

ACC

10000/129/240

LATERZA P. 6
Feb, 1904 - Oct. 1

10000/129/240

615/PRB

LATERZA PUBLISHING FIRM (BARI)

Feb. 1944 - Oct. 1945

1988

10: Chief Staff Officer

Executive Commissioner

6500076-1 makes it
 unnecessary to act on your 9276/22/EC

To: ~~Poland (S)~~
 P.R.V.

Thank you - Poland (S) advised.

LBS 5/10

A/Ex. C.: 30 to C.C.

43

- 1) Reference the A/President's memo at folio 41, see our Public Relations Branch recommendation at folio 43.
- 2) This is probably a matter for G-5, AFHQ.
- 3) Shall PRO prepare letter to G-5 for C.C.'s signature?
- 4) Newsprint for Sicilian news papers. Folios 37, 38 and 40.

Situation this date is:

200 tons of newsprint was released at Naples on 9 Mar then rail bids were to be placed by ICE to move newsprint from Naples to Sicily. The Italian Press Association finally managed to book rail tonnage for the week 2 to 8 April.

Letter has been prepared for C.C.'s signature and is now with General McKinley for approval.

31 Mar 45

→ Mj. Rucy (1) ⁴⁵ Draft letter as per ⁴⁵ (31) Obtain information as to when newsprint from Naples actually is lifted for Sicily and then prepare reply to PM for CE signature. 7

M. Rucy
Major

To Ex. Comr. office:

Please forward the file to Mr. Halford for his information after the Letter has been signed.

28 June 1945

4988

G. Stenart Brown
G. STEWART BROWN,
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

1 7 2 3

785014

Major
P. H. W. W. W.

1964

Major,

七

Please forward the file to Mr. Halford for his information after the letter has been signed.



G. STEWART BROWN,
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

5867

54

Letter 10/PRB dated 29 June 45 to
C-5 AFHQ is returned as undelivered. Copies
have been withdrawn from files of CC and EC.
EC file copy has been related to Mr.
Halden.
58
Very Respects. W. H. Halden
Office, E.C.
29 June 45.

85

Mary Henders. *W. Henders.*
 16/10/71. *W. Henders.*

Executive Commissioner

Subject: Laterna Printing Firm at Bari

At the instigation of Senator Benedetto Croce whose works are published by the above-mentioned firm, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs have sought the good offices of the British Embassy for the de-requisition of the firm's premises.

2. According to my files, the Executive Commissioner last broached this subject with the then Military Government Section of Allied Force Headquarters by memorandum No. 140/21/DA of March 23rd 1944. I have no information regarding subsequent developments and I would accordingly be grateful if the matter might again be raised with Allied Force Headquarters.

(Sgd) A. S. HALFORD

23.vi.45

Asst. Political Ad (BR)

Copy to Director,

~~Propaganda Section, War Office, London;~~
U.S. Polad;
British Embassy.

4985

6428

PRB

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

CCB/CJF

G-5: 000.76-1

3 October 1945

SUBJECT: Laterna Press, Earl.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

Information has now been received that pressure of work at 5 B.M.P.P. has made it impracticable to hand back the whole of the Laterna Press before the 15 October. However, the proprietor is now free to use certain parts of his plant and can resume production of more important work.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

4 OCT 1945

Christensen
C. C. BENSON
Major, RA

1934

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 9276/22/EG

3 October 45

SUBJECT: "La Terza" Printing Press, BARI
TO : Public Relations Branch

With reference to your 10/PRB dated 10 August 45 on the
above subject, would you follow it up please.

ERB *he*
Lapine

Copy to: Polad (A)
Polad (B)

Chief Staff Officer
To Executive Commissioner

1983

4-8
10/2

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISS, JN

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Tel: 735

Ref: 9276/20/EC.

24 August 1945.

SUBJECT: "La Terza" Printing Press, BARI.

TO : Public Relations Branch.

With reference to your 10/PRB dated 10 August 45 on the
above subject, would you follow it up please.

R. Kennedy BA
for Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

4982

10
26/8/45

PRB.

Ref: 10/PRB.

Tel : 478603

10 August 1945

SUBJECT ; "La Terza" Printing Press, BARI.

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

1. With reference to your G-5: 000.76-1 dated 12 July 1945 which stated that the above named Press had been derequisitioned on 5 July 1945.
2. We have today received a further letter which states that the Press is still occupied and used by the same Military Authorities, who knew nothing of a derequisitioning order.
3. As there seems to have been a misunderstanding, would you please make further enquiries and inform us of the result.

For the Chief Commissioner :

R. W. KEMSLEY

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.Copy to : *Ex comm.*
~~Pol. Adv.~~
" " "B"

4981

C.S.O. to Executive Commissioner

Subject : The Laterza Printing Press at Bari.

On June 23rd, I raised with you the question of the de-requisitioning of the Laterza Printing Press and on July 14th you showed me your file according to which AFHQ had declared the Press to have been derequisitioned as from July 5th.

2. I now learn that the Press has not been derequisitioned and the British officers who run it, when shown a copy of the British Embassy's note to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stating that the derequisition had taken place, "laughed a good deal" and said that they "might perhaps be able to derequisition by the end of the year". It seems that the staff of the Press has been reduced from 300 to 150 and the hours of work from 24 to 9 a week. The production of the Press is claimed to be the preparation of football match programmes, athletic meeting programmes etc., etc.

3. There has obviously been some misunderstanding. Would you please make further enquiries ?

9.viii.45

Asst. Polad (ER)

4989

PRBR
5493ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APC 512

GJM/JJJr

G-5: 000.76-1

12 July 1945

SUBJECT: "La Terza", Bari.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APC 394

1. Reference is your 10/PRB of 29 June 45.
2. This Section is now informed that "La Gazzetta" Press, Bari, was released on 5 July 1945 which doubtless you are aware.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

13 JUL 1945

C. J. MACHAMARA
Major, P.C.

7979

55

10/783

29 June 1948

SUBJECT : Dr. Cross and Printer "La Terna" in Bari.

TO : AFHQ (Attention G-5).

1. Reference is your G-5 000.76-1 dated 15 May 48.
2. Please inform us if the military authorities have yet released the "La Terna" press from requisition and, if not, on what date such action might be expected.

For the Chief Commissioner :


Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

1978

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Tel : 289

28 June 1945

Ref/9276/EC.

SUBJECT : LATERZA Publishing Firm.

TO : Public Relations Branch. —

1. Our file 9276/EC subject "LATERZA Publishing Firm" is transferred herewith to you for absorption into the Public Relations Branch block of files.
2. As will be seen action is outstanding on folio 53 and it is requested that you prepare a letter to AFHQ further to their G-5 000.76-1 dated 15 May 45 for signature of the Executive Commissioner.

D. Hawely
f Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

1977

53

Executive Commissioner

JUN 27 1945

Subject: Laterna Magica Film at Bari

At the instigation of Senator Benedetto Croce whose works are published by the above-mentioned firm, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs have sought the good offices of the British Embassy for the re-remission of the firm's proceeds.

13
2. According to my Office, the Executive Commissioner last broached this subject with the then Military Government Section of Allied Forces Headquarters by memorandum No. May 31 1945 of March 1944. I have no information regarding subsequent developments and I would accordingly be grateful if the matter might again be raised with Allied Forces Headquarters.

H. Halloran
Asst. Dir. (Adm.)

25.4.45

Copy to Director, PRR

Enclosed for the Director:
U. S. Policy;
British Embassy.

4976

PRB 63
209
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

CJM/sb

(52)

G-5: 000.76-1

15 May 1945

SUBJECT: Dr. Croce and Printer "la Terza"
in Bari.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission
APO 394.

(47)

Reference is your 53/PRB 3 April 45.

It is possible that the army will be
releasing the press from requisition during the
course of a few weeks. The decision will be
communicated to you.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

C. J. MACNAMARA
Major, P.C.



1975

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

53/PRB

11 May 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

On the 28th of March the Acting President brought to your attention certain difficulties which Dr. Croce was experiencing in getting his books reprinted by his old publisher, Laterza, in Bari.

We took up the matter with G-5 AFHQ and have just received word that a satisfactory arrangement has been reached whereby Laterza is now using part of the printing equipment to reprint Dr. Croce's books.

I assume you would like to pass on this information to the Acting President.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch

1974

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

PRB (50)

7843

G-5: 000.76-1

8 May 1945

SUBJECT: Laterza Press.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

A copy of letter PSS/19/3 from ADFSS is enclosed
for your information.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

Encl:
as above.

