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HQ-AC PR

Agencies
June-Dec. 1944

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File No R 20a

Agencies Vol I.

June - Dec. 1964

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P.O.

Extract from Minutes of the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political) held on Saturday, 30 December, 1944.

Ref: SAC (P) (44) 37th Meeting - 30th December, 1944 (Original in File 217/COS).

MINUTE No. 4.

4. PRIVATE PRESS AGENCIES IN ITALY.

(Paper No. SAC (P) (44) 157).

THE CONFERENCE had before them a paper by the Chief of Staff reporting the conclusions of the Sub-Committee on News Agencies appointed under conclusion 5 of SAC (P) (44) 36th Meeting and recommending that private news agencies be permitted to operate in ROME and that a technical sub-committee be appointed to study the further extension of their operation in liberated ITALY.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL HARDING stated that at the meeting of the Sub-Committee there had been some disagreement between the viewpoints of the Allied Commission and the Psychological Warfare Branch and the admission of private news agencies to ROME had been agreed as a compromise. He felt that, although this might involve some security risk, it should be accepted. Further extension of the activities of the news agencies would be studied by the technical sub-committee, which he recommended should be under the chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, who should report its recommendations, with his views, to AFHQ.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

(a) Directed that private news agencies be permitted to sell news direct to the newspapers of ROME on and after 15 January 1945, and that the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, inform the private news agencies.

(b) Appointed a technical sub-committee consisting of,

Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission - Chairman.
Director, PWB
Chief, INC
Chief Signals Officer, AFHQ

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or their representatives, to investigate at what juncture and by what means the distribution of news to newspapers and radio stations by private news agencies, both foreign and Italian, should be extended throughout the remainder of liberated ITALY, and to report their recommendations to AFHQ.

(c) Directed that the technical sub-committee appointed under (b) above, in carrying out their investigation, have particular regard to the safeguards required to prevent the establishment of a monopolistic indigenous news agency in ITALY.

(d) Directed that no measures other than normal censorship be adopted to prevent the publication of material liable to cause disorder or unrest, unless in the opinion of the competent military authorities the publication of a situation would lead to military security.

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THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

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- (b) Appointed a technical sub-committee consisting of,

Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission - Chairman.
 Director, FWB
 Chief, INC
 Chief Signals Officer, AFHQ

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or their representatives, to investigate at what juncture and by what means the distribution of news to newspapers and radio stations by private news agencies, both foreign and Italian, should be extended throughout the remainder of liberated ITALY, and to report their recommendations to AFHQ.

- (c) Directed that the technical sub-committee appointed under (b) above, in carrying out their investigation, have particular regard to the safeguards required to prevent the establishment of a monopolistic indigenous news agency in ITALY.
- (d) Directed that no measures other than normal censorship be adopted to prevent the publication of material liable to cause disorder or unrest, unless in the opinion of the competent military authorities the precipitation of a situation prejudicial to military security should be imminent.

.....End of Extract.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

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SAC(P)(44) 157.
27th December 1944.

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SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE (POLITICAL)

PRIVATE PRESS MATTERS IN ITALY

Note by the Chief of Staff.

1. The Sub-Committee on News Agencies appointed by the Supreme Allied Commander (SAC (P) (44) 36th Meeting, Minute 5) met on 26th December 1944 to consider the questions referred to it by the Supreme Allied Commander.
2. The Sub-Committee also had before it a proposal by the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, to permit private news agencies to sell news to newspapers of the city of ROME only.
3. The Sub-Committee recommends to the Supreme Allied Commander as follows:-

- (a) Reference question (i), as to the juncture at which the PWB screen on news should be removed and the operation of private news agencies permitted:-
 - (1) That private news agencies be permitted to sell news direct to the newspapers of ROME on and after 15 January 1945.
 - (2) That a technical sub-committee consisting of representatives of the Allied Commission, PWB, INC and the Chief Signals Officer, AFHQ, be appointed to investigate the time and the methods by which the distribution of news to newspapers through the remainder of liberated ITALY by private news agencies will be feasible.

- (b) Reference question (ii), as to the safeguards which should be established to ensure against the development in ITALY of a non-political indigenous news agency:

That for the time being no Italian news agency be permitted to distribute news in ITALY outside ROME. That the time when ARMI, or any other Italian news agency, is to be permitted to enter the field of news distribution be investigated by the technical sub-committee.

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- (c) Reference question (iii), as to what measures should be taken to avoid publication of material likely to lead to disorder and unrest:

That nothing other than normal censorship should be undertaken, unless a serious situation from the military point of view seems likely to arise. The security risk admittedly existing as a result of the admission of private news agencies to ROME is outweighed by the advantage in respect of freedom of the press, particularly in view of the power of the Supreme Allied Commander

Commander (SAC (P) (44) 36th Meeting, Minute 5) met on 26th December 1944 to consider the questions referred to it by the Supreme Allied Commander.

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3. The Sub-Committee recommends to the Supreme Allied Commander as follows:-

(a) Reference question (i), as to the juncture at which the PWB screen on news should be removed and the operation of private news agencies permitted:-

(1) That private news agencies be permitted to sell news direct to the newspapers of ROME on and after 15 January 1945.

(2) That a technical sub-committee consisting of representatives of the Allied Commission, PWB, INC and the Chief Signals Officer, AFHQ, be appointed to investigate the time and the methods by which the distribution of news to newspapers through the remainder of liberated ITALY by private news agencies will be feasible.

(b) Reference question (ii), as to the safeguards which should be established to ensure against the development in ITALY of a non-opolistic indigenous news agency:

That for the time being no Italian news agency be permitted to distribute news in ITALY outside ROME. That the time when ANPT, or any other Italian news agency, is to be permitted to enter the field of news distribution be investigated by the technical sub-committee.

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(c) Reference question (iii), as to what measures should be taken to avoid publication of material likely to lead to disorder and unrest:

That nothing other than normal censorship should be undertaken, unless a serious situation from the military point of view seems likely to arise. The security risk admittedly existing as a result of the admission of private news agencies to ROME is outweighed by the advantage in respect of freedom of the press, particularly in view of the power of the Supreme Allied Commander under the Armistice terms to impose necessary measures of censorship to meet particular situations which may arise.

(Init'd) J.H.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

NEWS AGENCY SUB COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NEWS AGENCY
SUB COMMITTEE HELD IN THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER'S CONFERENCE ROOM AT 1600 HOURS ON TUESDAY
26TH DECEMBER 1944

PRESENT :-

Lieutenant General Sir John Harding,
Chief of Staff to Supreme Allied Commander

Captain K.T. Derling, representing
Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean

Mr. C. Offie, representing
U.S. Political Adviser

Lieutenant Colonel G.G. Baker, representing
Chief Administrative Officer, AFHQ

Colonel S.S. Hill-Dillon, representing
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, AFHQ

Lieutenant Colonel E.E. Schukraft, representing
Chief Signals Officer, AFHQ

Mr. Russell Barnes,
Director, FBI

Rear Admiral Ellery T. Stone,
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission

Colonel A.C.M. Hobson, representing
Chief, ING

THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT :-

Colonel T.R. Henn,
G-5 Section, AFHQ

Lieutenant Colonel R.A. Mears,
Signals Section, AFHQ

Major I.S. Gleason,
Signals Section, AFHQ

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G-5 Section, AFHQ

Lieutenant Colonel R.M. Hears,
Signals Section, AFHQ

Major I.A. Gleason,
Signals Section, AFH

Captain L.R. Engler,
Signals Section, AFHQ

SECRETARY

Major W.A. Bannister

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ADMISSION OF PRIVATE NEWS AGENCIES TO OPERATION IN ITALY

(Paper No. RASCO (44) 1)

THE SUB-COMMITTEE had before it the three questions referred to it by the Supreme Allied Commander at the 36th meeting of the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political) (Minute 5).

REAR ADMIRAL STONE, referring to the first question, as to the juncture at which the P.B. screen on news should be removed and the operation of private news agencies permitted, said that after the 36th meeting of the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political) he had conferred with representatives of the news agencies, together with several Allied Public Relations officers, and that he at the time explained to them the necessity of awaiting investigation and report by the sub-committee appointed by the Supreme Allied Commander. Reuters news agency proposed that the agencies be admitted to sell news in the RHE area alone and the other news agencies and the officers then present supported this recommendation. Admiral Stone urged the sub-committee to endorse this proposal because (1) it would partially put into practice the already-professed principle of preventing freedom of the press, (2) the plan involved no communication difficulties affecting distribution, and (3) it would provide a good trial period for the private news agencies which would help solve the future problem of extension of their services to the rest of liberated ITALY. He advocated that technical meetings be held later on in ROME between representatives of P.B., A.C., I.N.C., Signals and the Italian Government to determine when and how the extension of the services of private agencies could be made.

MR. BARNES stated that he had no desire to oppose the entry of private news agencies. He felt that discussion of security and communications difficulties could be better made by the sections concerned than by himself. He felt, however, that he must insist, because of the directives under which P.B. operates, upon the necessity of preventing monopoly in the Italian press, such as existed formerly under the old Italian Government agency. If P.B. could be shown how news could be distributed in ITALY on a generally competitive basis he would withdraw all objections. He saw some difficulty arising from the fact that if the news agencies were permitted to sell to newspapers in ROME only there would be in ITALY two classes of papers - those served by the private news agencies and those in the remainder of liberated ITALY served by P.B., the news files being different in the two cases. He furthermore thought it would be necessary, as a result of the entry of private news agencies into ROME, to turn over radio news in ROME to the private agencies also.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE observed that a period of operation of the private news agencies in ROME, along with the continuance of P.B. radio news broadcasts, would show whether P.B. screening operated to keep from the Italian people news that they were interested in getting. In reply to a question by Mr. Barnes, he agreed that the private agencies should not be allowed to sell to some single Italian agency, and that their sales of news to Italian agencies as distinguished from individual newspapers should not take place until there was actual competition between Italian news agencies.

MR. BARNES, referring to the second question put to the sub-committee by

MR. ADAM STONE, referring to the first question, as to the juncture at which the P.B. screen on news should be removed and the operation of private news agencies permitted, said that after the 36th meeting of the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political) he had conferred with representatives of the news agencies, together with several Allied Public Relations officers, and that he at the time explained to them the necessity of awaiting investigation and report by the sub-committee appointed by the Supreme Allied Commander. Reuters news agency proposed that the agencies be admitted to sell news in the ROME area alone and the other news agencies and the officers then present supported this recommendation. Admiral Stone urged the sub-committee to endorse this proposal because (1) it would partially put into practice the already-professed principle of promoting freedom of the press, (2) the plan involved no communication difficulties affecting distribution, and (3) it would provide a good trial period for the private news agencies which would help solve the future problem of extension of their services to the rest of liberated ITALY. He advocated that technical meetings be held later on in ROME between representatives of P.B., A.C., I.M.C., Signals and the Italian Government to determine when and how the extension of the services of private agencies could be made.

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MR. BARNES, referring to the second question put to the sub-committee by the S.A.C., as to measures for the prevention of monopoly, asserted that the Italian Government must be prevented from setting up any telegraphic agency for the distribution of government decrees and announcements to various points in ITALY.

MR. ADAM STONE expressed the view that this would not be objectionable if there were at the time competing news agencies, and pointed out that in the United States the government sends telegrams to various parts of the country for delivery at those points to newspapers.

/MR. BARNES

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MR. BARNES stated that the presence of competing news agencies would not prevent such a government agency from becoming a monopoly in its field because the government would always get its announcements to the papers before the news agencies.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF stated that whether the Italian Government should be permitted to set up a telegraphic agency was a proper matter for the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, and the Director, PWB, together with the proposed technical committee, to investigate and agree upon.

COLONEL HOBSON felt it undesirable to separate ROME and the rest of ITALY in respect of news and stated that uniformity in liberated ITALY would be better. He remarked that if the agencies were operating in ROME their news would in some manner get out into the rest of ITALY.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE pointed out that this HQ had agreed to letting agencies in all over ITALY if certain conditions could be met, and that therefore to the extent that such news got out into the rest of ITALY, the problem would be solving itself and this would be a desirable result.

COLONEL HOBSON enquired as to what hurry there was for the admission of the private news agencies.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF stated that the need for some speed arose from the fact that the Supreme Allied Commander, in view of the long time the Allies had been in ITALY without any progress towards freedom of the press, which the operation of private news agencies would promote, desired that early progress in this direction should be made.

MR. OFFICE said that undoubtedly there were security risks involved in adopting Rear Admiral Stone's proposal but that in his opinion the advantage of being able to announce to the world that private agencies were now being enabled to operate in ITALY would considerably outweigh the disadvantages.

MR. BARNES questioned how PWB should obtain news files from the news agencies after the agencies started selling to newspapers in ROME, as the news was now obtained free from them by PWB. He further remarked that if the agencies were to be admitted to ROME it would probably be better for PWB to get out of the newspaper and radio news field in liberated ITALY entirely, so that news diffused through these means would be on the same basis everywhere.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF observed that the time and extent of PWB's withdrawal would be a further step to be considered at a later time.

MR. OFFICE stated that PWB should be able to offer advice respecting the operation of the Italian press during the time private news agencies operating in ROME.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE suggested that the question of terms upon which news could be furnished to PWB should be worked out between PWB and the news agencies.

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COLONEL ROBERTSON felt it undesirable to separate ROME and the rest of ITALY in respect of news and stated that uniformity in liberated ITALY would be better. He remarked that if the agencies were operating in ROME their news would in some manner get out into the rest of ITALY.

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MR. OFFICE said that undoubtedly there were security risks involved in adopting Rear Admiral Stone's proposal but that in his opinion the advantage of being able to announce to the world that private agencies were now being enabled to operate in ITALY would considerably outweigh the disadvantages.

MR. BARNES questioned how PEB should obtain news files from the news agencies after the agencies started selling to newspapers in ROME, as the news was now obtained free from them by PEB. He further remarked that if the agencies were to be admitted to ROME it would probably be better for PEB to get out of the newspaper and radio news field in liberated ITALY entirely, so that news diffused through these means would be on the same basis everywhere.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF observed that the time and extent of PEB's withdrawal would be a further step to be considered at a later time.

MR. OFFICE stated that PEB should be able to offer advice respecting the operation of the Italian press during the time private news agencies **3218** operating in ROME.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE suggested that the question of terms upon which news could be furnished to PEB should be worked out between PEB and the news agencies.

COLONEL HILL-DILLON said that INC ought not to be expected to perform political censorship. Unfiltered news might have inflammatory effects inside ITALY and give results such as those being experienced in GREECE, and therefore the present PEB filtering should be maintained.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE stated that on the other hand he had found it disturbing to Italians to hear on the foreign radio, for example, that YUGOSLAVIA wanted certain Italian provinces, and not at the same time to be able to read about it in the Italian newspapers.

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THE CHIEF OF STAFF suggested that if critical conditions should arise the news agencies could probably be persuaded to adopt necessary voluntary censorship with reference to news intended for ITALY, and also that influential Allied statesmen could at the same time be prevailed upon to make statements which would have a steady effect upon the Italian people.

COLONEL HILL-DILLON said that an example of what he had in mind would be criticism in Allied countries of any use of force by the Allied governments which might become necessary in ITALY. Such criticism would give encouragement to those making trouble.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE stated that if necessary, in conformity with the Armistice terms, it would be possible for the Supreme Allied Commander to impose censorship upon the area affected by a disturbance.

MR. OFFIE agreed, but pointed out that the least thing the United States Government would wish to do would be to participate in any political censorship.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL BAKER pointed out that divergence between the news published by the "Stars and Stripes", "The Union Jack" and any papers for the Italian Army, from the local civilian press, might prove irritating.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF was of the opinion that the fact that most troops were located in the Army areas, and not where news from the private news agencies would be published, would diminish the risk from this source to the point where it would not be serious.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF :

Directed that the following recommendations be reported to the Supreme Allied Commander in Conference :-

(a) Reference question (i), as to the juncture at which the P.B. screen on news should be removed and the operation of private news agencies permitted :-

(1) That private news agencies be permitted to sell news direct to the newspapers of ROMANIA on and after 15 January 1945.

(2) That a technical sub-committee consisting of representatives of the Allied Commission, PWS, INC and the Chief Signals Officer, AFH, be appointed to investigate the time and the methods by which the distribution of news to newspapers throughout the remainder of liberated ITALY by private news agencies will be feasible.

(b) Reference question (ii), as to the safeguards which should be established to ensure against the development in ITALY of a monopolistic indigenous news agency :

That for the time being no Italian news agency be permitted to distribute news in ITALY outside ROME. That the time when ARI, or any other Italian news agency, is to be permitted to enter the field of news distribution be investigated by the technical sub-committee.

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Armistice terms, it would be possible for the Supreme Command to pose censorship upon the area affected by a disturbance.

MR. OFFIE agreed, but pointed out that the last thing the United States Government would wish to do would be to participate in any political censorship.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL BAKER pointed out that divergence between the news published by the "Stars and Stripes", "The Union Jack" and any papers for the Italian Army, from the local civilian press, might prove irritating.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF was of the opinion that the fact that most troops were located in the Army areas, and not where news from the private news agencies would be published, would diminish the risk from this source to the point where it would not be serious.

THE CHIEF OF STAFF :

Directed that the following recommendations be reported to the Supreme Allied Commander in Conference :-

(a) Reference question (i), as to the juncture at which the RFE screen on news should be removed and the operation of private news agencies permitted :-

(1) That private news agencies be permitted to sell news direct to the newspapers of ROME on and after 15 January 1945.

(2) That a technical sub-committee consisting of representatives of the Allied Commission, FBI, INR and the Chief Signals Officer, AFH, be appointed to investigate the time and the methods by which the distribution of news to newspapers throughout the remainder of liberated ITALY by private news agencies will be feasible.

(b) Reference question (ii), as to the safeguards which should be established to ensure against the development in ITALY of a monopolistic indigenous news agency :

3217
That for the time being no Italian news agency be permitted to distribute news in ITALY outside ROME. That the time when AFH, or any other Italian news agency, is to be permitted to enter the field of news distribution be investigated by the technical sub-committee.

