

ACC

10000/136/530

RUSSIAN REQUEST FOR  
OCT., NOV. 1944

10000/136/530

RUSSIAN REQUEST FOR SUPPRESSION OF TROTSKY'S "LENIN"  
OCT., NOV. 1944

9257/CC

Office of the  
Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

## LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. 9257 RUSSIAN REQUEST FOR SUPPRESSION OF  
TROTSKY'S "LENIN"**TOP SECRET**

Page 1

| SERIAL<br>NUMBER | FROM—                              | DATE      | TO—              | SYNOPSIS                                                                                                             |
|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1                | Memo Caccia                        | 21 Oct 44 | Col Young PS S/C | Please investigate background of publication titled (Trotsky's "Lenin") of which Vassiliev complained to Cmdr Stone. |
| 2                | Ltr A/CC 000.1-1<br>Stone          | 22 Oct 44 | G-5 AFHQ         | Gen Vassiliev called to complain about the "Lenin" by Trotsky. Rpt.                                                  |
| 3                | Para 2 30th Mtg<br>AFHQ Polit Comm | 24 Oct 44 |                  | SACMED approves Stone's policy of not suppressing Trotsky's <u>Lenin</u>                                             |
| 4                | Ltr G-5 161<br>Spofford            | 7 Nov 44  | Hq ACC           | Censorship of Propaganda. Policy of UN on free press. Advise Gen Vassiliev <u>Lenin</u> not to be killed             |
| 5                | Ltr 6512/42/CCS<br>Stone           | 20 Nov 44 | Susloparov       | According to UN principles of free speech, <u>Lenin</u> will stand                                                   |

4840

**TOP SECRET**

EWS/dfe

Ref: 6512/42/COS

20 November 1944

Dear General Susloparov: (2)

On the 21st October General Vasiliev had an interview with me and drew my attention to a translation of the biography of Lenin written by Trotsky, which is now being distributed for sale in Rome. He asked that steps should be taken to prevent further printing and distribution, on the grounds that it was insulting to Lenin and that Trotsky was a Fascist.

(4) Unless some threat is made to military security, or it appears that a publication is designed to impair or impede the war effort, or to create civil disturbances, it is not the policy of the Allied Commission to prevent the publication of books and pamphlets. It is not considered that the biography of Lenin falls within the above categories.

The Allied authorities are guided by the principle that Freedom of Expression is one of the benefits which it is their task to assure to the Italian people. Censorship and control of the press is, therefore, regarded as undesirable for purposes unrelated to military security.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE  
Commodore, USNR  
Chief CommissionerMajor General I. A. Susloparov  
Soviet Representative to  
Allied Commissioncc: C of S  
'A' Files  
COS Float

4239

Copy to COS  
1-1-00

(5)

A/CC 873  
NOV 10 1944ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
G-5 Section  
APO 512

G-5: 461.

7 November 1944

SUBJECT: Censorship of Propaganda.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. I have received your memorandum A/CC 000.1-1 of 22 October reporting a request from General Vasiliev that you should take steps to prevent the publication and distribution of a serial translation on Trotsky's "Life of Lenin" on the grounds that the work is insulting to the Soviet Union and that the author is an enemy of Russia and "a Fascist".
2. You are requested to advise General Vasiliev that censorship and control of the press is regarded as undesirable for purposes unrelated to military security. Unless some threat is made to military security, or it appears that a publication is designed to impair or impede the war effort, or create civil disturbances it will not be the policy of the Allied Commission to prevent the publication of books and pamphlets. The "Life of Lenin" does not fall within the above categories.
3. You may also remind General Vasiliev that the Allied authorities are guided by the principle that Freedom of Expression is one of the benefits which it is their task to assure to the Italian people.



*Charles M. Spofford*  
CHARLES M. SPOFFORD,  
Brigadier General, G.S.C.,  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

See (7)

h v  
A  
4-18

1-1-000

Copy retained by C of S.

(4)

COPY

TOP SECRET

PC (44) 30th Meeting of Political Committee AFHQ

24 October 1944

K 367

- + + + + + + + +  
2. CONTROL OF UNITED NATIONS PROPAGANDA IN ROME SEE 9255/CC  
✓ FOLD 3  
(Previous reference PC (44) 29th Meeting - Minute 2)

COMMODORE STONE reported that the Russians wished to suppress the publication in Italy of works by Trotsky on the grounds that Trotsky was a fascist. The Allied Control Commission had taken the view that to accede to the Russian request would involve a breach of the freedom of speech.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

Took note with approval of the action of the Allied Control Commission in this matter.

