

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

785017

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10000/109/1198
(VOL. II)

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

785017

MONTHLY REPORT, COMMUNICATIONS S/C
SEPT. 1945 - DEC. 1946

188.

6. Monthly Report for October.

Communications ~~for~~ Division

is at 182-185. Passages of interest

have been marked. Folio 186 is

An abridged version.

J. McCall 14/11. H.S. 14/11

Ex Comm. 195.

6. Monthly Report for Nov. Communications

Div. is at 184-192. Folio 193 is

An abridged version. Passages of

interest in the full report have

been marked. J. McCall 13/12 H.S. 14/12 15/12

Ex Comm. ¹⁶⁸
 Monthly Report for July is at 165-170. Passages
 of interest have been marked.

12/8 L.W.C.M. H.S. 12/8

W 14/8

Monthly Report for August Communications
 SPC for August is at 169-173.
 Passages of interest have been
 marked. The abridged reports
 are of little use to me as I
 always work on the full report.
 May we discontinue them?

L.W.C.M. 10/9

seen by 186/46 L.
 EC & CC

Monthly Report for September Communications
 SPC is at 176-178. July 179 is abridged

Paragraphs of ~~the~~ bridged reports
marked. The ~~bridged~~ reports
are of little use to me as I
always work on the full report.
May we discontinue them?

L. McW. 10/9 10/9

Seen by 18/1/46 D.
EC & CC

~~the~~ by Comm. 18/1.
Monthly Report for September Communication
SFC is at 176-178. Folio 179 is a bridged
report. Paragraphs of interest have been marked.

L. McW. 14/10. 18/10 18/10

147.
b. 10. 142-143 is the final report of
communications Spc. It is a running up
of the whole of the activities of this Spc. since
its inception. I have inquired and apparently
there is to be no current report for month of
April. Am I to abridge this one & include
it in a monthly report for April?
J. W. C. M. 7/5 MS 715

152.
b. 10. Folios ¹⁴⁸⁻¹⁵⁰ is monthly report communications
Spc for April. General progress all round.
J. W. C. M. MS. 715 1/2 1/2

154.
b. 10. 154-155 is monthly report for May communications
Spc. Passages of interest have been worked.
J. W. C. M. 11/6. MS. 1216

156.
b. 10. 156-157 is monthly report for June communications
Spc. Passages of interest have been worked.
J. W. C. M. 12/6. MS. 1216

etc for April. General progress for April
MS 2614 10/15 J. W. C. M. MS. 2614 10/15

154.

154-156 is monthly report for May communications
etc. Passages of interest have been marked.
J. W. C. M. 11/6 MS. 1216

MS 2616

160-162 is monthly report for June 3703

160-162 is monthly report for June
communications etc. Passages of interest
have been marked.

J. W. C. M. 15/17 MS. 1617

MS 2617

127.

Communications

your comments on mail 126 from E.A.C.
would be appreciated. 127 24/2.

128

Executive Commission's Office.

1. The Minister of Post & Telecommunications (Belton) retained his post in the recent Cabinet reshuffle. The improvement has been made in spite of his confinement as Minister.
2. Time of transit to East Africa is not known as mail is despatched to Cairo and no information is available as to subsequent arrangements. Mail from East Africa takes about 4-6 weeks to reach Italy. No complaints have ever been received by this sub-commission concerning delay in civilian mails.
3. Air mail to East Africa will commence shortly. Air mail from East Africa has recently been reaching Italy. Air in transit being approximately 8 days, and it is expected that the same speed of service will hold in the opposite direction.

Celia Thompson
Captain.
Postal Office.

Reply to Com-1

129.

File. 128 in reply to E.A.C. 126.

128 28/2

23/2

113

3702

delay in civilian mails.

3. En ai mail to Enai Africa will commence shortly. Enai mail from Enai Africa has recently been reaching delay. Enai in transit being approximately 8 days, and it is expected that the same speed of service will hold in the opposite direction.

Col. Thompson
Captain
Postal Office.

MS to Com-1 129.

Thru. 128 in reply to En. Co 128.

MS. 2812

MS 2812

3702

MS 113

MS to Com-1 136.

Communications monthly report for February is at 130-134. Passages of interest have been marked.

MS. 141. Communications of monthly report for March is at 137-139. Passages of interest have been marked.

MS. 1614

MS 1514

110.

Ex Comm

106-109

for info; Communications S/C report

in October. Passages of interest are marked.

23/9

25/11

11/12

112.

Ex. Com.

Please see Communications S/C report for November at m. Passages of interest are marked.

18/12.

355/

118.

c/c. Have we a spare copy of this report? If so please forward to the Russians. If not please tell me. Yes, sent 17/11.

16/11.

119.

Ex. Com.

Please see Communications S/C report for December at 113-116. Passages of interest have been marked.

16/11.

124.

c/c.

Please send a copy to Russian L.O. requested.

11/2.

c/c. Have we a spare copy of this report? If so please forward to the Russians. If not please let me.
 16/11. Yes, sent 17/11
 B

119.

ExCm Please see Communications S/C report to December at 113-116. Passages of interest to Com have been marked. 16/11, Sum by 12/12

124.

c/c. Please send a copy to Russian L.O. 30/12/12 requested. 11/2.

125.

APC Please see Communications S/C report to January at 120-122. Passages of interest have been marked. 11/2

126.

C.S.B. this S.

1. Is the improvement due to the new Director?

2. I am told that the mail service to East Africa is apparently

slow & irregular. Could the Sub Com give some figures

of time of mail in transit for such territories?

12/12

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

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DEC 12 1946

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
Communications Division

LRH/ec

REP. 156.90.CD

12 December 1946

SUBJECT: Communications Division
Monthly Report for November 1946.

TO : Executive Commissioner

Attached is the Communications Division
Report for November 1946 together with an Abridged
Report for the same period.

L.R. Humbert
L.R. HUMBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer, R.A.A.C.

EC Distribution 3700

1 - EC.

1 - P.R.O.

1 - French Rep.

1 - Russian Rep.

1 - Working copy

J/Comm R. 11

PA 15
12
AR

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ABRIDGED REPORT

NOVEMBER 1946

1. Request for reopening postal services with Japan has been submitted to higher authority.
2. Air postal Service between Trieste, Milan, Rome and Palermo is being considered.
3. British Army personal mail for Switzerland and Southern France is transferred to Civil Post Office at Rome.
4. Cable maintenance groups at Milan, Mirandola, and Noventa di Piave have been discontinued.
5. Seven cases of wire and cable removal have occurred since the last report.
6. Radiotelegraph service between Rome and Budapest and Prague has been opened. Telephone circuits between Prague and Bologna and between Milan and Budapest have been authorized.
7. Cable repairs on the submarine cable between Rome and Barcelona has been completed and communication service is now available between those two points.
8. Personal telegrams may now be sent from Italy to the American Zone of Germany.

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MONTHLY REPORT NOVEMBER 1946

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

1. POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS

a. Following the request for Italy to reopen restricted Postal Services with Japan, submitted to AFHQ, notification has been received that the matter is now being considered and a further reply will be forwarded as early as possible.

b. The "Società Italiana Servizi Aerei" have proposed opening an air Service between Trieste, Milan, Rome and Palermo and are desirous of contracting for the conveyance of mail between the towns mentioned. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications have been asked for their views on the matter of return mail services from Italy to Trieste and they have replied that the whole case of Internal Air Mail Services is now being considered.

c. The British APO at Milan closed down on 30 Nov. 46. The transfer of correspondence posted by Army personnel in Italy for Switzerland and Southern France, previously transferred to the Civil Post Office at Milan will now be transferred to the Civil Post Office at Rome for onward transmission by civil mail despatches.

d. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has agreed to the request of the Superior Director of the Postal Services in Venezia Giulia, (submitted through the Communications Officer AMG Venezia Giulia Region) for the use of a larger number of higher value denominations of the Italian series of stamps/for use in Venezia Giulia after overprinting with the approved abbreviation "A.G.-V.G.". 3097

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d. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has agreed to the request of the Superior Director of the Postal Services in Venezia Giulia, (submitted through the Communications Officer AMG Venezia Giulia Region) for the use of a larger number of higher value denominations of the 3697 series of stamps/for use in Venezia Giulia after overprinting with the approved abbreviation "AMG-V.G."

2. TRANSIT FEES The Italian Government asked for reconsideration about payment of transit fees for international telephone calls. Those fees are payable in gold to countries across which international telephone circuits extend and must be paid in gold by the country of origin of each telephone call. Presence in Italy of Allied Military headquarters and personnel has resulted in many such calls originating here. Previously decision has been made that transit fees for military calls must be paid by the Italian Government as part of the occupation costs. Italian telephone communication companies

do not receive transit fees from other countries at the present time, as facilities are not available for such service.

3. CABLE MAINTENANCE.— Is a further step in reducing Italian costs for providing communication services the cable maintenance groups at Milan, Mirandola and Noventa di Liave were discontinued. Maintenance of cable in the areas formerly served by these groups will be done by groups from adjoining areas.

4. UNAUTHORIZED TAPPING WITH WIRE.— Seven more cases of theft of overhead wire and cable from the Italian communication system were reported during the month. Strenuous efforts are being made by Italian Government agencies to eliminate these acts, that appear to be organized acts of organized bands. Italian state maintenance personnel will wear sky-blue uniforms with the word "SLATTI" inscribed thereon, white caps, and will carry special identification cards. Squads of armored cars will patrol the area and will open fire on improperly identified personnel seen tampering with telephone wire and cable.

5. BUILDING.—

a. The Posts and Telecommunications building at Poggia was decontaminated, except for 300 square feet, by the Allied Force Signal Officer, thereby returning badly needed space to the Italian Posts and Telecommunications service.

b. The Radio Repeater station, damaged by bombs, and now overloaded structurally by equipment, has reached the point of collapse. During the month Italian authority for repairs was obtained to gether with a loan of military repeater station equipment for use while the existing equipment is being removed and reinstalled in the repeater building.

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6. RADIO-TELEGRAPH COMMUNICATION. - Radiotelegraph service was opened with Budapest on 1st November 1946 and with Prague on 5 November 1946. Budapest and Prague terminals are operated by the State Telegraph Administrations and by Italcable in Rome.

7. RADIO-TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION.

a. The frequency of 6930 Kilocycles was allotted to

- 3 -

Ministry of Interior to replace the frequency of 7066 Kilocycles which received interference from amateur radio operation.

b. The Carabinieri, Foggia, has been authorized to use the frequency of 1420 Kilocycles for testing equipment.

c. The Ministry of the Interior has been authorized to use the frequency of 4515 Kilocycles at a power of not more than 50 watts for radio communications between headquarters and the "superjumps" of its police forces.

d. 1613 radiotelephone calls were made to the United States during November 1946 with a total talking time of 166 hours 20 minutes.

8. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION.

a. A telephone land line circuit between Prague and Bologna has been authorized and facilities have been released within Italy by Allied military forces for use in establishing this circuit.

b. Establishment of a Milan - Budapest telephone circuit has been authorized, after several months delay due to failure to obtain authority for operation of the Budapest terminus. Operation will commence after circuit facilities have been installed.

9. SUBMARINE CABLE COMMUNICATION.

a. Italo-able resumed operation on 18 November 1946, over its submarine cable between Rome and Barcelona, having completed repairs that have been in progress for some months.

b. Repairs to Italian submarine cable have been slow.

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a. Italcable resumed operation on 18 November 1945, over its submarine cable between Rome and Barcelona, having completed repairs that have been in progress for some months.

b. Repairs to Italian submarine cable have been slow because of there being only one Italian cable ship suitable for the work. Efforts to lease cable ships from American and British affiliates have not met with success, as ships owned by American and British companies are needed for maintenance of their own cables.

10. WIRELESS COMMUNICATION.

Arrangements have been made by Italcable to transmit personal telegrams to addressees in the American zone of Germany. These telegrams will be transmitted to Italcable's

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affiliates in Frankfurt for dispatch to addressees. Telegrams must carry the IZO of the addressee and the word "Germany". Similar services to other zones of Germany have not been arranged due to the reluctance of the postal systems to undertake delivery within the other occupied zones of Germany.