(c) Reference question (iii), as to what measures should be taken to avoid publication of material likely to lead to disorder and unrest :

That nothing other than normal censorship should be undertaken, unless a serious situation from the military point of view seems likely to arise. The security risk admittedly existing as a result of the admission of private news agencies to ROME is outweighed by the advantage in respect of freedom of the press, particularly in view of the power of the Supreme Allied Commander under the Armistice terms to impose necessary measures of censorship to meet particular situations which may arise.

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24th December 1944

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COPY NO 26

NEWS AGENCY SUB COMMITTEE

ADMISSION OF PRIVATE NEWS AGENCIES TO
OPERATION IN ITALY

Note by Secretary

1. The present method of providing news for the Italian Press may be summarised as follows:-

(a) News from outside liberated ITALY. PWB, in ROCE, by cable, radio and mail from such private agencies as Reuters, Associated Press, United Press and Tass, and through monitoring miscellaneous broadcasts, obtains the original reports which in turn PWB's "Italian Desk" processes into a news file in Italian. The news is so screened as to eliminate duplication and also to eliminate those items of news from abroad which would have a particularly inflammatory effect upon the Italian public. After submission to HQ for censorship, the resulting news file is then transmitted to Italian newspapers, free of charge, by several methods: by mimeograph in ROM itself; by voice on exclusive PWB wire circuits to BARI, NAPLES, PALERMO and CATANIA; by military common user teletype circuits to NAPLES, BARI and PALERMO; by short wave Morse radio broadcasts from the PWB-operated station in ROM; and in printed form for the provincial press. In the cities to which wireless circuits run PWB personnel hand the news files to local news-papers.

(b) Internal Italian News. This is collected by Italian reporters in the employ of PWB, added by PWB's Italian Desk, passed to HQ for censorship, and transmitted from ROM to Italian papers in the same manner as for news from abroad.

2. At the 36th meeting of the Supreme Allied Commander's Political Conference the SAC endorsed the principle of promoting freedom of the Italian press and admission of private news agencies at the earliest moment consistent with military security, and appointed this sub-Committee to examine and report on three necessarily connected topics. It is suggested that the following will be the principal questions appropriate for discussion at the first meeting of the sub-Committee:-

(a) Reference question (i) put by the SAC to the sub-Committee as to when the PWB screen on news for the Italian press can be removed and private news agencies admitted:

- (1) When would the private agencies be ready to commence operations?
(They had indicated they would be ready by 15 January, but have also requested as much as 10 days notice, which would now place the earliest possible date after 15 January).

- (2) What Italian news agencies are available to operate?
(Presumably the only one which could enter the field is ARTI (Agenzia Radiotelegrafica Italiana), a mutual Italian press association organised with the assistance of PWB, which includes all of the news agencies in Italy).

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1. The present method of providing news for the Italian Press may be summarized as follows:-

(a) News from outside liberated ITALY. PWT, in Rome, by cable, radio and mail from such private agencies as Reuters, Associated Press, United Press and Icar, and through monitoring miscellaneous broadcasts, obtains the original reports which in turn PWT's "Italian Desk" processes into a news file in Italian. The news is so screened as to eliminate duplication and also to eliminate those items of news from abroad which would have a particularly inflammatory effect upon the Italian public. After submission to INO for censorship, the resulting news file is then transmitted to Italian newspapers, free of charge, by several methods: by mimeograph in Rome itself; by voice on exclusive PWB wire circuits to RAI, NAPLES, PALERMO and CATANIA; by military command user teletype circuits to NAPLES, RAI and PALERMO; by short wave Morse radio broadcasts from the PWB-operated station in Rome; and in printed form for the provincial press. In the cities to which wireless circuits run PWT personnel hand the news files to local newspapers.

(b) Internal Italian News. This is collected by Italian reports in the employ of PWB, aided by PWT's Italian Desk, passed to INO for censorship, and transmitted from Rome to Italian papers in the same manner as for news from abroad.

2. At the 36th meeting of the Supreme Allied Commander's Political Conference the SAC enforced the principle of promoting freedom of the Italian press and admission of private news agencies at the earliest moment consistent with military security, and appointed this sub-committee to examine and report on three necessarily connected topics. It is suggested that the following will be the principal questions appropriate for discussion at the first meeting of the sub-committee:-

(a) Reference question (i) put by the SAC to the sub-committee as to when the PWB screen on news for the Italian press can be removed and private news agencies admitted:

(1) When would the private agencies be ready to commence operations? (They had indicated they would be ready by 15 January, but have also requested as much as 30 days notice, which would now place the earliest possible date after 15 January).

3215

(2) What Italian news agencies are available to operate? (Presumably the only one which could enter the field is ARTI (Agenzia Radiotelegrafica Italiana), a mutual Italian press association organized with the assistance of PWB, which includes all of the newspapers of the principal cities in liberated ITALY, except one of the NAPLES papers, but it is not yet in operation. The Italian staff of editors and reporters now working for PWB, however, could be turned over to it intact if PWB ceases to supply news to Italian papers. The membership of ARTI includes papers with all shades of opinion. Therefore, so long as such continues to be the case, its policies can be expected to be impartial. ARTI would have few, if any, foreign correspondents, and would have to depend upon the foreign private news agencies for foreign news. On the other hand, the foreign agencies would have little or no local Italian news to sell. ARTI can be ready to function on 30 days notice).

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(3) Are sufficient signal communication facilities available to carry the traffic which would exist if private agencies are admitted?

(It is estimated that if private news agencies are to sell direct to newspapers, there must be an increase in the volume of news material transmitted from MOSE of about two hundred per cent, since there will be much overlap in subject matter between the stories of the various agencies. Assuming that the military communication facilities now available to FWE will be made available to the foreign private agencies and to ARTI, such an increase in volume cannot be absorbed by the military circuits mentioned. Full information as to Italian government circuits is not at hand at this writing, but it is believed that the necessary increase in traffic could not be accommodated by them).

- (4) What would be the effect upon FWE of its withdrawal from the Italian field?
(Allied personnel of FWE would be liberated to some extent for work in connection with Northern ITALY, AUSTRIA and the BALKANS. Radio monitoring of news, and preparation of a news file in English for Allied troops from news received from the news agencies and from monitoring would continue. FWE would also continue voice broadcasts at dictation speed for the clandestine newspapers of Northern ITALY. FWE would expect to cease control of certain city papers which it now exercises, since not to do so could then give rise to charges of interfering with the freedom of the press after no longer being responsible for the news).

- (5) Do any private news agencies at present furnish news direct to Italian papers?
(TASS, the official Soviet news agency, files in some material for the communist papers).

- (6) Does development of a free press for ITALY require the admission of foreign private agencies at an early date?
(The strengthening of ARTI and its preparation for the day when Allied influences are removed does not necessitate that it be placed forthwith in competition with private agencies, since it will not in any case during the war seriously compete with them in respect of foreign news. It has been suggested by the Italians themselves that the handling of internal Italian news for the Italian papers should forthwith be turned over to ARTI operating as such, while the present system continues as to foreign news. This would have the advantage of building up a free mutual news agency to a position of some strength before the time of FWE's ultimate withdrawal, and would lessen the likelihood of any immediate taking over by a government monopoly at that juncture).

- (7) Would it be feasible as an intermediate step to admit foreign private agencies as of 15 January to sell news to the ROSE papers only?
(This is urged by some of the private agencies, and by 3214 Chief Commissioner, AG, in a recent letter, at Annex 'A'. Such a plan would avoid the communication difficulties, but would not avoid the friction that would come from the necessary censorship by INC of politically-inflammatory material).

circuits is not at hand at present, and that the necessary increase in traffic could not be accommodated by them).

- (4) What would be the effect upon FFB of its withdrawal from the Italian field?
(Allied personnel of FFB would be liberated to some extent for work in connection with Northern ITALY, AUSTRIA and the BALKANS. Radio monitoring of news, and preparation of a news file in English for allied troops from news received from the news agencies and from monitoring would continue. FFB would also continue voice broadcasts at dictation speed for the clandestine newspapers of Northern ITALY. FFB would expect to cease control of certain city papers which it now exercises, since not to do so could then give rise to charges of interfering with the freedom of the press after no longer being responsible for the news).
- (5) Do any private news agencies at present furnish news direct to Italian papers?
(TASS, the official Soviet news agency, files in some material for the communist papers).
- (6) Does development of a free press for ITALY require the admission of foreign private agencies at an early date?
(The strengthening of APPI and its preparation for the day when Allied influences are removed does not necessitate that it be placed forthwith in competition with private agencies, since it will not in any case during the war seriously compete with them in respect of foreign news. It has been suggested by the Italians themselves that the handling of internal Italian news for the Italian papers should forthwith be turned over to APPI operating as such, while the present system continues as to foreign news. This would have the advantage of building up a free national news agency to a position of some strength before the time of FFB's ultimate withdrawal, and would lessen the likelihood of any immediate taking over by a government monopoly at that juncture).
- (7) Would it be feasible as an intermediate step to admit foreign private agencies as of 15 January to sell news to the ROME papers only?
(This is urged by some of the private agencies, and by ³²¹Chief of Station, 40, in a recent letter, at Annex 'A'. Such a plan would avoid the communication difficulties, but would not avoid the friction that would come from the necessary censorship by IWC of politically inflammatory material).

(b) Reference question (ii) put by the SAC, as to what should be the safeguards against a monopolistic indigenous news agency:

- (1) To whom are the foreign private news agencies to sell their news?
(There are two alternatives:
 - (a) to APPI, which would in turn sell to the individual newspapers, or
 - (b) direct to the newspapers themselves.

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The former alternative would permit API to act in effect as a screening agency and give it a monopoly within ITALY. Freedom of the Italian press would then depend upon the continued independence and impartiality of one Italian agency - not sure or desirable for the long-run future. A free press thus demands that the private agencies sell direct to the newspapers, but to this there are major communication obstacles (see 2 (a)(3) above.).

(2) What precautions would have to be taken against any efforts of the Italian Government to dominate the furnishing of news?

(4) Move of the Government to institute a telegraphic agency for the dissemination of government decrees has heretofore been hesitated off, and would need still to be watched for. This would resemble too closely the establishment of a governmental news agency).

(c) Reference question (iii) put by the SAC as to measures to prevent the publication of material likely to lead to civil disorder:

(1) At what points would censorship be imposed?

(If the private agencies were to operate, they would be required to submit their material to a representative of IIC - either one located in the office of each news agency in Rome or at the central IIC office there - before sending it out. Censorship of the newspapers themselves would continue as at present, by issuance of directives, requiring submission of doubtful material before publication, and by sampling after publication. The same opportunity would exist as at present for papers to publish the results of their own radio monitoring which, however, they do not in fact have the facilities to perform).

(2) Would IIC censorship be an adequate substitute for FBI screening, with regard to politically inflammatory matters?

(The private agencies would undoubtedly be irritated and raise protests in the U.S. and the United Kingdom against "political" censorship which is what IIC would have to impose, to some extent, to keep out inflammatory material, such as speeches in the Parliament or the Congress criticizing ITALY).

W. A. MINISTER,
MAJOR, RA,
SECRETARY.

3213

(A move of the government to meet these needs has heretofore been headed off, dissemination of government secrets has been watched for. This would resemble too and would need still to be watched for. This would resemble too closely the establishment of a governmental news agency).

(c) Reference question (111) put by the SAC as to measures to prevent the publication of material likely to lead to civil disorder:

- (1) At what points would censorship be imposed?
(If the private agencies were to operate, they would be required to submit their material to a representative of INC - either one located in the office of each news agency in ROHE or at the central INC office there - before sending it out. Censorship of the newspapers themselves would continue as at present, by issuance of directives, requiring submission of doubtful material before publication, and by sampling after publication. The same opportunity would exist as at present for papers to publish the results of their own radio monitoring, which, however, they do not in fact have the facilities to perform).
- (2) Would INC censorship be an adequate substitute for FBI screening, with regard to politically inflammatory matters?
(The private agencies would undoubtedly be irritated and raise protests in the U.S. and the United Kingdom against "political" censorship which is what INC would have to impose, to some extent, to keep out inflammatory material, such as speeches in the Parliament or the Congress criticizing INC).

W. A. HANCOCK,
DIRECTOR, FBI,
SECRETARY.

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ANNEX A

OC 9253

22 December, 1944

SUBJECT: Restoration of Services by Allied News Agencies.

TO : Lieutenant General Sir A. J. Harding, KCB, CBE, DSO, MC
Chief of Staff, Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512

1. As a result of the decisions reached at the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference on Tuesday, December 16th, I informed the representatives of Allied News Agencies in Rome (Associated Press, United Press, Reuters, Exchange-Telegraph and International News Service) that the resumption of their services, tentatively set for January 15, would have to be postponed pending agreement on a detailed plan for the technical handling and distribution of news.

2. The Agency representatives, while fully appreciating the desirability of such a plan, made a strong plea that, since they had already started negotiations (and representatives of UP and Reuters had come from the Middle East and UK for that purpose), they be permitted to open their services to the ROME newspaper only on January 15. They pointed out with some justification that such a service would not involve any technical problems of transmission or distribution, since it would be brought in by the existing commercial services and distributed in Rome by the agencies themselves.

3. There appears to me to be no valid objection to this proposal, and I am inclined to think that a refusal might be interpreted by the agencies as a new and unreasonable obstacle to their plan. It is also worth remembering that distribution in Rome by the agencies would provide us with data on the working and working of the various agencies which would be extremely useful in working out the technical plan for distribution in Italy generally.

4. Since the Conference was in general agreement on the desirability of allowing the agencies to come in, and this plan offers an opportunity of avoiding complete postponement, I strongly urge its approval and should be grateful if it could be considered at the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political) on December 26th.

cc: U.S. Political Adviser
British Resident Minister
American Ambassador
British Ambassador

ELMER W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

3211

1. As a result of the decisions reached at the Supreme Allied Conference on Tuesday, December 14th, I informed the representatives of Allied News Agencies in Rome (Associated Press, United Press, Reuters, Exchange-Telegraph and International News Service) that the resumption of their services, tentatively set for January 15, would have to be postponed pending agreement on a detailed plan for the technical handling and distribution of news.

2. The Agency representatives, while fully appreciating the desirability of such a plan, made a strong plea that, since they had already started negotiations (and representatives of UP and Reuters had come from the Middle East and UK for that purpose), they be permitted to open their services to the ROME newspaper only on January 15. They pointed out with some justification that such a service would not involve any technical problems of transmission or distribution, since it would be brought in by the existing commercial services and distributed in ROME by the agencies themselves.

3. There appears to me to be no valid objection to this proposal, and I am inclined to think that a refusal might be interpreted by the Agencies as a new and unreasonable obstacle to their plans. It is also worth remembering that distribution in ROME by the agencies would provide us with data on the warpage and working of the various agencies which would be extremely useful in working out the technical plan for distribution in MEH generally.

4. Since the Conference was in general agreement on the desirability of allowing the Agencies to come in, and this plan offers an opportunity of avoiding complete postponement, I strongly urge its approval and should be grateful if it could be considered at the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political) on December 26th.

ELBERT W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Communications

3211

cc: U.S. Political Advisor
British Resident Minister
American Ambassador
British Ambassador

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COPY.

SECRET.

Extract from Minutes of 36th Meeting of the
SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE (POLITICAL)
held on Tuesday, 19th December.

Ref: SAC (P) (44) 36th Meeting, original on File 247/COS.

MINUTE No. 5.

5. PRIVATE PRESS AGENCIES IN ITALY.

(Paper No. SAC (P) (44) 153).

THE CONFERENCE had before them a paper pointing out that it was desirable, in order to give the Italians greater liberty, that private press agencies should soon be permitted to operate in ITALY, but arguing that such action would give rise to certain difficulties if the change were made at the present time.

MR. KILK said that the aim should be that when the Allies left ITALY they should leave behind them a healthy, free press. However, unless the Italians were given a measure of freedom now, they would not develop the ability to manage their own affairs. He fully realised that there were certain complications in practice in connection with the proposed changes but he thought that the principle was sufficiently important for those difficulties to be accepted. The position of the military in this matter was, he felt, adequately covered by the requirements of military censorship.

MR. BARNES said that FWS was perfectly willing to hand over to the Italians the press facilities which they at present controlled in ITALY. However, he pointed out that this might give rise to three difficulties. In the first place, as all incoming news was now screened by FWS, it might be necessary for military reasons to impose a political censorship by ARMC, the repercussions of which might on occasion be severe. In the second place it was difficult to see how private agencies could be provided with the means of communication necessary to distribute their news throughout the country unless some assistance could be provided by army signals. In this connection, he pointed out, in reply to a remark by Rear Admiral Stone, that it would not meet the case if the existing WB communications were handed over to an Italian agency, as such action would automatically place that agency in a position of monopoly. The third difficulty which he foresaw was that the opening up of ITALY to foreign news agencies would lead to a demand by other private business organisations to commence working in the country. He thought it likely that the Motion Picture companies in particular would make such an application.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE did not consider that incoming news handled by private agencies would need to be subject to political censorship. He thought that the Italian people should now be permitted to read accounts of current affairs as published in other countries. He pointed out that a procedure had already been set up to deal with the demands of the motion picture companies and he did not foresee any complications in this respect. He remarked that, even after the proposed admission of private agencies, there would remain a need for FWS activities in AMG territory. He agreed with Mr. Barnes that it was most undesirable for the handover to be effected in any way which would tend to produce a monopoly of news in the country.

