

ACC

10000/136/533

STATEMENT
AUG. - DEC. 1

10000/136/533

STATEMENTS BY VISITORS TO ITALY
AUG. - DEC. 1944

9260/CC

Office of the
Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. 9260 STATEMENTS BY VISITORS TO ITALY

~~TOP SECRET~~

Page 1

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
1	A/CC 000.7 Stone	27 Aug 44	Spofford AFHQ	Cannot visitors to theater be warned at pt of departure of danger of out-of-line statements INCL: copies of copy filed by Correspondents on Labor Del visit
2	G-5 000.73-2 Spofford	15 Sep 44	A/CC ACC	Censorship of statements by visitors to theater. Cannot be done in this theater, but have taken up with Wash & Lond possibility of briefing visitors beforehand
3	AGWAR TAM 367	24 Nov 44	AFHQ	Procedure: should see CC AC immediately on arrival. Departments will endeavor to acquaint visitors with this norm but no security lectures possible.
4	G-5: 000.7 Spofford	27 Nov 44	CC AC	Suggestions of TAM 367 have merit, but will need tact. Suggest CC AC use his discretion
5	Ltr Stone 9259/CCS	8 Dec 44	AFHQ G-5	Procedure of TAM 367 would be an improvement. But pls give us ample warning

467

~~TOP SECRET~~

Ref/5259/6/003.

8 December 1944.

SUBJECT : Visitors to Italy.

TO : AMHQ G-5.

1. I am pleased to see from your letter G-5: 000.7 dated 27 Nov 44 that the question of important visitors to this theatre is engaging attention.
2. The procedure proposed in TAM 367 would, in my opinion, effect a considerable improvement over the somewhat haphazard methods hitherto adopted.
3. To make it operate satisfactorily however, it is essential that you give us ample warning of the arrival of visitors in Rome and the nature of their business. Whenever possible we would like them instructed to contact on arrival AG Public Relations Officer (telephone 478719). He in turn would pass them, in the first instance either to myself or to one of my deputies.
4. It is worth emphasizing that a number of visitors first visit AMHQ, where initial contacts may often be made. Then, armed with a certain amount of information and names of personalities, individuals tend to be more independent on arrival here. I should be grateful therefore if your staff would tell the visitors what to do and whom to see on arrival in Rome.

ELBERT W. STONE
Consul General, USNR
Chief Commissioner.

Copy to : PRO.

FILES A

~~SECRET~~

cc: 1032
30/11/44.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 000.7

27 November 1944

SUBJECT: Press Statements by Visitors to Italy.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.
(Attention: Chief Commissioner).

1. Attached is copy of TAM 367.
2. It is felt that while the suggestion has merit, its application would have to be tactfully handled and might well be inappropriate in certain cases. It would seem that any such procedure should be left to the full discretion of the Chief Commissioner or such members of his staff as he may designate.
3. Your comments are requested.

Incl:
as above.

CHARLES M. SPOTFORD,
Brigadier General, G.S.C.,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

1000
4043

~~SECRET~~

S E C R E TAFHQ MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING MESSAGEWARZ
Filed: 242057Z
Rec'd: 250402A

AFSC N 256/25

1p

R O U T I N E

FROM: AGWAR FROM CCS

TO : AFHQ TO WILSON, INFORMATION UK BASE SECTION FOR BCS,
AND TO COMZONE

REF NO THIS MESSAGE: WX-67938,

24 November 1944

For FHGEG

Cite CCAC

TAM 367

Press statement by visitors to ITALY.

To avoid future trouble from embarrassing press statements by important visitors from any of the United Nations to ITALY, following orientation procedure suggested:

Immediately upon arrival, they should be received by the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission or some competent and fully informed subordinate designated by him. He should tactfully enlist their help without implying anything in the nature of a "gag". It would be dangerous for a formal warning to be issued.

In the interview, full information should be given to the extent permitted by the requirements of military security of the particular troubles of the moment and the and the steps being taken to meet them. In doing so, opportunity could be taken to warn them of the difficulties caused by partial, and sometimes NOT disinterested, quotation of

2858

R O U T I N E

FROM: AGWAR FROM CCS
TO : AFHQ TO WILSON, INFORMATION UK BASE SECTION FOR BCS,
AND TO COMZONE

REF NO THIS MESSAGE: WX-67938, 24 November 1944

For FHGEG

Cite CCAC

TAM 367

Press statement by visitors to ITALY.

