

ACC 10000/147/232 PS/12 C/SC/ Vol I Final Postal Division Reports

Jan - Nov 1946

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 794

Communications Division

CGLM/ec

P.12

6 January 1946

TO: Director, Communications Division

MONTHLY REPORT DECEMBER 1946

1. Foreign Services. Authority has now been given for the Italian Postal Administration to establish a restricted postal service with certain of the Islands of Japan. At present only unregistered non-illustrated postcards bearing messages of family or personal nature can be sent. The mail will be conveyed by surface routes throughout. Special conditions have to be complied with in connection with addresses and languages used in writing the messages.
2. Prisoner of War and Surrendered Enemy Personnel Mail. The Postal Unit dealing exclusively with mails for P.W./SEP has transferred from Naples to Rimini. Direct despatches to France Belgium Luxembourg Netherlands, Denmark and Norway are now routed through Turin and Milan for onward despatch. The Civil Post Office at Rimini now becomes the central concentration point for incoming mails for PW/SEP throughout Italy.
3. The Army Post Office at Naples has now closed and the "Base" Post Office of the British Army Postal Services after approximately three years sojourn in the Ferrovia Sorting office at Garibaldi Station Naples is now located at Padua.

C/L Maddock

Major

CGL. MADDOCK

Chief Postal Officer

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 794

Communications Division

Postal Section

P.12.

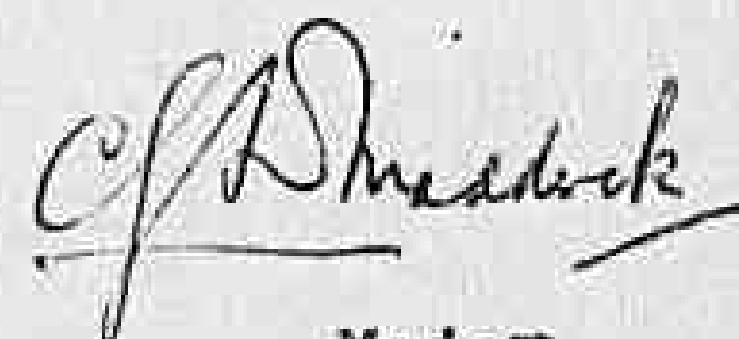
ABRIDGED REPORT DECEMBER 1946

1. FOREIGN POSTAL SERVICES.

Authority has been given for Italy to re-establish postal services with Japan. The same conditions apply as in the service from the United Kingdom to Japan.

2. The Postal Unit dealing with correspondence for the Prisoners of War and Surrendered Enemy Personnel in Italy has transferred from Naples to Rimini.

3. Naples has ceased to be the Base Army Post Office of the British Army Postal services in Italy. The Base office is now located at Padua.



Major
CGL. MADDOCK
Chief Postal Officer

POST OFFICE LETTER BOXES.

Although the earliest of historical records show that messages were written and conveyed between sender and addressee the organised postal service involving the posting, collection conveyance and final delivery of written messages by an authorised agency is a much later development.

With the increased use of these organised services, due to the education of the general population, the introduction of low rates of postage and the enormous advances made in transportation services which assisted the speedy conveyance of letters between distant places, postal business all over the world has developed into one of the numerically greatest concerns of the present time.

The arrangements for the individual act of the posting of a letter have passed through many various stages since the introduction of Postal Services, from (a) the mere handing over of the letter between sender and messenger; (b) leaving the addressed letter in the office at which the fee for postage was paid, and later (c) by dropping it into the aperture of a box provided for the security of the items so posted.

From a recent and interesting visit made to the Postal Museum, (now housed in the modern post office premises in Piazza Mazzini in Rome) it was seen that the surrounds and apertures of posting boxes were made in locally quarried stone as early as 1633, and that Bologna's "first post for letters" is dated 1 Jan. 1758.

These early specimens all indicate that the posting boxes were then only situated at actual post-offices and not provided generally at street junctions in residential areas as is the now more common red pointed iron posting boxes, with which we

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are acquainted at home. No doubt the boxes of those days proved adequate quantity of correspondence posted and also met the requirements of the service provided, but only restricted collection services can be made from posting-boxes not fitted with doors to open outside the premises. In the smaller country towns and villages here the "office type" of box still continues to be used and this feature is very noticeable in making statistical comparisons for Great Britain with much the same population and only two thirds of the area has 24,800 Post Offices and 50,000 additional pillar-boxes whereas Italy's totals are 11,500 Post Offices and 10,000 supplementary boxes. Rome has 900 iron wall boxes at present and these are approximately equally divided for letters and printed matter. London's figure for 1946 is 5,504 pillar-boxes.

Both countries passed through periods of using various colours such as yellow, green, brown and royal blue for making their posting boxes strikingly noticeable, before finally adopting the present red in 1874. Only one change in colour has occurred since that date when the comparatively recent innovation of light-blue painted pillar boxes were installed at the most important city offices for the posting of Air Mail Correspondence.

The initial division of correspondence by the individual sender attempted to be made by the postal authorities by the provision of posting boxes having two or more apertures marked "Town", "Country", "Newspapers" or "Small letters only" etc. does not prove completely successful as it would appear that persons posting correspondence usually drop the items into an aperture regardless of the description. The primary object of such boxes is to give an even better than normal service through the selected items immediately reaching the section in which they are to be dealt with instead of going to the general branch where all posted items are divided after being collected from all other general types of posting receptacles.

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COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
Postal Section

Copy No 2.

Postal Sorting - Carriages

In 1938 the Italian Postal Service was using approximately 550 sorting-carriages on the railway systems throughout Italy. These sorting-carriages were of three types and were allotted according to size to the routes over which they worked to cover the requirements of the bulk of mail to be dealt with by the necessary number of postal personnel carried.

During the war 50% of these sorting-carriages were either destroyed or removed from the Italian State Railway system and with the drastic reduction of rail services no sorting-carriages were being used for postal purposes at the time of the Italian surrender to the Allied Armies.

The recovery of Italy's internal postal services necessarily kept pace with the recovery of her railway services, and as passenger trains were reintroduced arrangements were made for sorting-carriages to be again put into service. It was then found that not only had the original number been definitely reduced by a 50% loss, but that further depletions had occurred through (a) lack of running repairs, (b) being used by organizations other than the postal service and (c) attached to long distance train services as baggage and guards vans.

These carriages built to specifications to meet the requirements of a staff of six or seven persons travelling and working in them, (mainly during the night) for periods of 8 to 10 hours, appeared luxurious compared to the ordinary closed railway wagon, for heating, cooking, lighting and toilet installations are fitted. It can therefore to some extent be understood why they were taken for other types of work when found apparently derelict in railway marshalling yards.

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At the time of the breakthrough into Northern Italy, when the internal postal services were able to make the biggest bulk recovery movement only 30% of the sorting-carriages were available.

A great deal of time was spent by postal and railway officials in tracing the carriages used for purposes other than the correct one, but once the registered numbers of the carriages were obtained, little time was lost in getting them returned to the Postal Administration.

The advantage of the use of sorting-carriages within a country's postal service is recognised internationally, and it will readily be seen that to sort correspondence on the train whilst travelling between two stopping places provides a more rapid service than the conveyance of sealed bags of mixed correspondence to a distant office only to be resorted in a stationary sorting office and later returned over the same route by another train to the place of address.

Great advances have however been made and with the repair of partially damaged carriages and the overhaul of many that threatened breakdown owing to lack of maintenance during the war years, and the careful arrangement of the allocation of the available carriages by the inspectors of the postal movement section, practically all the important centres of Italy are today being served by sorting-carriages. Rome and Naples are the main points of radiation of the train services on which the sorting-carriages operate, (Naples covering the southern and Rome the northern junctions) with a shuttle service operating between these two centres to cover transfers between the two systems.

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Italy has not so far developed the system of using a complete train consisting solely of Post Office sorting-carriages and stowage vans for mails as used so widely in Great Britain, neither have the sorting-carriages in use at present been fitted with apparatus for picking-up and discharging mail bags at specified points at the side of the railway track whilst the train is in motion. This latter system considerably developed in Great Britain and the United States of America gives even greater advantages of a quick postal service to the smaller and intermediate towns between the important railway junctions at which scheduled stops are made.

CFZ Shaddock

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ABRIDGED REPORT

NOVEMBER 1946

1. Request for reopening postal services with Japan has been submitted to higher authority.
2. Air postal Service between Trieste, Milan, Rome and Palermo is being considered.
3. British Army personal mail for Switzerland and Southern France is transferred to Civil Post Office at Rome.
4. Cable maintenance groups at Milan, Mirandola, and Novento di Piove have been discontinued.
5. Seven cases of wire and cable removal have occurred since the last report.
6. Radiotelegraph service between Rome and Budapest and Prague has been opened. Telephone circuits between Prague and Bologna and between Milan and Budapest have been authorized.
7. Cable repairs on the submarine cable between Rome and Barcelona has been completed and communication service is now available between those two points.
8. Personal telegrams may now be sent from Italy to the American Zone of Germany.

MONTHLY REPORT NOVEMBER 1946

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

1. POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS

a. Following the request for Italy to reopen restricted Postal Services with Japan, submitted to .PHQ, notification has been received that the matter is now being considered and a further reply will be forwarded as early as possible.

b. The "Società Italiana Servizi Aerei" have proposed opening an Air Service between Trieste, Milan, Rome and Palermo and are desirous of contracting for the conveyance of mail between the towns mentioned. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications have been asked for their views on the matter of return mail services from Italy to Trieste and they have replied that the whole case of Internal Air Mail Services is now being considered.

c. The British .PO at Milan closed down on 30 Nov. 46. The transfer of correspondence posted by Army personnel in Italy for Switzerland and Southern France, previously transferred to the Civil Post Office at Milan will now be transferred to the Civil Post Office at Rome for onward transmission by civil mail despatches.

d. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has agreed to the request of the Superior Director of the Postal Services in Venezia Giulia, (submitted through the Communications Officer .MG Venezia Giulia Region) for the use of a larger number of higher value denominations of the Italian series of stamps/for use in Venezia Giulia after overprinting with the approved abbreviation ".MG-V.G.".

