several times that I am there "for Vietnam". Which was part of the truth.

"It's really him," I think.

From his attitude I deduce that **he knows why I am there.** He does not want to hide it, even if it remains implicit.

We sit down. I notice that he moves away from the balcony window, as if he fears being targeted.

#### He is on the alert.

I glance too long at a piece of paper written in pen and he turns it over. I linger on a tattoo on his right arm and he tries to roll down his sleeve.

We are talking about Vietnam.

I brought an illustrated book with photographs, "NAM" by De Agostini , to help his memory.

He is starting to gain confidence, but not too much.

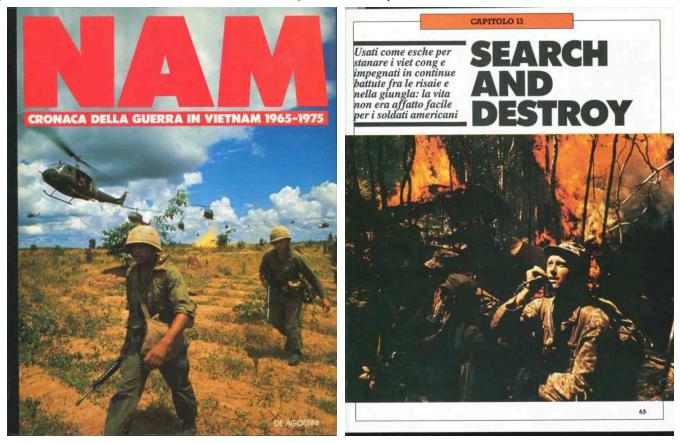
At a certain point, apparently for no reason, he says:

"There were a lot of **Berettas** in Vietnam..."

He is undoubtedly referring to the infamous Monster gun. It seems that he wants me to talk, but I am in no hurry.

The next day, **the bull disappears and** his wife **Meri Torelli appears**, who, although she is present at home from time to time, will not attend the meetings. Bevilacqua shows me some photo albums and mentions his work in the investigative departments of the military police. At the end of the second interview, he accompanies me to the front door. When we are on the threshold of the door, he says goodbye with a pat on the shoulder and says:

"I like you because you're a trouble-free guy."



Book that I had Bevilacqua browse through. On the right, the first page of the chapter on the "Search and destroy" operations that he conducted in South Vietnam as an infantry platoon leader

On June 30th I offered to be his **"biographer"**. During that and subsequent interviews I questioned him about his life.

Maybe because he likes someone to "know" and considering **me harmless**, he doesn't mind giving me some clues to confirm who he is.

The most symbolic gesture, I think, is to show me an old **photo album with a Celtic cross** drawn in pencil on the cover. The Celtic cross was the symbol of Zodiac.

The nickname and symbol were taken from a **brand of watches**.



On the left, the Zodiac disguise in the attack on Lake Berryessa. On the right, the note on the Celtic cross from an album just viewed with Bevilacqua in 2017

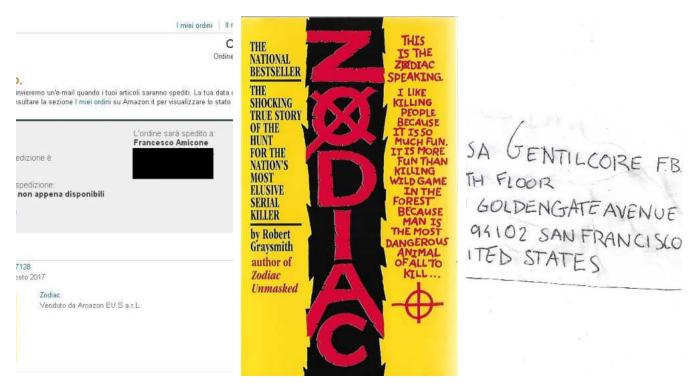
From the meeting of July 28, we begin to talk about the criminal cases of the American serial killer and the Monster.

**On August 10th I bring with me Robert Graysmith** 's book "Zodiac" and we discuss the American case. As well as the letter with the **coded name of Zodiac** of April 20, 1970.



Bar Marconi in Falciani. The first time I spoke openly about Zodiac and the Monster with Bevilacqua was at a table outside this bar on July 28, 2017

A few days after my last meeting with Bevilacqua, I mail the cover with **Bevilacqua's fingerprints** to the FBI office in San Francisco in **an anonymous envelope** with no message, thinking it's likely they'll pick them up and run them into their database. "Maybe something will come up," I think.



The Zodiac book read by Bevilacqua and one of the 2017 test labels with the contact information of the FBI agent to whom I sent the cover

On September 12, 2017, Bevilacqua <u>admitted</u> over the phone that he was responsible for the crimes of Zodiac and the Monster after reading the stylized solution of Zodiac's encrypted name based on his indication. I urged him to turn himself in.

I do not secretly **record the phone call, even if Italian law allows it. The reason is ethical-professional** .

I gave my word to Bevilacqua that I would not disclose information received from him without his consent.

# .22-CALIBER AUTOMATIC LONG RIFLE PISTOL



7788

2 interchangeable front sights for fast shooting accuracy. One 5/64" approx. one 3/32" approx. Comfortable wrap-around grips.

BERETTA® .22 L.R. CALIBER

Beretta Series 70 in an advertisement for an American newspaper. The model of pistol that the Monster allegedly used in the murders of the couples in Florence was also sold in the United States

Although I backdated the "admission call" by one day due to an oversight, **the records** (next image) **confirm my version** of events.

The call begins with me telling Bevilacqua that I have the solution to Zodiac's encrypted name.

He replies:

"We don't talk about these things on the phone."

I ignore him and read him the solution with his name. He replies scared:

"They knew it."

He refers to his superiors at CID <u>Robert Colombo and Raymond D'Addario</u>. He tries to make me believe that they knew or suspected him, but he doesn't explain why. He leaves his sentence unfinished.

I ask him why he didn't turn himself in and he says that he didn't do it "so as not to get others into trouble." "Your family?" I ask.

"Yes."

I try to convince him to turn himself in.

He replies that it cannot be proven that he was in California because at the time he was working undercover and was assigned to other places.

I try again. And he replies:

"Do you know how much time has passed?"

