

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No. 785016

ACC

10000/129/181

R.R.D. A.C.

Political Co
Aug 1944 - Oct. 1944

10000129/181

P.R.B. A.C.

File No. 104

Related File Nos. 5a

Political Correspondence.
Aug. 1944 - Oct. 1945

0025
TELEPHONE:—
ROME 43.951.

BRITISH EMBASSY,
ROME.

*Copy to
Capt
Garrison
Hq Command
also file*

URGENT

30th October, 1945.

My dear Berini,

With reference to our telephone conversation yesterday afternoon, I write to confirm that I should be very grateful if you would ask Rome Area Allied Command to defer the de-requisitioning of the premises at Via Romagna, 5, and to allow such British political correspondents as are living and taking their meals there to continue to do so until such a time as R.A.A.C. has received instructions from G.H.Q. Caserta regarding the facilities that are to be granted to such correspondents.

*Yours sincerely
Michael Stewart*

Michael Stewart,
Press Attaché.

Lt. Col. T. Bergin,
P.R.O.,
Allied Commission

5226

next copy to Capt Garrison

101

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

TGB/ob

R104/PRB

24 October 45

SUBJECT: Closing of Political Correspondents Mess

TO : Hq. Commandant

In accordance with AFHQ Administrative Memorandum No. 45 dated 14 October, the mess on Via Romagna, hitherto maintained for political correspondents, will close at 2400 hrs 31 October. This Branch will have no further need of the premises.

THOMAS G. BERGIN,
Lt. Col. AUS,
Director
Public Relations Branch.

5225

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

JPL/cb

R104/PRB

22 October 1945

SUBJECT: Notice to Correspondents

TO : Cpl. John Drummond, Via Romagna 5

Please place the following notice on the Villa
Bulletin Board and on the office Bulletin Board:

Notice to Correspondents

1. The AC PRO Villa will close down 31 October 1945.
2. Political correspondents are advised to contact the press attachés of their respective Embassies in accordance with AFHQ Administrative Memorandum No. 45 dated 14 October 1945.

Jm
JOHN P. BEACACOS, Maj., NMB,
Executive Officer,
Public Relations Branch

5224

TELEPHONE:—
ROME 43.951.

file
BRITISH EMBASSY,
ROME.

DPP/SJB

12th September, 1945.

*Dear Stewart! Simon
Let him give card*

I understand that you have recently seen
Sig. Nello Simoni, who has recently arrived in Rome
as Political Correspondent of the London Catholic Times,
and have informed him that you require a letter from
the Embassy before you can give him the facilities to
which Political Correspondents are normally entitled.
I therefore write to confirm that Sig. Simoni is
representing the Catholic Times, and should be grateful
for any assistance that you can give him.

I am sending a copy of this letter to
Sig. Simoni.

*Yours sincerely
D. Pemberton-Pigott*

D. Pemberton-Pigott,
Lt.-Col.
Assistant Press Attaché.

G. Stewart Brown, Esq.,
Director of Public Relations,
Allied Commission,
Via Veneto,
ROME.

I-145

5523

104
13/9/45

OUTGOING

10th September 1945

ALLIED COMMISSION FOR AUSTRIA

u/n

10.00

10.9.45

XXXXXX
XXXXXX

NO DISTRIBUTION

Addressed to Allied Commission for Austria, tel u/n of 10.9.45

Following for PRO from Acting Press Attache.

I understand Dr. Luzzatto, Political correspondent of
REYNOLDS NEWS, has applied to AMHQ for authority to
visit Vienna and that his application is at present
awaiting clearance.

I should be grateful for anything you can do to obtain
a speedy clearance for Luzzatto.

DPP
RE
GAS.Copy for Mr. G. Stewart Brown
PRO, A.C.

