

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

10000/100/64

CIVIL CENSORSHIP
OCT. 1943 - FEB. 1944

24 pp

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Censorship Branch (INC)
A.P.O. 512 U.S. Army

C/106.

4 October 43.

SUBJECT : Censorship in Italy.

TO : The Chief of Staff.

I. Discussion.

1. In view of the acceptance by Britain and the U.S. of Italy as a co-belligerent the following proposals are submitted regarding the operation of all forms of censorship throughout Italy, Sicily, and Sardinia.

2. Information is very incomplete on the manner in which the Italian censorship operates. We have been advised that Post and Telephone censorship is handled by Military and Civil personnel who are under the control of the Ministry of the Interior. Telegraph (including cables and wireless) censorship is handled by Naval personnel under the control of the Admiralty.

II. Action Recommended.

1. F.A.I.

a. Italian censorship will continue to function.

b. An Allied Officer will be attached to selected Italian censorship centers.

c. A directive will be issued to the Italian censorship outlining the information required by the Allies from the Italian censorship and the types of communications which must be referred to the Allied Censorship Liaison Officer.

d. A directive will be issued through Italian authorities to the Italian people indicating the types of information forbidden in communications. (See Appendix "A").

e. The various forms of communications will be handled as follows:

(1) Internal mail. No restrictions. Will be subject to a token censorship.

(2) Internal mail. No restrictions. Will be subject to a token censorship after which it will be properly sorted into countries of destination and handed to either British or U.S. APOs for dispatch. This mail

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will be routed through British or U.S. Civil censorship units where it will undergo such censorship as is considered necessary.

(5) Telephone. There will be no restrictions on local calls. Long distance calls will be forbidden except for Allied or Italian official calls.

(4) Telegraph. Internal telegrams will be permitted and will be 100% censored by the Italian censorship. External cables will be censored if desired by the Italian censorship but will be 100% censored by Allied personnel stationed at cable gateways. No personal, commercial or semi-private messages will be dispatched by wireless.

f. It is understood that the use of telegraph, cables, radio and wireless will be under the control of an Allied Signals Officer with whom a close liaison will be maintained.

2. Press and Radio.

a. The distribution of all national news, world news, war news or Allied inspired information will be through the network of the Stefani News Agency. Everything which goes out through Stefani will be censored by Allied officers stationed at the Agency.

b. Other material used by the Italian press such as editorials and local news will be censored by an Italian press censorship organization. A directive (See Appendix "B") will be issued to the Italian censors indicating the subjects forbidden to be published.

c. A copy of all issues of newspapers will be sent to Allied censors at the Stefani News Agency for scrutiny. Breaches of directives discovered by scrutiny will be dealt with through the Italian censorship.

d. All material for broadcast other than that obtained through the Stefani Agency will be submitted to Allied censors.

3. The above plan applies to those areas in which operations have ceased. In areas near the lines (to be determined by the G in C) all communications and publications other than official will be forbidden.

III. Conclusions.

1. Brig. Gen. Holmes
2. A.G. of S., G-2
3. Signals A.F.H.Q.

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- 2 -
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4. Mr. S. Robert

5. Mr. R. Haines

A. J. ROBINSON,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Acting Chief ISI Section.

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APPENDIX "A"

The following regulations and restrictions will be applied regarding civil communications:

1. There will be no communication, direct or indirect, with enemy or enemy occupied countries, other than through the official International channels.
2. No use will be made of codes, ciphers, symbols, shorthand, Braille, quotations, puns, manuscript music, or any other form of writing which may contain a hidden or secondary meaning.
3. There will be no mention or discussion of or speculation on Allied or Italian land, air or sea movements, routes, training, strength, equipment, supplies, identification of units, losses, casualties, damages suffered, installations, defenses, fortifications, or any other matters of operational interest.
4. There will be no mention of persons arrested or interned, movements of government or military officials or agents, rumors of aid or comfort to the enemy, current weather or weather forecasts.
5. There will be no mention of matters detrimental to the prosecution of the Allied War effort.
6. There will be no communications written or sent by civilians on behalf of Allied personnel.