2. TRANSIT FEES The Italian Government asked for reconsideration about payment of transit fees for international telephone calls. These fees are payable in gold to countries across which international telephone circuits extend and must be paid in gold by the country of origin of each telephone call. Presence in Italy of Allied Military headquarters and personnel has resulted in many such calls originating here. Previously decision has been made that transit fees for military calls must be paid by the Italian Government as part of the communication costs. Italian telephone communication companies

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a. Following the request for Italy to reopen restricted Postal Services with Japan, submitted to AMIC, notification has been received that the matter is now being considered and a further reply will be forwarded as early as possible..

b. The "Società Italiana Servizi Aerei" have proposed opening an Air Service between Trieste, Milan, Rome and Palermo and are desirous of contracting for the conveyance of mail between the towns mentioned. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications have been asked for their views on the matter of return mail services from Italy to Trieste and they have replied that the whole case of Internal Air Mail Services is now being considered.

c. The British APO at Milan closed down on 30 Nov. 46 the transfer of correspondence posted by Army personnel in Italy for Switzerland and Southern France, previously transferred to the Civil Post Office at Milan will now be transferred to the Civil Post Office at Rome for onward transmission by civil mail despatches.

d. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has agreed to the request of the Superior Director of the Postal Services in Venezia Giulia, (submitted through the Communications Officer AMG Venezia Giulia Region) for the use of a larger number of higher value denominations of the Italian series of stamps/for use in Venezia Giulia after overprinting with the approved abbreviation "A.G.-T.G.".

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do not receive transit fees from other countries at the present time, as facilities are not available for such service.

3. CABLE MAINTENANCE.-- Is a further step in reducing Italian costs for providing communication services the cable maintenance groups at Milan, Firenze and Livorno. Cable maintenance was discontinued. Maintenance of cable in the areas formerly served by these groups will be done by groups from adjoining areas.

4. UNARMED T. T. WITH WIRE.-- Seven more cases of thievery of overhead wire and cable from the Italian communication system were reported during the month. Strenuous efforts are being made by Italian Government agencies to eliminate these acts, that appear to be organized acts of organized bands. Italian state maintenance personnel will wear sky-blue uniforms with the word "SIRTI" inscribed thereon, white caps, and will carry special identification cards. Squads of armored cars will patrol the area and will open fire on improperly identified personnel seen tampering with telephone wire and cable.

5. BUILDING.--

a. The Posts and Telecommunications building at Reggio was derequisitioned, except for 300 square feet, by the Allied Force Signal Officer, thereby returning badly needed space to the Italian Posts and Telecommunications service.

b. The Vains Repeater station, damaged by bombs, and now overloaded structurally by equipment, has reached the point of collapse. During the month Italian authority for repairs was obtained to enter with a loan of military repeater station equipment for use while the existing equipment is being removed and reinstalled in the repaired building.

6. RADIO TELEGRAPH SERVICE.-- Radiotelegraph service was opened with Budapest on 1st November 1946 and with Prague on 5 November 1946. Budapest and Prague terminals are operated by the State Telegraph Administrations and by Italian cable in Rome.

7. RADIO TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION.

The frequency of 6950 kilocycles was allotted to

areas formerly served by these groups will be groups from adjoining areas.

4. UNAUTHORIZED TAPPING WITH WIRE. - Seven more cases of thievery of overhead wire and cable from the Italian communication system were reported during the month. Strenuous efforts are being made by Italian Government agencies to eliminate these acts, that appear to be organized acts of organized bands. Italian state maintenance personnel will wear sky-blue uniforms with the word "SIGINT" inscribed thereon, white caps, and will carry special identification cards. Squads of armored cars will patrol the area and will open fire on improperly identified personnel seen tampering with telephone wire and cable.

5. BUILDING.

a. The Posts and Telecommunications building at Foggia was decontaminated, except for 300 square feet, by the Allied Force Signal Officer, thereby returning badly needed space to the Italian Posts and Telecommunications service.

b. The Radio Repeater station, damaged by bombs, and now overloaded structurally by equipment, has reached the point of collapse. During the month Italian authority for repairs was obtained to gather with a loan of military repeater station equipment for use while the existing equipment is being removed and reinstalled in the repaired building.

6. RADIO TELETYPE COMMUNICATION. - Radioteletype service was opened with Budapest on 1st November 1946 and with Prague on 5 November 1946. Budapest and Prague terminals are operated by the State Telegraph Administrations and by Italy in Rome.

7. RADIO TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION.

a. The frequency of 6950 kilocycles was allotted to

Ministry of Interior to replace the frequency of 7066 Kilocycles which received interference from amateur radio operation.

b. The Firm Lopez, Foggia, has been authorized to use the frequency of 1420 Kilocycles for testing equipment.

c. The Ministry of the Interior has been authorized to use the frequency of 4515 Kilocycles at a power of not more than 50 watts for radio communications between headquarters and the "superjeeps" of its police force.

d. 1613 radiotelephone calls were made to the United States during November 1946 with a total talking time of 166 hours 20 minutes.

8. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION.

a. A telephone land line circuit between Brague and Bologna has been authorized and facilities have been provided within Italy by Allied military forces for use in establishing this circuit.

b. Establishment of a Milan - Budapest telephone circuit has been authorized, after several months delay due to failure to obtain authority for operation of the Budapest terminus. Operation will commence after circuit facilities have been installed.

9. SUBMARINE CABLE COMMUNICATION.

a. Italcable resumed operation on 18 November 1946, over its submarine cable between Rome and Barcelona, having completed repairs that have been in progress for some months.

b. Repairs to Italian submarine cable have been slow because of there being only one Italian cable ship suitable for the work. Efforts to lease cable ships from American and British affiliates have not met with success. U.S. ships owned by American and British companies are needed for maintenance of their own cables.

10. TELEGRAPH.

Arrangements have been made by Italcable to transmit personnel telegrams to addressees in the American zone of Germany. These telegrams will be transmitted to Italcable's

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affiliates in Frankfurt for dispatch to addressees. Telegrams must carry the .20 of the addressee and the word "Germany". Similar services to other zones of Germany have not been arranged due to the reluctance of the postal systems to undertake delivery within the other occupied zones of Germany.

11. AMATEUR RADIO OPERATION. - Amateur radio operation, authorized on some frequencies since March 1946, has been intermittent and uncertain. Present Italian decrees are designed to enforce the decree of 1931 whereby amateur radio operation was prohibited. New legislation to provide for free use of amateur frequencies requires time for preparation in order that frequency use may be policed in the interest of fairness and as aid to radio development. The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications has issued temporary operating permits for two periods, and has agreed to extend this temporary authorization. The Italian Government has given assurance that the new legislation will be enacted and new regulations promulgated as promptly as possible. Italian amateur societies have registered most amateurs and is extending its aid in the preparation of license and operating regulations.

L.R. Humbert

L.R. HUMBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

L.R.H.

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
Postal Section

MONTHLY REPORT NOVEMBER 1946

4 Dec. '46

P.12

TO: Director Communications Division

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C. D. Maddock
(Major)
CGL. MADDOCK
Chief Postal
Officer.

File Copy

P12
RESUMPTION OF POSTAL SERVICES WITH JAPAN.

Nov 22

In the Communications Division's Abridged report for October 46 the following paragraph appears:-

"Unregistered non-illustrated postcard mail from Great Britain to Japan has been authorized with effect from 9 Oct. 46."

The fuller report shows that even the postcards are restricted to matters of personal or domestic nature and that they will be conveyed to specific islands only by surface routes.

These concise paragraphs do not however indicate the exact recovery that has taken place to the Postal Services throughout the world during the fifteen months since the date of Japan's surrender.

Japan is the last of the enemy countries with which postal services have been restored, and whilst authority has not yet been given to the Italian Postal administration to reopen even a restricted service to Japan, it will now soon be possible to be able to say that every part of the world is again connected by postal communications of the less intricate type.

Letters, commercial papers, packets, registered and insured services, and increased limits of weight will all follow as ordinary improvements to the reintroduced service as conditions become suitable for handling these types of traffic.

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COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1946

1. Small packet service will be reintroduced in the Italian Post Office on 1 November 1946.
2. UNRRA correspondence will be conveyed sealed pouches between the main UNRRA branch office and the head office in Rome.
3. Facilities have been requested for daily railway mail service between Rome and Villach.
4. Unregistered non-illustrated post card mail ^{from Great Britain} to Japan has been authorized effective 9 October 1946.
5. Three telephone maintenance groups were discontinued at Milan, Mirandola and Novento di Piave.
6. A 6 channel telephone circuit was opened between Trieste and Vienna.
7. Italian State Railways will take over operation of the Railway telegraph system on 1 November 1946

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

MONTHLY REPORT OCTOBER 19461. POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS

a. Internal services. Arrangements have been completed for reintroduction of "small packet" service within Italy, commencing 1 November 1946.

The Ministry agreed with representatives from UNRRA to convey sealed pouches of UNRRA correspondence between the main UNRRA branch offices and the head office in Rome, in the same manner that official correspondence is dealt with between the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and Provincial Post Offices. UNRRA personnel deliver and collect the pouches from the relative railways stations without involving work by postal officials.

a. External services. Traffic for north eastern European countries noticeably increasing. Movements have been requested to provide facilities for postal sorting carriage to work daily on civil-military train between Rome and Villach instead of on 4 days per week as at present.

