

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

785015

ACC

10000/100/607

16pp.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS
JULY 1943

16 pp.

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

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FILMED AS FOUND
IN COLLECTION

FOLIO	REF No.	DATE	FROM/TO
1	1912	18 July	From Eisenhower to Supra.
2	CAF/52	18	to Freedom
3	AMGOT HQ	19	to. Supra Gen J Holmes.
4	CA/532	19	to Freedom
5	N1079/17	17	from 7th Army
6	15094	18	from Freedom.
7	2115	19	from Freedom
8	CA/534	21	to Freedom
9	2633	20	from AFHQ.
10	2936	21	from Eisenhower to Supra.
11	5334/240621	"	" " to Supra
12	CA 541	22	to Freedom.
13	None	24	From: NATOUSA.
14	AMGOT/208/HQ	26	from: Adm Angot.
15A/B	7952	29	to: Mil Sec Sec, AFHQ.

I752

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1 Exception
See paper insert

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ABOVE PARTIAL

2912001

FREEDOM.

to duly
accredited unofficial researchers Order
Sec/Army by TAG/ ----- date -----

411410

CA 579

SECRET() FOR U.S. PUBLIC RELATIONS FOR BOMBERS FROM JAMES () REVISOR 176
FOURTHAL RELEASER DISPATCHED AIR M.C.S., A.F.H.S., ETA TOURS PRIMA 30th ()
PLEASE CONTACT AND STRIKE IMMEDIATELY IN NEW FORM () HOME FORWARD.

7952

7.12

IMPORTANT

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

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AMCOT 15 ARMY GROUP
APO 777

15
SECRET

DAF/7952/CA

July 29, 1943

SUBJECT: A M Lire - Press Release

MEMORANDUM FOR: Military Government Section, AMHQ

Attached find amended proposed press release covering
currency plan of A M Lire which has been approved by General
Rennell and General McSherry. Please release forthwith
through Major SOMERS, Public Relations Officer.

R. L.
Colonel,
S.S.O.

Incl
:

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PA *30/7*
1760

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERSPublic Relations OfficeMEMO FOR MR. [REDACTED]Allied Force Headquarters, North Africa

One of the most closely guarded secrets concerning the Allied occupation of Sicily was revealed today with the announcement of the currency plan developed and directed by the Joint British and American Allied Military Government for the Island.

When the Allied troops landed in Sicily, they carried "specialized currencies" to pay for what they bought. These specialized currencies, in the form of United States "Yellow Seal" currency and British Military Authority notes, were declared to be legal tender in a proclamation posted by our ~~armed forces as they took over~~ ^{accredited unofficial researchers Order Sec/Army by TAG/} ^{date} ^{SHOWN to daily} areas of Sicily.

The proclamation also fixed a rate of exchange of ~~100 Italian lire to 4~~ ¹⁴¹⁰ Yellow Seal dollar and 400 Italian lire to the British Military Authority pound. The rate between the B.M.A. pound and the Yellow Seal dollar was fixed at the usual rate of 4 American dollars to the British pound.

The United States "Yellow Seal" currency is the same as ordinary currency notes in circulation in the United States except that a yellow seal is overprinted on the right hand side of the front of the bill in place of the familiar blue seal. The British Military Authority currency is in pounds sterling and shilling notes, similar to the currency already in circulation in Tripolitania.

British and U.S. subsidiary coin - shillings, pence, half dollars, quarters, dimes, nickels, pennies, and so on - were also brought in by the Allied armies.

The Italian lira, however, continues to be legal tender on the Island as heretofore. A second step in the Allied Military Government currency program for Sicily is now announced with the arrival in Sicily of stocks of lire in the form of Allied

1759

to pay for what they bought. These special currencies, in the form of United States "Yellow Seal" currency and British Military Authority notes, were declared to be legal tender in a proclamation posted by our armed forces as they took over areas of Sicily.

