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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ACC

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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HQ ACC PR.D.

R 1 B

*Soviet Films*

Sept. 1944. June 1945

- 1 -

TO: Chief Commissioner  
(Through Maj. Stearns)

CC 1145  
JUN 9 1965

1. The attached letter is submitted for approval and signature.
2. When the letter has been signed by the Chief Commissioner, would you please route the file copy and the EC file no. 9275 to the Executive Commissioner and the Political Advisers for their info.

6-7-65

G. STEWART BROWN  
Director, PRB

2

T. : P.R.B.

Ref 1 above. Letter, signed, is returned for distatch. C.C. and E.C. file copies have been withdrawn and E.C. file, with copy thereon, passed to Political Advisers for info.

Office, E.C.  
11 June 45

G. Horden  
H.A.S.B.

2562

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
Office of the Chief Commissioner  
APO 394

11B/PRB

// June 1945

My dear General Kislenko:

On receipt of your letter of May 10th protesting an incident in Bologna between the film representatives of P.W.B. and the Soviet Union, I asked for a complete report from P.W.B. Because of events in the north it has taken some time to obtain this information.

Attached herewith is the pertinent information which we have received from P.W.B. As you will see the facts in the case were misinterpreted by the owner of the cinema in Bologna and as a consequence the Soviet film representative received an erroneous impression of the action of P.W.B. As you are probably aware the Supreme Allied Command has given P.W.B. the responsibility for the distribution of films in Italy.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

Maj. Gen. R. A. Kislenko  
Soviet Union Representative  
to the Allied Commission  
Rome

Encl.

2561

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH  
ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS

Unit 12

APC 512

4 June 1945

To : Mr. Stewart Brown - Allied Commission

From : Capt. P. Levi - PWB, Film Section

Subject : Soviet Union Representative's complaint  
regarding P.W.B. action, Imperial Cinema,  
Bologna.

In reply to your letter dated May 22, we enclose  
translation of a letter in this connection received from  
our Film Officer in Bologna which we believe clears up  
this situation.

(Sgd)

Pilade Levi Capt. AC.

Encl.

2580

26 May 1945

To : PWB, Film Section - Unit 12  
From : PWB, Film Section - Unit 15  
Subject: Cinema Imperiale, Bologna.

In making plans for the release in first run of Bologna of the various films distributed by this Film Section, we approached the manager of the Cinema Imperiale. He agreed to the inclusion of his cinema in our proposed release plan.

Just prior to playing the first film scheduled for release, the Cinema Imperiale informed us that they had another film to play at this time. We pointed out that we would have to substitute his theatre with another and that our first run release plan would have to be changed so as to temporarily exclude his theatre in view of his theatre not being at our disposal for playing our films as agreed to.

The manager of the Cinema Imperiale, not wishing his cinema to be excluded from our circuit, told us he would postpone the date of showing of the film in question (we later learned that this was a Russian film being distributed by G.D.B.).

A few days later, Mr. De Berardinis arrived in Bologna and lodged a strong complaint against the manager of the Cinema Imperiale for this postponement. The manager, to excuse himself, gave an interpretation of what had taken place entirely different from actual facts and this of course provoked an unjustified resentment against us on the part of Mr. De Berardinis.

To prove that the above statements are exact we enclose a letter received from the cinema Imperiale.

We regret that what was a normal business transaction on our part was source of this incident, an incident which was due solely to the attitude taken by the manager of the cinema Imperiale toward G.D.B.

On our part we can assure you that in all our dealings with other film distributors and particularly with G.D.B., our policy has always been one of friendship and fair play.

(Signed) Francesco Battaglia  
Film Officer 2559  
PWB, Film Section  
Unit 15.

Encl.

On the occasion of the re-opening of movie houses in Bologna immediately after the liberation of the town by Allied troops, the PWB locale representative, Sig. Franco Battaglia, gave me to understand that his superiors had directed that the first-showings of PWB films in Bologna were to take place in the following houses:

MODERNISSIMO = FULGOR )  
IMPERIALE = CENTRALE ) Simultaneously  
MEDICA )

thereby taking advantage of three possibilities of exploitation. He offered the film CORVETTE K. 225 simultaneously for the IMPERIALE and CENTRALE. I objected for the reason that I had already the Russian film STALINGRADO from the Soyuzintorgkino exchange. Sig. Battaglia explicitly declared that, not being able to book for simultaneous showing of the PWB film at the Imperiale, he would have to scout for another solution, that is, choosing another centrally located house for the need.

