

ACC 10000/143/2350 608 DEALINGS IN NEW LEGAL TENDER

Apr. - May 1945

SECURITY DIVISION

FILE

MEMORANDUM

No. of sheet	Date	File No. of and in	From whom	Subject
1.	1 May	-	-	Unauthorized Financial Transactions
2	16 May	-	-	Purchase of postal notes -
3	28 Feb.	-	-	Currency paper -

1444

608

Dealings in New Legal Tender

Dealings in New Legal Tender

10000. / 143/2350

THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

1938 APR 45

MAY 45

CATALOGUE

28/2/46

Extract from D.R.O. No. 145/46 dated 25 February 46 para 244 - Serial
Numbers of Forged Bank Notes.

£ 5	Note	No.	A	61466
£ 5	note	No.	191	
£ 10	note	No.	B	11232
£ 10	note	No.	258	
£ 10	note	No.	K	81606
£ 10	note	No.	179	
£ 20	note	No.	K	11333
£ 20	note	No.	157	
£ 20	note	No.	52	98848
£ 50	note	No.	H	
£ 50	note	No.	46	70205
£ 50	note	No.	M	
£ 50	note	No.	54	30063
£ 50	note	No.	N	
£ 50	note	No.	50	11805
			N	

4443

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
A.P.O. 394
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION
SECURITY DIVISION

2

REF : SD/608

16 May 1945

SUBJECT : Purchase of Postal Orders
TO : Finance Sub Commission

1. The attached PSS report is passed to you
for your information.

CEH/nb

Ch
JOHN W. CHAPMAN,
Colonel J.A.G.D.,
Director Public Safety,
Sub Commission.

4442

CONFIDENTIAL

7447

Subject: Sale of British Postal orders

To : CC- 76 F.S.S.

Sir,

1. On 3 May 45 it was noted that to gain entrance to the APO, Stazione Termini, Rome one had to drive transport through a long queue of Polish Military Personnel and Italian civilians.

Enquiries elicited the information that this unusual crowd was purchasing British Postal Orders. The occurrence had been experienced throughout the whole week and the number of buyers had been steadily increasing. The sale of postal orders to British personnel had not increased, the main buyers being, as stated, Polish Military personnel and Italian civilians. Stocks of postal orders were being sold out daily and it is reckoned that in 5/7 days the unusual amount of 37,000 postal orders had been sold.

2. On 4 May 45 it was noted that the usual crowd was missing and an interview was obtained with an WCO i/c of the APO and later with the CC.

Information was given to the effect that the sale of Postal orders had been stopped and that new arrangements for sale are being imposed. Sale will be restricted to Post Orderlies only, by presentation of a nominal roll of buyers, signed by the CC of each Unit. Issue to Polish Military personnel will be arranged through their own HQ and the sale to civilians has been restricted solely to British personnel employed at Consulates or Embassies etc.

3. CC. APO stated that the only explanation given by Polish Military personnel was that they were sending their postal orders to relatives or friends in such countries as Palestine, Egypt and England and that the civilians were mainly persons connected with the Yugoslav Mission in Rome. It was strongly suspected that there may be some type of currency dealing being carried out with postal orders but nothing definite had so far come to light. The traffic had increased during the week and on the morning of the 4 May 45 even before the APO opened its doors a queue of about 500 of such people were already waiting to be served.

4. Opinion

It is strongly suspected that Postal orders may be in demand by some unknown agency dealing with the currency racket. An unreliable comment was that 800 lire had been offered for a one pound British Postal order. One instance, however, is known of Postal orders being profitably disposed of for gold sovereigns on the Cairo market and there may be some connection to that in this state of affairs. Another point which is worth noting is that most of the currency dealers are known to be Yugoslavs resident in Italy (the CAMPOS case refers) and that civilians who sought postal orders at the APO were civilians connected with the Yugoslav Mission. I respectfully suggest that the Finance Sub Commission, AC may be interested in this matter and that SIBRAF also may be supplied with the information herein.

4441

S/??????????

63346 SGV.

5 May 1945.

1. On 3 May 45 it was noted that to gain entrance to the APO, Stazioni Termini, Rome one had to drive transport through a long queue of Polish Military Personnel and Italian civilians.