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APPENDIX "F"

CENSORSHIP DIRECTIVE FOR ITALIAN PRESS

1. Unless contained in official Allied releases or communiques, nothing forbidden in the following paragraphs will be published or broadcast without reference to Allied Censorship.
2. **MILITARY.**
 - a. No reference will be made to strength, composition, disposition, location or movements of troops, military personnel or material.
 - b. No information concerning quantities, location or distribution of arms or ammunition.
3. **NAVAL.**
 - a. No technical information concerning Allied navies, merchant ships or naval equipment.
 - b. No information of any loss or damage to, or attack upon, any ships of Allied navies, merchant ships or naval equipment.
 - c. No mention will be made of the names or movements of any ships.
 - d. No reference will be made to mines or mine fields.
4. **AIR.**
 - a. No information concerning location, strength, composition or movements of air personnel or material, nor any detailed description of technical equipment.
 - b. No information concerning the methods of attack or defense of any Allied type of aircraft, nor details of the fighter patrol or reconnaissance system.
 - c. No information concerning signals, methods or device of identification of aircraft or surface vessels, means of passing information, or enemy air movements.
 - d. No information concerning casualties to aircraft or personnel.
 - e. No information concerning messages dropped by enemy planes.
5. **AIR RAIDS.**
 - a. There will be no mention of alerts.
 - b. Only a general indication of the locality of the raid is permitted.
 - c. No information concerning methods of defense.

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4. Nothing will be published regarding casualties suffered in any air raid; but obituary of funeral notices of civilians killed in air raids may be published subject to the following rules:

- (1) Notices must not give a date which is more precise than the month, e.g. "In Aug." not, "On Aug. 24th".
- (2) The person or persons killed may be described as living in, or near, a certain village or town, or in a section of a large city; but the exact address will not be published.
- (3) The death may be stated as having been caused by enemy action.

6. TRADE AND SUPPLY.

- a. No information concerning location, storage or transportation of supplies or war materials.
- b. No information concerning erection of new factories or power plants, or extension of new power stations, buildings or power lines to new areas.

7. PRISONERS OF WAR.

- a. No information concerning prisoners of war.

8. SPIES.

- a. No information concerning enemy agents or fifth columnists.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

- a. No mention will be made of high-ranking officers or important civilians present at official ceremonies, etc.
- b. No information concerning interruption of traffic facilities.
- c. No information concerning exceptional road traffic or location of new or widened bridges or roads.
- d. Nothing will be published harmful to the Allied cause or affecting the relationship between the Allies and neutral countries.

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Civil Censorship

SUBJECT: Security and Italian Communications

U.S. Army Group
C.I.C.

SECRET EXUALS U.S. SECRET

15AG/1400/2/G(Ib)

21 Oct 43

TO: LMG A.F.H.Q.
Allied Military Mission
AMGOT H.Q.

1. Now that the question of the resumption or development of Italian communications is under consideration, it is thought desirable to set out the views of this H.Q. on the security aspect involved.

POSTAL

(a) It is not desired to raise any security objection to the resumption of postal communications for civilians or Italian troops within the area south of the rear Army boundaries, i.e. inclusive the "Kingdom", the region of LUCANIA, the Province of SALERNO, the Regions of CALABRIA and SICILY, provided that the following censorship arrangements can be made.

(b) All civil mail posted in the towns of BARI, BRINDISI, TARANTO and SALERNO, and addressed to places outside the Province concerned, (but not, of course, to enemy occupied areas), should be subject to one hundred per cent censorship by Italian censors, and subsequent partial censorship (at least ten per cent) by Allied censors.

Other civil mail between towns should be subject to partial censorship by Italian Censors, and spot checks should be carried out by Allied Censors.

(c) Italian troop mail would be subject to the same treatment, as the civil post is used. If the Italian Army Postal Service is used, troop mail should be subject to Unit Censorship and partial Italian and Allied Base censorship. (The Allied Base Censors could thus supply security and morale reports).

(d) No civil postal communications should be permitted North of the rear Army boundaries, i.e. North of the Northern boundaries of the "Kingdom", the Region of LUCANIA, and the Province of SALERNO.

(e) No private Italian mail, whether civil or military, should be permitted to enter or leave the Allied occupied area described in (a) above, from or to enemy occupied ITALY or other countries, unless or until a one hundred per cent censorship of such mail can be carried out by British or U.S. Censors.