11. AMATEUR RADIO OPERATION. - Amateur radio operation, authorized on some frequencies since March 1946, has been intermittent and uncertain. Present Italian decrees are assigned to enforce the decree of 1931 whereby amateur radio operation was prohibited. New legislation to provide for free use of amateur frequencies requires time for preparation in order that frequency use may be policed in the interest of fairness and as an aid to radio development. The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications has issued temporary operating permits for two periods, and has agreed to extend this temporary authorization. The Italian Government has given assurance that the new legislation will be enacted and new regulations promulgated as promptly as possible. Italian amateur societies have registered most amateurs and is extending its aid in the preparation of license and operating regulations.

L. K. Hubert

L. K. HUBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
Communications Division

LRH/vl

REP. 156.89.CD

9 November 1946.

SUBJECT : Communications Division
Monthly Report for October 1946.

TO : Executive Commissioner

Attached is the Communications Division Report for October 1946 together with an Abridged Report for the same period.

L.R. Humbert
L.R. HUMBERT
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director

Copy to : Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer, R.A.A.C.

3693

EC Dist

1 EC

6 P.R.B.

1 HJ att U.S. Emb

1 Fr. Rep.

J. Ward McH

*PA
16 Nov 46*

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COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1946

1. Small packet service will be reintroduced in the Italian Post Office on 1 November 1946.
2. UNRRA correspondence will be conveyed sealed pouches between the main UNRRA branch office and the head office in Rome.
3. Facilities have been requested for daily railway mail service between Rome and Villach.
4. Unregistered non-illustrated post card ^{from Great Britain} mail ^{to} Japan has been authorized effective 9 October 1946.
5. Three telephone maintenance groups were discontinued at Milan, Mirandola and Noventa di Piave.
6. A 6 channel telephone circuit was opened between Trieste and Vienna.
7. Italian State Railways will take over operation of the Railway telegraph system on 1 November 1946.

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COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

MONTHLY REPORT OCTOBER 1946

1. POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS

a. Internal services. Arrangements have been completed for reintroduction of "small packet" service within Italy, commencing 1 November 1946.

The Ministry agreed with representatives from UNRRA to convey sealed pouches of UNRRA correspondence between the main UNRRA branch offices and the head office in Rome, in the same manner that official correspondence is dealt with between the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and Provincial Post Offices. UNRRA personnel deliver and collect the pouches from the relative railways stations without involving work by postal officials.

a. External services. Traffic for north eastern European countries noticeably increasing. Q movements have been requested to provide facilities for postal sorting carriage to work daily on civil-military train between Rome and Villach instead of on 4 days per week as at present.

Representation to M.R.S. for return of postal sorting carriages to Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has been successful this month in five large type sorting carriages being released from military trains to civil postal services.

c. U.K. Foreign mail services. Unregistered non illustrated postcards confined to matters of personnel or

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c. U.K. Foreign mail services. Unregistered non illustrated postcards confined to matters of personnel or domestic nature may from 9 Oct 1946 be sent by surface route to Japan. There are some restrictions to actual destinations.

2. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS.

a. In order to more effectively coordinate the control of telecommunications for Allied Forces, the Long Lines Liaison Office, a part of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer, Allied Force Headquarters, has been located in the Allied Commission Building adjacent to the Communications Division. The Long Lines Liaison Office exercises technical supervision in establishing, maintaining and operating telecommunication circuits over the Italian telephone

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system. In the early days of the Allied Commission in Italy, this technical supervision was exercised by the Communications Sub-Commission. As Italian civilian operation became greater, a larger agency, called Long Lines Liaison Office, was established as a separate agency in order to cope with technical details of operations arising through combined use of British, American, Italian and captured equipment. That office has successfully trained Italian operating and maintenance personnel. The proximity of the two offices will permit more expeditions settlement of problems arising through the gradual turnover of responsibility of operation to the Italian companies. This Italian operation will increase (as to percentage of the total) until the Italians will be operating almost all the Allied Military system at the time the theatre is closed, thus making prompt settlement of operational problems necessary.

b. Release of telephone circuits from use by Allied Military resulted in a reduction of the total number of long distance circuits in use. Facilities of these inactive circuits have been absorbed into longer civilian circuits established to supply civilian needs, which are available also for use of military forces as required.

c. Clothing for telephone maintenance personnel has become critical again with the approach of winter. Outside maintenance personnel, particularly, require heavy clothing. Army surplus agencies do not have surplus clothing due to early curtailment of clothing supply to this theatre, and shipment from this theatre to other theatres. Up to this time no solution has been found.

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d. Thievery of wire and cable, especially from overhead lines constructed by Allied Military Forces, has become a problem. Thievery has been prevalent in the theatre since the construction of the first telephone line. During the past forty days several sections of wire and cable have disappeared. On 5 October 1946 four spans of overhead wire were removed, on 6 October 1946 five spans of wire were removed, and on 9 October 1946 seven spans of wire were removed. These removals included every wire in the spans and effectively disrupted communications.

(1) The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is attempting to eliminate this type of thievery. However, scarcity of guards make the protection of the lines difficult.

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e. Azienda di Stato has been authorized to discontinue the telephone maintenance groups at Milan, Mirandola, and Novento di Pieve. Maintenance in these areas will be undertaken by groups in adjoining areas.

f. A 6 channel telephone circuit was opened between Trieste and Vienna. These channels are being utilized for Vienna and Prague traffic. The opening of these channels relieved three channels, previously used for Vienna traffic between Trieste and Mestre and six channels between Mestre and Bologna, which now become available for ordinary traffic passing between those points.

g. The Italian railway telegraph system (known as the "Tirebox" network) which has been under requisition and, under the operational control of Allied Military Forces, was derequisitioned on 31 October 1946 and returned to Italian operation. The system will be leased to and operated by the Italian State Railways commencing 1 November 1946.

3. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

a. One radio-telephone circuit between Rome and New York was eliminated from practical use by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company diverting its equipment from one circuit to a New York - Cairo circuit between 1500 and 2100 hours daily. This diversion results in a direct cut in soldiers personnel calls which are most frequently 3689 between those hours.

b. Italian electrical manufacturing plants have commenced production in considerable volume and desire for agency allocations for testing. Many devices are designed

as the "firebox" network) which has been under requisition and, under the operational control of Allied Military Forces, was derequisitioned on 31 October 1946 and returned to Italian operation. The system will be leased to and operated by the Italian State Railways commencing 1 November 1946.

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b. Italian electrical manufacturing plants have commenced production in considerable volume and desire frequency allocations for testing. Many devices are designed for high frequencies. Requests for test and experimental frequencies are under consideration. Because most of the frequencies desired are not Berne registered, action on such requests requires considerable time, and experimental frequencies have been allocated in only a few cases. No frequencies requested during the month of October have been allocated.

c. Although radio frequencies normally used by amateur radio operators have been authorized for such use by Italian amateurs, very few licenses have been issued because of the detail involved within the Italian Governmental structure in promulgating a new decree. After 1931 amateur

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radio operation was suppressed and a considerable amount of illegal operation resulted. The primary purpose of locating amateur frequencies was to stop illegal operation (on all frequencies) that has caused interference with authorized traffic and to center control in the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. Until transfer of authority from the Ministry of Interior to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is accomplished proper operation and regulation will not be achieved.

L. R. Hulbert
L. R. HULBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

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

785017

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L. R. Humlett

L. R. HUMLETT,

Lt. Col. Sig. C.

Director.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
Communications Sub-Commission

LRH/ec

REP. 156.88.CS

11 October 1946

SUBJECT: Communications Sub-Commission
Monthly Report for September 1946

OCT 12 1946

TO : Executive Commissioner

Attached is the Communications Sub-Commission
Report for September 1946 together with an Abridged Re-
port for the same period.

Cy. L. Shaddock
Major
L.R. FULBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

See 17-181

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni U.S. Embassy ROME
Signal Officer R.A.A.C.

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EC DIST - 12/10/46

- 1 - EC
- 6 - P.R. Branch
- 1 - Mil att. Am Club
- 1 - French Representative

P.A. 15/10
RR.

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COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION
AERIDGED REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1946

1. A short-lived telephone switchboard operators strike that did not effect, directly, the military telephone service resulted in substantial wage increases for telephone switchboard operators.
2. Return of Italian circuits to civilian operation was commenced and operation of military circuits was satisfactory.
3. A telephone link with Amsterdam was placed in operation.
4. During a civilian disturbance in Palermo telephone cable carrying civilian and military traffic was cut and removed from the: Nigaro, resulting in severance of communication between the Italian Government and Palermo; and interrupting military traffic.
5. A radio circuit between Rome and Stockholm was placed in operation.
6. Cable service for Trieste was increased to 24 hours daily.
7. A gift parcel service has been established from the United Kingdom to Italy.

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COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION
MONTHLY REPORT
SEPTEMBER 1946

1. POSTAL SERVICE:

a. A Gift Parcel Service from the United Kingdom to Italy and the Vatican City, was introduced on the 1st September 1946. The mail is conveyed overland through France and transferred to Italian Postal Authorities at Ventimiglia; up to the present the number of parcels received is exceptionally small.

b. U.S.A. Gift Parcel mails to Italy (except for Venezia Giulia) are now unloaded at Genoa instead of Naples. Genoa Port Parcel Office is well equipped with storage space and railway departure platforms for the handling of this traffic.

c. The British A.D.O. Base Post Office has now completed the handing back of the Civil Post Office Premises at Naples Ferrovia Post Office and the accommodation is effectively being utilised for the new Internal Parcel Post Service. This reintroduced service is working extremely satisfactorily at the Provincial Directors Offices visited during the month.

2. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS

a. On the 26 September 1946 the telephone switchboard operators of all the concessionary telephone companies went on strike for higher wages. The Azienda di Stato (long distance service) operators did not go on strike, however. In accordance with previous agreements between the operator's union and the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, operators continued operating switchboard positions handling Allied military circuits. One unauthorized interruption of service was reported, which was the Bari - Foggia link of the Rome - Bari - Foggia circuit. Traffic was routed over an improvised Rome - Naples - Foggia circuit, and by the time an inspector could investigate the interruption, an operator had reconnected the circuit in Bari

- (1) The strike ended in 24 hours by an agreement to settle in case the operators would return to work at once. The second day the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications presided at

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the combined conference of strikers and management. The resulting settlement gave the operators 12% wage increase plus one month's pay for the period 1st January 1946 to 31 July 1946, and a 30% wage increase effective (August 1946).

b. A net gain of twenty-one civilian long distance circuits were activated during the month.

c. On 15 September 1946 the gradual return to civilian operation of all long distance telephone switchboard positions and long distance circuits used exclusively for Allied Military traffic was commenced. As traffic conditions permit all such positions will be returned to Italian communication personnel for operation, in an effort to reduce military personnel and civilian personnel employed by the Allied Military Forces. The operation by civilian personnel will permit all circuits to be used for all types of traffic. This arrangement will, therefore, reduce traffic congestion points that have previously existed in both military and civilian traffic.

(1) Circuits of the Rome - Naples link were the first to be returned for civilian operation, and was satisfactory. Retention of operators (who have been working for Allied Military Forces) by the civilian operating companies has promoted smooth operation.

d. Fourteen long distance telephone operating positions in the Rome long distance exchange were released from Allied Military use for civilian use. Four of the positions were in condition for immediate use. Rewiring of the other ten positions will be necessary before they can be used for civilian traffic.

e. A telephone link with Amsterdam was put in operation on 16 September 1946.

f. During the period 18-21 September 1946 at a time of civilian disturbance in Palermo the underground cable of the Azienda di Stato used for civilian and military traffic was cut twice near Migano. One section of cable 44 meters in length and another section 20 meters in length were removed. This effectively stopped Italian Government communi-

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tion with Palermo and interfered briefly with military communication. The first circuit repaired was utilized by the military forces and another was placed at the disposal of the Italian Government due to its urgent need to communicate with Palermo.