C. J. MACNAMARA, ⁴⁴
Captain, P.C.

6373

COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERSPRINTING & STATIONERY SERVICES DIRECTORATESubject: Laterza Press.PSS/19/8Q(Maint)
AFHQ CMF
-----Copy to:- G-5 AFHQ
Hq Allied Commission (Office of the High Commissioner)
FA (Br) AFHQ
G-2 AFHQ

Please see G-5 000.76-1 of 10 April 45.

The attached copy report from CG 5 British Military Printing Press explaining the existing arrangement which has been reached with Sig. GIUS LATERZA, is submitted for perusal.

The use of the machinery mentioned by LATERZA's employees does not unduly prejudice our military operation, and there is no objection to its continued use.

As the premises are requisitioned without payment by this Service, no financial liability is incurred by us.

Will you please state if the arrangement as it stands meets the requirements of Hq Allied Commission (their 53/PKB of 3 April refers) and the approval of FA(Br).

Needless to say, on the rare occasions when this Press is used for security printing, all Italian personnel are rigorously excluded.

(sd) C. A. TACEY,
Lt Col RASC
ADPSS, AFHQ2 May 45
CAT/SEB

4972

See 50

(45)

COPY

Gius Laterza visited me on or about 20th March to request the use of plant to produce books.

Knowing the past history of this press and the type of book it was desired to produce, I agreed to place one machine at his disposal. Since then the machine has been in daily use by Laterza.

In addition, he was given the use of a Linotype machine, Platen machine and full book binding machinery, i.e. sewing machine, folding machine and three bookbinders' presses.

He employs the following personnel within the press premises:-

Compositors	5
Machine Minders	1
Bookbinders	1
Reader	1
Clerk	1
Apprentices	2
Unskilled labour	11

22

Laterza fully understands that, whenever the situation demands, these machines will produce P & SS work.

Since October 1943 he has produced six books of between 2500 - 3000 copies each.

4371

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

(47)

53/PMB

3 April 1945

SUBJECT : Dr. Croce and Printer "La Terza" in Bari.

TO : G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.

43 *supplied*

1. The attention of the Acting President, Allied Commission, has been called to the fact that Dr. Croce is having difficulty in getting his books reprinted because his printer, "La Terza", in Bari is wholly requisitioned by the Allied authorities. It was suggested that if the print plant is not working to capacity it might relinquish a certain amount of time to reprinting some of the more important of Dr. Croce's books.

2. Inquiries here indicate that La Terza is under requisition by the British Military Press which uses the plant to print forms stationery and other printed matter for the British Army.

3. It is suggested G-5 inquire into the matter to see if the suggestion in para 1 is feasible.

/s/ Norman E. Fiske *Col*
✓ ELLERY W. STONE,
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner.

49.0

Copies: Chief Commr
Exec Commr
P. R. Br.

See 52
PA 8 1/4

9254

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSB/lew

53/PRB

30 March 45

MAR 31 1945

SUBJECT: Mr. Macmillan's memorandum of 28th March (attached)

TO : Chief Commissioner
(Through Deputy Executive Commissioner)

1. This is in reference to the Acting President's attached memorandum to you.

2. I have investigated and found that the printing firm "La Terza" in Bari is requisitioned by the British military authorities for something called the British Military Press. According to my information the presses are used to print forms, stationery and such printed matter for the British Army.

3. I suggest that an inquiry be made through G-5 as to whether the plant is working at full capacity for the British Military Press and if not if part of the time could be relinquished to the printing of Dr. Croce's books.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch

Encl. (1)

929

see M 45 + 46

60

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the President
APO 394

925H

(43)

To: Chief Commissioner.

MAR 29 1945

From: Mr. Macmillan.

Count Carandini called on me this morning. There is just one point about which I would like your help.

Dr. Croce has difficulty in getting his books which are out of print reprinted. This is due to the fact that his printers, La Terza in Bari, are wholly requisitioned by the Allied authorities - I do not know whether A.C. or P.W.B. Do you think it would be possible to make any arrangement to relinquish a certain amount of working time in order to reprint the most important of these books? If we could get assistance, I would ask Dr. Croce to give me the list of books in order of importance so that paper and working time might be made available successively in order to put them back upon the market.

No doubt this may have to be taken up through G-5, but you could perhaps let me know what is best to be done.

/s/ HM

28th March, 1945.

PRB (ACTION)
EX. COMM'R
CC FILES

COPY

Copy passed to Director, PRB,
for action 28 Mar 45.

(1) ASER STNS

MEMORANDUM
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
H.Q. & H.Q. SECTION
AND 39.

42

Ref: 149/12/CA

26 July 44

Subject: Latona

For: G.S. Section, A.M.H.C.

34

39

With reference to your MCH:095 of 8 May 1944 and my 149/39/CA of 22 May I think you will be interested to hear that 2000 copies of a book by Croce entitled "La letteratura della Nuova Italia" containing 426 pages, has been printed by the British Military Printing Press through P.W.D., and that a second book is in production.

Herman E. Fiske
Colonel
Deputy Executive Commissioner

Copy to FBI Unit No. 9 AFM: with thanks for your 824/IL/1763/ of the 26 July.

41

4937

140
 400
 PWD Unit No. 9
 AFHQ

22nd July, 1944

383/11/1763

26 JUL Recd

To: Captain Talbot
 H.Q. A.D.C. S.C. & M.G. Section, AID 394
 From: Stanhope Shelton

Subject Italiana

Further to our correspondence on the above subject, I think you will be interested to know that at last one of Groer's books has been put into type and printed by EMPP Bari through this organization. The title of the book is La Letteratura della Nuova Italia. A second book is in production.

Two thousand copies of La Letteratura della Nuova Italia (416 pp.) were printed.

Stanhope Shelton
 Stanhope Shelton
 Head of Production

see 42

4966

1744

785016

File laterza
B36
4

140
16 JUN Recd
B

PMB Unit No. 9
AFHQ
1st June, 1944
S-3/II

To: Captain Talbot
HQ A.C.C. S.C. & M.R. Section, APO 394
From: Stanhope Shelton

Subject: Laterza

For your information and further to my communication of May 18th, we understand from CG 313 FS Section that there is nothing of a security nature known against:

- Ing. LATERZA Giuseppe Di Vito
- LATERZA Vincenzo Di Giovanni
- LATERZA Franco Di Giovanni

On May 20th Sig. Laterza handed us the manuscript of "Discorrendo di Varia Filosofia" which, according to our agreement with BPP and Laterzas, has been given to BPP for composition.

The printing of "la letteratura della nuova Italia" Vol. VI has also been put in hand through us by BPP, as already reported to you.

Stanhope Shelton
Head of Production

See 37
Nocchi
holloway
S46/6

MA

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

39

Ref/LAO/39/GA.

22 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Laterza.

TO : G-5 Section, A.F.H.Q.

34

1. Reference your MES 095 of 8 May 1944 and letter from HQ.AAI reference 2011/4/42 of 5 May 1944.
2. A copy of my reply to the above-quoted letter from HQ.AAI has been sent to you, reference LAO/37/GA of even date.
3. Whatever is the result of the screening of the Laterzas the printing and publication of Croce's works on the lines set out in my letter reference LAO/42/GA of 26 April 1944 will go on.

22

31

Li
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,
For Chief Commissioners.

Copy to: PWB, No.9 Unit, Bari.

CIA
1944

1748

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

785016

21/4/45

21 MAY Recd

PAID Post Out

38

13th May, 1944

33

11/ 1047

To: Deputy Executive Commissioner
HQ A.C.C. A.S. & M.G. Section, APO 394

Your ref/140/33/CA of May 8th: Laterza

In reply to your memorandum, we have not yet received copy of
HQ A.A.I. letter 2014/4/42 of 3 May. As soon as it reaches us we
will let you have our comments.

Stanley Shelton

Stanley Shelton
Head of Production

see 36 N.A.

37

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. SECTION
APO 374

Ref/140/37/CA

22 May 1944

32

SUBJECT: Laterza.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Armies in Italy.