(f) The foregoing does not apply to P/M mail, which is

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resumption of postal communications for civilians or Italian troops within the area south of the rear Army boundaries, i.e. inclusive the "Kingdom", the region of LUCANIA, the Province of SALERNO, the Regions of CALABRIA and SICILY, provided that the following censorship arrangements can be made.

(b) All civil mail posted in the towns of BARI, BRINDISI, TARANTO and SALERNO, and addressed to places outside the Province concerned, (but not, of course, to enemy occupied areas), should be subject to one hundred per cent censorship by Italian censors, and subsequent partial censorship (at least ten per cent) by Allied censors.

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(e) No private Italian mail, whether civil or military, should be permitted to enter or leave the Allied occupied area described in (a) above, from or to enemy occupied ITALY or other countries, unless or until a one hundred per cent censorship of such mail can be carried out by British or U.S. Censors.

(f) The foregoing does not apply to P/W mail, which is already governed by regulations providing an adequate safeguard to security.

TELEPHONE

(a) There is no security objection to the restoration of full civil telephone facilities within towns in the area described in para 2(a) above.

(b) There is no security objection to the provision of telephone facilities between towns in the area described in para 2(a) above for approved civilian officials or private individuals, provided that:

(i) Such persons be first approved by the Italian authorities, in the case of the "Kingdom", and by A.I.C. (in consultation with the local Security Section where such exists) in the case of other provinces.

(ii) Allied and Italian Censor personnel be located at BARI, BRINDISI, TARANTO and SALERNO to monitor a percentage of calls (other than local) to and from those places, and that other inter-town calls be monitored on a spot check basis for deterrent purposes.

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(c) North of the rear Army boundaries, no private civil telephone communication should be permitted. If administratively important, limited and controlled use of the telephone might be extended to certain civil officials, if requested by A.M.G. and approved by G.S.I/G-2 of the Army concerned.

(d) No overseas telephone facilities should be provided for Italians (apart from across the Straits of MESSINA).

TELEGRAMS AND CABLES

No facilities should be afforded for the despatch of private telegrams or cables by Italians in territory administered by A.M.G.

Such facilities which already exist within the "Kingdom" should be permitted to continue subject to a hundred per cent Italian Censorship and a spot check by Allied Censors.

WDG/EGM

COPY TO:

G-2 A.F.H.C.
G-2 Fifth Army
G.S.I. Eighth Army
No.2. District
G (Special Ops) Censorship Liaison Officer
X Branch
File 154G/1413/G(Ib)

Brigadier,
B.G.S.(I).

W.D. Gibson 11-12-48

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PRIORITY

8556

FREEDOM (CING)

DEC 021619A

FATIMA FOR COLVILLE

DEC 022159A

7 *Cancelled*

Waste Allied Control officers follows reurad 1211, dated 30 November. (SIGNED
CING CITE WING TO FATIMA FOR COLVILLE). Reggio - Lecce, Catanzaro - Aello,
Cosenza Province - Otranto, Taranto - Carpentini, Lecce - Finlay, Brindisi -
Clari, Bari - Garganelli, Potenza Matera - Ursino

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DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG Files
- 1 - Diary
- 1 - M/C
- 1 - Maj Colville (ACTION)

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091111 - Gnt (Jtly)

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E. S. British CONFIDENTIAL

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ROUTINE

FREEDOM

FATIMA

11/6

9606

Dec 041944A

Dec 060430A

Arriving Bari Tuesday 1600 hours with two others for discussions with Army Group Wednesday. SIGNED GING CITE FBING TO FATIMA FOR COLVILLE (CENSORSHIP) FROM SCOTT BAILEY. Essential you meet us airport. Please arrange our accommodations.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG Files
- 1 - Diary
- 1 - Maj. Colville - ACTION
- 1 - Maj. Doe - INFORMATION

201.62 - Curricula
+ 201 - Scott Bailey

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S-3797

REG 052025A

REG 061031A

CONFIDENTIAL

NOT GIVEN

SEARS FOR F-200

F-TIM

Address civil censorship section 725 commercial bank of Italy building IBS
Headquarters Palermo if by courier (SEARS FOR HOOVER TO F-TIM FOR M-OF-RL-ND
FOR COLVILLE REPE-T FILPOT FOR DICKSON, CENSORSHIP OFFICER CITE IBS-G D-TE 1406)
Otherwise -PO 550, United States Army. All information from Colville or Dickson
to be reported to CGS at Palermo. New Subject. Request Col Bailey expedite
Dickson to Palermo departure.

