

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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ITALIAN POSTAL SERVICES
DEC. 1943 - MAR. 1944

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. SECTION
AEO 394

13 MAR 1944

Ref/127/41/CA

11 March 1944

SUBJECT: Civil Post Office Services.

TO : All Sub-Commissions
Regional Commissioners
SCAO's, 5th & 8th Armies.

The following has been prepared by Telecommunications and Posts Sub-Commission for the information of all concerned:

SUMMARY
OF

CIVIL POST OFFICE SERVICES
available to the Public (excluding military personnel)
as at 1st March, 1944

(a) Internal

1. MAILS.

Letters and postcards collection and delivery in and between liberated Italy*, Sicily and Sardinia (registered letters, packets and parcels NOT accepted).

Postage Rates (as in operation prior to occupation).

Postcards	For delivery in town of posting	15 centesimi	25 "
Letters (for each 15 gms)	For delivery outside town of posting	30 centesimi	50 "

21.2

Present Maximum Weight Limits for Posting.

In Italy and Sardinia: 90 gms
In Sicily: 210 gms

available to the Public (excluding military personnel)
as at 1st March, 1944

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In Sicily :	210 gms

Postage Stamps to be used.

Italy and Sardinia :	Italian only (AMG stamps may be used later if necessary)
Sicily :	AMG only (special print).

+ Region II and Salerno Province (Avellino, and part of Naples and Benevento Provinces to be added shortly).

(b) Foreign

(i) Civil. - Between all the territories in which the internal service operates and all Allied and neutral countries other than those occupied by the enemy.

Prostano Hatos.

Postcards	:	1.50 lire
Letters	:	Up to 20 gms : 2.50 lire
	:	20-40 gms (maximum weight) 4 lire

Postage Stamp. - As for internal mails.

DETAILED REGULATIONS, INCLUDING CENSORSHIP RESTRICTIONS, ARE ON
EXHIBITION IN ALL POST OFFICES.

(ii) Prisoners of War.

Letters and postcards, free of postage, for Prisoners of War in both Allied and Enemy hands.

(iii) International Red Cross Movement.

Agencies are established in Naples, Palermo and Cagliari. A limited service now operating will shortly be made available in all the liberated area. Details will be published by the International Red Cross Committee.

2. FINANCIAL SERVICES.

In the postal delivery area: - Post Office Savings Bank, Postal Bonds, Postal Money Orders.

The Post Office Current account banking service is in operation to a limited extent.

for
NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel, Cavalry,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:
Chief Counselor

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W. J. Wild (M. C. F.)
 NORMAN E. WISE,
 Colonel, Cavalry,
 Deputy Executive
 Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner	
Deputy Chief Commissioner	
Secretary General to Chief Commissioner	10
Administrative Section	12
Economic Section	
PW & Displaced Persons Administration	
Italian Refugees Branch	
Security Branch	
Information Branch	
Establishment Branch	
Political Section	
Navy	
Land Forces	
Air Forces	
Telecommunications & Postal Administration	10
War Material Disposal	
Public Relations Officer	
Liaison Section HQ ACF	
Regions I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, IX.	
SCMO 5th Army	
SCMO 8th Army	

3-Admin
 1-Telephone
 1-Education
 1-Postal
 1-Monuments, etc
 1-Prop Central
 1-P. Health
 1-P. Safety

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PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

S.
12.2.44

Immediate Release

15 Feb 44.

Foreign Mails

In the territory comprised in the Provinces of Bari, Brindisi, Lecce, Taranto, Catanzaro, Cosenza, Matera, Potenza, Reggio Calabria and Salerno, in Sardinia and in Sicily and the Aeolian Islands, Lampedusa, Pantelleria, Linosa, Ustica and the Aegadean Islands Civil Postal Communications with Allied and neutral countries other than those occupied by the enemy will be resumed from February 16 1944. Until further notice the new services will be restricted to postcards and unregistered letters not exceeding 40 grammes in weight and of a purely personal nature. Financial, commercial or business correspondence is prohibited.

The rates of postage will be:

Postcards		Lire 1.50
Letters up to 20 grammes	"	2.50
Letters not exceeding 40 grammes	"	4.00

For full particulars see the special notices which are being placed on exhibition.

