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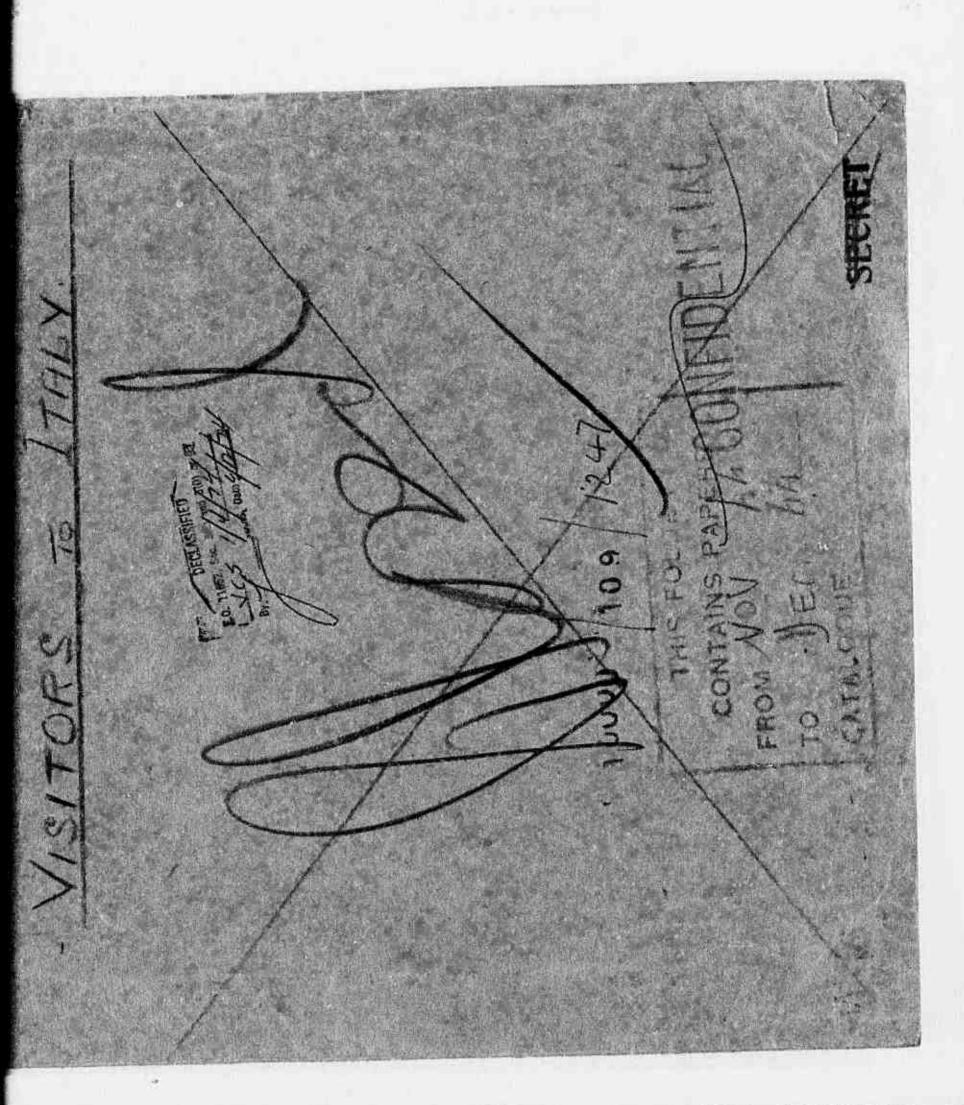
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PRESS STATEMENTS BY VISITORS TO ITALY NOV., DEC. 1944

Declassified E.O. 12356 St. tion 3.3/NND No. 7856 7

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Letter submitted for signature of c.c. is in accordance with draft about, exprand,

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PA. Subsmel accardingly No (17/121)

398

Ref: 9259/12/00S

14 December 1944.

Tel: 478201

SUBJECT: Press Statements by Visitors to ITALY.

TO 1 G-5 AFHQ.

1. In reply to your letter G-5 000.7 dated 12 Dec 44, we sent you an answer to your 000.7 dated 27 Nov 44 on 8 December.

2. In case it did not reach you a copy is enclosed. For the Chief Commissioner:

(SGO) GW. T. SHIPP LT COL Ast Arigadier, Chief of Staff.

395

Incl: 9259/6/00S dtd 8 Dec 44.