Representation to M.R.S. for return of postal sorting carriages to Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has been successful this month in five large type sorting carriages being released from military trains to civil postal services.

c. U.K. Foreign mail services. Unregistered non illustrated postcards confined to matters of personal or domestic nature may from 9 Oct 1946 be sent by surface route to Japan. There are some restrictions to actual destinations.

2. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS.

a. In order to more effectively coordinate the control of telecommunications for Allied Forces, the Long Lines Liaison Office, a part of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer, Allied Force Headquarters, has been located in the Allied Commission Building adjacent to the Communi-

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a. In order to more effectively coordinate the control of telecommunications for Allied Forces, the Long Lines Liaison Office, a part of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer, Allied Force Headquarters, has been located in the Allied Commission Building adjacent to the Communications Division. The Long Lines Liaison Office exercises technical supervision in establishing, maintaining and operating telecommunication circuits over the Italian telephone

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system. In the early days of the Allied Commission in Italy, this technical supervision was exercised by the Communications Sub-Commission. As Italian civilian operation became greater, a larger agency, called long lines Liaison Office, was established as a separate agency in order to cope with technical details of operations arising through combined use of British, American, Italian and captured equipment. That office has successfully trained Italian operating and maintenance personnel. The proximity of the two offices will permit more expeditious settlement of problems arising through the gradual turnover of responsibility of operation to the Italian companies. This Italian operation will increase (as to percentage of the total) until the Italians will be operating almost all the Allied military system at the time the theatre is closed, thus making prompt settlement of operational problems necessary.

b. Release of telephone circuits from use by Allied military resulted in a reduction of the total number of long distance circuits in use. Facilities of these inactive circuits have been absorbed into longer civilian circuits established to supply civilian needs, which are available also for use of military forces as required.

c. Clothing for telephone maintenance personnel has become critical again with the approach of winter. Outside maintenance personnel, particularly, require heavy clothing. Army surplus agencies do not have surplus clothing due to early curtailment of clothing supply to this theatre, and shipment from this theatre to other theatres. Up to this time no solution has been found.

d. Theft of wire and cable, especially from overhead lines constructed by Allied military forces, has become a problem. Theft has been prevalent in the theatre since the construction of the first telephone lines. During the past forty days several sections of wire and cable have disappeared. On 5 October 1946 four spans of overhead wire were removed, on 6 October 1946 five spans of wire were removed, and on 9 October 1946 seven spans of wire were removed. These removals included every wire in the spans and effectively disrupted communications.

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(1) The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is attempting to eliminate this type of thievery. However, scarcity of guards make the protection of the lines difficult.

e. Azienda di Stato has been authorized to discontinue the telephone maintenance groups at Milan, Livorno, and Novate di Piave. Maintenance in these areas will be undertaken by groups in adjoining areas.

f. A 6 channel telephone circuit was opened between Trieste and Vienna. These channels are being utilized for Vienna and Trieste traffic. The opening of these channels relieved three channels, previously used for Vienna traffic between Trieste and Mestre and six channels between Mestre and Bologna, which now become available for ordinary traffic passing between those points.

g. The Italian railway telegraph system (known as the "Firebox" network) which has been under requisition and, under the operational control of Allied Military Forces, was derequisitioned on 31 October 1946 and returned to Italian operation. The system will be leased to and operated by the Italian State Railways commencing 1 November 1946.

3. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

a. One radio-telephone circuit between Rome and New York was eliminated from practical use by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company diverting its equipment from one circuit to a New York - Cairo circuit between 1500 and 2100 hours daily. This diversion results in a direct cut in soldiers personal calls which are most frequently made between these hours.

b. Italian electrical manufacturing plants have commenced production in considerable volume and desire frequency allocations for testing. Many devices are designed for high frequencies. Requests for test and experimental frequencies are under consideration. Because most of the frequencies desired are not Berne registered, action on such requests requires considerable time, and experimental frequencies have been allocated in only a few cases. No frequencies requested during the month of October have been allocated.

c. Although radio frequencies normally used by amateur radio operators have been authorized for such use by Italian amateurs, very few licenses have been issued because of the detail involved within the Italian Governmental

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- 4 -

radio operation was suppressed and a considerable amount of illegal operation resulted. The primary purpose of all-locating amateur frequencies was to stop illegal operation (on all frequencies) that has caused interference with authorized traffic and to center control in the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. Until transfer of authority from the Ministry of Interior to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is accomplished proper operation and regulation will not be achieved.

L.R. HULBERT
L.R. HULBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

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SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

VENEZIA GIULIA

COMMUNICATION DIVISION

3 November 46

VG/AMG/

Subject: Monthly Report Communications
Venezia Giulia and Udine.

To : The S.C.A.O. HQ AMG VG.
The Director Communications Division
HQ Allied Commission.

1. ADMINISTRATION

(a) As the result of a letter from C.S.O. G.H.Q. on the question of payment of Telephone Accounts. The local Signal Officers will not certify bills so far as cost is concerned and it is up to the Finance Division AMG to check prices. This is in accordance with existing procedure and the organisation called U.C.I.R.M. is responsible. The Finance Division endeavoured to show that it was not U.C.I.R.M.'s responsibility and that the Signal Officers who check bills for services rendered should also check prices.

(b) Finance Division have not yet made a decision with regard to a check on staff, etc, problems in the various State Departments therefore my suggestion for an Inspector from Rome to visit me must remain in abeyance.

2. TECHNICAL

(a) Due to a misunderstanding in Rome the Milan military circuit was handed over for civilian use on 1st October. It has reverted to military use again, and the question of the soldiers nightly service to the U.K. does not now arise.

(b) The instruction from C.S.O. G.H.Q. to work ^{long} all distance calls on a Delay basis has been put into effect and is satisfactory.

(c) Now that 13 Corps have moved, certain circuits have gone over to civilian use but it has not been possible to obtain the three State U.G. pairs which had previously been used by Telve. With the cooperation of the Trieste Lines Officer certain military subscribers have been discontinued such that more civilians will be placed on the exchange.

(d) With the move of certain units into "winter" of circuit building and changes

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(d) With the move of certain units into "winter quarters" a certain amount of circuit building and changes are taking place.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

**HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT**

MEMORANDUM

VG/AMG/

(e) Due to (d) the Circolo Costruzioni has run short of all types of wire. We have been promised a quantity by the Italian Government but nothing is forthcoming. Our indents have been in Rome for some time now, would it be possible for the Director to take up this matter with the proper authority, it will be sufficient if the Ministry release something on account.

(f) Commencing 6 November Venezia Giulia will be subject to a daily rationing of electric power such that supplies will be cut off from 0830 hrs to 1130 hrs each day. Telve, Azienda di Stato and the Telegraph Dept each have adequate standby equipment which is being tested ready for use. Last year we suffered a similar cut and there was no trouble.

(g) The Six channel telegraph system working Trieste - Vienna went over satisfactory and I have circularised the interested Divisions in AMG to ask the various Trade Organisations and Chamber of Commerce to what other centres beyond Vienna we could extend our telegraph service. I am waiting suggestions from Vienna.

3. POSTAL (a) The following services were extended to Zone A this month:

- (i) Raising of Parcel Post to 200 gr.
- (ii) Re opening of normal Telegraph rates for ordinary private telegrams.

(b) I have checked again with Udine with regard to soldiers travelling in the Ambulante attached to the Rome - Villach military train and it would appear that the practice has ceased.

4. UDINE (a) Last week an Engineer from Rome visited the Repeater Station to investigate the structure of the building. The position is serious and the problem is, how to effect repairs and at the same time maintain the service. Much of the apparatus will have to be moved to allow floor repairs to be carried out ^{but} owing to the amount of apparatus there is hardly any floor space left. In my opinion the answer is a new building and I am meeting Ing. Dani of the Azienda di Stato Venice some time next week to discuss this. If Italy loses Plesso to Yugoslavia then the Plesso Repeater Station will have to be replaced between Udine and Villach well inside Italian territory.

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H.A. Hayward

H.A. HAYWARD, Major
COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
HQ AMG VG.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
Communications Division
Postal Section

P. 12

TO: Director of Communications Division

MONTHLY REPORT OCTOBER 1946

INTERNAL SERVICES

Arrangements have been completed for reintroduction of "small packet" service within Italy, commencing 1 November '46.

The Ministry agreed with representatives from UNRRA to convey sealed pouches of UNRRA correspondence between the main UNRRA branch offices and the head office in Rome, in the same manner that official correspondence is dealt with between the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and Provincial Post Offices. UNRRA personnel deliver and collect the pouches from the relative railway stations without involving work by postal officials.

EXTERNAL SERVICES

Traffic for north eastern European countries noticeably increasing. Q movements have been requested to provide facilities for postal sorting carriage to work daily on civil-military train between Rome and Villach instead of on 4 days per week as at present.

Representation to M.R.S. for return of postal sorting carriages to Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has been successful this month in five large type sorting carriages being released from military trains to civil postal services.

U.K. FOREIGN MAIL SERVICES Unregistered non illustrated post-cards confined to matters of personal or domestic nature may from 9 Oct 1946 be sent by surface route to Japan. There are some restrictions to actual destinations.

C. L. M. M. M. M.
Major
Chief Postal Officer

P12

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION
ABRIDGED REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1946

1. A short-lived telephone switchboard operators strike that did not affect, directly, the military telephone service resulted in substantial wage increases for telephone switchboard operators.
2. Return of Italian circuits to civilian operation was commenced and operation of military circuits was satisfactory.
3. A telephone link with Amsterdam was placed in operation.
4. During a civilian disturbance in Palermo telephone cable carrying civilian and military traffic was cut and removed from the Mignano, resulting in severance of communication between the Italian Government and Palermo; and interrupting military traffic.
5. A radio circuit between Rome and Stockholm was placed in operation.
6. Cable service for Trieste was increased to 24 hours daily.
7. A gift parcel service has been established from the United Kingdom to Italy.

