

1780

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/506

OFFICE OF INFORMATION
FEB. - MAY 1945

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

785017

10000/109/506

OFFICE OF INFORMATION (SIM), ITAL GOV'T
FEB. - MAY 1945

785017

(149)

C.S.O. to Ex:Com:

No formal reply has been received from Phones to
(40) CITRADING, however, has received telephonic acceptance
of the attention to Enclose I, & to new Enclosure I (39)
was sent with (40).

C.C. says that the Italians are anxious
to avoid the word "Intelligence" in the war name for the
S.M. for political reasons.

J.A. Quoyte
31.3.45

50

May Steam:

Noted. Keep an eye on it.
11/4

C.S.O.

(33)

52

(33)

Attached draft is answer to folio 19. (Folio ~~27~~ 28 refer.)
is submitted for your approval.

Who prepared this draft?

D.L. 6/4.

53

C.S.O.

Your 52 I did.

D.L. 9/4.

3511
3 Apr.

1783

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

785017

Minute No. 48

Land Forces Sub Com, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No SD/18
Mar 45.

TO : Executive Commissioner, A.C. ←

Ref Minute 44 above, please see copy of letter to AFHQ
at folio 47 herewith.

Please do NOT take action to implement until further
advised by this H.Q. letter *thru*

- (a) AFHQ has approved above letter
- (b) MMIA W.E.C. has approved W.E.

Everything possible will be done by MMIA to hasten matters.

tv8.

Colonel
Major General
M.M.I.A.

3510

TO: MAJ. STEARNS - See #13

This is ~~ready~~ to be communicated to the Italian Government. Who or how should it be done?

28 Mar 45

CSO. 42

G. STEWART BROWN
D. PRE

28/3 This plan has not extend to Ausg. territory except NAPLES. PREB suggest Ministry of War should establish Bureau of Censorship. Pls obtain views of Land Forces SE. 7

MIN. #44

TO: Land Forces Subcommittee (MMIA) (Att: Colonel Kerr)

Reference our conversation regarding establishment of Italian Press & Radio Censorship Group.

In accordance with your suggestion, Major Colville, of the Press & Radio Censorship Branch, AFHQ, has submitted a proposed table of organization. As soon as this T/O is cleared by your Hq, the Commission will forward the approved plan to the Italian Government for proper implementation.

In connection with this suggestion, Major Colville suggests that your attention be directed to AFHQ-INC-Press & Radio Censorship Branch letter dated 26 Feb., subject "Employment of Italian Officers as Press Censors", copy of which was sent to Major Stainton of MMIA; this communication should be examined for any pertinent information.

29 March

L. W. STEARNS
Major, AGD

3503

785017

Office of E.C., A.C.

Re 20th IND above. Please see folios 36 and 37.

24 Mar 45

J.M.G.

Lt Col G.S.
MNIA.

C.C.

38

Your directions were that the proposals put forward by Bonani for the transference of S.151 should be forwarded to A.F.H.Q with the recommendation that they should be accepted.

In view of General Brooming's letter of (23) do you prefer to

a) clear the amendments with Bonani,
and then

b) send it to P5 — who will clear with P28.

J.A. Dwyer
26.3.45

22
Seen By E. Connor to Folio 21. Rec.

24

S.O. to Chief Clerk

Folio 23 passed to you for necessary action.

9/13.

25

S.O. to Ex. Com.

No action necessary. Folio 23 confirms & approves
action we have already taken.

J.A.D. 9/13.

26

Ex. Com.

8 x 23 for information

10/13

27

Then an agent from the file letters about
Benedetto. The proper title for the file is SIM.

28

10/13

No action necessary. SIM is in the

Copy.

10/13.

3507

29

TO: Land Forces S/c (MMIA) - (Attention: Col Kerr)

Re folio 33-- establishment of Ufficio Informazioni under Ministry of War.

Will you please submit your comments and recommendations on the nature of

C.S.O. & Ex. Com.

25

21 9/3.

No action necessary. Folio 23 confirms & approves
action is have already taken.

J.N.D. 9/3.

26

Ex. Com.

23 for information

5 10/3

27

Then an agent from the file letters about
Benedetto. The proper title for the file is SIM.

28

No action necessary. SIM is in the
Cover.

Si 16/3.

3507

31

TO: Land Forces S/c (MMIA) - (Attention: Col Kerr)

Re folio 23-- establishment of Ufficio Informazioni under Ministry of War.

Will you please submit your comments and recommendations on the nature of
the reply to be made to this letter?

23 March

L. W. STEARNS
Major, AGD

1871
CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Censorship Policy

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AC (MILIA)

INT/113

19 May 45

TO : AFHQ

NAVY 21 REC'D

1. In view of the cessation of hostilities in Europe may a policy ruling please be given on the Censorship of Press and Radio and of Italian Military and Civilian mail.

2. This HQ strongly recommends the lifting of censorship regulations for the following reasons :-

(a) The relaxation of Security in this theatre;

(b) The good effect this security release would have on the morale of the Italian Army thus reducing the desertion rate;

(c) The consequent speeding up of mail deliveries to and from Italian troops;

(d) The saving of Italian supervisory military personnel, vide para 3 below.

3. The following units could be disbanded and personnel posted to other duties, and ITI-ITI ceiling correspondingly reduced.

(a) Pool of Italian Military Press Censors - Cat 5(c) ITI-ITI
60 all ranks

(b) 4 Sec HQ IAI held in Cat 5(c) ITI-ITI
43 all ranks

(c) Civilian censorship unit held in Cat 5(c) ITI-ITI 160 all ranks

(d) Attachment to No. 7 Base Censor
held in ITI-ITI Cat 5(c)
14 all ranks

Communications Sub-Com. A.C. state that they are unwilling to release the Civilian Censorship Unit owing to the fact that the employment of military personnel on civilian censorship guarantees the unbiased censorship, politically and economically, of civilian mail.

4. Will you please forward your decision.

3508

d. B. ...

Major-General
MILIA

1. In view of the cessation of hostilities in Europe may a policy ruling please be given on the Censorship of Press and Radio and of Italian Military and Civilian mail.

2. This Hq strongly recommends the lifting of censorship regulations for the following reasons :-

- (a) The relaxation of Security in this theatre;
- (b) The good effect this security release would have on the morale of the Italian Army thus reducing the desertion rate;
- (c) The consequent speeding up of mail deliveries to and from Italian troops;
- (d) The saving of Italian supervisory military personnel, vide para 3 below.

3. The following units could be disbanded and personnel posted to other duties, and ITI-ITI ceiling correspondingly reduced.

- (a) Pool of Italian Military Press Censors - Cat 5(c) ITI-ITI 60 all ranks
- (b) 4 See HQ IAI held in Cat 5(c) ITI-ITI 43 all ranks
- (c) Civilian censorship unit held in Cat 5(c) ITI-ITI 160 all ranks
- (d) Attachment to No. 7 Base Censor held in ITI-ITI Cat 6(c) 14 all ranks

Communications Sub-Com. A.C. state that they are unwilling to release the Civilian Censorship Unit owing to the fact that the employment of military personnel on civilian censorship guarantees the unbiased censorship, politically and economically, of civilian mail.

4. Will you please forward your decision. 3508

Copy to: Executive Commissioner, A.C.
Communications Sub-Com. A.C.

cgl.

Major-General
MMIA

(HMS STERINS)

785017

1011
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information News and Censorship Section
Press and Radio Censorship Branch
Unit No 2 APO 512

Subject : Italian Censorship Organisation

22 April 1945

APR 24 Rec'd

To : Lt. Col. J.L. Hayden
Chief, Press & Radio Censorship Branch
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

1. Herewith translation of Draft Order drawn up by this Office for the signature of General Rocco, Chief of Staff of the Italian Army.
2. Following the final approval of the plan for an Italian military press censorship organisation, the Italian General Staff somewhat hastily sent out orders mobilising forthwith all the 45 Officers and 15 N.M. authorised under the new establishment. Capt. Del Mare, Chief of our Italian section, immediately went round to the War Office and explained that we wished this establishment to serve as a pool, upon which we can draw for personnel as our commitments grow with the liberation of North Italy.
3. The enclosed Draft Order provides for the immediate appointment of Officers in towns now under Italian Government jurisdiction, and publishing daily papers.
4. Reference para (4) of the Order, it has been thought advisable, even at the cost of a few days' delay, to bring the new officers up to Rome. Here they will have the opportunity to see how the whole system functions, the procedure for censorship of news agencies and the radio network, censorship of provincial correspondents' telephoned stories, etc. They will also come into personal contact with all members of this office. Finally, they will go to their duty stations. It is then hoped that the officers destined for Bari, Palermo and Cagliari, after a short period of instruction by the Allied officers at present stationed there, will be able to release these three officers for duty further north.