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MR. BARNES said that RFB was perfectly willing to hand over to the Italians the press facilities which they at present controlled in ITALY. However, he pointed out that this might give rise to three difficulties. In the first place, as all incoming news was now screened by RFB, it might be necessary for military reasons to impose a political censorship by AMKO, the repercussions of which might on occasion be severe. In the second place it was difficult to see how private agencies could be provided with the means of communication necessary to distribute their news throughout the country unless some assistance could be provided by army signals. In this connection, he pointed out, in reply to a remark by Rear Admiral Stone, that it would not meet the case if the existing RFB communications were handed over to an Italian agency, as such action would automatically place that agency in a position of monopoly. The third difficulty which he foresaw was that the opening up of ITALY to foreign news agencies would lead to a demand by other private business organisations to commence working in the country. He thought it likely that the Motion Picture companies in particular would make such an application.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE did not consider that incoming news handled by private agencies would need to be subject to political censorship. He thought that the Italian people should now be permitted to read accounts of current affairs as published in other countries. He pointed out that a procedure had already been set up to deal with the demands of the motion picture companies and he did not foresee any complications in this respect. He remarked that, even after the proposed admission of private agencies, there would remain a need for RFB activities in AKR territory. He agreed with Mr. Barnes that it was most undesirable for the handover to be effected in any way which would tend to produce a monopoly of news in the country.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER considered that, as the Allies had now been in ITALY for more than a year, we should be prepared to sacrifice certain advantages in order to give the Italians greater liberty in the management of their internal affairs, provided always that no serious interference with military operations resulted.

MR. BARNES confirmed that this was the aim towards which RFB had been working. The only question for decision was in regard to the timing of the proposed transfer of responsibility. RFB had been endeavouring to build up an Italian non-monopolistic private news agency. However, he did not yet consider that this agency was sufficiently developed to stand on its own feet.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE, disagreeing with Mr. Barnes, observed that the Italians themselves thought they were ready to stand on their own feet and applications from external private news agencies indicated that they were of this opinion also.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORRIS observed that, if the proposed Italian agency were weak, the external private agencies would break it. He considered that the purpose for which these agencies were now trying to secure entry into the country, was to establish their post-war position.

COLONEL HITCHENS said that on grounds of military security a change would not be propitious at the present moment.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

- (a) Agreed in principle that private news agencies should be allowed to operate freely in ITALY at the earliest moment consistent with the military security.

- (b) Appointed the following sub-committee:

Chairman - Chief of Staff

Reps of - Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
Air Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
U.S. Political Adviser
British Resident Minister
Chief Administrative Officer
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Chief Signals Officer
Director, PWB
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission
Chief, INO

Secretary- Major W. A. Bannister

to examine and report to him:

- (1) At what juncture the removal of the PWB screen on news issued to the Italian press should be effected, and the operation of private news agencies in ITALY permitted.
- (ii) What safeguards should be established to ensure that there should be no development in ITALY of a monopolistic indigenous news agency.
- (iii) What measures should be taken in regard to the dissemination of news in ITALY to avoid the publication of material likely to lead to disorder and unrest to the prejudice of military operations.

and that the Sub-Committee confine their recommendations to that part of ITALY, responsibility for the administration of which had been returned to the Italian Government.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

SAC(P)(44)153.
15 December 1944

SECRET K-540
CONF NO.....

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE.

POLICY REGARDING PRIVATE NEWS AGENCIES IN ITALY.

Note By Secretary.

1. In a previous paper (number EC(44)127 the Psychological Warfare Subcommittee recommended:

- a. That private news agencies should not be allowed to start up in ITALY as long as that country remained a theatre of operations.
- b. That PWB should endeavour to prepare the ground for the establishment of an Italian co-operative and non-monopolistic news agency to be ready to function when privately owned agencies begin to operate. This co-operative agency would be owned and operated by member newspapers and be in competition with private agencies such as Reuters, Associated Press, etc.

2. This paper was discussed at EC(44)32nd Meeting when the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission and the British Resident Minister both requested that the foregoing policy should be revised and that in order to give the Italians greater liberty, private agencies should now be permitted. In consequence, the Supreme Allied Commander directed that EC-2, EC-5 and the Allied Commission, should endeavour to agree on the action to be taken and report accordingly.

3. The Chairman of the Psychological Warfare sub-committee therefore held a meeting in Rome with the Allied Commission and EC-5, at which it was agreed that PWB would not interpose any objection to the entrance of private news agencies. It was, however, pointed out that their entrance might:

- a. Retard the progress of a non-monopolistic private Italian agency.
- b. Possibly impair the political situation through the admission of the news from outside sources which are, at the present time, screened by PWB.
4. It has been determined from consultations with the private news agencies that they will be willing and able to take over as from 15 January.
5. EC-2 point out that, although there does not appear to be any direct security risk from the entrance of these private agencies, there is, in view of the disturbed political situation in liberated territory, an indirect risk that unfiltered news might further impair the political situation to such an extent that it might become necessary to withdraw Allied troops from the front for internal security measures.

3208

6. The ruling of the Supreme Allied Commander in Conference is requested as to whether the political advantage to be obtained by allowing the entrance of private agencies into ITALY justifies the increased military risk involved.

1. In a previous paper (number PC(44)127 the Psychological Warfare Subcommittee recommended:

- a. That private news agencies should not be allowed to start up in ITALY as long as that country remained a theatre of operations.
- b. That PWB should endeavour to prepare the ground for the establishment of an Italian co-operative and non-monopolistic news agency to be ready to function when privately owned agencies begin to operate. This co-operative agency would be owned and operated by members newspapers and be in competition with private agencies such as Reuters, Associated Press, etc.

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3. The Chairman of the Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee therefore held a meeting in Rome with the Allied Commission and C-3, at which it was agreed that PWB would not interpose any objection to the entrance of private news agencies. It was, however, pointed out that their entrance might:

- a. Retard the progress of a non-monopolistic private Italian agency.
 - b. Possibly impair the political situation through the admission of the news from outside sources which are, at the present time, screened by PWE.
4. It has been determined from consultations with the private news agencies that they will be willing and able to take over as from 15 January.
5. C-2 point out that, although there does not appear to be any direct security risk from the entrance of these private agencies, there is, in view of the disturbed political situation in liberated territory, an indirect risk that unfiltered news might further impair the political situation to such an extent that it might become necessary to withdraw Allied troops from the front for internal security measures.

6. The ruling of the Supreme Allied Commander in Conference is requested as to whether the political advantage to be obtained by allowing the entrance of private agencies into ITALY justifies the increased military risk involved.

DISTRIBUTION: Chief Commissioner, A.C.
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(Sgd, S.C. SHELLMAN, Major,
for J.H. LAUCHELLES,
COLONEL,
SECRETARY.

3208

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

16 December 1944.

20a/PRB

SUBJECT: Italian Agencies - ORBIS.
TO : Rear Admiral Stone, Chief Commissioner, AC.

The attached correspondence raises a difficult question on which I would like your advice. ORBIS, like BARZINI, is a small agency depending on Allied and Neutral correspondents. The reply from the Undersecretariat for the Press indicates that the PWB ban on all agencies is still operating. I am not sure whether this is your wish or not, but I had thought that you desired the field to be open to all.

Lionel Fielden

LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major,
Public Relations Director.

3207

ORBIS

ORGANIZZAZIONE BOLLETTINI INFORMAZIONI STAMPA

ROMA - VIA NAZIONALE, 230

TEL. N. 41.327 - 42.290

Rome, Decem. 15th, 1944

To
Major Lionel FIELDEN
A.C.
R O M E

Referring to what our co-director Avv. Bontempi spoke to you about the possibility of our being able to communicate our journalistic informations also to the Italian Press, we enclose, herewith, a copy of the letter that Avv. Rossini sent us.

In this letter it is stated that in agreement with the Italian and Allied Authorities, no daily news Agency is authorized to work without their permission.

We would be most grateful if you would reassure us about what you already told Avv. Bontempi and that is, that there is no such forbiddance to the extension of this service also to the Italian Press.

We thank you and we send you our kindest regards.

" O R B I S "
The Manager
Giorgio Forlaj
(Giorgio Forlaj) 3206



Translation

As you are aware the CRSIS agency has been granted authorization to circulate news bulletins to the foreign press only. As you are also doubtless aware, in virtue of agreements with the Allied authorities, no Italian Press agency has been authorized.

We cannot therefore grant your request; on the contrary, you are forbidden to take any step or initiate any activity in connection with agency services to the Italian press.

3205

(C O P I A)

PRESIDENZA
DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI
Sottosegretariato
per la Stampa e le Informazioni

5 Dicembre 1944

N° di prot. 4516

Alla Direzione di "ORBIS"
Via Nazionale, 230ROMAe per conoscenza:

Alla Prefettura

Ufficio Stampa

ROMA

Oggetto: SERVIZIO DI AGENZIA PER STAMPA ITALIANA.

Com'è noto a codesta Direzione è stata concessa all'Agenzia ORBIS l'autorizzazione a diffondere bollettini di notizie soltanto per la stampa estera. E' anche certamente noto a codesta Direzione che per accordi intervenuti con le Autorità Alleate, nessuna Agenzia di notizie per la stampa italiana è stata autorizzata.

Questo Sottosegretariato quindi non può aderire alla richiesta di codesta Direzione; anzi diffida codesta stessa Direzione dal voler prendere qualsiasi iniziativa, o svolgere qualsiasi attività che implichi l'espletamento di un servizio di agenzia per la stampa italiana.

IL DIRETTORE GENERALE DELLA STAMPA
(Avv. A. Rossini)

firmato A. R o s s i n i

3204

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

JA4/afe

File 20A. 9

20 November 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR: Commodore Stone

Colonel Jackman of G-5, AFHQ, phoned to say that the Conference had been held on Saturday the 18th at Caserta on the subject of "civilian news agencies". All parties were represented with the exception of AC. At the meeting G-2 and PWB agreed that they must insist on their attitude but decided that they had possibly not put forward sufficiently strong arguments. They have formulated their ideas and will present them to Commodore Stone when he goes to Caserta tomorrow, Tuesday.

Should the matter come up at SACRED's Conference, the Secretary has been notified that AC have not yet been able to state their views and that the matter will have to wait until the next political conference for an agreed plan between the two conflicting points of view.

J. A. Quayle
J. A. QUAYLE
Major, R. A.
Staff Officer to CC

cc: PRO
C of S
'A' Files

3203

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CO. DENTIAL.

Extract from Minutes of 32nd Meeting of
SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S POLITICAL COM-
MITTEE held on Wednesday, 15th NOVEMBER 1944.

Ref: PC(44)32nd Meeting dated 15th Nov 1944

MINUTE No. 5.

5. POLICY REGARDING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND PRIVATE NEWS AGENCIES IN ITALY.

(Paper No. PC(44) 127).

THE COMMITTEE had before them a paper:

- (a) Setting out FMB's present policy and seeking its enforcement.
- (b) Recommending that private news agencies should not be allowed to set up in ITALY so long as ITALY remained a theatre of operations and that FMB should prepare the ground for the establishment of an Italian co-operative and non-monopolistic news agency to be ready to function when private news agencies began to operate.

MR. BARNES, amplifying the paper, stressed that FMB wished to avoid the eventual establishment of a government controlled agency such as Stefani had been. He believed that if private agencies were allowed to start up while ITALY still remained a theatre of operations they might bring in news injurious to military operations or to Allied policy. Thus, for example, there would be no machinery to stop agencies reporting criticism of ITALY in Congress. He added that the problems regarding Italian broadcasting were very similar.

COMMODORE STONE felt that the time had now come to give the Italians greater liberty by allowing private agencies to start up. He observed that no part of the armistice terms empowered the Allies to force a news agency of the kind suggested by FMB on to the Italian Government. Replying to a question by Mr. Macmillan, he stated that, despite the fact that private agencies could at present secure payment only in blocked lire, he understood that Reuters, Associated Press and others were anxious to start up immediately in ITALY with an eye to the future. He added that news from the Tass Agency was being flown into ITALY by Russian aircraft for use by the communist press.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL SIR ROBERT MONAGHAN supported the proposal that private news agencies should not be allowed to start up so long as ITALY remained a theatre of operations on grounds of military security.

MR. MACMILLAN queried whether G-2 could not reconsider the security aspect. There seemed little reason for restricting incoming political news. He also pointed out that the U.S. and British taxpayers were at present paying for all Italian news services and that the early introduction of private agencies was therefore desirable on these grounds also.

3202

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

(Paper No. FC(44) 127).

THE COMMITTEE had before them a paper:

- (a) Setting out PNB's present policy and seeking its amendment.
- (b) Recommending that private news agencies should not be allowed to set up in ITALY so long as ITALY remained a theatre of operations and that PNB should prepare the ground for the establishment of an Italian co-operative and non-political news agency to be ready to function when private news agencies began to operate.

MR. BARNES, amplifying the paper, stressed that PNB wished to avoid the eventual establishment of a government controlled agency such as Stefani had been. He believed that if private agencies were allowed to start up while ITALY still remained a theatre of operations they might bring in news injurious to military operations or to Allied policy. Thus, for example, there would be no machinery to stop agencies reporting criticism of ITALY in Congress. He added that the problems regarding Italian broadcasting were very similar.

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LIEUTENANT COLONEL KIRBY MORGAN supported the proposal that private news agencies should not be allowed to start up so long as ITALY remained a theatre of operations on grounds of military security.

MR. MACMILLAN queried whether G-2 could not reconsider the security aspect. There seemed little reason for restricting incoming political news. He also pointed out that the U.S. and British taxpayers were at present paying for all Italian news services and that the early introduction of private agencies was therefore desirable on these grounds also.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

Directed that PNB, in conjunction with G-2, G-5 and the Allied Commission, endeavour to agree on the action to be taken on the matters raised in Paper No. FC(44)127 and report to the next meeting of the Committee.

3202

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

20B 31

20B/1/PRB

12 November 1944.

Press and Private News Agencies

The AC does not agree with the PWB proposal to prevent the establishment of private news agencies. The AC believes, on the contrary, that the free and rapid interchange of news between Italy and the United Nations would be both consistent with the general policy of freedom of expression and also beneficial in the reeducation of Italian public opinion. The AC has noted the continuing desire of the Italian Government for such facilities and also the growing resentment against the monopoly of news by a single agency, which is clearly inconsistent with the policy of abolishing the monopolistic structure of the Fascist regime. The continued functioning of a single agency moreover tends, in the opinion of AC, to force communication and distribution into a single channel, thus creating an organization which becomes a coveted prize for monopoly-seekers. The AC believes that, so long as any policy of exclusivity, whether Italian or Allied, is firmly resisted, there is little danger and much advantage in giving the fullest play to news agencies functioning from democratic countries and in encouraging similar activities in Italy itself.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Inter Service and Political Secretariat

1st November 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Acting Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission

COPIES TO: U.S. Political Adviser
British Resident Minister
AC of S G-2
AC of S G-5
Chief, INC
Director, FWBSUBJECT: Policy regarding Italian News, Films and
Broadcasting.

In accordance with the wishes of Brigadier General McChrystal, Chairman, Psychological Warfare Branch Sub-Committee, it is proposed to deal as follow with your letter of 23rd October to AC of S G-5:-

News Agencies and Films. Papers No. PC (44) 127 and 128 will be placed on the agenda for the next Political Committee meeting. It is noted that there is no major divergence of opinion on these subjects and it is thought that Commodore Stone will be able to raise any relevant points at the meeting.

Broadcasting. It is understood that FWB propose to submit the Allied Commission's views, together with their own comments, to a forthcoming meeting of the Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee.

/s/ ? ?
for J.H. LASCELLES,
COLONEL.

CC- PRO
Pol. Sec.
COS
"a" files

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

PRB/R208

28 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Petrol for Italian news-agency.

TO : Acting Chief Commissioner.
(Thru: Chief of Staff)

1. The Under Secretariat for the Press have sent me an official request to supply petrol for journeys to Florence and Sicily by four people who are described as making these journeys "to build up the organization of the A.R.T.I." (Agenzia Radio-telegrafica Italiana). Further, I understand that this Agency have had a good many talks with PWB and come to some sort of agreement to "take over" the U.N.N. equipment on some undefined date.

2. I am not sure what our attitude should now be, and I wonder whether you should not ask Bonomi whether this agency is in fact regarded by the Italian government as official?

(Sgd)

LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major,
Public Relations Director.

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PRESIDENZA DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI

SOTTOSEGRETARIATO PER LA STAMPA E LE INFORMAZIONI

Direzione Generale Stampa e Informazioni

Divisione 1^a Sez. 1^a

Roma, 26 OTT. 1944

Prot. N. 3183 Allegati

Risposta al f. del

Maggiore Lionel FIELDEN

Div. Sez. N.

A.C. - P.P.B.-

Via Veneto 62

OGGETTO Richiesta lasciapassare
e carburante

R O M A

Si prega di concedere un lasciapassare per l'Italia liberata (Firenze e Sicilia incluse) nonché il permesso per rifornirsi di benzina ai signori Dott. Antonio SCIÀVICCO, Segretario Associazione Editori Giornali, Avv. Edgardo LONGONE del giornale "Ricostruzione" e i signori LUCATELLI Cesare e SAVELLI Florio, autisti, i quali viaggeranno con la macchina Fiat 508, targata Roma 46287 e munita di regolare permesso di circolazione per l'Italia libera n.79039.

Questo occorre per la preparazione dell'organizzazione dell'Agenzia Radiotelegrafica A.R.T.I.

IL DIRETTORE GENERALE

(Avv. A. Rossini)

Pro. On. Ugo

Q. G. 3198

I don't think we can do anything for these people.

JK

DRAFT LETTER FOR MR. BONOMI
SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF MAJOR QUAYLE.

File
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The question of the formation of an Italian news agency or agencies is now, I understand unofficially, taking more concrete form. Officers of this Commission and of PWS have been approached by representatives of ATI and ARTI, the former, as I understand, claiming to be an agency of the Ufficio Stampa, and the latter describing themselves as a cooperative agency of newspaper editors.

Since some misunderstanding appears to exist, I should perhaps endeavour to clarify the attitude of the AC towards this and any similar subsequent developments. The vote of the AC in all such matters is a negative one: that is to say, we do not wish, nor have we the competence under the terms of the Armistice, to make any attempt to impose on the Italian Government our own idea as to the structure or number of news-agencies: we are concerned only to ensure that Fascist elements are excluded and that - as you have yourself phrased it in your letters - there is no revival of monopoly and exclusivity such as existed under Fascism.