Enquiries elicited the information that this unusual crowd was purchasing British Postal Orders. The occurrence had been experienced throughout the whole week and the number of buyers had been steadily increasing. The sale of postal orders to British personnel had not increased, the main buyers being, as stated, Polish Military personnel and Italian civilians. Stocks of postal orders were being sold out daily and it is reckoned that in 5/7 days the unusual amount of 37,000 postal orders had been sold.

2. On 4 May 45 it was noted that the usual crowd was missing and an interview was obtained with an NCO i/c of the APO and later with the OC.

Information was given to the effect that the sale of Postal orders had been stopped and that new arrangements for sale are being imposed. Sale will be restricted to Post Orderlies only, by presentation of a nominal roll of buyers, signed by the OC of each Unit. Issue to Polish Military personnel will be arranged through their own HQ and the sale to civilians has been restricted solely to British personnel employed at Consulates or Embassies etc.

3. OC. APO stated that the only explanation given by Polish Military personnel was that they were sending their postal orders to relatives or friends in such countries as Palestine, Egypt and England and that the civilians were mainly persons connected with the Yugoslav Mission in Rome. It was strongly suspected that there may be some type of currency dealing being carried out with postal orders but nothing definite had so far come to light. The traffic had increased during the week and on the morning of the 4 May 45 even before the APO opened its doors a queue of about 500 of such people were already waiting to be served.

4. Opinion

It is strongly suspected that Postal orders may be in demand by some unknown agency dealing with the currency racket. An unreliable comment was that 800 lire had been offered for a one pound British Postal order. One instance, however, is known of Postal orders being profitably disposed of for gold sovereigns on the Cairo market and there may be some connection to that in this state of affairs. Another point which is worth noting is that most of the currency dealers are known to be Yugoslavs resident in Italy (the CAMPOS case refers) and that civilians who sought postal orders at the APO were civilians connected with the Yugoslav Mission. I respectfully suggest that the Finance Sub Commission, AC may be interested in this matter and that SIB RAF also may be supplied with the information herein.

5 May 1945.

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63346 SGY.

4441

Security

Division

Rec'd... 15/5

Book No. 7116

File No. 608

Action.....

CONFIDENTIAL

276 PS Section

Phone 478445 Ext 17

Ref: 930/3

11 May 45

To: AC of S, G-2, R.A.A.C.

→ Major HARVEY, Security Branch; AC
OC 76 S.I.B. R.A.A.C.
D.A.P.M., S.I.B., R.A.P.

Subject: Suspicious Sales of Br
Postal Orders

1. Herewith copies of report by
NCO of this Sec on the a/h subject.
2. For your information and any
possible action.

RBR/15

Capt.,

Int Corps.

FIELD.

Subject: Sale of British Postal orders.

To: CC, -76 F-8-S.

Sir,

On 3 May 45 it was noted that to gain entrance to the APO, Stazione Termini, Rome one had to drive through a long queue of Polish Military Personnel and Italian civilians.

Enquiries elicited the information that this unusual crowd was purchasing British Postal orders. The occurrence had been experienced throughout the whole week and the number of buyers had been steadily increasing. The sale of postal orders to British personnel had not increased, the main buyers being, as stated, Polish military personnel and Italian civilians. Stocks of postal orders were being sold out daily and it is reckoned that in 5/7 days the unusual amount of 37,000 postal orders had been sold.

On 4 May 45 it was noted that the usual crowd was missing and an interview was obtained with an NCO i/c of the APO and later with the CC.

Information was given to the effect that the sale of Postal orders had been stopped and that new arrangements for sale are being imposed. Sale will be restricted to Post Orderlies only, by presentation of a nominal roll of buyers, signed by the CC of each Unit. Issue to Polish military personnel will be arranged through their own HQ, and the sale to civilians has been restricted solely to British personnel employed at Consulates or Embassies etc.

CC APO stated that the only explanation given by Polish Military personnel was that they were sending their postal orders to relatives or friends in such countries as Palestine, Egypt and Iraq and that the civilians were mainly persons connected with the Yugoslav Mission in Rome. It was strongly suspected that there may be some type of currency dealing being carried out with postal orders but nothing definite had so far come to light. The traffic had increased during the week and on the morning of the 4 May 45 even before the APO opened its doors a queue of about 500 of such people were already waiting to be served.