21.1

SEEN	
ADMIN DIRS TO	
CHIEF STAFF O.	
STAFF O. 1	
STAFF O. 2	
STAFF O. 3	
CLERK	

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INFO VG

13 FEB 1944
/sk

7/13

50619

121415A FIB

131153A FIB
(Ove Rec'd)

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIORITY

FR MOON SIGNED CODE CITY BRUGS REF 50165 of 2/14/44

FARGO FOR STONE & H AD, FATIMA FOR HENDERSON & PRODOVER
INFO FABLE FOR DUNLOP, IDS FOR AVG FOR POLSETTI & CIVIL
CINERSHIP SECTION, MIDWEST FOR POSTAL FOR RICH KING

Paraphrase by FR MOON

(It was necessary to service this message - reason for delay)

True sequence of paragraphs has undergone a random arrangement and reestablishing the normal sequence will give you the original message.

1. Combined Chief of Staff have advised that UK and USA have reached agreement relative resumption Italian external postal service. Service should be resumed 16 February simultaneously with all Allied and non-enemy countries. Until additional shipping facilities are available service will be limited to personal communications only.
2. Not necessary to advise Rome before resumption of service. Sufficient if (a) simple notification of opening of service is sent in first mail despatched to such countries for which direct outward mails are made up and (b) postal administration HQ, such countries, are informed that inward mails can be accepted by those routes specified, subject to such restrictions as may be imposed by orders issued by CIRC.
3. Postmaster Generals of UK and USA will prepare respective press notices which will be released 16 February in London and Washington. Press notices suitable for Italian public will be prepared and issued by ACC on February 16. FIB at AFHQ request that such release be coordinated with FIB representative at Naples before issuance.
4. Combined Chiefs of Staff have recommended that such press release be restricted to simple statement that International Postal Service is being restored to Sardinia, Sicily, and 10 mainland provinces. Announcement should state that until further notice service is restricted to unregistered letters and post cards, not exceeding 40 grams in weight, of a purely personal nature; financial, commercial, or business

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Reopening Cable from FATIMA Reference No. 50619 of 17415A Feb.

13 FEB 1944

976

correspondence being prohibited .

5. Allied Control Commission will ensure that Italian postal service disseminates necessary instructions as to type of correspondence permitted, date of resumption, countries with which service will be resumed, and that all inward mails must be routed in accordance with detailed instructions as distributed by Universal Postal Union Convention to the postal administrations or as may be procured by application to the UK or USA post office departments.
6. Since no information received from Combined Chiefs of Staff reference rates, suggest adoption rates of 1.5; 2.5; and 4 Lire as recommended your second course action in FATIMA 2141 of January 25.
7. IN request all censorship representatives be advised.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - 20 Files
- 1 - Telecom. — ACTION
- 1 - Dep. Chief Commissioner — INFO

21.2

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U. S. SECRET Equals British SECRET

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FEB. 1947

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50335

111905A PGB

120235A PGB

SECRET

ROUTING

CITE CITY INDEX

WASHER FOR HEAD, SATINA FOR HEADQUARTERS INFO FOR AND FOR
STAFFS AND FOR CIVIL CENSORSHIP SECTION, INFO FOR FOREIGN
COUNCIL 328 AND WASHO 722 OF

Mails for Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, and Spanish Morocco will continue to go to London and not to Gibraltar. Such mails are to be routed through Civil Censorship Section, INFO, APO 550 for preliminary examination before forwarding to London.

To WASHO: AD postal (HATONIA) issued instructions relative accepting and forwarding foreign mails January 31st. British Postal Directorate has instructions in mails.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG Files
- 1 - Telegrams and Postal - Info

21.0

U. S. SECRET Equals British SECRET

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File

1000 27/1

11/11

50165

11831a Feb

117116 Feb

1 - Chief, Ship Commissioning
1 - Telecom and Postal Sub-Com

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JUN/CIR/CTC

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY GOVERNMENT SECTION

MSG 006.73-2

17 December 1943.

SUBJECT: External Civilian Communications with Italy.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission
Headquarters, Allied Military Government
Headquarters, Regional Allied Commissioner (Sardinia)

1. Commercial correspondence will not be permitted between Italy and any country overseas in the early stages.
2. It will be necessary that the following addition be made to the Postal Regulations under "Censorship of Italian Civil Communications in all but Forward Areas". Forwarded with our letter, MSG 006.73-2, of 3 November 1943.
3. The only external facilities permitted will be surface private letters and correspondence. Commercial correspondence and the enclosure of commercial papers in private external correspondence are prohibited.

J. G. HOLMES
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
Chief, Military Government Section

COPIES TO:

HQ, 15th Army Group
INFO Civil
G-1 (A)
G-1 (S)
G-2
G-2(MATTHEA)
INFO
PRO
The Office of the American Ambassador
The Office of the British Resident Minister
Army Postal Service (A)
ADAMS (B)

2100

Copies Req'd. for

Capt. STONE
Telecomm. & Post. SC. (for info)
Economic Directorate
Admin
Col. Hume (censorship)

0 4 6 2