Apart from this, the structure, activity, and number of Italian news agencies is entirely a matter for the Italian Government to decide. There would seem to be no objection to, and indeed every advantage in, such agencies operating concurrently with the United Nations News Service. The PWS must of course carry out its functions as an agency of the United Nations until such time as the Commander in Chief decides otherwise, or

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- 2 -

hostilities cease : but neither the AC nor the PWB would desire to see the U.N.N.S. perpetuated by the Allies or bequeathed to Italy as a monopoly.

I trust that our attitude in this matter is clear. I shall be glad to have any comments that you may wish to make.

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

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PSWSC (44) 17

26th October 1944

COPY NO. 24

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB COMMITTEE

US AGENCIES' VIEWS ON THE FUTURE ORGANISATION OF
ITALIAN PRESS, PUBLISHING, RADIO AND FILM INSTI-
TUTIONS

Note by Director, PWB

The Office of War Information has transmitted to PWB by cable, quoted below, recommendations to AFHQ agencies dealing with the future organisation of Italian press, radio, film and publishing institutions.

The recommendations represent the composite views of the Associated Press, United Press, International News Service, American Newspaper Publishers Association, Book Publishers Bureau, National Association of broadcasters and spokesmen for the American film industry.

It is recognised by PWB that the Italian Government will write its own laws. The views of the American agencies are presented by PWB solely for the information of AFHQ and for purpose of guidance should the advice of AFHQ agencies be sought by the Italian Government.

"It is agreed unanimously that the problem breaks down into two parts, specific legislation which can only create favourable climate for free interchange of ideas and industry self-discipline which must implement legislation.

Legislation: 1. All American industries represented would like seeing guarantee of our bill of rights simply written into Italian law with specific stipulation that parliament may not legislate nor may crown promulgate any statute whatsoever shortening freedom of press and speech. 2. All would like seeing guarantees against unreasonably discriminatory taxes and/or quotas on non-Italian communications services, radiophotos and news pictures, voice radio broadcasts, press association files, books, newspapers, magazines, phonograph recordings and ³⁴⁹⁵ pictures written into Italian law. 3. All would like seeing protection of access to Italian common carriers equal - i.e.

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It is recognized by PWB that the Italian Government will write its own laws. The views of the American agencies are presented by PWB solely for the information of ARHQ and for purpose of guidance should the advice of ARHQ agencies be sought by the Italian Government.

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ANPA and press associations specifically requested following:

1. Guarantees by law of equal and unhampered access to news sources for accredited representatives of any nationality throughout Italy and her possessions. 2. Laws prescribing Italian monopolies whether private or government in gathering

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and disseminating news, advertising and circulation fields.
3. Laws providing that no publication available to the public generally may be chiefly owned - i.e. no individual, group or corporate entity whose primary business is not journalism can own 51 percent of stock. 4. Laws directing Italian publications to establish fixed advertising rates and to set up body similar to audit bureau of circulation in US to make public semi-annually sworn net paid circulation statistics.
5. Laws specifying that publications are not obligated to grant news column space to advertisements. 6. Laws abolishing tariffs on newsprint. 7. Laws requiring that by 1950 40 percent be least of any publications revenue which must derive from paid advertising and 40 percent be least from paid subscriptions and/or newsstand sales. 8. Opposition of all newspaper spokesmen to licensing journalists, as in France.

Book publishers desire any required legislation to pave way for reciprocal treaty between Italy and US covering copyright.

Radio industry desires legislation guaranteeing right of Italian Nationals to listen freely to American broadcasts from any source.

Motion picture industry desires legislation guaranteeing US companies right to compete with motion picture industry any other country, including Italy only on quality of product and servicing, without any artificial restrictions.

Legislative rules: Urge strongly that Italian representatives of above covered industries send qualified delegates this country to study American practices, with view of establishing their own internal rules and restraints.

In the opinion of the several persons canvassed in industry, states and Congress, precedent with formal delegations of industry representatives being sent this country by Italy for conference with their opposite numbers, would greatly facilitate understandings now being reached worldwide".

The above views were received by PWB from the Office of War Information, with the request that they be submitted ^{319/4}AFHQ.

(intd) R.B.

DISTRIBUTION

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The above views were received by PWB from the Office of War Information, with the request that they be submitted **319/2842**.

(intd) R.B.

DISTRIBUTION

Chief INC
Director, PWB
Deputy Director, PWB
U.S. Political Adviser
British Resident Minister
IS & PS
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Spares

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6-8
9-11
12-14
15-16
17-21

COPY.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

BS(44) 127.
25th October, 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL.
COPY NO.....

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

POLICY REGARDING FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND
PRIVATE NEWS AGENCIES IN ITALY.

Note by Secretary.

AFHQ Policy regarding the Press.

1. Briefly, present aims are:-
 - (a) Not to abuse military censorship.
 - (b) To continue without political censorship.
 - (c) To ensure that editors develop, but do not abuse, the limited freedom given them.
 - (d) By allocating suitable priorities, to make newspaper available as widely as possible.
2. Long term policy is to ensure conditions favourable to the eventual establishment of complete freedom of the press in ITALY:
 - (a) By stimulating among both editors and readers understanding of and desire for freedom of the press.
 - (b) By obtaining a satisfactory expression in Italian law of the provisional nature of present restrictions and of the rights and responsibilities of the press after the war.
 - (c) By providing for all papers in ITALY access to uncensored and unbiased news.

Non-Governmental News Agencies.

3. At present all news distributed in ITALY is brought in and disseminated by AFP. Private news agencies, such as Reuters, however, have been exerting considerable pressure to obtain the right to start up business in ITALY.
4. The Psychological Warfare Sub Committee feel that it would cause considerable embarrassment in censorship and possibly elsewhere if private agencies were allowed to bring in and disseminate news while fighting continues in ITALY.

Recommendations.

5. AFP desire enforcement of the policy outlined above and the Psychological Warfare Sub Committee accordingly recommend that:-

- (a) Private news agencies should not be allowed to start up in ITALY so long as ITALY remains a theatre of operations.

- (b) AFP should endeavour to promote the long term policy set out above by

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Recommendations.

5. The desire enforcement of the policy outlined above and the Psychological Warfare Sub Committee accordingly recommend that:-

- (a) Private news agencies should not be allowed to start up in ITALY so long as ITALY remains a theatre of operations.
- (b) PWB should endeavour to promote the long term policy at 2 above by preparing the ground for the establishment of an Italian co-operative and non-monopolistic news agency to be ready to function when privately owned agencies begin to operate. This co-operative agency would be owned and operated by members papers and be in competition with private agencies such as Reuters, Associated Press, etc.

(Sgd) WITHAM, Major,
for, J.H. LASCELLES,
Colonel,
Secretary.

~~Copy to be sent to the Secretary~~

HEADQUARTERS
ARMED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO UMBRIA REGION
APC 384
Regional Security Officer

for File (2A)
20A.

Ref.S/1086

25 October 1944

SUBJECT : Dr. Pietro COBOR

TO : A.C.C. Public Relations Officer - Press Section
(Att. Lt. ATKINSON)

1. Attached copy of original letter dated 9 September 1944 submitted by Subject, Dr. Pietro COBOR, to your office has been received by these Headquarters.

2. The following information regarding Subject is recorded in our files:

a) Dr. COBOR was the proprietor of a News Agency in Milan. He was arrested in 1926 for having illegally disclosed some news which had been transmitted by Reuters for the exclusive information of the Stefani Agency.

b) He was subsequently released (according to a source) thanks to the intervention of MORGAGNI, President of the " Stefani ", with which he afterwards became associated.

c) He remained with the "Stefani" until 1933 and during this period he is understood to have been an accomplice of MORGAGNI in his nefarious dealings. Incidentally, MORGAGNI committed suicide on or about 26/27 July 1943, i.e. immediately following the fall of Fascism.

d) In 1933 COBOR went to London where he established another News Agency. Subsequently he went to Germany where, it is reported, he was arrested on a charge of smuggling currencies.

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- 2 -

- e) When war broke out he was in France and was put in a concentration camp. Following the armistice between Italy and France, he returned to Italy where he did not display any apparent activity.
- f) An unconfirmed report indicates that he was acting as a spy for the Germans.

3. The above information is forwarded for your attention and any action you may deem advisable.

A.E. Heath
A.E. HEATH
Major T.C.
Regional Security and
Intelligence Officer

Copies to:

G 2 A C of S, RAAC HQ.

P A to R C (Att. Capt. NEUFELD)

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COPY

Lieutenant ATKINSON
Public Relations Officer
Press Section
A.C.C. ROME

Dear Lt. Atkinson,

reminding of your words at our last meeting, when you have refused to me and to my son the card of journalist and the permit for the motor car, I believe it is my duty to present you a little statement on my life so that you can see that the reasons of the refusal are vain accusations and are founded on fool falsehood of some intriguer.

You have said me: "Mr. Cobor, see in your precedent life..." and I answered that I know my life is entirely limpid. After you have said me: "You have been in France" and I answered that I have said you this showing you my book in the trial I have against the agency "Stefani", where is a paragraph on the circumstances I took refuge in France where I founded and directed a news agency (Cobor International News Agency - CINA London Paris) against the nazis.

What I say in my statement is true and is founded on documents and witnesses that I can produce in every moment they want to the Authorities;... while whoever's vague and dubious accusations, please admit this ~~dear~~ Lieutenant, have been taken on the air and certainly cannot be used by some honest man against me without producing documents or witnesses.

I appeal to your undubious sense of honesty and justice and I beg you, dear Lieutenant Atkinson, to help so that the foul intrigue weaved against me with the Allied Authorities would become clear so that I and my son could freely and friendly collaborate with the Allied Authorities as I have made always and specially, from the ³¹⁹⁰ first moment of their arrival in Rome, with General Hume and Maj. Leacacos and as I expect after twenty years of unlawful persecutions of the fascist and the nazi regimes and of service of the Allied cause.

Waiting for the justice I
(COBOR)

Mugan

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(24)

AS 100.7-1

23 October 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR: G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters, AFHQ SIC.

1. The question has recently arisen of what the attitude of the AFHQ should be to various proposals which are being put forward on the Italian side as well as by WFO for the re-establishment of independent Italian agencies to operate a news agency or agencies, a system of broadcasting, and the film industry.

2. The scope of the Allied Control Commission is laid down in Article 31 of the Armistice in which it is "charged with regulating and executing the present Instrument" (i.e. the Armistice) "under the orders and general directions of the Allied Commander-in-Chief". Directly pertinent articles of the Armistice are articles 18 and 21 which read as follows:-

"Article 18: No radio or telecommunication installations or other forms of intercommunication ashore or afloat under Italian control, whether belonging to Italy or any nation other than the United Nations, will transmit until directions for the control of these installations have been prescribed by the Allied Commander-in-Chief. The Italian authorities will conform to such measures for control and censorship of press and of other publications, of theatrical and cinematograph performances, of broadcasting, and also of all forms of intercommunication as the Allied Commander-in-Chief may direct. The Allied Commander-in-Chief may, at his discretion, take over radio, cable and other communication stations."

"Article 21: All Fascist organizations, including all branches of the Fascist Militia (MVSN), the Secret Police (OVRA) and Fascist youth organizations will, in so far as this is not already accomplished, be disbanded in accordance with the directions of the Allied Commander-in-Chief. The Italian Government will comply with all such further directions as the United Nations may give for abolition of Fascist institutions, the dismissal and internment of Fascist personnel, the control of Fascist funds, the suppression of Fascist ideology and teaching."

3. In applying these articles to a news agency or agencies, a system of broadcasting, or the film industry, it is convenient to divide the problem into two parts:-

a. The control of output, whether of news, broadcast programs or films, to conform with the general propaganda requirements of the Allied

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and WFO, 7-1, 8) and 14, 15 3-3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Excluded-in-Case. The only elements have under article 10 that will have and some elements and will be done continued to be so, as long as permitted by the United States-Italy.

B. The other side of the question is the structure of the machine by which news is gathered or film are set over. At the moment, the actual position is that the United States has a newspaper service which the United States News Service; that they have taken over the United States Broadcasting System and have made an agreement with them to have that in leave administration (including contracts) in the hands of that Italian corporation; that the Italian film industry is at present on a war footing as regards production and that all films shown are either approved or shown, importations from Allied sources, or films produced locally under United supervision.

A. The principal question that arises for the future is whether the Italians should be entirely free to set up or continue whatever type of institutions they want for news agencies, a broadcasting system, or a film industry. Before taking note in turn, the legal opinion of the Allied Control Commission in 1946, under the terms affecting the situation, our rights under the provisions to intervene are restricted to article 10, that is, the abolition of Fascist institutions. Provided that this is done we are advised by the legal opinion that the Commission does not of itself give us the right to require the establishment of any particular structure.

3. News Agency. In this case, the only existing news agency being the United States News Service, the application of article 10 does not apply. The Italians are, therefore, free as far as the statute is concerned to set up any form of news agency or agencies that they think fit provided that they do not create a Fascist institution. In view of the composition of the present Government, this can probably be ruled out and there is nothing in the provisions to prevent the Italian Government from authorizing the establishment of Italian news agencies and from deciding as they wish the question of how much, if any, of the mechanism or personnel of the United Nations News Service should be taken over as released by UNR. Irrespective of any restriction right, the Allied Control Commission felt strongly that the Allies should resist any attempt to establish exclusive contracts or whatever agency is set up by the Italians or others. This applies not only to the gathering and dissemination of local news for local consumption but also to the gathering of local news for foreign consumption and dissemination of foreign news within Italy.

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6. Broadcasting System. As the charter of the UNR was granted by the Fascist Government in December 1942 the question of the applicability of article 10 does arise. The personnel should not only be demobilized

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SAC 100.7-2, 23 Oct 44, to 10-5, (Info) (continued):

In accordance with the Government decree for de-fascistization, but also the question arises whether the Corporation is a "Fascist Institution" within the meaning of Article 21, and, if so, what shall be done. It is noted, RIA is itself a subsidiary of the Government controlled holding company, IRI, for both of which the Italian Government have already appointed commissioners. The existence of and broadcasting organization controlled by the Government does not of itself make the organization a Fascist institution. It is rather the matter of its legal form and the manner in which it is operated. It is the view of the U.S. that their role in this matter should be a negative one, i.e. to prevent the Italians from establishing or maintaining a Fascist institution. We understand this obligation in the following sense: If in consideration the documents creating RIA or IRI or regulating the activities or functions of these two organizations are found to contain politically undemocratic restrictions, such restrictions should be removed; and likewise the documents, if not sufficiently broad, should be amended to give the greatest freedom from control by any particular party. Apart from this obligation it is not our role to force any particular structure of broadcasting system upon the Italian authorities. So that they may seek, or may offer, recommendations as to what the structure should be, but these would be recommendations and not instructions.

7. Film. Much the same arguments apply to the future structure of the film industry since a large part of the film industry is run by various subsidiaries of governmentally controlled companies. In the opinion of the General Commission our attitude should be the same as in the case of the broadcasting system, with the same protection against commercial monopolistic practices as was recommended in para 5 above.

8. I shall be grateful for instructions.



ROBERT E. LADD
 Director, OSS
 Acting Chief Commissioner

cc: British Liaison Station, OSS,
 U.S. Political Advisor, OSS,
 U.S. Representative, IRI
 British High Commissioner
 P.S. - Attention Mr. J. Taylor

Political Section - ACC
 Chief of Staff Section
 'A' Files
 P.R.O. ✓

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SECRET

Circulate No. (26)
DWS/ace - for R204

A/OS 300.7-1

28 October 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: G-3 Section, Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.

1. The question has recently arisen of what the attitude of the AGC should be to various proposals which are being put forward on the Italian side as well as by PWA for the re-establishment of independent Italian Agencies to operate a news agency or agencies, a system of broadcasting, and the film industry.

2. The scope of the Allied Control Commission is laid down in Article 37 of the Armistice in which it is "charged with regulating and executing the present Instrument" (i.e. the Armistice) "under the orders and general directions of the Allied Commander-in-Chief". Directly pertinent Articles of the Armistice are Articles 18 and 39 which read as follows:-

"SIXTEEN: No radio or telecommunication installations or other forms of intercommunication ashore or afloat under Italian control, whether belonging to Italy or any nation other than the United Nations, will transmit until directions for the control of these installations have been prescribed by the Allied Commander-in-Chief. The Italian authorities will conform to such measures for control and censorship of press and of other publications, of theatrical and cinematograph performances, of broadcasting, and also of all forms of intercommunication as the Allied Commander-in-Chief may direct. The Allied Commander-in-Chief may, at his discretion, take over radio, cable and other communication stations."

"THIRTY: All Fascist organizations, including all branches of the Fascist Militia (MVSN), the Secret Police (OVRA) and Fascist Youth Organizations will, in so far as this is not already accomplished, be disbanded in accordance with the directions of the Allied Commander-in-Chief. The Italian Government will comply with all such further directions as the United Nations may give for abolition of Fascist institutions, the dismissal and internment of Fascist personnel, the control of Fascist funds, the suppression of Fascist ideology and teaching."

3. In applying these Articles to a news agency or agencies, a system of broadcasting, or the film industry, it is convenient to divide the problem into two parts:-

a. The control of output, whether of news, broadcast programs or films, to conform with the general propaganda requirements of the Allied

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SEC 889.7-2, 22 Oct 45, to 7-5, AFHQ (continued).

Commander-in-Chief. PWB and Censorship have under Article 16 dealt with this and other aspects and will no doubt continue to do so, so long as permitted by the Allied Commander-in-Chief.

3. The other side of the question is the structure of the machine by which news or programs or films are put over. At the moment, the actual position is that PWB run a monopolistic news service called the United Nations News Service; that they have taken over the EIAR Italian Broadcasting System but have come to an agreement with EIAR in June last to leave administration (excluding programs) in the hands of that Italian Corporation; that the Italian Film Industry is at present at a standstill as regards production and that all films shown are either approved old stock, importations from Allied sources, or films produced locally under PWB supervision.