I reply that murder does not have a statute of limitations. The conversation continues. In the end Bevilacqua seems to be convinced to turn himself in.

I know that his wife **Meri Torelli** is listening, because I hear her moaning in the background when her **husband asks me**:

"What should I bring? The gun? Do I bring the gun?"

I suggest to the elderly Italian-American **a criminal lawyer** I know, **Francesco Moramarco** , to help him **turn himself in** .

An anomalous interference makes me believe that we are being wiretapped. Bevilacqua gets annoyed because he can't get the lawyer's number.

Mrs. Torelli intervenes and writes it down without asking why.

**After the admission**, during the night, **I go to Florence** to accompany Bevilacqua to the Carabinieri. **I call him. He has changed his mind**.

**We argue** and from then on we never hear from each other again.

More details on admission are available here.

After the first unsuccessful reports in 2017 and a meeting with the Carabinieri of Monza in February 2018, I decided to file a formal **complaint** 

. On March 1, 2018, <u>I reported</u> the incident to the Carabinieri of Lecco as **a person** informed of the facts .

On April 16, I was heard informally at the Public Prosecutor's Office in Florence. I warned the assistants of the head of the investigation into the Mostro case, the deputy **Luca Turco**, that **I would disclose the news** of the admission. And so it happened, on May 29, in the *Giornale*.

Just to be clear, there is immediate evidence of my credibility, even if both Bevilacqua and his wife deny admission. I talk about it **here** .



#### 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

.2/09/2017 15:33:20 835 039	
2/09/2017 15:22:20 925 029	
12/09/2017 15:22:20 925 029	
12/09/2017 15:33:20 835 039 055	
Telefonata dell'ammissione	
12/09/2017 15:47:52 13 039 con interruzione 055	
12/09/2017 15:48:36 197 039 055	
" " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "	
12/09/2017 15:52:50 83 055 Contatti JB - avvocato	
12/09/2017 16:28:11 171 392 Contact 35 - avvocato 055	
13/09/2017 10:11:18 856 333 Ultima conversazione 055	

Bevilacqua failed to mention his contacts with the lawyer Moramarco who was supposed to help him turn himself in. More information **here** 

## 2018. A "dead track"

On June 1, 2018, Bevilacqua's **lawyer**, **Elena Benucci**, issued **a statement** in which her client **denied** admitting to being a serial killer. The text was published by several newspapers, including **La Repubblica** and **La Nazione**, Florence's main daily newspaper. The statement reads:

"I deny having confessed to anyone that I was the perpetrator of the Monster of Florence and Zodiac killer crimes. For the simple fact that I did not commit them. [...]"

Bevilacqua's admission of guilt was not recorded and this fact should remain confidential.

Unfortunately, on June 2, 2018, that is, the day after Bevilacqua's denial, we discover by reading *La Nazione* that, **ignoring the official secret**, the Florence Prosecutor's Office communicated that my complaint would be without any response. **"A trail already dead"** paraphrases **Stefano Brogioni** in the **article** entitled:

### "Zodiac Hoax in Court"

In this way, Bevilacqua can easily deduce that a recording is missing.



June 2, 2018, La Nazione. "Zodiac Hoax in Court"

By the way. In my posts and articles I always cite sources, including "monstrologers" and forum users. So I wonder what "ideas copied from forums" Brogioni means in his <u>piece</u>. Perhaps the judicial reporter of La *Nazione* is referring to the **comments on Bevilacqua** written by me anonymously on the forum <u>imostridifirenze</u> using various pseudonyms in 2017, when I also <u>reported the deciphering</u> of Zodiac's name on the blog of researcher Martin Rush.

## Bevilacqua heard at his home with his relatives

The only investigation carried out up to that point was to listen to the Italian-American as **a person informed of the facts** . And he has already run into a serious contradiction (next chapter).

The former **Army CID** investigator with a 20-year career in the army, undercover operations, a year of war in Vietnam, is old but lucid and autonomous. Strangely, he was **interviewed** by the ROS at his home **and in the presence of three family members** (wife, a daughter and grandson), instead of in the nearby Carabinieri station of Sesto Fiorentino.

The reasons would be his age and state of "apprehension", claims the **commander of the ROS Colizzi** in a note of June 2, 2018 (next image).

This decision made by those conducting the investigation at the time **prevents DNA from being collected** .

The gap <u>will be filled</u> in 2020 by the **Siena Public Prosecutor's Office**, under the direction of **Nicola Marini**. On his initiative, Bevilacqua's DNA will be **acquired** and then **shared** in the database of the Ministry of the Interior.

The Florence Prosecutor's Office will oppose transmitting Bevilacqua's genetic profile **to the US authorities** for a check with the **Zodiac case samples** . **I will do it in person** for defense investigations in November 2023.

Si rappresenta infine che in considerazione dell'età e dello stato di apprensione del sig. BEVILACQUA Giuseppe l'escussione è avvenuta nella sua abitazione alla presenza della moglie, della figlia e del nipote<sup>4</sup> e per tale motivo non è stato possibile acquisire discretamente alcuna traccia DNA.

Alla presente si allega verbale di sommarie informazioni rese dal sig. BEVILACQUA Giuseppe il 30/05/2018.

## **Bevilacqua's statements from 2018**

**Aside from the admission**, the former director of the American Cemetery in Florence **does not directly contest** the contents of our **conversations** in his statements to the Carabinieri on May 30, 2018. Nor in his complaint, where he will limit himself to insinuating falsehoods about my **notes**, probably fearing the information on his "unofficial" movements in California.

In the ROS report signed by him, Bevilacqua does not go into detail about our **conversations**, except to make some **insinuations** about my good faith, **giving incorrect information** about our first contact and **omitting** the phone calls to the criminal lawyer on 12 September 2017.

He claims to have been in **California** only with his family and to go to Vietnam. He claims to have **"no recollection"** of being in Riverside, the probable scene of a Zodiac murder in '66.

Sono nato nel comune di Totowa Boro nello stato del New Jersey. Sono passato per la California solo quando sono dovuto andare in Vietnam a prestare servizio militare. Altre volte sono stato in California con la famiglia in vacanza ma solo per brevi periodi. Non ricordo di essere mai stato a Riverside in California ma puntualizzo che negli Stati Uniti d'America vi sono più località denominate Riverside che significa "a fianco al fiume"./

Obviously no mention of his son-in-law from San Francisco, his neighbor. The day the police came he was absent along with his wife.