The proclamation also fixed a rate of exchange of 100 Italian lire to 40 Yellow Seal dollar and 400 Italian lire to the British Military Authority pound.

The rate between the B.M.A. pound and the Yellow Seal dollar was fixed at the usual rate of 4 American dollars to the British pound.

The United States "Yellow Seal" currency is the same as ordinary currency notes in circulation in the United States except that a yellow seal is overprinted on the right hand side of the front of the bill in place of the familiar blue seal. The British Military Authority currency is in pounds sterling and shilling notes, similar to the currency already in circulation in Tripolitania.

British and U.S. subsidiary coin - shillings, pence, half dollars, quarters, dimes, nickels, pennies, and so on - were also brought in by the Allied Armies.

The Italian lira, however, continues to be legal tender on the island as heretofore.

A second step in the Allied Military Government currency program for Sicily is now announced with the arrival in Sicily of stocks of lire in the form of Allied Military Lire notes which have been printed in Washington by the U. S. Treasury Department. A second currency production has been issued declaring such notes to be legal tender in Sicily and to be in all respects equivalent in value to and interchangeable with any other lire currency circulating in Sicily.

Allied Military Lire notes are merely a supplement to and not a substitute for existing Italian lire currency.

The plans for the Allied Military Lire and the carrying out of the printing and transportation of it comprise one of the most interesting episodes in the careful and secret preparations made by the American and British officers, who jointly control the Allied Military Government of Sicily, whose work paralleled the plans for

1759

armed forces as they took over
accredited unofficial researchers Order
Sec/Army by TAG/ date

1410

the invasion of the Island.

Some time before the invasion day, the U. S. Treasury had carried forward the manufacture of the notes as far as military security permitted. But not until the day the first British, Canadian and American troops landed in Sicily were any words added to the plates which would have revealed the territory in which it was planned to use the currency.

Soon after the invasion began, two closely guarded transport planes left the United States for Tunis with the first load of Allied Military Lire. They were followed in five days by two more planes carrying additional stocks of the supplementary currency.

In Tunis, officials of the Allied Military Financial Agency (AMFA), set up by the Allied Military Government to supervise currency and credit matters in occupied territory, awaited the planes carrying the new notes. They had guards and transportation ready for the trip to Sicily, where the notes were needed as quickly as possible. The first use of the money is for soldiers' pay. The currency will also be used to support the banks of the area if they need it when they are reopened.

It is obviously essential for the proper administration of Sicily that there be a sufficient and adequate currency in circulation. Allied leaders anticipated that the Fascist authorities, faced with retreat or surrender, would take measures to reduce stocks of lire in Sicily. Happily in some cases they did not have time to complete the destruction. The banks in Sicily are of course closed for the time being; it has not yet been possible to ascertain the total amount of Italian lire currency which has been left.

The Allied Military Lire notes will be used in exactly the same way as other lire currency, and the Allied Military Government will take every precaution necessary to insure its acceptability as a medium of exchange at the same value as the Italian lire.

The amount of A.M. Lire currency to be put into circulation will be strictly

In Tunis, officials of the Allied Military Financial Agency (AMFA), set up by the Allied Military Government to supervise currency and credit matters in occupied territory, unveiled the planes carrying the new notes. They had guards and transportation ready for the trip to Sicily, where the notes were needed as quickly as possible. The first use of the money is for soldiers' pay. The currency will also be used to support the banks of the area if they need it when they are reopened.

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The Allied Military Lire notes will be used in exactly the same way as other lire currency, and the Allied Military Government will take every precaution necessary to insure its acceptability as a medium of exchange at the same value as the Italian lire.

The amount of A.M. Lire currency to be put into circulation will be strictly controlled by the Allied Military Government so as to mitigate the possibility of inflation.

It is anticipated that in any ultimate armistice or peace arrangement made with a future non-Fascist Italian Government, provision will be made to insure that Allied Military Lire currency notes are given full value by the Italian authorities and treated indistinguishably from other lire currency in circulation in Sicily.