DISTRIBUTION:

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- 1 - Maj. Colville (ACTION)

NOTE! - This is A CORRECTED COPY.
DESTROY YOUR PREVIOUS COPY.

S.K.

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31/1 - Mails

APD 394

F JWC/hft

In reply refer to,
000.73

10 December 1943

SUBJECT: *Italian Censorship Personnel*
~~Censorship Plan for Control of the Press in Italy.~~

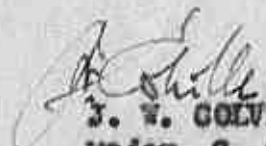
TO : Lt. Colonel Scott Bailey, INC, AFHQ

1. A copy of the list of Italian censors employed at the Brindisi Censorship Commission is attached for INC, AFHQ.
2. Where the remark "no objection" is appended, it is meant that there is no security information.
3. Where the remark "not suitable" is appended, it is meant that the individual was a staunch fascist. Since the Armistice there has been no adverse information on these "not suitable" cases. Their activities will, however, continue to be watched.
4. It is my considered opinion that past membership of the fascist party should not debar Italian censors from their present employment in the absence of any other specific information against them. All Italians were nominally fascist. Enrolment in fascist organisations was a step often taken by capable government employees for the purpose of attempting to achieve such advancement as they felt they deserved.
5. On the other hand, among those who now declare themselves to have been anti-fascist are some worthless individuals who, having failed to profit by the past regime, would gladly take advantage of the new. Relatively few persons were actively associated with anti-fascist activities. But not all members of underground political organisations were necessarily desirable characters.
6. I desire to state my own opinion of Dr. Laghezza, Capo di Gabinetto della R. Prefettura di Brindisi. He is the only individual listed as "not suitable" with whom I happen to be acquainted. He is known to have been a "squadrista", i.e. a member of the fascist party before the "march on Rome." But I think it should be born in mind that, in those days, fascism had not developed its more obnoxious, bellicose and imperialistic aspirations and was regarded by many as an instrument for establishing order within a country on the verge of chaos as also a means for improving those social conditions for which Italy was generally held in disrepute.

000.73-
x 201-
Dr. Laghezza

7. Dr. Laghezza is a young, intelligent and efficient worker. I have always found him frank, helpful and cooperative. To the best of my knowledge he is honest and eager to assist the Allied cause and the present Government which employs him. Unless I am mistaken in my judgement, I should be sorry to see him replaced by anyone less able.

8. In the opinion of the writer, Italian fascism, having demonstrated its failure, is utterly discredited. If Italy is ever to become again the victim of a one-party system and totalitarian Government, that Government will be Communist. Whether such a regime is or is not to be desired, the present live and active communist propaganda in a fertile field of bewilderment and discontent is of far greater significance than the discovery of any evidence of the dying embers of fascism.


J. W. COLVILLE
Major, G. S.

2 Encls. - List of Italian censors
Receipts

cc: Civil Censorship Officer,
APO 550 U. S. Army.

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16 DEC 1943

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ROUTINE

SEARS FOR FARGO FOR HOOVER
SITE IBSAG - 447
FILPOT FOR G (SPECIAL OPS) FOR DICKSON,
RPT FATIMA FOR STONE FOR COLVILLE

13/16

B-4295

DEC 151400A

DEC 160025A

When in your judgment can leave 15 Army Group with their concurrence, report Palermo earliest, as executive officer, Civil Censorship Section. Bring by ship all equipment including typewriter.

Commander Ferrone, Chief Cable Subsection, will visit Bari, Brindisi, Naples on Telecommunications and represents Section on all civil censorship questions. Dickson and Colville notify Signals and Stone.