FOR BACKGROUND FOR THIS DECISION, SEE  
FILE 9255/CC

~~TOP SECRET~~

(3)

24 65

A/EC 000.1-1

22 October 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters, AND SIA

1. General Vasiliev called yesterday afternoon to draw my attention to the attached documents which are now being distributed for sale in Rome. They purport to be a translation of the well-known biography of Lenin written by Trotsky. The translation is appearing in serial form of which the first two numbers out of fifteen are already on sale. From a cursory inspection of the first two numbers it would appear that they are in fact a straight translation without political comment.

2. In drawing my attention to these publications General Vasiliev demanded that we should take steps to prevent their further printing and distribution. The grounds for his demand were that they were insulting to the Soviet Union and that Trotsky, as the public enemy number one of his country, was "a Fascist."

3. From such enquiries as the Commission has so far been able to make it appears that the present distribution of these documents amounts to five thousand copies and that the Italian Communist Party has not been active in trying to buy them off the market or indeed in taking any particular objection to them. The documents are marked as being published by "Rinascita" in Rome and enquiries are in hand about this aspect of the question as this publishing firm is not officially known to us. For distribution purposes the five thousand copies of these documents are passed to a firm called "Vioratti" who are the printers of the Socialist newspaper, "Avanti", and other left wing publications.

4. I have consulted the Chief Legal adviser of this Commission whether there is any ground upon which we could comply with the Russian request and I am advised that on the assumption that we are not preparing to consider this publication as Fascist the only ground for action would be that the authors have failed to comply with the Italian law which requires the name and address of the publisher to be printed on all copies. There is no doubt that if we were to instruct the Italian Government to proceed on this ground, we should in effect only postpone the issue, for there would be nothing to prevent future copies to be circulated in the proper manner. I should therefore be grateful to know as a matter of urgency what reply I should give

File  
HPP

General Vasiliev who is pressing for early action. I have of course already pointed out to him that in the United States and the British Commonwealth there are many books published critical of the achievement of outstanding political figures such as George Washington and Queen Victoria and that we do not consider this a reason for suppression. The General accepted this statement of fact but said that whatever we were prepared to allow in the United States of America and the British Commonwealth did not effect what the Russians desired to be done in Italy.

ELBERT R. STONE  
Comodoro, RSM  
Acting Chief Commissioner

cc: British Resident Minister  
U.S. Political Advisor  
U.S. Representative, A.C.T.  
British High Commissioner  
Political Section, HQ ACC

See (T)

See (10)

4-30

4-30

INFORMAL

00

A

Q

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
POLITICAL SECTION  
APO 394

MORE URGENT

21st October, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: Colonel A. E. Young, Security Branch.

1. General Vasiliev called on the Acting Chief Commissioner this afternoon to present the attached documents and demand that we should stop their publication and distribution. The grounds for his demand were that they were insulting to the Soviet Union and that Trotsky as the Public Enemy No. 1 of his country, was in effect a fascist.
2. The Acting Chief Commissioner has directed that we should by tomorrow at latest send these forward to A.F.H.Q. for a decision on the line we are to take. Before doing so, he wishes to know whether you can throw any light upon how they have been prepared. The publishers "RINASCITA" are, incidentally, those employed by the Italian Communist Party; but General Vasiliev told Commodore Stone that Signor Togliatti had denied any complicity in this affair.

See ( )

H. A. CACCIA  
Vice President, Political Section

Copy to Acting Chief Commissioner ✓

4-30  
1078

(1)

