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

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Religion
July 1944

REV. G. R. MIEGGE
SUPERINTENDENT
BRITISH AND FOREIGN BOND SOCIETY

ROME
PALAZZO ASSICURAZIONI GENERALI

25, PIAZZA VENEZIA
TEL. 075012

2134

To Political Section.

Papers returned herewith
with thanks.

1/9.

John R. Plater - May

Dr. Mierce called.

Mr. Halford telegraphing again 6807 F.O.

llh
2/9

The Rev. Miegge says he is without instructions
or funds to pay his staff, rent etc.

He can only carry on for a few more days without
funds.

Could London be telegraphed?

He will call ag in in 5/6 days.

M.H.
8.8.

Mr. Halper is telegraphing.

RF

ARE

8/8

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Memorandum to: G-5 Section,
Allied Force Headquarters.

Subject: Visits to Italy - Representative of British and
Foreign Bible Society.

22nd July, 1944.

On receipt of your memorandum G-5 210.482-12 of the 10th July the Political Section established contact with the Reverend G. R. Miegge and asked him to write a report on the present status of the British and Foreign Bible Society's interests. Two copies of this report are enclosed and Dr. Miegge will be grateful if the signed copy can be forwarded to the Secretary of the Society in London.

2. The Reverend G. R. Miegge also asked whether he thought that a visit by the Reverend Cummings would be useful at present in furthering the work of the Society. You will see from page 3 of his report that Dr. Miegge's views are that, while such a visit would always be welcome, he doubts whether he could furnish the Reverend Cummings with any more information than he has already provided. In these circumstances and in view of the fact that Dr. Miegge's report contains a good deal of detailed information, we would suggest that any decision about a visit by the Reverend R. W. Cummings should be postponed until the Society have had an opportunity to consider the report. Moreover, by that time further consideration will no doubt have been given to the general question whether civilian agencies may be permitted in Italy, since this general question is at present under review.

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H. A. Gecole
Vice President.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

HQ AGC, APO 394
747
Rec'd 14 Jul 1944
By *[Signature]*

TEJ/jjr

G-5: 210.482-12

10 July 1944

SUBJECT: Visits to Italy - Representative of British and Foreign Bible Society.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394

1. A communication has been received from the War Office London stating that they have received an application from the British and Foreign Bible Society, which is among those represented on the Council of British Societies for Relief abroad, for one of their members to visit Italy.

2. The Society requested that permission be given for the Rev. H.W. CUMMINGS who is the Civilian British Resident Chaplain in Algiers to carry out the visit with a view to reporting to the Society the state of the Societies' interests in Italy and the possibility of carrying on with their work.

3. The Rev. Cummings has been contacted here and the following information obtained:

a) Up to the war the Society functioned through an Italian Superintendent the Rev. G.R. MIEGGE at FORO dell'IMPERO Fascista #25 Rome. There was also living in Rome an ex-superintendent of the Society Rev. Dr. PONS (Italian) at Corfo d'Italia #92 Rome.

b) The work of the Society was only commercial insofar as it sold certain religious publications but was otherwise philanthropic and religious.


c) The Superintendent had some 30 helpers and correspondents in Italy.

4. The War Office have informed the Society that as no civilian agencies have been permitted into Italy there may be difficulty in arranging a personal visit by the Rev. Cummings but in view of the fact that the Society is amongst those recognized bodies on the Council of British Societies for Relief abroad it is hoped it may be possible to agree the visit as soon as at all practicable. The visit would be to Rome.

5. Would you please give your views on the above.

6. It would be appreciated if in any event the Superintendent could be contacted and if he could make a short written report on the present status of the Society's interests, arrangements could be made from here to forward it to London.

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


T. B. JACKMAN
Major.

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