3505

3505

(HAS STEAMER)

25/4

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

785017

- 2 -

I.C. Alexander
I.C. ALEXANDER
Major, I.C.
Senior Local Press & Radio
Censor, ITALY

Copy To : Land Forces Sub-Commission (M.M.I.A.)
Lt. Col. I.S. Munro, P.W.B.
Major Stearns, Executive Branch A.C. ✓
Capt. E.L. Occhi
Capt. R.T. Fleming
Capt. E.B. Forbes
Capt. A.V. Caratolo

3504

785017

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

GENERAL STAFF, REGIO Esercito
ORGANISATION AND ORGANISATION BRANCH
- Organisation Section
APO 3800

61

TRANSLATION.

Protocol No _____

21 April 1945

SUBJECT: Military Press Censorship Organisation.

TO :	MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMAND OF	ROME
	MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMAND OF	NAPLES
	MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMAND OF	BARI
	MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMAND OF	PALERMO

COPIES : THE CABINET
GENERAL DIRECTION OF PERSONNEL (OFFICERS)
GENERAL RECRUITING OFFICE (NCO's & EN)
ALL MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMANDS (including those
now being prepared for the North)
OPERATIONS AND TRAINING BRANCH
SERVICES BRANCH
HQ AUTONOMOUS MINISTERIAL GROUP (R.A.M.)

Reference Order No 12561/Ord dated 17 Apr 1945:

1. The orders given in No 12561/Ord dated 17 Apr 1945 are herewith cancelled.
2. For the time being, the plan for military press censorship will be put into effect only in territory under Italian Government administration. Meanwhile, the above military commands will make available officers for the requirements detailed below. These officers should have the following qualifications:
 - be of the district or city in which they will be stationed;
 - have a Higher Educational certificate, preferably of university standard (a knowledge of English is not necessary);
 - be of the class of 1918, or older;
 - have a completely clean political record;
 - have a good military record, showing a reliable character and enthusiasm for their work;
 - belong to a fighting arm, and be reserve officers (not regulars).

35V20

B.

MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMAND OF NAPLES.

- 1 Captain and 1 Subaltern for Naples (the subaltern has already been designated in accordance with the agreement between Col Bonelli and Maj J.B. Costanzo, and has already entered upon his duties as Military censor);
- 1 Subaltern for Catanzaro;
- 1 Subaltern for Reggio Calabria;
- 1 Subaltern for Salerno.

MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMAND OF ROME.

- 1 Subaltern for Sassari;
- 1 Subaltern for Cagliari;

The above two officers may be drawn from the detachment, now dissolved, formerly working with P.W.B. at Radio Cagliari.

MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMAND OF PALERMO.

- 1 Captain and 1 Subaltern for Palermo;
- 1 Subaltern for Messina;
- 1 Subaltern for Catania.

MILITARY TERRITORIAL COMMAND OF BARI.

- 1 Subaltern (Lt Piero MENGOLI, already in service as military press censor at the Prefecture, Bari).

All the above officers will be shown on the strengths of the Headquarters of the respective Territorial Commands, and will be attached for ration purposes to the local military H.Q. in the town where they are stationed. They will be shown under Category 5 (C), "Pool of Italian Military Press Censors" - authority LAND FORCES SUB-COM A.C. (M.M.I.A.) SD/18/2 dated 9/4/45.

3. Orders for the organisation of the Military Press Censorship Centre at Rome, and of the Military Censorship Detachments in territory still occupied by the enemy, or not yet under Italian Government jurisdiction, will be given at a later date.

4. Officers designated in para (2) above will be sent immediately to this H.Q. (Organisation Branch), so that they may be presented not later than 5 May 1945 to the Military Press Censorship Office, Via Veneto 62, Rome. These officers will then receive a short 3-day course to prepare them for their duties.

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- 3 -

54

GEN. ERGOLE RONCO
CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF

3501

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

SUBJECT: Plan of INT Units - (ITI-ITI)

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, A.C. (MMIA)

SD/18/2

13 Apr 45

TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER, A.C.

Further to our SD/18/2 of 9 April 45.

1. MMIA W.E.C. today approved W.E. 544/SMRE/1, a Pool of Italian Military Press Censors.
2. This WE is similar to that given in Appx "A" to SD/18/2 of 9 April, and will be issued in due course.
3. It will therefore be in order for you to proceed with the necessary arrangements for the assumption of these censorship responsibilities by the Italian Authorities.

Major General
MMIA

WB

Tab 56 Action taken on above.

3501

PA
17/4

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

1011/34/BC

13 April 1945

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Land Forces Subcommittee (MMIA)

Chief Commissioner's letter file 1011/33/BC dated
11 April 45, copy of which was passed to you, refers.

Chief Staff Officer
To Acting Executive Commissioner
Major L. W. STEARNS

3503

3499

1A

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

1011/33/80

11 April 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

The transference of the Ufficio Informazioni (formerly S.I.M.) to the Ministry of War has just been approved by APHQ.

Accordingly, I am pleased to inform you that you may now take the necessary action to effect the plan as detailed in the amended copy of Inclosure I to your letter 234 of 21 March 45. This amendment was passed to your Chief de Cabinet, H.E. Signor Flores, on 27 March 1945 (file 1011/80).

Yours very truly,

[s] Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

cc. U.S. Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-5, APHQ
Political Adviser (A),
Political Adviser (B)
Land Forces S/C (MMIA)
Civil Affairs Section

see 58
3493
14

1798

785017

9275

(53)

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Fun of Int Units (JFM-IM)

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, AC (MIA)
SD/18/2

4
Apr 45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

APR 10 1945

POOL OF ITALIAN MILITARY PRESS CENSORS

1. The existing Press and Radio Censorship Unit consisting of 11 Offrs carried in Cat 5(C) will be incorporated in the above Unit in order that increased censorship duties may be taken over.

2. It is considered that as the future requirements of censorship in occupied Italy are necessarily uncertain the most convenient method of meeting future commitments is by the establishment of a military censorship pool.

3. Pending final approval of the WE you will proceed to organise the Unit on the basis of the proposed WE (45 offrs and 15 ORs) att at Appx A. The Unit will be carried in Cat 5 (C).

4. The suggested distribution of personnel within the pool is included for your information by notes to the proposed WE.

5. You will arrange for the inclusion in this Unit of the offr and clerk at present carrying out Press and Radio censorship duties in SARF MIA.

6. AFHQ signal F 56230 dated 6 Apr refers.

tvS.

copy to: Executive Commissioner, AC.
Press & Radio Censorship (AFHQ) -- 46 L-1 CALVILL
MIA IO SARDINIA (for MIA SD 2582 dated 18 Apr)

Major General
MIA 3498

Internal: C Int.
A.L.
Q. - 3 copies.

John S.

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

APR 10 1945

POOL OF ITALIAN MILITARY PRESS CENSORSHIP

1. The existing Press and Radio Censorship Unit consisting of 11 Offrs carried in Cat 5(C) will be incorporated in the above Unit in order that increased censorship duties may be taken over.
2. It is considered that as the future requirements of censorship in occupied Italy are necessarily uncertain the most convenient method of meeting future commitments is by the establishment of a military censorship pool. 54
3. Pending final approval of the WE you will proceed to organize the Unit on the basis of the proposed WE (45 offrs and 15 ORs) att at Appx A. The Unit will be carried in Cat 5 (C).
4. The suggested distribution of personnel within the pool is included for your information by notes to the proposed WE.
5. You will arrange for the inclusion in this Unit of the offr and clerk at present carrying out Press and Radio censorship duties in SARF NIA.
6. AFHQ signal F 56230 dated 6 Apr refers.

tns.

copy to: Executive Commissioner, AFHQ
Press & Radio Censorship (AFHQ) :
NIA LO SARDINIA (ref NIA SD 2582 dated 18 Apr)

Internal: C Int.
A.I.
Q. - 3 copies.

Major General
NIA 3498

(Has Sardinia)

785017

RESTRICTED

Appendix "A" to MMIA letter
SD/18 of April 45

POOL OF ITALIAN MILITARY PRESS CENSORS

Proposed War Establishment.

(1) Personnel

Chief Censor (Lt. Col.)	1	(a)
Majors	1	(b)
Captains	8	(c)
Subalterns	35	(e)
TOTAL Offrs	45	
Censorship clerks-- (Senior NCO's)	15	(d)
TOTAL CR's	15	
TOTAL a Pool of Italian Military Press Censors	60	

Notes on proposed distribution of personnel

- (a) To form HQ in ROME
- (b) For MILAN
- (c) One each to TURIN GENOA PADUA TRIESTE BOLOGNA
FLORENCE NAPLES PALERMO.
- (d) For distribution to Officers as follows :-

Chief Censor	5
Major	2
Each Capt.	1
	15

(e) Approx one for each town in which a newspaper is authorised.

