

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/1212

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

785017

/1212

POST OFFICES
NOV. 1944 - JUNE 1946

29
23A

NOTE:- Ref Folio 23 see also minutes 117 to 120 on file

4012/EC

20

A/Er C.

1. Communications S/C has sent a strong letter of protest to G-5 against the proposed requisitioning of more space in the Naples Post Office (see folio 28, with attachments folios 25-27).
2. It is hoped, possibly optimistically, that the plea in para 3 of folio 28 can be successfully dealt with by Naples AMZ Zone Commissioner.

Jeffery
Major.

2 Apr 45.

yt noted. 7.

36

4521

Excluded

*Re Cei Campagna: program
Set up in 32 huts
accepted - Naples Post Office*

438

2 Apr 45.

2/4 noted. 7.

36.

4521

Excluded

De Cei Comparison: present

Set at 2. 32 hets been

accepted — Naples Port of Mco

436

Σ: 24/4

(37)

c.c. Exempt.

11/1/2015

~~RECEIVED~~

OCT 8 1945

Noted by cc fob

M/104

Cos

14 in D.O. in reply to you 12

Cso

16.

Σ 2/1/45

a. The original states "a building" not "the building" (in question) It generalizes and fabricates

b. The building is not required for Postal Service by

the Army

7/2/24/45

c. Please draft White correction.

Approved not - NFA, Sec 18
S 411

4520

20.

Cos

Pl See 19 which refers to 11 10
Napier P.O. The draft is struck

4520

20.

Cos
Pl See 19 which refers to 11 re
Naples P.O. The draft instructions
referred to in para 2 of 19 is
13 on the attached file.
Laird shows a Commission of

21
S. 13/11
De laugore tactics. Tell Comandante

WW/12/11

22

Ex Com. Draft letter to S. J. for you
Issued WW/24/12 approved re Naples Post Office
24/12

Communication Sec.

I entirely agree with your point of view of 6. but you please draft a strong letter for signature of C.C. G.

S. S. K. opening the question.

W. S. G. 4757

COT

X 300.

19.12.44.

10

6 of 6. a draft letter as requested is herewith.

97, 17, Sander
501 vol 5.6.

commms SC

Dec 1944

12

S.O. to CC.

4519

At 3.4 AFHQ refuse to release the P.O. - Sarkeri Officer buildings in Naples. Communication: SFC think very

Comms SC

Dec 1944

101

4519

So to CC.

At 3:4 AFHQ refuse to release
the P.O. & Sakai Officer. Buildings in
Naples. Communication Sp. think very
strongly that they should release
this decision. A letter to CCS by 4:30

is Submitted

Field Rep.
22/12.

cc 1226
DEC 23 1944

CCS

CC's Office feel that this is a little below
CC's level so letter is submitted for
your signature.

23/12. See 11/12.

8756

39

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 794

Communications Sub-Commission

WHG/ams

P.47.737/08

1st June 1946

JUN 3 1946

Subject: Mail Service to Somaliland.

To : The Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

38

1. With reference to your memorandum of 22nd May regarding the mail service from Italy to Somaliland.

2. This is a matter which can best be dealt with through your Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications which, through its Offices at the various ports, is able to obtain all the necessary information concerning sailings for Africa. That Ministry has been urged to keep a close watch on the frequency with which mails are actually being sent from Italy to Egypt and to make enquiries if a reasonable frequency of service is not being obtained.

3. So far as this Commission is concerned all possible steps have been taken to facilitate the acceptance of Italian civil mails on ships bound from Italy to Egypt and there has been no recent report from the Italian Post Office of any difficulty in that respect.

4. It is possible for the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications to ascertain from the Office of Exchange in Mogadiscio the actual transit times of its more recent despatches and to pursue the matter with the Egyptian Postal Administration if there appears to be any undue delay in the service from Egypt onwards.