4. The principal question that arises for the future is whether the Italians should be entirely free to set up or continue whatever types of institutions they elect for news agencies, a broadcasting system, or a film industry. Before taking each in turn, the legal opinion of the Allied Control Commission is that, aside from matters affecting the military, our rights under the Armistice to intervene are restricted to Article 16, that is, the abolition of Fascist institutions. Provided that this is done we are advised by the Chief Legal Adviser that the Armistice does not of itself give us the right to require the establishment of any particular structure.

5. News Agencies. In this case, the only existing news agency being the Allied United Nations News Service, the application of Article 16 does not apply. The Italians are, therefore, free so far as the Armistice is concerned to set up any form of news agency or agencies that they think fit provided that they do not create a "Fascist Institution." In view of the composition of the present Government, this can presumably be ruled out and there is nothing in the Armistice to prevent the Italian Government from authorizing the establishment of Italian news agencies nor from deciding as they wish the question of how much, if any, of the mechanism or personnel of the United Nations News Service should be taken over as released by PWB. Irrespective of any Armistice right, the Allied Control Commission feel strongly that the Allies should resist any attempt to establish exclusive contracts by whatever agency is set up by the Italians or others. This applies not only to the gathering and dissemination of local news for local consumption but also to the gathering of local news for foreign consumption and dissemination of foreign news within Italy.

6. Broadcasting System. As the Charter of EIAR was granted by the Fascist Government in November 1927 the question of the applicability of Article 16 does arise. The personnel should not only be defascistized

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A/SC 000.7-1, 23 Oct 44 to 3-5, AFHQ (continued):

in accordance with the government decree for defascistization, but also the question arises whether the Corporation is a "Fascist Institution" within the meaning of Article 33, and, if so, what shall be done. As to that, EIAR is itself a subsidiary of the Government controlled holding company, IRI, for both of which the Italian Government have already appointed Commissari. The existence of one broadcasting organization controlled by the Government does not of itself make the organization a Fascist institution. It is rather the manner of its legal format and the manner in which it is conducted. It is the view of AGC that their role in this matter should be a negative one, i.e. to prevent the Italians from continuing or establishing a Fascist Institution. We understand this obligation in the following sense: If on examination the documents creating EIAR or IRI or regulating the activities or functions of these two organizations are found to contain politically undemocratic restrictions, such restrictions should be removed; and likewise the documents, if not sufficiently broad, should be amended to give the greatest freedom from control by any particular party. Apart from this obligation it is not up to us to force any particular structure of broadcasting systems upon the Italian authorities. No doubt they may seek, or PWB may offer, recommendations on what the structure should be, but these would be recommendations and not instructions.

7. Films. Much the same arguments apply to the future structure of the film industry since a large part of the film industry is run by various subsidiaries of governmentally controlled combines. In the opinion of the Control Commission our attitude should be the same as in the case of the broadcasting system, with the same protection against commercial monopolistic practices as was recommended in para 3 above.

8. I shall be grateful for instructions.

Sgd

ALLEY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner.

cc: British Resident Minister, AFHQ
U.S. Political Advisor, AFHQ
U.S. Representative, AAI
British High Commissioner
PWB-Attention Mr. J. Bayner

Political Section - AGC
Chief of Staff Section
1A1 Files
P.B.O.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRE/20A

15 October 1944

SUBJECT : News Agency

TO : Acting Chief Commissioner

The attached may interest you as an example of the tentative negotiations now taking place.

(Sgd)

LIONEL FELDEN,
Major,
Public Relations Director.

Copy to :
Political Section.

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1 2 4 3

STARZEL STRATTON (CONFIDENTIAL), NOT FOR PUBLICATION.

SERVICE MESSAGE TO A.M.

20 Italian publishers including 12 Rome dailies 7/10 applied Italian Government for permission to form a co-operative news collection and distribution association, free of Government control. My talks with the prospective Vice Director whose name will be mailed when further details result in this column. They not particularly willing to undertake distribution our service through their facilities which will be greatly limited at outset but expected to grow on basis similar press associations handling our report Britain with Associated. Papers so poor however they are not likely to be able to pay more than nominal assessment our services which Vice Director proposed Association should collect and transfer to own account in payment for making its Italian service available to us.

I said we would have expect our service become eventually self supporting since under proposed arrangement we would at start be paying in effect whole cost service excepting its distribution within Italy. Appears unlikely we would be able to collect anything from service for some time to come either through such arrangement or independently. Organisers intend to consult American-British agencies but ours is first contact with them and thinks we have inside track. Unipress apparently contemplating our distribution as before but have learnt only on paper which tentatively promised to take eventual service. Mailing comprehensive report investigating incoming facilities but appreciate

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as before but have learnt only on paper which tentatively promised to take eventual service. Having comprehensive report investigating incoming facilities but appropriate reaction as basis further talks.

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

file 28A

(24)

PRB/R20a

13 Oct 44

SUBJECT : ITALIAN NEWS AGENCY

TO : Acting Chief Commissioner, A.C.C.

1. Pincetini who was, as you probably know, Ambassador in Moscow, Sofia and other places, came to see me this morning with Sessa, the man who I believe the Italian Government originally approved as head of their News Agency.
2. They came to complain very bitterly and eloquently, with what veracity I don't know, that there was a great deal of mischief going on in this field - among other things they stated that the PRB had told the Editors here that they could have an Agency only on the condition that they took over the whole PRB organization.
3. I said merely that this was, as far as I knew, a matter for the Italian Government who should put up a proposal. They nevertheless are very anxious to see you a few minutes. I think perhaps they might convince you better than I apparently can that there is some urgency in the matter and that the ACC cannot simply wash its hands of it.

(Sgd)

lf/vohb

LIONEL WILSON
Major

Public Relations Director 3181

Dott. Pietro Sessa
Via Po, 40
Tel: 849.654

(23)

ITALIAN TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY "TELITALIA"

(NEW STEFANI)

=====

Dott. Pietro Sessa, Head of the Group constituting "La Telitalia", reports:

- 1) "La Telitalia" organised itself as from September 1943, developing dangerous clandestine activities and maintaining continuous contact with members of the Committee of National Liberation - a fact which has already been brought to the notice of H.E. Spataro.
- 2) During the period of clandestine activity "La Telitalia" organised itself from the technical, editorial and financial aspects and, from 5 June last, direct contacts were established with the Allied and Italian authorities with a view to obtaining authorisation to function.
- 3) On the night of 4/5 June 1944, action squads, operating in the name of the Committee of National Liberation, occupied the premises of the old Stefani in order to hand ^{them} it over the following morning to the Sessa Group.
- 4) The technical and editorial abilities of the Sessa Group are well known and the morale and political integrity of its members is based not only on their respective Curriculum Vitae - in the possession of all the authorities - but also on the results of thorough investigations into their records by the Italian and Allied authorities.
- 5) The PWB recently submitted the file concerning the Sessa Group to the President of the Italian Counsel with favourable comments as the authorisation for the functioning of the Agency has become a question for the Italian Government to settle in view of the extension of its jurisdiction to the Rome area as from the 15th of the current month.
- 6) The Sessa Group further wishes to put on record:
 - A) That it has nothing in common with those persons of the old Stefani who collaborated with Fascism and with the Nazis up to 4 June 44, nor with other groups of similar journalistic enterprise;
 - B) That the Telitalia Agency was founded with rigidly non-political intentions. Hence there is no subservience

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to this or that party but impartiality or absolute objectiveness towards all - for only in this way can the interests of the country be truly served.

C) To this end the Sessa Group has decided to have representatives of all the recognised parties in its midst.

PROMEMORIA FOR PURPOSE OF OBTAINING
AUTHORISATION FOR THE JOURNALISTIC
AGENCY "TELITALIA" TO FUNCTION :

Dott. Pietro SESSA, Head of the Group which founded the Italian Telegraphic Agency "Telitalia", to replace the old Stefani Agency, states the following:-

- 1) "Telitalia", which was organised clandestinely -- with all its inherent risks -- in September 1943, on being installed on 5 June 44 in the premises of the Stefani by action squads operating in the name and by order of the Committee of National Liberation, immediately established contact with the Italian and Allied authorities with a view to obtaining permission to function.
- 2) Since 5 June 44 Dott. Sessa has always been extremely well received and encouraged by the authorities and requested not to slacken his efforts or be disheartened by the efforts of other similar concerns. The authorities have constantly assured Dott. Sessa that all the other groups -- some for one reason, some for another -- could not be approved of and that enquiries made by the Allies had led them to the conclusion that only the Sessa Group inspired confidence from a political, moral and technical aspect. Furthermore, in the course of an interview with the Directors of PWB and Capt. Anderson, in charge of Press Agencies, Dott. Sessa was told that PWB had consulted the Government of Washington by telegram as to the possibility of granting the requested authorisation for the establishment of the new Agency but that Washington had replied negatively as a clause of the Terms of Armistice forbade Italy the right to disseminate press news. Dott. Sessa, however, pointed out that the clause should be read as applying to the dissemination of news abroad and therefore that nothing should prevent the new Agency from collecting national news and disseminating them inside Italy.

To this point of view Capt. Anderson replied that the Italian Government would have to be consulted.

Major Hamilton, Officer controlling Fascist property and who had requisitioned the premises of the old Stefani, stated, in a letter addressed to Dott. Sessa -- with copies to PWB, PRB-A66 and Public Safety Region IV, that:-

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"The question as to whether your Group or another group

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"will eventually receive permission to re-open the
"Stefani Agency, subject to the authorisation of the
"Allied Military Authorities, will be decided ex-
"clusively by the Italian Government; neither this
"Office nor PWB can take any decision in this respect".

3) Dott. Sessa therefore approached the President of the
Counsel and the Under-Secretary for the Press. H:E.
Spataro in the course of a conversation with Dott. Sessa, whilst
examining the possibility of other solutions as for instance
that of a co-operative newspaper agency, agreed with Dott.
Sessa's views but stressed the fact that the Government had
already officially requested the Allies' approval and more
specially that of Capt. Stone, to which a reply was awaited.

As regards a co-operative type of agency, Dott. Sessa
pointed out the inadvisability of such a solution which
would give rise to various and serious risks. The gravest
risk would be the attempt of the various parties - those
especially having greater financial advantages - to control
the Agency, resorting to the simple expedient of creating the
greatest number possible of newspapers, thus compromising
the interests of the nation and of all the respective parties.

4) Up to date, 4 September 1944, no reply seems to have
been given by the Allies to the request made by the
Italian Government. Further delays on this subject will
obviously be detrimental not only to the Sessa Group but also
and above all to the Nation.

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CURRICULUM VITAE - Doctor PIETRO SESSA

SESSA, Doctor Pietro, laureate in law, born in PAGANI (Prov. of Salerno) 21 September 1886.
Journalist and political writer, former Editor and Correspondent in Moscow of the "Tribune", of the "Stampa" and the Stefani Agency. He was also known in America where his articles were highly spoken of and reported by the American Press. (The Living Age 1927).

From 1911 to 1914 : Secretary to Italian Consulate in Moscow.
From 1915 to 1918 : Vice-Consul of Italian Consulate General in Moscow.

During 1918 and 1919 : Head of Consulate General in charge of Italian interests throughout Russia. Also Professor of the Imperial Institute of Economic Science, Moscow, and Director of the Dante Alighieri in that city. Founded and edited the review "The Italo-Russian Economist" in Moscow during 1915 - 1918. Together with Giovanni Engely founded in Rome the review "Foreign Affairs" which was suppressed by Mussolini.

In 1934 :

From 1940 to 1943 : Was director of economic review "L'Italia nel Mondo", published in various languages. In view of the marked Fascist tendencies of the Editor, Sessa, strongly opposed to the directives issued by the latter, became disinterested and was dismissed in July 1943.

As regards Sessa's politico-journalistic works and ability, former Correspondent of the New York Times, Walter Duranty, can be quoted in that he remembers the opinion on the subject expressed by Henderson, Minister for Foreign Affairs in the MacDonald Cabinet, in the following words: "I am following Soviet politics most attentively and am guided by three journalists - by you Walter Duranty, by Paul Scheffer and by Pietro Sessa. Whilst you are too 'Bolshevico-phil' and Scheffer is too anti-Bolshevik, I find Sessa the most objective and therefore rely on him".

In 1928 at the instance of the Director of the "Tribune" which he was Correspondent in Moscow, Sessa was registered as a member of the Fascist Party. But, between 1930 and 1932

STATUTO

Titolo I

DENOMINAZIONE SOCIA DURATA E SEDE

Art.1 - E' costituita una società a responsabilità limitata, sotto la denominazione "Agenzia Radiotelegrafica Italiana" (A.R.T.I.).

Art.2 - La società ha per scopo la raccolta e la diffusione di notizie e di informazioni a scopo giornalistico, e potrà, conseguentemente, compiere qualsiasi operazione commerciale, industriale e finanziaria comunque connessa con lo scopo sociale, sue direttamente che indirettamente, ivi comprese la partecipazione e l'interessenza in altre imprese similari, sia in Italia che all'estero.

Art.3 - La società ha sede in Roma attualmente in Via S.Nicola da Tolentino 21. Potranno essere costituite succursali o agenzie in Italia e all'estero.

Art.4 - La Società durerà dal giorno della sua legale costituzione sino al 31 dicembre 1965 e potrà essere prorogata una o più volte con deliberazione dell'assemblea dei soci.

Titolo II

CAPITALE

Art.5 - Il capitale sociale è stabilito in L. e viene conferito in quote indivisibili di L.10.000.- ciascuna.

Art.6 - Il capitale sociale non potrà essere aumentato se non previa richiesta dell'Associazione Editori Giornali, ed in ogni caso, non prima di tre mesi dalla data di costituzione della Società.

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Art. 6 - Il capitale sociale non potrà essere aumentato se non previa richiesta dell'Associazione Editori Giornali, ed in ogni caso, non prima di tre mesi dalla data di costituzione della Società.

Le quote di nuova emissione, che dovranno essere egualmente indivisibili e del valore di L.10.000.- ciascuna, saranno offerte in opzione, con le modalità e con le proporzioni che verranno stabilite dall'Assemblea, all'Associazione Editori Giornali, ~~editore~~ ~~editore~~ ~~editore~~ e alle imprese editoriali di giornali quotidiani, iscritte alla detta Associazione.

Nessuna quota di nuove emissione potrà essere sottoscritta da imprese e da Associazioni ~~editoriali~~, diversi da quelli precisati nel precedente capoverso.

Nessuna impresa editrice di giornali quotidiani può possedere più di una quota sociale per ciascun quotidiano editato.

Il termine per il versamento delle quote, ove non sia stabilito dall'Assemblea, viene fissato dal Consiglio di Amministrazione.

Art.7 - Le quote possedute dalle singole imprese editoriali di giornali quotidiani possono essere trasferite solo in favore dell'Associazione Editori Giornali.

Il socio che, per qualsiasi causa, cessasse o, per oltre sei mesi, sospendesse la propria impresa editoriale di giornali quotidiani, è tenuto, su richiesta dell'Associazione Editori Giornali, a cedere a quest'ultima le quote sociali da lui possedute, al prezzo che risulterà in proporzione del patrimonio sociale accertato dal bilancio dell'ultimo esercizio.

Titolo III

ASSEMBLEE

Art.8 - L'Assemblea è convocata dal Consiglio di Amministrazione nella sede sociale o altrove con le formalità previste dall'Art.2484 c.c.. In caso di urgenza la lettera raccomandata di convocazione può essere spedita anche tre giorni prima dell'adunanza.

nel precedente capoverso.

Nessuna impresa editrice di giornali quotidiani può possedere più di una quota sociale per ciascun quotidiano editato.

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Il socio che, per qualsiasi causa, cessasse o, per altro motivo, sospendesse la propria impresa editoriale di giornali quotidiani, è tenuto, su richiesta dell'Associazione Editori Giornali, a cedere a quest'ultima le quote sociali da lui possedute, al prezzo che risulterà in proporzione del patrimonio sociale accertato dal bilancio dell'ultimo esercizio.

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Art. 8 - L'Assemblea è convocata dal Consiglio di Amministrazione nella sede sociale o altrove con le formalità previste dall'Art. 2484 c.c.. In caso di urgenza la lettera raccomandata di convocazione può essere spedita anche tre giorni prima dell'adunanza.

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In mancanza delle formalità suddette l'assemblea si ritiene regolarmente costituita quando è rappresentata l'intero capitale sociale e sono intervenuti tutti gli amministratori ed il Collegio Sindacale.

Tuttavia, in tale ipotesi ciascuno degli intervenuti può proporre alla discussione degli argomenti sui quali non si ritenga sufficientemente informato.

Art. 9 - L'assemblea è ordinaria e straordinaria.

L'assemblea straordinaria, sia in prima che in seconda convocazione, delibera con il voto favorevole di tanti soci che rappresentano più dei due terzi del capitale sociale.

L'assemblea ordinaria deve essere convocata almeno una volta all'anno, entro quattro mesi dalla chiusura dell'esercizio sociale:

quando particolari esigenze lo richiedessero, tale termine potrà essere protratto sino a sei mesi.

I soci possono farsi rappresentare nell'assemblea. La rappresentanza deve essere conferita per iscritto, anche con semplice lettera, e i documenti relativi devono essere conservati dalla società. Gli amministratori ed i dipendenti della società non possono rappresentare i soci nell'assemblea.

Art. 10 - L'assemblea è presieduta da uno dei Consiglieri di Amministrazione della Società, su designazione dell'assemblea stessa, o, in mancanza, da altra persona designata dagli intervenuti.

Il Presidente dell'assemblea è assistito da un segretario, da lui designato.

Tuttavia, in tale ipotesi ciascuno degli intervenuti può, dopo
si alla discussione degli argomenti sui quali non si ritenga sufficien-
temente informato.

Art. 9 - L'assemblea è ordinaria e straordinaria.