POOL OF ITALIAN MILITARY PRESS CENSORS

Proposed War Establishment.

(1) Personnel

Chief Censor (Lt. Col.)	1	(a)
Majors	1	(b)
Captains	8	(c)
Subalterns	35	(e)
TOTAL Offrs	45	
Censorship clerks - (Senior NCO's)	15	(d)
TOTAL OR's	15	
TOTAL a Pool of Italian Military Press Censors	60	

Notes on proposed distribution of personnel

(a)	To form HQ in ROME	
(b)	For MILAN	
(c)	One each to TURIN GENOA PADUA TRIESTE BOLOGNA FLORENCE NAPLES PALERMO.	349*
(d)	For distribution to Officers as follows :-	
	Chief Censor	5
	Major	2
	Each Capt.	1
		<u>15</u>

(e) Approx one for each town in which a newspaper is authorised.

~~SECRET~~

1011

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

Rec'd 6 Apr. 45

3 April 1945

G-5 091.1 Italy

SUBJECT: Transfer of Control of S.I.M.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
(Attn: Chief Commissioner)
APO 394.

1. Reference is made to your 1011/EC of 30 March.
2. G-2 this Headquarters are satisfied with the proposals received by you from the Italian Prime Minister and there is no objection to the matter being dealt with on the basis set out.

G. J. Jankling
for CHARLES M. SPOFFORD,
Brigadier General, G.S.C.,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

Copy to G-2(CI) your endorsement two under log
reference 4507 refers.

1 spare held near CC
7/3.

CONFIDENTIAL

Action
33

3498

~~SECRET~~

(17)

SUBJECT: Press and Radio Censorship

CONFIDENTIAL

Land Forces Sub Ccm, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

File No: SD/18

20 Mar 45.

TO : AFHQ.

copy to: Executive Commissioner, A.C.

1. In order that Press and Radio censorship may be transferred in the rear areas to the Italian authorities it is proposed to approve a W.E. vide Appendix "A" at the first M.E.C. Committee meeting of MIA next week. W.E. shows total of 45 offrs and 15 CRs and will incorporate the existing Press and Radio Censorship Unit 11 offrs shown as serial 11 in Appendix "A" to MIA SD/18 of 21 Mar. It is considered that as the future requirements of censorship in occupied Italy are necessarily uncertain, the most convenient method of meeting future commitments is by the establishment of a military censorship pool. The proposed distribution of personnel within the pool is included for your information by notes to the proposed W.E.

2. Owing to the fact that 810 Service Sqn total 68 all ranks was transferred from ITI-ITI to BR-ITI category vide your F 41001 cite FBCT of 10 Mar sufficient space in Cat 5(c) exists.

3. This matter has received the departmental approval of G 2 and G 5 secs AFHQ on 15 Feb, Gen HANDING C of S on 17 Feb and Maj Gen LEMNIZER on 18 Feb, since when the matter has been in the hands of A.C., who also approve.

4. Will you please signal overall authority.

tvs.

[Signature]
Major General
M.M.I.A.

3495

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

RESTRICTED

Appendix "A" to MILA letter
SD/18 of 28 March 45.

POOL OF ITALIAN MILITARY PRESS CENSORS.

Proposed War Establishment.

(i) Personnel.

Chief Censor (Lt. Col.)	1	(a)
Majors	1	(b)
Captains	8	(c)
Subalterns	35	

TOTAL OFFICERS

45

Conservancy clerks - (Senior NCO's)

15 (d)

TOTAL OR's

15

TOTAL a Pool of Italian
Military Press Censors

60

Notes on proposed distribution of personnel

- (a) To form HQ in Rome
- (b) For MILAN
- (c) One each to TURIN GENOVA PALUA TRIESTE BOLOGNA FLORENCE
NAPLES PALERMO.
- (d) For distribution to Officers as follows :-

Chief Censor	5
Major	2
Each Capt.	1
	15

3493
4493

1803

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

785017

~~SECRET~~

Ex. Com.

1003/110

25

145

1001/10

30 March 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Transference and Renaming of S.I.M.
TO : G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters, 370 512

1. Reference is made to my signal 3108 of 7 March 1945.
2. I have now received from the Prime Minister a letter containing his proposals for the transference of S.I.M. and I forward them to you with the recommendation that they should be accepted.
3. It would be appreciated if this matter could be dealt with urgently since the Italian Government are anxious to put the transfer into effect as quickly as possible.

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

Encl. 1- Ltr 234, 21 Mar 45,
from Bonomi to CC
2- with REVISED inclosure.

cc: U.S. Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-2, AFHQ
Executive Commissioner, AG
Political Adviser (A), AG
Political Adviser (B), AG
Head Forces M/C, AG
Civil Affairs Section, AG

See 51

CONFIDENTIAL

3493

PRESS & RADIO CENSORSHIP BRANCH
PRO HEADQUARTERS
ROME

29 March 45

SUBJECT: Proposed Table of Organization for Italian Press
and Radio Censorship Group

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission

Reference turn-over of press/radio censorship
responsibility to Italian Government, AFHQ letter,
18 February 45.

1. It is estimated that in order to implement the approved
plan for the Italian Press and Radio Censorship throughout Italian
territory approximately 45 officers and 15 ORs (Italian Army) will
be eventually required.

2. It is desired that this proposed table of organization
be given proper clearance through Land Forces Subcommittee (MMIA).

3. It is suggested that Captain DEL MARE (Italian officer)
now engaged in the activities of the Press & Radio Censorship
Branch be charged with the organization of this group.


J. W. COLVILLE
Major

3492

1011/EO

27 March 1945

Your Excellency:

As you will have already been informed by Marchese Cittadini-Cese I am sending to you for your approval a slightly amended copy of Enclosure 1 to letter 234 of 21 March 1945 from His Excellency The President to Admiral Stone on the transference of the Ufficio Informazioni (ex-S.I.M.).

The amendments are very slight and arise from the following considerations:

1. Elements which are part of the Truppe di Sicurezza are also "under Allied operating command".
2. Serial 11, "Codes and Cyphers" is NOT "under Allied operating command" but IS part of Category 5.

As it is urgent to have Sig. Bonomi's proposals cleared by the Allied military authorities with the least possible delay, I would be most grateful if Your Excellency would inform Marchese Cittadini by telephone that the new "Enclosure 1" has your approval. I would be obliged if Your Excellency would confirm, at the same time, if the Ufficio Informazioni is definitely now the new title by which it is intended to employ.

Sincerely,

J. A. Quayle

J. A. QUAYLE
Major, R. A.
Staff Officer to CC

Encl.

H.E. Signor Flores
Chef de Cabinet to the
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

3491

~~SECRET~~

39

Enclosure 1 to n. 234 of 21.3.44

UNITS OF THE ITALIAN OFFICE OF INFORMATION (IX-SIM)

<u>Unit</u>	<u>N.E. Strengths</u>	<u>Total</u>
I. <u>Italian Adm Troops (Category 1).</u>		
1. Central Office - coordinating and directing office SIMC under general direction of Minister for War	30	30
2. Zurette Sec.	75	75
3. Tech Sec (incl 135 Special Wireless Coy)	156	156
4. Personnel Sec	11	11
5. M.T. Unit (incl Internal Adm)	110	110
6. Adm Sec.	8	<u>8</u>
		<u>390</u>

II. Internal Security Troops (ITI-ITI) (Cat 5)
(Under Allied Command for Operations)

	<u>Offrs</u>	<u>ORs</u>
7. Italian Increment to C.S.D.I.C.	42	174
8. 808 C.S. Bn (Bonsignore Sec)	69	931
9. 810 Service Sqn (Calderini Sec Gp No. 1)	11	57
10. Press and Radio Censorship Unit	11	--
11. 4th Sec (Codes and Ciphers) - see Note 1 below.	13	30
12. Intelligence Censorship Unit		160
13. Unallotted	2	<u>2</u>
		<u>1500</u>

III. British Service Troops (BRI-ITI) (Cat 3)
(Under Allied Command for Operations)

14. Italian Increment to No 1 Special Force (Calderini Secs Gp 2 and 3)	72	382	454
15. Nucleo I.	250	300	<u>550</u>
			<u>1004</u>

3490

NOTE 1 : NOT under Allied Command for Operations.

NOTE 2 : Above personnel may have been detached from Army, Navy, Air Force or CC RR. All are carried on Army strength while a member of I.A.I. and S.P. Unit.