- (1) Renewed efforts are being made to reduce and eliminate these hazards. However, most of the effort to protect the cable must be made by the Italian Government because of inadequate military personnel for patrol duties.

3. RADIO COMMUNICATION:

a. The Rome-Beirut radio telephone circuit was put into operation on 26 August and the Rome-Stockholm radiotelephone circuit was put into operation on 2 September 1946.

b. Arrangements were completed between Italcable and American Telephone and Telegraph Company to extend the privilege of individuals to make radiotelephone calls to the United States collect that is chargeable to the telephone of the person called in the United States, to 1st May 1947. This has proven to be popular.

c. Italcable reports that 30,728 radio telephone were made to the United States from 1st July 1945 to 30 June 1946 as compared to 2,783 in 1939.

4. SUBMARINE CABLE COMMUNICATION

3683

a. Allied Force Headquarters did not approve the request of the Italian Government to repair and resume operation of the Malaga-Horta cable because the cable has been diverted and forms the Gibraltar Horta cable. Italcable has under consideration plan for replacing the cable.

b. Cable service in Trieste was increased to 24 hours daily. Previously cable service to Trieste had been available for a few hours each day. Extension of the service was made possible.

L. R. Humbert
for L. R. HUMBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

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

8754
RP. 174
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
Communications Sub-Commission

10 Sept. '46

REP. 156.86

LRH/ec

SUBJECT: Communications Sub-Commission
Report for August 1946

SEP 10 1946

TO : Executive Commissioner

Attached is the Communications Sub-Commission
Report for August 1946 ~~together with an Abridged Report~~
~~for the same period.~~ (detached)

L.R. Humbert
L.R. HUMBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. BERNARDONI U.S. Embassy ROME

3682

Signal Officer R.A.A.C.

EC Dist 10/9/46

1 EC

6 P.R. By

1 MIL ATT ATX ENB

1 FR REP

See 17-175

(J/Chen)

P.A. 12/9/46
DL

173
COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION
MONTHLY REPORT
AUGUST 1946

1. POSTAL SERVICE:

a. Postal Service from Hungary to Italy was reactivated on 8 August 1946 after temporary suspension.

Dispatches from Italy to Hungary were reintroduced on 26 August 1946. Full authority for the services have now been issued by the Hungarian Control Commission.

b. Since the introduction of censorship of correspondence posted in Zone "A" of Venezia Giulia addressed to Zone "B" and Jugoslavia, direct sealed mails have been established from the Censorship Office to the offices at Fiume and Lubiana. Under this arrangement the censored items are not handled again within Zone "A".

c. Internal parcel post was reintroduced in Italy on 16 August 1946 after suspension because of unfavorable handling difficulties.

2. RADIO COMMUNICATION:

a. Frequency assignments made during the month of August were:

FREQUENCY	POWER	CIRCUIT	PURPOSE
3555 Kcs	50 Watts		Italian Fire Service.
5580 "	50	"	"
			3681

to Zone "E" and Jugoslavia, direct sealed mails have been established from the Censorship Office to the offices at Fiume and Lubiane. Under this arrangement the censored items are not handled again within Zone "A".

c. Internal parcel post was reintroduced in Italy on 16 August 1946 after suspension because of unfavorable handling difficulties.

2. RADIO COMMUNICATION:

a. Frequency assignments made during the month of August were:

FREQUENCY	POWER	CIRCUIT	PURPOSE	3681
3555 Kcs	50 Watts		Italian Fire Service.	
5580 "	50 "		" "	
30120 "	50 "		Rome Civil Police	
7 megacycle			Italian amateurs	
14 e			" "	
500 Kcs	500 Watts		Maritime Radio station.	
439 "	500 "		Genoa Castellaccio	
8380 "	300 "		" "	
12760 "	300 "		" "	

b. Continued restoration of normal commercial, personal and governmental operations resulted in several essential additions to Italian radio.

See 7-175

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172

- 2 -

c. Communications for the Italian Air Service was extended by the authorization for use of frequencies of 3555 Kcs and 5580 Kcs. The frequency of 30120 Kcs was authorized for use by the Rome Civil Police in addition to the frequency of 2425 Kcs authorized in July.

d. Italy for many years has been a land filled with amateur radio enthusiasty. Lifting of the ban on amateur radio operation in Allied countries and retaining the ban in Italy (except for a small portion of the amateur band) has resulted in regular violation of amateur regulations by Italian amateurs. Monitors would hear illegal Italian amateur operation, yet it was almost impossible to discover the person of the violators. Permission for Allied Soldiers to operate military stations, at scheduled hours, on amateur frequencies added to the hazard. Sale of surplus radio parts enabled many Italian amateurs to build radios, listen to their former radio friends in other countries, and find the urge to reply to the calls too strong to resist. This hazard has been relieved by the authorization to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications for use by Italian Amateurs of the 7 and 14 megacycle radio frequencies. As these are the frequencies on which most amateurs operate, violations of radio regulations should be practically eliminated.

e. The Maritime operation of the frequencies of 439 Kcs, 500 Kcs, 8380 Kcs, and 12760 Kcs will provide a communication need in this field.

f. The Italian Government has been authorized to engage in international broadcasting, using facilities and frequencies already authorized with a power limitation of 10 K.W. This will enable the Italian Government and people to present their views and problems to peoples of other nations.

3680

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3680

f. The Italian Government has been authorized to engage in international broadcasting, using facilities and frequencies already authorized with a power limitation of 10 K.W. This will enable the Italian Government and people to present their views and problems to peoples of other nations, thereby enabling them to feel that they are being given the opportunity to be on a basis of equality to other nations.

3. SUBMARINE CABLE COMMUNICATIONS.

a. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has presented a memorandum to the Allied Commission, the American Embassy and the British Embassy requesting authority to repair the Barcelona-Malaga and the Malaga-Horta submarine Cables.

179
- 3 -

b. The repair of Rome-Barcelona cable has been authorized previously. The repair of these cables would enable Itelcable to resume direct cable communication with North America. Later repair of the cable to South America, coupled with presently requested repairs, would complete restoration for resumption of cable communication with South American nations.

c. This communication is important at this time of food shortage in Europe and of large food harvests in American nations.

d. Approval has been given for repair of the Barcelona-Malaga cable. Approval for repair of the Malaga-Horta cable has been held in abeyance pending further consideration at a high level.

4. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS:

a. Rearrangement of long distance telephone facilities resulted in a gain of seven long distance circuits.

b. Agreement was reached between Allied Force Signal Officer and the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications about the plan of hand-over of military long distance telephone lines to the Italian Civilian companies for operation. The major points of decision were:

- (1) In important telecommunication centers the ³⁶⁷⁹
Allied Military Forces will control the
booking arrangements. After the call is
booked the booking operator will transfer
the call to the long distance operator who

4. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS:

- a. Rearrangement of long distance telephone facilities resulted in a gain of seven long distance circuits.
- b. Agreement was reached between Allied Force Signal Officer and the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications about the plan of hand-over of military long distance telephone lines to the Italian Civilian companies for operation. The major points of decision were:

- (1) In important telecommunication centers the Allied Military Forces will control the booking arrangements. After the call is booked the booking operator will transfer the call to the long distance operator who will place the call. The booking operators will be British or American nationals or English speaking Italians. These important centers will be under the supervision of Allied Military or civilian personnel to insure that military calls receive proper handling with regards to priority and to insure that adequate circuits are provided for military use.

170

- 4 -

- (2) In telecommunication centers through which only a small number of Allied Military calls are placed, the civilian companies will maintain English speaking booking operators.
- (3) Allied Military calls will receive high relative priority. Urgent military calls will be number one in the order of priority along with airplane crash calls. It is intended that this military priority be used in absolute emergency only. Priority Allied Military calls will be fifth in order of priority, which places it first below all Allied and Italian emergency calls and above all Italian very urgent calls. Routine Allied Military Calls will be 7th in order of priority just below Very Urgent Italian State Calls and above all other, Italian calls of what-ever nature, (Very Urgent private calls, Urgent State and private calls, and ordinary calls).
- (4) The Italian companies were permitted to commence preliminary structural and circuit changes necessary to accept this hand-over of operating responsibility, and were told to deal directly with technical experts of the Allied Forces, but no lines were turned over to them for operation.

c. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications was 3678 requested to determine, and commenced investigating, the possibility of installing pay stations in Allied Force Headquarters buildings, and subordinate headquarters buildings as an aid to reducing the traffic over the telephone system.

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3678

c. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications was requested to determine, and commenced investigating, the possibility of installing pay stations in Allied Force Headquarters buildings, and subordinate headquarters buildings as an aid to reducing the traffic over official military equipment. Because of the type of money available, this would necessitate the use of attended telephone centers. The low pay of telephone personnel makes it difficult for the telephone companies to obtain the proper type of attendants. This factor added to space and equipment requirements causes the Italian companies to be reluctant to undertake such a plan. Its major effect would be to relieve local congestion on military telephone exchanges and would be a speculative undertaking financially for the telephone companies.

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d. the telephone circuit between Milan and Budapest was completed but authority to operate the circuit has been withheld by control Authorities in Hungary, who have been asked to review their decision.

e. Eight lines between local and long distance operating telephone switchboards in Naples were transferred from exclusive military use to combined military and civilian use as an aid in reducing civilian traffic congestion.

f. For sometime the Italian Government has been faced with the necessity of paying transit fees in gold to countries through which telephone calls pass. In some countries, in the past, diplomatic representatives of the country of the national making the call have effected payment. Growth of traffic, and the impending possibility that all telephone calls originating in Italy, will be handled by civilian telephone companies may result in creating a major problem for the Italians to meet the payments. Clarification of this issue has been requested.

g. The 10% reduction in telephone rates applied in the Venezia Giulia area Zone A by authority of the decree 24 March 1946 has been discontinued. This area now pays the same telephone rates as the remainder of Italy.

h. FIVE new 4 - wire repeaters were installed in the Trieste Repeater Station during the month, which results in there being seven sets of spare 4 wire terminal available for civilian needs.

i. Operation of the six channel very high frequency telegraph system with Austria has been held up due to the reluctance of the Ministry to allot the necessary circuits.

j. A drive has been initiated by TELVE and Azienda di Stato to clean up the unauthorized telephone apparatus, extending to all

tion of this issue has been requested.

g. The 10% reduction in telephone rates applied in the Venezia Giulia area Zone A by authority of the decree 24 March 1946 has been discontinued. This area now pays the same telephone rates as the remainder of Italy.

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i. Operation of the six channel very high frequency telegraph system with Austria has been held up due to the reluctance of the Ministry to allot the necessary circuits.

j. A drive has been initiated by TELVE and Azienda di Stato to clean up the unauthorized telephone apparatus, extension bells and private wires that have been connected illegally in recent years. 15 September has been set as the day by which time these illegal users must disconnect their illegal devices or be subject to prosecution.

k. Considerable thought has arisen (too late) about the loss of equipment in the Venezia Giulia area when the peace treaty separates the area from Italy. It is practically impossible for any changes to be made with existing equipment at this time. It will be necessary, therefore, for TELVE to provide additional carrier and repeater equipment for lines in Italian territory in the vicinity of that area. Surplus equipment in the Trieste Central Telegraph Office also, is subject to being lost.

l. A new circuit was opened between Trieste and Vienna for the UNRRA Austrian Mission.

L. R. HUBERT
L.R. HUBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig.C.
Director.

8754

167

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
Communications Sub-Commission

LRH/ec

REP. 156.85.08

9 August 1946

AUG 12 1946

SUBJECT: Communications Sub-Commission
Report for July 1946

TO : Executive Commissioner

The monthly report for July 1946 of the
Communications Subcommittee is attached hereto
together with an abridged report for the same period.

L.R. Humbert
L.R. HUMBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Barnardoni, U.S. Embassy Rome.

Signal Officer, R.A.A.C.