Misinterpreting the statement to mean that the Imperiale would be excluded from any future bookings of PWB's American pictures, and not wishing to have my employers faced with that possibility, I preferred to transpose the STALINGRADO booking.

I referred the case in exactly the same terms to the Soyuzintorgkino agent, Sig. De Bernardinis, who acted in consequence.

In truth, I would like to state that shortly afterwards Sig. Battaglia freed for me a booking date, Sunday included, with another film, not PWB's. I was able to book for a period which included two Sunday dates an Italian film - ADDIO AMORE - because of an official order clearly indicated to the agent for Soyuzintorgkino films.

CINEMA IMPERIALE BOLOGNA  
La Direzione

23 Maggio 1945

2558



LHB/PMB

// June 1945

My dear General Kislenco:

On receipt of your letter of May 10th protesting an incident in Bologna between the film representatives of P.W.B. and the Soviet Union, I asked for a complete report from P.W.B. Because of events in the north it has taken some time to obtain this information.

Attached herewith is the pertinent information which we have received from P.W.B. As you will see the facts in the case were misinterpreted by the owner of the cinema in Bologna and as a consequence the Soviet film representative received an erroneous impression of the action of P.W.B. As you are probably aware the Supreme Allied Command has given P.W.B. the responsibility for the distribution of films in Italy.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

Maj. Gen. R. A. Kislenco  
Soviet Union Representative  
to the Allied Commission  
Rome

2556

Encl.

Copy to: CC Files  
EX. C Files (2)  
Liaison Division, Att: Capt. Arnoldy  
PMB Files (2)

one copy withheld  
(one copy only in page)



PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH  
ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS

Unit 12

AFO 512

4 June 1945

To : Mr. Stewart Brown - Allied Commission  
From : Capt. P. Levi - PWB, Film Section

Subject : Soviet Union Representative's complaint  
regarding P.W.B. action, Imperial Cinema,  
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our Film Officer in Bologna which we believe clears up  
this situation.

(Sgd)

Pilade Levi Capt. AC.

Encl.

2555

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From : PWB, Film Section - Unit 15  
Subject: Cinema Imperiale, Bologna.

In making plans for the release in first run of Bologna of the various films distributed by this Film Section, we approached the manager of the Cinema Imperiale. He agreed to the inclusion of his cinema in our proposed release plan.

Just prior to playing the first film scheduled for release, the Cinema Imperiale informed us that they had another film to play at this time. We pointed out that we would have to substitute his theatre with another and that our first run release plan would have to be changed so as to temporarily exclude his theatre in view of his theatre not being at our disposal for playing our films as agreed to.

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A few days later, Mr. De Berardinis arrived in Bologna and lodged a strong complaint against the manager of the Cinema Imperiale for this postponement. The manager, to excuse himself, gave an interpretation of what had taken place entirely different from actual facts and this of course provoked an unjustified resentment against us on the part of Mr. De Berardinis.

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(Signed) Francesco Battaglia 2554  
Film Officer  
PWB, Film Section  
Unit 15.

Encl.

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CINEMA IMPERIALE BOLOGNA  
La Direzione

23 Maggio 1945

2553

HAB/PMB

// June 1945

My dear General Kislenko:

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ELLERY W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

Maj. Gen. R. A. Kislenko  
Soviet Union Representative  
to the Allied Commission  
ROME

Encl.

2552

Copy to: CC Files  
EZ. C Files (2)  
Liaison Division, Att: Capt. Arnoldy  
PMB Files (2)

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH  
ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS

Unit 12

APC 512

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2551

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CINEMA IMPERIALE BOLOGNA  
La Direzione

23 Maggio 1945

2549



## HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

11B/PRB

// June 1945

My dear General Kislenko:

On receipt of your letter of May 10th protesting an incident in Bologna between the film representatives of P.W.B. and the Soviet Union, I asked for a complete report from P.W.B. Because of events in the north it has taken some time to obtain this information.

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Yours very truly,

ELLERY W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

Maj. Gen. R. A. Kislenko  
Soviet Union Representative  
to the Allied Commission  
Rome

Encl.

Copy to: CC Files  
Hq. C Files (2)  
Liaison Division, Att: Capt. Arnoldy  
PRB Files (2)

2568

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

SSB/mow

lib/PRE

22 May 1945

SUBJECT: Soviet Union Representative's complaint regarding P.W.B.  
action, Imperial Cinema, Bologna

TO : Capt. P. Levi  
P.W.B. Film Section  
17 via Santa Suzana

1. The Soviet representative, Maj. Gen. Kislanko, on the Allied Commission, has protested to Admiral Stone regarding a situation which has arisen in Bologna between the representatives of P.W.B. Film Section and representatives of the Soviet Distribution Agency.

