

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

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3040/23/HA Italian Communications 2nd cover
opened MAR. 12, 1945. Closed June 24, 1945
MAR. - JUNE 1945

MMIA 3 DISTRICT 8
MAY H THRU PP

Subject: Italian Army Postal Services.

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(M. M. I. A.) ROME.
9/16
24 June 1945.

To: Ministry of War.

Reference is made to your letter 9/7503-301/Serv dated 17 June 45.

1. Approval is given for the formation of a Base Post Office at BOLOGNA. Details of the War Establishment for the Base P.M. at NAPLES, ROME, and BOLOGNA are now being worked out and further instructions will follow at an early date.

The personnel employed at P.M.'s other than above are already authorized and carried on the establishment of the formation concerned.

2. While every endeavour is to be made to utilise to an increasing extent the civil postal communications, authority is given for military transport to be employed as a temporary measure for the conveyance of military mail dealt with at the base P.M. BOLOGNA.

Transport will be provided as stated in this H.Q. letter 9/16 dated 19 June 1945. NT

3. Effective 8 July, Allied censorship of military mail at ROME and NAPLES is to cease, and Base Censor offices 9 and 7 respectively will be closing down.

Until further notice, the Allied Authorities require military mail originating in the undermentioned provinces to pass through an Allied Censorship Control Office.

These offices will be the same as those dealing with civilian censorship and the ones selected to handle military mail are detailed below.

The Ministry will be responsible that mail originating in the Provinces concerned is delivered in bags clearly marked -

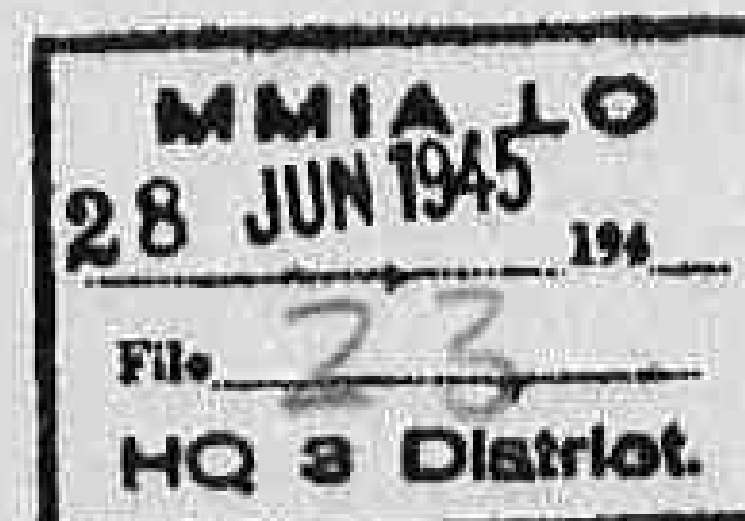
ALLIED CENSOR CONTROL OFFICER

Civil Censorship Group,

(a)

(a) Here insert appropriate address.

After censorship, mail will be cleared and delivered under arrangements to be made by the Ministry.



-2-

4. The Provinces and affiliated Censorship Control Centre are as under -

Serial No.	Censorship Control Office	Province
1	MILAN	AOSTA TORINO CUNEO CCHIO
2	BOLZANO	BOLZANO TRENTO
3	UDINE	UDINE GORIZIA TRIESTE FOLA POME ZARA

5. With the exception of the special censorship arrangements which are to be made as above, the procedure outlined in your letter under reference is approved and should be put into effect as soon as possible after 8 July 45.

R.A. Curties

R.A. CURTIES Lt. Col.
for Major General.
M. M. I. A.

Copy to: A.F.H.Q. for G.2(CC)
A.F.H.Q. for Q (Maint)
M.M.I.A. 'A'
A.C. (for Comms. Sub-Comm)
C.G. Fifth Army
H.Q. Eighth Army Rear
H.Q. 1 District
H.Q. 2 District
H.Q. 3 District
ALL M.M.I.A. L.Os.