5. Civil Air Mails from Italy are forwarded daily by air to Cairo and in the absence of some definite evidence to the contrary it can be assumed that letters sent by this service are reaching Somaliland very quickly.

W.H. Green
Lt. Col.
H.H. SCUDDER 578
Colonel, Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to:

Executive Commissioner. ✓

Director General Ministry of PP.TT. (with copy of Foreign Office memo)

Copy to 8756/EC.

38

COPY

St/Sa

MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

Subject: Mail service with Somaliland.

1. Several complaints on the mail service between Italy and Somaliland have reached this Ministry on the part of people who have their next-of-kin in that colony and who are expressing their disappointment on the present irregularity and inadequacy of the service.

2. In order to mitigate the conditions of moral distress in which many displaced people are still living in Somaliland after years of separation from their relatives and friends, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs would highly appreciate any steps that the Allied Commission could see fit to take for the improvement and speeding up of the foregoing service.

Rome, May 22nd, 1946

See 3-39

4517

25

FILE No.

SEP 24 1945

(33-34)

of the results.

(3) Separate action is being taken in attempt to secure other Romney boats for vital bunkers at Naples Port

92. 12. Sandler

(cso) 333

22. 12. Sander 6
Ex. col. 427

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

WHG/ams

P.6.197/CS

21st September 1945

Subject: Naples Post Office Accommodation.
To : The Minister of Posts and Telecommunications.

With reference to my P.6.191 of 9th September.

1. I am glad to inform you that Allied Force Headquarters have now approved the compromise proposals made by this Sub-Commission with the result that the following accommodation at Naples will be made available for the civil postal services: -

(a) Central Post Office
About 15 of the requisitioned rooms on the first floor.

(b) Naples Ferrovia Office
A large double railway hut, with a floor space of about 6,000 sq feet, standing immediately adjacent to the sorting office.

2. Please inform your Naples Provincial Director and ask him to keep in touch with Lt. Col. Ryland of the British Army Postal Directorate (located in Central Post Office Naples) and to report developments.

W. H. Green
Major
for H. R. SODNER
Lt. Colonel, Sig. O.
Director.

Copy to:

Executive Commissioner ✓
(with copy of P.64.26 of 8th September and
AG.680.1/225 Q Maint of 19th September).

45115

COPI

REV/fre

33

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
AFO 512

AG 680.1/225 Q(MAIN) -0

19th September 1945

Subject: Civil Post Office Accommodation, NAPLES.

To : Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
AFO 394

32

1. Reference is made to your P.61.26/CS dated 8th September 45.
2. The proposals suggested in para 5 of your above mentioned letter are agreed.
3. It is hoped that this compromise will be sufficient to overcome the present immediate necessities of the civil postal accommodation in NAPLES.
4. Meanwhile the problem of finding alternative accommodation for the Base Post Office is being investigated and you will be informed immediately when any further accommodation becomes available at the Station Sorting Office.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

R.H. FRESH
Major AGD
Asst Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:

- 3 - Addressee
- 1 - HQ 3 District
- 1 - CO, SD, FHS
- 1 - G-4
- 1 - GAO
- 1 - G-5
- 6 - Q(Main)
- 1 - Postal
- 2 - Records

4514

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

P.61.26.CS

8 September, 1945

SEP 10 1945

SUBJECT: Civil Post Office Accommodation Naples.

TO : Asst Adjutant General A.F.H.C.

1. Reference your A.G. 680.1/225 Q(Maint) - O of 25th August.

2. The action proposed to derequisition the accommodation on the first floor of the Central Post Office Naples is much appreciated and will permit the development of a scheme for the reestablishment of the Foreign telegraph work of Italcable within this building and a much improved layout of the administrative offices of the Naples Provincial Postal Directorate.

3. Unfortunately, however, the proposal does nothing to solve the much more serious problem caused by lack of sorting office space. The fact that the Army is not able to find suitable alternative accommodation for the Base Post Office is an indication of the unlikelihood of such accommodation being found for Civil postal purposes.

