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10000/142/164

CASE OF RITA ZUCCA (/
DEC. 1945 - APR. 1946

10000/142/164

CASE OF RITA ZUCCA (AXIS SALLY)
DEC. 1945 - APR. 1946

2005 file

13

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 384.3

5 April 1946

SUBJECT: Rita ZUCCA.

TO: Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 394.

1. Reference AC 4005/L dated 3 April 1946.
2. Receipt of file on above subject, inclosed in above letter, herewith acknowledged.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

A. L. HAMBLEY
Brigadier General, C.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

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File

C O N F I D E N T I A L

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

AO/4005/L.

/pa.
3 April 46.

SUBJECT : Rita ZUCCA.

TO : Allied Forces Headquarters
(Attn: G-5 Section).

Reference your G-3 383.4 of 29 March 1946.

1. Attached herewith is file on above subject.
2. Will you please acknowledge receipt of same.

[Signature]
JOHN K. WEBER,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief Legal Advisor.

Incls.

**DOWN GRADED
TO
UNCLASSIFIED**

Col. Inf.
Chief Judicial Officer,
for Chief Civil Affairs Officer.

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Noted by CC -
return to LEGAL S/C

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

/mda.

AC/4005/L.

2 April 1946.

SUBJECT : "Axis sally".

TO : Chief Commissioner.

1. Attached is file transmitted by AFHQ on above subject. A resume of the file has been prepared by us for your information.

2. May this file be returned to us for transmission to AFHQ?

John K. Weber
JOHN K. WEBER,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief Legal Advisor.

DOWN GRADED
TO
UNCLASSIFIED

Col. Inf.
Chief Judicial Officer,
for Chief Legal Affairs Officer.

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

CONFIDENTIAL

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

/nda.

AG/4005/L.

2 April 1946.

SUBJECT : "Axis sally".

TO : Chief Commissioner.

1. Attached is file transmitted by AFHQ on above subject. A resume of the file has been prepared by us for your information.
2. May this file be returned to us for transmission to AFHQ?

DOWN GRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

Col. Inf.
Chief Judicial Officer.
for Chief Civil Affairs Officer.

JOHN K. WEBER,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief Legal Advisor.

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

CONFIDENTIAL

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

/s/

2 April 1946.

AG/4005/L.

SUBJECT : "Axis rally".
TO : Chief Commissioner.

1. Attached is file transmitted by AFHQ on above subject. A resume of the file has been prepared by us for your information.
2. May this file be returned to us for transmission to AFHQ ?

JOHN K. WEAVER,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief Legal Advisor.

DOWN GRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

Col. Inf.
Chief Judicial Officer,
for Chief Civil Affairs Officer.

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

/pa.

AC/4005/L.

2 Apr 46.

SUBJECT : Rita ZUCCA.

MEMO TO CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

The case of ZUCCA, Rita Luisa, ("Axis Sally"), has been very carefully investigated and the investigation established the following facts:

She was born in New York on 2nd May 1912 and came to Italy from U.S.A. on 14th Dec 1940.

On 6th June 1941 she voluntarily renounced her American nationality by making a sworn Oath of Renunciation under Section 401 (f) of Chapter IV of the Nationality Act, 1940. The oath was subscribed and sworn before the U.S.A. Consul in Rome, and this act of renunciation was approved by the Department of State, Washington, D.C., on 23rd July 1941.

In 1942 ZUCCA took a post at the Radio Roma (R.I.A.R.) and did various jobs in the English language broadcasts.

In 1944 she helped George Goodel of the German Embassy to produce at the Radio Roma under German control a daily programme called "Jerry's Front Calling". In these daily broadcasts she made anti-American statements, "telling the American soldiers they were foolish in fighting, and that they had been duped by their leaders". This fact is deposed to by an American subject who was a fellow-worker at Radio Roma with ZUCCA, who states he was often beside her at the microphone when she was broadcasting, and at other times he was in the control room watching her. He states further: "I saw and heard her broadcast on the 'Jerry's Front Calling' programme almost daily between March 1st 1944 and May 25th 1944". She was paid Lire 250 a week by Count Richstead head of the German programme. She stated that she was only working for money and did not think there was any truth in the propaganda

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she uttered over the air. When the Germans moved North from Rome ZUCCA moved to Florence with them where she continued to broadcast against the Italians in Italy. In April 1945 she was working for the German controlled Radio in Milan.

In Rome she was very friendly with many Germans, frequently entertaining them at her apartment.

On 29 Sept 1945 in Rome ZUCCA was charged with "Intelligence with the enemy", before an Italian Military Tribunal, found Guilty, and sentenced to 4 years and 5 months confinement. Her counsel has filed a notice of appeal, but in the opinion of Colonel Bellini, Chief Prosecutor of the Italian Military, no sound legal basis exists for an appeal.