Office - coordinating and directing office SMG under general direction of Minister for War

2. Zurette Sec.	30	30
3. Tech Sec (incl 135 Special Wireless Coy)	75	75
4. Personnel Sec	156	156
5. M.T. Unit (incl Internal Adm)	11	11
6. Adm Sec.	110	110
	8	<u>8</u>
		<u>390</u>

II. Internal Security Troops (ITI-ITF) (Cat 5)
(Under Allied Command for Operations)

	Offs	ORs
7. Italian Increment to C.S.D.I.C.	42	174
8. 808 C.S. Bn (Bonsignore Sec)	69	931
9. 810 Service Sqn (Calderini Sec Gp No. 1)	11	57
10. Press and Radio Censorship Unit	11	--
11. 4th Sec (Codes and Ciphers) - see Note 1 below.	13	30
12. Intelligence Censorship Unit	160	160
13. Unallotted	2	<u>2</u>
		<u>1500</u>

III. British Service Troops (BRI-BTI) (Cat 3)
(Under Allied Command for Operations)

14. Italian Increment to No 1 Special Force (Calderini Secs Gp 2 and 3)	72	382
15. Nucleo I.	250	300
		<u>454</u>
		<u>550</u>
		<u>1004</u>

NOTE 1 : NOT under Allied Command for Operations.

NOTE 2 : Above personnel may have been detached from Army, Navy, Air Force or CC RR. All are carried on Army strength while a member of I.A.I. and S.P. Unit.

SECRET

SUBJECT:

Italian Army Intelligence and
Security Police (I.A.I. and S.P.)

Land Forces Sub-Com, AC (MIA)

SD 18

24 Mar 45

Executive Commissioner,
Allied Commission.

1. I agree to Signor BONOMI's letter to Chief Commissioner dated 21 Mar with the following necessary alterations:-

- (a) The title as laid down by Supreme Allied Commander should be "Italian Army Intelligence and Security Police (I.A.I. and S.P.)".
 - (b) The "Elementi which are part of the 'Truppe di Sicurezza Interna' (Internal Security Troops)" are also "under Allied operating command". This must be stated in Enclosure 1.
 - (c) Serial 11, "Codes and Cyphers" is NOT "under Allied operating command" but IS part of Category 5.
 - (d) Figures should be altered accordingly.
2. I have amended "Enclosure 1" in RED pencil as above and attach three copies of a correct "Enclosure 1" for your assistance.

3. I think Major-General AIREY, AFHQ, should see your reply before you issue this, in order to be quite sure that he agrees.

fd

L. Browning
Major-General.
3483

See Min. 37

SECRET

Enclosure 1 to n. 234 of 21.3.45

Office of Intelligence and Security
UNITED STATES ARMY
POLICE (G.I.I. and G.I.I.) (Ex. S.I.I.)

Unit

Strengths

Total

I. Italian Adm Troops (Category 1).

1. Central Office - coordinating and directing office SMC under general direction of Minister for War.	30	30
2. Zurette Sec.	75	75
3. Tech Sec (incl 135 Special Wireless Coy)	156	156
4. Personnel Sec	11	11
5. M.T. Unit (incl Internal Adm)	110	110
6. Adm Sec.	8	8
		<u>390</u>

II. Internal Security Troops (ITI-ITI) (Cat 5)
(Under Allied Command for Operations)

7. Italian Increment to C.S.D.I.C.	42	174	216
8. 808 C.S. Bn (Bonsignore Sec)	69	931	1000
9. 810 Service Sqn (Calderini Sec Gp No.1)	11	57	68
10. Press and Radio Censorship Unit	11	-	11
11. 4th Sec (Codes and Ciphers) - see Note 1 below.	13	30	43
12. Intelligence Censorship Unit		160	160
13. Unallotted.	2		2
			<u>1500</u>

III. British Service Troops (BXI-ITI) (Cat 3)
(Under Allied Command for Operations)

14. Italian Increment to No 1 Special Force (Calderini Secs Gp 2 and 3)	72	282	454
15. Nucleo I.	250	300	550
			<u>1004</u>

3488

NOTE 1 : NOT under Allied Command for operations.

NOTE 2 : Above personnel may have been detached from Army, Navy, Air Force or CC MR. All are carried on Army strength while a member of I.A.I. and S.P.

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2. Zurette Sec.	75	75
3. Tech Sec (incl 135 Special Wireless Coy)	156	156
4. Personnel Sec	11	11
5. M.T. Unit (incl Internal Adm)	110	110
6. Adm Sec.	8	8
		<u>390</u>

II. Internal Security Troops (ITI-ITI) (Cat 5)
(Under Allied Command for Operations)

	Offrs	ORs
7. Italian Increment to C.S.D.I.C.	42	174
8. 808 C.S. Bn (Bonsignore Sec)	69	931
9. 810 Service Sqn (Calderini Sec Gp No.1)	11	57
10. Press and Radio Censorship Unit	11	-
11. 4th Sec (Codes and Ciphers) - see Note 1 below.	13	30
12. Intelligence Censorship Unit	160	160
13. Unallotted.	2	2
		<u>1500</u>

III. British Service Troops (BIT-ITI) (Cat 3)
(Under Allied Command for Operations)

14. Italian Increment to No 1 Special Force (Calderini Secs Gp 2 and 3)	72	332	454
15. Nucleo I.	250	309	550
			<u>1004</u>

3488

NOTE 1 : NOT under Allied Command for operations.

NOTE 2 : Above personnel may have been detached from Army, Navy, Air Force or CC RR. All are carried on Army strength while a member of I.A.I. and S.P. Unit.

785017

TranslationThe President of the Council of Ministers
234

Rome, 21 March 1945

MAR 22 1945

Reference to our conversation of this morning, I want to emphasize my point of view about the passage of the Ufficio Informazioni (ex S.I.M.) under the dependence of the War Department.

- 1) This passage which was decided in the Council of Ministers of March 7th, was, as you know, approved on general principle by the Allies, who asked for some conditions to be respected, so that they could give a final approval. -
- 2) I sum up these conditions which I have no difficulty in accepting:
 - a) the elements forming the Ufficio Informazioni appear in enclosure n. 1, and were drafted in agreement with M.S.I.A.;
 - b) the office will depend directly from the Chief of Staff of the Army;
 - c) the organization and the functions of the elements of the Ufficio Informazioni, at present 'under Allied operating command' (c.f. enclosure 1) will remain unchanged;
 - d) when the passage will have taken place, the organization and personnel of the remaining elements of the Ufficio Informazioni will be examined in view of a possible reorganization; nevertheless, no changes or transformations will be made without the previous approval of the Allies for any proposal whatever on this subject presented by the War Ministry;
 - e) the passage under the dependence of the War Ministry will have to take place as soon as possible; in no case later than April 1st;
 - c) these various conditions give the guarantee, required by the Allies, that the Ufficio Informazioni will not be used as a political instrument.

I shall be most grateful, my dear Admiral, if you will kindly send me an answer on this subject.

S. I. BONONI

Admiral Henry M. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission

R O M E

31/EC DIST - 22 MAR 45

ACTION: EXEC COMMR

e.c.

See M. 20.21. INFO: CHIEF COMMR 3487

Telos 22.23.

M. 24

See 21/22.26.27.

LAND FORCES SC

(HAS STAMPS)

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32

Enclosure 1 to n. 234 of 21.3.1945

ITALIAN ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY STAFF
UFFICIO INFORMAZIONI (EX S.I.M.)

I. Elements which are part of the 'Truppe Amministrative Italiane' (It. Admin. Troops)

- 1. Central office (Coordination and directing General Staff Office, under the general directions of the War Department)
- 2. Zuretti Section
- 3. Technical Section (including 15 special radio Comp.)
- 4. Personnel Section
- 5. Car drivers Units
- 6. Administrative Section

Total: about
390 men

II. Elements which are part of the 'Truppe di Sicurezza Interna' (Interior Security Troops)

- 7. Italian complements to C.S.D.I.C.
- 8. 808 C.S. Bat. (Ronsignore section)
- 9. 810 Services Squad (Calderini Section) Gr. n. 1
- 10. Press and Radio Censorship Section
- 11. Codes and cyphers *
- 12. Information Censorship Section (Intelligence)
- 13. Unassigned

Total: about
1,500 men

III. Elements which are part of the 'Truppe al servizio britannico' (Troops at the service of Great Britain) (under Allied operating command)

- 14. Italian complements to the Special Force (Calderini Section, Gr. 1 & 2)
- 15. nucleus 1

Total: about 100 men
(waiting for allied approval)

3483

c.c.