There are many omissions and errors, intentional or not, in these statements, which would be easily found if the Prosecutor's Office were to evaluate the American government documents that I have been handing over to them since 2018. There are witnesses who could be heard to examine Bevilacqua's background. One of them is Lieutenant Colonel **Mark Reese**, Bevilacqua's boss in '68 in Vietnam.

Reese provides corroboration to my account of Bevilacqua's undercover activities in Army CID that I cite in my notes **reviewed by the RaCIS** Carabinieri in 2018.

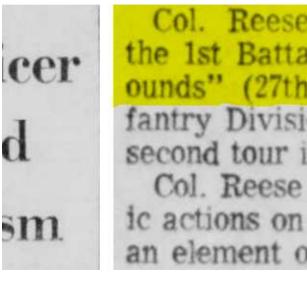


Data: 11 gen 2019, 23:13

Visualizza dettagli sulla sicurezza

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





Click to enlarge. On the left, the email in which Reese mentions an undercover assignment. At the time, Bevilacqua's fellow detective "Ray" D'Addario was working in the 25th Infantry Division's CID department. **Details here** 

No information about Bevilacqua's activity in the "criminal police" (his definition of 1994) ever leaks out in the statements to the Carabinieri and in his complaint. On the other hand, he told me that he had gone to California for <a href="undercover">undercover</a> investigations and that there was no official evidence of those movements. His colleagues, Raymond D'Addario and Robert Colombo, knew about it. Perhaps other CID investigators.

Colombo died **a few weeks after** Bevilacqua's statements, at the end of June 2018.

THE TRANSPORT OF THE PARTY OF T

TESTE Bevilacqua: Lavoravo nella Polizia Criminale, prima.

AVVOCATO Bevacqua: Ah, Polizia Criminale. Quindi aveva anche delle

pistole, lei.

TESTE Bevilacqua: Scusi?

AVVOCATO Bevacqua: Aveva anche le pistole?

TESTE Bevilacqua: No.

AVVOCATO Bevacqua: Mai. La Polizia Criminale non ha pistole.

TESTE Bevilacqua: Solo le mani.

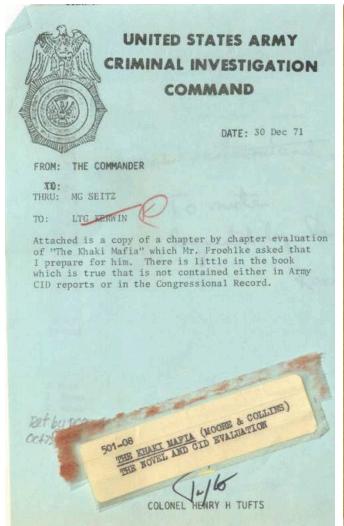
Bevilacqua is funny during his '94 deposition. "Only the hands" is the original joke. He is referring to his past as a CID investigator. "Only the hands" is the original joke. **Here is the official transcript** 

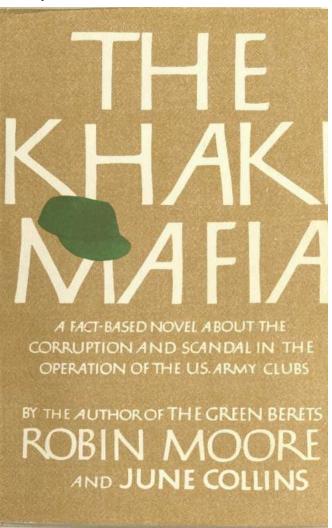
Bevilacqua, during the interviews, did not want to talk to me about his "work", but he gave me a clue, telling me that he had worked on the investigation on the "Khaki Mafia". A maxi investigation of the CID on several continents focused on a Californian company managed by a group of military men.

He also recommended that I read the novel-truth of the same name by **June Collins and Robin Moore** that he had in his library.

In 2022, **I will report** to the American police the **investigations of the CID on the Khaki Mafia** that took place in San Francisco in conjunction with the Zodiac activity, discovered after a long research work.

I make them <u>available here</u> in the documented reconstruction of the journalistic investigation that I published here.





On the left, a '71 note signed by CID Commander Hentry Tufts. Attached to the note is a report on the book "The Khaki Mafia", cover on the right

## Bevilacqua's new version on Pacciani

There is **information** that **confirms my reliability** the day after the investigations into my complaint began, but it is **completely omitted** by the **Carabinieri of the ROS** and the **Florence Prosecutor's Office** in the investigation into Bevilacqua which will be archived in 2021.

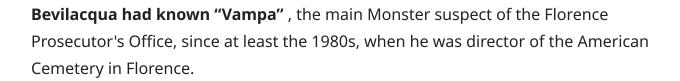
On **April 16, 2018**, I delivered to the assistants of the prosecutor Turco, the PG officers Liberato Ilardi and Andrea Giannini, a brief <u>account of the conversations</u> I had with Bevilacqua in 2017 that resulted in the telephone admission of September 12. A five-page summary that I had already given to the Carabinieri of Monza on **February 22** (in the first version the date of the "admission telephone call" was correct). I cite this document in my article on the admission in the *Giornale*. It reads:

"Bevilacqua told me that **he knew Pietro Pacciani well**, and that he **had met him several times** in the woods behind the Falciani cemetery."

## "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



This is information unknown to the Prosecutor's Office, which becomes public knowledge with the publication of my article in Il *Giornale* .

<u>At the</u> Pacciani trial hearing on June 6, 1994, the Italian-American declared that **he did not know** the defendant, **reiterating this several times** .

"I didn't know who he was."

In 1994, at Pacciani's trial, **Bevilacqua identified the defendant as an "unknown man"** seen near the crime scene in 1985, a day before the crime.

The then ABMC official repeatedly **stated that he did not know who he was** at the time of the identification.

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... Diamo atto che è il Pacciani, eh! PRESIDENTE:

June 6, 1994. Bevilacqua's testimony at the Pacciani trial. Official transcript

In his <u>statements</u> of May 30, 2018 to the Carabinieri, Bevilacqua contradicts his previous testimony **confirming** what the undersigned anticipated to the Prosecutor's Office. He claims, in fact, to have **come across the "Vampa" several times** in the area of the American Cemetery of Florence where he lived and worked in the 70s and 80s.