6/12

56.3

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION
MONTHLY REPORT
SEPTEMBER 1946

1. POSTAL SERVICE:

a. A Gift Parcel Service from the United Kingdom to Italy and the Vatican City, was introduced on the 1st September 1946. The mail is conveyed overland through France and transferred to Italian Postal Authorities at Ventimiglia; up to the present the number of parcels received is exceptionally small.

b. U.S.A. Gift Parcel mails to Italy (except for Venezia Giulia) are now unloaded at Genoa instead of Naples. Genoa Port Parcel Office is well equipped with storage space and railway departure platforms for the handling of this traffic.

c. The British A.P.O. Base Post Office has now completed the handing back of the Civil Post Office Premises at Naples Ferrovia Post Office and the accommodation is effectively being utilized for the new Internal Parcel Post Service. This reintroduced service is working extremely satisfactorily at the Provincial Directors Offices visited during the month.

2. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS

a. On the 26 September 1946 the telephone switchboard operators of all the concessionary telephone companies went on strike for higher wages. The Azienda di Stato (long distance service) operators did not go on strike, however. In accordance with previous agreements between the operator's union and the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, operators continued operating switchboard positions handling Allied military circuits. One unauthorized interruption of service was reported, which was the Bari - Foggia link of the Rome - Bari - Foggia circuit. Traffic was routed over an improvised Rome - Naples - Foggia circuit, and by the time an inspector could investigate the interruption, an operator had reconnected the circuit in Bari.

- (1) The strike ended in 24 hours by an agreement to settle in case the operators would return to work at once. The second day the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications presided at

- 2 -

the combined conference of strikers and management. The resulting settlement gave the operators 12% wage increase plus one month's pay for the period 1st January 1946 to 31 July 1946, and a 30% wage increase effective (August 1946).

b. A net gain of twenty-one civilian long distance circuits were activated during the month.

c. On 15 September 1946 the gradual return to civilian operation of all long distance telephone switchboard positions and long distance circuits used exclusively for Allied Military traffic was commenced. As traffic conditions permit all such positions will be returned to Italian communication personnel for operation, in an effort to reduce military personnel and civilian personnel employed by the Allied Military Forces. The operation by civilian personnel will permit all circuits to be used for all types of traffic. This arrangement will, therefore, reduce traffic congestion points that have previously existed in both military and civilian traffic.

(1) Circuits of the Rome - Naples link were the first to be returned for civilian operation, and was satisfactory. Retention of operators (who have been working for Allied Military Forces) by the civilian operating companies has promoted smooth operation.

d. Fourteen long distance telephone operating positions in the Rome long distance exchange were released from Allied Military use for civilian use. Four of the positions were in condition for immediate use. Rewiring of the other ten positions will be necessary before they can be used for civilian traffic.

e. A telephone link with Amsterdam was put in operation on 16 September 1946.

f. During the period 18-21 September 1946 at a time of civilian disturbance in Palermo the underground cable of the Azienda di Stato used for civilian and military traffic was cut twice near Mignano. One section of cable 44 meters in length and another section 20 meters in length were removed. This effectively stopped Italian Government communica-

- 3 -

tion with Palermo and interfered briefly with military communication. The first circuit repaired was utilized by the military forces and another was placed at the disposal of the Italian Government due to its urgent need to communicate with Palermo.

- (1) Renewed efforts are being made to reduce and eliminate these hazards. However, most of the effort to protect the cable must be made by the Italian Government because of inadequate military personnel for patrol duties.

3. RADIO COMMUNICATION:

a. The Rome-Beyrouth radio telephone circuit was put into operation on 26 August and the Rome-Stockholm radiotelephone circuit was put into operation on 2 September 1946.

b. Arrangements were completed between Italcable and American Telephone and Telegraph Company to extend the privilege of individuals to make radiotelephone calls to the United States collect that is chargeable to the telephone of the person called in the United States, to 1st May 1947. This has proven to be popular.

c. Italcable reports that 30,728 radio telephone were made to the United States from 1st July 1945 to 30 June 1946 as compared to 2,783 in 1939.

4. SUBMARINE CABLE COMMUNICATION

a. Allied Force Headquarters did not approve the request of the Italian Government to repair and resume operation of the Malaga-Horta cable because the cable has been diverted and forms the Gibraltar Horta cable. Italcable has under consideration plan for replacing the cable.

b. Cable service in Trieste was increased to 24 hours daily. Previously cable service to Trieste had been available for a few hours each day. Extension of the service was made possible.

L.R. HUMBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

P.12

CGLM/ams

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50.9

812

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION
MONTHLY REPORT
AUGUST 1946

1. POSTAL SERVICE:

- a. Postal Service from Hungary to Italy was reactivated on 8 August 1946 after temporary suspension. Dispatches from Italy to Hungary were reintroduced on 26 August 1946. Full authority for the services have now been issued by the Hungarian Control Commission.
- b. Since the introduction of censorship of correspondence posted in Zone "A" of Venezia Giulia addressed to Zone "B" and Jugoslavia, direct sealed mails have been established from the Censorship Office to the offices at Fiume and Lubiana. Under this arrangement the censored items are not handled again within Zone "A".
- c. Internal parcel post was reintroduced in Italy on 16 August 1946 after suspension because of unfavorable handling difficulties.

2. RADIO COMMUNICATION:

a. Frequency assignments made during the month of August were:

FREQUENCY	POWER	CIRCUIT	PURPOSE
3555 Kcs	50 Watts		Italian Fire Service.
5580 "	50 "		" "
30120 "	50 "		Rome Civil Police
7 megacyclo 14 e			Italian amateurs
500 Kcs	500 Watts		" "
439 "	500 "		Maritime Radio station.
8380 "	300 "		Genoa Castellaccio
12760 "	300 "		" "

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b. Continued restoration of normal commercial, personal and governmental operations resulted in several essential additions to Italian radio.

- 2 -

c. Communications for the Italian Fire Service was extended by the authorization for use of frequencies of 3555 Kcs and 5560 Kcs. The frequency of 30120 Kcs was authorized for use by the Rome Civil Police in addition to the frequency of 2425 Kcs authorized in July.

d. Italy for many years has been a land filled with amateur radio enthusiasm. Lifting of the ban on amateur radio operation in Allied countries and retaining the ban in Italy (except for a small portion of the amateur band) has resulted in regular violation of amateur regulations by Italian amateurs. Monitors would hear illegal Italian amateur operation, yet it was almost impossible to discover the person of the violators. Permission for Allied Soldiers to operate military stations, at scheduled hours, on amateur frequencies added to the hazard. Sale of surplus radio parts enabled many Italian amateurs to build radios, listen to their former radio friends in other countries, and find the urge to reply to the calls too strong to resist. This hazard has been relieved by the authorization to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications for use by Italian Amateurs of the 7 and 14 megacycle radio frequencies. As these are the frequencies on which most amateurs operate, violations of radio regulations should be practically eliminated.

e. The Maritime operation of the frequencies of 439 Kcs, 500 Kcs, 8380 Kcs, and 12760 Kcs will provide a communication need in this field.

f. The Italian Government has been authorized to engage in international broadcasting, using facilities and frequencies already authorized with a power limitation of 10 K.W. This will enable the Italian Government and people to present their views and problems to peoples of other nations, thereby enabling them to feel that they are being given the opportunity to be on a basis of equality to other nations. 6617

3. SUBMARINE CABLE COMMUNICATIONS.

a. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has presented a memorandum to the Allied Commission, the American Embassy and the British Embassy.

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a. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has presented a memorandum to the Allied Commission, the American Embassy and the British Embassy requesting authority to repair the Barcelona-Malaga and the Malaga-Morta submarine cables.

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b. The repair of Rome-Barcelona cable has been authorized previously. The repair of these cables would enable Italcable to resume direct cable communication with North America. Later repair of the cable to South America, coupled with presently requested repairs, would complete restoration for resumption of cable communication with South American nations.

c. This communication is important at this time of food shortage in Europe and of large food harvests in American nations.

d. Approval has been given for repair of the Barcelona-Málaga cable. Approval for repair of the Málaga-Horta cable has been held in abeyance pending further consideration at a high level.

4. TELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS:

a. Rearrangement of long distance telephone facilities resulted in a gain of seven long distance circuits.

b. Agreement was reached between Allied Force Signal Officer and the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications about the plan of hand-over of military long distance telephone lines to the Italian Civilian companies for operation. The major points of decision were:

- (1) In important telecommunication centers the Allied Military Forces will control the booking arrangements. After the call is booked the booking operator will transfer the call to the long distance operator who will place the call. The booking operators will be British or American nationals or English speaking Italians. These important centers will be under the supervision of Allied Military or civilian personnel to insure that military calls receive proper handling with regards to priority and to insure that adequate circuits are provided for military use.

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- 4 -

(2) In telecommunication centers through which only a small number of Allied Military calls are placed, the civilian companies will maintain English speaking booking operators.

(3) Allied Military calls will receive high relative priority. Urgent military calls will be number one in the order of priority along with airplane crash calls. It is intended that this military priority be used in absolute emergency only. Priority Allied Military calls will be fifth in order of priority, which places it first below all Allied and Italian emergency calls and above all Italian very urgent calls. Routine Allied Military Calls will be 7th in order of priority just below Very Urgent Italian State Calls and above all other, Italian calls of what-ever nature, (Very Urgent private calls, Urgent State and private calls, and ordinary calls).