5222

/ch

Marsland Gander

R104/PRB

Cpl. Drummond

September 5 5

Mr. Marsland Gander of the Daily Telegraph has arrived in Rome to temporarily replace Mr. Martin Moore who has returned to Great Britain. Mr. Gander will serve as political correspondent for the Daily Telegraph during Mr. Moore's absence and is therefore entitled to use the Villa Romagna mess. Will you please see that Mr. Moore's room is made available to him on his departure?

G. STEWART BROWN
Director
Public Relations Branch

5221

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

R104/PRB

September 4, 1945

SUBJECT: Press Reception

TO : All Political Correspondents

The PRC of AFHQ informs us that General McNarney will receive the Press at the Hotel Majestic on the 11th of September from 5 to 7 p.m. at which time a number of decorations will be awarded certain correspondents.

All political correspondents are invited to be present.

Stewart Brown
J. STEWART BROWN
Director
Public Relations Branch

5220

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENTS' HQS, Via Romagna 5 ✓

SUBJECT: Reference attached

FILE No. PCW/9TO : Mrs Clifford
Miss Mackenzie
Mr Markowski
Mr Vishnevsky1 September 1945

The attached directive is forwarded for information and retention. Although addressed only to "War Correspondents" it is thought that it might help Political Correspondents to obtain accommodation outside Rome after AMG hotels are closed down sometime in September.

John Drummond
L/Cpl, HQ 1/c HQS

Copy to: Director, P.R.B. _____

5219

104

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSE/dp

R104/PRE

August 24, 1945

SUBJECT: War Correspondents

TO : R. H. Camrass, Lt. Col.
AA & QMG
Rome Area Allied Command

As requested there is attached herewith the list of political correspondents accredited and accomodated by the Allied Commission.

Only the British correspondents are accredited by MOI. Request for the accreditation for correspondents of other nationalities is made by the government of the person concerned.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director
Public Relations Branch

5218

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSE/dp

R104/PRB

August 24, 1945

SUBJECT: War Correspondents

TO : R. H. Camrass, Lt. Col.
AA & QMG
Rome Area Allied Command

As requested there is attached herewith the list of political correspondents accredited and accommodated by the Allied Commission.

Only the British correspondents are accredited by MOI. Request for the accreditation for correspondents of other nationalities is made by the government of the person concerned.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director
Public Relations Branch

5217

Report on Political Correspondents' Mess,
5, Via Nazionale, Rome.

file
Mr

1. At this date the following correspondents actually reside at No. 5, Via Nazionale.

Mr. Luby (Times)
" Moore ("Daily Telegraph")
" Lucratto ("Reynolds' News")
" Hatfield ("Times")

Capt. G. Pio, Public Relations Branch, A.C. also occupies a room.
L/Cpl. Drummond, Public Relations Branch, A.C., is in charge.

2. There are two vacant rooms and one room is reserved for Mr. Lucas of the "Daily Express" for use between his travels. (He returned from N. Africa yesterday)
3. The following correspondent no longer resides here but comes in to lunch and dinner. His breakfast rations are sent to him in bulk.

Mr. Ray ("Daily Express")

4. The following correspondents do not avail themselves of any of the Mess facilities, but rations are drawn on their behalf and sent to them in bulk weekly.

M. r. Vishnevsky (Tass Agency)
Mr. Markowski ("Polpress")
Miss Elizabeth Mackenzie ("News Chronicle")

Mrs. Alexander Clifford, Rome correspondent of the London "Daily Mail" no longer requires rations from this Mess. She has made arrangements to draw from the Eden Hotel.

5. To run the Mess and keep this large house clean, a staff of 7 Italians are actually employed. They comprise:

1 Cook
1 Cook's assistant
1 Kitchenmaid
1 Filter
2 Chambermaids
1 Porter handyman

we are getting a porter

In addition, the chauffeur to the Director of Public Relations lives here in a flat over the garage and has his meals here; a taxi driver comes on duty at 4.50 pm daily and remains till midnight; and Italian carabinieri "learners" take spells of duty of about 6 hours each throughout the day and night. This latter arrangement was in force when I took over and I have retained it. It is however suggested that a full time door porter be appointed and the police learners be released for more important work.