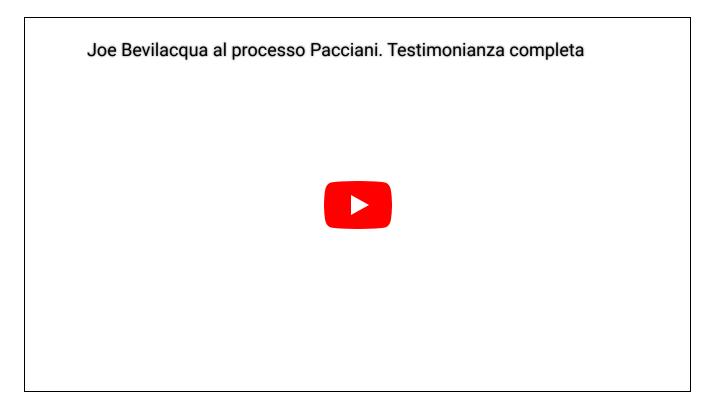
Durante la mia permanenza a Falciani ho avuto modo di conoscere Pietro PACCIANI in quanto era solito venire lungo la rete di recinzione per cacciare gli animali ed io dimoravo all'interno del Cimitero Militare Americano di Falciani; altre volte mi è capitato di incontrarlo al bar degli Scopeti.——///

May 30, 2018. Bevilacqua's summary information. The full minutes are **available here** 

Pacciani **actually frequented the area** where the **Florence American Cemetery** is located , near the Monster's final crime scene, and was a well-known figure in the community of nearby San Casciano in Val di Pesa.

Certainly, this new version, in addition to confirming my reliability, proves a false testimony by Bevilacqua, who had been defined as **"reliable"** and had supported the <u>life</u>

**sentence** of "Vampa" in the first degree.



The investigators have **evidence** of a clear **false testimony** by the Italian-American already the **day after** the start of the **investigative activity** of the ROS on the basis of my complaint. But it is **completely ignored** in the investigative notes of the commander of the ROS of Florence **Giuseppe Colizzi**.

They should investigate him thoroughly, search his home for the gun that he was supposed to hand over to the Carabinieri in 2017. Instead, only **two days after** learning of Bevilacqua's serious contradiction about Pacciani, the investigators **communicate** to the *Nation* that **there is no evidence** to support my complaint.

Why?

Such a hasty judgment by the investigators has no justification, given the false testimony of Bevilacqua found three days earlier which confirms my reliability.

Appunti
di Amicone
presi durante
i colloqui del 2017
con riferimenti
al CID
confermati













Querela di Bevilacqua del 2018



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.

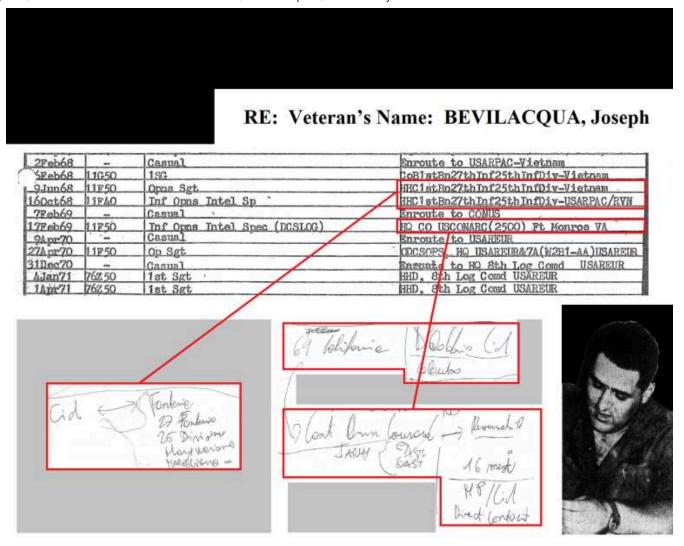
Quest'ultima circostanza, unitamente alla prima sopra descritta, aveva indotto nello scrivente il sospetto che Amicone intendesse scrivere su di lui una storia avente un contenuto del tutto diverso (certamente inimmaginabile!) da quello indicatogli al momento in cui gli si era presentato, oltretutto apportando evidenti forzature, se non palesi difformità rispetto al narrato.

The American's lies also extend to the insinuations in his complaint, where he leads us to believe, without saying so openly, that he **falsified the notes** on our conversations (you can **read more about it here** ).

To do so, he claims that I used **not a notebook** but **slips of paper** to take notes during the conversations .

He probably expects me to have given a copy of the notes to the investigators, as in fact happened.

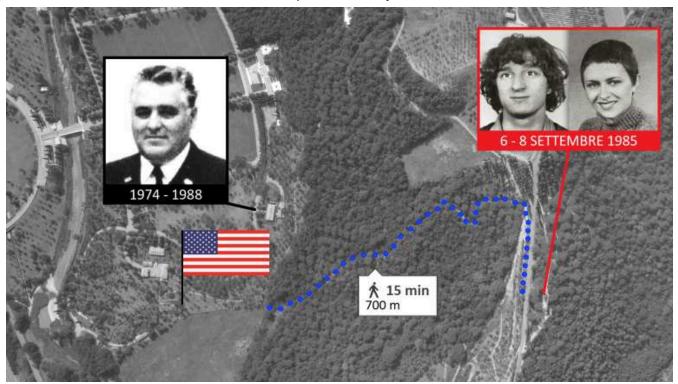
But why lie?



My notes on Bevilacqua's undercover operations and their "official" assignments in his assignment list. **Details here** 

I believe that the former CID investigator feared the information on his "unofficial" movements, since **he saw me taking <u>notes</u>** in the notebook on the table in the living room of his house when he spoke to me about **colleagues** and <u>undercover operations</u>, information largely confirmed by future research for my <u>investigation</u>. Movements that took him **to California during the Zodiac years** and that he omits in his statements to the Carabinieri.