(4) The Italian companies were permitted to commence preliminary structural and circuit changes necessary to accept this hand-over of operating responsibility, and were told to deal directly with technical experts of the Allied Forces, but no lines were turned over to them for operation.

c. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications was requested to determine, and commenced investigating, the possibility of installing pay stations in Allied Force Headquarters buildings, and subordinate headquarters buildings as an aid to reducing the traffic over official military equipment. Because of the type of money available, this would necessitate the use of attended telephone centers. The low pay of telephone personnel makes it difficult for the telephone companies to obtain the proper type of attendants. This factor added to space and equipment requirements causes the Italian companies to be reluctant to undertake such a plan. Its major effect would be to relieve local congestion on military telephone exchanges and would be a speculative undertaking financially for the telephone companies.

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d. the telephone circuit between Milan and Budapest was completed but authority to operate the circuit has been withheld by control Authorities in Hungary, who have been asked to review their decision.

e. Eight lines between local and long distance operating telephone switchboards in Naples were transferred from exclusive military use to combined military and civilian use as an aid in reducing civilian traffic congestion.

f. For sometime the Italian Government has been faced with the necessity of paying transit fees in gold to countries through which telephone calls pass. In some countries, in the past, diplomatic representatives of the country of the national making the call have effected payment. Growth of traffic, and the impending possibility that all telephone calls originating in Italy, will be handled by civilian telephone companies may result in creating a major problem for the Italians to meet the payments. Clarification of this issue has been requested.

g. The 10% reduction in telephone rates applied in the Venezia Giulia area Zone A by authority of the decree 24 March 1946 has been discontinued. This area now pays the same telephone rates as the remainder of Italy.

h. Five, new 4 - wire repeaters were installed in the Trieste Repeater Station during the month, which results in there being seven sets of spare 4 wire terminal available for civilian needs.

i. Operation of the six channel very high frequency telegraph system with Austria has been held up due to the reluctance of the Ministry to allot the necessary circuits.

j. A drive has been initiated by TELVE and Azienda di Stato to clean up the unauthorized telephone apparatus, extension bells and private wires that have been connected, illegally in recent years. 15 September has been set as the day by which time these illegal users must disconnect their illegal devices or be subject to prosecution.

k. Considerable thought has arisen (too late) about the loss of equipment in the Venezia Giulia area when the peace treaty separates the area from Italy. It is practically impossible for any changes to be made with existing equipment at

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k. Considerable thought has arisen (too late) about the loss of equipment in the Venezia Giulia area when the peace treaty separates the area from Italy. It is practically impossible for any changes to be made with existing equipment at this time. It will be necessary, therefore, for TELVE to provide additional carrier and repeater equipment for lines in Italian territory in the vicinity of that area. Surplus equipment in the Trieste Central Telegraph Office also, is subject to being lost.

l. A new circuit was opened between Trieste and Vienna for the UNRRA Austrian Mission.

L. R. Humbert
L.R. HUMBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig.C.
Director.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFO 794
Communications Sub-Commission

CGH/30

Monthly Report August 1946.

Postal Division

1. Internal Parcel post service reintroduced in Italy on 16 August 46.
2. Postal Service from Hungary to Italy reactivated on 8 August 46 after temporary suspension. Dispatches from Italy to Hungary reintroduced on 26 Aug 46. Full authority for the services now issued by Hungarian Control Commission.
3. Since the introduction of censorship of the correspondence posted in Zone "A" of Venezia Giulia addressed to Zone "B" and Yugoslavia direct sealed mails have been established from the Censorship Office to the offices at Fiume and Lubiana. Under this arrangement the censored items are not again handled within Zone "A".

C. G. L. Maddock

C. G. L. MADDOCK
Major
Chief Postal Officer.

File CPM



50.3

MONTHLY REPORT FOR JULY 1946

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. Radio communications.

a. Five frequency allocations were made for use of commercial companies and one frequency allocation was made for the Rome area police net. These are:

Frequency	Circuit	Purpose
4355 Kilocycles	Rome - Milan	Commercial Telegraph
7518 "	" "	"
7965 "	Rome - New York	"
13260 " (+)	" Istanbul	"
4625 " (+)	" "	"
2425 "	Rome area	Police net

(+) The Rome - Istanbul circuit will operate on a time sharing arrangement with the Rome - Cairo and Beirouth circuit.

c. Permission was granted to Italcable to extend a commercial radiotelephone service to Canada, Cuba and Mexico to Saturdays and Sundays with existing facilities. This was possible because of decrease in military traffic.

d. A radiotelegraph circuit between Italcable in Rome, and Mackay Radio and Telegraph Co., New York was opened on frequencies of 10710 kilocycles and 16112 Kilocycles previously allocated, and the newly allocated frequency of 7965 kilocycles.

e. Service over the commercial Rome - New York radiotelephone circuit was revised to provide service one additional day per week for Gorizia and to reduce the service one day per week for Leghorn. Thus this service is no longer available in Leghorn on Wednesday and is available in Gorizia on Wednesday, resulting in service for Leghorn on two days a week and service for Gorizia on four days a week.

2. Telecommunications. During the month of July 1946 systematic improvements to the telecommunications system

Frequency	Circuit	Purpose
4355 Kilocycles	Rome - Milan	Commercial Telegraph
7518 "	"	"
7965 "	Rome - New York	"
13260 " (+)	" Istanbul	"
4625 " (+)	"	"
2425 "	Rome area	Police net

(+) The Rome - Istanbul circuit will operate on a time sharing arrangement with the Rome - Cairo and Beirut circuit.

c. Permission was granted to Italcable to extend a commercial radiotelephone service to Canada, Cuba and Mexico to Saturdays and Sundays with existing facilities. This was possible because of decrease in military traffic.

d. A radiotelegraph circuit between Italcable in Rome, and Mackay Radio and Telegraph Co., New York was opened on frequencies of 10710 Kilocycles and 16112 Kilocycles previously allocated, and the newly allocated frequency of 7965 Kilocycles.

e. Service over the commercial Rome - New York radiotelephone circuit was revised to provide service one additional day per week for Gorizia and to reduce the service one day per week for Leghorn. Thus this service is no longer available in Leghorn on Wednesday and is available in Gorizia on Wednesday, resulting in service for Leghorn on two days a week and service for Gorizia on four days a week.

2. Telecommunications. During the month of July 1946 systematic improvements to the telecommunications system were accomplished or authorized. Fixed plant facilities were improved. Details of transfer of military lines to the

P 12. *[Signature]*

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- 2 -

commercial companies for operation by civilians received further consideration, and plans were prepared for a trial hand-over of some circuits between Rome and Naples. The time of this trial hand-over will be determined at a later date.

a. A 600 line telephone switchboard, removed from a de-requisitioned building in Milan, was authorized for installation in Ventimiglia, a community without telephone facilities since the destruction of the local switchboard early in the war.

b. A telegraph circuit was opened between Trieste and Prague.

c. A 5000line commercial, automatic, telephone exchange was approved and materials assembled for installation in Udine. Work will commence in August.

d. Twenty-three long distance telephone circuits were discontinued and fifty new circuits were established. Facilities of the discontinued circuits were used in establishing some of the new circuits.

e. Italcable was authorized to recover unused portions of the Rome-Messina submarine cable for use in repairing other submarine cable.

3. Postal Communications.

a. The major portion of the Naples Ferrovia Corting Office has been handed back to the Civil Postal authorities by the British Army Post Office in connection with the ministries proposal to reintroduce internal Parcel Post service on 16 August 1946.

b. Censorship of correspondence posted in Zone A and addressed to zone B and Jugoslavica was introduced on 31 July 1946 in an effort to overcome the smuggling of currency.

c. Civil mail from Italy to Hungary was suspended temporarily owing to difficulties with Control Commissions.

L. R. HUBERT
L. R. HUBERT,
Lt. Col. Sig. C.
Director.

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L. R. HULBERT
L. R. HULBERT,
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Director.

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR JULY 1946

1. Six radio frequency allocations were made during the month, one for the Rome area police. A new radiotelegraph circuit from Rome to New York was opened and radiotelephone service with Canada, Cuba and Mexico authorized on Saturdays and Sundays.

2. Two commercial switchboard installations were authorized, a telegraph circuit from Trieste to Prague was opened, fifty new telegraph circuits were opened, and Italcable was authorized to recover unused portions of the Rome - Messina submarine cable.

3. The major part of Naples Ferrovia Sorting Office was returned to the civil authorities. Censorship of mails was introduced for some mail in Zone A and Zone B. Civil mail from Italy to Hungary was suspended temporarily.

P.12

MONTHLY REPORT - POSTAL DIVISION - JUNE 1946

Posta.

- (a) Air Mails - A new air mail service to South America was introduced on
-1st June 1946. Correspondence is despatched 3 times weekly
-from Naples to Amsterdam for onward transmission by the
-British Service.
- (b) Foreign Surface Mails - Venice now becomes the Office of Exchange for despatches to
-Albania, Jugoslavia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland,
-Rumania, Russia and Hungary.
-Milan is the new Office of Exchange for mails to Switzerland.
- (c) Inland Mails - Parcels. The Director General Posts and Telecomms has notified
-this Sub-Commission that the Ministry Posts and Telecomms propose
-to reintroduce Internal Parcel Post Service w.e.f. 16th August 46
-and ask that the Naples Ferrovia Sorting Office be released from
-Army. Post Office authority requisition. G-5 : AFHQ and British
-Army Postal Directorate have been informed of the proposals and
-requested to report on accommodation position immediately.

CPSM

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6609

WILL REPORT FOR MAY 1946

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

File
172

1. General: Both telegraph and telephone traffic have been rising quickly especially in N.W. Italy, and one of the difficulties of the Ministry has been to recruit and train staff sufficient to keep pace with it. This has largely been overcome now as regards telegraphs, but there is a definite lag in recruitment and training of telephone operators partly due to financial considerations.