4. The difficulties caused by the requisitioning of nearly one half of the actual sorting Office space at the Station are accentuated by the fact that the Civil Post Office is also deprived of its accommodation at Naples Port. The main Port Post Office has been destroyed and a second post Office in that area is in use by the 8th Port Battalion as a carpenter's shop and, in any case, the Port Battalion (quite understandably) does not wish the Post Office or any civilian agency to establish its own accommodation, services, and personnel in the Military Port area. The distant portion of the Port which has been transferred to Civil administration and where the considerable volume of civil parcel mail

(CSO)

S. M. 4013/9
See 33

- 2 -

from America is now landed (often at night) is nothing more than a desolate waste and the one or two repairable buildings in that vicinity have been earmarked by the Port Commandant for sheltering merchandise awaiting shipment. R218

5. The problem has been discussed on the spot by the Chief Postal Officer of this Commission and representatives of the British Army Postal Directorate and the following expedients are proposed to overcome at least some of the difficulties of the present situation.

(a) Central Post Office. Derequisition only half instead of all the rooms under requisition on the first floor. This would permit the Post Office to carry out the more urgent portions of the project mentioned in para 3 above and at the same time leave about 15 rooms available for the Allied bodies at present accommodated there - including the British Army Postal Directorate.

(b) Station Sorting Office. If the British Army Postal Directorate were allowed to remain in the Central Post Office and did not have to transfer its Accounts Section and strong room to the Base A.P.O. arrangements could be made by the Directorate to allow the Civil Post Office to have the sole use of a large double Romney hut which stands adjacent to the Sorting Office. The use of this hut which has a floor space of about 6000 sq ft, while not a complete solution to the problem, would be of considerable assistance to the Civil Post Office.

6. It is hoped that the foregoing proposals can be approved as the risks to the civil parcel traffic from U.S.A. under the present unsatisfactory conditions are causing much anxiety.

Copies to: H.Q. Number 3 Dist
C.O. S.D. P.B.S. AFHQ
G-4 (A) AFHQ
G-4 (B) AFHQ
G-5 AFHQ
Q Maint AFHQ
British Army Postal Directorate AFHQ
A.G. Records AFHQ
A.M.G. Naples Zone
Executive Commissioner
Communications Sub-Commission
C.A.O. AFHQ

Ellery W. Stone
ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral U.S.N.R.
Chief Commissioner.

8765
COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 680.3-4

22 April 1945

SUBJECT: Naples Central Post Office

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission
APO 394.

1. Reference is made to your letter to this Headquarters,
P.6.127/CS of 30 March.

2. Following on representations by this Section advice
has been received that accomodation for Air Transport Command
has been found elsewhere and that the space in the Naples Central
Post Office which had been designated for their use will not be
requisitioned.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

T.B. JACKMAN
Lt. Colonel.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

TO: Executive Commissioner (attn Major Talbot) ✓
Naples Zone.

For information.

27 April 1945.

f. a. c. hough
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

4512

28
1/4

SR
(Mrs. STUARNS)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

WHS/bc

In reply
refer to: P.6.127/CS

30 March 1945

MAR 31 1945

Subject : Naples Central Post Office.

To : G-5, A.P.H.Q.

1. As you are aware from previous correspondence on the subject, the Italian Post Office at Naples is in great difficulty in providing for the re-establishment and development of its services owing to shortage of accommodation due partly to destruction, damage and, especially, requisitioning of its premises. Strong representations for the release of the requisitioned accommodation in both the Naples Central Office and the Station Sorting Office are at present with A.P.H.Q. (vide G-5: 680.3-4 of 10 January and subsequent correspondence).

2. In these circumstances the attached copies of correspondence received from this Sub-Commission's representative in Naples cause much surprise. The new proposal for requisition the main public office in the Naples Central Post Office is at the present stage of operations so ill-considered as to require no detailed comment.