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DISTRIBUTION:

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- 1 - Captain Stone - INFO
- 1 - Major Colville - ACTION

311.7 - Censorship
X 201 - Colville
X 201 - Colville. Present

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Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

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PRIORITY

SEARS FOR HOOVER CITE IRSAG-505

FATIMA FOR COLVILLE, RPT AFTER FOR INC

12/26

B-4854

DEC 261100A

DEC 261602A

No instructions apparently issued Prefects Four Provinces to furnish Allied Censor Control Officers car, driver, maintenance. Have them informed of responsibilities defined in INC letter to MGS 30 October 43, and approved in MGS letter to ACC dated 8 November 43.

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- 2 - AG
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- 1 - Gen Taylor (INFO)
- 1 - Maj Colville (ACTION)

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PRIORITY

JAN 1944

SEARS FROM HOOVER CITE IBRAQ 553

JAN 04

FATIMA FOR ANDOT HQ TARANTO FOR
LIEUTENANT CARPENTI, ALLIED
GERMAN CONTROL OFFICER

Dispatched from Palermo 3 sacks Italian Naval mail to APO 766. Please contact
Postal Officer APO 766 and arrange acceptance.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AD
- 1 - Diary
- 1 - Lieut. Carpentini - ACTION

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10 JAN 1944 1173

JWC/and

In reply refer to:
311.7

10 January 1944

TO : Civil Censorship Officer, APO 550, U.S. Army
SUBJECT: Attached

1. Attached correspondence, erroneously addressed from NATOUSSA, is forwarded to you.
2. I have received the same list of Allied Civil Censorship officers from G-2 via M.C.S. also a later list direct from Civil Censorship officer (letter of 3 January).

For the Deputy President, Allied Control Commission:

J. W. Conville
J. W. CONVILLE
Major, G.S.

1 Incl
Ltr AG 200.3/308 B-0;
2 Jan 43 with incl

19 JAN 1944

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OUTGOING

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IRICITY

FATIMA FROM COLVILLE

FREEDOM FOR CENSORSHIP INC RPTD IRS FOR JAIL
FOR FINN (CIVIL CENSORSHIP) RPTD FILPOT FOR
DICKSON (CENSORSHIP)

JAN

REFERENCE YOUR THREE ZERO THREE NINE FIVE OF ONE EIGHT JANUARY PD TO FREEDOM FOR
CENSORSHIP INC RPTD IRS FOR JAIL FOR FINN CIVIL CENSORSHIP RPTD FILPOT FOR DICKSON
CENSORSHIP FROM FATIMA FROM COLVILLE SIGNED MACFARLANE PD ASSUMED ROUTING ALL
ITALIAN TROOPS MAIL ONE FIVE ARMY GROUP AREA THROUGH NAPLES WAS TEMPORARY EXPEDIENT
PENDING COMPLETION ORGANIZATION ITALIAN UNIT AND BASE CENSOR SECTIONS IN ACCORDANCE
WITH LBS CABLE ONE FIVE TWO NINE OF ONE SIX NOVEMBER PD ITALIAN ARMY STAFF
INSTRUCTED BASE SECTIONS TO GROUP AT PROVINCIAL CAPITALS FOR CONFERENCE AND
SUBSEQUENT ASSIGNMENT BY COMMISSIONS PD THIS CONNECTION PLEASE REFER MY LETTER ONE
EIGHT JANUARY ALSO MY LETTER SAME DATE ATTACHING INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED BY ITALIAN
ARMY STAFF ALSO MY LETTER TWO ONE DECEMBER ALSO MY LETTER THREE DECEMBER CONTAINING
ORIGINAL REQUEST FOR INTERIM ARRANGEMENT THIS MAIL PD EXPECTED ADVICE FROM BARKS
FOLLOWING YOUR CABLE TWO ZERO FIVE THREE THREE OF TWO EIGHT DECEMBER BUT NONE SO
FAR RECEIVED FROM HIM PD PLEASE INSTRUCT ME IF ITALIAN BASE SECTIONS ARE NOT TO
OPERATE WITH ALLIED CENSORSHIP AND TO BE BASED NAPLES ONLY OR NAPLES AND BARI ALSO
VIENNA AND TO WHOM CHIEF CENSORS SHOULD REPORT PD PLEASE INSTRUCT HOW MAIL SHOULD
BE ROUTED FROM CIVILIANS OR SOLDIERS TO ITALIAN SOLDIERS IN VIENNA