EC DIST - 36/756

See 17-162

- 1 - EC
- 6 - PR BRANCH
- 1 - MIL. ATT. ATT. ENCL.
- 1 - FR. REP

(J/COM)

MONTHLY REPORT FOR JULY 1946

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. Radio communications.

a. Five frequency allocations were made for use of commercial companies and one frequency allocation was made for the Rome area police net. These are:

Frequency	Circuit	Purpose
4355 Kilocycles	Rome - Milan	Commercial Telegraph
7518 "	" "	" "
7965 "	Rome -New York	" "
13260 "(+)	" Istanbul	" "
4625 "(+)	" "	" "
2425 "	Rome area	Police net

(+) The Rome - Istanbul circuit will operate on a time sharing arrangement with the Rome - Cairo and Beirut circuit.

c. Permission was granted to Italcable to extend a commercial radiotelephone service to Canada, Cuba and Mexico to Saturdays and Sundays with existing facilities. This was possible because of decrease in military traffic.

d. A radiotelegraph circuit between Italcable in Rome, and Mackay Radio and Telegraph Co., New York was opened on frequencies of 10710 Kilocycles and 16112 Kilocycles previously allocated, and the newly allocated frequency of 7965 Kilocycles.

4625
2425

" (+)
"

Rome area
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d. A radiotelegraph circuit between Italcable in Rome, and Mackay Radio and Telegraph Co., New York was opened on frequencies of 10710 kilocycles and 16112 Kilocycles previously allocated, and the newly allocated frequency of 7965 Kilocycles.

e. Service over the commercial Rome - New York radiotelephone circuit was revised to provide service one additional day per week for Gorizia and to reduce the service one day per week for Leghorn. Thus this service is no longer available in Leghorn on Wednesday and is available in Gorizia on Wednesday, resulting in service for Leghorn on two days a week and service for Gorizia on four days a week.

2. Telecommunications. During the month of July 1946 systematic improvements to the telecommunications system were accomplished or authorized. Fixed plant facilities were improved. Details of transfer of military lines to the

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- 2 -

commercial companies for operation by civilians received further consideration, and plans were prepared for a trial hand-over of some circuits between Rome and Naples. The time of this trial hand-over will be determined at a later date.

e. A 600 line telephone switchboard, removed from a de-requisitioned building in Milan, was authorized for installation in Ventimiglia, a community without telephone facilities since the destruction of the local switchboard early in the war.

b. A telegraph circuit was opened between Trieste and Prague.

c. A 5000line commercial, automatic, telephone exchange was approved and materials assembled for installation in Udine. Work will commence in August.

d. Twenty-three long distance telephone circuits were discontinued and fifty new circuits were established. Facilities of the discontinued circuits were used in establishing some of the new circuits.

e. Italcable was authorized to recover unused portions of the Rome-Messina submarine cable for use in repairing other submarine cable.

3. Postal Communications.

a. The major portion of the Naples Ferrovia Sorting Office has been handed back to the Civil Postal authorities by the British Army Post Office in connection with the ministries proposal to reintroduce internal Parcel Post Service on 16 August 1946.

3171

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3. Postal Communications.

a. The major portion of the Naples Ferrovia Sorting Office has been handed back to the Civil Postal authorities by the British Army Post Office in connection with the ministries proposal to reintroduce internal Parcel Post Service on 16 August 1946,

b. Censorship of correspondence posted in Zone A and addressed to zone B and Yugoslavia was introduced on 31 July 1946 in an effort to overcome the smuggling of currency.

c. Civil mail from Italy to Hungary was suspended temporarily owing to difficulties with Control Commissions.

L. R. HUBERT
L. R. HUBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

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

8754 *ad* 163

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
Communications Sub-Commission

REP.156.84.CS

11 July 1946

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORT

JUL 12 1946

TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER ✓

Hope June!

Herewith full and ~~abridged reports~~ for April 1946.

A.C. Holland
A.C. HOLLAND
Major, R. Sigs.
O i/c Comm S/C.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer R.A.A.C.

see 17164

Re Dist - 12 July

3673

*1- EC.
6- HQ. B.
1- Mil Att. Am. Emb.
1- FR. Rep.*

(J/cdr. Mr.)

MONTHLY REPORT FOR JUNE 1946

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

JUL 12 1946

TELECOMMUNICATIONS1. Civilian responsibility for Army Telephone Services:

The outstanding points to be cleared up before the Allied Military can pass all responsibility for telephone service to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications are the following:-

- a. Handing over responsibility for two outstanding concessionary companies cables to the Ministry. Due shortly.
- b. Sale of 44 C.E.M. or ex-Allied vehicles used on maintenance of telephone lines to be sold to the Italian Government. This is well in hand.
- c. All American-constructed fixed plant Signal installations to be sold to the Italian Government. Sale is being held up owing to Italian insistence on complete reconnaissance of all routes involved.
- d. Replacement of all Signal test equipment on loan to Ministries' technicians. Ministry personnel in sufficient numbers have been taken on to cope with maintenance and supervision involved but it is not expected that the present system whereby Signals Liaison of-

3672

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- c. All American-constructed fixed plant Signal installations to be sold to the Italian Government. Sale is being held up owing to Italian insistence on complete reconnaissance of all routes involved.
- d. Replacement of all Signal test equipment on loan to Ministries' technicians. Ministry personnel in sufficient numbers have been taken on to cope with maintenance and supervision involved but it is not expected that the present system whereby Signals Liaison officers supervise and report on civilian operation of service directly affecting them will be quickly withdrawn.

2. Trunk lines:

Civilian long distance circuits in Italy were increased by 22 during the month. Of these 6 were made available by the Allied Military.

(initials)

161
- 2 -

3. International Telephone Traffic:

owing
As from 1st July to a devaluation of the lira with respect to the International Gold Franc all International telephone calls from Italy are costing 10% more.

Service of American and British Troops Telephone calls to USA and UK respectively continued to function evenly.

4. Military Stores on Loan to Civil:

Military telephone carrier equipment of no further immediate use to Signals is being shortly loaned to the Ministry and will be set up where most needed to increase the numbers of civilian circuits.

5. Radio:

2 additional frequencies were allotted to Italcable for working a second Radio Telegraph link to USA. This will be working to Mackay Radio.

6. Telegraph:

As from 17th June the Italcable service of US Troops telegrams between Foggia and Gorizia APOs' and USA has been extended so that telegrams are sent by electrical means all the way.

POSTAL

1. Air Mails:

A new air mail service to South America was introduced on 1st June 1946. Correspondence is despatched 3 times weekly from Naples to Amsterdam for onward transmission by the British Service.

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POSTAL

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A new air mail service to South America was introduced on 1st June 1946. Correspondence is despatched 3 times weekly from Naples to Amsterdam for onward transmission by the British Service.

2. Foreign Surface Mails:

Venice now becomes the Office of Exchange for despatches to Albania, Jugoslavia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Roumania, Russia and Hungary.

Milan is the new Office of Exchange for mails to Switzerland.

3671

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- 3 -

3. Inland Mails:

Parcels:-

The Director General Posts and Telecomms has notified this Sub-Commission that the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications propose to reintroduce Internal Parcel Post Service w.e.f. 16th August 46 and ask that the Naples Ferrovia Sorting Office be released from Army Post Office authority requisition. G-5, AFHQ, and British Army Postal Directorate have been informed of the proposals and requested to report on accommodation position immediately.

A.C. Holland

A.C. HOLLAND,
Major, R. Sigs.
O i/c Comms S/C.

8754 *96*

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/ec

REP.156.83.CS

7 June 1946

JUN 11 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO : Executive Commissioner

1. Herewith full and Abridged Reports for May 1946.

2. Would you please ensure that the Russian Liason Office receives a copy.

H. H. Scudder
H.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer, R.A.A.C.

3669

ECTDIST - 11 June

1 - EC

6 - PROR

1 - Mil Attache an Emb.

1 - Fr Rep.

1 - Russian Rep.

HA. B. L.

see M159

[Signature]

(J/CDR M.)

157

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR MAY 1946
COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. Civilian telegraph and telephone traffic has been increasing steadily especially in N.W. Italy where in some cities such as Genoa and Turin, long distance telephone traffic handled now is in excess of pre-war.

Release of circuits by Allied Military forces and constructions and repairs by the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications resulted in a few additional circuits being made available on main routes.

Telephone service for Troops in Italy to the U.K. was inaugurated from Milan, Trieste, Rome and Naples.

Radio-telephone and radio-telegraph services were opened with Mexico, Canada, Brazil, Argentina and several other South and Central American countries.

Direct air mail service to the U.S.A. was increased to three times a week and direct air mail service was commenced with Holland and the Dutch East Indies.

3668

156
FULL REPORT FOR MAY 1946
COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. General: Both telegraph and telephone traffic have been rising quickly especially in N.W. Italy, and one of the difficulties of the Ministry has been to recruit and train staff sufficient to keep pace with it. This has largely been overcome now as regards telegraphs, but there is a definite lag in recruitment and training of telephone operators partly due to financial considerations.

2. Telecommunications:

(a) Telephones: Slight increases in the numbers of circuits on the important main routes, and a fair number of circuit additions on subsidiary routes especially in and around Tuscany, have eased the delays on the routes concerned.

Long distance traffic originated in Torino and Milano is now above the pre-war figures, chiefly due to the good availability of circuits in the Milano-Torino-Genova triangle.

A telephone service to UK for British troops was arranged in conjunction with AFHQ and the Italian Government. Calls can be made from Trieste, Naples, Rome, and Milano. As the international circuit is shared between these towns so far as Services calls are concerned, each centre is allocated certain days in the week except Milan which can use the circuit at any time. The service has been very successful to date, about twenty calls being passed each evening.

(b) Telegraphs:

Milano telegraph traffic is now as great as in the peak year of 1938.

All telegraph offices in Lombardia and Liguria are now restored to service.

3667

Three military S+D systems were completed for the Rome-Milano route, and are ready for use. Three single channel telegraphs that can be superimposed on telephone circuits were installed for service between Milan and Turin.

In conjunction with the British Army Postal Service, the telegraph service run by Italians for British troops between UK and Rome, was extended to include the rest of Italy. This will save anything up to three days delay between the handing-in of the telegram and its delivery to the addressee.

155

(c) Stores: Discussions were held with AFHQ Officers on outstanding stores matters. As a result it should be possible to clear up the stores position by the end of June.

All details and queries concerning telecomm stores requirements for Udine and Venezia Giulia for the second six months of 1946 have been cleared up with the Economic Section and the only questions which may now arise are in connection with the supply of substitute items, should any item listed for GE or US supply not be available.

(d) Radio: Direct radio telegraph service between Italy and Denmark was inaugurated as well as radio-telephone service with Brazil, Argentina and Egypt.

Arrangements were completed for radiotelephone service with Canada, Mexico, Ecuador, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Radiotelephone service between the U.S. and Italy was further improved by arrangement for acceptance of calls on a collect basis.

3. Posts:

(a) Air Mails: As a result of increased frequency of the Transworld air line, direct air mails from Rome to the U.S.A. are now despatched on three days of the week. One day each week the Transworld service calls at Madrid and Lisbon and air mails to Spain and Portugal are forwarded by this route.

The thrice weekly Dutch Air Service from Holland to the East Indies via Naples is now being used for the conveyance of air mails in both directions.

Owing to the cancellation of Italian Air Services caused by the petrol situation, internal air mails had to be suspended from 15 to 20th of May.

(b) Inland mails: As a result of representations to 13th corps and AFHQ agreement was obtained to the discontinuance of censorship of internal correspondence originating in Venezia Province. No internal correspondence originating in Italian Government territory is now submitted to censorship. 3666

- 3 -

(c) Venezia Giulia: A complete review was made of the arrangements for the circulation of all types of correspondence originating in Zone A and new detailed instructions have been issued to all concerned.

Parcels: The first step was taken towards the restoration of internal parcel post in Italy and Zone A. For the present this is limited to parcels containing medicines and sanitary materials posted by the producing firms.

H.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

3665

8754
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications-Sub-Commission

151
HHS/sp

REP. I56.82.CS.

II May 1946

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORT

MAY 13 1946

TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

- 150
1. Herewith full and abridged reports for April 1946.
 2. Would you please ensure that the Russian Liason Officer receives a copy.