2. The information on which the protest was based was shown to your assistant this morning and he has the necessary details.

3. It would be appreciated if you could give us a report on the matter in order that we can communicate it to Gen. Kislanko.

G. STEWART BROWN  
Director,  
Public Relations Branch

Copy to Maj. Stearns  
PRE Files

2547

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSE/new

11-B/PMB

20 March 45

My dear Mr. Dowling:

This is in reference to your letter of March 16 and Mr. Halford's memorandum of March 7 to me regarding the distribution of Soviet films in Italy.

I understand from Mr. Hopkinson that as a result of the communication from Washington referred to in your letter the British Embassy has asked for new instructions from the Foreign Office. In view of this development, I suggest it would be premature to communicate with the Soviet authorities regarding this matter.

From my study of the file on this question, it would seem it is in a complete tangle. According to Maj. Fielden's memo of Nov. 14 to Lt. Col. P. B. Jackman, G-5, AFHQ (carbon attached) the Soviet representative has withdrawn his request for circulation permits for their cars to distribute films in Italy. However I am informed by the Film Section of PWB that the Soviets have been distributing films independently in Italy since July, 1944. It would appear, therefore, that the whole matter is now out of the hands of the Allied Commission and PWB and any negotiations with the Soviets for reciprocal treatment of British and American films in Soviet-occupied territories should be taken up directly with the Soviets by the British and United States Governments.

Your further advice and that of the British Embassy, to which a copy of this letter is going, would be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

14  
S. STEWART BROWN  
Director,  
Public Relations Branch

Mr. W. C. Dowling  
Second Secretary  
American Embassy

2546

Copy to: British Embassy  
PWB  
G-5 Section, AFHQ



THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Rome, March 18, 1945

G. Stewart Brown, Esquire,  
Director of Public Relations,  
Allied Commission,  
Rome.

Sir:

I refer to Mr. Halford's memorandum of March 7 regarding the distribution of Soviet films in Italy.

A telegram has now been received from the Department of State reiterating its previous position that distribution facilities should be extended for Soviet films in Italy on the assumption that similar facilities are granted for American films in Soviet occupied areas.

The position set forth in Mr. Halford's memorandum under reference should therefore be altered accordingly before communication is made to the Soviet authorities in Italy.

Very truly yours,

*W. L. Marshall*

Copy to:  
British Embassy

2565

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSR/new

11-B/PRB

10 March 45

SUBJECT: Distribution of Soviet Films in Italy

TO : A. S. Helford  
Asst. Political Adviser

1. With reference to your memorandum of 7 March, Mr. Schott informs me that Washington has not yet commented on the Soviet proposal and would prefer that no action be taken until this word is received.

2. The correspondence which you referred to me is returned herewith.

G. STEWART BROWN  
Director,  
Public Relations Branch

Copy to: U.S. Embassy  
British Embassy

Encl.

2544

G. Stewart Frown, Esq.,  
Director of Public Relations Office,  
Allied Commission.

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Subject: Distribution of Soviet  
Films in Italy.


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Please see the attached papers regarding the distribution of Soviet Films in Italy. The upshot is that such films may be distributed and facilities provided therefor without our insisting on the grant of reciprocal treatment for the distribution of American and British Films in the Balkans and Soviet territory.

2. I suggest that your office would be the best channel for informing the Soviet authorities in Italy through the Soviet Representative on the Allied Commission.

7th March 1945.

Copies to: U.S. Embassy,  
British Embassy.



(A. S. HALFORD)  
Asst. Political Adviser

2543

TO BE RETURNED  
POLITICAL SECTION

COPY

PR O

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
G-5 Section  
APO 512

G-5: 062.2

3 March 1945

SUBJECT: Distribution of Soviet films in Italy.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394

1. Reference memorandum from Office of U. S. Political  
Adviser, AFHQ, dated 12 February, of which you received a copy,  
and our G-5: 062.2 to you, dated 17 February.