2409

SUBJECT: - Italian Military Postal Service

Q 52 Area (2)

54 Area

56 Area

94 Sub Area

CC Brit Tps SICILY

ROME Area Allied Command

List 'A'

3 District
BASEBALL 15/Dial 10752
561 Q

8 Jun 45

1. The following info regarding postal arrangements of the Italian Army is for your guidance.

2. The War Ministry have issued instructions to all units of the Italian Army as to the correct address to be used by the soldier. Where adequate civilian postal facilities are available, no P.M. No is used, and in the case of static units, no undue delay should occur.

Units requiring to use a P.M. No must inevitably suffer when they are moved from one place to another and it is in this connection that close liaison should be maintained between them and the nearest Allied Military Post Office, so that the latter may assist where this is possible.

3. A list of Italian Post Offices with their present location is given at Appendix "A".

4. The War Ministry are making increasing use of civilian postal facilities which are improving daily. Eventually all Italian Army mail will be absorbed into the normal civil postal communications of the country. The principal handicap to be overcome by the civil postal service is the present lack of transport from East to West in the North and between rail head at LIDZBORN, FLORENCE and FORLI to GENOA, BOLOGNA, MILAN and VIENNA. Furthermore, they are hampered by inadequate transport facilities from ROME to the rail heads referred to above. Proposals have been made to AFHQ which, if agreed, will greatly assist in getting over these difficulties.

5. The War Ministry are opening a distributing centre at BOLOGNA and will eventually be operating two principal Army postal centres at **2408** and BOLOGNA.

6. Further info on this subject will be notified when available.

RO-E Area Allied Command

List 'A'

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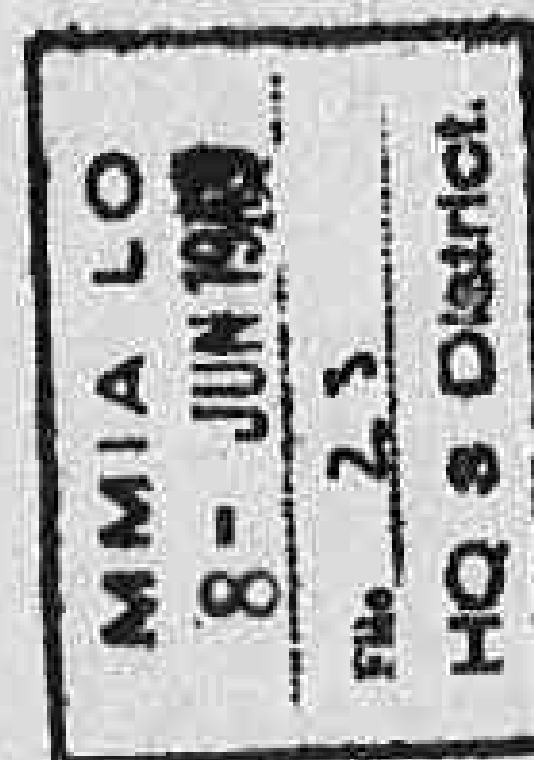
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5. The War Ministry are opening a distributing centre at BOLOGNA and will eventually be operating two principal Army postal centres at **2408 PLES** and BOLOGNA.

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R. B. S. S. S.

(R. B. S. S. S.) Maj
for Col
DA & G. S.

RIS/mic

MMIA LO

Appendix "A" to this HQ Report551 A dated 8 Feb 1955

<u>F.I. NO.</u>	<u>Present Location</u>	<u>Unit Torpedo</u>
3400	NAPLES	203 Adm Div Base Post Office
3800	ROME	Base Post Office
16	PADOVA	228 / 3rd Div
30	MESSINA	SABONA Div
64	ADRIA (Ferrara Chioggia)	CRIMONA GRUPPO
72	PALERMO	ACQUA Div
75	CAGLIARI	CALABRE Div
79	S. GIOVANNI LUPATOLC (BOLOGNA)	TRIUMF GRUPPO
92	CESANO	RED 102
104	MILANI	MANTOVA GRUPPO
112	FLORENCE	230 Adm Div
114	BOLZANO	Territorial HQ
126	SALERNO	227 Adm Div
127	LEGHORN	212 Adm Div
146	VILLAFRANCA di VERONA	FOLGORE GRUPPO
155	MILAN	LEGNANO GRUPPO
167	LOMATO (BRESCIA)	231 Adm Div
179	PESCHIERA (VERONA)	210 Adm Div
181	NAPLES	212 Adm Div
185	CESINA	209 Adm Div