— copy passed to Russian Reps.

H. H. Scudder

H. H. SCUDDER.
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

Copy to : Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy.
Signal Officer R.A.A.C.

3664

See Mr. 152

(J/CDR MC)

PA 27/5

8754.
FULL REPORT FOR APRIL 1946

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

MAY 13 1946

1. General:

Foreign postal rates were trebled. Air mail services continued to improve. International telephone service was extended, including the opening of a service to Austria.

2. Telecommunications:

(a) Telephones: Services was opened to Austria with one line each from Milan, Bologna, and Trieste to Vienna. A second Milan - London line was completed.

A few important internal inter-urban circuits were provided including a second Genoa - Rome cot and a Trieste - Milan cot.

Automatic exchanges were completed at San Remo and Bordighera.

Considerable headway was made with the new switchboard installations at Florence and Naples, two of the most congested centres.

(b) Telegraphs: With the completion of the 12 channels voice frequency telegraph system Milan-Paris via the Modane tunnel the following new circuits were brought into operation.

Milan	-	Paris	(3)
Rome	-	Paris	
Genova	-	Paris	
Torino	-	Paris	
Milan	-	London	

In addition a Genova - London and a Rome - London

3463

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(b) Telegraphs: With the completion of the 12 channels voice frequency telegraph system Milan-Paris via the Modano tunnel the following new circuits were brought into operation.

Milan	-	Paris	(3)
Rome	-	Paris	
Genova	-	Paris	
Torino	-	Paris	
Milan	-	London	

In addition a Geneva - London and a Rome - London channel are ready to be brought into use.

A considerable number of small offices in the areas round Bologna and Torino cut off by war damage was restored during the month.

Arrangements have been made for the Army to pass traffic over the Italcable Rome - Milan radio link should civil disturbance cut all land routes.

(c) Sabotage: Sabotage in Venezia Giulia has dropped slightly lately but is still bad. In particular, the Trieste - Piumo service has been badly affected.

Ec. Dist - 13 MAY

- 1-EC ✓
- 6-Pr Br
- 1- Mil stt AmEmb.
- 1- French Rep.
- 1- Russian Rep.
- Spur

(J/cdr M.)

3. Postal:

(a) Foreign Postal Rates: By Ministerial Decree dated 7th March 1946, the Italian Government increased the rates of postage to foreign countries as from 1st April 1946 to approximately three times these in force since 1st April 1945. For example, the rate for letters which previously was 5 Lire for the first 20 grammes and 3 Lire for each additional 20 grammes becomes 15 Lire for the first 20 grammes and 10 Lire for each additional 20 grammes.

(b) Air Mails: With the commencement on 4th April of the bi-weekly Trans World Air Service from Cairo to the U.S.A. via Rome a direct route for the Italy U.S.A. Air Mail despatches became possible. Unfortunately the capacity available for Italian Air Mails by this service (about 100 Kilos per flight) is insufficient to accommodate all the traffic, which amounts to about 60 Kilos per day. The overflow is being sent to Paris (for connection with the Trans-U.S.A. service) utilising Italian internal and Swiss air services with rail links. It is hoped that an increased frequency of the Trans-World service will soon take effect and provide for the direct transmission of all the correspondence.

Air Mails to Great Britain, Egypt, and various other countries continue to be conveyed by R.A.F. services. The representatives of the Dutch civil air line working between Amsterdam and Batavia via Naples were put in touch with the Italian Ministry and negotiations for the use of this line for Italian civil air mails are proceeding between the interested parties.

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3662

The R.A.F. service which carried the Italian Air Mail to Albania has been withdrawn and the Ministry was advised to telegraph to the U.S. Post Office to obtain State Department consent to the conveyance of this mail by an A.T.C. service which calls at Tirana once weekly.

The Air Mail fee from Italy to other European countries was increased from 15 Lire to 20 Lire each 20 grammes.

(c) Gift Parcels: Traffic continued to be very heavy. During the month the following number parcel bags were unloaded:

- 3 -

Naples	61929
Genoa	20048
Venice	4971
Civitavecchia	15070
	102018

These bags contained an average of 4 parcels weighing about 5 Kilos each.

(d) Sea Transport: Inspection at Naples revealed that serious difficulty was still being experienced by the Post Office in obtaining prior information various ships under British control. It was possible to make arrangements which should improve the system of obtaining shipping information. As regards the acceptance of mails on British controlled ships it is still not practicable for the Post Office to make formal mail contracts with shipping Companies but temporary arrangements were made with Sea Transport A.T.M.Q. for the mails to be accepted by S.T. ships against non-negotiable receipt. Proposals were submitted to the G.P.O. London advocating a special system to be adopted until normal liner berth working is resumed.

So far as American shipping is concerned the Post Office was pressed to come to an agreement with W.S.A. to operate a similar system to that suggested in the case of British shipping and so terminate the present undesirable arrangement by which the mails for America are sent to Leghorn for despatch with U.S. Army mails. A considerable part of the despatches to the U.S.A. consists of empty mail bags due to be returned for use in the gift parcel service.

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H. H. SCUDDER,
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

8754 / 780
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

14-6
HHS/jc

REP.156.81.CS

3 May 1946

SUBJECT: Report Communications S/C.

MAY 7 1946

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. There is inclosed in duplicate a condensed narrative report on the activities of and results obtained by this Sub-Commission up until May 1, 1946.

2. In view of the expected reduction in activity of this Sub-Commission this report is to be considered as its final report.

H.H. Scudder
H.H. SCUDDER
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

2 Incl.

EC DIST - 7 May

*1 - File
1 - Working copy.*

See Memo 147

3660

(J/COX MC)

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

The Communications Sub-Commission originated early in September 1943 as part of the Communications Section in the Allied Military Mission, under Admiral (then Capt.) Stone.

At that time concern was chiefly with Puglia, but little groups of telecommunications and postal officers were active in Sicily and South Italy, doing valuable work preparing the ground for the time when A.C. Officers had more scope.

The Ministry of Communications, which was created in November 1943, had as its mainstay the present Under-Secretary of State for Posts and Telecommunications, Dr. Mario Fano. The Sub-Commission has been fortunate in having Dr. Fano as a loyal and efficient collaborator throughout its existence.

When A.C.C. and A.M.G. were joined in Feb. 1944, the Communications Sub-Commission was formed. Since then there have been many changes in personnel with only a few of the original members left and with one serious casualty.

By the end of 1943, in spite of lack of transport, materials and personnel, a good start had been made on restoration of civil postal and telecommunications services. Sicily and King's Italy had letter and financial services. Sardinia had an air mail to the mainland. By February 1944, services had extended to the environs of Naples, and a big step had been taken by the start of a foreign mail service to the Allied and neutral world.

In April 1944, the Sub-Commission, in addition to its duties in the postal, telecommunications, and radio fields, assumed responsibility for Civil Censorship Group, a branch of G-2, AFHQ. This association was a most successful one, uniting as it did under one direction, all sides of civil posts and telecommunications. It continued until November 1945, when Allied interest in Civil Censorship in Italian territory ceased and the remaining activities of the Group were absorbed by AFHQ.

In the telecommunications field, damage to telephone and telegraph plant was heavy. It included the destruction of a 20,000 lines exchange at Naples and of its main long distance exchange. Many thousands of miles of line were destroyed.

Nevertheless, by April 1944, telegraph service had been restored to some 65% of the communes and between all provincial centres south of Naples and in Sicily. Telephone service to the public was limited by the Allies to urban local connections, but the Italian Govt. had circuits from Salerno to all provincial capitals on the mainland south of Naples and to the chief Sicilian towns. The Govt's underground cable circuits had been completed by mixed Allied and Italian gangs under the direction of one of our officers.

- 2 -

Overhead circuits on the other hand were put through mostly by sheer hard work on the part of the Italian linemen, in country often deep in snow, with inadequate tools, and often entailing long journeys on foot.

By the end of May 1944, weight limits for domestic mails had been raised to 210 grammes; insured, express, and newspaper services had been inaugurated; and internal air mails had been started.

Experience in Naples had shown the need of a central telecommunications authority in major centres immediately after liberation.

Advance Telecomms Boards were thus planned for Rome, Florence, Bologna, Milan, Genoa and Turin. Each Board was composed of representatives of the major military Signals Headquarters along with two from A.C.C. These boards eventually operated very successfully.

Representatives of the Sub-Commission entered Rome on June 4 and 5, 1944.

Rome telephone plant, practically undamaged, was restored to service a few days after liberation. A postcard service connected Rome with the rest of the liberated Italy on June 17. Although equipment and some key personnel had been removed by the Germans, the Ministry of Communications was functioning and this helped the reorganisation of repairs and services considerably. A basic plan for the restoration of long distance facilities all over Italy was prepared with the help of the staff of the Ministry.

In addition a telephone factory in Rome was brought into use jointly by Army Signals and by this Sub-Commission, was supplied with materials, and as a result manufactured and supplied badly needed equipment which is even now the mainstay of long distance communications.

Florence telephone plant unfortunately suffered systematic and extensive destruction by German demolition squads, yet within two weeks civilians had brought into use a 500 lines automatic telephone exchange made from parts salvaged from the damaged exchanges. It was at this stage decided by the Army Authorities that it was better to permit controlled telecomms and postal services as widely as possible than to experience clandestine uncontrolled operations. Accordingly such services were authorised up to a short distance from the Army control line.

By August 1944, postal and telegraph services and provincial telephone service had been extended to the northern boundaries of Teramo and Rome Provinces. Inter provincial telephone service went up to Naples.

3658

- 3 -

In early September 1944, Florence had a postcard service. Many severely damaged telephone exchanges had been repaired. Submarine cables to Sicily were in civilian operation. 143

By the end of 1944, some 67000 miles of overhead wire had been restored to civilian service by Italian labour, and Italians had done much of the work of restoration of the main cable. In one stretch of 500 miles of cable, the enemy had made about 1000 breaks. This cable formed a large part of the main Allied Communications network.

In the break-through to the North in April 1945, members of the Advance Telecomms Boards were attached to the Corps Signal Officers' staffs and in this way were enabled to enter important communications centers soon after liberation.

In Milan it was learned from the Italian staff and from Germans that great masses of Italian equipment had been taken and hidden in the Verona - Brenner area. As a result of inquiries made by officers of the Communications Sub-Commission, some 120 truckloads and 20 railway carloads of equipment were located and turned over to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications.

Postal services were resumed in N. Italy within a few days of liberation, in spite of considerable road and rail transport difficulties. This made particularly difficult the resumption of North to South services.

All stamps found in the North were of Fascist design, and thus large quantities of new stamps had to be printed using, if possible, designs for which dies were available, but which would not irritate anti-Fascists.

In some two and a half months after entry into Milan, and although the public telegraph service had been virtually stopped in the north for over a year, a backbone telegraph system of national scope had been installed and was in operation. In this system 18 telegraph channels can operate simultaneously over one telephone circuit and the system thus provides a rapid means for the building up of a main telegraph net. Eleven of the chief towns in Italy and certain Swiss towns were concerned in the network.

Staff had to be recruited and trained in AMG territories in large numbers, and operating schools were accordingly started.

Radio telegraph service to neutral and Allied countries had been opened as far back as April 1945, at first operated by Allied Companies and later by Italcable.

By August 1945 telephone service was open to all provincial capitals though circuits were very limited in number due to military

- 4 -

requirements. Telegraph and telephone services were open to foreign countries. 142

Radio telephone service to USA which had been inaugurated in Nov. 1944 for official calls was opened to Allied troops in July 1945. Some 15000 calls were passed by troops between July 1 and Nov. 30, 1945.

A brief picture of the main items of telecomms plant in Italy seriously affected by damage may be of interest.

21% of the pole routes and 40% of the wire were destroyed.

53% of amplifier station equipment was severely damaged or destroyed.

20% (at least) of the underground cable was damaged.

About 50 of the larger telephone exchanges and several hundred small exchanges were destroyed or seriously damaged.