L'assemblea straordinaria, sia in prima che in seconda convocazione, delibera con il voto favorevole di tutti i soci che rappresentano più del due terzi del capitale sociale.

L'assemblea ordinaria deve essere convocata almeno una volta all'anno, entro quattro mesi dalla chiusura dell'esercizio sociale; quando particolari esistenti lo richiedessero, tale termine potrà essere protratto sino a sei mesi.

I soci possono farvi rappresentare nell'assemblea. La rappresentanza deve essere conferita per iscritto, anche con semplice lettera, e i documenti relativi devono essere conservati dalla società. Gli amministratori ed i dipendenti della società non possono rappresentare i soci nell'assemblea.

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Il Presidente dell'assemblea è assistito da un segretario, da lui designato.

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Titolo IV

AMMINISTRAZIONE

Art. 11 - La Società è amministrata da un Consiglio di Amministrazione composta di cinque consiglieri eletti dall'assemblea, i quali durano in carica due anni, e sono rieleggibili.

Art. 12 - Il Consiglio di Amministrazione è convocato, nella sede sociale o altrove, sempreché sarà ritenuto opportuno da almeno due Consigliieri o dal Collegio Sindacale.

Art. 13 - Il Consiglio di Amministrazione è investito dei più ampi poteri per la gestione ordinaria e straordinaria della Società, assuefatta alla sua competenza tutto ciò che per legge e per Statuto non è espressamente riservato all'assemblea dei soci.

Al Consiglio di Amministrazione compete, innanzi, tra l'altro, di deliberare qualsiasi atto od operazione commerciale, industriale, finanziaria o ogni contratto comunque inerente allo scopo sociale, di compiere qualsiasi atto di acquisto, alienazione, permuta, locazione o conduzione anche ultra biennale di immobili, la iscrizione, radiazione o cancellazione o postergazione di ipoteche ogni operazione non debita pubblicistica e la pubblica amministrazione in genere, l'esperimento di qualsiasi azione giudiziarie, attiva o passiva, in qualsiasi sede, anche di apprensione e di concessione, con facoltà di transigere e di compromettere in arbitri, anche amichevoli compositori, nominare un direttore tecnico o un direttore amministrativo della Società, ai quali può essere attribuita, con la responsabilità di cui all'art. 2385 c.c., la parte esecutiva delle operazioni sociali, nominare procuratori ad hoc e ad interim, nominare eventuali rappresentanti nella Società per l'estero, stabilire le loro attribuzioni e mansioni.

Il Consiglio può delegare parte dei suoi poteri ad uno o a più dei suoi membri, congiuntamente o separatamente.

Art. 14 - Il Consiglio di Amministrazione delibera a maggioranza di voti dei presenti. In caso di parità la proposta si intende accettata.

Art. 15 - La firma e la rappresentanza della Società in v3172 di viale e stragiudiziale spettano a due Consiglieri.

Spetteranno, altresì, per determinati affari, a quello altro

di sua competenza entro i limiti che per legge sono
riservati all'assemblea dei soci.

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male e straordinaria spettano a due Consiglieri.

Spetteranno, altresì, per determinati affari, a quelle altre persone cui il Consiglio di Amministrazione le abbia delegate.

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Titolo V SINDACI

Art. 16 - La gestione della Società è controllata da un Collegio di tre Sindaci effettivi e di due supplenti nominati e funzionanti a norma di legge.

Titolo VI

BILANCIO E RIPARTIZIONE DEGLI UTILI

Art. 17 - L'esercizio sociale si chiude al 31 dicembre di ciascun anno: entro i termini e con le modalità di legge saranno compilati inventario e bilancio, e saranno sottoposti all'approvazione dell'Assemblea.

Il primo esercizio sociale si chiude al 31 dicembre 1945.

Art. 18 - Gli utili saranno ripartiti come segue:

- il 1/3 alla riserva
- il 1/3 al Consiglio di Amministrazione
- il 2/3 al Capitale sociale

I dividendi non esatti andranno a favore del fondo di riserva dopo cinque anni dal giorno in cui divenissero esigibili.

3171

Art. 19 - adducendosi in qualsiasi momento o per qualsiasi causa allo scioglimento della Società l'assemblea determinerà le modalità della liquidazione ed i poteri dell'unico o dei più liquidatori che saranno nominati.

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3171

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Art. 20 - L'autorità giudiziaria di Roma è per parte contrattuale l'unica competente a conoscere delle eventuali contestazioni fra la Società ed i suoi competenti, nonché di tutte quelle riferibili in genere alla vita sociale.

A/cc 590
OCT 12 1944(21) *kgp*PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R20a

11 Oct 44.

SUBJECT : ITALIAN TELEGRAPHIC NEWS AGENCY
TO : Acting Chief Commissioner, A.C.C.

I attach the translation of a News Agency plan which has, I understand, been put up to the Italian Government. The next move presumably is with them. But you may like to see what they have in mind and what is entailed - i.e. the transference of the Stefani property. Rossini is at present the Head of the Press Office under Spataro.

Lionel Fielden
LIONEL FIELDEN
Major
Public Relations Director.

IF/venb

Encl.

3170

TRANSLATIONASSOCIAZIONE EDITORI GIORNALIn.13332/26

Rome, 7 October 1944.

Major Lionel Fielden
ROME

In sending you copy of the request made by the Association of Newspaper Editors to the Italian Government for authorisation to operate an Italian Telegraphic Agency with the object of supplying news to the Italian Newspapers and exchanging news with corresponding foreign agencies, we beg to inform you that Dr. Armando ROSSINI has been proposed as Director of the Agency, and Dr. Leonida FELLETTI as Vice-President.

The Association of Newspaper Editors trusts that you will give your whole-hearted support to the enterprise in order that the Agency may begin its activities as soon as possible in conformity with the directives which the A.C.C. may suggest.

(Sgd) -

(THE SECRETARY
(A.Sciavicco)

Encl/ 1

3169

TRANSLATIONASSOCIAZIONE EDITORI GIORNALI :n. 13330/26

Rome; 7 October 44.

TO THE UNDER-SECRETARIAT
FOR PRESS & INFORMATION.
R O M E

A limited company has been formed in Rome by the Association of Newspaper Editors, having a capital of Lire 500,000 subscribed : 9/10 by the Administrations of single Newspapers, and 1/10 by the Institute for the Welfare of Journalists, in order to operate in Italy an Information Agency for the use of the whole of the Italian Press. The Agency in question would replace - in all its services - the "Stefani Agency" which transferred to the North in October 1943 and became the official agency of the pseudo-Fascist Republican Government. The Agency will transmit to the Press all the official communiqués and other political news or items of special interest as well as economic and financial information of national interest. The Agency will also transmit information on foreign policy and on military events received from the relative Allied sources - or available through its own sources - when circumstances permit.

The organisers hope that the Italian Government will entrust the Agency in question with the task of transmitting official news to all the Provinces, and that it will to this end grant the Agency a free telegraph service and a discount of 65% on the telephone rates - privileges which were given to the Stefani Agency which in the past fulfilled this function.

The new Agency, contrary to the Stefani's policy, is asking for no Government Subsidy and does not intend to be in any way dependent on it, wishing to be a private concern and to keep entirely apart from any political direction.

As regards its financial constitution the Agency is of a co-operative character and is open to all Italian Newspapers, to which it will make its services available against payment which will be proportionate to the number of copies each Paper prints.

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- 2 -

Concerning the details of the organisation, posting service and development of various activities, the organisers are prepared to give full verbal explanations on every point.

In the hope that the new Agency will be permitted to have its own premises, it is requested that the premises, fixtures and materials of the defunct Stefani Agency in this city be made available, against payment of rent to be fixed by the Government.

In view of the necessity for the Italian Government to have an Italian Agency through which to channel either to the Press or to its own branches all its communications, and bearing in mind the completely non-political policy which the Agency intends maintaining, and, finally, considering that the enterprise is not a private concern and therefore not given to speculation being, on the contrary, a co-operative undertaking for all Italian newspapers, it is hoped that the Under-Secretariat will give the necessary authorisation and thus allow the Agency to begin its work forthwith.

(Sgd) The Secretary
(A. Sciavico)

3167 36

Translation

ASSOCIAZIONE EDITORI GIORNALI

n. 13332/26

ROMA, li 7 Ottobre 1944
Via San Nicola da Tolentino, 21
Telefono 484569

Signor Maggior LIONEL FIELDEN
R O M A

Nel rimetterle copia della domanda inoltrata dall'Associazione Editori Giornali al Governo italiano per l'autorizzazione al funzionamento di un'agenzia telegrafica italiana avente lo scopo di fornire notizie ai giornali italiani e di intraprendere uno scambio di notizie con le analoghe agenzie straniere, si pregia comunicarle che alla Direzione dell'Agenzia stessa sono stati preposti il Dr. Armando Rossini quale Direttore ed il Dr. Leonida Felletti quale Vice Direttore.

L'Associazione Editori Giornali confida nel suo più vivo interessamento affinché l'Agenzia possa iniziare la sua attività al più presto possibile in conformità alle direttive che l'A.R.C. riterrà opportuno suggerire.

IL SEGRETARIO
(A. Sciarvicco)

Autunno Sciarvicco

allegato n.1-

3166

ASSOCIAZIONE EDITORI GIORNALI

n.13330/26

ROMA, li 7 Ottobre 1944

Via San Nicola da Tolentino, 21
Telefono 484569

AL SOTTOSEGRETARIATO PER LA STAMPA

E LE INFORMAZIONI

R O M A

Si è costituita in Roma, per iniziativa dell'Associazione Editori Giornali, una Società a responsabilità limitata di L.500.000. sottoscritta per 9/10 dalle Amministrazioni dei singoli giornali e da 1/10 dall'Istituto Nazionale di Previdenza per i Giornalisti, allo scopo di far funzionare in Italia un'Agenzia di Informazioni ad uso di tutta la stampa italiana. Detta agenzia intende sostituire in tutti i servizi l'"Agenzia Stefani", trasferitasi al nord nell'ottobre 1943 e divenuta l'agenzia ufficiosa del pseudo governo fascista repubblicano. Tale nuova agenzia trasmetterà alla stampa tutti i comunicati ufficiali e le altre notizie politiche o di cronaca di maggior interesse, nonché le notizie economiche e finanziarie di importanza nazionale. L'Agenzia trasmetterà inoltre le informazioni di politica estera e quelle relative agli avvenimenti militari che le saranno rimesse dai competenti organi alleati, salvo a disporre di servizi propri, quando le circostanze lo consentiranno.

Gli organizzatori confidano che il Governo italiano vorrà affidare a tale agenzia il compito della trasmissione delle notizie ufficiali in tutte le provincie e vorrà a tal fine concederle la franchigia telegrafica e lo sconto del 65% sulle tariffe telefoniche, con formenente a quanto veniva praticato a favore dell'"Agenzia Stefani", alla quale era affidato l'espletamento di tale servizio.

La nuova agenzia, al contrario della "Stefani", non chiede nessun contributo allo Stato ed intende non avere con esso alcun rapporto di dipendenza, desiderando avere carattere privato e mantenersi del tutto estranea a qualsiasi indirizzo politico.

Si fa presente che per la sua costituzione finanziaria l'agenzia ha carattere cooperativo e che essa è aperta a tutti i giornali italiani ai quali i renderà i suoi servizi, contro un compenso che sarà in proporzione alla tiratura di copie di ciascuno di essi.

Circa i dettagli dell'organizzazione, dell'impostazione iniziale e dei previsti sviluppi dei servizi, gli organizzatori si riservano di illustrare a voce ogni dettaglio.

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Nell'attesa che la nuova agenzia possa disporre di propri locali, si chiede pertanto l'uso in locazione dei locali, dell'arredamento e dei materiali della cessata "Agenzia Stefani", per i quali verrà corrisposto il canone che il Governo riterrà di dover stabilire.

Considerata la necessità per il Governo italiano di avere un Agenzia italiana attraverso cui diramare, sia alla stampa, sia ai propri organi periferici, tutte le proprie comunicazioni, tenuto conto del carattere rigidamente apolitico che l'agenzia intende assumere e mantenere e considerato infine che l'iniziativa non ha un carattere privato e quindi speculativo, risultando essa una cooperativa fra tutti i giornali italiani, si confida che codesto Sottosegretariato vorrà concedere il necessario permesso e consentire così all'agenzia l'inizio immediato della propria attività.

IL SEGRETARIO
(A. Sciavicco)

Antonio Sciavicco

2016

2016

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R20a

29 Sep 44.

Subject: Italian Telegraph Agency.

To: Major J.A. Quayle, Chief Staff Officer to Acting Chief
Commissioner.

I did not ask for this nor have I seen it before. I am very glad to see it now. If, as I suppose, it is from Bonomi, one may deduce the following:-

(a) Bonomi won't have the competitive type of agency which we suggested. He thinks it could not work in Italy. Most intelligent Italians with whom I have spoken on the subject take the same view.

(b) From the handwriting at the top and various other indications I imagine that Pietro Sessa has had a hand in this document. He wants to revive Stefani as a selling agency. He is backed by several good people, including Piacentini; he has been to see me and I had a favourable impression of him: there seems to be nothing against him, except that he is - I understand - a Monarchist. He has given me a list of his backers with their history.

(c) I do not quite understand what "decision" is wanted. Presumably, if a cooperative press is ruled out, our "decision" is simply to tell Bonomi to set up a Press Agency. That, I think, would be Sessa's.

(d) Main problems which would arise from this would be (1) anger from all other aspirants (2) possible anger of Reuter, AP and UP who want to sell direct to Italian papers.

(Sd)
LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major,
Public Relations Director.

3164
3163

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTER OFFICE MEMO

From: The Acting Chief Commissioner

SUBJECT:

FILE No.

23 September 1944

TO: PRO, Hq ACC

What is the status of the proposed new press decree including a libel ~~new~~ decree, and what needs to be done to get these pushed through as a preliminary to permitting a press agency or agencies to begin operation in Italy?

W
MILERY W. STONE
Captain, USN
Acting Chief Commissioner

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PRB/R9

SUBJECT : ITALIAN NEWS AGENCY

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

Dear George,

You will remember that Captain Stone expressed a desire that the establishment of an Italian News Agency should be hastened.

I do not know what steps are being taken by PWB to this end but I am quite sure that a good many inside and outside interests are working in this matter, and it seems to me that if action is not taken we may find all sorts of ugly arrangements being made sub rosa. As in all these matters, I fear, as you know, that decent action which might now be taken by the Allies may be prejudiced - in spite of all control - by some sort of illicit arrangements made now with a view to putting them into effect when Allied control is removed.

I have thought a good deal over the idea of a "non-profit, co-operative agency" and spoken about it to Italians whose judgment I trust. I am more and more inclined to think that this - as they say - "Anglo-Saxon idea" will not work in Italy under present conditions. There are in fact no safeguards which would effectively prevent it from falling in fact under the control of a single group - foreign, national, party or private - which would use the "non-profit co-operative" device to mask its control. I cannot help thinking that on the whole a selling agency, provided that the right men could be found to control it, is a better answer.

These however are random reflections : the purpose of this letter is to suggest that we get to work quickly to agree upon some definite scheme.

Yours
(Sgd) Lionel Alden

File (18) [initials]
20A.
When seen [initials]
21 Sep 44 [initials]
B

3163

UFFICIO STAMPA
COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

plu
cto
(17)

PRB/R20a

21 Settembre 1944

Egregio Dott. Sessa,

La ringrazio molto del Suo promemoria sulla Agenzia Telegrafica Italiana, che gentilmente mi ha fatto avere.

Poiche' stiamo ancora esaminando quanto possa essere opportuno fondare una Agenzia di Informazioni Italiana, non posso, per ora, fare nessun commento al Suo promemoria.

Le invio i miei migliori saluti

(Sgd)

Maggiore LIONEL FIELDEN
Direttore dell'Ufficio Stampa

Dott. Pietro Sessa
Via Po, 40
ROMA

31623

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

791

1/24 - 154515

2/26

PRB/R 54

24 August 1944.

Subject: Stefani Agency.

To: Acting Chief Commissioner.

1. I recently called for a report on the present position regarding the premises of the Stefani Agency.
2. I would like you to see the attached because it shows the appalling kind of muddle which exists.
3. I have every reason to anticipate a request for these premises from the Italian Government.
4. The whole question of agencies is still with you.

Lionel Fielden
LIONEL FIELDEN,
Major,
Public Relations Director.

3161

CC/ch

ACC/2009/CP

22 August 1944

Subject: Agenzia Stefani

To : public relations officer, ACC.
(attn: Maj. J.P. Leacoc).

1. Transmitted herewith is a copy of a report upon the above subject prepared by Major E. W. Hamilton of the property control staff of Region IV. I hope this will give you what you want.

Charles Carroll
CHARLES CARROLL
Lt. Col., Ord. Dept.
Acting Director
Property Control Sub-Commission

3160

3160

REXKUCAGIERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO 334

LWH/tf

PC/ 3 NO 177 R

17 August 1944

SUBJECT : AGENZIA STEFANI

TO : Acting Director of Property Control Sub-Commission
Headquarters A.C.

THROUGH : R.C. Region IV

1. With reference to your LSC/AMG/OP of 14 Aug. 44 as far as we have been able to ascertain them, the details required by Public Relations are as follows:-

2. On 20 June 44, as this Division had been asked to enquire into the status and whereabouts of the new Stefani, Major Hamilton called at their office and met Dr. Sessa, Prof. Ratti and Mr. Carelli. These gentlemen admitted that they had walked into the office by the back door on some 7 as the old Stefani were leaving, but maintained that they acted under instructions from the Committee of National Liberation. They explained that two companies were interested in Stefani - the Stefani agency itself, and a property company owning the building, and leasing it to the Agency Company. Both these companies were entirely owned by Morgani. When Morgani committed suicide, after Mussolini's fall, the widow retained ownership of the property company but sold all the shares in the Agency Company to Mussolini for cash.