16	PADOVA	228 Adm Div	Base Post Office
30	MISSINA	SABONA Div	
64	ADRIA (Ferrara Chioggia)	CREMONA Gruppo	
72	PALERMO	ACQUA Div	
75	CAGLIARI	CALABRE Div	
79	S. GIOVANNI LIPATOLLO (BOLOGNA)	VELLI Gruppo	
92	CESIMO	220 100	
104	RIJINI	LANDOVA Gruppo	
112	FLORENCE	230 Adm Div	
114	BOLZANO	Territorial HQ	
126	SALERNO	227 Adm Div	
127	LEGHORN	212 Adm Div	
146	VILLAFRANCA di VERONA	BOLGOREL Gruppo	
155	MILAN	LEGHORN Gruppo	
167	LOMAFO (BRESCIA)	231 Adm Div	
179	PESCHIERA (VERONA)	210 Adm Div	
181	NAPLES	212 Adm Div	
185	CESINA	209 Adm Div	
216	GENOVA	Territorial HQ	
217	UDINE	" "	
218	TURIN	" "	
219	FLORENCE	" "	
225	BOLOGNA	" "	
226	MILAN	" "	

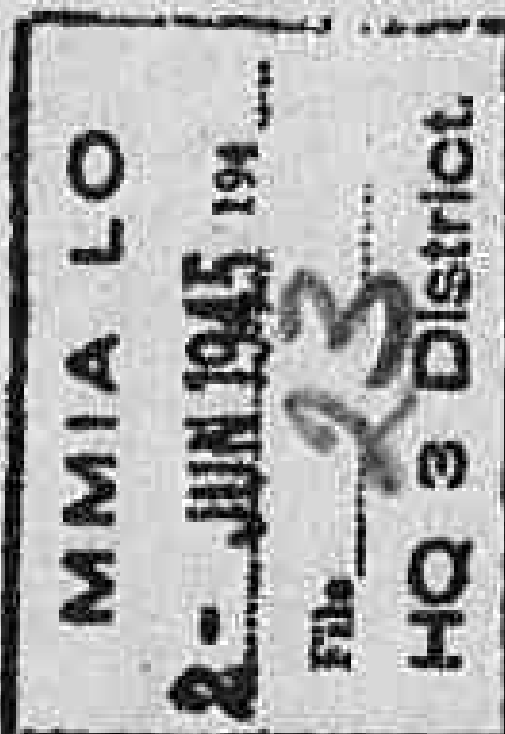
Subject: - Italian Military Postal Service.

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(R.M.I.A.)
ROME.

9/16

June, 45.

To: C.G. Fifth Army.
C.G. Fifth Army. (for British Increment)
H.Q. Eighth Army. Rear
H.Q. No. 1 District
H.Q. No. 2 District
H.Q. No. 3 District
All L.M.I.A. L.O's.



1. The future of the Italian Army postal service has been under review and every endeavour has been and is being made to improve the service especially in the North.
2. A list of Italian Post Offices with their present location is given at Appendix "A".
3. The War Ministry are making increasing use of civilian postal facilities which are improving daily. Eventually all Italian Army mail will be absorbed into the normal civil postal communications of the country. The principal handicap to be overcome by the civil postal service is the present lack of transport from East to West in the North and between rail head at Leghorn, Florence and Forli to Genoa, Bologna, Milan and Venice. Furthermore, they are hampered by inadequate transport facilities from Rome to the rail heads referred to above.
4. Meanwhile Allied postal services are utilised to the fullest possible extent in collecting from and delivering to Field Post Offices. Such assistance is, however, limited by the resources of the Allied postal units concerned and any bulk transfer of mail is only permitted at Naples where British and American base Post Offices are situated. The Italian has at present no transport available for its own postal delivery service, but as a temporary measure and subject to approval by A.F.H.Q. it is intended to inaugurate a daily delivery service as indicated at Appendix "B".