3. The matter is being dealt with locally by the Naples AMR Zone Commissioner, but it is desired to register a strong protest that it should be necessary for him to be put to this trouble and that the Italian Post Office officials at Naples, who are already working under many handicaps, should be further bewildered and distracted by unreasonable and high-handed action of this kind. It would, therefore, be greatly appreciated if you would take up the matter with a view to having the instructions to PSC cancelled immediately.

For the Chief Commissioner.

J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

3 Inc.:

- 1 Copy of AG 386.2/486-0 of 23 March.
- 2 Copy of letter of 28 March PHS-Naples Zone.
- 3 Copy of GSC/103

Copies to: Executive Commissioner (attn Major Talbot) —
Naples Zone
Southern Region (attn Capt. Bridgman).

45 14 30
see

27

CONFIDENTIAL

1st. Ind. to Ltr USAAP, Hq. European Div, ATO, 21 Mar 45,
subj: Location for AFHQ Priority Board, Screening Agencies,
Booking and Billeting Offices in Naples.

AG 386.2/486 - O

1st. Ind

RVB: rh

HEADQUARTERS MTOUSA, APO 512, 23 March 1945.

TO: Commanding General, Peninsular Base Section, APO 782

The attached request for requisition of space on the first floor in the east wing of the Italian Post Office building located on Via Guglielmo San Felice in Naples is approved. Unless compelling reasons to the contrary exist, this space will be requisitioned and made available to the AFHQ Priority Board without delay.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MONAGNEY:

ROBERT V. BENHAM
Captain, AGD
Asst Adjutant General

Copy furnished:
CO, Pensacola
G-4
Ingr.

4510

4509

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN DISTRICT
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
A. P. O. 782

AG BSING

28 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Real Estate.

TO : Zone Commissioner, Allied Commission, Naples Zone.

Request action necessary to comply with 1st Indorsement
request of Commanding General, MTOUSA.

H.S. EVANS
Colonel, QMG
Commanding

1 Incl:

1 - 1st. Ind. MTOUSA, File:
AG 386.2/480 - O dtd 23
March 1945

4509

25

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394 U.S. ARMY

OD. 5/105

28 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Real Estate.

TO : Zone Commissioner, AG Naples Zone.

1. This section is very much opposed to releasing the space requested in the attached letter.
2. The space is now used by the Italian Post Office in dealing with the public and contains the windows of the General Delivery, payment of money by telegraph, registered letters, postal stamps, tax stamps, telegram and other windows pertaining to Postal Operations.
3. There is no other space available for the Postal Operations and to take it away at this time is cutting into the whole nerve system of the Italian Government and completely disrupts what has been accomplished in restoring Postal Service.
4. General Routine Order No 123 dated 18th February 1944, paragraph 5 and Adm.Memo No 14 dated 7th March 1945 applies in this case.
5. Before releasing this space it is the opinion of the undersigned this question should be referred to the highest level of Command.

JOHN A. BRIDGEMAN
Major, AUS.
Communications
Officer.

JAB/ms

4507
4508

24

Ref. 8765/24/EC.

Tel. 478808

21 March 1945

SUBJECT: Naples Post Office.

TO : G-5, AFHQ.

1. May we have your comments in reply to our letter to you reference 8765/23/EC of 28 Feb on the above subject?

2. It is noted that instructions on "coordination of military and civilian requirements for local resources" have been published in the form of your Administrative Memorandum No 14 dated 7 Mar. Para 5-b thereof speaks of derequisitioning of plants, mines or other commercial facilities to permit of their producing materials or services essential to the civil economy.

For the Chief Commissioner.

JCB
A. Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Copy to: File 4012
File 544

BU 2/4
4507

PA 1/2

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner.

Ref: 8765/23/EG.

28 February 1945.

SUBJECT: NAPLES Post Office.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters.
Attn: G-5 Section.