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Subject:- Press Release

Public Relations,
15 Army Group,
FANTOX.

HEADQUARTERS
Date <u>28 Jul 43.</u>
N <u>7952</u>
FORCE 141

AMGOT/208/HQ.

26 July 43. - 3

14

The attached article by Lieut. James for the "Tunis Telegram"
has been approved by Major General Lord Rennell, C.C.A.O.

TAKEN BY LT JAMES
30/7/43

Shady. Huber
Major-General.
C.C.A.O.

1757

ADV AMGOT HEADQUARTERS,
FORTBASE.

To SEE
LT JAMES

10
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Sec/Army by TAG/ date 28

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N/A

Meantime 21.

27

28

785015

SECRET

TELETYPE MESSAGE
INPOLIO NO: 16543
24 JUL 43FROM: HQ NATOUSSA
TO: CG 15TH ARMY GROUP
ORIG NO:

25 JUL 43

7952

TOO 16223/24
THI
TOR 20023/24CHARLES POORE CAPTAIN PRO COMMA CITE MAAGE COMMA ON DUTY
WITH AMGOT DESIRES VISIT YOUR AREA IN CONNECTION WITH AMGOT
DUTIES PERIOD DO YOU APPROV.
REPTN?CIVIL AFFAIRS 5 ACTION
AG(US)SMC 21053/24
T.T. 02153/25 JTThis copy only may be given to duly
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ACTION

To SLE

LT Col FARLEY Smith

TB

24/

M/A

P/M
20/72

1756

25/7

Lyons MacPherson has death

Wm. H. H.

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66 72

WFOOT PAFBOM

July 22 1968

WFOOT

SEE 10

OV/542.

WFOOT WFOOT (.) FOR THE WFOOT WFOOT (.) WFOOT WFOOT IN
WFOOT 2036 OF 21 JUL WFOOT WFOOT (.) WFOOT WFOOT MAY
WFOOT (.) WFOOT WFOOT WFOOT FOR WFOOT WFOOT WFOOT

7952
Dec 1968

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Proccash
LT. COL

WFOOT

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MOST SECRET

CIPHER MESSAGE
IN

FORCE 141

FOLIO NO. 15413
21 JULY 43.

FROM: SIGNED EISENHOWER CITE FMGS
TO: AGWAR FOR COMBINED CHIEFS OF STAFF AND TO
USFOR FOR BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF FOR ACTION
REPEATED TO FAMOX FOR INFORMATION
ORIG NO: 5334/2006

TOO: 1000/21
TKI: 1607/21
TOR: ***

ALL CONCERNED HAVE BEEN CAUTIONED TO USE WHEREVER POSSIBLE
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT INSTEAD OF AMGOT.
REFERENCE YOUR FAN 108 OF 20 JULY NAT 297. PRO WILL USE LONG
TITLE IN ANY RELEASES AND WILL DISCOURAGE USE OF AMGOT BY
CORRESPONDENTS. IT IS NOT DEEMED FEASIBLE TO ATTEMPT TO APPLY
CENSORSHIP TO AMGOT IN DISPATCHES.

SMC DISTRIBUTION:

INC. To SER
AMGOT

ACTION

ALCOC FIDLEY
CAPT POORE
FIDLEY
LEGAL
CIVIL
PUBLIC
PROSECUTOR

Sec/Army by TAG/

414410

SMC 16208/21
T.T. 16280/21

JFJ

Created by Beardsley

1757
21/7

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MOST SECRET

EMERGENCY OPS
CIPHER MESSAGE
IN

POLIO NO:
21 0 43

FROM: SIGNED EISENHOWER CITE PWGSO
TO: AMOOT FANTCX
ORIG NO: 2336

TCO 13443/21
THI
TOR 15542/21

10

HEADQUARTERS	
Date	21 OCT 1952
N	19522
FORCE 141	

ACTUAR CABLES URGENT THAT PRESS THERE INSISTING ON RELEASE
THERE OF NEWS ITALIAN CURRENCY ARRIVAL STILLY. RELEASE
REFUSED BUT IN REPLY TO ACTUAR REQUEST WE AGREED TO NOTIFY
WHEN STORY RELEASED HERE IN ORDER TO RELEASE THERE SIMULTANEOUSLY.
SUGGEST YOU GET RELEASE READY AND SEND HERE TO BE HELD UNTIL
FLASH FROM YOU RELEASES DT

AMOOT 3 ACTION
INC L

ACTION 12

SMO 1600P/21
T.T. 1605B/21 JT

To SER

FINANCE

1753

Capt Power

Rec'd by SAC/ date

411410

ACTION

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SECRET

FROM : AFHQ
TO : 141
ORIG NO : 2632

CIPHER MESSAGE
IN

HEADQUARTERS

N 2952

FORCE 141

FOLIO 15379
20 JULY 43

TOO, NIL.
THI, 1734B/20.
TOR, 0041B/21.

MGS CONCURS THIS MESSAGE. AMGOT RELEASE APPROVED BY MCSHERRY AND THORNETHORNE. PRESS STORIES AND RADIO MONITORINGS SHOW PUBLICITY HIGHLY FAVORABLE AND ADVANTAGEOUS. CANNOT APPLY CENSORSHIP ON CORRESPONDENTS EXCEPT FOR OPERATIONAL REASONS. WILL DO ALL POSSIBLE TO PREVENT FURTHER USE OF NAMES. WILL NOT RELEASE ANY PROCLAMATION UNTIL POSTED AND WE ARE SO INFORMED BY AMGOT.

CIVIL AFFAIRS TO SEE
INC LT COL FARLEY-SMITH
CAPT POORE

3 ACTION

SMC, 0230B/21.
T, 0240B/21, SSB.

41410

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785015

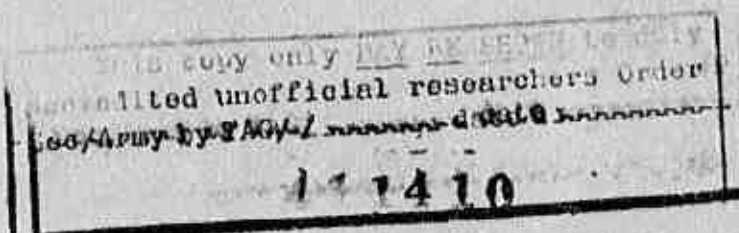
AMGOT PARTOK

211100B

FREEDCH

CA/534

FOR PRO ATTENTION MAJ SUMMERS FROM FOOD MESSAGE RELEASING BIOGRAPHIES
RECEIVED (.) OCAO DIRECTS NO FURTHER RELEASES FROM HERE TIL HE
REACHES ISLAND (.) OUR CA/522 OF 19 JUL REMAINS



1751

SECRET
CAPT *[Signature]*
COLONEL
IMPORTANT.

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SECRET.

IMPORTANT.
CIPHER MESSAGE
IN

HEADQUARTERS

20 Jul 43
7952

FOLIO NO 15332.
19TH JULY 43,

FROM :FREEDOM SIGNED EISENHOWER.
TO :ACTION 15 ARMY GROUP FOR AMOOF
OHIO.NO:2115 CITE PHPRO

TOO 1200B.
THI NIL.
TOR 0758B/20.

ATTENTION CAPT POORE.

DID YOU GET MESSAGE RELEASING BIOGRAPHIES YESTERDAY?
ARE YOU REVISING THE FINANCIAL RELEASE THERE(?) ON BASIS OF
CURRENCY PEG ?

This copy only for use by uncredited unofficial reser		ACTION TAKEN	
Soc/Army 6/14/43		ACTION.	
411410		see 8.	