1. I refer to 2014/4/42 of 5 May.
2. I have conferred again with PWB on this matter. I understand that all British Military Printing Press personnel, other than Allied Personnel, have been screened for work with P.W. & SS, Bari. The question of the exclusion of the Laterza brothers themselves (see your para 5a) has not, up to now, arisen, since their sharp anti-fascist feelings are so well known. To conform, however, with the very proper security measures already taken, the Laterza brothers will be screened. As a result of this screening it can be decided whether or not they should retain their offices on British Military Printing Press premises.
3. As regards your para 5 (b) this suggestion is already embodied in the PWB agreement with Messrs. Laterza concerning the printing of Croce's works, i.e., that all negotiations between GUPP and Laterza are to be handled through PWB. Section (c) of para 5 has also been agreed and section (d) of para 5 is covered by the agreement mentioned above that PWB should negotiate between the GUPP and Laterza.

[Signature]
WILLIAM F. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copies to:

G-5 Section AFHQ
PWB Unit No. 9, Bari (Mr. Shelton)
A.C.C. Liaison Ref/140/42/CA.

4993

31

-140-2

2000 Recd

742B Unit No. 9
LH102

12th May, 1944

SAS/10/1095

To: Captain Shilton,
HQ A.C.O. R.C. & M.S. Section, APO 894
From: Stanhope Shelton

Subject: Laterna

Answer to your 140/33/2A of May 2th, our 11/1048 of May 13th and your signal 2106, although we are still not in possession of your letter 2014/4/42 of May 2th, we have managed to see a copy through Major Bull, D.P. & S.S. Bari.

The following are our comments on the letter to Stanhope.

Since the beginning of this year, when the printing in Bari demanded security measures, we have been asking D.P. & S.S. for their assurance that such measures were in force at all presses under their control in Bari. Action concerning this was finally taken when the Director of D.P. & S.S. visited Bari at the beginning of April. All D.P. personnel, other than allied personnel, have now understood been vetted for work with D.P. & S.S. Bari. The question of security, as it applies to the Laterna Brothers themselves (who at present have offices in one of the Bari plants), now comes up for discussion. According to our information, the Laternas have been consistently anti-Fascist and as you know are now being lent allied support as publishers of Croce's works. It has therefore not occurred to us that they were untrustworthy people to occupy offices within Laterna Printing Press under D.P. Now that D.P. & S.S. are apparently considering the exclusion of Bari, Laterna from D.P. provided on security grounds, we feel that the most satisfactory way to settle the matter is to investigate through security channels the reliability of these gentlemen. This is now being done and on findings resulting from this investigation we shall make recommendations as to whether or not the Laternas should retain their offices on Bari premises. (See para 5, section 4, of Letter 2014/4/42)

However the findings on the reliability of Laterna, Laterna, however, are now established with D.P. & S.S. that the publication of Croce's books will not be affected. The final book is at least in production, D.P. & S.S. having formally authorized this. In view of the fact, however, that we passed an order to D.P. & S.S. for the printing of Croce's books as long ago as April 1943, the delay is most regrettable.

Comparing further to letter 2014/4/42, the suggestion contained in para 5, section 4, is already laid down in our agreement with Laterna, Laterna concerning the printing of Croce's works - that is, that all negotiations between Bari and the Laternas are to be handled through D.P. Section 6 of para 5 has also been agreed and section 4 is covered by the ruling that the negotiations between the Laternas and D.P.

Stanhope Shelton
Head of Production

1749
Signed 5/10/42, although we are still not in possession of your letter of 20/4/42.
of May 5th, we have managed to see a copy through Major Budd, D.I. & S.S. Bari.

The following are our comments on the letter in question.

Since the beginning of this year, when the existing in Bari demanded security measures, we have been asking D.I. & S.S. for their assurance that such measures were in force as all presses under their control in Bari. Action concerning this was finally taken when the Director of D.I. & S.S. visited Bari at the beginning of April. All staff personnel, other than Allied personnel, have been understood and have been vetted for security with D.I. & S.S. Bari. The question of security, as in matters to the Italian Government themselves (who at present have offices in one of the Bari plants), now comes up for discussion. According to our information, the Italians have been consistently anti-Allied and as you know are now being left Allied support as publishers of Croce's works. It has therefore not occurred to us that they were creditable people to occupy offices within Italian Printing Presses under D.I. & S.S. Now that D.I. & S.S. are apparently considering the exclusion of Jews, Italians from their premises on security grounds, we feel that the most satisfactory way to handle the matter is to investigate through security channels the reliability of these gentlemen. This is now being done and on findings resulting from this investigation we shall make recommendation as to whether or not the Italians should retain their offices on Bari premises. (See para 5, motion W. of letter 20/4/42)

Whatever the findings on the reliability of Messrs. Labarin, however, we have now established with D.I. & S.S. that the publication of Croce's books will not be affected. The first book is at least in production, D.I. & S.S. & S.S. having finally authorized this. In view of the fact, however, that we passed an order to D.I. & S.S. for the printing of 2 of Croce's books as long ago as April 1941, the delay is most regrettable.

Coming further on letter 20/4/42, the suggestion contained in para 5, section b, is already laid down in our agreement with Messrs. Labarin concerning the printing of Croce's works - that is, that all negotiations between Bari and the Italians are to be handled through Bari. Section c of para 5 has also been agreed and section d is covered by the ruling that PIR negotiations between the Italians and Bari.

Europe Section 1952

Stanley Shalton
Head of Production

1750

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

785016

RESTRICTED

5104

AGC MAIN (Civil Affairs Branch)

16 May 1944

RESTRICTED

Vapor 165 - Fiske

Capt. E. Talbot

ROUTINE

~~RECEIVED~~

PWB BARI

REPLY REQUESTED TO MY ONE FOUR ZERO ONE FOUR THREE THREE ONE FOUR CHARLIN AXLE OF
EIGHT MAY PD PAREN TO PWB BARI FOR SIMILAR FROM AGC MAIN PAREN PD SUBJECT
LATENZA

Handwritten signature and date 20/5

6931

L.T. MONTANT, Jr.
1st Lt. AGC
ADJUTANT.

RESTRICTED

140.
10 MAY RecdC A Br.
6941 34
TBJ/jjrALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

MGS: 095

8 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Laterza Publishing Firm, Bari.

TO : HQ ACC

1. Reference your 140/42/CA of 26 April this Section has now received a copy of HQ AAI 2014/4/Q2 of 5 May.

2. Will you please let this Section have a copy of your reply to the letter from HQ AAI as the British Minister here is interested in the matter.

For the Chief of Section:

T. B. JACKMAN
Major.

4960

1752

785016

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

Ref/D40/33/GA

8 May 1944

SUBJECT: Internals

TO : P.W.B./2

*Barl.
(after Mr. Shelton)*

Reference Headquarters A.A.I. letter
20D/4/2 of 5 May addressed to us with copy
to you, your comments will be appreciated.

LF
NORMAN E. JONES
Colonel
Loyalty Executive
Commissioner

BU. 19/5

*Noted
R*

1408

6249 A Br. 32/

Subject: Laterna Printing Press, Ltd.

Mr. Laterna,
P.O. Box 100.

2015/1/10.

5 May 1944.

P.O. Box 100, Section,
HQ AOC.,
APO. 39.

Re: your letter 24.4.44 dated 26 Apr. 44, addressed HQ AOC.

AMC.

In view of the highly confidential nature of the work carried out at the Laterna Printing Press on behalf of P.W.S. and the request of the latter that security measures should be tightened up generally, it was under consideration that Sr. Laterna should be restricted from the works.

Since P.W.S. was a party to the agreement referred to in your letter, it is presumed that they are unaffected from the security and Sr. Laterna to remain.

C.O., British Military Printing Press will, however, continue to make all investigations as far as necessary into the bona fides of employees and other labour employed by Sr. Laterna and will exclude any of them about whose reliability he is in doubt.

The press and other equipment which will be used for Sr. Laterna's work will also be used for other purposes. Sr. Laterna must appreciate that his work at times have to accept delay in obtaining use of the press, even though this may involve him in inconvenience, or in expense, through his employees being kept in enforced idleness.

If, however, P.W.S. are concerned over these arrangements from the point of view of security, it is suggested that you have a further discussion with them on the following lines:-

- (a) Sr. Laterna to be strictly excluded from the works.
- (b) P.W.S. to act as intermediary between Sr. Laterna and P.W.S.
- (c) P.W.S. to do the printing and binding of books as requested from time to time by P.W.S., using P.W.S. labour, but Sr. Laterna's paper and materials.
- (d) P.W.S. would then pass the bill for costs to P.W.S. to obtain payment from Sr. Laterna.

Yours faithfully,
J. G. Paul
Chief Administrative Officer.

AFHQ.

Reference your letter L.7.7/2/C dated 25 APR., 44, and 25 APR., 44.