The Italian-American must have appeared very **unsuspecting in** the eyes of the Florentine detectives. Even when **he confirmed** that he had seen the Monster's **last victims the day before** their murder, camped out in the crime scene on Via Scopeti near the American cemetery where he lived, **at the same time that the Monster must have noticed them**.



The American flag marks the American Cemetery grounds where Bevilacqua lived. In blue, one of the various paths leading to the square on Via Scopeti. Aerial photo from 1982. Source: **Regione Toscana** 

In 2018, Bevilacqua is **old but lucid**. He will always be so **until his death**, his wife **Meri Torelli** recalls in the **hearing** of October 12, 2023 of my defamation trial, confirming her husband's most recent version of his knowledge of Pacciani.

Mrs. Torelli married Bevilacqua in August 1984.

Before moving to San Casciano in Val di Pesa, **she lived not far** from the homes of **Susanna Cambi** (killed by the Monster in 1981) and **Gabriella Caltabellotta**, a possible victim of the serial killer, killed **a few months before the** Bevilacqua-Torelli wedding, according to some researchers.



Between '69 and '84, Meri Torelli lived on the outskirts of Susanna Cambi and Gabriella Caltabellotta's neighborhood

The first-degree Pacciani ruling informs us that **in the "undiscovered" report** of the summary witness information of 14 July 1992, **Mrs. Torelli** was supposedly **alongside Bevilacqua** in the car when, in the days of the last crime attributed to the Monster, her husband **saw the victims** in the parking lot on **Via Scopeti** where they were killed, about **ten minutes' walk** from the cemetery where they lived.

TESTE (TORELLI MERI) - Non mi ricordo, però sicuramente l'aveva visto tante volte perché al cimitero, insomma, ci andava, ecco, perché a volte sparava, sicché cadeva qualche animale dentro in cimitero e andava anche a prenderlo, così insomma.

DIFESA IMPUTATO (AVV. PEPI) - Il Pacciani andava dentro il cimitero a prendere gli animali?

TESTE (TORELLI MERI) - In cimitero chiedendo il permesso a mio marito eh? Naturalmente.

October 12, 2023. Meri Torelli on Pacciani and her husband Bevilacqua. Full transcript

It should be added to this family "parenthesis" that the **husband** of the **daughter Anna**Maria Bevilacqua is originally from San Francisco .

One of the many **details overlooked** by investigators so far. Certainly, there is no evidence that Bevilacqua and his family **informed** them about it. However, I did so in my **additions to the 2021** complaint, shortly after a case was closed that neither I nor the injured parties knew anything about until 2022.

**Bevilacqua 's son-in-law's mother**, Mrs. **Luanne Fordemwalt**, frequented the **same area Zodiac** targeted at the time of his crimes.

Details available here.

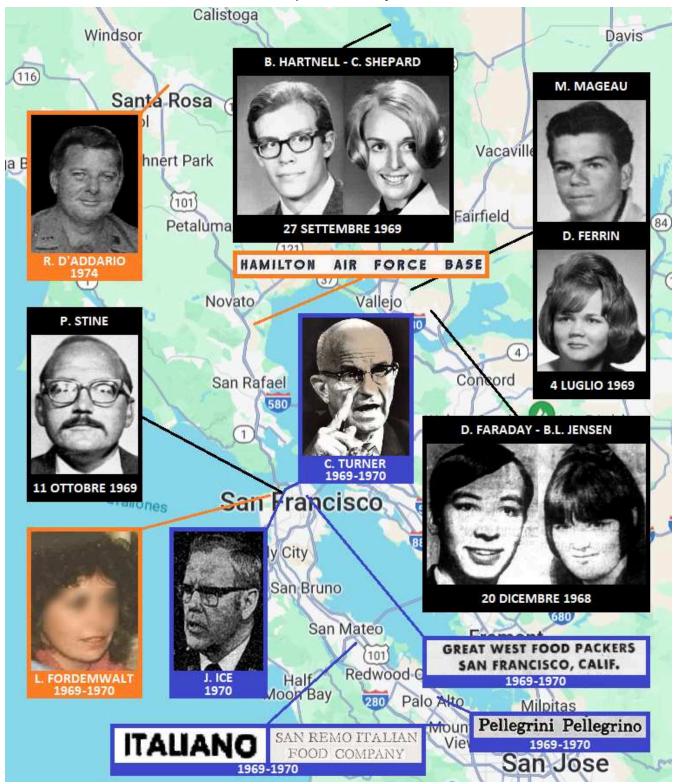


Click to enlarge. Mrs. Fordemwalt, Anna Maria Bevilacqua's mother-in-law, attended the schools where a performance of "The Mikado" was performed, which Zodiac probably attended in '69

## A nobody only in appearance

The officials of the Florence Public Prosecutor's Office in charge of the Mostro case were warned as early as April 16, 2018, during an informal conversation at the courthouse, that Bevilacqua is not really a "nobody", unlike what one might believe from his ambiguous deposition in 1994.

I immediately informed the investigators that Bevilacqua, a highly decorated <u>veteran</u> of the Vietnam War with a **20-year military career** behind him, was a <u>former Army CID</u> investigator with active <u>undercover</u> operations.

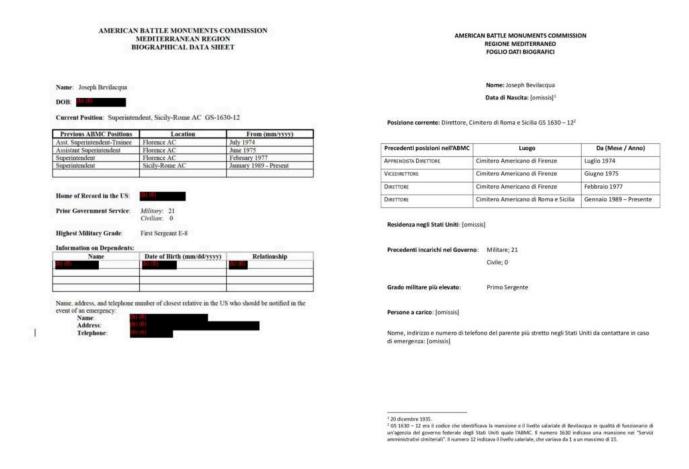


Most of these connections between Bevilacqua and the San Francisco area at the time of Zodiac were reported to the Florence District Attorney's Office in 2021. I **posted them here** 

I am providing **initial evidence** that Bevilacqua resided **in the main area of the Monster** murders since **July 1974**, that is, before the confirmed start of the serial killer's crimes.

