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Liaison of
Finance

Sept. 43 - Oct. 43

18831

ANGOT/7005/PR
ANGOT HQ SICILY
September 30, 1943

SUBJECT: Distribution of Newspapers

TO : S.G.A.O. Siracusa

- 32.
1. It is noted that in your letter of 10 September 1943 to Fortbase (POS/575) you ask whether ANGOT should participate in the profits of CORRIERE DI SICILIA, published at Catania.
 2. Inasmuch as ANGOT does not subsidize this newspaper, ANGOT should not participate in the profits.
 3. A more equitable system of distribution might be arranged by discussion with Lieutenant Livingstone Hartley, USNR, who has just been sent by PWB to Catania to supervise CORRIERE DI SICILIA.

CHARLES M. SPOTFORD,
Colonel, G.S.C.
Chief Staff Officer

PRO

30 Sept

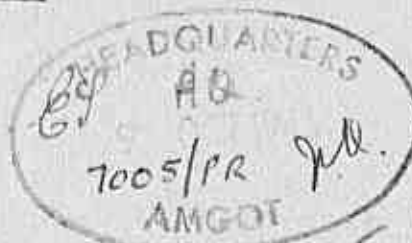
14831

SUBJECT:- Newspapers.

TOS575

58

H.Q.,
Angot.,
Palermo.



1. Reference your memo dated 25 Sep 43, reference 7005/PR concerning the sale of the Sicilia Liberata.
2. Arrangements have been made with the distributor of the paper in this town for him to retain 30 per cent of the money received from the sales, and Angot receives the balance.
3. To date the sum of Lit 3,630 has been received at this H.Q., and has been paid into Angot a/c at the bank.
4. The paper is now selling at 1 Lira a copy, but recently there has been considerable difficulty in obtaining supplies from Palermo and none have been received so far this month.
5. The paper has a good influence and if it is possible, I suggest that copies be sent by the Courier or bus service.

Siracusa.
6 October, 1943.

H. K. ...
Lt-Col. SCAO.,
A.M.C.O.T.,

644

SICILIA LIBERATA

AMMINISTRAZIONE

PALERMO, 14 settembre 1943
VIA STABILE

Egr. Sig. Capitano,

Giusta quanto è stato stabilito abbiamo consegnato dal 31 agosto al 14 settembre copie 2000 al giorno del n/ giornale .

Sono dunque 30.000 copie, con un importo di L.14,400 .

Ci permettiamo pregarVi di voler disporre il relativo pagamento.

Vi ringraziamo vivamente e inviamo i più distinti Saluti

Egr. Sig Capitano Poore

A.M.G.O.T. stanza N° 10

443

To: AMFA:

It is requested that the above bill be paid to "Sicilia Liberata" in accordance with the agreement approved by the C.F.O.

AMGOT HQ
Public Relations Office
14 September 43

Charles Poore,
Captain, PRO

Received 14.4.43
AMGOT HQ

~~25 Sept 1943~~
P.R.O. 19831

This file is returned
sign for action on
folio 31.

~~25 Sept 1943~~
Major Harkness handled this.
See folio 30; last
paragraph.
Was the action
suggested there (on
Sept. 17) taken?

PRO
25 Sept 43

442

(COPY)

"Sicilia Liberata"ANGOT /2051/F

S.C.A.O.s	Messina	Enna
	Syracuse	Agrigento
	Catania	

23 Sep. 3.

I write to refer to the Minutes of the Meeting of S.C.A.O.s and ANGOT H.Q. Staff held at H.Q. ANGOT, Palermo on 20/21 August, 1943.

It will be remembered that ANGOT H.Q. suggested that copies of "Sicilia Liberata" should be distributed free throughout the Island, but that S.C.A.O.s unanimously demanded that a charge should be made. In conformity with this request, the Minute 6 (E) (iii) reads as follows:

"It was directed that distribution of newspapers be made by S.C.A.O.s in Districts where no such service exists, and that a charge be made."

I write to enquire what steps you have in fact taken to enforce the charge, and to what account you have credited the proceeds arising therefrom.

A. P. GRAFFTEY SMITH
Colonel,
Chief Finance Officer.

PRO

30 Sept

441

SUBJECT:- Newspapers - Distribution.

H.Q., Amgot.,
Palermo.



POS/575

32

I enclose a copy of a letter I have sent to Fortbase, for your information.

There is a second paper distributed in this town called "Sicilia Liberata", which is printed in Palermo, and copies are received here daily.

We arrange for their distribution through the normal agency channels. This paper is supplied to us free, but the news vendor, to cover costs, makes a small charge of 12 cents.

I don't know what the policy is in connection with these matters, but it appears that part at least of the proceeds of the sale of both the Sicilia Liberata and Corriere Di Sicilia should come to Amgot.

Syracuse.
10 Sep 43.
JRG.