15 Broadcast transmitters were destroyed, 16 were carried away by the enemy (and found later) while 13 were left in good order.

At the present date nearly all telephone exchanges and telegraph offices are operating on the national network. All broadcast stations are in operation, mostly at reduced powers.

The main civil telegraph net is well supplied with channels, nearly all installed since the enemy was pushed out. The civil telephone net has been restored to the extent of about 40% of pre-war circuits between large centres, though in a few areas where fighting took place the smaller centres have only a skeleton service. The civil telephone service will of course be greatly extended when the Allied Military restore the large number of Italian circuits at present being used by them.

Postal services (except parcels) and telegraph services are in existence to all countries in the world except Japan, Korea, and Manchuria, to which service has not yet been permitted. Air mail services are in operation between major Italian cities and are available to most foreign countries.

Two unusual difficulties were experienced on the postal side. One was the unexpected volume of gift parcels received from USA in Dec. 1945, namely 1½ million. They had so swamped the USA authorities that they were unable to sort them by provinces, thus later taxing the facilities of the Italian Post Office to the utmost.

The second difficulty was the philatelists' instinct for making money. All sorts of methods were used to try to produce postmarked stamps in small quantities, and a good deal of effective detective work was done on the side by Postal Officers.

8754

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/ec

REP.156.79.CS

12 April 1946

APR 15 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for March 1946.

2. Would you please ensure that the Russian Liaison Officer receives a copy.

copy sent
15/4
[Signature]

[Signature]
H.H. SCUDDER, LHM
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer R.A.A.C.

EC DIST - 15 Apr

1- EC

6- PROR

1- Mil att an Embassy

1- Fred [Signature]

1- Russian Rep. PA [Signature]

See Memo 141

[Signature]
(S/CDR MC)

139

FULL REPORT FOR MARCH 1946
COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. General:

Improvements have been made in Air Mail Services. Inter-urban telephone services have been extended and further international circuits completed.

2. Telecommunications:

(a) General: As a result of an inspection of certain installations by officers of this S/C and Italians during the month, draft schemes have now been prepared by the Italian Government for the early extension on a small scale of several important repeater stations and for repairs to the plant there. The tendency has been for the Italians to plan on a large scale without means to carry out such work, and with consequent delay, and danger to military installations. Funds are available for these small works.

(b) Telephones: The cable through the Rodane tunnel was repaired after clearance of the tunnel. This enabled a Rome-Paris circuit and an additional Milan-Paris circuit to be completed. The other Milan-Paris cct is routed via Chiasso.

Inter-urban services between Trieste and the rest of Italy were extended, Rome now being connected directly to Trieste. Inter-urban services in the Bologna, Rovigo, Ferrara areas were much improved, and also the shorter distance services connecting small towns between Firenze and Livorno.

(c) Telegraphs: A Milan-Paris 12 channels voice frequency telegraph system was brought into use via the Rodane cable mentioned above.

Mantova has been provided with direct circuits to Modena and Bologna and 37 of its village telegraph offices have been connected to the main network during the month. Services in this province, which was rather a black spot, have therefore been considerably improved, and only 5 offices remain to be reconnected.

- 2 -

(d) Radio - Telephone USA: This service has now been made available to troops in Naples.

3. Sabotage - Venezia Giulia.

Sabotage has increased to such an extent that, if not reduced, it will cause the disappearance of effective civil telecommunications services in Venezia Giulia. Military services are also badly affected.

The public has been informed that repeated repairs cannot be carried out.

Strong efforts are being made to find the thieves.

4. Materials required for second six months - Venezia G.

Lists submitted by AMC have been checked and a few alterations made before transmission to Regn. Divn.

5. Posts:

(a) Air Mails: Air mail services to most parts of Africa, the Middle East and Far East were commenced, utilising a daily R.A.F. service to Cairo.

In view of the continued postponement of the opening of a civil air line to the U.S.A. and as authority could not be obtained to use A.T.C. services for civil mails, the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications decided to commence an air mail to the U.S.A. utilising a French service. Unfortunately the Ministry's arrangements for the conveyance of the mails from Italy to France were very unsatisfactory and the Sub-Commission was called upon to take vigorous action to clear the initial jam.

The amount of air mail correspondence for America posted in Italy each day amounts to about 50 Kilos.

(b) Albania: Postal services were opened via Yugoslavia.

(c) Just over 100,000 Bags of gift parcels from America were received during this month from ships discharging at Brindisi, Genoa and Naples. The U.S. Post Office is now sorting and labelling these mails for the various Provinces of Italy. Under present shipping conditions, however, the port of destination is

not known with certainty before the vessel sails and consequently the parcel mails cannot be loaded for discharge at the most appropriate ports. The receipt of parcel mails for all parts of Italy at various ports is, of course, wasteful so far as railway haulage is concerned. Warning of prospective arrival of ships carrying these mails; the number of bags; and the probable date and port of arrival is now being received from U.N.R.R.A. Shipping.

(d) Polish "stamps": Much trouble arose during the month on account of the appearance on the philatelic market of a series of stamps bearing the names of the Polish displaced persons camps at Barletta and Trani and marked with postage rates in lire values. Enquiry revealed that the stamps had been issued by War Relief Services on the basis of an "authority" given by the Polish Corps.

The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications was advised to circularise its offices to the effect that the stamps were not valid for use in the Italian Civil Post, and after enquiries the case was submitted to G-5, A.F.H.C. with a recommendation that the public be advised that the stamps were not approved by any competent postal authority and are consequently invalid. The recommendation was supported and it remains to be seen what will be the reactions of the philatelic dealers who have invested in the stamps. Certain unsatisfactory features of the case are still under enquiry.

H.H. SCUDDER,
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

MAR 14 1946 135
9461 FI HW
HHS/v1

REP.156.76.OS

14 March 1946.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for February 1946.

2. Would you please ensure that the Russian Liaison Officer receives a copy.

H. H. Scudder
H.H. SCUDDER
Col., Sig.C.
Director

Copy to : Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer R.A.A.C.

See h. 136.

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134

MAR 14 1946

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR FEBRUARY
1946
Communications Sub-Commission

Improvement in restoration of mail and telecommunications services continued although irregular sea transport is one of the biggest obstacles to improvement of mails to countries overseas.

CINC Mediterranean authorized resumption by the Italian Government of ship-to-shore radio telegraph service.

Sent

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

785017

Dist

1. EC

~~1. CA~~

~~1. RS~~

1. PRB

1. French Rep.

1. India B.

1. Working Copy

1. Russian Rep.

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133
FULL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1946

Communications Sub-Commission

1. General. The improvement in the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications reported in January has been replaced by a general feeling of unrest and dissatisfaction which has had a bad effect on results obtained. Mail and telecommunications services, nevertheless, continued to be expanded and improved. Irregular sea transport is one of the major obstacles to improvement of overseas mail services.

The lack of personal transport for Telecoms Liaison Officers in Venice, Rome and Trieste has seriously handicapped their work.

2. Telecommunications.

(a) General: Progress in the provision of plant extensions are in many cases extremely slow and State officials attribute this in part to lack of funds. This has been raised with the Ministry which has promised to take remedial action.

In many instances forward planning is deficient and provision of facilities is not considered until urgent need arises. Attention of the Ministry has been called to this since if allowed to continue it will result in no facilities being available for employment of telephone circuits released to civil use by Allied Military.

(b) Telephones: A considerable improvement in long distance telephone service has resulted during the month from the addition of 44 circuits either released by the Allied Military or built up by the Italian Administration.

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(b) Telephones: A considerable improvement in long distance telephone service has resulted during the month from the addition of 44 circuits either released by the Allied Military or built up by the Italian Administration.

International service was opened to Vienna, Warsaw and Prague.

Telephone service between Venezia Giulia, Zone A and Yugoslavia has been opened. The service with Yugoslavia was shortly be extended to include the whole of Italy.

(c) Telegraph: The telegraph long distance service has now sufficient circuits, instruments and trained staff to give adequate service between all major cities.

Direct telegraph service was opened to Vienna

(d) Radio - telegraph. CINC, Mediterranean authorised resumption by the Italian Government of ship-to-shore radio-telegraph service.

- 2 -

(e) Radio-Telephone: Sun spots and unfavourable atmospheric conditions continued to disturb service on the Italy - U.S.A. radio-telephone link. This service has now been extended to include Leghorn and Corizia for U.S. troops and will shortly include Naples. Civilian traffic (limited to Rome) continues to increase. Technical supervision of the operation of this link has been re-assigned to the Communications Sub-Commission by AFHQ and a radio Officer placed on temporary duty with AC.

3. Venezia Giulia.

(a) Services within Venezia Giulia are largely confined to the bigger towns owing to the extensive use of circuits made by military organisations.

There is a reasonable service however between Trieste, Gorizia, Udine, and the rest of Italy, especially as regards telegraphs. A recent addition of telephone circuits from Trieste to Venice and Bologna has considerably helped matters.

(b) Arrangements have been made with the Italian Govt. so that some of the 6 monthly requirements for Venezia Giulia can be obtained in Italy proper, mostly from manufacturing companies. The Telecomms Officer in Venezia Giulia will visit Milan shortly with Venezia Giulia representatives to make the necessary arrangements.

(c) Postal and Telegraph rates were doubled in Venezia Giulia from 1st March. These rates are again the same as the rest of Italy, where they were doubled recently.

(d) Sabotage and theft are extensive in Venezia Giulia. In a recent case several wires were removed during the night from a military route for over 2 miles in spite of armoured car patrols.

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(e) A loan of 15 million lire to the local telephone company, arranged by AMG, will now place this organisation in a position to carry out essential repairs, etc.

4. Poste.

(a) Gift Parcel Service: During February the distribution of the large accumulation of gift parcels received at Naples (following the extension of the service to all Italy) continued. Thanks to a better supply of railway vehicles

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- 3 -

good progress was made and by the end of the month the number of parcels on hand had been reduced to about 30,000.

Following the improvement in the rate of distribution from Naples difficulties have arisen at a number of provincial Capitals where accommodation and transport facilities are being severely taxed in dealing with this work.

The bulk of the arrivals from the U.S.A. during February - about 87,000 bags - were landed at ports other than Naples.

(b) Naples Accommodation:

The British Base A.P.O. released for civil use several more rooms of the Naples Station Sorting Office and another hut adjacent to this building.

(c) SEP/PW Mails:

In collaboration with the British Army Post Office a service was introduced to afford communications between Surrendered Enemy Personnel and Prisoners of War in this country and their relatives in various European countries. Use is made of the Italian civil foreign mails service to the greatest possible extent.

H.H. Scudder
H.H. SCUDDER,
Col. Sig.C.
Director.

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H. H. Scudder
H. H. SCUDDER,
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

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123

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/ec

REP.156.72.CS

9 February 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner. ✓

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for January 1946,
2. As informed you last month, the Russian Liaison Officer has stated that he would like a copy of each Monthly Report.

sent
2/2.

9.1.17 Jander
H.H. SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer, R.A.A.C.

see M.124 + 125.126.127.128

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(M135 5)

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FEB 11 1946

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ABRIDGED REPORT FOR JANUARY 1946

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

General improvement continued in restoring of
mail and telecommunications services.

At the suggestion of this Sub-Commission, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has created a Traffic Department and a Long Lines Department the existence of which will assist materially in the improvement of telecommunication services. The latter department is taking over from the Allied Military operation of long distance circuits still required for military use and it is hoped that within a short time operation of all long lines in Italy will be entirely carried out by the Italians.

Limited mail service was inaugurated with Austria
and the Dutch East Indies.

121

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See Nov 1947

EC DIST - 13625

- 1-EC
- 6-PROR
- 1-Multithread am Enb
- 1-Fr Rep.

(CAP 10)

121
FULL REPORT FOR JANUARY 1946COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. General. Improvement in speed of mails and increase of telecommunication facilities continued during the month. There has recently been a marked improvement in the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry the employees of which are now showing a greater amount of energy and initiative than at any time since the Allied landings in Sicily.