In 2019, I will file an **official document from the ABMC** certifying that he remained in

Florence until 1988, that is, until three years **after** the apparent **end of the murderous** series .



Bevilacqua's ABMC assignment sheet attached to a 2019 FOIA response. My translation into Italian is at the side. I am delivering a copy to the Prosecutor's Office on March 19, 2019.

Bevilacqua's statements at the '94 hearing about the sightings of the '85 victims, the chronology, the place of work and residence are **circumstantial clues** that combined with the **false testimony** about Pacciani strengthen my **statements** about the former US military detective.

To these must be added a **known clue** about the possible **involvement of an American** in the murders of the couples in Florence.

During a wiretapped **conversation** in prison between **Mario Vanni**, Pacciani's alleged accomplice, and his friend **Lorenzo Nesi**, in 2003, Vanni claims that **the real perpetrator of the murders** is an **American** named **"Ulysses"**, like **Homer's hero**. A **"black"**.

Pacciani supposedly met him in a wood.

```
Ma, qualcosa t'avrà detto, ho ammazzato due persone.... Dio bo... qualcosa
                                                                                                                      E in dò gli era questo americano?
                                                                                                                      E in dò gli era, nel bosco lo trovil Lo trovò nel bosco (n.s.c.)... ogni cosa gli
ayeva, che gli era stato lui a fa questi delimi!
          t'avrà detto, l'ho ammazzate per un motivo?
          Ma è... (n.s.c.)... gli è stato il Mostro, hai capito!?
                                                                                                                      Ma chi l'ha detto questo:
                                                                                                         Vanni:
                                                                                                                      Eh?
          E' stato Ulisse a... che ha ammazzato tutte queste gentel Nero! (n.s.c.)...
ni
                                                                                                         Nesi:
                                                                                                                      Perché ora, fino a ora tu m'ha detto che questi omicidi l'ha fatti il Pacciani!
          Chi gli e il neror
                                                                                                         Vanni:
                                                                                                                      Eh!
           E' un americano!
mi
                                                                                                         Nesi
                                                                                                                      E questo nero chi gli è?
           Un americano e gli ha ammazza.
                                                                                                         Vanni:
           Un americano, sil Un negro! Un certo Ulissel
mi:
                                                                                                                       Ma in dò gli stava?
                                                                                                                      Eh, in americal
                                                                                                         Nesi:
           Ulisse, si chiama!
                                                                                                         Vanni:
           Un l'ha ammazzati il Pacciani?
                                                                                                                       In america!
                                                                                                         Nesi
                                                                                                                      E veniva a fa gli omicidi qui?
                                                                                                                      Davvero!
```

Click to enlarge

In the transcript, the word "negro" is used.

In a meeting in August 2017, I show an excerpt of this conversation to Bevilacqua.

After reading it, **he is furious** . And he blurts out:

"I think they'll kill him."

"I think they'll kill Vanni."

Bevilacqua doesn't know that the postman is dead and I don't update him. He claims that they only let him read *Famiglia Cristiana* .

In a perplexed tone, he asks:

"Why black?"

## Slip?

I reassure my interlocutor by informing him that the police have identified Ulysses as a young man of African-American origin, **Mario Robert Parker**, confirmed by witness **Gabriella Ghiribelli**.

According to Ghiribelli, "Uli" was not black (Parker is).

I do not tell Bevilacqua that these statements **were not supported** by the investigation and that the identification of Ulysses remained **uncertain** .

In the next part of the transcript, which I do not let Bevilacqua read, Vanni uses the word "negro" several times instead of "nero".

At a certain point, Vanni and Nesi say this to each other:

" Nesi: And where was this American?

**Vanni:** And where was he, in the woods you find him! He found him in the woods ... he

had everything, that he was the one who committed these crimes!

**Nesi:** But who said this?

Vanni: Huh?

**Nesi:** Because now, up until now you've been telling me that these murders were

committed by Pacciani!

Vanni: Huh!

**Nesi:** And who is this black guy? **Vanni:** His name was Ulysses ."

Reading this exchange, the title of an <u>article in *Repubblica*</u> dated June 7, 1994, written by **Franca Selvatici**, comes to mind, a report of the hearing in which Bevilacqua testified.

The title is:

"Pacciani was in the woods"



□ la Repubblica cronaca martedì 7 giugno 1994

PAGINA 18

# "Pacciani era nel bosco"

## Poco dopo due francesi furono trovati morti

Repubblica's headline on Bevilacqua's deposition. How many Americans did Pacciani meet in a wood?

"Bosco", "americano" and "nero" (the bikini of the French victim Nadine Mauriot ) are "key words" in Bevilacqua's deposition.

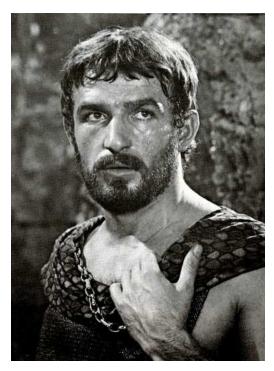
But Ulysses? That would be a fitting nickname for a cunning warrior.

The adventures of the Homeric hero had a **peak of popularity in Italy in the 1960s and 1970s** thanks to a RAI television **adaptation of the Odyssey** .

The miniseries directed by **Franco Rossi** was also adapted for the cinema and there have been numerous television reruns on RAI from '68 to the present day.

**A rerun** was broadcast <u>in July '74 . The first episode</u> was broadcast 7 days after **Bevilacqua was assigned to the American Cemetery in Florence** .

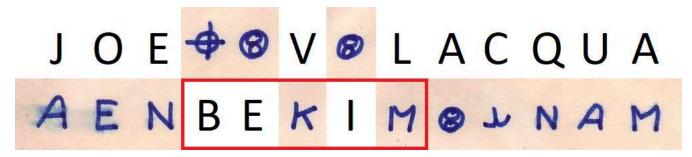
The Serbian-Albanian actor **Bekim Fehmiu** played the role of **Ulysses** .