* Not under Allied operating command



*Al Presidente
del Consiglio dei Ministri*

Roma, li 21 marzo 1945

234

MAR 21 RECD

31

33

Seguito conversazione di stamane 21, ritengo giovevole precisarle, Sig. Ammiraglio, il mio punto di vista circa il passaggio dell'Ufficio informazioni (ex S.I.M.) alle dipendenze del Ministero Guerra.-

- 1°)- Tale passaggio deciso nel consiglio dei Ministri del 7 corrente, è stato, come noto, approvato, in linea di massima, dagli Alleati che hanno richiesto che fossero rispettate alcune condizioni, allo scopo di poter dare l'approvazione definitiva.-
- 2°)- Riepilogo tali condizioni, che non ho difficoltà ad accettare:
- a)- gli elementi costitutivi dell'Ufficio Informazioni sono quelli dell'allegato 1 al presente foglio, concretato d'intesa con la M.M.I.A.;
 - b)- l'Ufficio passerà alle dirette dipendenze del Capo di S.M. dell'Esercito;
 - c)- l'ordinamento e le funzioni degli elementi dell'ufficio Informazioni, attualmente "sotto comando operativo Alleato" (V. allegato 1) resteranno comun-

./...

3485

que invariati;

- d)-dopo il passaggio di dipendenze, l'ordinamento ed il personale dei restanti elementi dell'ufficio informazioni saranno esaminati ai fini di una eventuale riorganizzazione; comunque, nessun cambiamento o trasformazione saranno fatti senza la preventiva approvazione da parte alleata relativamente a qualunque proposta in merito presentata dal Ministro della Guerra:-
- e)-è necessario che il passaggio di dipendenza sia effettuato al più presto possibile: in ogni modo, non oltre il 1° aprile p.v.;
- f)-il complesso dei suddetti vincoli dà la garanzia, richiesta dagli Alleati, che l'Ufficio Informazioni non sarà impiegato quale strumento politico.-

Le sarò grato, sig. Ammiraglio, di cortese cenno di riscontro in proposito.-

Al Sig. Ammiraglio
Ellery W. Stone
Capo della Commissione Alleata

ROMA

30
Alleato 1 al foglio 234 del 21.3 1945

UFFICIO INFORMAZIONI (Ex S.I.M.)

I. Elementi facenti parte delle "Truppe Amministrative Italiane"

- 1. Ufficio Centrale (Ufficio del S.M.C. di coordinamento e direttivo sotto le direttive generali del Ministero della Guerra)
 - 2. Sezione Zuretti
 - 3. Sezione Tecnica (inclusi 15 Comp. radio speciale)
 - 4. Sezione Personale
 - 5. Reparto Automobilisti
 - 6. Sezione Amministrativa
- Totale 390 u.
(approssimativo)

II. Elementi facenti parte delle "Truppe di Sicurezza Interna"

- 7. Complementi italiani al C.S.D.I.C.
 - 8. 808 Btg. C.S. (Sez. Bonsignore)
 - 9. 810 Squadrone Servizi (Sez. Calderini) Gr.n.1
 - 10. Reparto censura Stampa e Radio
 - 11. Codici, e cifrari
 - 12. Reparto Censura Informazioni (intelligence)
 - 13. Non assegnati
- Totale
(approssimativo: 1500 uomini)

348½

III. Elementi facenti parte delle "Truppe al servizio britannico"

- 14. Complementi italiani alla 1ª Special Force (Sez. Calderini Gr. 2 e 3)
 - 15. Nucleo 1
- Totale approssimativo: 1004 u.
(in attesa di approvazione alleata).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

JAG/hjp

(29)

1011/EC

12 March 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

(21)

Further to my letter of March 7th on the subject of the transfer of S.I.E. from S.M.G. (Italian General Staff) to S.M.R.E. (Italian Army Staff), I should be grateful if you would be so good as to communicate to me in writing the details of the measures by which you propose to effect this transfer. You will recall that in your letter to me of March 6th you suggested this procedure.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

(19)

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

cc: Land Forces S/C (MMA)
Exec Comm
CC Files

3483
A
11/3

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

1011 7 10 A
INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: F 40066
Date Time of Origin: MAR 081932A

Message Centre No: D/4530
Date Time Rec'd: MAR 090700A
Precedence: PRIORITY

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED SACMED CITE FHLEG

TO: ACTION ALCOM

MAR 9 1945

SECRET

SECRET.

Reference your 3094 and 3108 of 7 March.

Action referred to in your 3108 of 7 March is confirmed and approval is given to the transfer of control of S I M in the manner and subject to the safeguards set out in that cable.

DIST

ACTION
ACTION: Executive Commissioner 2
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
L. Forces S/C
Pol Advisers
CA Sec
File

see M.11
CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
9-MAR-45

1820

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

785017

Ref: 1005/89/90

7th March 1945.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter Prot. No. 205 of 6th March 1945 and in confirmation of oral communication made to Dr. Montanari by myself this morning, have to inform you as follows.

The Supreme Allied Commander will not object to the transfer of S.I.M. from S.M.G. (Italian General Staff) to S.M.R.E. (Italian Army Staff) provided that:

- (a) that part of S.I.M. now operating under the Supreme Allied Commander's direction continues under his direction unchanged;
- (b) the organization of S.I.M. under the S.M.R.E. shall be such as to prevent S.I.M. from becoming a political instrument and as to ensure the fullest coordination with the Allied war effort. To this end the details of such transfer to S.M.R.E. shall be approved by the Supreme Allied Commander before such transfer takes place.

Yours very truly,

3481

(sgd) HENRY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi,
President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
ROME.

See 15

1821

785017

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

1005

20

AFHQ for G-2 and G-5

3108

7 March

OF PRIORITY

SECRET PD

REFERENCE MY THREE ZERO NINE FOUR AND CONVERSATION STONE HYPHEN GENERAL AIRBY PD
PAREN TO AFHQ FOR GEORGE DASH TWO AND GEORGE DASH FIVE FROM ADDON CITE AGEXC

PAREN PD

I AM MAKING FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION TO PRIME MINISTER PORTSWITH CLN
QUOTE SACRED WILL NOT OBJECT TO TRANSFER OF SUGAR ITEM MIKE FROM SUGAR
MIKE GEORGE PAREN ITALIAN GENERAL STAFF PAREN TO SUGAR MIKE EASY PAREN
ITALIAN ARMY STAFF PAREN PROVIDED THAT PAREN ONE PAREN THAT PART OF SUGAR ITEM
MIKE NOW OPERATING UNDER SACRED'S DIRECTION SHALL CONTINUE UNDER HIS DIRECTION
UNCHANGED CLN PAREN TWO PAREN THE ORGANISATION OF SUGAR ITEM MIKE UNDER THE
SUGAR MIKE EASY SHALL BE SUCH AS TO PREVENT SUGAR ITEM MIKE FROM BECOMING A
POLITICAL INSTRUMENT AND AS TO ENSURE THE FULLEST COORDINATION WITH ALLIED
WAR EFFORT PD TO THIS END THE DETAILS OF SUCH TRANSFER TO SUGAR MIKE EASY
SHALL BE APPROVED BY SACRED BEFORE SUCH TRANSFER TAKES PLACE UNQUOTE

Copy to: US Ambassador
British Ambassador
Chief Commissioner
Political Advisers

Land Forces S/C
CA Section
File
Flot

3480

Executive Commissioner
Ext. 343

M. S. LUSH

Birg,
Ex.Com.

See (27)

TRANSLATION

Rome, 6th March 1945.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Prot. No. 205

MAR 7 1945

Dear Admiral,

As you know the SIM, after the accusations which appeared in the Italian press, has thought it expedient to change the name to the Office of Information.

The change in name of the SIM has not stopped suspicion. Because of the fact that the Information Service is not part of the Ministry of War but of the Chief of General Staff and therefore of the Presidency of the Council. It is believed to be still partially a police organization which exercises its own political policy.

To cut short these unfounded rumors it seems to me expedient to pass the office itself under the direct responsibility of the Minister of War. Minister Casati and all the principal Ministers are all in agreement on this passage which we would like to decide upon tomorrow.

If the passage of the office from the Presidency to the Ministry of War is decided upon, measures will also be taken to cut down the excessive personnel of the office, as its organization seems too large. With a smaller staff it will be able to carry out its military function more speedily.

In this case Minister Casati will propose the opportune measures which I will submit to the preventive examination of the Allied Commission.