6. To keep this large house clean nothing but a small amount of soap is provided from official sources. All other cleaning materials, brooms, dusters, cleaning rags, soda, are provided by the Mess.
7. The only method of heating water for the baths and for washing purposes is by gas. Gas geysers were installed when we took over. I was only recently

5216

-2-

informed that the Allied Commission does not pay for gas consumed in requisitioned buildings. As a result this Mess is faced with the possibility of having to pay gas bills for the 10 months the building has been occupied. The last bill submitted was for the month of June, 1943, and totals Lira 1,599. The gas company has made no move to cut off supplies, but sooner or later the question of payment must be settled. If the Mess has to accommodate additional correspondents a further gas geyser will require to be installed in one of the outrooms.

(~~There~~ no need to pay)

8. Heating. Owing to lack of fuel to heat the whole house last winter only the ground floor was heated, the first and second floors, with stone corridors proving very cold. It is not known whether the fuel situation for the coming winter will enable the upper part of the house to be heated. Central heating is installed throughout the house but the first and second floors are served through a separate boiler.

9. Cutlery. This Mess is short of cutlery and it is suggested that it be helped out from requisitioned stocks. This will be all the more necessary should further correspondents use the place *only*.

August 23rd 1943.

A. F. Braydon

A. F. BRAYDON,
Captain.

5215

ROME AREA ALLIED COMMAND
APO No 794 US Army

Q 241/12

SL/hwt
21 AUG 45

SUBJECT: War Correspondents

TO : Public Relations Branch
HQ ALCOM

1. Please arrange for this HQ to be supplied with periodical lists showing the names and affiliations of all Political Press Correspondents accredited to you and accommodated in ROME. Are they all accredited by M.O.I.?

R. H. Camrass
R.H. CAMRASS
Lt-Col
AA & QMG

Copy to: FLOAT

5214

R104
recd 23/8

H.Q. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Central Mediterranean Force

2/PRS/69

11 August 1945.

SUBJECT: Facilities for Press Correspondents
in Italy accredited to AFHQ.

TO : G-4,
R.A.A.C.

Reference AG.000.74/127 GDS-0 dated 2 August 1945.

1. In order that instructions contained in above directive may be implemented, it is proposed that the following procedure shall apply.

(i) Accommodation.

Correspondents will be accommodated in British/US Army hotels of their respective nationality, except in cases where integrated Anglo-American hotels, such as AMG, are in operation, in which correspondents of either nationality can be accepted.

Correspondents desiring hotel accommodation will make application to the local Area HQ concerned.

(ii) Rationing.

Correspondents billeted in private houses or apartments are authorized to purchase uncooked rations from the Military Hotel or Hotels to be designated by the respective authorities of the local Area HQ. In the case of the British, this will not include free issue of matches and cigarettes.

(iii) Dependents.

There are at present no military facilities available for non-service dependents of accredited correspondents. In this connection, any arrangements which may be made in the future will be notified from time to time, and the necessary information will be published in GPOs.

(iv) Transport.

Existing American PR transport is being transferred to RAAC under arrangements to be made between those concerned. US War Correspondents requiring transport, will at a date to be decided shortly, make application to RAAC Motor Pool (Am) for allotment of vehicles as and when required.

5213

1. In order that instructions contained in above directive may be implemented, it is proposed that the following procedure shall apply.

(i) Accommodation.

Correspondents will be accommodated in British/US Army hotels of their respective nationality, except in cases where integrated Anglo-American hotels, such as AMG, are in operation, in which correspondents of either nationality can be accepted.

Correspondents desiring hotel accommodation will make application to the local Area HQ concerned.

(ii) Rationing.

Correspondents billeted in private houses or apartments are authorized to purchase uncooked rations from the Military Hotel or Hotels to be designated by the respective authorities of the local Area HQ. In the case of the British, this will not include free issue of matches and cigarettes.

(iii) Dependents.