The War Ministry are opening a distributing centre

1. The future of the Italian Army postal service has been under review and every endeavour has been and is being made to improve the service especially in the North.
2. A list of Italian Post Offices with their present location is given at Appendix "A". u A
3. The War Ministry are making increasing use of civilian postal facilities which are improving daily. Eventually all Italian Army mail will be absorbed into the normal civil postal communications of the country. The principal handicap to be overcome by the civil postal service is the present lack of transport from East to West in the North and between rail head at Leghorn, Florence and Forli to Genoa, Bologna, Milan and Venice. Furthermore, they are hampered by inadequate transport facilities from Rome to the rail heads referred to above.
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5. The War Ministry are opening a distributing centre at Bologna and will eventually be operating three principal Army postal centres at Rome, Naples and Bologna.
6. The War Ministry have issued instructions to all units of the Italian Army as to the correct address to be used by the soldier. Where adequate civilian postal facilities are available, no P.M. No. is used, and in the case of static units, no undue delay should occur.

-2-

Units requiring to use a P.M. No. must inevitably suffer when they are moved from one place to another and it is in this connection that close liaison should be maintained between them and the nearest Allied Military Post Office, so that the latter may assist where this is possible.

7. Further information on this subject will be notified as soon as the arrangements outlined above have been put into effect.



R.A. CURTIES Lt. Col.
for Major General
M.M.I.A.

COPY TO: M.M.I.A. "A"

2406

RAC/fem

Appendix 'A'. 6A G

<u>P.M. No.</u>	<u>Present Location.</u>	<u>Unit Served.</u>
3400	Naples	205 Adm. Div. Base Post Office
3800	Rome	Base Post Office
16	Padova	228 Adm. Div.
30	Messina	SABAUDA Div.
64	Adria (Ferrara Chioggia)	CREMONA Gruppo
72	Palermo	AOSTA Div.
75	Cagliari	CALABRIA Div.
79	S. Giovanni Lupatolo (Bologna)	FRIULI Gruppo.
92	Cesano	RTD ICF
104	Rimini	MANTOVA Gruppo
112	Florence	230 Adm. Div.
114	Bolzano	Territorial HQ
126	Salerno	227 Adm. Div.
127	Leghorn	212 Adm. Div.
146	Villafranca di Verona	FOLGORE Gruppo
155	Milan	LEGNANO Gruppo
167	Lonato (Brescia)	231 Adm. Div.
179	Peschiera (Verona)	210 Adm. Div.
181	Naples	212 Adm. Div. 2405.
185	Cesena	209 Adm. Div.
216	Genoa	Territorial HQ
217	Udine	" "
218	Turin	" "
219	Florence	" "
225	Bologna	" "
226	Milan	" "

6B

Appendix "B"

FROM BOLOGNA

TO

N.W.

Modena	Turin
Ostiglia	Genoa
Nogara	Piacenza
Verona	Parma
Brescia	
Milan	

N.E.

Ferrara
Rovigo
Padova
Treviso
Udine

2404

Subject: Italian Postal Service.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(U.S. I. A.) ROME
2/16

26 May 1945

MMIA LO
29 MAY 1945
File 25
HQ 3 District

To: Ministry of War.

1. As a result of establishing a Censorship Unit in ROME confusion is being caused by the volume of mail now being cleared through PM 3800 (ROME).

This is entirely contrary to what was agreed with the Allied Postal Authorities and unless an immediate remedy is effected may result in the withdrawal of Postal facilities now offered by the Allied Authorities.

2. The original intention of opening a Censorship Unit in ROME, as requested by you, was to avoid the necessity for mail from the North being sent from ROME to NAPLES and back again before delivery in the North.