2. Telecommunications:

(a) Telephones: Slight increases in the numbers of circuits on the important main routes, and a fair number of circuit additions on subsidiary routes especially in and around Vercelli, have eased the delays on the routes concerned.

Long distance traffic originated in Torino and Milano is now above the pre-war figures, chiefly due to the good availability of circuits in the Milano-Torino-Genova triangle.

A telephone service to UK for British troops was arranged in conjunction with AFHQ and the Italian Government. Calls can be made from Trieste, Naples, Rome, and Milano. As the international circuit is shared between these towns so far as Services calls are concerned, each centre is allocated certain days in the week except Milan which can use the circuit at any time. The service has been very successful to date, about twenty calls being passed each evening.

(b) Telegraphs:

Milano telegraph traffic is now as great as in the peak year of 1938.

All telegraph offices in Lombardia and Liguria are now restored to service.

Three military S-D systems were completed for the Rome-Milano route, and are ready for use. Three single channel telegraphs that can be superimposed on telephone circuits were installed for service between Milan and Turin.

In conjunction with the British Army Postal Service, the telegraph service run by Italians for British troops between UK and Rome, was extended to include the rest of Italy. This will save anything up to three days delay between the handing-in of the telegram and its delivery to the addressee.

- 2 -

(c) Stores: Discussions were held with AMHQ Officers on outstanding stores matters. As a result it should be possible to clear up the stores position by the end of June.

All details and queries concerning telecomm stores requirements for Udine and Venezia Giulia for the second six months of 1946 have been cleared up with the Economic Section and the only questions which may now arise are in connection with the supply of substitute items, should any item listed for UK or US supply not be available.

(d) Radio: Direct radio telegraph service between Italy and Denmark was inaugurated as well as radio-tele phone service with Brazil, Argentina and Egypt.

Arrangements were completed for radiotelephone service with Canada, Mexico, Ecuador, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Radiotelephone service between the U.S. and Italy was further improved by arrangement for acceptance of calls on a collect basis.

5. Posts:

(a) Air Mails: As a result of increased frequency of the Transworld air line, direct air mails from Rome to the U.S.A. are now despatched on three days of the week. One day each week the Transworld service calls at Madrid and Lisbon and air mails to Spain and Portugal are forwarded by this route.

The thrice weekly Dutch Air Service from Holland to the West Indies via Naples is now being used for the conveyance of air mails in both directions.

Due to the cancellation of Italian Air Services caused by the petrol situation, internal air mails had to be suspended from 15 to 20th of May. 2667

(b) Internal mails: As a result of representations made to 13th Corps and AMHQ agreement was obtained to the discontinuance of censorship of internal correspondence originating in Venezia Province. No internal correspondence originating in Italian Government territory is now submitted to censorship.

- 3 -

(c) Venezia Giulia: A complete review was made of the arrangements for the circulation of all types of correspondence originating in Zone A and new detailed instructions have been issued to all concerned.

Parcels: The first step was taken towards the restoration of internal parcel post in Italy and Zone A. For the present this is limited to parcels containing medicines and sanitary materials posted by the producing firms.

L.F. SCHUBER,
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

5606

Vol 3 - 1st. Meeting, Ballston - 20. April 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

(Swan Song)

The Communications Sub-Commission originated early in September 1945 as part of the Communications Section in The Allied Military Mission, under Admiral (then Capt.) Stone.

At that time concern was chiefly with Puglia, but little groups of telecommunications and Postal Officers under various names, some uncomplimentary, successfully plodded along in Sicily and South Italy, doing valuable work preparing the ground for the time when A.C. Officers had more scope.

This was the period when personnel flitted about so rapidly between A.M.G. and A.C. Communications Section that some were classified under both organisations and some under neither. Col. Denmore we believe was one of the former.

During the early period, no central Italian telecommunications body existed. As a result of a complaint by Italians that the Allies were removing telecommunications stores without notice, and the gleeful answer by the Allies that there was no one to whom they could give notice, the Ministry of Communications was officially reborn on 5th November 1943, without fireworks, in the back streets of Brindisi.

The present Under-Secretary of State for Posts and Telecommunications, Dr. Mario Fano, was the mainstay of the Ministry. When he was questioned as to why he always attended meetings personally instead of sending a representative to the less important ones, he successfully concealed the fact that he was the Ministry in toto. It is true he had a staff of one private secretary but the latter objected to early rising and was sometimes missing.

The Sub-Commission has been fortunate in having Dr. Fano as a loyal and efficient collaborator throughout its entire existence.

In these early days the Communications Section dabbled also in questions rather remotely connected with telecommunications and posts, making an occasional attempt at rail transport and shipping, and even becoming successfully involved in paper supply to its later regret when a prominent member of the Italian Ministry of Finance threatened to close down the Bank of Naples if some of the paper stocks were not handed back. This was a memorable occasion as it was not until the capture of German stores in North Italy that any further appreciable amount of stores was obtained for civilian use. (By a coincidence this Section used beautifully finished legal paper for many months.).

When A.C.C. and A.M.G. formed a rather uneasy alliance in

- 2 -

Feb. 1944, the Communications Sub-Commission was formed. Since then there have been many changes in personnel with only a few of the original members left and with one serious casualty.

One of the early difficulties which continued for many months was the number of Signals Organizations to be dealt with e.g. CSO's of AFHQ, AII, L of C, Districts, PBS, Air Corps, RAAC, AIR Formation Signals and an occasional organization with unidentified initials. Feelings in these different organizations for AC gradually improved from silent (not always) contempt to second cousinly affection.

By April 1944, the Sub-Commission was as near its authorized strength (or weakness) as it ever was and had in addition to its duties in the postal, telecommunications, and radio fields assumed responsibility for Civil Censorship Group, a branch of G-2, which, with AFHQ still in Caserta, had been nobody's child. This association was a most successful one uniting as it did under one direction, all sides of civil posts and telecommunications. It continued until November 1945, when Allied interest in Civil Censorship in Italian territory ceased and the remaining activities of the Group were absorbed by AFHQ. (and mentioning absorption reminds us that this Group's extensive marine contacts brought us such needed supplies of the Bourbon variety).

Our officers, in their handling of the Italian staff, acted in a manner that would have won Emerson's approval viz. "People wish to be settled; only as far as they are unsettled is there any hope for them". In some organizations old age at times appeared to be a primary qualification. And one officer, on being asked to take a young man of 70 replied somewhat bitterly, "One more won't matter. This is an Old Folks' Home".

Still, by the end of 1943 and senza transport, senza materials, senza nearly everything else, the Italians with occasional pop talks were beginning to get into their stride. Sicily and King's Italy had letter and financial services. Sardinia had an air mail to the mainland. By February 1944, services had extended to the environs of Naples, and a big step had been taken by the start of a foreign service to the Allied and neutral world.

By the end of May, weight limits for domestic mails had been raised to 210 grammes; insured, express, and newspaper services had been inaugurated; and internal air mails had been started.

In the telecommunications world, damage to telephone and telegraph plant was heavy. It included the destruction of a 20,000 lines exchange at Naples and of its main long distance exchange. Many thousands of miles of line were destroyed. 56.4

Nevertheless, by April 1944 telegraph service had been restored to some 65% of the communes and between all provincial centres south of Naples and in Sicily. Telephone service to the public was limited by the Allies to urban local connections, but the Italian

- 3 -

Govt. had circuits from Salerno to all provincial capitals on the mainland south of Naples and, by switching, to the chief Sicilian towns. The Govt's underground cable circuits had been completed by mixed Allied and Italian gangs under the directions of one of our officers, and with the help of the GSO. Overhead circuits on the other hand were put through mostly by sheer hard work on the part of the Italian linemen, in country often deep in snow, with inadequate tools, and often entailing long journeys on foot. Much useful help was obtained at this stage from a certain Major of MMIA, known in Catanzaro as the Uncrowned King of Calabria, who harnessed to our aid what appeared to be the bulk of the Italian Army, as a matter "between friends", and to some effect!

Experience in Naples had shown the need of a central telecommunications authority in major centres immediately after liberation.

Advance Telecomms Boards were thus planned for Rome, Florence, Bologna, Milan, Genoa and Turin. Each Board was composed of representatives of the major military Signals Headquarters along with two from A.C.C.. These boards eventually operated very successfully, in one case so industriously that it never discovered it was functioning over a canteen.

Representatives of the Sub-Commission entered Rome on June 4 and 5. On the way up, a Captain of Civil Censorship managed to get ahead of the troops and ran into a German tank round a sharp corner. In a very few minutes he was back round the corner, up a flight of stairs, and busily dropping grenades on the tank which considered itself completely censored and had no further circulation.

Rome telephone plant, practically undamaged, was restored to service a few days after liberation. A postcard service connected Rome with the rest of liberated Italy on June 17. Although equipment and some key personnel had been removed by the Germans, the Ministry of Communications was functioning and this helped the reorganisation of repairs and services considerably. A basic plan for the restoration of long distance facilities all over Italy was prepared with the help of the staff of the Ministry.

In addition a telephone factory in Rome was brought into use jointly by the GSO and by this Sub-Commission, was supplied with materials, and as a result manufactured and supplied badly needed equipment which is even now the mainstay of long distance communication.

Florence plant unfortunately suffered systematic and extensive destruction by German demolition squads yet within two weeks civilians had brought into use a 500 line automatic telephone exchange made from parts salvaged from the damaged exchanges.

It was at this stage decided by the Army Authorities that it was better to permit controlled telecomms and postal services as widely as

- 4 -

possible than to experience clandestine uncontrolled operations. Accordingly such services were authorized up to a short distance from the Army control line.

By August 1944, postal and telegraph services and provincial telephone service had been extended to the northern boundaries of Teramo and Rome Provinces. Inter provincial telephone service went up to Naples.