2. Telecommunications

(a) General. As a result of repeated suggestions by the Communications Sub-Commission, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications put into being two new departments, the existence of which if energetically administered will result in a marked improvement in long distance telephone facilities. These two departments are a Traffic Department and a Long Lines Department the lack of both of which has been keenly felt. In both the U.S.A. and the U.K. similar departments have always been deemed essential to the efficient operation of long distance telephone service.

The Traffic Department is charged with responsibility for operating methods, practices and procedures and it has been arranged that one of the Officers of this Sub-Commission who was a traffic expert with the G.P.O. (Maj. L.G. Hawker) will give all possible assistance and advice to the new group.

The Long Lines Department is charged with overall supervision of long distance telephone circuits in respect to assignment, maintenance, fault control and construction. This group is absorbing the MARESPÉ organisation which, as mentioned in the January report was formed to take over from the Allied Military overhead routes which are being disposed of to the Italian Government. AFHQ signals has sent a Long Lines Liaison Group to Rome and this group is working with the Long Lines Department

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(b) Telephones. Additional circuits were released ^{3644c} Allied Military for civilian use and in addition the Ministry by application of carrier equipment, new construction and re-arrangement of existing circuits was able to put into service a very good number of useful long distance circuits.

International telephone circuits were added to Lugano, and St. Moritz, Switzerland.

- 2 -

A check in 10 provinces of N.E. Italy showed that 95% of the telephone exchanges existing before the war have now been reconnected to the telephone network.

(c) Telegraphs. Telegraph rates in Italy will be doubled as of February 1, 1946.

3. Posts

(a) Internal Services. The book post weight limit was extended to 2 kilograms. Steps have been taken by the Italian Government to increase all internal postal rates, mostly by about 100%. Such increase is expected to come into operation on 1st February. AMG Venezia Giulia has been informed of the proposed increases in order that they may be applied there also if desired.

(b) Foreign Services. Air Mails. An air mail service Amsterdam - Batavia, via Naples, Cairo and India, has been instituted by the Dutch air lines. Use of this service to transport Italian air mails is being considered. The use of this should enable air mail facilities from Italy to be extended to most of the world with which mail services are not prohibited, except U.S.A. and Australia. Air mail service to Hungary was commenced.

Surface Mails. During January surface mails were instituted to Austria (20 gram letters and postcards only) and Dutch East Indies (40 gram letters and postcards only). It is hoped that the Austrian administration will shortly be in a position to increase this weight limit and generally expand the services available.

Services to both these countries are limited to correspondence of a personal or non-transactional commercial nature. The ban on transactional commercial correspondence was

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The ban on transactional commercial correspondence was lifted from the following countries:

Brunei	Macao
Burma	Malay States
North Borneo	Sarawak
Hong Kong	Straits Settlements
	Timor

The weight limit on correspondence to the Dodecanese Islands was raised to 1 Kilogram.

W. H. Scudder
H. H. SCUDDER,
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

HTWM/ec

REP.156.70.CS

14 January, 1946

JAN 16 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for December 1945.

The Russian Liason Officer has stated that he would like a copy of each monthly report. Would you please ensure that he receives a copy.

H. H. Scudder
H. H. SCUDDER,
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer R.A.A.C.
Civil Censorship Group.

Ex. Com's DIST - JAN 16 1946

- 1 - Ex. Com.
- 6 - P. R. B.
- 1 - MIL. ATT, US EMB.
- 1 - FRENCH REP. AC.
- 1 - Russian 36 Rep. AC.

See M. 119

(Miss S.)

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. An Italian organization (MIRESEP) part of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, has been formed to take over the maintenance and repair of Allied Military telecommunications. Much of the plant has already been handed over to the care of this organization, which is shaping well.

2. Postal and telegraph services are now in operation to all countries except ex-enemy countries, and also, in the case of posts, with the exceptions of Albania and British East Indies.

115
FULL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. General. Additional train services and use of RAP air services helped to speed up internal and external postal services. Steady improvement took place in the telegraph and telephone position to the completion of circuits and the release of others by the Allies.

Services are not yet permitted to Germany, Austria, Japan, Formosa, Manchuria and Korea. Italy has postal and telegraph communications with all other countries except those specified below.

Posts. Albania - The Albanian Govt's agreement has not yet been obtained to the resumption of postal relations with Italy. The British Military Mission to Albania has been asked to use its good offices to expedite the matter.

British East Indies - Details not yet available of services working in this territory.

Telegraphs Hungary.
2. Telecommunications.

(a) General: A scheme under which the maintenance of main as well as local military telecommunications will be carried out by Italian civilians is now in hand. The Italian organisation (MARESP) set up for the purpose has taken over many of the routes concerned, and is shaping quite well.

(b) Telephones:

(1) Carrier equipment (3 ch.) has been installed on the overhead route Milan Verona to strengthen the East-West service in N. Italy and will be in operation shortly.

British East Indies -

of services working in this territory.

Telegraphs Hungary.

2. Telecommunications.

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(b) Telephones:

(1) Carrier equipment (3 ch.) has been installed on the overland route Milan Verona to strengthen the East-West service in N. Italy and will be in operation shortly. A second pair has been completed on this route and another 3 ch. system will be installed on this pair.

(2) A general improvement has taken place ^{26/40} in the connection of small exchanges to the main network, but the long distance service continues to be of a skeleton nature, owing to military requirements.

(c) Telegraphs:

(1) The long distance service which is now well supplied with channels, and has a reasonably sufficient amount of telegraph apparatus, has been further improved

- 2 -

in efficiency now that recently-trained operators are benefiting by practical experience. Any defects in this service now are due to bad local organization or to lack of practical experience of the staff rather than to technical deficiencies. Milan, for instance, has 55 direct working circuits or channels to 28 provincial capitals, plus 4 international channels to France and Switzerland.

(2) A large increase in traffic during the Christmas period was handled pretty well. For example, Milan Office, on Xmas eve, dealt with 64,000 telegrams, nearly double its normal traffic, maximum delay to Rome being 3 hours.

(3) The submarine cable to Barcelona was repaired and is ready for operation but on order from AFHQ has countermanded its use for the moment.

3. Posts.

(a) Practically all the normal peacetime internal services are now in operation with the exception of the parcel post. The main obstacles to the restoration of ordinary parcel post services are the limited railway postal facilities.

Newspaper post from the rest of Italy to Venezia Giulia was restored.

(b) Foreign Services.

Air Mails Authority was obtained to despatch a limited amount of civil air mails by certain R.A.F. services operating from Bari, Naples and Rome. As from 20th December air mails were established by these routes to London, Paris, Marseilles, Bucharest, Belgrade, Athens, Sofia and Malta. Affording air mail connections with nearly every European country. When certain administrative details are settled and further information is available concerning conveyance rates

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Preliminary enquiries were made with a view to restoring the proposed civil air line from Italy to U.S.A.

(c) Surface Mails

Services were restored to Czechoslovakia and Hungary. With certain minor exception the postal services in operation between Italy and Foreign countries include all "correspondence" services covered by the Universal Postal Convention (Letters, Post, Printed Papers, Commercial Papers, Sample Post, Blind Literature).

Ordinary foreign parcel post services have not yet been restored because of shortage of sorting office accommodation at certain main centres such as Naples; of difficulty in

providing for customs examination; and lack of transportation for internal distribution.

(d) Gift Parcel Service from U.S.A.

The flood of traffic announced by the U.S.A. postal authorities arrived through the month. At Naples 237,000 parcel bags (representing at least 1 1/2 million parcels) were unloaded during December, and smaller consignments were received at Genoa and Leghorn. Difficulty in accommodating these arrivals at Naples are reported and the trouble is accentuated by the shortage of rolling stock. The railway authorities are endeavouring to augment the number of waggons available for this service but it is inevitable that the great accumulation of parcels will take a lengthy period to distribute. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has been asked to report progress.

4. Civil Censorship.

The Civil Censorship Group has now been dissolved. A censorship group will operate under XIII Corps but without connection with this Sub-Commission.

All internal censorship has been abolished except in XIII Corps Area.

External Censorship is still in force at the moment, operated in Italian administered territory by the Italian Government. The latter has been informed by the Chief Commissioner that: "Censorship of communications is considered as a war measure and if, in order to implement economic and financial controls adequate to support Allied policies, the Italian Government find it is necessary to continue some form of Censorship of external communications, it is desired that such censorship be continued under the supervision of the Italian General Staff so as to ensure, as far as possible,

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H. E. S. 3634,
Col. S. C. C.
Director.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
COMMUNICATIONS SUB COMMISSION

III
HHS/ab

REP.156.69.OS

15th December 1945

DEC 17 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for November, 1945.

9.12.1945
H.H. SCUDDER
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni
U.S. Embassy - Rome.

Signal Officer R.A.A.C.
Civil Censorship Group.

See M. 112

EC DIST - 17 Dec

1 - EC

6 - PRBr.

1 - Mil Attache Am Emb.

1 - French 3697a

1A. J. L.

FULL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. General.

Steady improvement continued to be made in extension of both domestic and foreign telephone, telegraph and postal services.

2. Telecommunications

a. Telephones

The meter system of telephone tariffs which was introduced in Milan, Turin and Genoa was confirmed by Regional Order in the three Regions concerned. The system had been strongly attacked in the Press of Milan and Genoa but the issuance of Regional Orders and action by Officers of this Sub-Commission resulted in calming the situation and no further trouble is expected.

Wholesale thefts of copper wire have seriously interfered with both civilian and military telecommunications. The shortage of copper sulphate for vineyards and the fact that copper wire immersed in sulphuric acid will produce that much needed material encourages such thefts.

Long distance telephone facilities were further expanded and with the inauguration of a telephone circuit (for the present limited to Government traffic) to London, Italy has now telephone service to Great Britain, France and Switzerland.

b. Telegraphs.

Gradual improvement in service has continued throughout Italy. An outstanding example of improvement is the Milan Telegraph Office which is now handling the same volume of messages as in pre-war times. The school for teleprinter operators in Milan which was started by Officers of the Communications Sub-Commission has now trained 66 operators.

In Lombardia Region on May 1, 1945 less than 50% of the telegraph offices were operating. By the end of

3636

- 2 -

November 84% were in operation and if it^{were} not for the Provinces of Mantova and Cremona, where war damage to lines was heavy, the percentage would be well over 90.

6. Radio - telephone.

The 15,000th call, since inauguration of the service July 1, 1945, was made during the month on the Rome - U.S.A. radio-telephone link. This service continues to be very popular with members of the Allied Forces and civilian use of the circuit is steadily increasing.

3. Postal.

a. Air mails.

New internal air mails were established:

Rome	-	Bologna	-	Treviso
Rome	-	Milan	-	Torino

These services connect with the existing air mails to Sardinia and the South of Italy.

General agreement has been reached with British Air Services for air mail from Italy to the U.K. and it is expected that final arrangements for this service will be reached shortly.

b. Surface mails.

Mail service with Yugoslavia was inaugurated and services to and from Italy and the following additional countries expanded to include letters, printed papers, commercial papers, samples and Blind literature up to normal weight limits:

Belgium	Holland	France
Egypt	Switzerland	Greece

c. Gift Parcels.

The U.S. Post Office notified the Italian Post Office that postings under the extended gift parcel service, reported in the October report, were unprecedented and that the promised division by Provinces could not be undertaken until after Christmas.

Considerable apprehension is felt as to the adequacy of accommodation for this huge volume, especially in view of the inability of the U.S. Post Office to make promised sorting and the possibility of recurrence of ships arriving at Venice with parcels for Palermo, Naples and Rome.

One shipment reported by the U.S. Post Office consists of over 86,000 sacks and a second shipment of 50,000 sacks is also announced. These two shipments alone will contain over 800,000 individual parcels.

Special measures have been taken at Naples where in addition to the 2 additional Remmy huts previously reported as being erected other premises have been obtained on a temporary basis.

d. Venezia Giulia Foreign Mail Services.

The policy is to give Venezia Giulia the advantage of all external mail services being opened from Italy. So far as the resumption of commercial correspondence is concerned the postal channels are available and arrangements have been made to censor the correspondence under Allied control at Venice as soon as the appropriate authorities in Venezia Giulia issue the necessary instructions regarding the regulations under which the service will be permitted.