It is understood that PM 3400 (NAPLES) has ceased dispatching to PM's in the forward area wef 17 May and has notified 15 Base APC (NAPLES) that all the mails for such PM's will be dispatched in future by PM 3800 (ROME).

The Allied Post Offices in ROME are designed to serve only local needs and any large transfer of Italian Military mail for onward delivery must take place at the Base Post offices in NAPLES.

3. It is further reported that contrary to this HQ letter Q/15 of 8 May mail from PM 3800 is being handed in to PO 554 (Br) irrespective of the Allied Command under whom the PM concerned is operating.

4. You are required to take immediate action as under in order to remedy what threatens to be a serious dislocation to the Italian Military Postal Services.

(a) Instruct all concerned that PM 3400 will continue to operate as before and will be the main clearing centre at which Italian Military mail is to be transferred to Allied Post offices.

All bags to be clearly marked PM No. "Through U.S. Postal Services" or "Through BRITISH Postal Services".

2403

This is entirely contrary to what was agreed with the Allied Postal Authorities and unless an immediate remedy is effected may result in the withdrawal of Postal facilities now offered by the Allied Authorities.

2. The original intention of opening a Censorship Unit in ROME, as requested by you, was to avoid the necessity for mail from the North being sent from ROME to NAPLES and back again before delivery in the North.

It is understood that PM 3400 (NAPLES) has ceased dispatching to PM's in the forward area wef 17 May and has notified 15 Base APO (NAPLES) that all the mails for such PM's will be dispatched in future by PM 3800 (ROME).

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4. You are required to take immediate action as under in order to remedy what threatens to be a serious dislocation to the Italian Military Postal Services.

(a) Instruct all concerned that PM 3400 will continue to operate as before and will be the main clearing centre at which Italian Military mail is to be transferred to Allied Post offices.

All bags to be clearly marked PM No. "Through U.S. Postal Services" or "Through BRITISH Postal Services".

- (b) Instruct forward PM's to make up separate dispatches for

(i) Base Censor 9 (ROME) for delivery ROME and North
and (ii) Base Censor 7 (NAPLES) for delivery South of ROME.

Mail necessarily dealt with by PM 3800 will be accepted for delivery by the U.S. PO 7903 or the Br PO No. 551 provided the bags are clearly marked as in 4 (a) above.

- (c) Ensure that the correct location of all PM's and the correct designation of the Allied Command under whom serving is reported and communicated to all concerned.

- (d) Utilise the Italian Civil Postal service for collection and distribution to maximum extent.

-2-

5. There is no objection to establishing a PM equivalent to PM 3400 in BOLOGNA but so long as Censorship Control continues it will be necessary for mail from districts North of River PO to be dealt with by Base Censor 9.

Furthermore should the assistance of Allied Postal Services be required in connection with the PM at BOLOGNA prior approval will have to be obtained and you are therefore requested to inform this HQ accordingly.

6. You are required to report not later than 4 June that the distribution of mail from PM 3800 (ROME) through Allied Postal Services has been reduced to the proportions authorised above.

RAC/1c

RAC/1c

R. A. CURTIS, Lt Col.
for Major General,
M. M. I. A.

Copy to: AFHQ for Q(Maint).
AFHQ for DDPS ref P/533 of 25 May 45.
P.O. 551 (Br) ROME for Attention Captain STALEY.
Chief Base Censor C.M.F. ref GEC/52/2541 of 8 May 45.
9 Base Censor Group ROME for Attention Captain RICHARDS.
Rome Allied Area Command.
HQ A.C. for Communications Sub Commission.
All M.I. IO's.
M.I. "A".

Subject: - Postal Arrangements - Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub Commission AG (MMIA)

MMIA LO
ILO

MMIA LO
27 MAY 1945 ¹⁹⁴
File <u>25</u>
HQ 3 District.

3 District
BASEBALL 14
560 Q

16 May 45

Will you please take action on the request from 227 Div attached.