To avoid future trouble from embarrassing press statements by important visitors from any of the United Nations to ITALY, following orientation procedure suggested:

Immediately upon arrival, they should be received by the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission or some competent and fully informed subordinate designated by him. He should tactfully enlist their help without implying anything in the nature of a "gag". It would be dangerous for a formal warning to be issued.

In the interview, full information should be given to the extent permitted by the requirements of military security of the particular troubles of the moment and the and the steps being taken to meet them. In doing so, opportunity could be taken to warn them of the difficulties caused by partial, and sometimes NOT disinterested, quotation of hastily formed opinions. The hope could be expressed that visitors will take plenty of time to study questions and to comment at leisure, bearing in mind the over-riding importance of NOT impeding the Allied war effort.

State Department and Foreign Office will attempt to instruct all prospective visitors that immediately upon arrival, they should present themselves before the Chief Commissioner. It must be understood, however, that it is the responsibility of the Theater to be sure that visitors, upon arrival, are conducted to the Chief Commissione or his designated representative at the earliest possible moment.

MC IN 18390

S E C R E T

SECRET

No security lectures will be read to prospective visitors in the country of origin. This might create the wrong impression before arrival in ITALY.

ACTION:

G-5

INFORMATION:

SGS

INC

G-2

C/S MTO

G-3

US POLAD

MR MACMILLAN

IS & PS

CAO

PRO

AG RECORDS

++

MC 18390

25 Nov 44 1010A

Ref No: WX-6793B js/L/J

8023

INFORMATION:

SGS
INC
G-2
C/S MTO
G-3
US POLAD
MR MACMILLAN
IS & PS
CAO
PRO
AG RECORDS
++

MC 18390

25 NOV 44 1010A

Ref No: WX-6793B js/L/J

813

~~SECRET~~ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

HQ ACC, APO 394

240sec y Gen.
Rec d. 17 SEP 1944By 1002

G-5: 000.73-2

21 SEP 1944

15 September 1944

SUBJECT: Censorship of Statements by Visitors to Theatre.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394
(Attention: Acting Chief Commissioner)

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your letter A/SC 000.7 of 27 August. The problem of censoring the expressions of civilian visitors to the theatre has been reviewed, and your observations carefully considered. It is felt that the answer to the question posed in your paragraph 4 must be in the negative. Censorship in this theatre has been based upon military security, not the acceptability of the political sentiments expressed. It is believed that the standards already set up by the censorship branch should apply generally, and that no special procedure is required for matters arising within the A.C.C.

2. Aside from the importance in principle of permitting freedom of the press in matters which do not directly affect military operations, it is believed that censorship inspires a belief that there is "something to hide" and so arouses mistrust of Allied policy.

3. The proposal in your paragraph 5 has been considered and has been referred to the War Department and War Office. It is realized that no warning could be enforced after the visitor had returned home. Moreover, any restriction which had the appearance of a gag-rule might only provide one more point for criticism by those inclined to misrepresent. Considering that the evil resulting from irresponsible talk will ordinarily be felt more at home than in the theatre - and that anything having even the semblance of censorship may itself become a matter of public concern - it is felt that this problem is one for examination in the War Office and War Department where permission to visit is arranged. We are suggesting, in letters to the Director, War Department, and the Director of Civil Affairs, War Office, that they may see fit, in appropriate cases, to draw the attention of prospective visitors to the disservices they might do to the Allied cause by needless comments tending to provoke recrimination, and to remind them that it is unfair to take advantage of the theatre of operations where they are visiting to make it a forum for the discussion of controversial issues. It is believed preferable that such cautions be administered at home than by the authorities in this theatre.

4963

000.7-1

HEADQUARTERS
17 SEP 1944A.C.C.
~~SECRET~~CHARLES H. SPOTFORD
Colonel, U. S. C.
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5cc: Sir Noel Charles
Hon. Alexander Kirk

15 Sept

~~TOP SECRET~~

A/CC 000.7

27 August 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Colonel Charles M. Spofford, G.S.C.
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5
Allied Force Headquarters

1. I enclose copies of a message which was filed by the Associated Press yesterday, reporting an interview given by the two American Labor leaders, Mr. George Baldanzi and Mr. Luigi Antonini.