2. The Office of the British Resident Minister now informs  
this Section that word has been received from the Foreign Office that  
it does not intend at the present to take up with the Russian  
Government the question of the distribution of British films in  
Soviet territory. It is the position of the Foreign Office that per-  
mission should now be granted to distribute Soviet films in Italy,  
and the request of the British Resident Minister's Office that the suggested  
approach of the Allied Commission to the Soviet representative be delayed,  
is now withdrawn.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

JULIUS BYLES  
Major, P.A.

Copy to:

British Resident Minister  
United States Political Adviser  
Psychological Warfare Branch.

2542



HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

<sup>B</sup>  
119/14/PRB

14 November 1944.

SUBJECT: Move of M.Oukrievski.

TO : Lt.Colonel T.B.Jackman, AFHQ G-5 Section, APO 512.

- 13
1. I refer to your letter of November 5.
  2. Lt.Colonel Brown, of the Liaison Section has sent me the following note:

"Upon receipt of this letter from the Chief of Staff the Soviet Rep, through his ADC, said that he would not make any further request for the permits. He stated that in areas controlled by the Soviet Government by military occupation the same rule would apply to applications made by the UK or US. This is furnished you for information."

3. It would seem, therefore, that the matter is closed and, if no permits are to be sought, the reason for M.Oukrievski's move to Rome ceases to exist.

(Sgd)

LIONEL FIELDEN,  
Major,  
Public Relations Director.

2541

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
G-5 Section  
APO 512

2586  
3611B  
TBJ/BMR/jjjr

G-5: 300.4-4

5 November 1944

9 NOV Recd

SUBJECT: Move of M. OUKRIEVSKI.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394

1. In the course of a visit connected with other matters Lieut. MITZKIEVITCH, PA to General VASSILIEV, requested Liaison Section, this Headquarters to assist in the move of M. OUKRIEVSKI from ALGIERS to ROME.

2. M. OUKRIEVSKI, it was stated, was formerly attached to the Soviet Embassy in ALGIERS. This Embassy has of course now moved to PARIS and M. OUKRIEVSKI has been posted to the Soviet Embassy in ROME in a similar appointment which appears to be that of Cinematograph and Film publicity expert and advisor.

3. As the whole question of the distribution of Soviet films in liberated Italy is pending, it is requested that you inform Lt. MITZKIEVITCH that you regret that M. OUKRIEVSKI's application, like that of M. and Mme. Ermolov, cannot very well be considered until after a reply has been received to the letter addressed by Brigadier Lush to the Soviet Representative on 18 October.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

*Blanton*  
T. B. JACKMAN  
Lt. Colonel.

Copy to:- Liaison Section  
AFHQ.



✓ 25 Oct 44 <sup>11B</sup>  
(127)

Memo to PRO-ACC

"Upon receipt of this letter from the Chief of Staff, the Soviet Rep, through his ADC, said that he would not make any further request for the permits. He stated that in areas controlled by the Soviet Government by military occupation the same rule would apply to applications made by the UK or US. This is furnished you for information."

2539

Ernest Brown  
FT Col

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
Office of Chief of Staff  
APO 394

11B

Ref: 6513/COS.

18 October 44.

SUBJECT: Distribution in Liberated Italy of  
films produced by the Soviet  
Cinematographic industries.

TO : Soviet Representative, A.C.C.

1. The Commission has received an application from an Italian citizen, Dr. Giovanni de Berardinis, for circulation permits for two automobiles to be used in connection with the distribution in Italy of films produced by the Soviet cinematographic industries.

2. Applications have also been received from Lt. Commander Grishchinsky of your office for circulation permits for five automobiles, one of which was also included in the request from Dr. de Berardinis.

3. Applications have also been received at Algiers from Peter and Sadura Ernolov for entrance into Italy in connection with the proposed distribution of Russian films.

4. This letter is addressed to you in thought that perhaps it has not been called to your attention that the distribution of films in liberated Italy is controlled by Psychological Warfare Branch of Allied Force Headquarters, which supervises the dissemination of all the films and arranges for the deposit of film rentals into a special account with the Allied Control Commission.

5. The Commission will be pleased to transmit any official request which you may care to make in this regard to the authorities concerned, who I am sure will give it sympathetic consideration.

For the Chief Commissioner:

Brigadier,  
Chief of Staff.

Copy to:

A.F.H.Q. - G-5 Section.