RHL/kr

Alvin B. Lutz.
(R.B. LUTCH) Lt Col
for Maj Gen
Comd

2402

C O P Y

HQ 227 DIVISION
General Staff - Op and Org

01/3560/02

5 May 45

2A

HQ No 3 District

1. The liberation of North Italy has enforced the necessity of sending on leave the personnel living in North Italy, in order that they may have news from their families.
2. The existing provisions and those that will be taken to this purpose, are obviously subordinated to the exigencies of the duty, and will therefore get into execution very slowly.
3. In order to avoid impatience among the subordinate personnel, that are very anxious of sending soon their news to their families, I am herewith proposing to arrange as soon as possible a first sending of mail to North Italy.
4. This sending could be arranged with a lorry, to reach a center of North Italy above the rear army boundary where the civil mail is running and the letters could be immediately forwarded.
5. As the benefits which could result from this initiative are well known to you, will you please give authority for a lorry to be sent in some 10 days, the minimum necessary for collecting mail from subordinate personnel.

Sgt (SILVIO ROSSI) Div Gen
GOC 227 Div.

2401

MMIA LO

18 MAR 1945¹⁹⁴

File 23

HQ 3 District.

Subject: Italian Post Office Numbers

SECRET

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.

(M. M. I. A.)

ROME

Q/16

15 Mar 45. *1/2*

MMIA LO NAPLES

Ref conversation CLARK - CURTIES, herewith latest list of
affiliated Italian Post Office numbers.

RAC/wk

RAC/wk

R. A. CURTIES, Lt Col,
for Col DA & QMG,
M. M. I. A.

Copy to: MMIA LO 1 District
" " 3 District
MMIA LO 54 Area

2400

C O P Y

STATO MAGGIORE
R. ESERCITO
UFFICIO C.A.

UFFICI DI POSTA MILITARE AL 12 MARZO 1945

= P.M.	16 =	COMANDO 228^ DIVISIONE
= P.M.	30 =	COMANDO DIVISIONE SICUREZZA "SABAUDA"
= P.M.	64 =	COMANDO GRUPPO COMBATTIMENTO "CREMONA"
= P.M.	72 =	COMANDO DIVISIONE "AOSTA"
= P.M.	75 =	COMANDO DIVISIONE "CALABRIA"
= P.M.	75/A =	COMANDO MILITARE SARDEGNA
= P.M.	79 =	COMANDO GRUPPO COMBATTIMENTO "FRIULI"
= P.M.	92 =	COMANDO DIVISIONE "TIGENO"
= P.M.	104 =	COMANDO GRUPPO COMBATTIMENTO "MANTOVA"
= P.M.	127 =	COMANDO ITALIANO 212 = IV ZONA
= P.M.	146 =	COMANDO GRUPPO COMBATTIMENTO "POGGORE" =
= P.M.	155 =	COMANDO GRUPPO COMBATTIMENTO "LEGHANO"
= P.M.	167 =	COMANDO 231^ DIVISIONE
= P.M.	179 =	COMANDO 210^ DIVISIONE
= P.M.	181 =	COMANDO ITALIANO 212
= P.M.	185 =	COMANDO 209^ DIVISIONE
= P.M.	216 =	II COMANDO TERRITORIALE
= P.M.	218 =	I COMANDO TERRITORIALE
= P.M.	219 =	VII COMANDO TERRITORIALE
= P.M.	225 =	VI COMANDO TERRITORIALE
= P.M.	226 =	III COMANDO TERRITORIALE
= P.M.	900 =	UFFICIO GENERALE DI CENSURA
= P.M.	3400 =	{
= P.M.	3800 =	{ CONCENTRAMENTI DI POSTA MILITARE
= P.M.	99 =	COMANDO DIVISIONE "GANIBALDI"

COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE ROMA = non ha ufficio di P.M.
si appoggia a P.M. 3800

COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE NAPOLI = non ha ufficio di P.M.
si appoggia a P.M. 3400

COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE PALERMO = non ha ufficio di P.M.
si appoggia a P.M. 72
dell'AOSTA **2399**

COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE BARI = non ha ufficio di P.M.
si serve della posta civile