In early September, Florence had a postcard service. Many severely damaged telephone exchanges had been repaired with few facilities for repair. Submarine cables to Sicily were in civilian operation.

By the end of 1944, some 67000 miles of overhead wire had been restored to civilian service by Italian labour, and Italians had done much of the work of restoration of the main cable. In one stretch of 500 miles of cable, the enemy had made about 1000 breaks. This cable formed a large part of the main Allied Communications network.

The great rush North eventually started and the members of the Advance Telecomms Boards including ours took part in it enthusiastically - so much so that they were doing planning in Milan telephone building for an hour before they discovered that it was guarded by twenty five Germans who had not surrendered. "Sic itur ad astra" sometimes, but not this time, luckily.

It was found from the staff and from Germans that great masses of Italian equipment - including most of the important telegraph and telephone amplifier equipment - had been taken and hidden in the Verona - Brenner area. We enrolled to help us in the search for them a local chief partisan from the mountains, somewhat Hollywoodish in dress, but apparently of local repute judging by the way respectable people faced away from our jeep! When we reached the first concealed dump we saw a large board carefully laid beside the open door, nails sticking out all round it, and proclaiming in large letters that entrance was not permitted except by authority of the CSO or words to that effect. We hoped our partisan had been unable to read, but in pensive mood later we wondered whether maybe we had given him more cigarettes than the CSO's supplies allowed.

Anyway, some 120 truck loads and 20 railway car loads of equipment were found and much of it rapidly installed on the lines of our planned scheme.

In some two and a half months after entry into Milan, and although the public telegraph service had been virtually stopped for over a year, a backbone telegraph system had been installed and was in operation. In this system 18 telegraph channels can operate simultaneously over one telephone circuit and the system thus provides a rapid means for the building up of a main telegraph net. Eleven of the chief towns in Italy and certain Swiss towns were concerned in the network, each Italian town involving the installation of recovered equipment.

- 5 -

Staff had to be recruited and trained in AMG territories in large numbers, and operating schools were accordingly started. Telegraph equipment was obtained from factories.

Many of the small telegraph offices were reconnected by July - in Lombardia for instance 579 out of 1035.

Radio telegraph service to neutral and Allied countries had been opened as far back as April 1945, at first operated by Allied Companies and later by Italcable on Oct. 1st.

Telephone service was open to all provincial capitals though circuits were very limited in number due to military requirements. Telegraph and telephone services were open to foreign countries.

Radio telephone service to USA which had been inaugurated in Nov. 1944 for official calls was opened to Allied troops in July 1945. Some 15000 calls were passed by troops between July 1 and Nov. 30, 1945.

Postal services were resumed in N. Italy within a few days of liberation, in spite of considerable road and rail transport difficulties. This made particularly difficult the resumption of North to South services.

All stamps found in the North were of Fascist design, and thus large quantities of new stamps had to be printed using, if possible, designs for which dies were available, but which would not irritate anti-Fascists.

We had to fall back on a picture of Caesar. Apparently he was the only peaceable old soul in the collection. Shades of 55 BC!

A brief picture of the main items of telecomms plant in Italy seriously affected by damage may be of interest.

21% of the pole routes and 40% of the wire were destroyed.
53% of amplifier station equipment was severely damaged or destroyed.

20% (at least) of the underground cable was damaged.
About 50 of the larger telephone exchanges and several hundred small exchanges were destroyed or seriously damaged.

15 Broadcast transmitters were destroyed, 16 were carried away by the enemy (and found later) while 13 were left in good order.

At the present date nearly all telephone exchanges and telegraphs offices are operating on the national network. All broadcast stations are in operation, mostly at reduced powers.

The main civil telegraph net is well supplied with ~~signals~~ ⁵⁶⁰⁰ nearly all installed since the enemy was pushed out. The civil telephone net has been restored to the extent of about 40% of pre-war circuits between large centres, though in a few areas where fighting

- 6 -

took place the smaller centres have only a skeleton service. The civil telephone service will of course be greatly extended when the Allied Military restore the large number of Italian circuits at present being used by them.

Postal services (except parcels) and telegraph services are in existence to all countries in the world except Germany, Japan, Korea, and Manchuria, to which service has not yet been permitted. Air mail services are in operation between major Italian cities and are available to most foreign countries.

Two unusual difficulties were experienced on the postal side. One was the unexpected volume of gift parcels received from USA in Dec. 1945, namely 1 1/2 million. They had so swamped the USA authorities that they were unable to sort them by provinces, thus later taxing the facilities of the Italian Post Office to the utmost.

The second difficulty was the philatelists' instinct for making money. All sorts of methods were used to try to produce postmarked stamps in small quantities, and a good deal of effective detective work was done on the side by Postal Officers.

No report of this Sub-Commission can be concluded without a reference to transport. Throughout our work, our Ministry has had either no transport (usually), or transport with no tyres, or transport without petrol, or transport minus spare parts. Our officers, after trying normal methods, at night used to pray for transport and they bang their heads on the wall to try to forget about it. Nightmares had 90% transport subjects.

Now of course we are hardened and, if the subject is mentioned, just laugh bitterly, because although our Ministry has vehicles, and although we know that there must be spare parts somewhere because some seven earnest officers have assured us this is so, we find that any trail we follow leads finally to some Italian who obviously hasn't any, has never heard of any, flatly disbelieves that there are such things, or wants us to put him on a circulation list in case we ever find out where they are.

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POSTAL SECTION - MONTHLY REPORT - APRIL 1946Foreign Postal Rates.

By Ministerial Decree dated 7th March 1946 the Italian Government increased the rates of postage to foreign countries as from 1st April 1946 to approximately three times those in force since 1st April 1945. For example, the rate for letters which previously was 5 Lire for the first 20 grammes and 3 Lire for each additional 20 grammes became 15 Lire for the first 20 grammes and 10 Lire for each additional 20 grammes.

Air Mails.

With the commencement on 4th April of the bi-weekly Trans World Air Service from Cairo to the U.S.A. via Rome a direct route for the Italy U.S.A. Air Mail despatches became possible. Unfortunately the capacity available for Italian Air Mails by this service (about 100 Kiles per flight) is insufficient to accommodate all the traffic, which amounts to about 60 Kiles per day. The overflow is being sent to Paris (for connection with the France-U.S.A. service) utilising Italian internal and Swiss air services with rail links. It is hoped that an increased frequency of the Trans-World service will soon take effect and provide for the direct transmission of all the correspondence.

Air Mails to Great Britain, Egypt, and various other countries continue to be conveyed by R.A.F. services. The representatives of the Dutch civil air line working between Amsterdam and Batavia via Naples were put in touch with the Italian Ministry and negotiations for the use of this line for Italian civil air mails are proceeding between the interested parties.

The R.A.F. service which carried the Italian Air Mail to Albania has been withdrawn and the Ministry was advised to telegraph to the U.S. Post Office to obtain State Department consent to the conveyance of this mail by an A.T.O. service which calls at Tirana once weekly.

The Air Mail fee from Italy to other European countries was increased from 15 Lire to 20 Lire each 20 grammes.

Gift Parcels.

Traffic continued to be very heavy. During the month the following numbers of parcel bags were unloaded:

Naples	61229
Genoa	20048
Venice	4971
Civitavecchia	15070
	<u>102018</u>

These bags contained an average of 4 parcels weighing about 5 Kiles each.

Sea Transport.

Inspection at Naples revealed that serious difficulty was still being experienced by the Post Office in obtaining prior information concerning sailings and in arranging for the acceptance of mails on board various ships under British control. It was possible to make arrangements which should improve the system of obtaining shipping information. As regards the acceptance of mails on British controlled ships it is still not practicable for the Post Office to make formal mail contracts with shipping Companies but temporary arrangements were made with Sea Transport A.P.M.Q. for the mails

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Monthly Report
continued.

to be accepted by S.T. ships against non-negotiable receipt. Proposals were submitted to the G.P.O. London advocating a special system to be adopted until normal liner berth working is resumed.

So far as American shipping is concerned the Post Office were pressed to come to an agreement with U.S.A. to operate a similar system to that suggested in the case of British shipping and so terminate the present undesirable arrangement by which the mails for America are sent to Leghorn for despatch with U.S. Army mails. A considerable part of the despatches to the U.S.A. consists of empty mail bags due to be returned for use in the gift parcel service.

W.H.S.
M.H. SCUDLER
Colonel, Sig.C.
Director.

5538

P.12/CS

WHG/ams

POSTAL SECTION - MONTHLY REPORT - MARCH 1946Gift Parcel Service.

Just over 100,000 bags of gift parcels from America were received during this month from ships discharging at Brindisi, Genoa and Naples. The U.S. Post Office is now sorting and labelling these mails for the various provinces of Italy. Under present shipping conditions however the port of destination is not known with certainty before the vessel sails and consequently the parcel mails cannot be loaded for discharge at the most appropriate ports. The receipt of parcel mails for all parts of Italy at various ports is, of course, wasteful so far as railway haulage is concerned. Warning of prospective arrival of ships carrying these mails; the number of bags; and the probable date and port of arrival is now being received from U.S.R.R.A. Shipping.

Air Mails.

Air mail services to most parts of Africa, the Middle East and Far East were commenced utilising a daily R.A.P. service to Cairo.

In view of the continued postponement of the opening of a civil air line to the U.S.A. and as authority could not be obtained to use A.P.C. services for civil mails the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications decided to commence an air mail to the U.S.A. utilising a French service. Unfortunately the Ministry's arrangements for the conveyance of the mails from Italy to France were very unsatisfactory and the Sub-Commission was called upon to take vigorous action to clear the initial jam.

The amount of air mail correspondence for America posted in Italy each day amounts to about 50 files.