There are at present no military facilities available for non-service dependents of accredited correspondents. In this connection, any arrangements which may be made in the future will be notified from time to time, and the necessary information will be published in GROs.

(iv) Transport.

Existing American PR transport is being transferred to RAAC under arrangements to be made between those concerned.

US War Correspondents requiring transport, will at a date to be decided shortly, make application to RAAC Motor Pool (Am) for allotment of vehicles as and when required.

2. The Hotel de la Ville will be handed back to RAAC control and subsequently to the Italian authorities as from 25 Aug '45.

Arrangements are already in hand as to reaccommodation of military personnel now living there.

Correspondents will be advised of the derequisitioning of this hotel so that they may make application in advance for alternative accommodation under the terms of 1.(i) above.

signed, P R Astley
Colonel
PRO AFHQ

10/

H.Q. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Central Mediterranean Force

2/PBS/69.

11th August, 1945.

TO : ALL WAR CORRESPONDENTS.

1. In connection with the recent Directive issued by AFHQ, the following points are brought to your attention for future guidance.

(i) ACCOMMODATION.

Correspondents will be accommodated in British/US Army hotels of their respective nationality, except in cases where integrated Anglo-American hotels, such as AMH, are in operation, in which correspondents of either nationality can be accepted.

Correspondents desiring hotel accommodation will make application to the local area HQ concerned.

(ii) RATIONING.

Correspondents billeted in private houses or apartments are authorised to purchase uncooked rations, in the case of Americans from the local ration point, and in the case of British, from the Military Hotel or hotels to be designated by the local area HQ. In the case of the British, this will not include free issue of matches and cigarettes.

(iii) DEPENDENTS.

There are at present no military facilities available for non-serving dependents of accredited correspondents. In this connection, any arrangements which may be made in the future will be notified from time to time, and the necessary information will be published in GHQs.

For the time being, wives of War Correspondents, even if they be Political correspondents, are not a military responsibility and must be looked after by PR. AICOM.

(iv) TRANSPORT.

Existing American PR Transport is being transferred to RAAC under arrangements to be made between those

5212

1. In connection with the recent Directive issued by AFHQ, the following points are brought to your attention for future guidance.

(i) ACCOMMODATION.

Correspondents will be accommodated in British/US Army hotels of their respective nationality, except in cases where integrated Anglo-American hotels, such as AIF, are in operation, in which correspondents of either nationality can be accepted.

Correspondents desiring hotel accommodation will make application to the local area HQ concerned.

(ii) RATIONING.

Correspondents billeted in private houses or apartments are authorized to purchase uncooked rations, in the case of Americans from the local ration point, and in the case of British, from the Military Hotel or Hotels to be designated by the local area HQ. In the case of the British, this will not include free issue of matches and cigarettes.

(iii) DEPENDENTS.

There are at present no military facilities available for non-service dependents of accredited correspondents. In this connection, any arrangements which may be made in the future will be notified from time to time, and the necessary information will be published in GHOs.

For the time being, wives of War Correspondents, even if they be Political correspondents, are not a military responsibility and must be looked after by PR. ALCOM.

(iv) TRANSPORT.

Existing American PR Transport is being transferred to RAAC under arrangements to be made between those concerned.

US War Correspondents will, at a date to be decided shortly, make application to RAAC motor pool (Am) for allotment of vehicles as and when required.

British transport arrangements remain as at present for the time being.

2. The Hotel de la Ville will be handed back to RAC control and subsequently to the Italian authorities as from 25 August 1945. Correspondents should, in the meanwhile, make the necessary arrangements with RAC for re-accommodation elsewhere.

P. Rastley

P. RASTLEY.
Colonel.
Public Relations Officer.
A.F.H.Q.

Kenneth W. Clark

K. W. CLARK.
Colonel.
Deputy Public Relations Officer.
A.F.H.Q.

P. R. Astey

P. R. ASTEY.
Colonel.
Public Relations Officer.
A.F.H.Q.

Kenneth W. Clark

K. W. CLARK.
Colonel.
Deputy Public Relations Officer.
A.F.H.Q.

C
O
P
YALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

AG 000.74/127 GDS-O

2 August 1945

SUBJECT: Facilities for War Correspondents in Italy Accredited
to AFHQ.