3. The Stefani Agency was an S force objective for P.W.B. who raided it at an early date, in spite of some obstruction from the people in possession, and removed a certain amount of apparatus and documents. As soon as Major Hamilton heard this, he had an interview with Mr. Rhodes of P.W.B., who gave him the following additional information.

4. The past history as given to him by Dr. Sessa was substantially correct, and P.W.B. was satisfied that since the fall of Mussolini, Dr. Sessa had been working loyally for the Committee of National Liberation. At the same time he had previously worked loyally for Morgani.

5./

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5. While most of the important documents and a great deal of the radio apparatus had been taken North, they believed there was still a quantity of transmitting apparatus hidden in Rome.

6. There were at this time in Rome three Groups who were trying to establish their right to open the new Stefani, namely

- (a) Dr. Sessa's group who had occupied the building
- (b) a group led by Avv. Lugiani - the widow Morgani's lawyer, and
- (c) a third group of exemployees led by Pietro Gobor, the former business manager of the Agency, with a very murky past.

Each of these groups appeared to be hanging together mainly to see what advantage any one could derive from the other, and not on account of any real community of interests. At the same time they were all trying hard to get some admission from F.B.I. or this Division, which they could use as a lever to persuade the Italian Government to favor their particular group.

7. As we thought that there was still a chance of inducing members of any one group to double cross and give away something important about one of the other groups, we decided to take no immediate action.

8. Except for another abortive attempt by Dr. Sessa to compromise this Division by asking us to take custody of the rent he proposed to pay for the offices, which Avv. Lugiani the owner's official representative refused to accept, nothing further was done until 13 July 44 when . . . decided, after consultation with this Division, that nothing was to be gained by holding our hands any longer, and that the only satisfactory solution was to eject the present unlawful tenants and close the building, after which a thorough search could be made of the building and, if considered necessary, of the homes of a number of named employees of the old Agency.

9. As the possibility of locating radio transmission sets was involved, the whole position was referred to G.2 R.A.A.C. and through them to Capt. Brod C.I.C. Arrangements were made with the Public Safety Division of Region IV to raid the premises in conjunction with representatives of C.I.C., F.B.I. and this Division. The raid took place at 10.30 hrs. on 11 July 44. Very little of any value or importance was found in the building. All employees were examined by C.I.C. (the results of these examinations have not been made available to this office). The office were closed and locked, a 24 hour police guard being mounted on the premises. The usual Property Control notice was posted on the door, and Major Hamilton removed all keys to the outside doors - the same being still in his custody.

-3-

10. Further attempts have been made both personally and by letter to obtain some admission from . . . or this Division of Dr. Sessa's group's superior right to be recognized as the new Stefani, as the result of which a letter was agreed upon with R.V.E. and sent to Dr. Sessa from this office, - explaining the exact position. - a copy of this letter has already been sent to Public Relations.

11. This Division has not had any direct dealing with any group other than Sessa's and in consequence cannot express any opinion about the others, but in view of the behaviour of the Sessa group in the entire matter, we would hardly recommend that any effort should be given to them. Dr. Sessa is superficially extremely genial and anxious to assist, but it very soon became clear that he was trying all the time to keep the allied representatives, who asking some admission wanted or preferably in waiting while he could turn to his own work.

12. The stolen items were little material of any value or importance was found on the premises.

13. The items of field original 3 force rifle . . . removed:

- 1 Radio Receiver, etc.
- 1 Box . . .
- 1 Box of tools
- 1 Case of measuring instruments
- 1 Small table top "Registrators Sessas" and rolls of paper

and these are presumably still in their custody.

After the police raid this Division removed:

- 1 additional receiver
- 1 Unidentified - apparently a form of interceptor.

and a box of miscellaneous radio valves containing:

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|---------|
| 1 | Telefunken 8.1. 174 | : | few |
| 1 | " 113 04 | : | few |
| 1 | Elro - 5 (no number) | : | 500 |
| 1 | Telefunken 8.2 10 | : | 700 |
| 1 | Smith 25 4100 | : | 80 |
| 1 | Telefunken 8.1.604 | : | 100 |
| 5 | Miscellaneous | : | 10 |
| 12 | " | : | useless |

and these are in custody in this office.

ad/

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-1-

An inventory has been taken of the present contents of the building and is available in this office. The furniture is of little intrinsic value. There are two typewriters (one in very bad condition) and an old Gestetner duplicatory machine. In the basement there are two electric motors and the compressor which was used in connection with the pneumatic inter-office communication system.

13. It is hoped that the above will give Public Relations the information they require.

14. A duplicate copy of this letter is attached in case you may wish to forward it to Public Relations.

For the Regional Property Control Officer

Hamilton
masin

HENRY M. V. HAMILTON
Asst Regional Property
Control Officer

3156

Draft reply by Maj. Fielden
draft for Chief, PWS-AFHQ
submitted by A.D.P. L.T.
Italian theatre passed for
comment to Political
Section. - 5 Sep 44 who
passed it to Capt. Stone.
According to Major Fielden.
Capt. Stone's reply returned without either
above drafts.

3155

The next step is 1 (1/1)
 pressure a meeting!
 with or without P.W.B.
 first? HAC 2718

Mr. Caccini

Captain Stone Landau has to me
 it seems to tie up with projects
 we have in mind. I see absolutely
 nothing to prevent correspondence
 of prepared provincial papers being
 in Rome but telegraphing or
 telegraphing to read papers is not
 so simple. I am very much in
 favor of existing on Italian
 equity - which should be the
 instrument of its continued peace &
 not its parliament - and
 further cases as to whether there
 any should be located in the
 Stefani building which is now
 equated in a very odd way.
 (see attached papers)
 I know nothing I radioed for 3154 or
 present I should have brought her
 some or Tim should be given to
 the parliament.

L. Felder

PRO

Captain Stone:

Re attached.

On the third sheet you have made a note to the effect that
you want to discuss with Political Section and P.R.O.


Densmore
21 Aug 44.

BMS/nd

A/C 000.7

18 August 1944

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

This is to acknowledge your communication of August 9, 1944, with its enclosed note regarding Italian press problems and the obtaining for use by the Italian Government, of a transmitting radio station.

These questions are in study and will be brought to the attention of the appropriate Allied authorities. I shall not fail to advise you of their views in the matters immediately upon their receipt by me.

Yours very truly,

HENRY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government

cc: Political Sec.

3153

Hq ACC - Sec'y Gen.
DISPATCHED
Date - Time 19 Aug 1945
Via 145
Initials PRR

570

TRANSLATION

THE PRESIDENT OFFICIAL

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

R. 113/10711-13

Rome, 9 August 1944

HQ ACC, APO 394

570 Sec'y Gen.

Rec'd 12 Aug 1930

By APR

Dear Captain Stone,

I send you the enclosed note dealing with some of the Press problems, and also:

1st) the need for the newspapers which are printed in the provinces to have correspondents in Rome who could send by telephone their correspondence to the papers.

2nd) the need to create a telegraphic information agency under the control of the Allied Commission;

Yes

3rd) the handing over to the Government of one of the transmitting radio.

AFHQ

(Pitt Rivers)

C-4-11

S-1-11

I should be very grateful if you would give your personal attention to these questions, the solution of which is especially important for the Italian Government.

I remain,

Yours truly

/s/ I. Bonini

Admiral HENRY STONE
President of the
Allied Control Commission

Rome

→ Pol. Sec.

Will you pls prepare ack.
Then want to discuss with you in
Tilden the question of PWD policy.



IL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSIGLIO
DEI MINISTRI

N° 3128
XXVIII - 13

Roma 9 agosto 1944

Caro Capitano Stone,

Le rimetto l'accluso appunto in cui sono
affrontati alcuni problemi riguardanti la Stampa e
precisamente:

- 1°) la necessità che sia consentito ai giornali
che si pubblicano nelle provincie di avere
corrispondenti a Roma che possano per tele-
fono inviare la loro corrispondenza ai gior-
nali;
- 2°) la necessità della creazione di una agenzia
telegrafica d'informazione sotto il controllo
della Commissione Alleata;
- 3°) la concessione al Governo di una delle radio
trasmittenti.

Le sarò molto grato se vorrà portare la
Sua personale attenzione sulle questioni prospet-
tate, la cui soluzione riveste particolare impor-
tanza ed interesse per il Governo Italiano.

Ringraziamenti e cordiali saluti.

Capitano Ellery Stone

Baron

3152

TO THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

In order to guarantee a wider freedom for the Italian Press, and, from a general point of view, to increase the diffusion of news and propaganda, the three following measures are deemed necessary on which I wish to draw the attention of the Allied Control Commission :

- 1) - With the progressive liberation of the Italian territory, the number of the newspapers published out of the bounds of the Capital, is daily increasing. And it is presumable that in the newly liberated Italian territories too, as is already happening in southern Italy, the publishing of political parties newspapers and of independent information newspapers will be granted besides that of the P.W.B. newspapers. These newspapers have not so far been allowed to have their own Rome-Correspondents, and can, therefore, avail themselves only of the U.M.F. bullettin, which does not arrive regularly everywhere, and of official Communiqués released by this Italian Under-Secretariat for the Services of the Press and Information.

It is therefore deemed necessary that the Rome-Correspondents of provincial newspapers should be authorized to forward their dispatches to their newspapers by telephone; and that the same authorization should be granted to the provincial Correspondents in respect to their Rome newspapers; the latter have hitherto been lacking an information-service of their own from the various Italian Provinces.

The above said measures should, of course, be granted in compliance with the requirements of the Telephone Services.

- 2) - In order to integrate the information service of every newspapers, the constitution of a Telegraphic News-Agency under the control of the Allied Commission is thought advisable. This Agency should limitate its service within the territory under the jurisdiction of the Italian Government, and should supply only news concerning Italian events, and news which would be released exclusively by the competent Allied Agents, relating to foreign and war events.

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= 2 =

3) - Excepting the Wireless Transmitting Station of Cagliari, ("Radio-Sardegna"), which has only a local importance, all the other existing Italian W.T.S. in this country are at the moment entrusted to the P.W.B. No W.T.S. is under an Italian direction, according to the necessities of Italian taste and culture. In spite of all efforts made by the Italian Government, it has not even been possible to obtain from the P.W.B. the integral broadcasting of the Official Communiqués released by the Italian Government, nor that of special programmes commissioned to persons officially deputed by the Italian Government, under the Control of the Allies.

This situation is bound to become particularly serious, after the 15th of August when the Administration of the Capital ~~was~~ transferred to the Italian Government; the latter in spite of the existence of two W.T.S. in Rome will not be in a condition to make their voice directly heard neither by people living in the liberated Provinces nor, by Italian citizens living in the territories occupied by the enemy.

It is therefore necessary that from the 15th of August onwards, the Italian Government should be granted to avail themselves at least, of the use of the minor of the two W.T.S. existing in Rome; the other one, the most powerful, would, therefore, remain at the disposal of the P.W.B. The control of programmes on the part of the P.W.B. deputies would guarantee, in all cases, the rights and interests of the United Nations; while the use of even a small W.T.S. on the part of the Italian Government would make possible the formation of a new national nucleus of experts, to whom the resumption of a national broadcasting activity could later and gradually be committed.

The importance of the aforesaid requirements is plain. They aim at facilitating the resuming of the intercourses between the Provinces and the Capital; at restoring the feeling of national unity of Italians; at spreading everywhere the sentiment of political and economical revival; at last, in a word, at making the most rapid reconstruction ~~3150~~ Country possible.

This situation is bound to become particularly serious, after the 15th of August when the Administration of the Capital ~~is~~ transferred to the Italian Government; the latter in spite of the existence of two W.S.S. in Rome will not be in a condition to make their voice directly heard neither by people living in the liberated Provinces nor, by Italian citizens living in the territories occupied by the enemy.

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The importance of the aforesaid requirements is plain. They aim at facilitating the resuming of the intercourses between the Provinces and the Capital; at restoring the feeling of national unity; at spreading everywhere the sentiment of political and economical revival; at last in a word, at making the most rapid reconstruction possible.

3150

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(13)

PRB/R55

13 August 1944.

Subject: Stefani News Agency.

To: Director, Property Control Sub-Commission.

1. It is requested that a report on the present status of the Stefani News Agency, which was an Italian state or parastatal entity, be forwarded at your early convenience to the Public Relations Branch.

2. The information specifically desired by this Branch is as follows:

- a. Who are the parties now contending for ownership or direction of this property?
- b. What materials or equipment have been found and in whose custody are they at present?
- c. What comment or recommendations does the Property Control Sub-Commission have on the situation, if any?

3. The interest of the Public Relations Branch in the matter is two-fold:

a. This Branch is the official ACC organ that supervises the activities of its counterpart in the Italian Government, namely, the Office of the Undersecretary for the Press in the Ministry of the Interior.

b. The Italian Government may well be desirous of starting a semi-official news agency, probably by revising the Stefani, and in the light of the desirability of such a project, the Public Relations Branch wishes the expert advice of the Property Control Sub-Commission in order to be able better to advise on the disposition of this property when the time comes for such a decision.

For the Director.

(Sd)

JOHN P. LEACACOS,
Major, AUS,
Public Relations Officer.

3149

Copy to: Colonel G.R. Upjohn, Vice-President,
Administrative Section.

COMANDO GENERALE
GOVERNO MILITARE ALLEATO
REGIONE IV
VIA LUCULLO 6, ROMA

Public Relations Branch
Major General (12) 20
EWH/CF
58

IC/ R 1/7

15 Agosto 1944

Egr. Sig. Dr. ELENO SESSA
Via Po, 10
Roma

Stefani Agency

AGENZIA STEFANI



Le due lettere da Voi mandate a questo Ufficio e al P.W.B. sono state oggetto di nostre discussioni e, d'accordo col P.W.B., siamo venuti nella determinazione che sia meglio spiegarvi la situazione esatta, così creata nei confronti della Stefani.

Il Governo Militare Alleato ha deciso che fino a nuovo ordine nessuna agenzia di informazione potrà svolgere la sua attività.

Il gruppo che si era insediato nei locali già occupati dalla Stefani non aveva alcun diritto legale di entrarvi e quindi ha dovuto sloggiare, né può accampare speciali diritti in confronto di altri gruppi.

La questione se il Vostro gruppo, oppure un altro, riceverà eventualmente il permesso di riaprire l'agenzia Stefani, previa autorizzazione delle Autorità Militari Alleate, verrà risolta esclusivamente dal Governo Italiano. Questo Ufficio, o il P.W.B., non può prendere alcuna decisione in merito.

I locali della Stefani rimarranno chiusi e disabitati fino a che non sarà possibile a questo Ufficio di trasferirne la consegna al Governo Italiano.

Di conseguenza, qualsiasi richiesta di occupare i locali in parola, rivolta sia a questo Ufficio, sia al P.W.B., non potrà avere che esito negativo.

Distinti saluti.

Hamilton 3148
MAJ. E.W. HAMILTON
Ass't Regional Property
Control Officer

Copia a: P.W.B. Unit 12

Public Relation A.C.C. ✓

Public Safety, Region IV

- (1) Mr Caccia
 (2) Colonel Upjohn

I should be grateful for your comments on the claim of the Italian Government to the Italian equipment & offices. The claim has not yet been officially made but I suspect that it is coming in due course from Sp. Ch. 10. Para 5 of Greenhill's letter seems rather odd.

L. Hadden

10 Aug.

To Mr Caccia

I don't understand what is the position at the moment & until someone makes some claim about something (which they have NOT at the moment) I am at a loss to understand upon what matter my comments are required. The proper course is for the

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
AFC 394

C-2834

EMM/EF

7 August 1944.

FC/ 1/177

SUBJECT: AGENZIA STEFANI

TO : Public Relations Officer
Headquarters
Allied Control Commission

THROUGH : Regional Commissioner, Region IV

1. I now enclose copy of the report made by the Division of Public Safety on the raid of the Stefani offices, to which I have little to add.

2. The French Press Agency had temporary offices in the same building, and it became necessary for them to move, as they had no independent access. They found new and more convenient offices immediately and I gave them facilities for removing their documents and furniture under supervision.

3. I also arranged with the communications division of this Region to remove three telephone instruments, which were urgently needed for this building. The building remains closed and under police guard, and an inventory of the contents will be taken in due course.

4. All documents have been scrutinized by C.I.D. and F.W.P. and any of importance removed by them.

5. This office and F.W.P. are both being bombarded with letters of protest from the various members of the so called New-Stefani, but arrangements are now in hand to compose and send a joint letter finally dealing with all their claims to our support or help.

6. They are still clearly desperately anxious to put one of us in a position of making some admission which they can use as a lever to force the Italian Government to back their group.

3146
Major S. A. Hamilton
Asst Regional Property
Control Officer

ENCL: - 1.

Copy

21st July 1944

Subject: Agenzia Stefani, Via Propaganda 27

To : Lt. Col. Follock

From : Capt. T.M.V. Greenhill

1. At 3.20 p.m. on the 28th of July 1944, I had a conference with Major E.W. Hamilton, Property Control Division, regarding the above agency.

2. It appears that when our entry into Rome the Stefani Agency was an "S" Force target and was raided soon afterwards by I.W.B. unit No. 8 of that force. Certain radio receiving and transmitting equipment was found there and seized. Objection to the search was voiced by the officials of the agency, but it did not seem to have any material effect.

3. Major Hamilton further informed me that two official staff of the agency had gone north, with some equipment, prior to our entry into Rome and that the staff found at the building when raided by I.W.B. was a group of former employees under a Doctor SESSA.

4. The Major and I explored the situation at great length and decided, subject to the outcome of a conference with Captain Brod, C.I.C., that the premises of the Stefani Agency should again be searched. Later that day, I saw Captain Brod at my office and went over the ground very thoroughly, with him. He agreed that it was better to come fine ourselves slowly to the Stefani Agency building and to leave inquiries regarding the 20 persons named in Major Hamilton's letter of the 17th of July for his department to investigate. My opinion received his approbation that it was extremely unlikely that former employees would be in possession, clandestinely, or otherwise, of Stefani wireless equipment. He added that should any come to light or any former employee be strongly suspected, he would consult me and Major Hamilton and we would take the appropriate action.