1. In view of the highly confidential nature of the work carried out at the AFHQ Printing Press on behalf of P.W.B. and the request of the latter that security measures should be tightened in conformity, it was under consideration that Mr. Latour should be excluded from the premises.
2. Since P.W.B. was a party to the agreement referred to in your letter, it is correct and that they are satisfied that the security will be maintained.
3. C.O., British Military Printing Press will, however, continue to make all investigations to ensure necessary into the bona fides of employees and other labour employed by Mr. Latour and will exclude any of them about whose reliability he is in doubt.
4. The press and other equipment which will be used for Mr. Latour's books will also be used for other purposes. Mr. Latour must appreciate that he will at times have to accept being in obnoxious use of the press, even though this may involve him in inconvenience, or in expense, through his employees being kept in unforced idleness.
5. If, however, P.W.B. are concerned over those arrangements from the point of view of security, it is suggested that you have a positive discussion with him on the following lines:-

- (a) Mr. Latour to be wholly excluded from the premises.
- (b) P.W.B. to act as intermediary between Mr. Latour and P.W.B.
- (c) P.W.B. to do the printing and binding of books as requested from time to time by P.W.B., using P.W.B. labour, but Mr. Latour's name and materials.
- (d) P.W.B. would then pass the books on to P.W.B. to obtain payment from Mr. Latour.

John Paul
 Major-General,
 Chief Administrative Officer.

Copy to: M.C.B., AFHQ.
 P.W.B., AFHQ.
 P.W.B.

4858

31

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

Ref/D40/42/CA.

26 April 1944.

SUBJECT: Laterza Printing Firm at Bari.

TO : Military Government Section, A.P.H.Q.

1. Reference your MOS: 095 (Gualaterza) of 14 April 1944.
 2. This Headquarters is now in a position to give a full and it is hoped satisfactory report on this matter.
 3. There are no other plants in Bari capable of handling the important Allied military work now being done at Laterza's works, and the British Military Printing Press is therefore unable to return either the whole or part of the works to the Laterza firm.
 4. An agreement has been reached, however, between P.W.B., British Military Printing Press and Laterza whereby every month two works by Senator Croce will be in hand at the Laterza works, one being composed and the other printed. In this way one book a month will be produced at the rate of two thousand copies. Laterza's works remain under the full control of British Military Printing Press but Laterza can choose his own compositors and other labour.
 5. The Laterzas seem very satisfied with this arrangement and have, on April 15, requested P.W.B. to put in hand two works of Senator Croce.
 - a. La Letteratura della nuova Italia, Volume VI, text of which was composed and ready for printing.
 - b. Discorrendo di varia filosofia, which has to be set up and printed.
- This work is going forward.
6. A copy of the conditions of the arrangement described above is enclosed for your information.

26

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,
For Chief Commissioner.

Copy to: Mr. Shelton, Head of Production,
A.C.C.F.W.B. BARI.
L. Shelton, H.Q. AAI.

4887

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

10/5 Bari Outpost

10th April, 1944

SOS/II

To: Captain Walker, AGO via Lt. Col. Cannon
 Copy to: Lt. Col. Anderson, Bari
 Mr. Richard, Bari,
 Lt. Col. Curran, Naples

Plus Latorza & Sigli

The enclosed memorandum dated 26th February explains the situation as it existed between Bari, Latorza brothers and Mr. Bari, at that time.

It was considered that the instructions made in this memorandum should be carried out and a decision was accordingly made between the Latorza brothers, Mr. Bari and myself, at which time I referred to Mr. Curran's work under the conditions laid down in the memorandum. The Latorza brothers at this meeting agreed that the conditions were very fair and they lost the meeting to all appearances in a noisy manner of mind, saying they would like to have time to consider the matter and give a reply later.

No mention was made at this meeting by the Latorzas that Bari should move some of their printing work to other plants in Bari. The first news we had of this suggestion came from a letter you showed me when I was last in Naples. Rather than surprise some days after the meeting with Latorza they called on Mr. Richard, and then they preferred not to accept our kind offer as they did not feel that they could get the type of job they required unless it was handled in toto by themselves with their own staff and their own machines. We replied that in worse circumstances we could do little more to help them - that we should like them to reconsider our suggestion - and that whenever they wished we should be prepared to do so under the conditions laid down.

The whole meeting was very friendly and the matter was left like that.

When I visited you in Naples and learnt that Latorzas had suggested in writing that there were other presses available in Bari to which Bari work could be switched, I pointed out that this was not so and that the combination of army printing work and PMA/PMS work demanded the full use of the three main printing plants in Bari, i.e. Mezzogiorno premises, Davis and Latorzas. It broke up, as it were, any one of these organisations and employ the use of any of the few small presses outside this group of printing plants would involve too many complications and would be completely unjustified in the light of the very special and high priority printing work Bari were handling both for us and for the British Army.

At your request, I called another meeting between the Latorzas, Mr. Richard and myself. This meeting took place on April 15th. Latorzas were then asked why they had suggested that Bari should remove some of their work to other premises and the situation as explained to you was explained to them. They said they fully understood but just as it would be inconvenient for Bari to work on Latorza premises so would it be inconvenient for them to print their books of presses other than their own. I asked them if they were still adamant about not accepting our proposal to print their books. They again explained their difficulties. I suggested that each time as

9/21

29

they had tried out our proposition they were really not in a position to say that it would not work. The 10. is of this was apparent to them and they agreed to put it hand through tap and under the conditions of our letter of 19.3.44 (copy attached) 2 hours of Croce's:

- 1) la letteratura della nuova Letist, Volume VI, text of which was composed and ready for printing
- 2) Discorso di varia filosofia, which had to be set up and printed.

By this means every month two works of Croce's would be in hand, the one being composed and the other being printed. This way, so long as the system were followed regularly, one book a month would be produced at the rate of 2000 copies.

The letters were extremely friendly about all this and went away to all appearance in a happy frame of mind, having agreed that they would co-operate to the full with us. Should any difficulties arise they will bring them to us. Feeling sure we shall do everything in our power to help them.

The first two works are now in hand, and this is in full agreement with the system, whereby they handle through in the printing of Croce's books for letters on letters own presses.

Scrupulous

Stanhope Shelton
Head of Production

17418 - 13.22
- 26
- 25
- 22

Enclosures

translation of 2 letters from letters, April 1944
letter from FWS Earl to letters, 19.3.44
Memorandum from Mr. Shelton to Lt. Colonel Anderson, 20th Dec. 1944
" Lt. Colonel Anderson to Mr. Shelton, 20th March 1945
letter from Mr. Shelton to Lt. Colonel Anderson, 10th March 1945

4955

(C O P Y)

To : PWB Bari
From: Giuseppe Laterza & Figli

Bari 15 April 1944

This is to request you to print for us the volume by B. Croce "La letteratura della nuova Italia" Volume VI which is already composed and ready for print. We would be glad if said volume could be printed on N.1 machine, by workmen in our employment, as having had previous experience in this work they would be able to carry it out more satisfactorily.

The paper and material required may be obtained from our stores.

(signed) GIUS LATERZA & FIGLI

4954

(C O P Y)

27

Bari 15 April 1904

TRANSLATION

From Giuseppe Laterza & Figli

This is to request you to compose in our printing shop the volumes of B. Croce "Discorrendo di varia filosofia".

We would like this volume to be entrusted to workers already in our employment as, being experienced in this work, they will be able to accomplish it better.

(signed) GIUS. LATERZA & FIGLI

4953

(C O P Y)

19th March 1944

26

Da : Mr Stanhope Shelton

Al : Sig. Laterza

e per conoscenza a : G. Picard, Capo Ufficio Stampa dell PWB Bari

Come ben sapete noi stiamo facendo del nostro meglio nei limiti delle possibilità e delle necessità dell'attuale momento, per permettervi di stampare i vostri libri. Per giungere a tale scopo vi saremmo grati se voleste esaminare attentamente e riferirci le vostre impressioni sul seguente sistema che vi suggeriamo e che a noi sembrerebbe piuttosto acconcio

1. Ogni libro che desidereste pubblicare dovrebbe essere sottomesso in manoscritto al PWB.
2. Se la pubblicazione ne viene approvata, ordini per la stampa sarebbero diramati attraverso il PWB Production Department.
3. Saranno presi provvedimenti per cercare di effettuare consulti circa il modo e lo stile da seguire nella pubblicazione e noi faremo tutto il possibile per accontentare le vostre richieste da questo lato.
4. Si procurerà di rispettare la data da voi richiesta per la consegna ma, per tale riguardo, nessuna garanzia può esservi data in vista dei numerosi ed improvvisi lavori di maggior importanza per lo sforzo bellico Alleato che potrebbero presentarsi.
5. Bozzi degli scritti composti sarebbero a voi sottoposti per le correzioni ed il controllo da effettuarsi secondo le vostre disposizioni.
6. Voi non interferirete per nulla circa quanto riguardo i lavoranti ed i metodi adottati nei lavori stessi da P & SS nei locali da essi requisiti.
7. Noi faremo di tutto per pubblicarvi un libro al mese di non più di 320 pagine.
8. Voi pagherete la stampa i prezzi della BMPP e provvederete per quello che riguarda i materiali carta, inchiostro ecc.