1. I refer to my 8765/41/COS of 24 December 1944 and to your reply G-5: 620.3-4 of 10 January 1945.

2. In your letter of 10 January you said that the question of the NAPLES Post Office should be left over until the publication of the instruction on "Coordination of Military and Civilian Requirements for Local Resources". This instruction has still not been issued, but, in any case, in the form in which the Chief Commissioner recommended it should be issued in a DQ letter to the GAO on 31 January, the paragraph dealing with derequisitioning was omitted because this subject was covered under the procedure laid down in Appendix "B" to the Minutes of the I.C.C. Drafting Committee meeting of 11 January 1945. This Appendix "B", however, does not apply to such premises as the NAPLES Post Office and only has to do with industrial premises.

3. We are, therefore, back to where we started and I would ask you to reconsider my letter of 29 December 1944, para 4 in particular, where I said that it was strongly urged that there should be a definite policy of seeking alternative accommodation for the present Allied occupants.

4. I should be most grateful if you could give this matter your immediate consideration.

For the Chief Commissioner.

W. S. CUSH

1. I refer to my 8765/11/COS of 24 December 1944 and to your reply C-5: 680.3-4 of 10 January 1945.

2. In your letter of 10 January you said that the question of the NAPLES Post Office should be left over until the publication of the instruction on "Coordination of Military and Civilian Requirements for Local Resources". This instruction has still not been issued, but, in any case, in the form in which the Chief Commissioner recommended it should be issued in a DO letter to the CAO on 31 January, the paragraph dealing with derequisitioning was omitted because this subject was covered under the procedure laid down in Appendix "B" to the Minutes of the I.C.C. Drafting Committee meeting of 11 January 1945. This Appendix "B", however, does not apply to such premises as the NAPLES Post Office and only has to do with industrial premises.

3. We are, therefore, back to where we started and I would ask you to reconsider my letter of 29 December 1944, para 4 in particular, where I said that it was strongly urged that there should be a definite policy of seeking alternative accommodation for the present Allied occupants.

4. I should be most grateful if you could give this matter your immediate consideration.

For the Chief Commissioner.

M. B. LUSH

Brigadier,
Executive 586
Commissioner.

Copy to: Communications Sub-Commission
Southern Region
File 4012/AG.
File 544/5G.

Handwritten notes:
60 12/10/45
563/13/10/15
12/13

8765 *af*
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

Co. 1 764 (19)
TRH/TBJ/as

G-5: 680.3-4

10 January 1945

SUBJECT: Naples Post Office.

JAN 11 1945

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

file - S44/2/cos

file S44/9/cos

1. Reference is made to your 8765/11/COS of 24 December concerning the Naples Post Office and to your 9/21.1/CA of 9 December referring to AG 386.2/179/ GAP-O of 26 November and requesting amendments to Administrative Memo No. 29 of 8 July 1944.

file 744/6/cos

file S44/1/cos

2. The Chief Commissioner will by now have received from the CAO this HQ his D.O. letter of 8 January reference 100/CAO attaching for comments a draft instruction on Co-Ordination of Military and Civilian Requirements for Local Resources. It would appear that the provisions of 3(c) of that draft instruction would provide machinery for dealing with the problems referred to in 1 above.

3. In the circumstances it is suggested that publication of the instruction in its final form be awaited and that the matter of the Naples Post Office and of any other similar cases be then taken up in accordance with its provisions.

T.R. Henn

T. R. HENN, Colonel
Acting Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5

*Spoke with Col Henderson and
explained the position.*

4505

S. 24/1

see M 20921

MA

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

Inter Office Memo

TO: Chief of Staff.

1. Reference your minute 16 inside, your statement (b) is not correct as will be seen from Col. Henderson's letter (page 2). The buildings are required for Army Post Office.

2. I submit the draft after considerable difficulty and but respectfully suggest that it would be better not to continue the correspondence as I think little can be gained. Evidently the copy we received of the Q(Maint) letter was badly copied, since General LEWIS found the original was dated.