Opinion.

It is strongly suspected that Postal orders may be in demand by some unknown agency dealing with the currency racket. An unconfirmed comment was that 800 lire had been offered for a one-pound sterling Postal order. One instance, however, is known of postal orders being profitably disposed of for gold sovereigns on the Cairo market and there may be some connection to that in this state of affairs. Another point which is worth noting is that most of the currency racket is being carried out in the state of

Enquiries elicited the information that this unusual crowd was purchasing British Postal orders. The occurrence had been experienced throughout the whole week and the number of buyers had been steadily increasing. The sale of postal orders to British personnel had not increased, the main buyers being, as stated, Polish military personnel and Italian civilians. Stocks of postal orders were being sold out daily and it is reckoned that in 5/7 days the unusual amount of 77,000 postal orders had been sold.

On 4 May 45 it was noted that the usual crowd was missing and an interview was obtained with an HQ i/c of the APO and later with the CC.

Information was given to the effect that the sale of postal orders had been stopped and that new arrangements for sale are being imposed. Sale will be restricted to Post Orderlies only, by presentation of a nominal roll of buyers, signed by the CC of each Unit. Issue to Polish military personnel will be arranged through their own HQ, and the sale to civilians has been restricted solely to British personnel employed at Consulates or Embassies etc.

3. CC. APO stated that the only explanation given by Polish Military personnel was that they were sending their postal orders to relatives or friends in such countries as Palestine, Egypt and England and that the civilians were mainly persons connected with the Yugoslav Mission in Rome. It was strongly suspected that there may be some type of currency dealing being carried out with postal orders but nothing definite had so far come to light. The traffic had increased during the week and on the morning of the 4 May 45 even before the APO opened its doors a queue of about 500 of such people were already waiting to be served.

4. Opinion.

It is strongly suspected that postal orders may be in demand by some unknown agency dealing with the currency racket. An unauthorised comment was that 800 lire had been offered for a one-pound British postal order. One instance, however, is known of postal orders being profitably disposed of for gold sovereigns on the Cairo market and there may be some connection to that in this state of affairs. Another point which is worth noting is that most of the currency dealers are known to be Yugoslavs resident in Italy (the CAMPOS case refers) and the civilians who sought postal orders at the APO were civilians connected with the Yugoslav Mission.

I respectfully suggest that the Finance Sub Commission, AD may be interested in this matter and that SIR RAF also may be supplied with the information herein.

5 May 45

6/16 Set.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
A.P.O. 394
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION
SECURITY DIVISION

1

REF. : SD/608

1 May 1945

SUBJECT : Unauthorised Financial Transaction.

TO : R.P.S.O., Toscana Region.

1. The attached letter intercept is forwarded for transmission to S.I.B. in your region, if you think fit.

2. The paying of funds to Italian subjects by Allied Military personnel is prohibited by both British and American Army regulations.

CH.
J.W. CHAPMAN,
Colonel, J.A.G.D.
Director Public Safety
Sub Commission.

CBH/lm.

4439

14000/485 2014
ALLIED ~~CONTROL~~ COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

CWA/emg

SUBJECT: Unauthorized Financial
 Transaction

FILE No. ES/11.08

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission
 Through Civil Affairs Section

28 April 1945

The attached letter, Reference 13012/F, dated 26 April 1945 from Finance Sub-Commission, and the enclosure referred to therein, are forwarded to you for appropriate action.

Enclosures:
 As above

cc to
 Finance Sub-Commission

C. W. ATKINS, Capt. R.A.
 TO S.O. 411 (CA)

DIRECTOR	Economic Section
DEPUTY	
EXEC. OFFICER	
POLICE	
LC. & PPL	
PRISON	
ADM. SEC.	
TRAINING	
CHIEF	

4438

CONFIDENTIALHEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION

13012/F

26 April 1945

SUBJECT: Unauthorized Financial Transaction.

TO : Vice President,
Economic Section.

1. Attached is a censorship report which appears to indicate an unauthorized financial transaction.
2. The paying of funds to Italian subjects by Allied military personnel is prohibited by both British and American Army regulations.
3. I assume you will take any action deemed necessary.

for Ben Simmons
Joint Director,
Finance Sub-Commission.

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