TO : All concerned

1. Because of redeployment and reduction of personnel, the Information News and Censorship Section, Public Relations Branch, this Headquarters, can no longer provide accredited Allied War Correspondents in Italy with all the facilities which it presently affords them.

2. Effective 15 July 1945, the following facilities will be provided accredited Allied War Correspondents in Italy by British/US and will apply to Italy only:

(a) Accommodation. Hotels in Italy operated by British/US Army will provide accommodations for Allied War Correspondents accredited to this headquarters in the same manner transient and permanent accommodations are now provided for officers.

(b) Rationing.

- (1) Allied War Correspondents accredited to this headquarters are authorized to eat in Army operated messes in Italy and will pay the following fees:
 - (a) American Messes - 25 lira per meal plus the service charge of the individual mess.
 - (b) British Messes - The current higher rate of ration allowance as laid down in General Routine Orders, less 10 lira, plus any charge made for extra messing.
- (2) Correspondents billeted in private houses or apartments in Rome are authorized to purchase uncooked rations from British/US Army supply installations in accordance with procedures established by Rome Area Allied Command.
- (3) Dependents of accredited correspondents, to include wives and minor children only, will be afforded the same facilities that are authorized from time to time for non-service dependents of service personnel.

PTO (contd).....

- 2 -

(c) Transportation

- (1) Accredited United States War Correspondents are authorized to secure transportation from major United States Army Commands until a change in their status occurs. They will have the same privileges as United States Army Officers concerning requests for transportation from Major Commands.
- (2) British War Correspondents will continue to be provided with transportation as at present until a change in status occurs.

3. There will be no change in existing arrangements in connection with the following facilities until a change in status occurs:

- a. Clearances.
- b. Air, rail and sea transportation.
- c. Air courier.
- d. Signal communication
- e. Purchases at PX and NAAFI stores
- f. financial.
- g. Medical.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

signed EDMUND R. SHUGART
Colonel, AGD
Asst Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION.

"B"
3 - INC

(3)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSB/DO

104/TRE/

11 agosto 1945

OGGETTO : Rilascio permesso di circolazione.

A : Camera di Commercio, via dei Burrò, Roma.

Questo Ufficio Stampa della Commissione Alleata prega vivamente codesto Spett. Camera di Commercio di rilasciare al Sig. Max BERGERRE un permesso di circolazione per la macchina Fiat 500, targata Roma 80071.

Il Sig. Bergerre è direttore dell'ufficio romano della "Agence France Presse" e pertanto ha urgente necessità di poter usare la macchina per lo svolgimento della sua attività giornalistica.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director
Public Relations Branch

5210

Agence France-Presse

BUREAU DE ROME

In Mr Brown

Mr. Brown:

I said I thought
we could pass
the request on.
of OK Syria
circulate a letter
for your signature.

JGB

Monsieur le Major Thomas BERGE

Public Relations Branch
Allied Commission E.C.M.E.

Agence France - Presse

SIÈGE SOCIAL: 13, PLACE DE LA BOURSE - PARIS

BUREAU DE ROME

VIA DELLA MERCEDE 54

ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE
FRANPRESSE

TELEPHONE: 66288

Rome, le 10 Août 1945

Monsieur Le Major Thomas Bergin
Public Relations Branch
Allied Commission - ROME

Monsieur Le Major,

Comme suite à ma requête verbale je vous serais infiniment obligé de bien vouloir faire la nécessaire pour que les autorités italiennes compétentes me délivrent un permis de circulation pour la voiture Fiat 500 n° 80 071 Roma qui m'est indispensable pour mon activité professionnelle.