Attendendo una vostra dettagliata risposta vi salutiamo cordialmente.

Stanhope Shelton
Chief of Production.

PWB BARI

1944

(C C Y)

6th March 1944

SES/IL/327

25

To : Mr George Edman, PWB Naples
From: Chief of PWB/PWE Bari Outpost

I enclose copy of a memorandum from Mr Shelton on the subject of book printing by Laterza. Mr Picard has seen this and agrees that the arrangement is both sensible and equitable.

As a result of this memorandum, a meeting was held between Shelton, Picard and the Laterza Brothers, and the proposition put up to the Laterzas. They agreed that pending an official PWB decision on all these matters, they would be perfectly agreeable to dealing direct with PWB, not to criticise or interfere with the EMPP methods of organisation, and I gather they were to all appearances delighted that their books were to be printed, even though EMPP were to handle the printing.

Before going any further with this proposition, I should appreciate your comments on the arrangement, as I believe it comes under the heading of Publications.

I should also like to know what suggestions you have concerning payment. It appears that Laterzas are in a position to supply their own paper and ink, but they will still be getting free printing of/ services and will therefore be making a profit out of the Allied Governments, as it were. How do you tackle these problems at your end?

I am also told that before we undertook this business of settling the trouble between Laterza and EMPP the Laterzas applied to the ACC for consideration to be given to their case. This Shelton has only just heard, so should you hear of it through other channels you will be informed.

Lieut. Colonel
Chief of PWB/PWE Bari Outpost

7951

(C O P Y)

SECRET

PWE BARI SUB-MISSION

28th February 1944

To : Lt.Col. Anderson
Copy to Mr Picard

Laterza Press

Following my discussion with Mr Picard on the subject of Laterza, the printer being disgruntled with BMPP and their methods of working in the Laterza requisitioned building, I have been making further enquiries and have come to the following conclusions. There is every evidence to believe that Laterza was an anti-Fascist throughout the Fascist regime and supported Croce and his like. He acted as publisher and printer for Croce and as such is to be regarded as a non-enemy of the Allied Forces.

His premises were requisitioned by Q Branch DP & SS to undertake army printing, and Laterza was allowed to retain his offices in the building as a gesture of good feeling towards him. The same question now arises as to whether or not Laterza should be allowed to resume the printing of books. It is suggested by Mr Picard that to print Croce's works would in some measure help the allied propaganda aims in Italy. I consider it however impracticable and inadvisable for Laterza to do any printing in the DP & SS requisitioned premises unless it comes under the control of DP & SS. The programme of PWB/PWE and army print combined output in Bari is an extremely large one and unless properly controlled can very easily get out of hand. The programme is not a simple one and its details cannot be laid down in advance. At any moment of the day or night an urgent leaflet may have to be printed and machines allocated to less urgent work taken off that work and put on to printing of higher importance.

It will therefore be seen that it is impossible, if we are to do our job properly, to give Laterza the use of machinery and labour on a regular basis. The system I would advise be adopted is as follows: (1) that Laterza's book printing be confined to any one book a month or two books every three months (details to be worked out) (2) that Laterza puts in an order for these books through the PWB organisation (3) that PWB orders the books to be printed by BMPP a time schedule being arranged between Head of BMPP and Production Manager PWB in the light of standing priorities (4) the books would naturally come low in the priority list, but PWB would make it their job to see that delivery dates were kept as far as possible in the circumstances (5) Laterza could choose his own compositors and other labour, but only by an agreement with the Head of BMPP. He would be responsible for the planning and proof-reading of the books, but he would deal with BMPP only through PWB.

The thing to be avoided is for Laterza to interfere with the working of BMPP. The way this organisation works is entirely their own business and criticism and interference cannot be tolerated by any outside party.

23

- 2 -

I am told that there have been cases when Laterza has threatened his ex-employees with unemployment when the press again becomes his property, that he has criticised the rate of payment by DP & SS to some of his ex-employees, and has generally grumbled at the EMPP method of running the press. He may be fully justified in these criticisms, as one peacetime printer to another, but in wartime the army must be allowed to run their organisations without interference from outside civilian sources. It is the job, I consider, of PWB production to look into these matters and to improve them by a friendly arrangement with the army printers, on the grounds that they are a priority "client", and are therefore justified in offering constructive suggestions. The situation calls for diplomacy and the method by which it is handled should be left to PWB Production Department.

I am sure that if this suggestion be put up to Laterza and handled carefully, he will see the reasoning of it all and will be much better disposed towards EMPP. I would even suggest that Croce himself be approached and the situation explained to him also.

PWB ITAL. IN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PWB UNIT No.8 AFO 512

13th March 1944

Dear Pat

This is a further note to your letter of 6th March and the memorandum from Shelley regarding the Laterza Press. As you may remember the question of payment was left unanswered.

In as much as the BMPP has the printing plant in Bari under its requisition and it is under their control, Major Ellis and I are of the opinion that Laterza should be dealt with like any other individual or firm seeking printing facilities. We are also of the opinion that payment should be on a cost plus basis to be borne in full by Laterza. Whether or not payment is in cash or as a book keeping transaction against money due for plant hire from the BMPP is immaterial.

We assume that Laterza has all the necessary materials such as paper, thread, binding cloth etc so that PWB supplies are not affected.

Let us adopt then this policy in regard to Laterza pending an answer from AFHQ on the matter.

Very sincerely

George W. Edman

Lt Col P.C. Adderson DSO MC
PWB Bari

4949

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Military Government Section

TSJ/jw

MGS: 095 (Guiz Laterza)

14 April 1944

SUBJECT: Laterza Printing Firm at Bari.

TO : HQ ACC.

1. Ref. 140/21/CA of 23 March, copies of your letter and of the enclosures were forwarded to the British Resident Minister for information.

2. The Minister has now enquired whether it is yet known whether Mr. Laterza has yet been able to name any other firms in Bari who would be capable of handling the work now being done by the Laterza Printing Works.

3. Will you please state the present situation?

For the Chief of Section:

T. B. JACKMAN
Major

4948

(See 30) →

1767

SUBJECT: LATERZA Printing Works.

20
5 April 1944.

To: Mr. Reber, Political Section.

The Laterza case stands as follows:-

1. There are no other printing works capable of handling the work now being done by the Laterza firm and the British Military Printing Press will NOT return the work to Laterza.
2. Mr. Shelton of P.W.B. has agreed to arrange for one book a month to be printed for Laterza in his works, with any type he chooses and by any particular men he chooses. The works however will remain under the control of B.M.P.P.

This seems a reasonable proposal and is the only way Greco's works can be printed by Laterza.

Mr. Reber to show this
to Mr. Spence today
H. S/4

H.
E. TALENT,
Captain.

49475

Capt. Talbot 19

*How much of any progress
has been made on this?*

SR

Included

a) a letter from Croce to Sforza (translated, verbatim) which shows how deeply he feels about the printing of his books

b) a letter from his publisher to Croce; in sending it to Sforza, Croce added: "you'll see that the proposal is absurd; any serious publisher in London would smile at it, if he prints books of any importance."

--- Spoken about that to Greenlee who told St. on March 31 that Winifry had the question in hand; and that a satisfactory solution would be reached in a week or so.

April 3 1944.

What progress?

*W. J. P. 1944
Sforza*

Included

- a) a letter from Croce to Sforza (translated, verbatim) which shows how deeply he feels about the printing of his books
- b) a letter from his publisher to Croce; in sending it to Sforza, Croce added: "you will see that the proposal is absurd; any serious publisher in London would smile at it, if he prints books of any importance."

1--- Spoken about that to Greenlees who told SF. on March 31 that Minifly has the question in hand; and that a satisfactory solution would be reached in a week or so.

April 3 1944.

What proposal?