ZUCCA's mother came to Italy from New York and sought the aid of AG of S. G-2, Rome Area, concerning an appeal. The AG of S "refused to intercede in any manner and feels that subject was fortunate in receiving a relatively light sentence, and is also not in favour of an appeal. The office of AG of S has in a letter to G-2 AFHQ stated: "Mrs. ZUCCA wishes to take subject back to the States with her, but this Office feels that since subject saw fit to renounce her American citizenship during the time in which the U.S.A. was passing through one of its most critical periods, she is not worthy of again becoming an American citizen and the FBI and State Department should be advised that Rita ZUCCA should not be allowed to re-enter the U.S.A. under any conditions". In reply to G-2 (CI) Section, AFHQ said: "Attention is drawn to the fact that subject is an Italian citizen and has been tried and convicted by an Italian Tribunal, therefore this office has no jurisdiction over subject".

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JOHN K. SEBER,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief Legal Advisor.

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

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G-5: 383.4

29 March 1946

SUBJECT: Rita Zucca.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 394.

Reference your AC/4005/L dated 12 March 1946.

1. Attached is a file containing all the pertinent information on Rita Zucca.
2. It will be seen that subject is an Italian citizen. Attention is drawn particularly to letter 11 A, paragraph 5.
3. You are requested to return the file in due course.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

A. L. Hamblen
A. L. HAMBLÉN
Brigadier General, GSC
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

Encl: as above.

DOWN GR'DED
UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED

Col. Inf.
Chief Judicial Officer.
for Chief Civil Affairs Officer.

CONFIDENTIAL

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

7

G-5: 383.4

26 March 1946

SUBJECT: Rita ZUCCA.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 394.

1. Reference Legal Sub-Commission letter AC/4005/L of 12
March 1946.

2. It is regretted that it has not yet been possible to
reply to your letter of 29 Dec 1945. It is hoped to forward a
report on the status of Rita ZUCCA within the next few days.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

A. L. Hamblen
A. L. HAMBLEN
Brigadier General, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

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X

C-o-p-y

FROM : LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION.

15 March 1946.

AC/4005/L.

SUBJECT : Rita Zucca.

MEMORANDUM TO CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

1. Attached are copies of letters, which are self-explanatory. Thus far, no reply has been received, and a reminder has been sent as a follow-up. We have this case in our suspense file.

JOHN K. WEBER,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief Legal Advisor.

Incls.

C-o-p-y

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

14 March 1946.

MEMORANDUM TO : Colonel Weber, Legal S/C.

On 21 December 1945 I sent you copies of letters from Senator Vandenberg and Representative Shafer regarding Rita Zucca, "Axis Sally", requesting that advise me what replies should be made.

May I have the results of your investigation.

s/ ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner.

C-o-p-y

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFC 394
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

4

AC/4005/L.

JKW/pa.

12 Mar 46.

SUBJECT : RITA ZUCCA.

TO : AFHQ. G-5 Section.

1. Please see your letter 4 January 1946, subject: Rita Zucca, to these Headquarters, reference G-5 383.4.
2. Has a reply been sent from your Office? If so, may we have a copy of such communication? Our files do not disclose a reply.

For Chief Commissioner:

JOHN K. WEBER,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief Legal Advisor.

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C-o-p-y

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

3

G-5: 383.4

4 January 1946

SUBJECT : Rita Zuoca.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 394.

1. Reference is made to your AG/4005/L of 29 December 1945.
2. Matter has been transmitted to appropriate authorities for investigation and on receipt information will be forwarded.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN.

A.L. HAMBLEY,
Brigadier General, GSC,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

3

X

C-o-p-y

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

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JKW/rs.

AC/4005/L.

29 December 1945.

SUBJECT : Rita ZUCCA.

TO : AFHQ G-5 Section.

1. There are attached hereto copies of letters received by the Chief Commissioner from Senator A.H. Vandenberg and Representative Paul Shafer, which are self-explanatory. It would seem that Rita Zucca is "Axis Sally". The Chief Commissioner has advised the Senator and Representative that her case is not in any way in his hands, but he would make inquiries of the appropriate Military Authorities to see what is her status and would communicate with them further.

2. May such information be furnished by the appropriate authority for transmission by the Chief Commissioner to the Senator and Representative?

For the Chief Commissioner.

s/ JOHN K. WEBER,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief Legal Advisor.

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C-o-p-y

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM:

22 December 1945

TO : Chief Commissioner.

1. No doubt you have heard over the radio and read in the press about the activities of "Axis Sally", in civil life known under the name of Rita Zucca. Because of the similarity of the names and the mention made in the letter to Senator Vanderberg that she is being held in Rome on some "radio" charge, it is believed that Rita Zucca and Rita Louise Zucca are one and the same person.

2. It is necessary for me to inform you that persons held for War Crimes and violation of the espionage statutes of the United States, etc., are not the problem children of Allied Military Government. In fact we have been enjoined by existing orders not to concern ourselves with them.

3. It follows, therefore, that the most we can do is to inform the Representative and Senator that the person inquired about is not being detained under the authority or orders of Allied Military Government; that you do not know with certainty on whose authority she is being detained, but in view of items which have appeared in the press and as an aid in pursuing the inquiry it is suggested that inquiry be made to the Chief of Staff of the Army who is in a position to give accurate answers to their inquiries.

4. I am reluctant to draft the answers in letter form because of the personal tone of their inquiries. I will be happy to do so if you so desire.

JOHN K. WEBER,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief Legal Advisor.

Incls: Memo of Chief Commissioner.
4 copy letters.