2538



PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R11

17 Oct 44

SUBJECT : SOVIET CINEMATOGRAPHIC INDUSTRIES  
TO : Acting Chief Commissioner, A.C.C.  
(through Chief of Staff)

I attach correspondence which has been passed from Transportation Sub-Commission to me and from me, after discussion, to PWB, and from PWB to AFHQ and from AFHQ to PWB and from PWB apparently to Political Section, who have passed it to me "to clear with Commodore Stone". A very nice length of red tape. Your signature of the draft at (A) is evidently desired by those greater and wiser than I am.

lf/vehb

*Lionel Fielden*  
LIONEL FIELDEN  
Major  
Public Relations Director.

2537

Encl:

053 (Return to <sup>sf</sup> Edman)  
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
INFORMATION AND CENSORSHIP SECTION  
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH  
UNIT No. 8 - APO 512 ✓

October 12, 1944

Mr. George Edman  
FWB-AFHQ Unit 12  
APO-512

Dear George:

I am attaching the draft of a proposed reply to the Russians on the film matter, together with the file. The draft was prepared by the American and British Political Advisers. As you will note, it is a rather cagy document. The purpose, as you will probably surmise, is to set up a situation which can be used as a *quid pro quo* elsewhere. The letter should be cleared with the Political Section of ACC, and any subsequent developments should be reported to AFHQ, for the information of the Political Advisers.

Sincerely,

*Russell Barnes*

Russell Barnes  
Director, FWB-AFHQ

2536

Draft letter to Soviet Member, Allied Control  
Commission from Acting Chief Commissioner

The Commission has received an application from an Italian citizen, Dr. Giovanni de Berardinis, for circulation permits for two automobiles to be used in connection with the distribution in Italy of films produced by the Soviet cinematographic industries.

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~~The Commission~~  
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2535



051 41 ✓

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
INFORMATION AND CENSORSHIP SECTION  
**PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH**  
ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS  
P.W.B. UNIT No. 12 U.S.A.P.O. 512

14th October, 1944.

Lieut. Colonel Enoch Brown,  
Liaison Office, ACC.

Here is the sequence of action which has been taken on the Soviet request for transport for the distribution of their films.

Mr. Edson wrote to Mr. Russell Barnes, Chief FWD AFHQ, on 26th September, 1944 asking him if he would discuss at AFHQ the Soviet Embassy's request for transport for the service of their films in Italy. Mr. Barnes replied on September 30th saying that "there was considerable interest displayed at AFHQ and it was believed the subject would have to be passed to Washington and London - not because of the immediate point but because of larger implications". It was to be discussed with Mr. Kirk.

On October 9th Mr. Barnes wrote to Mr. Rayner, D.P.W.O., saying that the British and American Political Advisers had been dealing with the Russian film matter but they had discarded one line of action and had now substituted procedure through ACC. He expected to hear details later.

2534

*James M. Minifie*

JAMES M. MINIFIE,  
Liaison, FWD-ACC.

*Probably  
The Political Section*

*Polish ?*

6513 ✓ 1

HEADQUARTERS OF THE  
SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
APO 394

Ref.12/10/OSR

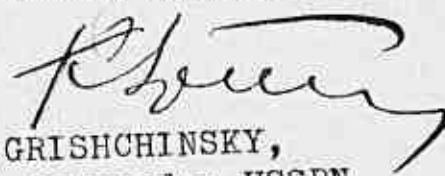
12th October, 1944.

Subject: Circulation permits, request for.

To : Col. Enoch Brown, Liaison Officer, ACC.

The Representation of the Soviet State Film Association "Zojuzintorgkino", in order to carry out its activity in Liberated Italy, has extreme necessity of free circulation for its means of transportation. Considering that, it is hereby requested for the permits being issued for the under listed "Zojuzintorgkino" vehicles.

The present request is addressed to you owing to the difficulties caused by some Italian authorities.

  
K. GRISHCHINSKY,  
Lt. Commander, USSR

2533

1. FIAT 1100      Telaio 508 C N 239305  
Motore 108 C " 242256  
Targa Roma N 69255
2. LANCIA ARTENA      Telaio N 285328  
Motore 84 N 4186  
Targa Roma N 45632
3. FIAT 1500      Telaio N 015999  
Motore N 015946  
Targa Roma N 56008
4. FIAT 508      Telaio N 059701  
Motore " 051346  
Targa Roma N 48670
5. FIAT 500      Telaio N 053560  
motore " 053816  
Targa Roma N 67975

653 264  
X  
5  
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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRE/RL1

3 Oct 44

SUBJECT : FILMS IN ITALY

Dear George,

I must apologise for not having replied sooner to your letter of 26 September regarding the application by Soviet Cinematographic Industries.

I fully agree with the action you propose and I presume that this action will be taken by PWB.