*Supposed
to be
a
copy
of
the
letter
to
Sforza*

49/6

18
Sorrento, 27, III, 44

My dear Carlo,

Do me this favour. Do write, speak, pray in ~~xxxxxx~~ order that General MacFarlane obtains for me the possibility of continuing to print my books at the Laterza printing-house in Bari. He took ~~already~~ an interest into the matter; but on the 21st Laterza writes me that nothing has as yet been done and that he has only received, at the moment he writes, promises and kind words!

I feel that this torment might be spared, in the last years of his life to an old intellectual worker who, among other things, is a doctor of Oxford, a fellow of the British Academy, etc; and whose books have been translated into English even during the war.

With the necessarily cautious and long development of the war, I'll die without having corrected the proofs of the books. I have been writing during these recent years.

Best greetings. I am now in an unpleasant and painful convalescence, but convalescence.

Thine

B. Croce

The suspension of the printing of my books began five months ago. What is asked is only that one of the printing machines - one out of thirteen - be put at the disposal of Laterza for my books.

19/5

1771

My dear Carlo,

Do me this favour. Do write, speak, pray in ~~xxxxxx~~ order that General MacFarlane obtains for me the possibility of continuing to print my books at the Laterza printing-house in Bari. He took ~~already~~ an interest into the matter: but on the 21st Laterza writes me that nothing has as yet been done and that he has only received, at the moment he writes, promises and kind words!

I feel that this torment might be spared, in the last years of his life to an old intellectual worker who, among other things, is a doctor of Oxford, a fellow of the British Academy, etc; and whose books have been translated into English even during the war.

With the necessarily cautious and long development of the war, I'll die without having corrected the proofs of the books. I have been writing during these recent years.

Best greetings. I am now in an unpleasant and painful convalescence, but convalescence.

Thine

B. Croce

The suspension of the printing of my books began five months ago. What is asked is only that one of the printing machines - one out of thirteen - be put at the disposal of Laterza for my books.

1943

In a telephonic message to Count Sforza, on the 28th, Senator Croce added, "please tell how I work, since fifty years: much on the proofs. And when I am with my proofs I do not write to Laterza but to one of his workers, Pasalic, who is precious to me. I have a duty to fulfil: that is why I pray..."

GIUS. LATERZA & FIGLI

Tipografico-Editoriale

BARI

Telefono N. 44-780

Bari, li 21. 3. 1944

Caro Senatore

Le pretese per la litografia vennero molto a rilente e intanto tutto il nostro lavoro si fermò. La situazione attuale è la seguente: il P.W.B. ci propone la pubblicazione di un libro al mese, per cui noi dovremmo affidare tutto a loro e non avere ingerenza nell'esecuzione. Noi abbiamo risposto che dato il genere delle nostre pubblicazioni e la seriosità dei nostri autori, in un momento di disordine come quello non ci è possibile abbandonare ad altri la direzione tecnica dei nostri lavori, dei quali

siamo sempre noi responsabili di fronte all'autore e al pubblico, e abbiamo voluto per avere una macchina litografica e una macchina da stampa a nostra piena disposizione. Il P.W.B. si mostra del tutto disposto verso di noi, ma le grandi difficoltà nelle organizzazioni laici. Ci manda la Critica di novembre e i Bracci però non riesce ancora a essere della Critica di marzo e i parati del Regno di Napoli per fare dice dei nomi. Oppi stesso lo riceve Lebrada sollecitandolo.

Da parte di noi tutti di famiglia da i migliori auguri per il Suo mestico e nella speranza di poter presto migliori notizie, la salute sinceramente.

Leu Duomo Franco

LATERZA & FIGLI

Sograndino Librai

BARI

Telefono N. 41-750

Bari, li 21-3-1944

Caro Senatore

bratello per la tipografia vanno molto
 silenziosi e, intanto tutto il nostro la-
 voro si ferma. La situazione attuale è
 seguente: il P.W.B. ci propone la
 pubblicazione di un libro al mese, per
 dovremmo affidare tutto a loro e
 avere ingerenza nell'esecuzione.
 Abbiamo risposto che dato il numero
 delle nostre pubblicazioni e la serietà
 dei nostri autori, in un momento
 di disordine come questo non ci è
 possibile abbandonare ad altri la direzione
 dei nostri lavori, dei quali

siamo sempre noi responsabili di fronte
 all'autore e al pubblico, e abbiamo insistito
 molto per avere una macchina linotype e
 una macchina da stampa a nostra com-
 pleta disposizione. Il P.W.B. si mostra mol-
 to ben disposto verso di noi, ma ha
 grandi difficoltà nelle organizzazioni mili-
 tari. Ci manda la Critica di novembre; da
 Gianni però non riesce ancora ad avere la
 copia della Critica di marzo e i fogli li-
 nati del Regno di Napoli per fare l'in-
 dice dei nomi. Dopo stesso lo riscrittura a
 Lebranda sollecitandolo.

Da parte di noi tutti di famiglia la man-
 do i migliori auguri per il Suo con-
 valescenza e nella speranza di poter dare
 presto migliori notizie, la saluto affet-
 tuosamente.

Suo devoto Francesco

30 MAR Recd
140

16

File A B P

Copy

SECRET

01n March, 1944:

To: Mr. George Egan, PWB, Naples
 From: Chief of PWB/PWN Bari Outpost:

14-15

I enclose copy of a memorandum from Mr. Shelton on the subject of book printing by Laterza. Mr. Picora has seen this and agrees that the arrangement is both sensible and equitable.

As a result of this memorandum, a meeting was held between Shelton, Picora and the Laterza brothers, and the proposition put up to the Laterzas. They agreed that pending an official PWB decision on all these matters, they would be perfectly agreeable to dealing direct with PWB, not to criticise or interfere with the GAPP methods of organisation, and I gather they were to all appearances delighted that their books were to be printed, even though GAPP were to handle the printing.

Before going any further with this proposition, I should appreciate your comments on the arrangement, as I believe it comes under the heading of Publications.

I should also like to know what suggestions you have concerning payment. It appears that Laterzas are in a position to supply their own paper and ink, but they will still be getting free printing services and will therefore be making a profit out of the Allied Governments, as it were. How do you tackle these problems at your end?

I am also told that before we undertook this business of settling the trouble between Laterza and GAPP, the Laterzas applied to the ACC for consideration to be given to their case. This Shelton has only just heard, so should you hear of it through other channels you will be informed.

Signed Patrick Anderson
 Lieut.-Colonel
 Chief of PWB/PWN Bari Outpost

SES/LA/327:

1943

P

COPY

SECRET

15

PWE Data Sub-division

26th February, 1941:

To: Lt.Col. Anderson,
Copy to Mr. Picard:

Laterza Press:

Following my discussion with Mr. Picard on the subject of Laterza the printer, being disgruntled with GAPP and their methods of working in the Laterza requisitioned building, I have been making further inquiries and have come to the following conclusions. There is every evidence to believe that Laterza was an anti-Fascist throughout the Fascist regime and supported Croce and his like. He acted as publisher and printer for Croce and as such is to be regarded as a non-enemy of the Allied Forces.

His premises were requisitioned by a branch, D.P.A.S.S., to undertake army printing and Laterza was allowed to retain his offices in the building as a gesture of good feeling towards him. The same does not apply with other presses requisitioned by DPSSB. The question now arises as to whether or not Laterza should be allowed to resume the printing of books. It is suggested by Mr. Picard that to print Croce's works would in some measure help the Allied propaganda aims in Italy. I consider it however impracticable and inadvisable for Laterza to do any printing in the DPSSB requisitioned premises unless it comes under the control of DPSSB. The programme of PWB/PWE and army print combined output in Bari is an extremely large one and unless properly controlled can very easily get out of hand. The programme is not a simple one and its details cannot be laid down in advance. At any moment of the day or night an urgent leaflet may have to be printed and machines allocated to less urgent work taken off that work and put on to printing of higher importance.