Lt-Col.
S.C.A.O.
A.M.G.O.T.,

449

1 Encl.

D.C.S.O.:

Amgot pays 48 cent. per copy for the "Sicilia Liberata" sent to the provinces. The retail price is 60 cent. The cost price should be paid to AMFA.

Lt. Van H.

Answer accordingly

PS - Can you find out when this job has been done since 12 Sept. 43

SUBJECT: Distribution of Newspapers

POS/575

31

H. G. J.
Orthase.

About 1,000 copies of the "Corriere di Sicilia", a newspaper printed in Catania are forwarded to a Newspaper and Book Shop owned by Signora Riguero Adella at Via Roma, Syracuse. She sells these papers at 1 lire per copy, and I am told retains 20% of the cash proceeds and hands the remainder over to a Capt. E. H. Hall, who comes from Catania at intervals.

There is a certain amount of dissatisfaction amongst the other news paper proprietors in the town, and it is alleged that we have created a monopoly. There does seem to be some justification for their complaint.

There is a newspaper distributing channel in Syracuse and I would suggest that if the copies of the newspaper were sent to the C.A.O. at the Municipio, Syracuse, he could have them to the distributing agency for delivery to all the news agents in the town. This should obviate complaint.

I do not know what financial arrangements are made in connection with this paper, but as it is a civilian matter, should not the proceeds of the sale, or a percentage at any rate, be handed over to Egypt?

Syracuse.
10 Sep 43.
Jed.H. G. J.
C.A.O.
A.M.C.O.E.

439

This should be referred to PWB
Copy sent to PWB
CP PRO 13 Sep

30

17 September 1943

Lt Col Clough:

The situation relating to the AMGOT subsidy to SICILIA LIBERATA, the Palermo newspaper, is as follows:

Sometime prior to 21 Aug 1943 the C. C. A. O. evidently agreed that AMGOT should purchase at the wholesale price of 48 cents. per copy, 2,000 copies daily of the Palermo newspaper for distribution on the island outside the city of Palermo.

The C. C. A. O. on 21 Aug 1943 wrote to G. O. C. 15th Army Group: -"***AMGOT will purchase 2,000 copies for six weeks for distribution in the provinces. Otherwise no charge falls on public funds."

I assume the foregoing arrangement will expire the first week in October unless extended. It is not practicable for AMGOT to recover the sums already spent (there being an indeterminate number of vendors involved throughout the island); and if the arrangement is to end in two more weeks, the cost of collecting the wholesale price from the vendors might be in excess of the receipts. There is the further fact that any change in the plan now might disturb the campaign the C. C. A. O. had in mind on 21 Aug 1943.

The retail price of SICILIA LIBERATA has been increased from 60 cents. to one lire. It is apparent, therefore, that the wholesale price has been increased and any continuation of the existing arrangement will cost AMGOT at a higher rate -- unless the publishers agree to a continuation at the old rate.

If it is desired to continue the arrangement whereby AMGOT buys 2,000 copies daily of the Palermo newspaper -- that is, beyond the six week period -- then it should be possible to eliminate this expense by urging wholesale news agencies in the provinces to pay the wholesale price for the Palermo paper. Granted, this involves AMGOT personnel unless an arrangement can be made for the provincial agencies to deal directly with the Palermo publishers.

As the matter stands I daresay the Palermo newspaper is being given away in some sections, charged for at varying prices in others. I am unable to determine from data in our files whether copies of the newspaper are being posted prominently by C. A. O.s -- a method which might obtain dissemination of news economically.

Lt Col C H French, S. C. A. O., Syracuse, in his letter of 10 Sept 1943 raises the question of whether AMGOT should not participate in the profits of a Catania newspaper -- CORRIERE DI SICILIA. AMGOT does not subsidize this newspaper so far as I can determine and it is an ordinary private business enterprise although enjoying a monopoly.

James C. Harahan
James C. Harahan
Major AUS

CP
PRO
25 Sept

28

H. Col. Clough

Newspapers.

I do not quite understand the full position from this file. There are two papers "Sicilia Liberata" and "Corriere di Sicilia" which I assume are printed by PWB. ~~the~~ The copies sent to provinces are stated to be bought by Angot at 48 cent. per copy, but I am not sure this applies to both papers. If not, what is position re "Corriere di Sicilia"?

2. If papers are bought by Angot, ^{at 48 cent.} distributed to retail vendors for sale at 60 cent., it would appear that ~~at~~ 48 cent. per copy at least should be ⁴³⁷ reimbursed Angot, NOT the difference between 48 cent & 60 cent. which I assume is the Retailer's profit.

3. The mere claim that distribution of newspapers is a civilian matter seems to me a weak claim to a part of the price, if ~~the~~ Angot has not any other interest in the "Corriere di Sicilia". - see para 4 of letter at page 1 of this file.

H. Col. Clough
16/9

CLD: Request your views
of legality of collecting
these monies.

Clough

436