Je vous remercie d'avance de ce que vous voudrez faire pour moi et vous prie de croire à l'assurance de mes sentiments cordialement dévoués.

(Max Bergère)

Max Bergère

5209

Rome, le 10 Août 1945

Monsieur le Major Thomas Bergin
Public Relations Branch
Allied Commission - ROME

Monsieur le Major,

Comme suite à ma requête verbale je
vous serais infiniment obligé de bien vouloir faire
le nécessaire pour que les autorités italiennes
compétentes me délivrent un permis de circulation
pour la voiture Fiat 500 n° 80 071 Roma qui m'est
indispensable pour mon activité professionnelle.

Je vous remercie d'avance de ce que vous
voudrez faire pour moi et vous prie de croire à
l'assurance de mes sentiments cordialement dévoués.

(Max Bergère)

Max Bergère

5209

(2)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSE/DO

104/PRB/

10 Aug. 45

SUBJECT : Authorization to draw funds.

TO : Field Cashier, Rome Area Office.

Mrs. Sylvia SPRIGGE is authorized to proceed to Athens, Greece, in connection with her duties as a political correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian".

G. STEWART BROWN
Director
Public Relations Branch

5208

(1)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSB/DO

104/FRB/

7 Aug. 45

SUBJECT : Rations for Mr. E. Markowski.

TO : Capt. A.F. Braydon, Political Correspondents'
Mess, Via Romagna.

Mr. Eugenio MARKOWSKI is an accredited political correspondent of the Polish Newsagency "Polpress". He is therefore entitled to the use of messing facilities.

As he is now living in his own flat, via di Villa Ruffo 31, Tel. 32443, would you please draw his rations for him and have them sent to his flat.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director
Public Relations Branch

5207

R. 104.
Sent 78.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSE/DO

104/FEB/

7 Aug. 45

SUBJECT : Rations for Mr. E. Markowski.

TO : Capt. A.F. Braydon, Political Correspondents'
Mess, Via Romagna.

Mr. Eugenio MARKOWSKI is an accredited political correspondent of the Polish Newsagency "Polpress". He is therefore entitled to the use of messing facilities.

As he is now living in his own flat, via di Villa Ruffo 31, Tel.32443, would you please draw his rations for him and have them sent to his flat.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director
Public Relations Branch

5206

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSE/DO

5a/PRB

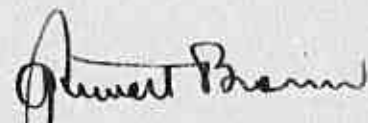
29 July 45

SUBJECT : Mrs. Alice Lepper, correspondent for the
London Daily Herald.

TO : Allied Civilian Personnel. 6th floor, room 16

1. The attached letter from the London Ministry of Information, certifies that Mrs. Alice Lepper is an accredited political correspondent attached to Public Relations Branch.

2. Will you please accord her the normal facilities which political correspondents are given.



STEWART BROWN
Director
Public Relations Branch

5205

Political Correspondents' Card
No. 4

HEADQUARTERS
REGIMENTAL SUPPLY OFFICE
2675TH REGIMENT
ALLIED COMMISSION
(OVERHEAD)
APO 394

430.

15 NOVEMBER 1944

SUBJECT: Rations.

TO : Public Relations Officer (A), Public Relations
Branch, Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394
(Attn: Major Leacocos).

1. Reference letter, your headquarters, file 5A/1/PRB,
subject: American Rations, dated 15 November 1944.
2. Arrangements have been made to draw American rations
for the following American Personnel and Russian Represen-
tative, only, on a four day cycle:

Major T.G. Bergin (A)
Major J.P. Leacocos (A)
Lieut. J.W. Atkinson (A)
Mr. Alexander Vianeovsky (Rep. of Tass Agency)
(Russian)

3. You will draw for your first period on 17 November
1944, rations to be consumed on 18, 19, 20, 21 November
1944. Rations will be picked up at the S-4 Warehouse between
1400 hours and 1500 hours on each drawing day.