2. In view of the open criticism of probable Soviet Army conduct in Berlin implied in the first paragraph and of the strong Anti-British statements contained later in this report, the Censorship Branch of AFHQ referred it to the AOC for advice before dispatch. After consultation with Mr. Alexander Kirk and Sir Noel Charles, Censorship were advised that for military reasons this report should not be dispatched. These military reasons were that such anti-Soviet and anti-British remarks would undoubtedly find their way back to Soviet representatives in Italy as well as to British forces in this area. In that case they could but prejudice good relations between soldiers which were vital in an operational theatre.

3. This morning I was informed that, despite this advice, Col. Scott-Bailey and Col. Hayden had both reached the decision that they could not hold this report in view of the repercussions such a dispatch would involve. It was consequently dispatched last night.

4. This incident raises two questions. In the first place it is for decision whether the Censorship in Rome should not be instructed that in these matters they must follow the advice given by the Head of AOC, acting in agreement with the British and American Representatives on the Advisory Council. An alternative arrangement would be to instruct the Censorship that, in the event of their disagreeing with the advice proffered by the Head of AOC, acting in agreement with the British and U.S. Representatives on the Advisory Council, they must refer the matter to A.F.H.Q. before any such report is dispatched. The obvious objection to this latter course is the question of time.

5. The second question that arises is whether civilian visitors to Italy of such standing as these two American Labor leaders should not be informed before leaving their country of origin that on entering a theatre of war they automatically assume certain grave responsibilities. The first of these must be that in any public utterances they

- 1 -

~~TOP SECRET~~FILES A-D
4-20

X-0410-1
200-7
X-000.1
Enclosure
X-0410-1
X-000.1
Enclosure

~~TOP SECRET~~

should be most careful not to say anything that is likely to hinder the war effort in the area, and of course unmeasured criticism of Allies is bound to be prejudicial. It would probably be helpful if a warning of a similar kind could be given to such civilian visitors immediately on their arrival.

6. I am sending copies of this memorandum to Sir Noel Charles and Mr. Alexander Kirk, as well as to Col. Scott-Bailey.

ELERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

1 Incl:
AP Press Dispatch

cc: Political Section
British Resident Minister
U.S. Political Advisor
Sir Noel Charles
Mr. Alexander Kirk
Col. Scott-Bailey

SH 976

Hq ACC - Sec'y Gen.
DISPATCHED
Date-Time 27 Aug 1940
VIA <i>W</i>
Initials <i>ARR</i>

- 2 -

TOP SECRET

26 August 1944

VIA RCA

PRESS ASSOCIATED NEW YORK

Brian 11430 Rome 26/8 Quote Eye hope Red Army reaches Berlin before we do dash otherwise we will have another hotel room full of people like these unquote George Baldanzi trim bespectacled representative of CIO said motioning to wall-dressed occupants Grand Hotel salon paragraph

Thirtyseven yearold Baldanzi who arrived here yesterday with Luigi Antonini of AFL for survey Italian labor situation was identifying prosperouslooking Italian civilians as Fascists dash survivors of eye purge which he said Allies failed carry out in complete disregard ideological aspects of war paragraph

Quote There will be blood bath as soon as Allies leave stop Requote You cant stop revolution by inaction unquote predicted Baldanzi differing sharply in views on Communism from Antonini expressed strong fear that Allied policy would lead Italy into arms quote Soviet totalitarian dictatorship unquote

Bria

① INCL

VIA RCA

Press Associated New York

Brias 21430 Both men agreed however that Britains policy was to make Italy eye quote colony unquote and Antonini appealed United States take greater interest Italian economic political a affairs paragraph

Quote Control of Italy is so top heavy British it isnt even funny unquote Baldanzi said paragraph

Quote If United States leaves Italy to Britain Russia dash unquote greyhaired sixtytwo year old Antonini made despairing motion with hands undash requote then American boys will have fought over here in vain unquote paragraph

Baldanzi said he not repeat not over here to quote tell Italian labor what to do unquote but to give advice if desired stop He added financial assistance also would be needed stop Delegation British labor leaders expected arrive soon for similar survey