17

AM 1/2

So/

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 1850/7 S.O. T.C.C ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS G-5 Section APO 512 14 DEC 1944 G-5 000.7 12 Docember 1944 SUBJECT: Fress Statements by visitors to Italy : Meadquarters, Allied Commission, (Attn: Chief Commissioner) APO 394. Reference is made to this section's 000.7 of 27 November signed by General Spofford. Your early comments would be appreciated in order that Combined Chiefs of Staff may be informed of the action proposed to be taken on the cable. PR. Hum T. R. HEIN, Colonel, Acting Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5. 394

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850/7 Ref/9259/6/00S. B December 1944 : Visitors to Italy. 70 1 AFTIO G-5. I am pleased to see from your letter G-5: 000.7 dated 27 Nov 44 that the question of important visitory to this theatre is engaging attention. The procedure proposed in TAM 367 would, in my opinion, offect a considerable improvement over the somewhat haphazard methods hitherto adopted. To make it operate satisfactorily however, it is essential that you give us ample warning of the arrival of visitors in Rome and the nature of their business. Whenever possible we would like them instructed to contact on arrival AC Public Relations Officer (telephone 478719). He in turn would pass them, in the first instance either to myself or to one of my deputies. It is worth emphasizing that a number of visitors first visit AMO. where initial contacts may often be made. Then, armed with a certain amount of information and names of personalities, individuals tend to be more independent on arrival here. I should be grateful therefore if your staff would tell the visitors what to do and whom to see on arrival in Romo. /s/ Elley W. Stone Commodore, US OR Chief Commissioner. 393 Copy to : PRO.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Chief of Staff

2nd December, 1944. 5 DEC 1944

Chief Commissioner.

pu 1/2 2A

I think the suggested procedure is good. Naturally visitors will be sent to your deputies, viz., Chief of Staff and Deputy Chiefs of Staffs, according to their business. Those officers will then recommend whether you should see them or not. The trouble is, of course, that so many of these people atrive in haples and go straight to G-5 where they do a great deal of initial business before they ever get near Rome.

- It is essential that G-5 should give us ample warning of the arrival of these visitors in Rome and the nature of their business, PRO should be the office to be advised of their approach and to handle them on The hope expressed in para 3 is truly pious. arrivel.
 - If you agree to the above I will draft on these lines to G-5.

MSL/JG. Yes - Pls W

1 Dec 44

To: Chief of Staff (1-2)

I would be erateful for your comments.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850/7 ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS G-5 Section APO 512 27 November 1944 G-5: 000.7 SUBJECT: Press Statements by Visitors to Italy. : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394. TO (Attention: Chief Commissioner). 1. Attached is copy of TAM 367. 2. It is felt that while the suggestion has merit, its application would have to be tactfully handled and might well be inappropriate in certain cases. It would seem that any such procedure should be left to the full discretion of the Chief Commissioner or such members of his staff as he may designate. 3. Your comments are requested. 391 CHARLES M. SPOFFORD, Brigadier General, G.S.C., Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5. Incli as above. SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850/7 AFHQ MESSAGE CENTER INCOMING MESSAGE 1 256/ 242057Z 250402A ONFIDENTIAL c/2262

FROM: AGWAR FROM CCS

WARZ Piled:

Rec'd:

AFHQ TO WILSON, INFORMATION UN BASE SECTION FOR BCS,

AND TO COMZONE

REF NO THIS MESSAGE: WX-67938,

24 November 1944.

For FHGEG.

Cite CCAC.

TAM 367.

593

press statements by visitors to ITALY.

To avoid future trouble from embarrassing press statements by important visitors from any of the United Nations to ITALY, following orientation procedure suggested:

Immediately upon arrival, they should be received by the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission or some competent and fully informed subordinate designated by him. He should tectfully enlist their help without implying anything in the nature of a "gag". It would be dangerous for a formal warning to be issued.

In the interview, full information should be given to the extent permitted by the requirements of military security of the particular troubles of the moment and the steps being taken to meet them. In doing so, opportunity could be taken to warn them of the difficulties caused by partial, and sometimes NOT disinterested, quotation of hastily formed opinions. The hope could be expressed that visitors will take plenty of time to study questions and to comment at leisure, bearing in mind the over-riding importance of NOT impeding the Allied war effort. COPY NO.

MC IN 18390
THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN

ONFIDENTIAL

AFEC N 256/25, Ref No WX-67938, 24 November 1944, Cont'd.

State Department and Foreign Office will attempt to instruct all prospective visitors that immediately upon arrival, they should present themselves before the Chief Commissioner. It must be understood, however, that it is the responsibility of the Theater to be sure that visitors, upon arrival, are conducted to the Chief Commissioner or his designated representative at the parlical possible moment.

No security lectures will be read to prospective visitors in the country of origin. This might create the wrong impression before arrival in ITALY.

ACTION:

G-5

INFORMATION:

SGS

G-2

C/S MTO

0-3

US POLAD

MR MACMILLAN

IS & PS

CAO

AG RECORDS

44

MC IN 18390 25 Nov 44 1010A Ref No: WX-67938 Js/L/J

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C. D.