/s/ I. Bonomi

Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome

cc. Amb. Rusk
in Noel Charles
Exec Comm
cc files

See 21-29

3473

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785017

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

1055

18

AFHQ

3094

7 March

OF PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

CABINET CRISIS RESULTING FROM MEXICO INCIDENT IS SERIOUS PD THE LEFT WING PARTIES ARE DEMANDING REMOVAL OF SUGAR FROM MEX FROM COMANDO SUPREMO AND GOVERNMENT CONSEQUENCE HAS ALREADY STATED THAT IT WILL BE DISCUSSED TODAY PD PARTIAL TO AFHQ FOR GEORGE DASH FIVE FROM ALONG CITY NEWS PAPER PD IT WOULD IN MY OPINION BE MOST UNFORTUNATE FOR THE CABINET TO FALL BECAUSE ALLIED AUTHORITIES ON SCORE OF MILITARY DISCRETION RATHER THAN MILITARY NECESSITY PREVENTED THE PRIME MINISTER FROM TAKING MEASURES WHICH HE CONSIDERED NECESSARY TO PRESERVE HIS GOVERNMENT PD UNLESS CIA THEREFORE CIA IN ITS CONSIDERED OPERATIONALLY ESSENTIAL TO REMAIN SUGAR FROM MEX UNDER COMANDO SUPREMO I WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT I BE PERMITTED TO TELL BONGHI TO PROCEED IN PRINCIPLE WITH TRANSFER OF SUGAR FROM MEX TO WAR MINISTRY STIPULATING THAT DETAILS OF THE TRANSFER BE SUBMITTED TO ALLIED AUTHORITIES INsofar AS MANY OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANISATION MUST AFFECT MILITARY WAR EFFORT

Copy to:	US Ambassador	Land Forces Sub-Com
	British Ambassador	CA Section
	Chief Commissioner	File
	Political Advisors	Plot

Executive Commissioner

Ref. 343.

M S. LUSH
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

3478

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

AFHQ FOR SACMED AND GEORGE DASH FIVE

3089

7 MARCH 45

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SECRET PD

SUBJECT IS ROATTAS ESCAPE PD

7/6 file 100/EC

PAREN TO AFHQ FOR SACMED AND GEORGE DASH FIVE FROM HQ ALCOM CITE ACEXC PAREN

PARA ONE PD PUBLIC REACTION TO ROATTAS ESCAPE AS REFLECTED IN THE PRESS OF SIX MARCH HAS BEEN VERY SHARP PD MY TWO NINE THREE FIVE REFERS PD LEFT WING PAPERS INDIGNANTLY SUGGEST THAT REACTIONARY FASCIST ELEMENTS IN AMINISTRATION FACILITATED ESCAPE IN ORDER TO PREVENT ROATTA FROM MAKING STATEMENTS DAMAGING TO THEMSELVES IN COURT PD COMMUNIST PARTY ISSUED COMMUNIQUE DEMANDING PAREN ABLE PAREN REMOVAL OF COMMANDER OF CARABINIERI AND CHIEF OF POLICE PAREN BAKER PAREN SUSPENSION OF SERVICE PAREN PRESUMABLY SUGAR ITEM MIKE PAREN WHICH QUOTE EVERYONE SUSPECTS OF HAVING ORGANISED THE FLIGHT UNQUOTE PAREN CHARLIE PAREN SETTING UP OF COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY OF THREE MINISTERS PD LIBERAL AND CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT PAPERS TOOK CALMER VIEW PD PARA TWO PD MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ISSUED COMMUNIQUE MORNING FIVE MARCH ANNOUNCING THAT IMMEDIATE ENQUIRY HAD BEEN MADE AND THAT THIS HAD SHOWN GRAVE DEFICIENCIES IN THE SYSTEM OF SUPERVISION PD MINISTRY HAS SET UP A SPECIAL COMMISSION COMPOSED OF A MAGISTRATE CMA AN INSPECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND A SENIOR OFFICER OF THE CARABINIERI TO ESTABLISH BOTH THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT RESPONSIBILITY PD ALL THE CARABINIERI GUARDING

3477

1825

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785017

- 2 -

16

ROATTA HAVE BEEN DETAINED PD SEVERE MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN AGAINST THEIR
IMMEDIATE SUPERIORS PD OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE ON ROATTA HAVE BEEN ARRESTED PD
REWARD OF MILLION LIRE HAS BEEN OFFERED FOR DEFINITE NEWS LEADING TO
ROATTAS CAPTURE PD COMMANDER OF CARABINIERI CMA ORLANDO CMA HAS BEEN
RELIEVED OF HIS POST PAREN SIX MARCH PAREN

Int. Dist.

US Ambassador
British Ambassador
Chief Commissioner
Pol. Adviser
C.A. Section
Land Forces S/C.

Copy to 1010/EC

3476

1826

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

785017

SIP

15

AFHQ GEORGE FIVE

3086

6 MARCH

OPS PRIORITY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 14

PARA ONE PD BY PRECEDING TELEGRAM BOWEN REQUESTED THIS EVENING THAT I SHOULD AGREE TRANSFER SUGAR ITEM MIKE FROM COMMANDO SUPPORT TO WAR MINISTRY AND REDUCTION OF STAFF OF SUGAR ITEM MIKE IF AGREED BY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WEDNESDAY PD PAPER TO AFHQ GEORGE FIVE FROM ALCOM CITE ACHXC PAPER

PARA TWO PD I TOLD PRIME MINISTER THAT AS THIS WAS A MATTER WHICH INVOLVED VITAL MILITARY INTERESTS I COULD NOT AGREE TO ANYTHING MORE THAN DISCUSSION IN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND THAT ANY PROPOSAL MUST BE REFERRED FORWARD TO ME WHEN I WOULD SUBMIT TO YOU FOR APPROVAL

EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

EX 343

NICHOLAS FIORINO
CWO USA
Asst Adjutant

Copy to: Chief Commissioner
Land Forces S/C
CA Sec (Pub. Saf. S/C)
U.S. EMBASSY
BRITISH EMBASSY
POLITICAL ADVISERS.

3475

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NNE No. 785017

AFHQ

3016

6 MARCH 45

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

~~SECRET PD~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
AS A RESULT OF ROATTA ESCAPE BONOMI DESIRED RELIEVE GENERAL ORLANDO
COMMANDING GENERAL CHARLIE CHARLIE ROGER ROGER BY GENERAL SOGNO PD
PAREN TO AFHQ FOR SACMED AND FOR GEORGE DASH FIVE FROM HQ ALCOM FROM
STONE PAREN

LATTER HAS COLOURLES HISTORY SINCE OCCUPATION AND IS NOW HEAD OF MILITARY
TRIBUNAL PD IN REFERRING APPOINTMENT TO ME BONOMI ASKED FOR IMMEDIATE REPLY
AS HE WISHED TO MAKE APPOINTMENT PRIOR TO MASS DEMONSTRATION ONE FIVE
ZERO ZERO HOURS TODAY PD IN VIEW OF CIRCUMSTANCES AND URGENCY AND SINCE
THERE IS NOTHING AGAINST SOGNO I STATED THAT YOU WOULD NOT OPPOSE PD
PARA TWO PD GOVERNMENT IS ALSO CONTEMPLATING TRANSFER OF SUGAR ITEM MIKE
FROM COMMANDO SUPREMO TO MINISTRY FOR WAR PD ON THIS POINT BONOMI WILL AT
MY REQUEST SUBMIT FORMAL PROPOSAL FOR YOUR APPROVAL BEFORE PUTTING IT INTO
EFFECT

Copy to : Chief Commissioner
Land Forces S/C
C.A. Section (P/Safety S/C)
U.S. Embassy
Br. Embassy
Political Advisers.

Executive Commissioner

343

Brig.
Ex.Com.

Copy to file 10/10/20

1828

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

785017

CONFIDENTIAL
ROUTING SLIP

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
AFO 512

Log:

(13)

Suspense:

Date: 18 February 1945

FILE:

SUBJECT: Turnover of Press/Radio Censorship Responsibility to Italian Government.

No.	From	To	Date	
1.	DC/S	INC	18 Feb 45	1. See the Chief of Staff's note attached. 2. Please refer this Study to the British Resident Minister, U.S. Political Advisor and Allied Commission for their comment or concurrence. If all concur, you may proceed with the necessary action. In case of non-concurrence by any of the foregoing, the Study will again be submitted to the Chief of Staff for decision. <i>L. L. Lemnitzer</i> L. L. LEMNITZER, Major General, G.S.C., Deputy Chief of Staff. 2 Incls: #1 - C/S's Note #2 - Staff Study fr INC to C/S (w/TABS A, B, and C).
2.	AC	Press & Radio Censorship Branch, PRO HQ, Rome. Attn: Col. HAYDEN.	3 Mar 45	Allied Commission concurs. 3473 <i>Brigadier</i> Brigadier, Executive Commissioner.
3.	PRCB (INC)	AC	16/3/45	1. "Recommendation" (para II of attached Staff Paper) provides that the Italian Government be empowered and directed to implement the plan appended (TAB B). 2. This paper, having received the additional concurrences as directed by the Chief of Staff, AFHQ, now stands approved by him and subject to implementation as recommended.