1968, RAI TV series "Odyssey". Actor Bekim Fehmiu plays "Ulysses"

And it is precisely the name of the actor, **Bekim**, that <u>"mysteriously" emerges</u> when "Joe Bevilacqua" is compared with the encrypted name of Zodiac sent to San Francisco in April 1970.

In the complete decryption of **Zodiac's name** I will demonstrate that **the "M"** in the ciphertext was placed **at that point** in the ciphertext **with the intention** of making "Bekim" appear.

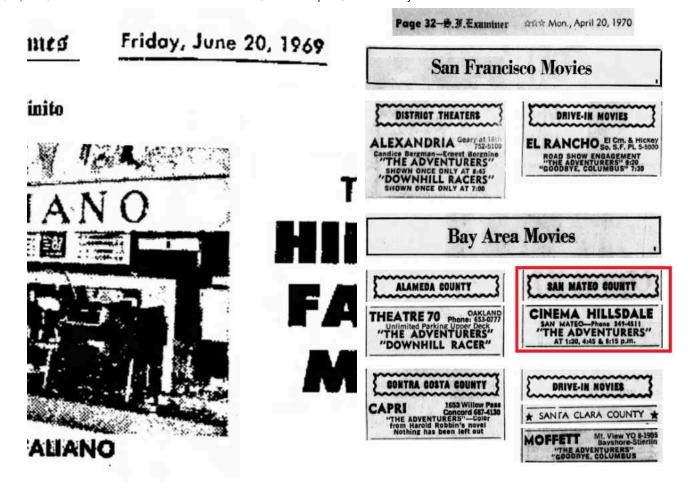


Ciphertext with the name of Zodiac. Note that if you replace the central symbols with letters you get the word Bekim

In 1970, the expensive Hollywood film "The Adventurers" starred Fehmiu in the lead role of the revenge-seeking Latin lover Dax Xenos.

At the time Zodiac sent <u>the letter</u> with his encrypted name, this film was playing <u>in</u> various theaters in San Francisco and the Bay Area .

One of these was the **Hillsdale Cinema**, located in the eponymous San Mateo **shopping center that also housed the "Italiano" restaurant** run by the **San Remo Italian Food Company**, one of the companies investigated in the **Khaki Mafia** case (see next images).



As for the doubts about **"black"**, it is possible that the meaning was misunderstood. It could have been a reference to Mauriot's bikini that Vanni **misunderstood**.

Or there may have been a double misunderstanding.

The **Zodiac symbol** also flaunted in his disguise at Lake Berryessa is **a Celtic cross**, which in Italy is normally associated with **neo-fascist** groups, commonly called "blacks". If "**Ulysses**" had shown up to Pacciani **wearing a hood with a Celtic cross**, Vampa would almost certainly have mistaken him for a "neo-fascist".

It is therefore possible that when recounting this episode Pacciani **used the word "black"** and that Vanni (or the intermediary who perhaps reported it to him) thought it was a reference to **skin color**.





Maybe Vanni misunderstood the word "black"?

In the report of the conversations with Bevilacqua delivered to the Prosecutor's Office in April 2018, later reported in my articles, I affirm that the American told me that he had been in the **Lake Tahoe area in 1970**, when **Donna Lass**, a possible Zodiac victim, was kidnapped.

Asked where (if he were the serial killer) he would have wanted to hide a body, Bevilacqua told me that the best way would be to **drop it from a helicopter** on a mountain peak, because it is almost impossible to find.

According to him, another place to dispose of a body could have been Emerald Bay, if it had not been for the presence of campsites and Rangers.



Circle drawn by Joe around Heavenly Valley

He eventually made a circle around Heavenly Valley because "Heaven means 'paradise .

Zodiac was known to be obsessed with what he called "pardice," so much so that he used it as **a keyword**, and claimed that his victims would become his slaves in the afterlife.

Donna Lass's skull ( <u>recently identified</u> ) was found <u>elsewhere</u>, <u>but the Heavenly</u> Cable Car base station was about a mile (1 km) from her workplace to her apartment near where she was allegedly abducted.





Click to enlarge. The Heavenly Ski Resort cable car is located halfway between Donna Lass's workplace and her home when she was kidnapped.

## First clues about the Zodiac-Monster connection

Already on the basis of the information given to the Prosecutor's Office in 2018, a connection between Zodiac and the Monster could be considered possible.

**It was not just a theoretical question**, as some of my detractors wanted to make us believe.

The two serial killers, as we have seen, had **targeted couples** in **lovers' lanes**, remote areas of the countryside where young people seclude themselves in search of intimacy.

\*E' un delitto tipicamente anglosassone — risponde il professor Seppilli — che ricorda da vicino qualcosa accaduto anche in Germania.

June 9, 1981, La Nazione interviews anthropologist Tullio Seppilli on the sidelines of the double homicide in Scandicci

In addition to victimology, there was a **chronological compatibility** that could link the two serial killers. Was it possible that Zodiac had moved to Florence after his disappearance in January 1974?

Why not?

This would have explained **the anomaly** of serial murders against couples in Italy, **found abroad instead**, especially in Northern Europe and Anglo-Saxon countries. **Ferracuti** was not the only one to point this out. The anthropologist **Tullio Seppilli** had already pointed it out in 1981. The team from the University of Modena consulted by the Prosecutor's Office in the mid-1980s ( **Francesco De Fazio, Ivan Galliani, Salvatore Luberto** ) also made a similar observation.

Country	Number of Serial Killers	% of Serial Killers	Country's Share of World Population	Ratio
United States	3,204	67.58	4.35%	15.53
England	166	3.50	0.71%	4.92
S. Africa	117	2.47	0.74%	3.34
Canada	106	2.24	0.49%	4.59
Italy	97	2.05	0.80%	2.55
Japan	96	2.02	1.70%	1.19
Germany	85	1.79	1.08%	1.66

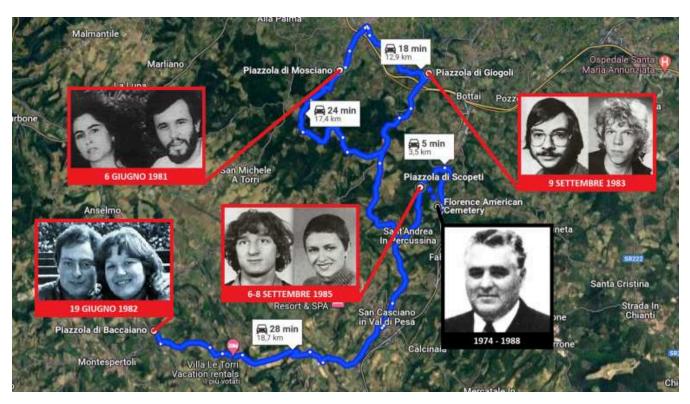
The statistics on the nationality of known serial killers are telling. I consulted them already in 2017, in the early stages of research. Source: **Radford University** 

This was combined with the **peculiarity of the Florentine territory** which, as Ferracuti states, hosts a considerable **community of resident foreigners** .