Bria

4868

① INCL

VIA RCA

PRESS ASSOCIATED NEW YORK

Brias 31/30 Antonini dash old school leftist with flowing black
cravat undash said he distrustful Togliatti and Communist declarations
of quote working for democracy in Italy stop Requote Eye know Communists
from experience unquote said adding believed strong socialist party
only way counterbalance communists paragraph

Baldanzi expressed keen desire meet Togliatti stop He asserted
quote harmony quote among workers only way frustrate Fascism stop He
said had learned that quote socialisation of entire economic life
Northern Italy already accomplished fact unquote and wondered quote what
we are going to do about that when we get there unquote

Bria

4998

1
1264

26 August 1944

VIA RCA

Press Associated New York

Brias Fourth 1430 Both men declared wages salaries in Italy must
be raised immediately cited example of Grand Hotel elevator operator
who earning six repeat six dollars monthly in face staggering living
costs paragraph

Quote Eye fail understand why workers earning less now than under
Germans Fascists unquote Baldansi said Requote It fantastic situation
stop It indictment of democracy unquote

Bria

48678

①

WCL

4466

Q. M. C. Form 353 (Old No. 490)
Revised July 26, 1918

LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. 014.33

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
CC/G/327	Macfarlane	23 May 44	A.F.H.Q.	Ref MGS 014.12. Sorry that raspo looks like being small.
13 MIL	Gazzera	18 Apr 44	HQ A.C.C.	Thanks for letter re repat in 25a. For humanitarian reasons I ask for release of following mutilated PW. Extract from Memo of Gazzera. Will you inform me.
CC/G/234	Macfarlane	26 Apr 44	A.F.H.Q.	2 Gens to be relieved. Messe would like repat of the following.
12517/OP	Gen Infante	19 Apr 44	HQ A.C.C.	Ref att letter. do you agree my pressing AFHQ.
CC/G/233	Macfarlane	26 Apr 44	Army Sub-Comm.	Ref Ltr 12517/OP. CC must agree to consider this over & above list.
QS 298	Army S-C Adv HQ	23 Apr 44	SecGen	Re your QS298. Have asked Gen. Browning if he agrees.
CC/G/235	Macfarlane	26 Apr 44	Quin Smith	Ref CC/G/235. Para 3 etc. Para 2- It is notified that question of pol
QS 396	Quin Smith	6 May 44	Sec Gen	Ref CC/G/234. No objection.
GI/B/2192/A2	A.F.H.Q.	9 May 44	CC/A.C.C.	Memo on applic for release of POW
AAI/3072/A(O)	HQ A.A.I.	25 Apr 44	No 1 Dist 2 Dist	Ref CC/P/105 including list of 25
A/CC 014.33	Ell Stone	30 Jun 44	A.F.H.Q.	IT Officers. Of these only the following have arrived in Italy. Enclosed is another list.
CC/G/222	Macfarlane	22 Apr 44	A.F.H.Q.	Ref my CC/G/105. I enclose 2nd list from Messe.
D/CC 014.33	Ell Stone	25 Apr 44	Messe	Macf has forwd list to AFHQ.
MGS 383.6	A.F.H.Q.	14 May 44	HQ A.C.C.	Ref your CC/G/222. Enquiries have been made re POW in American custody. Following are results.
D/CC 014.33	Ell Stone	17 Jun 44	Messe	Herewith info re your 2nd list
13863/OP	Gen Infante	25 Jun 44	Ell Stone	Thanks for info. It is not understood why officers in US cannot be
G/6/1	Army Sub Comm	28 Apr 44	Quin Smith	please ask Sup Command to ensure that they do not ask for unsuitabl
QS 360	Army Sub Comm	2 May 44	Messe	Mano described by MIDEAST as Pro German Fascist Anti British.
13863/OP	Gen Infante	30 May 44	Army Sub Comm	Ack receipt of letter 12740-30 Apr. Herewith reason why Col Mano.
CC.091.711	Macfarlane	10 Jun 44	HQ A.A.I.	cannot be brought back from MIDEAST following conversation-29 May. I wish to resubmit case of Col Mano.
399/POL/14	Gazzera	13 Jun 44	A.C.C.	It is requested that the case of Col Mano be reconsidered.
				Ref CC/G/390. I await decision

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