1-1-000

Q. M. C. Form 253 (Old No. 400)  
Revised July 26, 1948

## LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. 321

Organization of A.C.C. (C)

| SERIAL NUMBER | FROM—               | DATE     | TO—                           | SYNOPSIS                                        |
|---------------|---------------------|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 124)          | Col. Donovan        | 25 May   | Capt. Stone                   | Tp for 1945-5                                   |
| 125)          | Hq. AMG 3/1/4       | 1 June   | Hq. ACC                       | Location of Rome Region                         |
| 126)          | R.C. & M.G.         | 8 "      | Various                       | Future planning - regional strength             |
| 127)          | R.C. & M.G.         | 12 "     | VP Econ. Sec.                 | Future planning - regional strength             |
| 128)          | AMG 8 Army          | 15 "     | ACC Mplac                     | Notice for D.B. Station                         |
| 129)          | Secy. Gen           | 6 "      | Adjutant                      | Notice for D.B. Station                         |
| 130)          | R.C. & M.G.         | 22 June  | Regional Comm. Sections + S/C | Future planning - regional strength             |
| 131)          | ACC Main            | 22 June  | AFHQ G-5                      | Stone assumes command ACC                       |
| 132)          | G-5, AFHQ           | 28 May   | Hq. ACC                       | Personnel for ACC                               |
| 133)          | Doc.                | 12 June  | Stone                         | Location of MMIA in Rome                        |
| 134)          | RC & MG Sec.        | 13 "     | AMG ARMIES                    | CREATION OF ROME REGION.                        |
| 135)          | CC                  | 13 "     | Col. FISKE                    | APPTD. RC, ROME REGION - FISKE                  |
| 136)          | S-262               | 29 "     | AFHQ                          | STANSGATE TO UK - UPJOHN AS A/                  |
|               | S-263               | "        | "                             | HEAD ADM SEC - COL WILMER AKLO                  |
|               | 474                 | 1 July   | ACC                           |                                                 |
|               | 7016                | 2 "      | TAC AA1                       |                                                 |
|               | 5010/CA             | 3 "      | CC                            |                                                 |
| 137)          | DCC                 | 20 June  | SG                            | SG ROME ORGANIZATION.                           |
| 138)          | A/CC                | 29 "     | G-5 AFHQ                      | FUTURE PLANNING - REGIONAL STRENGTH.            |
| 139)          | SPAFFORD            | 2 July   | GERRY                         | RECONSIDERATION OF T/E.                         |
| 140)          | Industry & Commerce | 4 "      | ECONOMIC SEC.                 | CIVILIAN PERSONNEL (BR) FOR ACC                 |
| 141)          | A/CC                | 8 "      | AFHQ                          | SUSLOPAROV REPLACES SOLODOVNIK.                 |
| 142)          | Mr. GRADY           | 8 "      | STONE                         | APPOINTMENT OF ANTOLINI.                        |
| 143)          | TOTALI              | 8 "      | ACC                           | DUTIES IN ROME OF COMMO.                        |
|               | A/CC                | 10 "     | SG ADV.                       | PALMER.                                         |
| 144)          | SPAFFORD            | 29 June  | STONE                         | ASGMT. OF CATHOLIC TO EDUCATION S/C             |
| 145)          | STONE               | 13 July  | SPAFFORD                      | - MAJOR MURPHY AVAILABLE.                       |
| 146)          | Commo. PALMER       | 14 "     | A/CC                          | ROME ORGANIZ. NAVAL S/C.                        |
| 147)          | AFHQ - WILSON       | 16 " (7) | TRIPERS                       | ANNOUNCEMENT OF GEN MACF. QUITTING.             |
| 148)          | AFHQ                | 1 July   | ACC                           | APPOINTMENT OF C. J. J. AS VP ECON. SEC.        |
|               | STONE               | 19 "     | SPAFFORD                      |                                                 |
|               | AFHQ                | 24 "     | ACC                           |                                                 |
| 149)          | STONE               | 21 "     |                               | FUTURE OF POLITICAL SECTION                     |
| 150)          | STONE               | 18 "     | SAC MED                       | PERSONNEL SITUATION - ACC                       |
|               | MESSE               | 23 "     | MESSE                         | ABOLISH ITAL. LIAISON SECTION - ACC.            |
| 151)          | STONE               | 22 "     | CG, RAAC                      | Hq. OF ROME REGION.                             |
| 152)          | STONE               | 25 "     | Col. O'DWYER                  | ORGAN. etc. of ACC & ECON. SEC.                 |
| 153)          | AFHQ                | 25 "     | ACC                           | UNRAA PERSONNEL FOR ACC                         |
| 154)          | Lush                | 27 "     | A/CC                          | AMALGAMATION OF REGIONS II, III & VII. - DRAFT. |

INSTRUCTIONS.—When papers on a subject become numerous they will be numbered serially and brief entries made on this form.

2171