4. Civil Censorship

Allied participation in Censorship of external Italian communications and Censorship was discontinued in accordance with AFHQ directive and the Italian Government so notified.

Further reductions took place in internal censorship activities which are still carried on in some AMG territory. This censorship will cease on turn-over of territory to the Italian Government at which time the Civil Censorship Group is expected to be dissolved and any censorship which may be needed for Venezia Giulia carried on by XIII Corps.

H.H. SCUDDER,
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

104
HHS/ec

REF. 156.66.CS

15, November, 1945

NOV 19 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner. ✓

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for
October, 1945.

92.11. Scudder
H.H. SCUDDER,
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

EC DIST - 19 Nov.

1- EC

6- PROB

1- Mil attache Am Embassy

1- French Rep. ac.

PA. 13134
12.

(MISS SAMPSON)

FULL REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1945

Communications Sub-Commission

1. General. General improvement in extension of international communications continued during the month. Speed of internal communications also showed marked improvement. The results of sound planning are now beginning to show good results. The main framework for efficient communications having been established by preparatory work accomplished in previous months, extensions and improvements to services are being carried out with gratifying speed and ease.

2. Telecommunications.

a. Telephones. The long distance service to subscribers in Lombardy Region has been appreciably improved by the addition of lines from Milan to Rome (2), Bologna and Florence.

Milan has now three circuits to Paris - two via Modena and one via Chiasso.

In Venezia Region progress has been steady and 92% of all exchanges are now in operation. Of these, 93% have access to the main trunk network. Several new long distance lines have been released by the Allied Military. Piedmonte now has direct service to Switzerland via Turin - Lugano.

In Emilia, additional lines have been released for civil use resulting in marked improvement in service.

During the month a detailed study of traffic conditions in Northern Italy was completed by an Officer of this Sub-Commission. This study showed considerable inefficiency and the results have been sent to the Ministry for study and appropriate action. As a result of previous representations, the Ministry had created a Traffic Department (an innovation in the Italian telephone field) and it is hoped that with the assistance of this Sub-Commission this newly formed Department will be able to show beneficial results in improving the utilization of telephone facilities.

Many lines used by the Allied Military have now been turned over to the Italian Civil organizations for maintenance. To enable this to be done release from Military control

was obtained of a large number of vehicles and a considerable quantity of stores. This turn-over of maintenance is the first step in the complete return to Italian control of the telecommunications network.

b. Telegraph. The telegraph service in Lombardia is now feeling the good effects of the introduction some months ago of a training school for new recruits. The completion of the training of many of them and their allocation to circuits has resulted in a considerable improvement in the service. In addition introduction of automatic transmitters on some of the main circuits has resulted in speeding up service.

About 81% of the telegraph offices in this Region have been reconnected to the main network, thirty seven having been completed during the month.

The position in Liguria is now considerably improved and 83% of the telegraph offices operating before the war are now again connected to the main network.

In Venetia Region the proportion in operation is about 65% of the pre-war figure. Considerable damage in Verona Province and alterations to lines by Fifth Army have delayed restoration there but a fair improvement should result in November.

In Emilia, the handling of the long distance telegraph traffic has been improved.

c. Radio Telephone. Civilian service on the Italy - U.S.A. link was further improved by granting of priority (except for official use) to civilian calls between the hours of 17.00 and 20.00 G.M.T. This link continues to carry a heavy volume of personal calls for members of the Allied Armed Forces and has proved to be a big factor in sustaining morale.

d. International Conference. An Officer of this Sub-Commission accompanied the Italian Delegation to an International conference held in London for the purpose of preparing a program for extension of international telephone service. As a result of Italian representation at this Conference, Italy will be well represented on the technical committees formed there to study problems connected with international telephony.

c. Venezia Giulia. The Trieste - Pola telegraph link was re-opened. Meetings continue to be held with the Yugoslav representatives and agreements have been reached on several questions affecting maintenance and division of tolls.

3. Postal.

a. Air Mails. A daily air mail service from Great Britain to Italy commenced on 13th October. Enquiries were immediately put in hand with a view to establishing the procedure for obtaining air lift on British military aircraft for a civil air mail service in the reverse direction and also to other destinations to which British air services are operating. The Air Ministry has asked the Air Priorities Board at AFHQ to do everything possible to facilitate carriage of the mails. Estimates of the traffic have been submitted and a favourable decision is anticipated.

The position with regard to service to and from America is not so satisfactory. Certain air mail despatches from U.S.A. to Italy have arrived without prior notification of frequency of service, etc., but as yet no reply has been received to renewed applications for air lift in the reverse direction.

b. Surface Mails. New direct despatches were established to Australia, Argentina and Brazil.

Authority was given for the acceptance of postcards and letters containing family and personal messages for addressees in some of the territories liberated from Japanese occupation (Hong Kong, Malaya, French Indo China and Straits Settlements). Pending the establishment of direct mails from Italy to the Far East this correspondence will be disposed of through Cairo.

The postal service between Italy and the British Empire, U.S.A. and its possessions, Russia and former Italian overseas possessions was expanded to include letters, printed papers, commercial papers, samples and blind literature up to the maximum limits specified in the Universal Postal Convention. The Italian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has been asked to propose similar extension to all foreign Postal Administrations with which mail services have been restored.

- .4 -

Arrangements were made for the inclusion of registered correspondence in the postal service between the British Army Post Office and the Italian Civil Post Office. The regulations of the U.S. Army Post Office do not permit a similar direct transfer of registered correspondence and consequently any registered correspondence posted by Italians for U.S. Army personnel has to be sent in the civil mails to New-York. Italian Post Offices have been instructed to advise the public of the resultant delay if such correspondence is for a soldier in Italy.

c. Commercial and Financial Correspondence. Notification was received that a satisfactory solution had been found to the vexed question of the acceptance by the Italian Government of lists of persons or firms to which (on account of enemy connections) business correspondence is prohibited. Pending publication by the Italian Government of the relative decree and of the Treasury regulations governing transactional commercial communications, the Post Office was authorized to accept non-transactional commercial correspondence for any countries except Germany, Austria, Japan, Formosa, Korea and Manchuria.

d. Gift Parcels. After consideration of the latest Italian proposals for handling the traffic, AFHQ was informed that agreement had been reached to the extension of the U.S. Gift Parcel service to all Italy except Venezia Giulia provinces and also to the cities of Gorizia, Trieste and Pola. The increase in the maximum weight limit from 5 to 11 lbs was also agreed.

It remains to be seen what parcel traffic will result and whether the facilities available will prove adequate for the service. An example of the difficulties in operating such a service and affording it the necessary security occurred during the month when a ship carrying wheat and 10,000 bags of these parcels was diverted to Cagliari instead of proceeding to Naples. At Cagliari the mails had to be unloaded and left in the open while the wheat was discharged; they were eventually reloaded and taken to Leghorn where special arrangements had to be made and a special train obtained to convey the bags to Rome, Naples and Palermo.

4. Civil Censorship. Allied personnel was further reduced during the month, due to release of U.S. officers and men with high point score.

A.F.P.C. has directed the continuance, until further notice, of internal censorship stations being operated in A.M.C. territory. This is understood to be due to the insistence of 2 District and XIII Corps.

yes.

W. J. Scudder
W. J. SCUDDER,
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

8.75450
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

(105)
HHS/cg

REP. 156.56.CS

15th October 1945.

OCT 16 1945

Subject : Monthly Report

To : Executive Commissioner, H.Q.A.C.

1. Herewith Full and Abridged Monthly Reports of
this Sub-Commission for September 1945.

9.7.11.2000
H.H. SCUDDER
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

Enclosures : Monthly Reports.

E.C. DIST
1 - EX Comm
3 - FRB
1 - FRENCH Rep
1 - MILIT - AMEMB.

See M. 106
1945
3030

See (Miss Sampson)

FUIT REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1945

Communications Sub-Commission

104

1. General. During the month the most marked improvement was in extension of direct telecommunications to Foreign Countries and the speeding up of both internal and external mail service due to expansion of railway facilities.

2. Telecommunications.

a. Telephones: A general improvement has taken place over N. Italy in the number of small exchanges connected to the network, but very few long distance circuits have been released by the military.

This service remains therefore of a rather skeleton nature. Discussions with Army Signals however have resulted in the promise of a fair number of long distance trunks at the beginning of October.

The Italians continue gradually to resume responsibility for the maintenance and repair of military circuits.

b. Telegraphs: The long distance telegraph service has been considerably extended. This included direct links to Paris, and direct connection between N. Italy and Sicily.

The service from Emilia was greatly improved to the East by the provision of direct links between Rimini and Ancona.

During the month, over 100 telegraph Offices were reconnected to the main network.

As teleprinters are now being made available at the Olivetti factory, near Turin, the chief problem is that of trained personnel. Schools have been started in several of the large towns for the training of teleprinter operators and, in Milan, twenty have already been trained and are now at work.

Teleprinter mechanics are receiving a course at a special school in the Olivetti works.

Some idea of the telegraph problem is given by the fact that the Milan office is now handling 35000 telegrams per day with traffic rising. This figure is 90% of the prewar daily traffic.

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c. Radio-Telephone. Additional equipment was installed for use on the Radio - Telephone link between Italy and the U.S.A. and a total of over 3600 calls was handled during the month.

d. Submarine Cable. The Submarine Cable between Piumicino and Genoa was released by the military for operation by the Italian Government.

Subject to any future decision as to ultimate disposition of Submarine Cables, authority was granted for Italian Cable to repair and resume operation of the Anzio - Barcelona Cable.

e. Venezia Giulia: Several meetings have been held between the Telecomms and Posts Officer and the Yugoslavs, with the result that services have now been resumed between Zones A and B, the most important telegraph and telephone lines being between Trieste and Fiume. The Trieste - Pola telegraph link should be reopened shortly.

A telephone circuit Pola - Trieste has been installed and brought into service.

Trieste has been connected by telegraph directly to Bologna and Genoa.

3. Postal.

a. Foreign Mails. Arrangements were made for the mails from Italy to Great Britain to be forwarded by civil trains via Switzerland. This should afford a more regular and quicker service than the previous arrangement under which the mails were handed to the British Army Post Office at Naples for despatch by sea. In the reverse direction the U.K. to Italy mails will also be sent overland.

Correspondence for certain northern European countries, to which direct mails from Italy are not at present justified, is now sent to Switzerland in transit.

b. Inland Mails. Full advantage continues to be taken of extensions and improvements of train services. In addition to a number of local train services, the following new travelling Post Offices were brought into operation:

3628

- 0 - 3 - 102
- a) Bologna - Verona - Venezia
 - b) Milan - Verona - Venezia

There is also a mail van from Turin to Milan in connection with b).

Internal Sample Post and Blind literature services were reintroduced and the despatch of daily newspapers to subscribers and agents was also extended to the service between North and South Italy.

c. Gift Parcels. Progress was made in removing obstacles which up to the present have prevented the extension of the gift parcel scheme from the U.S.A. to all Italy. By direct negotiations with the British Army Postal Directorate it was possible to obtain for the Italian Post Office the exclusive use of a large double Romney hut adjacent to the sorting office at Naples Railway Station. A.P.M.C. is being pressed to release two other Romney huts for erection at Naples Port where the bulk of the parcel mails are landed. The first effect of the extension of the parcel service to Sicily and Sardinia was seen in a cable to the effect that nearly 30,000 parcel bags (approximately 300,000 parcels) had been loaded on a ship bound for Naples from the U.S.A.

4. Civil Censorship.

During the month of September an additional 5 internal civil censorship stations were closed.

Internal Censorship is now only operating in the Provinces of Milan, Turin, Bolzano, Venezia and Udine.

As pointed out in August Report, it has been recommended by this Sub-Commission that all internal censorship be discontinued. Stations listed above are being continued by direction from A.P.M.C. on the insistence of District and XIII Corps. The situation will be reviewed at the end of October.

H.H. SCUDRER,
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

3527