-1-
(over)

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

785017

CONFIDENTIAL

3. Request Allied Commission give notice of this authority to the Italian Government through proper liaison channels, to the end that an Italian Bureau of Censorship may be established at the earliest possible moment, preferably under the Ministry of War.

4. To work with such Italian body as may be designated, this Branch nominates as its Liaison Officer, Major John Colville of the Local Press Censorship Section. Major Colville may be addressed through this office or reached by phone at 489171-ext. 128.



JOHN L. HAYDEN,
Lieutenant Colonel, G. S.,
Chief, Press and Radio Censorship Branch.

2 Incl
n/c

SPAS

CONFIDENTIAL

1830

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

785017

CHIEF OF STAFF
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Date 17. 2. 45

TO:

Chief INC thru 8/028

I agree to your ⁽¹⁻¹¹⁾
recommendation is attached
provided that Br. Resident
Minister, U.S. Political
Adviser and Allied
Commission are given a
chance to comment if
they wish before action
is taken.

See 13

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
News
Information and Censorship Section
APO 512

11

15 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Turnover of Press/Radio Censorship Responsibility
to Italian Government.

TO : Chief of Staff, AFHQ.

I. DISCUSSION:

In connection with the policy of turning over certain responsibilities to the Italian Government, it is believed that responsibility for military security censorship of the Italian Press and Radio may now be delegated to the Italian Government. Allied Censorship would of course continue to supply guidances and directives and maintain close liaison with such Italian Government Bureau as might be designated to control censorship. It would also maintain Allied Liaison Officers in the major cities and at such other points as would make them available for ready reference.

Press and Radio Censorship in the forward areas would continue to be exercised by Allied Censorship and the Military Government authorities as provided for in the current directive on that subject issued on 7 December 1944 by the Allied Publications Board. An extract of the directive covering this subject is attached at TAB "A".

A plan for the implementation of this proposed turnover is attached at TAB "B" with Italian text at TAB "C". This plan has the concurrence of the Press and Radio Censorship Branch of this Section.

II. RECOMMENDATION:

That the Italian Government be empowered and directed to implement the plan attached.

III. CONCURRENCES:

G-2 EBN

G-5

Mr. Radin - R.

USR - GFR

3 Incls: Tab a, b, and c.

A. J. McChrystal
A. J. McCHRYSTAL
Brigadier General, G.S.C.,
Chief, INC Section.

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ALLIED PUBLICATIONS BOARD

62 Via Veneto
Rome

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EXTRACT

NEWSPAPER AUTHORIZATIONS IN FORWARD AREAS

The following guidance directive (which supercedes all previous instructions on newspaper authorizations in forward areas) is for PWB officers in Army areas and AMG civil affairs officers in forward areas not yet under Italian jurisdiction.

Military Censorship

Military Censorship is essential. This censorship will be exercised by responsible persons appointed by the AMG Provincial Commissioner. These censors will work in accordance with military censorship directives laid down by AFHQ. PWB combat team press officers have copies of these directives which will be issued by them to the appropriate local AMG authorities.

/s/ I. S. MUNRO
/t/ I. S. MUNRO,
Lt. Colonel,
Executive Secretary, APB

7 December 1944

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information News and Censorship Section
Press and Radio Censorship Branch
Detachment "A"
APO 512

13 February 1945

TRANSLATION.

SUBJECT: Establishment of Italian Military Press Censorship.

PREMISS.

Following the handing-over of the press services (and in the near future, of the Radio) to the Italian Government, the responsibility for military censorship of the press and of news agencies may devolve upon the Italian authorities.

Since military censorship is directly connected with the exigencies of the war, this work would be carried out in close collaboration with the Allied Military Authorities.

FUNCTIONS.

The functions of military censorship would be contained within the limits of military security - thus prejudicing in no way the political liberty of the press. Censorship would be carried out on the basis of directives issued by AFHQ and, if requested and approved, by the Italian War Ministry.

LIMITS.

Censorship would be exercised directly by Italian personnel, both for the daily and periodical press, and eventually for the news agencies.

In view of the exceptional importance of the Capital as a news centre, local news agencies and the radio would at first continue to be censored by Allied personnel. The Rome press, on the other hand, would continue to be censored, as at present, by Italian personnel.

TERRITORY

The territory in which military censorship is exercised by Italian personnel would correspond with the provinces restored to Italian Government jurisdiction.

The Headquarters of the service would be Rome, where the central Allied services, the most important news transmission centres and the Under-Secretariat for the Press are all situated. The service itself, however, would have branches in every town where there is a newspaper.

ORGANISATION

In order to guarantee to the Censorship service the necessary independence, and to avoid influences which might affect the liberty of the press, the central office should be considered independent, with its own offices and personnel engaged in the exclusive work of censorship.

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(Continued)

The organisation would however maintain close contact with the parallel Allied Military Censorship authorities, with the Italian Ministry of War and with the Under-Secretariat for the Press.

Censorship personnel would depend, for administrative and disciplinary purposes, from the Ministry of War.

PERSONNEL.

At present, and for some months past, a military censorship organisation has been functioning in Liberated Italy, entrusted for the most part to Italian personnel. It is constituted by officers of the Italian Army (as at Rome and Bari), officers of the Carabinieri (as in certain centres of Calabria), and civil servant employees of the various provincial Prefectures (as in the majority of towns).

This heterogeneous system at present functions quite satisfactorily. Under the new system, however, it should be adapted to meet the fresh conditions.

If the service were entrusted, in each province, to Army officers (who would have to be chosen for their intellectual, moral, political and disciplinary aptitude), the necessity would arise of employing a large number of officers (about 40, plus 10 at Rome and another group at Naples). On the other hand, if the work were given exclusively to civil servants of the various Prefectures, the delicate position would be created whereby censorship personnel would be responsible entirely to the Prefects, and the personnel itself would be less adapted to work which, from many aspects, has a technical, military character.

The following is suggested as a possible solution:

- a) In those provincial towns where a daily paper is published, the censor should be an officer of the Italian Army;
- b) In provincial towns where no daily paper exists, the censor should be an employee of the local Prefecture.

Censorship officers would exercise a preventive (pre-publication) military censorship on all daily papers and, as far as possible, on all periodicals. In addition they would check, after publication, any remaining papers. They would be attached to the local Prefecture, while at the same time remaining under the authority, for administrative and disciplinary purposes, of the local military unit.

Civil service employees of the Prefecture, on the other hand, would exercise censorship on periodical publications in their province. Since this job would not entail a great deal of work in the majority of cases, the censor's press duties would be in addition to the rest of his administrative work. The Press Officer at the Prefecture would thus be the most suitable person to appoint.

Under this system, the number of officers required would be the same as that of the provincial towns publishing daily papers. At present, there are 19 of these, excluding Rome and Naples. Officer-censors would thus be appointed at:

SASSARI - CAGLIARI - MESSINA - CATANZARO - PALERMO - COSENZA
CATANIA - REGGIO CALABRIA - BARI - SALERNO

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The Prefects' other duties in connection with the Press would not be changed by the new system. (4)

In the regions of Campania, Puglia, Sicily and Sardinia there is at present an Allied censorship officer, stationed at the provincial capital. These officers would act as advisers to the Italian personnel.

Communications between the central Italian office at Rome and the provincial offices would be effected through the Italian censorship officer at each regional capital. This officer would control all censors in this region. They would refer to him for decisions, and would receive through him directives put out from Rome.

For questions affecting their Press Censorship work, civil servant censors at each prefecture would be responsible to the Censorship Office.

The central office at Rome would have the following personnel:

- Chief Censorship officer
- 2 Assistant censorship officers
- 1 non-commissioned officer (chief clerk)
- 2 shorthand-typist clerks
- 2 messenger-driver-batmen

FUNCTIONS OF THE CENTRAL OFFICE

1. Maintain liaison with the Allied Censorship Authorities.
2. Direct the provincial censorship service.
3. Distribute directives, after their approval by AFHQ.
4. Examine, and refer to the corresponding Allied Censorship office, all comments made by military censors through the Regional Headquarters offices.
5. Post-publication scrutiny, as a check, of all daily and periodical newspapers.
6. Resolve any questions that may arise, and if necessary fix penalties against offending newspaper directors.
7. Control censorship personnel.

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EXECUTIVE ACTION

In case of grave infractions of military censorship, Regional headquarters officers should immediately report such incidents to the central office, which would examine the case and take any necessary action.

In addition, local censorship officers would have the power to sequester immediately, in agreement with the local Prefecture, the offending number of the publication.

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(6)

The imposition of any penalty, such as suspension or suppression of the paper, would be requested by the Italian central office, in agreement with the corresponding Allied office, from the Under-Secretariat for the press.