*Let us wait for an answer from G.S.
to your letter at 11.*

3 January 1945.

[Signature]
Major,
Office, Chief of Staff.

I agree.

MS 4/1/45

*24/1
checked
11/1
Noted*

PA 4/1

*Br 1 week 4504
4/1*

DRAFT DO LETTER.

January 1945.

Thank you for your D.O. letter AFHQ/6076/8/Q(Maint) dated 30 December.

The last sentence of the 6076/8/Q(Maint) letter indicated a lot more than "that the building in question remains required for an existing purpose." By using the indefinite, rather than the definite article before the word "building" suggests that as a general rule the release of any building is subject to plans not yet firm.

But the real point is whether there is any chance of getting the building back for the Italian Post Office. Is there?

I shall be most grateful for anything you can do.

Major General R. G. Lewis,
G-4 (B),
Allied Force Headquarters,
C. M. F.

Not sent (see 18)
SH 4/1

4503

AFHQ/6076, 3/9(Maint).

8765
From: - Major General R. G. Lewis, (14)
G-4(B), Allied Force Headquarters,
C. M. F.

30 December, 1944.

JAN - 2 1945
12

My dear Lush,

Thank you for your D.O. letter 8765/12/COS of
24th December.

I recall your remarks distinctly and I do not
remember having disagreed with them in whatever their
context then was.

The original of the document you quote dated
4th December merely indicated that the building in question
remains required for an existing purpose, which was one
which would unavoidably continue for some time after the
fighting was over. This is true, but does not seem to
prove your point - but admittedly I may not be very clear
what that point is.

I can, however, assure that whenever an A.C.
need is proved we will do all in our power to provide for
it. Unfortunately, it seems almost normal that what is
most wanted by the Italians is something which can only
be surrendered if it can be replaced, while suggestions
for replacement rarely accompany the requests!

Cannot we help the civil posts in some way less
fundamentally disruptive of our own postal services? If
so, perhaps you will make a suggestion.

Yes
Dick Lewis

4502

Brigadier M. S. Lush, CBE, MC,
Chief of Staff,
H.Q. Allied Commission.

PERSONAL.

8765/12/COS.

24th December, 1944.

You will remember at the meeting of the Industrial Co-ordination Committee on Friday that I expressed views about possession being nine-tenths of the law in connection with the requisitioning of buildings. A letter which we have received recently on the question of the release by military authorities of the Naples Post Office ends with the following sentence:

"In addition any decision to release ~~the~~^{of} building must be considered in relation to our post-hostilities planning and these are not yet formed"

Can you be surprised that we view the position with some anxiety? The letter is 6076/8/Q(Maint) addressed to G-5 and is undated.

3.

M. S. LUSH

Major-General R.G. Lewis,
G-4(British),
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

MEL/JG.

4501

4500

Ref: 8765/11/COS.

21 December 1944.

SUBJECT: Naples Post Office.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters.
Attn: G-5 Section.

1. With reference to your 680.3-4 of 5 December 1944, I cannot agree that the matter should be allowed to rest on the decision given by Q(Maint). Nor can I accept the general ruling laid down in the last paragraph of the Q(Maint) letter. It is precisely this attitude which the Allied Commission has to combat with regard to requisitioning of buildings. You will remember that at the meeting of the Industrial Co-ordination Committee it was stated by one of the Commission's representatives that possession of buildings by military units is regarded as nine-tenths of the law whatever instructions may be issued. Is this not a typical example?

2. I appreciate that the possible future requirements for transit and other accommodation in NAPLES presents a problem to those concerned, but I feel that this does not justify the assumption of an entirely negative attitude towards the release of buildings proper to Italian public services. In particular the final sentence of the letter 607/8/C(Maint) of 4 December 1944 makes the release of any accommodation dependent on what seems to be a very intangible factor.