And among them was him, **Joe Bevilacqua**, an important witness in the Pacciani case who had **contacted the police** to try to help them in the investigation of the Monster. A man who had informed the court that he lived **a stone's throw from the last crime scene** and that he had **seen the last victims** alive shortly **before they died**.

A former member of the "criminal police" who had evaded answering the question about the use of guns and said he had not followed the Monster case, even though eight murders had occurred in the area southwest of Florence where he worked and lived.

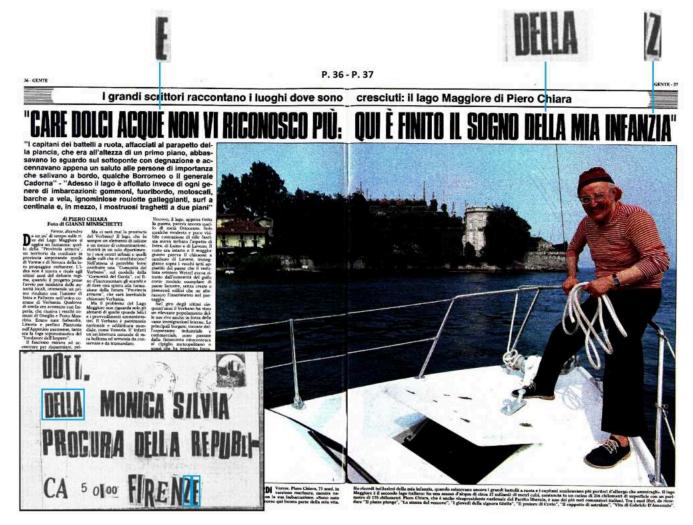
Not everything was limited to the "coincidence" of having arrived in **Florence** precisely **in the 7 and a half months** between the disappearance of **Zodiac** and the first certain appearance of the **Monster**.



Area of the Monster murders south of Florence. Bevilacqua resided and lived in the vicinity of four of the seven crime scenes confirmed by the sentences

Added to this was the <u>water theory</u> on the American serial killer that I talked about in the **first article** on tempi.it, which was then also **found** in the Mostro case, when **in 2020** 

the researcher **Valeria Vecchione** discovered **the magazine** used for the only message sent by the "Italian" serial killer.



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

A signature, perhaps. Like the nickname adopted by the American serial killer. "Zodiac".

In the 1950s and 1960s, the hype for the flagship product of the **Zodiac watch brand**, from which the serial killer **copied his nickname and Celtic cross**, the "Sea Wolf," was centered on its **"underwater"** qualities. An advertisement from 1967 reads:

"A dive watch? The only time I'm **under water** is in the shower."



The Zodiac nickname and Celtic cross were "stolen" by the serial killer from a brand of watches

Zodiac renounces his nickname in the last certain letter, posted on **January 29, 1974**.

**After a hiatus** of nearly **three years**, he re-contacts the *San Francisco Chronicle*, but instead of signing himself "Zodiac" with the Celtic cross, he quotes a **passage about a drowning from the opera** <u>"The Mikado"</u> that the **serial killer** may have witnessed **at** Bevilacqua's **mother-in-law** 's high **school** theater.

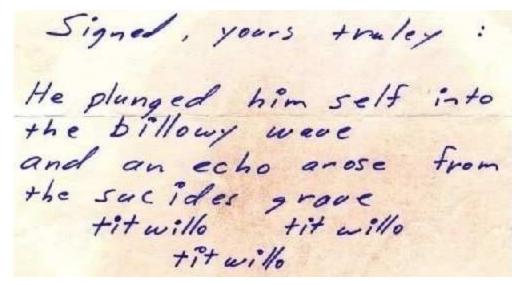
The "enigmatist" serial killer wants to leave readers with one **last riddle** related to his identity.

So, immediately after writing "signed sincerely yours" he quotes:

"He dived into the foaming wave and an echo emerged from the suicide's grave

#### titwillo titwillo titwillo"

The "suicide's grave" is the water in which the subject of the story drowns himself. In the video below, the verse is recited by Australian actor **Mitchell Butel**, who adapts it perfectly to the scene, making it **more understandable**.



Last signature attributed to Zodiac



## **Epilogue**

After a flawed investigation, **on April 6, 2021**, the Bevilacqua case was archived by investigating judge Mancuso.

In <u>justifying</u> his request for archiving, **prosecutor Turco did not mention** the content of <u>my statements</u> to the Carabinieri on Bevilacqua's <u>admission</u>, and **in contrast with reality**, he maintained that **no circumstantial evidence emerged** from my <u>journalistic</u> investigation .

About two years later, on December 23, 2022, **the Italian-American dies.** He is 87 years old and has never been heard by a Florentine magistrate as an injured party or as a suspect.

**In November 2023**, to defend myself in the defamation trial, I transmitted Bevilacqua's **genetic profile** to the American authorities responsible for the Zodiac case.

Over the years, **some partial DNA** potentially attributable to the American serial killer has been isolated and Bevilacqua's DNA has never **before been compared** with these samples.

They might find a match.

**Between January and July 2024,** I will submit to the FBI the **complete results** of my **journalistic investigation** into Bevilacqua and the Zodiac-Monster connection, as well as my solutions to the unsolved Zodiac ciphertexts: **the anagram** of Z408, the **code "Mount Diablo,"** and the **name of Zodiac**, which includes a summary of the **solution to the** Halloween Card **riddle**.

That this long and dramatic story will soon come to a conclusion?