4. Daily Telegram for Ration Report as outlined in Appen-
dix "A", Circ. 116, NATOUSA, cs, will be submitted every four
days to the Regimental Supply Office. Your next report will
be due at the Regimental Supply Office, not later than 12
hours, 19th of November 1944.

5. The unit mess Officer will be responsible in accordan-
ce with Sec. I, NATOUSA Circ. 116, c.s., for the following:

- a) That Headcount will be maintained in accordance with

(Continued)
-1-

5205
5204

Cont'd

WD Circ. 171, c.s.

b. That Payment and Accounting for rations will be accomplished and checked as outlined in Section IV, NATOUSA, Circ.116 c.s.

(1) Shipping Tickets for the Russian Representative will be prepared in accordance with Section IV; NATOUSA Circ.116, c.s., and will be submitted to Regimental Supply Officer, not later than 1200 hours the 3d of each month.

6. Attached herewith Circ.116, NATOUSA, c.s., and model form of Shipping Ticket for rations consumed by Allied Personnel for your compliance.

430., HQ.2675 Reg't AC,
RSO, Subject: Rations, dtd 15/11/44

By Order of Colonel PRAKIN

HENRY ELLENBAST
C.W.O. USA
Assistant S - 4

5203

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R5

21 August 1944

Political Correspondents Accredited to ACC PR

1. Hitherto correspondents in the Italian theatre have been accredited to AFHQ PR (Colonel Astley) who has permitted a limited number of war correspondents to each press or radio organization.
2. Accreditation means that the P.R. office concerned accepts the responsibility (a) for good behaviour of correspondents (i.e. it has the right of expulsion and they cannot leave the theatre without its permission) (b) for rations and accommodation (c) for transport (d) for the arrangement of interview, conferences and releases of information and (e) for the provision of office space and signal services.
3. Owing to the advance of the armies, and the extension of war theatres, the war correspondents cannot now cover both the war fronts and the Rome political news, which is assuming increasing importance. The Allied Press has therefore asked that political correspondents be permitted.
4. AFHQ DDP, while approving this plan, stated that he could not increase his present commitments, that AFHQ PR was not concerned with political issues, and that in any case AFHQ PR might move away from Rome. A Request was therefore made that political correspondents be accredited to ACC PR who would be responsible for them as under (2) and would also have the right to accept or reject the names submitted.
5. The ACC, with the concurrence of AFHQ G-5 and of the US Representative on the Advisory Council and of the British High Commissioner, have agreed to this request. Certain names have already been put forward, and a notice will now be posted at AFHQ PR stating that ACC PR will accept a limited number of political correspondents.
6. It is expected that the following papers will at once set up political correspondents, some of whom may be taken from the representatives already in Rome:

- (1) Reuters
- (2) The Times
- (3) A.P.
- (4) U.P.
- (5) Telegraph
- (6) Liberty Magazine
- (7) Saturday Evening Post
- (8) B.B.C.
- (9) Tass

5262

(Continued)

- 2 -

Cont'd

Representative of the following have either embarked or are waiting to embark for Italy:

- (10) New York Times
- (11) News Chronicle
- (12) Daily Express
- (13) Manchester Guardian.

The total number might go up to 20: probably not more.

7. Questions which arise for consideration and possibly immediate action are:

(a) Billeting and rations: It is for consideration whether a villa should not be requisitioned for this purpose. Such an arrangement would greatly simplify matters both for administration, for information, for light, for transport, for telephones, etc. If correspondents are accommodated ad hoc in present overcrowded hotels they will be difficult to get at, they will not be pleased, and they will make insistent demands for telephones, messengers etc.

(b) Transport: It will be necessary to requisition one car per organization. No doubt every organization would be willing to buy a car (The Times has already done so), but no regulation exists by which such cars can be serviced, garaged and provided with petrol. It would seem therefore that there is no alternative to requisitioning and that the cars requisitioned must be garaged, supplied and serviced, and drivers provided, by the ACC.