Yours

(Sgd) LIONEL FIELDEN

Mr. George W. Edman,  
A.D.P.W.O. Italy (Lib).  
P.W.B.

lf/venb

2531

26 September 1944

Major Lionel Fielden, Director  
Public Relations  
Allied Control Commission

Dear Lionel:

I have the various correspondence concerning the distribution of film produced by Soviet Cinematographic Industries.

Col. Young has put his finger on the points involved in paragraphs 3 and 4 of his letter of Sept. 24 to your office.

Under Staff Memorandum, Number 56, issued by AFHQ to FWD in Italy, dated 1 July 1943, FWD is charged with responsibility for films in Italy. There has been no abrogation of this order, so it would seem that we are still to be held responsible for distribution. However, I do recognize that this particular request is unusual and therefore propose the following action:

1. Refer the applicant to Lt. Levi, Head of our Film Distribution Section, to discuss ways and means to meet the immediate needs through FWD's existing facilities.

2. Refer the entire matter to AFHQ for guidance on the long range point of view to cover this request and similar ones that may be made by other embassies.

GEORGE W. ROMAN  
A.D.P.W.O. Italy (Lib.)

cc: Mr. Heyner  
Mr. Minifie  
Col. Young  
Lt. Levi  
AFHQ ✓ *Mr. Bame*

2530



ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
INFORMATION AND CENSORSHIP SECTION  
**PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH**  
ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS  
P.W.B. UNIT No. 12 U.S.A.P.O. 512

26 September 1944

Mr. Russell Barnes, Chief  
PWB - AFHQ  
APO 512

Dear Russ:

A request from the Soviet Embassy for independent circulation of films in Italy raises a point that should be settled at Caserta. Would you be good enough to discuss the matter at AFHQ and let me know what the guidance is? The several attachments will give you the problem in some detail.

Sincerely yours,

*George W. Edman*  
GEORGE W. EDMAN  
A.D.P.W.O. Italy (Lib.)

Enc.

cc: Mr. Reyner

2529

(COPY)

HEADQUARTERS  
 ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
 Public Safety Sub-Commission  
 APC 394

24 Sep 1944

ACC/14414/PS

SUBJECT: Motor Vehicle Circulating Permits

TO: Public Relations Office

1. Reference conversation today, Major Lionel Fielden, Major W. G. Ballance, and attached letter received from "Représentation du Gouvernement de l'Union des Républiques Soviétiques Socialistes auprès du Gouvernement d'Italie" requesting the issue of two motor vehicle circulating permits to a Mr. Giovanni de Bernardinis, Concessionaire of Russian films in Italy, to enable him to arrange for the distribution of films produced by Soviet Cinematographic Industries.

2. It will be remembered that before issuing a permit the issuing authority must be satisfied that:-  
 (a) The use of the vehicle is to serve an essential public need; and  
 (b) The motor fuel used will be drawn from authorized sources.

3. The essentiality of the film industry has been recognized, but hitherto, all requests from film agencies have been dealt with by PWS, in whom, in ordinary circumstances, applicant would have been referred.

4. The request from the Soviet Embassy is the first of its kind that has been received at this Headquarters, and as similar requests may be received from other Embassies, it is requested that the views of PWS be obtained in order that a statement of policy may be issued on this matter.

2528

(signed) A. E. YOUNG, Col.  
 Acting Director  
 Public Safety  
 Sub-Commission

Enclosures  
 As above

Copy to: Commerce Sub-Commission (Attn: Major Brereton)  
 A. C. Region IV. (Motor Transportation Division)  
 (Attn: Capt. Caron)



(signed) Dr. Giovanni De Benedetti

PIV 1100 - Frame 108 C N 20046 - Motor 108 C N 20046  
 Target N. 20046  
 PIV 1100 - Frame 108 C N 20046 - Motor 108 C N 20046  
 Target N. 20046

Therefore the undersigned wishes to see the film in order to have the circulating band, through which the film for the following cases:

Consequently to get over the great difficulties in transportation the undersigned has been obliged to get two motor cars of his own property.

The undersigned Dr. Giovanni De Benedetti has been given by the Soviet Diplomatic Representative with the Italian Government the authorization to take care of the diffusion through confidential and insular Italy of films produced by Soviet cinematographic industries.

NOTE

TO ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Rome, September 30, 1944

Dr. GIOVANNI DE BENEDETTI  
 Via Nomentana, 309 - Rome

(COPY)

0506