The Under-Secretariat, while taking immediate action on receipt of such a request, would refer the whole question to the Italian Press Commission in order to determine the extent of the penalty to be imposed.

Telephoned News Stories

Local censors would also have the duty of censoring any stories telephoned in by local provincial journalists.

ROME AND NAPLES

In view of the importance of these two centres, and the number of daily papers and periodicals published there, military censorship would be exercised by a group of officers. Such a system has already been in force in Rome for more than 5 months.

NOTE: The present rough plan would be put into effect by detailed dispositions and, when it becomes necessary, extended to other provinces, as they pass under the administration of the Italian Government.

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Compilato dal Capano Annibale DEL MARE
Capo Ufficio Collegamento Censura Stampa

(5)

PROGETTO DI ORGANIZZAZIONE

del

SERVIZIO CENSURA MILITARE SULLA STAMPA NEL TERRITORIO
DELL'ITALIA AMMINISTRATO DAL GOVERNO ITALIANO

PREMessa =

In seguito alla cessione dei servizi stampa - e prossimamente della radio - al Governo italiano, potrebbe essere assunto dall'Autorità italiana il compito della censura militare sulla stampa e sulle agenzie di notizie.

Tenuto conto che questo servizio è direttamente connesso con le esigenze della guerra, esso verrebbe assolto in stretta collaborazione con l'Autorità Militare Alleata.

FUNZIONI =

Le funzioni della censura militare sarebbero contenute entro i limiti della "sicurezza militare" - senza quindi pregiudizio alcuno per la libertà politica della stampa - secondo precise disposizioni del Quartier Generale Alleato e qualora richiesto - del Ministero della Guerra.

LIMITI =

Esse verrebbe esercitata direttamente da personale italiano, sia sulla stampa quotidiana, periodica e libraria, sia sulle eventuali agenzie di informazione.

Per la particolare importanza della Capitale - quale centro giornalistico informativo di delicata evidenza - in un primo tempo le agenzie locali e la radio manterrebbero la censura militare dell'Autorità Alleata. La Stampa di Roma, invece, continuerebbe ad essere controllata da personale italiano.

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TERRITORIO =

Il territorio in cui verrebbe attuato e diretto il servizio di censura militare da parte di personale italiano sarebbe quello corrispondente alle provincie restituite al Governo italiano.

Il centro del servizio sarebbe Roma, ove hanno sede i servizi centrali alleati, i più importanti enti di emissione di notizie e il Sottosegretariato Stampa, ma il servizio stesso

so verrebbe esteso ad ogni città ove ha luogo un'attività editoriale.

DIPENDENZE =

Per garantire al servizio la necessaria autonomia ed evitare influenze varie, che potrebbero determinare deviazioni di compito a danno della libertà di stampa, l'ufficio centrale potrebbe essere considerato indipendente - con sede propria, con personale esclusivamente adibito a quel compito - ma tuttavia in stretto rapporto con la parallela Autorità Militare Alleata di censura, con il Ministero della Guerra e col Sottosegretariato Stampa.

Il personale addetto dipenderebbe per la parte amministrativa e disciplinare, dal Ministero della Guerra.

PERSONALE =

Attualmente, e da tempo, funziona il servizio censura militare nell'Italia liberata affidato in gran parte a personale italiano. Questo è costituito da ufficiali del R.E. (come a Roma e a Bari), da ufficiali dei RR.CC. (come in alcuni centri della Calabria) e da funzionari delle R. Prefetture (come nel maggior numero delle città).

Tale eterogeneo sistema, pur funzionando in modo soddisfacente, verrebbe trasformato secondo un nuovo criterio.

Affidando il servizio, in ogni provincia, a ufficiali subalterni - che dovrebbero essere scelti per requisiti intellettuali, morali, politici e disciplinari - ne deriverebbe la necessità di impiegare un notevole numero di ufficiali (40, più una decina a Roma e alcuni a Napoli). Devolvendo, invece, il compito a funzionari civili delle R. Prefetture, si creerebbe la particolare e delicata posizione di dipendenza dai Prefetti e si disporrebbe di personale meno idoneo allo specifico compito che, sotto molti aspetti, ha un carattere tecnico.

Una possibile soluzione sarebbe la seguente :

- a) = affidare l'incarico a ufficiali subalterni del R.E. in quelle città di provincia sedi di giornali quotidiani : stampa questa a carattere soprattutto informativo;
- b) = affidare l'incarico ad addetti di Prefettura in quelle città di provincia non sedi di quotidiani.

L'ufficiale eserciterebbe la censura preventiva militare dei quotidiani e, nel limite della possibilità, dei

(3)

periodici, controllando inoltre - a posteriori - tutte la rimanente stampa. Egli risiederebbe presso la R. Prefettura pur rimanendo in forza, per amministrazione e discipline, ad ente militare locale.

Il funzionario della R. Prefettura, invece, eserciterebbe la censura sulle pubblicazioni periodiche delle sue provincie. Tenuto conto che, questo compito, non comporterebbe - nei più dei casi - un notevole impegno, il personale potrebbe disimpegnare altro lavoro amministrativo. L'addetto stampa di Prefettura potrebbe essere, quindi, l'elemento più idoneo.

Con tale sistema, verrebbero comandati tanti ufficiali quante sono le città di provincia sedi di quotidiani, e cioè, per ora, numero 10 (escluse Roma e Napoli). Essi presterebbero servizio a :

SASSARI = CAGLIARI = MESSINA = CATANZARO = PALERMO

COSENZA = CATANIA = REGGIO CALABRIA = BARI = SALERNO

Ai Prefetti, rimarrebbero immutate tutte le altre competenze in materia di stampa.

Nelle regione di Campania, Puglia, Sicilia e Sardegna, e dislocato attualmente un ufficiale censore alleato con sede nel capoluogo; esso avrebbe il compito di consulente per il personale italiano.

I rapporti fra l'ufficio centrale italiano di Roma e quelli periferici delle provincie avrebbero luogo attraverso l'ufficiale italiano censore di sede nel capoluogo di regione, al quale dovrebbero far capo tutti censori della regione per riferire e ricevere le direttive del centro.

I funzionari civili di Prefettura - nei limiti del compito di censura militare - dipenderebbero dall'Ufficio Censura.

L'ufficio centrale di Roma verrebbe così costituito :

- Ufficiale capo censore
- 2 ufficiali subalterni addetti
- 1 sottufficiale (archivista e aiuto)
- 2 graduati (dattilografi)
- 2 piantoni-portaordini

F U N Z I O N I DELL'UFFICIO CENTRALE=

- Mantenere il collegamento con l'Autorità Alleata di Censura.

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- Dirigere il servizio periferico.
- Diramare le direttive del servizio, sia quelle dell'Autorità Militare Alleata, sia quelle delle Autorità Italiane.
- Esaminare e riferire, per conoscenza, al corrispondente ufficio alleato, tutti i rilievi inviati dai censori militari, attraverso gli uffici censura dei capoluoghi di regione.
- Esaminare - a posteriori - tutta la stampa quotidiana e periodica, a scopo di controllo.
- Risolvere eventuali vertenze e adottare provvedimenti o sanzioni nei confronti degli Editori.
- Regolare il personale dipendente.

AZIONE ESECUTIVA =

In caso di grave infrazione della censura militare, gli ufficiali dei capoluoghi di regione ne darebbero subito segnalazione all'ufficio centrale, il quale prenderebbe in esame il caso per i necessari provvedimenti.

Ai predetti ufficiali dovrebbe però essere data intento la facoltà di sequestrare - in accordo e con l'autorità di Prefettura - il numero di quella determinata pubblicazione.

Ogni sanzione (sospensione o soppressione) verrebbe richiesta, al Sottosegretariato Stampa, dall'ufficio centrale italiano - in accordo col corrispondente ufficio alleato.

Il Sottosegretariato, pur attuando subito il provvedimento richiesto, esaminerebbe la questione in seduta di Commissione per fissarne la durata.

CORRISPONDENZE GIORNALISTICHE =

Agli ufficiali censori o ai funzionari censori spetterebbe inoltre il compito di controllo militare dei servizi giornalistici trasmessi - via telefono - dai corrispondenti delle provincie.

ROMA E NAPOLI =

Per l'importanza di questi due centri e per il rilevante numero di quotidiani e periodici, la censura militare verrebbe attuata da un nucleo di ufficiali. Tale sistema è in atto a Roma da più di cinque mesi.

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NOTA = Il presente progetto verrebbe integrato da disposizioni di dettaglio e - qualora attuato - esteso a quelle provincie che, via via, passeranno all'Amministrazione del Governo Italiano.-

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