3. The Post Office Administration in NAPLES has suffered greatly in the matter of destruction, damage and requisitioning of its premises, and loss of stores and fittings. NAPLES is and will continue to be a key point in the Italian postal system, especially as regards overseas communications, and each Italian province and each newly liberated country which is opened for postal business and every restoration of additional services (such as commercial, financial correspondence, parcel post, registered and insured letters, etc) has its effect on space requirements at NAPLES and constant increases in traffic will certainly take place.

4. In these circumstances, while it is not assumed that the Post Office premises referred to in P.682/C5 of 30 November 1944, can be vacated immediately by the Allied occupants, it is strongly urged that there should be a definite policy of seeking alternative accommodation with a view to restoring to their original use these buildings essential to the rehabilitation of the economic life of the country.

5. May the last para of Q(Maint) letter be withdrawn.

4500

M. S. W. Brigadier,
Chief of Staff,

for the Chief Commissioner.

MEL/JC.

Copy to: Comms Sub-Com.
RG, Southern Region.

D R A F T

December 1944

Subject : Naples Post Office.

To : G-5, A.F.H.Q.

1. With reference to your 680.3-4 of 5 December 44
I cannot agree that the matter should be allowed to rest on
the decision given by Q (MAINT).

2. I appreciate that the possible future requirements
for transit and other accomodations in Naples presents a problem
to those concerned, but I feel that this does not justify the
assumption of an entirely negative attitude towards the release
of buildings proper to Italian public services. In particular
the final sentence of the letter 607/8/Q (MAINT) of 4th December,
makes the release of any accomodation dependent on what seems
to be a very intangible factor.

3. The Post Office Administration in Naples has
suffered greatly in the matter of destruction, damage and
requisitioning of its premises, and loss of stores and fittings.
Naples is and will continue to be the key point in the Italian
Postal system, especially as regards overseas communications,
and each Italian province and each newly-liberated country which
is opened for Postal business and every restoration of additional
services (such as commercial, financial correspondence, parcel
post, registered and insured letters, etc.) has its effect on
space requirements at Naples and constant increases in traffic
will certainly take place.

13 spec copy held.

- 2 -

4. In these circumstances, while it is not assumed
that the Post Office premises referred to in ~~the attached~~ ^{P 6.82/CS of}
^{30 November 1944}
~~correspondence~~ can be vacated immediately by the Allied occupants
it is strongly urged that there should be a definite policy
of seeking alternative accommodation with a view to restoring
to their original use these buildings essential to the
rehabilitation of the economic life of the country.

Chief Commr.

cc. Chief of Staff
Communications S.C.
R.C., Southern Region AC.

4498

MEMO -

P.6.86/CS

14th December 1944

15 DEC 1944

Subject: Naples Post Office Premises.

To : C. of S. —

1. Attention is drawn to the attached correspondence dealing with the question of the derequisitioning of Post Office premises in Naples.

2. It is appreciated that the possible future requirements for transit and other accommodation in Naples presents a problem to those concerned, but it is felt that this does not justify the assumption of an entirely negative attitude towards the release of buildings proper to Italian public services. In particular the final sentence of the letter 6076/8/Q (Maint) of 4th December, makes the release of any accommodation dependent on what seems to be a very intangible factor.

3. The Post Office Administration in Naples has suffered greatly in the matter of destruction, damage and requisitioning of its premises, and loss of stores and fittings. Naples is and will continue to be the key point in the Italian Postal system, especially as regards overseas communications, and each Italian province and each newly liberated country which is opened for Postal business and every restoration of additional services (such as commercial and financial correspondence, parcel post, registered and insured letters, etc.) has its effect on space requirements at Naples and constant increases in traffic will certainly take place.

4. In these circumstances, while it is not assumed that the Post Office premises referred to in the attached correspondence can be vacated immediately by the Allied occupants it is strongly urged that there should be a definite policy of seeking alternative accommodation with a view to restoring to their original use these buildings essential to the rehabilitation of the economic life of the country.