(c) Office space and signal service: For the time being, and as long as AFHQ PR does not move, the Chief Censor has agreed to accept for transmission by the cable and wireless services the despatches of political correspondents. Office space for working and filing copy cannot however be provided. This means that ACC must provide (1) a news room (2) a regular messenger service. It is thought that the news room could best be provided at the Stampa Estera (the usual peace-time office of foreign correspondents now occupied only by the neutrals) and steps are being taken to see whether that building can be taken over by the ACC.

5201

8. This memorandum is for the purpose of bringing the proposed arrangements to the notice of those concerned, so that necessary action may be taken quickly and smoothly as soon as correspondents are accredited.

Acting Chief Commissioner
Colonel J.J. Albright
Colonel E.C. Clough
Colonel J.J. Carnes
Mr. H. Caccia

LIONEL FIEDER
Major
Public Relations Director

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

13 August 1944

Dear Lush:

Referring to your communication of 7 August regarding accreditation of political correspondents to ACC, this Headquarters has no objection to the plan as outlined.

The matter was discussed with General McChrystal and it was agreed that it would be quite proper if the correspondents were accredited directly to ACC, and that all arrangements be made through Colonel Astley, as suggested in your letter.

It is understood such correspondents would be free to comment as they wish so long as security was not violated.

Sincerely yours

/s/ Charles M. Spofford
Colonel, G.S.C.

Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, OBE, MC
Executive Commissioner
RC & MG Section
Hq. Allied Control Commission
Apo 394.

5200

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. SECTION
APO 394

P.R.B: R5

7 August 1944

Subject : Political correspondents
To: Allied Force Headquarters (G-5).

Requests have been made, and more are expected, from newspapers and agencies for permission to send political correspondents, and staff, to Rome. Such requests seem justified by the fact that the war correspondents allowed to each agency or newspaper are fully occupied with the war fronts, now at some distance from Rome, and are unable to cover political events here which are assuming a growing significance.

Colonel Astley, DDPR, has expressed the opinion that the Public Relations Branch of ACC should properly be responsible for the accrediting, servicing, billeting, transport etc. of such correspondents. ACC PR at the request of Colonel Astley has already taken over these duties in respect of the neutral correspondents in Rome.

It would seem in fact that as events develop political correspondents must be accredited to Rome. Up to the present, the Times has requested permission to employ one political correspondent here (Robert Hadfield, at present working with PWB) in addition to the two war correspondents, Lumby and Ure: the New York Times has requested permission for the immediate employment in its Rome Bureau of Mrs. Milton Bracker (wife of its correspondent formerly in Naples); and the Tass agency has sent Mr Vichniarski as political correspondent (The latter has already been accredited, under a misapprehension, by the War Office).

It would seem also that political correspondents in Rome should normally be attached to ACC Public Relations Branch since their information will come chiefly through that office.

Approval is therefore sought for political correspondents and their staffs to be accredited to, and so far as necessary by, ACC P.R.O., who will then be responsible for making the necessary arrangements.

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner
for Acting Chief Commissioner

PUBLIC RELATIONS
ADVANCE A.F.H.Q.
C.M.B.

2 August 1944

2/PR3/114

SUBJECT: Tass Agency press representation

TO : Major Lionel Fielden
Public Relations Officer
Allied Control Commission.

1. I Refer to the telephone conversation we had this morning regarding M. Alessandro Visnevski, Tass Agency representative, at present in Rome and enclose for your information copy of letter I am today writing him.
2. I trust that when he calls you will issue him with the form of licence you referred to so that he will be able to file messages.
3. I confirm that had M. Visnevski made application to act as a war correspondent with the British Forces the War Office would have been agreeable that he should act in this capacity. I pass this information on as it covers the security aspect.
4. I am sending a copy of this letter and my letter to M. Visnevski to Lieut. Colonel J. L. Hayden, Press & Radio Censorship.

/S/ G.A.L. HELDER
Lieut. Colonel
A.D.P.R.

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