SMC. 1036B/20. act
T.T. 1043B/20. JOL.

1750

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SECRET

CIPHER MESSAGE
IN

FOUL 15004
18 JULY 43

FROM : FREEDOM SIGNED EISENHOWER.
TO : 15TH ARMY GROUP
ORIG NO : CITE (S) FH PWO

TOO.NIL.
THI.NIL.
TOR.NIL.

CROSSMAN TO DEVERS FOR P WE.

ALEXANDERS PROCLAMATION REFER TO YOUR 3,959 IS AMGOT PROCLAMATION ONE,
RELEASED FOR PRESS TODAY. MCCLURE HAZEL TIN. TEXT (S) COMING BY
BAG (S)

CIVIL AFFAIRS 3 ACTION

SMC. 15508/13.
T.L. 16008/19. SSO.

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Sec/Army by TAG/ ----- date -----
411410

TO SER
AT COL CARLTON SMITH

1000

10/7

EQUALS BRITISH MOST SECRET

SECRET

WAR DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFIED MESSAGE CENTER

INCOMING MESSAGE

LRBS
72/16
FILED 162040B

AFEC N1079/17
171925B
jhb

ROUTINE

FROM: CG, SEVENTH ARMY.

TO : 15th ARMY GROUP PASS TO CO PWB (INC), AFHQ, ALGIERS.

NO : 381, July 16, 1943.

The following is a repeat of our 381 to be read in numerical order.

1, Our 1, to you, our forces are considered liberators not invaders by SICILIANS, but mainland ITALIANS hostile. SICILIANS anticipate speedy, complete occupation, ask messages be sent relatives PALERMO, MESSINA, etc.

2, Starvation conditions, with shoes selling at 1,000 Lire and FASCISTS confiscating food at farms explained low morale. FASCIST exploitation remains our best propaganda line locally.

Prisoners, like civilians, indicate profound hatred of GERMANS. Prisoners say all ITALIANS would surrender if GERMANS were not shooting ITALIANS who come over carrying (?) white flag.

3, Thus 200 ITALIANS, soldiers with packed belongings, met AMERICAN landers at GELA. Civilians report armed clashes between ITALIAN-GERMAN soldiers at SANTA CONO, shootings of ITALIANS by GERMANS at MAZZARANO and GERMAN laying of mines behind ITALIANS at BUTEVA, cannot confirm and doubt all 3 reports. Interrogating prisoners at LICATA felt special guard necessary protect GERMANS WHITTAKER.

MC IN 7886

Uncredited unofficial reproduction
copy/Army by TNC/ date

411410

EQUALS BRITISH MOST SECRET

SECRET

COPY No.

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN

Ref No. 381 16 July 43 Page 2

381 not in AFHQ MC FILES

ACTION: PWB

INFO: SCB
INC
G-2
G-3
G-2(NAT)
MIL GOV SEC
AG RECORDS
**

SUMMARY

MC IN 7886

18 July 43

0040B

Ref No. 381

1p

ALGOT PANTOX

191700 B

FREEDOM

7952

CA/522

FROM CCAO FOR HQS AND PRO (.) MY CAF/52 OF 19 JUL (.) NOTHING ABOUT PROCLAMATION NO 7 IS TO BE RELEASED TO PRESS UNTIL PROCLAMATION HAS BEEN EFFECTIVELY AND WIDELY POSTED IN SICILY (.) THIS CANNOT BE DONE FOR SOME DAYS (.) ACTUAL SHEETS OF PROCLAMATION NO 7 HAVE NOT YET REACHED ISLAND AND WITH PRESENT COMMUNICATIONS MUST TAKE SOME TIME TO DISTRIBUTE (.)

2. NEXT PROCLAMATION FOR POSTING WILL BE NOS 4 AND 5 (.) THESE HAVE BEEN DESPATCHED TO ISLAND TODAY (.) ORDER OF OTHERS WILL BE NOTIFIED (.) YOUR 1912 OF 18 JUL HERE (.)

