

ACC

10000/144/551

10000/144/551

U.S. ARMY, EDUCATION
DEC. 1944 - NOV. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
UNIVERSITY TRAINING COMMAND
MTO, U. S. ARMY
APO 49

4 November 1945

Lt. Col. Carlston F. Washburn,
Director of Education
Allied Commission
A.P.O. # 394
Rome, Italy

Dear Col. Washburn:

I appreciate greatly your kindness in sending me the enrollment data for Italian universities. This will prove valuable to me in my work on foreign institutions when I return to the Veterans Administration in Washington next month.

I have just finished reading with intense interest the series of your monthly reports which you gave to Dr. Reeves when we were in your office in Rome. I am impressed greatly with the variety of problems which you have had to meet and the wisdom with which you have attacked them. You have my unqualified admiration for what you have done for education in Italy.

As you know my particular responsibility is University education. Almost every one of your reports deals with some significant phase of the reorganization of the universities. I am therefore going to request you to send me a duplicate set of your reports if it is possible for you to do so. I feel this would be of the greatest value to me in the Veterans Administration and hope you can spare another set for this purpose. I will of course agree to use them only with the restrictions you stated to Dr. Reeves and will not quote them directly.

If it is consistent with your policy, I should be glad too if you could mail a copy to me each month during the coming year. My address will be Dr. Walter C. Wells, Rehabilitation and Education Service, Veterans Administration, Washington 25, D.C. 1233

In addition I should like to request also a copy of "Executive Memorandum No. 76" and of "Directive No. 6" (mentioned on p.1 of your report for 14 May 1945).

We are due to leave Florence en route to the USA on Nov. 17. I would appreciate it greatly if you could send the monthly reports and other two documents so as to reach me here at Florence before that time. It would give me an opportunity to study them more carefully on the boat. Address: Dr. W.C.W. University Study Center, A.P.O. # 49, U.S. Army (Florence).

With best wishes, Cordially yours

W.C. Wells
Walter C. Wells

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Education Subcommittee
APO 394

ED/CWW/rg

ED/2G/1.0/AC

3 October, 1945

SUBJECT : Books for Italian Schools.

TO : Chief, I and E Section,
Hq. MTOUSA
APO 512
(att: Col. Scoby)

Confirming telephone conversation of 3 October.

1. The need for books in the English language for courses in lower grade schools, secondary schools and universities is acute.
2. Many of the USAFI publications, especially in the field of grammar and reading, would be extremely useful in meeting this need.
3. I understand that many such books are in I and E Warehouses awaiting shipment out of the theater.
4. Since the development of cultural relations between Italy and the Allies is a declared policy of our governments (FAN 487) and since a knowledge of English by the Italians is important in establishing such relations, it would seem entirely appropriate and eminently desirable to make this surplus literature available to the Italians.
5. The Italian educational system can absorb an almost indefinite quantity of such books. If you can consign them to the Education Subcommittee, I can arrange with the Ministry of Public Instruction to distribute them to the appropriate school libraries.
6. I wish to thank you for your immediate understanding and sympathetic interest in this matter.

1232

CARLETON W. WASHBURN
Lt. Col. A.U.S.
Director of Education.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

Public Health Sub-Commission

28th September 45.

AC/3034/13/PH

SUBJECT: - Donation of Books to Italian People.

TO : - Director, Education Sub-Commission
attn: Colonel Lamborne.

1. Our Armed forces have brought to the Mediterranean theater, books for the entertainment and enlightenment of our soldiers and other people here in the service of our country. It is respectfully requested that consideration be given to the suggestion that these books, all of them, be left with libraries in the various cities and communes of Italy or with other recognized agencies which could make them available to the public.

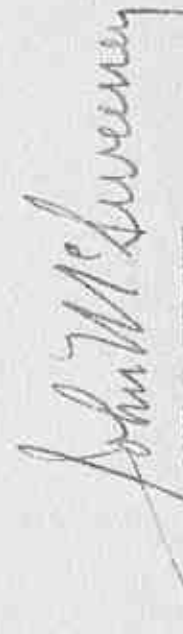
2. The undersigned feels that the variety of these books makes them well adapted for the purposes in mind; that of increasing the interest of Italian and European people in American literature, and also making available books in English for those who desire to learn or to improve their knowledge of our language.

3. Some may say that these books do not represent the best in American literature, but these lists do include books that give a well-rounded picture of American writing. As the Dumas stories excited the undersigned to struggle with French in order to catch the vivid stories of that great writer, so the lure of our colorful stories of adventure will encourage these young Italian people to struggle with our language in order to get the plot. After they have learned to read English, if the books are placed on library shelves in conformity to modern practices, that is with the lighter and more serious books intermingled, the reader will later indulge in our deeper literature.

4. Assumption is made that in addition to the books already referred to, there will be those sent as text books and as highly specialized reading for our men who are taking courses under the Army's instruction program. These books would add to the value and interest of the list if they too could be left in Italy.

5. With the rapid withdrawal of the troops from this theater, these books are probably being left in billets, hospitals and rest centers. They may get into the market where their usefulness will be restricted because they will be sold at very high prices.

These books, if left as a gift to the Italians, may contribute to a better understanding of the great mutual problems which will confront us in the years which lie ahead.



JOHN MCSWINEY,
Lt Colonel, Spec Res.
Chief, Welfare Branch.

1221

CHI

2. The undersigned feels that the variety of these books makes them well adapted for the purposes in mind; that of increasing the interest of Italian and European people in American literature, and also making available books in English for those who desire to learn or to improve their knowledge of our language.

4. Assumption is made that in addition to the books already referred to, there will be those sent as text books and as highly specialized reading for our men who are taking courses under the Army's instruction program. These books would add to the value and interest of the list if they too could be left in Italy.

These books, if left as a gift to the Italians, may contribute to a better understanding of the great mutual problems which will confront us in the years which lie ahead.

JOHN McTIGHELY,
Lt Colonel, Spec Res.
Chief, Welfare Branch.
Public Health Sub-Commission.

10th Dec 1891

26/110

HEADQUARTERS
MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
Army Post Office 512
Information and Education Section

20 December 1944

Rome Allied Commission,
c/o Major Carleton W. Washburne,
Director, Education Section,
APO 794, U.S. Army.

Dear Major Washburne:

We appreciate the cooperation and services of your office during the recent visit of Captain L. J. Ciletti of the Information and Education Section, MTOUSA. Either he or other officers from this section will be engaged in the university project which was outlined.

Your continued assistance will be materially helpful.

For the Chief, Information and Education Section:


WINSTON R. HAYWARD,
Lt. Colonel, Cav.,
Executive Officer.

1230