5. Before proceeding further, I would mention that the agency was controlled by Mussolini, consequently the building and any equipment therein would come under the Regia of Property Control Division.

6. At 10.30 a.m. on the 31st of July 1944, with Major Hamilton Commissioner Doctor Rodriguez, Publica Sicurezza, four members of the C.I.C., Mr. King, P.W.B., and 21 agents of the Polizia Sicurezza, I raided the Agency building. Very little was found there, except two small pieces of radio transmitting equipment and some wireless valves.

7. All persons present were interviewed by the C.I.C. and two of them, SESSA and A.V. GATTI, were taken by them to C.I.C., H.Q. at Via Sicilia for further interrogation.

8. The property aforementioned was taken possession of by the building is now under

2. It appears that upon our entry into Rome the Stefani agency was an "S" force target and was raided soon afterwards by E.W.L. Unit No. 6 of that force. Certain radio receiving and transmitting equipment was found there and seized. Objection to the search was voiced by the officials of the agency, but it did not seem to have any material effect.

3. Major Hamilton further informed me that the official staff of the agency had gone north, with some equipment, prior to our entry into Rome and that the staff found in the building when raided by E.W.L. was a group of former employees under a Doctor 3333A.

4. The Major and I explored the situation at great length and decided, subject to the outcome of a conference with Captain Brod, C.I.C., that the premises of the Stefani Agency should again be searched. Later that day, I saw Captain Brod at my office and went over the ground very thoroughly with him. We agreed that it was better to come time ourselves solely to the Stefani Agency building and to leave inquiries regarding the 20 persons named in Major Hamilton's letter of the 17th of July for his department to investigate. My opinion received his approbation that it was extremely unlikely that former employees would be in possession, clandestinely, or otherwise, of Stefani wireless equipment. He added that should any come to light or any former employee be strongly suspected, he would consult me and Major Hamilton and we would take the appropriate action.

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7. All persons present were interviewed by the C.I.C. and two of them, 3333A and 3333B, were taken by them to C.I.C., H.Q. at Via Scilla for further interrogation.

8. The property aforementioned was taken possession of by Major Hamilton, who closed the premises. The building is now under the continuous guard by the Publica Sicurezza and is at disposition of Major.

9. On the 2nd floor of the building in a block of offices now rented and occupied by LUTIZIA GILLIO, Via Vicenza 12, construction engineer, was found two radio receiving sets in a storeroom. Mr. Lenti also admitted that he has not declared them in accordance with Notice No. 3 and therefore had committed an offence under Proclamation Section 42, disobeying an order given under the authority of the Allied Military Government. I seized the instruments and told Mr. Lantini that he would subsequently be summoned for the infringement.

10. Submitted for information and suggest that copies of this report be forwarded to Major addition, security control; G.I.C.; Mr. Ing, I.H.H.; and Lt. Colonel Young, C-2, R.A.C.

Approved: T.H. [illegible]
Capt.

Approved:

[Faint, mostly illegible text block]

[Faint, mostly illegible text block]

[Faint, mostly illegible text block]

3122

Boardman of [illegible]

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO 394

EWB/ti

PG/ P/I77

7 August 1944.

SUBJECT : AGENZIA STEFANI

TO : Public Relations Officer
Headquarters
Allied Control Commission

THROUGH : Regional Commission, Region IV.

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2. The French Press Agency had temporary offices in the same suite, and it became necessary for them to move, as they had no independent access. They found new and more convenient offices immediately and I gave them facilities for removing their documents and furniture under supervision.

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6. They are still clearly desperately anxious to put one of us in a position of making some admission which they can use as a lever to force the Italian Government to back their group.

ENCL:- 1.

Hamilton 3144
MAJOR E.W. HAMILTON
Asst Regional Property
Control Officer

Copy

31st July 1944

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From : Capt. T.W.M. Greenhill

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8. The property aforementioned was taken possession of by Major Hamilton who placed the premises. The building is now under

above agency.

2. It appears that upon our entry into Rome the Stefani Agency was an "G" Force target and was raided soon afterwards by P.I.B. unit No. 3 of that force. Certain radio receiving and transmitting equipment was found there and seized. Objection to the search was voiced by the officials of the agency, but it did not seem to have any material effect.

3. Major Hamilton further informed me that the official staff of the agency had gone north, with some equipment, prior to our entry into Rome and that the staff found at the building when raided by P.W.I. was a group of former employees under a Doctor SSSA.

4. The Major and I explored the situation at great length and decided, subject to the outcome of a conference with Captain Brodick, C.I., that the premises of the Stefani Agency should again be searched. Later that day, I saw Captain Brodick at my office and went over the ground very thoroughly, with him. He agreed that it was better to cover fine ourselves solely to the Stefani Agency building and to leave inquiries regarding the 20 persons named in Major Hamilton's letter of the 17th of July for his department to investigate. My opinion received his approbation that it was extremely unlikely that former employees would be in possession, clandestinely, of otherwise, of Stefani wireless equipment. He added that should any come to light or any former employee be strongly suspected, he would consult me and Major Hamilton and we would take the appropriate action.

5. Before proceeding further, I would mention that the agency was controlled by Mussolini, consequently the building and any equipment therein would come under the aegis of Property Control Division.

6. At 10:30 a.m. on the 12th of July 1944, with Major Hamilton Commissioner Doctor Rodriguez, Publica Sicurezza, four members of the C.I.C., Dr. King, P.I.B., and 21 agents of the Publica Sicurezza, I raided the agency building. Very little was found there, except two small pieces of radio transmitting equipment and some wireless valves.

7. All persons present were interviewed by the C.I.C. and two of them, SSSA and Avv. Gatti, were taken by them to C.I.C., M.V. at Via Sicilia for further interrogation.

8. The property aforementioned was taken possession of by Major Hamilton, who closed the premises. The building is now under continuous guard by the Publica Sicurezza and is at disposition of Major.

9. On the 2nd floor of the building in a block of flats now rented and occupied by LAURISA SIMILIO, Via Vicenza 5a, construction engineer, was found two radio receiving sets in a storeroom. Mr. Lega also admitted that he has not declared them in accordance with Notice No. 2 and therefore had committed an offence under proclamation 1, Section 42, disobeying an order given under the authority of the Italian Government. I seized the instruments and told Mr. Lega subsequently summoned for the infringement.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTER
 Information and Censorship Section
 PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
 APO 512 Unit No. 12

25 July 1944

SUBJECT: News Agencies

TO : Major Lionel Fielden
 ACC PRO

1. In answer to your letter of 17 June, I simply wished to point out that I had explained thoroughly to Mr. Barzini instructions that we have had from AFHQ in a staff memorandum as of the time we began operating in Sicily. This memorandum instructed us to provide all news for the local press and to allow no agency, Allied or Italian, to operate in liberated Italy in providing news to local newspapers.

2. This policy has been rigidly adhered to, as you can learn by consulting anyone at PRO AFHQ or any of the representatives of the Allied news agencies, Reuters, A.P., U.P., etc. Efforts by these agencies to get their Italian bureaus started again have thus far met with a flat refusal by AFHQ.

3. I delayed my answer so that I could raise this question again with Gen. McChrystal, O.C. of INC AFHQ, under whose jurisdiction PWB operates. Gen. McChrystal told me on Friday evening last that the policy of AFHQ on this matter has not changed and is not likely to change for some time to come. As I understand it from members of INC, including members of PWB, who drew up the Armistice terms dealing with radio, press and news, control of the news agencies was so specified in the terms of the Armistice and are therefore not likely to be changed until those articles of the Armistice have been changed.

4. I raised the case of Luigi Barzini because he happens to be, to all appearances, the most deserving of the many individuals and organizations who have approached us for authorization for issuing a news service for the Italian press. As an old newspaper colleague of ours whose professional ability we respect highly, we tried to do as much as we could for Barzini. PWB, of course, has no jurisdiction over foreign correspondents and so far as we could see there could be no objection to Luigi furnishing a service to the foreign correspondents, which he is now doing. We told him, however, we could not authorize issuance of a news service to the Italian press without AFHQ approval and that, as I have explained, is not possible at this time.

5. Since PWB is responsible for the press in Italy and for the material that it prints, we must have a final say in this matter of news services and news agencies and from the instructions we have, we unfortunately must bear the burden of furnishing all the news directly ourselves or we should have no measure of control whatsoever. INC, including both PWB and Censorship Section, is so short staffed that it would be impossible to control the welter of news reports from many sources. This is certainly one of the prime considerations in this military period. We are no happier about it than anyone else, but we in turn see no way of preventing chaos if such a control is not exercised. Should we make an exception in this case or any one case we would naturally leave the door open to all and sundry to start services. For this reason, we are not even authorizing a semi-official Italian Government news agency to be started and the Italian government will have to content itself with handing out official releases for which it takes full responsibility itself through its own Ufficio Stampa.

Peter C. Rhodes
 PETER C. RHODES

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Information and Censorship Sec.
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
APO 794 U.S. Army

13 July 1944

SUBJECT: Stefani Agency

TO : Major E. W. Hamilton
Finance and Property Officer
AMG, Rome Area Command

Following our discussion on the subject of the former Stefani news agency, I am attaching a number of documents regarding efforts to hide or seize essential equipment from this agency by various parties who are obviously making a strong effort to recreate a new semi-official agency subsidized by the Italian Government.

The following groups in question appear to be:

1. A group of former Stefani employees under the direction of the former Stefani business manager, Pietro Gobbi.

2. A group under the former assistant editor-in-chief, under Senator Mangoni, Pietro Sessa who has assembled a motley crowd of highly-suspected characters formerly employed by Stefani, the Ministry of Popular Culture, and other government departments and on many of whom we have very thorough documents proving their definite Fascist and anti-Allied activities.

3. Signor Luciano, lawyer for the widow Morgani who formerly managed the property affairs of "Agenzia Stefani" and the "Societa Immobiliare Generale". If I understand your explanation correctly, Luciano has a possible case for claiming legal possession of property in the second organization, "Societa Immobiliare Generale", but that any property in the name of the "Agenzia Stefani", being a para-statal property under the direct control of Benito Mussolini, is to be seized and confiscated by the Allied authorities.

4. An unidentified group of Stefani agents and employees, who had been ordered to proceed with the Italian and German authorities to northern Italy for the purpose of continuing the work of this agency but who were unable to leave the city of Rome because of a lack of transport and the speedy arrival of the Allied armies. These persons may be expected to be working with each of the three above groups in an attempt for personal gain or for political interest to gain control of Stefani Agency equipment and material either (a) to prevent their use by the Allied authorities, or (b) to use them to further their own personal ends.

We therefore recommend that the following steps be taken urgently and that the necessary police action be requested to implement them:

1. Seizure by the Allied authorities of the Stefani Agency headquarters building, 27 Via Propaganda Fides. This should include the evacuation of all persons therein and the posting of a 24-hour guard.

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2. An investigation of the following list of persons formerly employed in the Stefani Agency and admitted by Pietro Cobor to have taken and hidden radio equipment from the Stefani Agency:

Radio Telegraphists: Armando Spicchiesi
Oscar Albani
Guido Zavitteri
Renato Policastro
Natale Comito

Editorial Staff: Carlo Querci
Miss Paola Aulenta
Miss Frager
Werner Frager
Umberto La Rocca
Gennaro Di Forti
Mr. Zirilli
Gastone Curis
Mr. De Rossi
Aldo Timbri
Giuseppe Crupi
Gianfranco Cobor
Francesco Scaparro
Andrea De Pino
Evelina Gaudillo

The equipment includes a 1 KW transmitter, radio transmitters, receivers, typewriters, telegraph keys, telegraph keying boards, mimeograph machines, etc.

3. Request the teletypewriters on the attached list be picked up at the places mentioned on the list where they were on rental from the Stefani Agency, or sought from among the attached lists of personnel involved in the Stefani affair.

4. That ownership of the attached list of equipment allegedly located in the Stefani headquarters building on the morning of 5 June be decided after adjudication by Allied authorities.

5. That a full investigation into the background and intentions of all the persons involved in the above-mentioned group be undertaken by the military security service and that action be taken to see that they are not permitted to exercise their alleged profession as agency correspondents or journalists until their cases have been examined and passed upon by the Joint Allied-Italian Purge Control Commission.

6. That the above-mentioned groups be informed that they are not to engage in any attempt, clandestine or otherwise, to issue any news service of activity connected therewith, in virtue of an order issued to PAB by AFHQ.

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-2-

I also attach a number of reports, a list of equipment and a request for requisition of this equipment, which was raised by PW3 from the Stefani Agency headquarters on my instruction.

PW3 hereby wishes to make request that all radio wire transmission and receiving equipment and all agency material belonging to Stefani Agency and sequestered by Allied authorities be allocated for the use of PW3 in conducting his operation in Italy. He should like written authorization to keep in our possession and use the list of equipment seized shortly after entry into Rome by PW3 until such time as another Allied use may be indicated.

JOSEPH D. BROOKS
Head of Propaganda Services
PW3 Italy

Distribution:

3139
U.S. 34

FEDERAZIONE NAZIONALE DELLA STAMPA ITALIANA
ROMA

CONSIGLIO DIRETTIVO

ROMA, LI 12 Luglio 1944
CORSO UMBERTO I, 114 (PALAZZO MARIGNOLI)
TELEFONI: 04.205 - 04.320

Preg.mo Sig. Maggiore L. FIELDEN
Capo Ufficio Stampa dell'A.C.C.
ROMA

Ricevo la Sua seconda lettera (PRB/R20) e mi sento in dovere di fare qualche indagine per meglio corrispondere al Sup desiderio. Siccome l'indagine sarà naturalmente coscienziosa, mi occorre qualche giorno di tempo; e spero di darLe informazioni esaurienti e, quanto è possibile, sicure e controllate. Mi riservo dunque di scriverLe ancora e intanto Le mando saluti distinti *cordiali*.

Luigi
A. Bergamini

P.S. - Trattengo per ora l'esposto dell'Agenzia Stefani. Il mio compito sarebbe agevolato dalla conoscenza dei nomi in questione.

3138

UFFICIO STAMPA
DELL'A.C.C.

PRB/R20.

Al Senatore A. Bergamini
Presidente Federazione Stampa.
Corso Umberto Palazzo Marignoli. ROMA.

11- July - 1944

Egregio Senatore,

La ringrazio della cortese sollecitudine
con la quale ha risposto alla mia lettera del 7.c.m.

Pensavo di rivolgermi alla Federazione Stampa, per ogni schiarimento e
delucidazione, sui problemi e sugli uomini che la stampa interessano.
Per quanto riguarda l'esposto dei redattori dell'Agenzia Stefani, io
avrei desiderato conoscere la Sua opinione personale sulla questione,
non l'opinione ufficiale della Federazione Stampa.

La ringrazio egualmente; Egregio Senatore, e La prego di volermi rimandare
l'esposto dell'Agenzia Stefani, che era unito alla mia lettera.
Cordialmente,

LIONEL FIELDEN,
MAGGIORE,
CAPO UFFICIO STAMPA DELL'A.C.C.

FEDERAZIONE NAZIONALE DELLA STAMPA ITALIANA (3)
ROMA

CONSIGLIO DIRETTIVO

ROMA, LI 8 Luglio 1944
CORSO UMBERTO I, 184 (PALAZZO MARIGNOLI)
TELEFONI: 64.205 - 64.220

Ill.mo Sig. Magg. LIONEL FIELDEN
Capo Ufficio Stampa dell'A.G.C.
ROMA

Rispondo alla Sua pregiata lettera del 7/ corrente
mese PRB/R20.

Mi dispiace molto di non poter dare un giudizio su
quanto espone l'ufficio provinciale di Roma dell'Agen-
zia Stefani, giacchè la materia non entra nelle compe-
tenze di questa Federazione, la quale non ha alcun lume
per pronunziarsi intorno allo sblocco finanziario ri-
chiesto.

Anche mi duole di non poterLe fornire notizie e rag-
guagli personali giacchè la Federazione non conosce i
nomi dei funzionari e impiegati in questione.

Mi auguro altra occasione per poter meglio risponde-
re ad un Suo desiderio; e con cordiale ossequio e saluti

mi creda

IL PRESIDENTE

A. Benvenuti

3136

UFFICIO STAMPA
DELL'A.C.C.

Al Senatore Alberto Bergamini
Presidente della Federazione Stampa.

Roma.

PRB/R20.

Roma 7 Luglio 1944.

Egregio Senatore,

le accludo copia di un esposto presentatomi
dai componenti l'Ufficio Provinciale di Roma dell'Agenzia Ste-
fani.

Desidererei avere il Suo parere circa la domanda fatta da que-
sti Signori.

Molti ringraziamenti.

LIONEL FIELDEN,
MAGGIORE,
Capo Ufficio Stampa
dell'A.C.C.

3135181

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

9 June, 1944

FBR 20c

Subject: "Italia Nuova" News Agency

To : Maj. Armando Rossini, Chief of the Public Relations
Office, Ministry of the Interior.

1. Your declaration of the purpose and scope of the Italia Nuova News Agency has been forwarded to us by PAB.

2. The project is to be applauded but the PAB is at a loss to know why it was not informed.

3. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that all contacts between the press and ACC are channelled through this branch.

4. Releases should therefore be sent to us and to insure good relations with the foreign press the following procedure should be adopted.

a) We should work in the closest collaboration with your office. We have already taken steps in that direction, having had the cooperation of the Ufficio Stampa (Naples) and having had conversations looking to the development of such collaboration with Signor Salerno, Major Bolla and others associated with your office.

b) It would be advisable to issue your releases for foreign correspondents in an English as well as Italian version. If this is impossible at the moment the hour of release should be such as to give us an opportunity of preparing an English version.

5. I have already written to Signor Salerno on the question raised in 4 b.

6. I hope the occasion of my next visit to Salerno I shall have the opportunity of meeting you and discussing the matter further.

(Sgd)

3134

T.G. BERGIN,
Major, AUS.
DDPR, ACC

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