3. NO REPEAT NO FURTHER RELEASES TILL CCAO HAS REACHED ISLAND WHEN HE WILL NOTIFY (.) HIS ETA IS 22 JUL (.)

4. ACK

Unofficial research order
Sec/Army by TAG/ ----- date -----

411410

1747

MOST SECRET

IMMEDIATE

R. F. THORNE THORNE
Colonel

1 page

100/607

19 July 43

ANGOT H.Q.,
15 ARMY GROUP.

7951

19th July 1945.

Dear

In the first place may I offer my congratulations on your promotion. I have no doubt that you will feel about it as I do. Before they made me a general, the rank seemed to be glamorous and unattainable. When they made me one it became, for me, a source of ridicule and entertainment. I am acutely self-conscious every time I become aware of it.

And that brings me to the second point. It may be necessary for one to suffer for one's country and I suppose that it does serve some useful purpose to bandy my name about as C.G.A.C. But having once done it will you tell your friends in the PR world to lay off. My organisation should work in a decent obscurity and anonymity. I consider my name to be my private property; to hear it on the radio gives me a feeling of indecent exposure. And what goes for my name goes also for that of any and every one of my officers. SO NO NAMES, PLEASE; not even that of Charles Pollett, whose name rang out through the ether from the B.B.C.

Yours

Brig. Gen. Julius Holmes,
Mil. Govt. Sect. D,
A.F.H.Q.

1748

Wm to R R J

Capt. Pore to me
CAP

19/7.

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

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ARMY FORM C.

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call.	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmits	Instructions
				7951

Above this line for Signals use only.

From (A)	ORIGINATOR. FANTOM ARMOY	Date-Time of Origin. JUL 12 1210300	Office Date Stamp.
For Action.			
To	(W) For Information (INFO).	Message Instructions	GR

ORIGINATOR's No. GAP/52
FOR H.Q.S. FROM C.O.A.O. I REQUEST IMMEDIATE ORIGINATOR ARMOY RADIO
PRIORITY AND ELIMINATION IN ALL COMMUNICATIONS BASED HEREIN AND ALL
MY OFFICERS I ORDERED SUCH PRIORITY THIS EARLY STATE INSTRUCTIONS
AND POLITICALLY WEIGHABLE I REQUEST IN FUTURE BY REPORT TO RESEARCH
ARMOY WITHOUT PRIOR SUBMISSION HEREIN I THIS BY REQUEST WITH ARRANGEMENT
WITH ETC AND ORIGIN OF ATTACHED TWO

DISTRIBUTION:-

C.G.S.
D.D.M.I.
AMCOT H.Q.

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accredited unofficial researchers Order
Sec/Army by TAG/ date
4 14 10 1745

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except	If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER.	Originators Instructions. Degree of Priority.	THI or THOR
WIRELESS	WIRE SECRET		
Signed.	Signed.		TIME CLEARED

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SECRET

IMPORTANT.
CIPHER MESSAGE

13
POLTO 10: 14895
18 JUL 43

IN HEADQUARTERS

FROM: SIGNED EISENHOWER CITE PERPTO
TO: AMGOT HEADQUARTERS CITE PERPTO
ORIG NO: 1912

FORCE 141

TOO 1543/18
THI
TOR 1758/18

AMGOT BIOGRAPHIES RELEASED WITH PROVISIONAL MATERIAL CANNOT BE
USED AS A LIST CATALOGUE FASHION, BUT CORRESPONDENTS ARE FREE
TO USE ANY OR ALL MATERIAL IN STORIES. ON PROCLAMATION RUSH
RELEASE.

AMGOT 2 ACTION
INC 2
PR 1

SMC 1830B/18
T.T. 1835B/18 JT 1744

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ACTION

Capt. Pore.
Sec/Army by Pore.
17/7

| 8 5 2 |