4497

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5

P.6.86/CS

I4.I2.44 - Continued

5. It would be appreciated if this could be represented at a higher level than this Sub-Commission has been able to interest, in view of the impasse at present reached.

J. L. Henderson
J. L. HENDERSON
Colonel
Director, Communications Sub-Commission
By Col. S. C.

Inc. : Copies of 3 letters.

4496

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TEJ/mla

5 December 1944

G-5: 680.3-4

SUBJECT: Naples Post Office Premises.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference is made to your P/6/82/CS of 30 November. A copy of this was passed to Q (Maint) on receipt with a supporting memo.

2. Attached for your information is a copy of 6046/8/Q(Maint) of 4 December from which it will be seen that it is not possible at the present time to consider the release of either the Italian Central Post Office or the Sorting Office buildings.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

T. B. JACKMAN,
Lt. Colonel.

Inclt
as above.

4495

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Q(Maint) Section

6076/8/Q(Maint)

Tel.: FREEDOM 392

SUBJECT: Accomodation - NAPLES Post Office Premises.

TO : G - 5

Reference your 680.3-4 dated 3 Dec. 44.

1. We regret that at the present time it is not possible to consider the release of either the Italian Central Post Office or Sorting Office buildings.

2. Far from there being a prospect in the reduction in accommodation requirements, the converse is the case.

In spite of the fact that certain buildings may shortly be given up by FB3, all these will be absorbed by the requirements for increased transit and leave personnel, various long out-standing storage commitments and the move of 3 District HQ to Naples.

In addition any decision to release a building must be considered in relation to our Post Hostility plans and these are not yet firm.

L. WHISTON, Major
for Major General
G-4 (13)

449493

see 12

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

GNH/ec

2

In reply
refer to : P.6.82/CS

30 November 1944

Subject :- Naples Post Office Premises.

To :- G - 5 , A.F.H.Q.

1. In view of the prospect of a reduction in the accommodation requirements for military purposes in Naples, and the possibility of reallocating premises, it is requested that the question of de-requisitioning the Italian Central Post Office and Sorting Office buildings may be considered.

2. The general position is as follows:

(a) Naples Central Post Office.

A suite of 33 rooms on the first floor is occupied by the British Army Postal Directorate, the American Base Censor, and other A.F.H.Q. detachments. The release of this accommodation would enable the Italian Civil Post Office Provincial Directorate to minimise the difficulties under which certain of the civilian activities are at present operated, due to the fact that much of the Central Post Office is unusable on account of war damage, while some sections of the accommodation in use by the Italians are in an unsafe condition.

(b) Naples Station Sorting Office (Napoli Ferrovia)

Over one half of this Office is occupied by the British Army Base APO. The section available to the Italian Civil Post Office and the associated Allied Censor Control is no longer adequate for their purposes. Already certain clerical sections, whose work is an integral part of the sorting office organisation, have had to be outhoused, with consequent inconvenience and loss of efficiency. The position will become worse in the near future owing to increases in the civil mail traffic resulting from progressive extensions of the Postal Services operating area, prospective increases in the weight limits for inland and foreign traffic, and - most important of all - the requirements of the new parcel post service from the United States, the scope of which may conceivably have to be extended.

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P.6.82/CS

30.II.44 - Continued

The requirements of the British Base APO are fully appreciated, as is also the fact that difficulty may still be experienced in finding them suitable alternative accommodation. In view however of the changing situation, and the points mentioned, it is felt that the present time is opportune to consider restoring to the Italian Service the unrestricted use of the sorting office, especially as the lack of adequate civil mail road transport makes it particularly desirable that civil mail work should be conducted under one roof and actually in the Station precincts.

For the Chief Commissioner

Signed

J.L. HENDERSON

Colonel

Director, Communications Sub-Commission

Copy to:

Regional Commissioner, Southern Region (2 copies)

4.92