It will therefore be seen that it is impossible, if we are to do our job properly, to give Laterzas the use of machinery and labour on a regular basis. The system I would advise be adopted is as follows: (1) that Laterza's book printing be confined to say one book a month, or two books every three months (details to be worked out); (2) that Laterza puts in an order for these books through the PWB organisation; (3) that PWB orders the books to be printed by GAPP, a time schedule being arranged between Head of GAPP and Production manager PWB, in the light of standing priorities; (4) the books would naturally come low in the priority list, but PWB would make it their job to see that delivery dates were kept as far as possible in the circumstances. (5) Laterza could choose his own compositors and other labour, but only by an agreement with the Head of GAPP. He would be responsible for the planning and proof-reading of the books, but he would deal with GAPP only through PWB. 9/2

The thing to be avoided is for Laterza to interfere with the working of GAPP. The way this organisation works is entirely their own business and criticism and interference cannot be tolerated from any outside party. I am told that there have been cases when Laterza has threatened his ex-employees with unemployment when the press again becomes his property, that he has criticised the rate of payment by DPSSB to some of his ex-employees, and has generally grumbled at the GAPP method of running the press. He may be fully

-2-

14

justified in these criticisms, as one peacetime printer to another, but in wartime the army must be allowed to run their organisations without interference from outside civilian sources. It is the job, I consider, of PWB Production to look into these matters and to improve them by a friendly arrangement with the army printers, on the grounds that they are a priority "client", and therefore justified in offering constructive suggestions. The situation calls for diplomacy and the method by which it is handled should be left to PWB Production Department.

I am sure that if this suggestion be put up to Laterza and handled carefully, he will see the reasoning of it all and will be much better disposed towards BWPP. I would even suggest that Croce himself be approached and the situation explained to him also.

4941

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

13

Ref/140/21/CA.

23 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Laterza Printing Firm at Bari.

TO : Military Government Section, A.P.H.Q.

1. Reference your MES 095 (Guis Laterza) of 23 Feb 44.
2. A strong case has been put forward by HQ. A.A.I. (Adm. Ech.) that, as a war necessity, the Allied Forces should continue to use the Laterza Printing Works in Bari.
3. Mr. Laterza, however, claims that there are other firms in Bari, now idle, which are capable of handling the work being done by his firm.
4. Mr. Laterza is being asked to implement this claim by naming the firms in question.
5. If, on the receipt of this information, HQ. A.A.I. (Adm. Ech.) are satisfied that suitable alternative printing facilities are available, they have agreed to release the whole or a part of the Laterza firm to enable it to perform the type of work suggested in the letter from the office of the British Resident Minister (reference 11/29/0 of 23 Jan 44) a copy of which was enclosed with your letter under reference.
6. A copy of letter from HQ. A.A.I. (Adm. Ech.) reference 14/4/42 of 17 Mar 44 is enclosed for your information.

M. S. LUSH
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Copy to: HQ. A.A.I. (Adm. Ech.) Ref. your 14/4/42 of 17 Mar 44.
P.W.B. (Mr. Minifie). With copy of HQ.A.A.I. 14/4/42
dated 17 Mar 44.

12

4940

Upon 54049

11A

20 MAR Recd -1892

Subject:- Laterza Publishing Firm at Bari.

H.Q. A.A.I. (Adm Ech)
C.M.F.

14/4/42.

HQ Allied Control Commission.

17 Mar 44.

1. Reference your letter 140/12/CA dated 1 March 1944, subject Laterza Publishing Firm at Bari.

2. A conference on the above subject was held by this HQ which was attended by Mr. Minific (PW E/B) Capt. Talbot (ACC) and Major Oliver (P & SS).

3. The printing presses under P & SS control in Bari are, and have been for some considerable time, working on a 24 hour programme and present commitments necessitate every piece of plant included in the various works; in point of fact, additional plant has been applied for in order to cope more expeditiously with the work in hand.

4. Approximately 40 printing orders are executed weekly by P & SS; these include various Army Forms, Posters and general administrative matter for the Army, and range from 5000 to two million copies each. In addition, the following newspapers are printed between the three presses in Bari:- UNION JACK (Eastern Edition), EIGHTH ARMY NEWS, NEW ZEALAND EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FILES, CRUSADER, SAUNDERS (an Indian newspaper), OVERSEAS DIGEST and other publications of a like nature. Printing is also undertaken on behalf of XII and XV AFSC, Royal Navy, certain sections of ACC, RAF and that part of the Italian Air Force which is operating with RAF.

5. In addition to the above there is a regular programme of printing on behalf of PWB and PWE, who require several million pamphlets to be printed each day, with a target figure of 200,000,000 per month in the immediate future. Some of these pamphlets necessitate strict security measures (as instanced prior to the ANZIO landing, when three and a half million pamphlets were printed and packed for dropping over the area on D day); in these circumstances only military personnel can be used, though normally approximately 600 civilians are employed.

6. This vast amount of printing requires all the plant that is at present available and is organised in conjunction with the capabilities and special features of each establishment.

7. In view of the above it is not possible, on present information to agree to the request made by Mr. Laterza for a part of the works to be placed at his disposal for printing the books which he claims are connected with psychological warfare.

8. From the above it will also be seen that a great part of the printing is by no means coarse work as suggested by the Laterza firm (para 2 of your letter refers). In particular work for the psychological warfare programme requires a high standard of printing.

9. Consideration has been given to the suggestion that PW E/B should sponsor some of the books which the Laterza firm desire to publish and include work to be performed by P & SS. This suggestion is

- for some considerable time, and the following points are included in the various works; in point of fact, additional plant has been applied for in order to cope more expeditiously with the work in hand.
4. Approximately 40 printing orders are executed weekly by P & SS; these include various Army Forms, Posters and general administrative matter for the Army, and range from 5000 to two million copies each. In addition, the following newspapers are printed between the three presses in EARL:- UNION JACK (Eastern Edition), EIGHTH ARMY NEWS, NEW ZEALAND EXPEDITIONARY FORCE TIMES, CRUSADER, SATEX (an Indian newspaper), OVERSEAS DIGEST and other publications of a like nature. Printing is also undertaken on behalf of XII and XV AFSC, Royal Navy, certain sections of ACC, PAF and that part of the Italian Air Force which is operating with RAF.
 5. In addition to the above there is a regular programme of printing on behalf of FWE and FWE, who require several million pamphlets to be printed each day, with a target figure of 200,000,000 per month in the immediate future. Some of these pamphlets necessitate strict security measures (as instanced prior to the ANZIO landing, when three and a half million pamphlets were printed and packed for dropping over the area on D day); in these circumstances only military personnel can be used, though normally approximately 600 civilians are employed.
 6. This vast amount of printing requires all the plant that is at present available and is organised in conjunction with the capabilities and special features of each establishment.
 7. In view of the above it is not possible, on present information to agree to the request made by Mr. Laterza for a part of the works to be placed at his disposal for printing the books which he claims are connected with psychological warfare.
 8. From the above it will also be seen that a great part of the printing is by no means coarse work as suggested by the Laterza firm (para 2 of your letter refers). In particular work for the psychological warfare programme requires a high standard of printing.
 9. Consideration has been given to the suggestion that FWE/B should sponsor some of the books which the Laterza firm desire to publish and include them in their programme of work to be performed by P & SS. This suggestion is not acceptable because:-
 - (a) It will serve to increase the printing commitments of presses which are already being used to capacity.
 - (b) As such books would be sold, and the revenue presumably be taken by an Italian civilian, complications will arise from the fact that W.D. printing materials, and possibly paper, would be used for civilian enterprise, even though work of this nature would be on repayment.
 10. We understand that there is an impression in the UK that the Laterza firm has been restrained from its normal activities. This is not the case, the whole output of the works having been taken over for the essential military purposes outlined above.

...../11.

1944

-2-

11. The value of the works produced by Mr. Laterza in respect of political warfare is appreciated and this HQ is prepared if possible to assist provided military interests are not prejudiced. It is observed that the firm states that there are other printing works in EARI which are suitably equipped to deal with military requirements. If this is the case this HQ is prepared to give favourable consideration to a scheme which would enable the Laterza Printing Works to use a part of their own works at EARI provided:-
- (a) The necessary output for military purposes from the alternative works available is suitably located in relation to the Laterza Printing Works to enable the present military establishment to supervise and control.
 - (b) The quality of the printing produced from these alternative printing works does not fall below the standard considered necessary for the various types of work required to be produced.
 - (c) That if a part of the Laterza Works be made available to the firm for their own operation, the necessary partitioning and safeguards from a military security aspect can be maintained.
12. Will you therefore please approach the Laterza firm with a view to obtaining a list of the works referred to above (vide para 2 of your letter) in order that the possibility of the proposals given in para 11 of this letter may be examined.

W. R. R. R.
Major General,
Chief Administrative Officer.

Copy to:- AOC Liaison AAI
P & SS.