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- 1 - Major Colville
- 1 - Gen. MacFarlane ✓

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AUTHENTICATED

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ROBERT E. DICE	
Major, A.G.D.	
Secretary of the Commission	

Secretary of the Commission

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British SECRET

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SECRET

ROUTINE

FATIMA FROM COLVILLE

**IBS FOR HOOVER CIVIL CENSORSHIP RPTD
FREEDOM FOR CENSORSHIP INC**

ABOUT ONE THOUSAND LETTERS HAVE REACHED HERE BY ITALIAN AIRPLANE DIRECT FROM
VENETIA DIVISION FIGHTING IN BALKANS PD TO IBS FOR HOOVER CIVIL CENSORSHIP RPTD
FREEDOM FOR CENSORSHIP INC FROM FATIMA FROM COLVILLE SIGNED MACFARLANE PD MOST
OF THESE LETTERS DESTINED CIVILIAN ADDRESSES APULIA PD CENSOR CONTROL OFFICER
BRINDISI AWAITS INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISPOSAL

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG
- 1 - Diary
- 1 - Major Colville
- 1 - General MacFarlane

AUTHENTICATED:

ROBERT E. DOE
Major, A.G.D.
Secretary of the Commission

U.S. SECRET
U.S. SECRET
British SECRET

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21 JAN 1944

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ROUTINE

FREEDOM SIGNED CINC GITE PHING

FATIMA FOR COLVILLE

44/20

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JAN 201926A

JAN 202212A

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Arrange for attachment censor as requested ured 2021 dated 18 January.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG
- 1 - Diary
- 1 - Major Colville - ACTION

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af

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25 JAN 1944

1952

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In reply refer to:
331.7

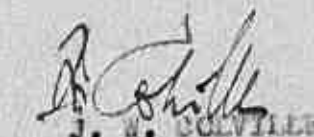
24 January 1944

TO: Censorship Branch, INC. A. F. H. Q.

Capt. Dickson (Censorship) "G" Special Forces AUMF

1. Copy of Memo No. 30206/s from the Comando Supremo to the Army Staff is attached for your information.
2. This Memo was the subject of para 2 of my letter 311.7 of 18 January but a copy was then attached for Civil Censorship offices only.

For the Deputy President, Allied Control Commission:


J. A. COLVILLE
Major, G. S.

1 incl
cy of memo 30206/s;
17 Jan 44

af

25 JAN 1944

JVC/dnd

1950

F

In reply refer to:
311.7

25 January 1944

TO: Censorship Branch, INC. AFHQ

Civil Censorship Officer, APO 550, U.S. Army

1. Referency my cable 2132 of 24 January 1944.
2. Attached is translation of letter received from the Italian Under-secretary for Post and Telecommunications.

For the Deputy President, Allied Control Commission:

J. S. Colville
J. S. COLVILLE
Major, U. S. A.

1 incl
transl ltr 3/8/3/452

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3 FEB 1944

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CONFIDENTIAL

ROUTINE

PATIMA BEAR FROM COLVILLE

IBS FOR HOOVER CIVIL CENSORSHIP

WILL ARRIVE PALERMO BY AIR MONDAY SEVEN FEBRUARY WITH ITALIAN LIAISON
OFFICER CAPT GALOSKI PARCE TO IBS FOR HOOVER CIVIL CENSORSHIP FROM
PATIMA BEAR FROM COLVILLE SIGNED MAGFANLANE PAREN ALSO WITH ITALIAN
CENSORSHIP DIRECTIVES AND REGULATIONS WHICH WILL BE READY TOMORROW

AUTHENTICATED:

ROBERT E. DOE
Major, A.G.D.
Secretary of Commission

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ROUTINE

FATIMA REAR FROM COLVILLE SIGNED MACFARLANE

IBS FOR HOOVER CIVIL CENSORSHIP

LEAVING EARLY TUESDAY NIGHT FEBRUARY WITH ITALIAN PAREN

TO IBS FOR HOOVER CIVIL CENSORSHIP FROM FATIMA REAR FROM

COLVILLE SIGNED MACFARLANE PAREN LIAISON OFFICER FOR PALERMO

AUTHENTICATED:

ROBERT E. DOE
Maj AGD
Secretary of the Commission

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