4938

10

At a meeting today between Brigadier
Ritchie (Commanding Flambo) Major Oliver
(Printing Officer Flambo) Mr. Huijic (M.B.)
and Capt Talbot the following action
was agreed upon —

Flambo to write to A.C.C. pointing
out the difficulties of releasing the
Latarza books from government work
and asking that Sign Latarza be
asked to implement his statement
that there are other firms, how
idle, capable of handling the work
for the Allies now being done by
his firm. It was agreed to say
effect to Latarza "We want you
to resume your excellent and
far-famed activities, but this was hard
to do, and you must either find us
suitable alternative printers in Bari
or continue to do our work." 4937
S. G. W. 10/3

Subject:- Laterza Publishing Firm at Bari.

140.
5 MAR Recd.

3 March 44.

To:- Printing and Stationery Services Branch,
HQ. A.C.M.F. (Adm. Ech).

U-1426

From:- A.C.C. Liaison,
HQ. A.C.M.F.

Ref. ACCL/85.

1. Confirming conversation (Maj Oliver, D.A.D.P.S.S. and Maj Friend James speaking).
2. This section is pleased to attach copies of the following correspondence:-
 - (a) British Resident Minister, A.F.H.Q. to Military Government Section, A.F.H.Q. (Ref. 11/29/O, of 22 Feb 44).
 - (b) Letter from HQ. A.C.C. (Ref. 140/12/CA of 1 March 44).
 - (c) Letter to O.C., British Military Printing Press, C.M.F. (Ref. ACCL/83, of 5 March 44).



Friend James

Major,
A.C.C. Liaison Officer.

Copy to:- HQ. A.C.C.
(Your 140/12/CA refers).

19.6

PUBLISHING IN ITALY

1944 Jan 4

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir,—The appointment of Dr. Filippo Naldi, with his unsavoury reputation among the democrats, as head of the Italian Government Press Bureau, to which your Special Correspondent refers, is indeed disturbing—the more so because it follows hard upon the requisitioning of the entire printing works of the famous publishers, G. Laterza and Sons, at Bari.

This great firm published all Croce's works, as well as his fearless little philosophical journal *La Critica*, during the last 35 years. It has also published many books which no Fascist publisher would consider. This indirect suppression of *La Critica*, and of a publishing firm with a European reputation of integrity, on the first piece of European soil we liberate, should be rectified immediately, or else it may well remain as a bitter memory to darken future Anglo-Italian relations.

Yours faithfully,

STANLEY UNWIN.

40, Museum Street, W.C.1, Jan. 1.

8

From "The Times"

London Jan 4 '544

PUBLISHING IN ITALY

Jan 10, 1944

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir,—I cannot but write to you to express the deep and grave concern which I feel at the news given by Mr. Stanley Unwin in the letter you published recently that the works of the firm of Laterza at Bari have been requisitioned, and that Croce's journal *La Critica* and the general publishing activities of the firm with which he was connected have thus been indirectly suppressed. Any reader of *La Critica*—and I count myself one—knows what it has meant to freedom of thought. Any student of Laterza's catalogue knows that it has included translations of the works of liberal English writers (I have not a catalogue by me as I write, but I know that works by Professor Laski and—if I may be egotistic—by myself have been included).

It was always a marvel to me that under Fascism this liberty of publishing works which were the opposite of Fascism should have been tolerated. It is still more of a marvel to me—very much more—if this liberty of publishing should now be suppressed, and by us, or with our connivance. I find it difficult to believe. I can only beg—and I am sure that every English writer, be he Liberal or Conservative, will join with me in begging—that if it has been done it should be undone. *La Critica* was a glory of our times; and I have read some of its articles with exultation. If ever there was a free printing press, it was the press of Gius. Laterza e Figli, of Bari.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ERNEST BARKER.

17, Cranmer Road, Cambridge.

From "The Times"

London Jan 10 1944

4935

Subject:- Laterza Publishing Firm at Bari.

5 March 44.

To:- O.C.,
British Military Printing Press,
C.M.F.

From:- A.C.C. Liaison,
HQ. A.C.M.F.

Ref. ACCL/83.

1. Confirming conversation 5 March 44 (Capt. Lockyer and Major Friend James speaking).
2. Copies of correspondence are attached as follows:-
 - (a) British Resident Minister, A.F.H.Q. to Military Government Section, A.F.H.Q. (Ref. 11/29/0, of 22 Feb 44).
 - (b) Letter from HQ. A.C.C. (Ref. 140/12/CA of 1 March 44).
3. Will you please confer with Printing and Stationery Services with a view to releasing the Laterza firm from its existing contract in order that the printing of matter for political warfare may be undertaken.
4. This section will be pleased to discuss this subject with Major Budd when he visits HQ. A.C.M.F. on the 7 March 44.

RECEIVED
6 MAR 1944
A. C. C.

Friend James

Major,
A.C.C. Liaison Officer.

Copy to:- HQ. A.C.C.
(Ref. your 140/12/CA).

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

Ref/146/12/CA

1 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Laterza Publishing Firm at Bari

TO : A.C.C. Liaison, HQ, A.C.M.F.

1. Copy of a letter the British Minister's Office in Algiers to Military Government Section is enclosed.

2. This HQ is informed that the whole LATERZA printing works was taken over towards the end of 1943 by a Major BUMP on behalf of the British Military Printing Press for the printing of official Army forms etc. The Laterza firm state that this is coarse work, that it does not occupy their plant fully and that there are other firms which are equipped to do what the military authorities require but which are closed for lack of orders.

3. It is therefore, requested that you will approach the Military authority concerned with a view to having the Laterza firm released from its present work, and made available for the purposes of the political warfare suggested in the enclosed letter.

WILLIAM B. FISKE,
Colonel, Cavalry,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Incl
As above.

Copy to HQ to Mr. J. D. ...

4933

B/U
Noted
8/3

2

Recd

5

Memorandum from: Political Section.

To: R.C. & M.G. Section.

28 February, 1944.

1/4

Reference attached papers.

I understand from P.W.B. that the facts are as follows. Towards the end of last year Major Budd of the British Military Printing Press took over the whole of the Laterza printing works in order to print official army forms, etc. The firm claimed that most of this is coarse work, that it does not occupy their plant fully and that there are other firms which are equipped to do what the military authorities require but which are closed for lack of orders.

2. There is therefore at least a case for asking the appropriate military authorities whether the Laterza works could not be released for the purposes of political warfare suggested in the attached correspondence.

H. A. Ceccia

H. A. Ceccia

C.R.B.

Draft letter accordingly to Active
copy to No 2 Sec

1/20

19.2

1787

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

785016

V-254

H

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

TBJ/as

Military Government Section

MGS: 095 (Guis Laterza)

23 February 1944

SUBJECT: Laterza publishing firm at Bari.

TO : HQ ACC.

Reference the attached copy of memo from the British Minister's office of 22 Feb, copy of which has been sent direct by that office to your Political Section, please forward your comments to this Section.

For the Acting Chief of Section:

[Signature]

T. B. JACKMAN
Major

Incl:
as above

See 13

1901

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

TBJ/as

U-254

21

MKS: 095 (Guis Laterza)

23 February 1944

SUBJECT: Laterza publishing firm at Bari.

TO : H. ACC.

Reference the attached copy of memo from the British Minister's office of 22 Feb, copy of which has been sent direct by that office to your Political Section, please forward your comments to this Section.

For the Acting Chief of Section:



T. B. JACKMAN
Major

Incl:
as above

3

sent with
copy at 1.

6

49.0

*Shannon Smith
File 6 fac 25/2*

Office of the British Resident Minister
at Allied Force Headquarters,
5, Rue Professor Curtillet,
Algiers.

11/29/0

To: Military Government Section.

From: British Resident Minister's Office.

Subject: Laterza publishing firm at Bari.

Ref.: British Resident Minister's memo. No. 11/29/0
of January 23rd.

The British Foreign Office consider that, from the standpoint of political warfare, it is desirable that Italian publishing firms should be encouraged to issue translations of important works on politics and socialist thought published in democratic countries during the last twenty years. The firm of Laterza seems eminently fitted for this.

2. If, therefore, there are no other publishing firms in Southern Italy capable of such work, the Foreign Office hope that A.F.H.Q. will be able to agree and release at least part of the Laterza firm for this purpose.

3. The Foreign Office have also been informed that the principal representatives of the MONDADORI publishing firm at present in Switzerland have offered to put the whole of their printing and distributing organisation at the disposal of the Allies when Rome is reached.

22nd February, 1944.

Copy to:- Political Section, A.C.C.
Mr. Reinhardt.

4929

1790