Albania: After much delay and many efforts to obtain the agreement of the Albanian Post Office postal services (both surface and air mail) have at length been resumed between Italy and Albania.

As there are no frequent and regular sailings between the two countries, the surface mails from Italy are being sent thrice weekly via Yugoslavia. The air mail is despatched by a once weekly R.A.P. service.

Polish "stamps": Much trouble arose during the month on account of the appearance on the philatelic market of a series of stamps bearing the names of the Polish displaced persons camps at Barletta and Trani and marked with postage rates in lire values. Enquiry revealed that the stamps had been issued by War Relief Services on the basis of an "authority" given by the Polish Corps.

The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications was advised to circularise its offices to the effect that the stamps were not valid for use in the Italian Civil Post, and after enquiries the case was submitted to G-5: A.P.R.C. with a recommendation that the public be advised that the stamps were not approved by any competent postal authority and are consequently invalid. The recommendation was supported and it remains to be seen what will be the reactions of the philatelic dealers who have invested in the stamps. Certain unsatisfactory features of the case are still under enquiry.

File 112

P.12

WHG/ans

POSTAL SECTION - MONTHLY REPORT - FEBRUARY 1946Gift Parcel Service

During February the distribution of the large accumulation of gift parcels received at Naples following the extension of the service to all Italy continued. Thanks to a better supply of railway vehicles good progress was made and by the end of the month the number of parcels on hand had been reduced to about 30,000.

Following the improvement in the rate of distribution from Naples difficulties have arisen at a number of provincial Capitals where accommodation and transport facilities are being severely taxed in dealing with this work.

The bulk of the arrivals from the U.S.A. during February - about 87,000 bags - were landed at ports other than Naples.

Naples Accommodation

The British Base A.P.O. release for civil use several more rooms of the Naples Station Sorting Office and another hut adjacent to this building.

"SEP/FW Mails

In collaboration with the British Army Post Office a service was introduced to afford communications between Surrendered Enemy Personnel and Prisoners of War in this country and their relatives in various European countries. Use is made of the Italian civil foreign mails services to the greatest possible extent.

3536

File P 12

POSTAL SECTION - MONTHLY REPORT - JANUARY 1946Internal Services

The book post weight limit was extended to 2 kilograms. Steps have been taken by the Italian Government to increase all internal postal rates, mostly by about 100%. Such increase is expected to come into operation on 1st February. A.M.G. Venezia Giulia has been informed of the proposed increases in order that they may be applied there also if desired.

Foreign Services

Air Mails An air mail service Amsterdam-Batavia, via Naples Cairo and India, has been instituted by the Dutch air lines. Use of this service to transport Italian air mails is being considered. The use of this should enable air mail facilities from Italy to be extended to most of the world with which mail services are not prohibited, except U.S.A. and Australia. Air mail service to Hungary was commenced.

Surface Mails During January surface mails were instituted to Austria (20 gram letters and postcards only) and Dutch East Indies (40 gram letters and postcards only). It is hoped that the Austrian administration will shortly be in a position to increase this weight limit and generally expand the services available.

Services to both these countries are limited to correspondence of a personal or non-transactional commercial nature.

The ban on transactional commercial correspondence was lifted from the following countries:

Brunei	Macao
Burma	Malay States
North Borneo	Sarawak
Hong Kong	Straits Settlement
	Timor

The weight limit on correspondence to the Dodecanese Islands was raised to 1 Kilogram.

5595

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P.12/CS

WPK/ans

POSTAL SECTION - MONTHLY REPORT - DECEMBER 1945

Internal Services

Normal development of these services proceeded taking advantage of all additional civilian train services. Newspaper post from the rest of Italy to Venezia Giulia was restored.

Practically all the normal peacetime internal services are now in operation with the exception of the parcel post. The main obstacle to the restoration of ordinary parcel post services is the limited railway postal facilities.

Foreign Services

Air Mails Authority was obtained to despatch a limited amount of civil air mails by certain R.A.F. services operating from Bari, Naples and Rome. As from 20th December air mails were established by these routes to London, Paris, Marseilles, Bucharest, Belgrade, Athens, Sofia and Malta affording air mail connections with nearly every European country. When certain administrative details are settled and further information is available concerning conveyance rates it is hoped to establish similar services to Africa and the Far East.

Preliminary enquiries were made with a view to utilising the proposed civil air line from Italy to U.S.A.

Surface Mails

Services were restored to Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

Postal connections now exist between Italy and all countries except the following: -

Germany
Austria
Japan
Formosa
Manchuria
Korea
Albania

To which countries communications are forbidden by standing instructions

The Albania Government's agreement has not yet been obtained to the resumption of postal relations with Italy. The British Military Mission to Albania has been asked to use its good offices to expedite the matter

British East Indies

Details not yet available of services working in this territory

With certain minor exceptions the postal services in operation between Italy and foreign countries include all "correspondence" services covered by the Universal Postal Convention (Letters Post, Printed Papers, Commercial Papers, Sample Post, Blind Literature).

Ordinary foreign parcel post services have not yet been restored because of shortage of sorting office accommodation at certain main centres such as Naples; of difficulty in providing for customs examination; and lack of transportation for internal distribution.

File P12

P.12/CS
continued

Gift Parcel Service from U.S.A.

The flood of traffic announced by the U.S.A. postal authorities arrived through the month. At Naples 267,000 parcel bags (representing at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ million parcels) were unloaded during December, and smaller consignments were received at Genoa and Leghorn. Difficulty in accommodating these arrivals at Naples are reported and the trouble is accentuated by the shortage of rolling stock. The railway authorities are endeavouring to augment the number of waggons available for this service but it is inevitable that the great accumulation of parcels will take a lengthy period to distribute. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has been asked to report progress.

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POSTAL SECTION

MONTHLY REPORT

NOVEMBER 1945

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P.12

INTERNAL SERVICESPrinted Papers

The printed paper service between North and South Italy - previously limited to daily newspapers because of lack of sufficient space in postal railway vehicles - was extended to include magazines and other periodicals.

Air Mails

New internal air mails were established using the Italian planes on the following courier services:

Rome - Bologna - Treviso
Rome - Milan - Torino

These services afford connections with the existing air mails to Sardinia and the South of Italy.

FOREIGN SERVICESAir Mails

Estimates of the weight of correspondence which would be available for British Air Services operating from Italy were furnished to Air Priorities Board. General approval has been received for the conveyance of these estimated weights of mail on a "fill-up" load basis. Certain accounting and financial details remain to be settled but on the basis of such costing data as is available the Italian Post Office is studying what its air mail fees should be: when these are settled the services will be advertised and put into operation. The proposed use of military aircraft presents certain unsatisfactory features from the civil Post Office point of view but it is hoped to make the best possible use of these facilities until civil air lines become available.

Surface Mails

Mail service with Yugoslavia via Venice, Trieste and Lubiana commenced on the 1st November.

Telegrams were sent to foreign administrations proposing the expansion of postal services to and from Italy to include letters, printed papers, commercial papers, samples and blind literature up to the normal weight limits. By the end of November some favourable replies had been received enabling the following names to be added to the list of countries to which such services have been restored: -

Belgium
Egypt
France
Greece
Holland
Switzerland
Yugo Slavia (with certain reservations)

file P12

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continued

Enquiries, as yet without useful results, were made with a view to obtaining from the Yugoslav authorities information concerning transit facilities available for mails to Eastern Europe and the Balkans. The re-establishment of mail services to Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Albania is delayed for lack of suitable routes.

New direct despatches were established to Amsterdam and Brussels via Switzerland.

Parcel Mails

The extension of the gift parcel service from the U.S. to all Italy (except Venezia Giulia) and to the cities of Gorizia, Trieste and Pola and the increase in weight for 5 to 11 lbs were advertised to take effect on 3rd November. The U.S. Post Office notified the Italian P.O. that postings are "unprecedented" and that the promised division of these parcels by Provinces cannot be carried out until after Christmas. Considerable apprehension is felt as to the adequacy of the accommodation available to the Naples Post Office to provide for the custody of the great volume of mails and also for the detailed sorting which was not contemplated when the extension of service was agreed to.

As a suitable site with adjacent railway loading facilities could not be found at Naples civil port the two additional Romney huts obtained for use in connection with this service are being erected at the Railway Station. The Commissioner A.M.G. Naples Comune has been asked, if possible, to earmark certain premises (being repaired for storage of civil supplies) for postal use during the Christmas pressure period.

Difficulty and expense is still being caused occasionally by the landing of these parcel mails at unsuitably situated ports. The Post Office reports the arrival of 6,000 bags for Rome Naples and Palermo at Venice.

Displaced Persons - Correspondence

A service to enable displaced persons in the British occupied Zone of Germany to correspond with relatives in Italy and other countries has been authorized. Relatives may not write to such displaced persons unless they have first received a letter from them, and may only write 2 letters a month each of not more than one page. The letters posted in Italy for this service are despatched to London.

Venezia Giulia Foreign Mail Services

The policy is to give Venezia Giulia the advantage of all external mail services being opened from Italy; the correspondence posted in Allied occupied Venezia Giulia is included in the Italian despatches. So far as the resumption of commercial correspondence is concerned the postal channels are available and arrangements have been made to censor the correspondence under Allied control at Venice as soon as the appropriate authorities in Venezia Giulia issue the necessary instructions regarding the regulations under which the service will be permitted.

P.12

POSTAL SECTION MONTHLY REPORT FOR OCTOBER
1945.

The most important activities of the month were connected with proposals for the restoration of normal international mail services.

AIR MAILS. A daily air mail service from Great Britain to Italy commenced on 13th October. Enquiries were immediately put in hand with a view to establishing the procedure for obtaining air lift on British military aircraft for a civil air mail service in the reverse direction and also to other destinations to which British air services are operating. The Air Ministry has asked the Air Priorities Board at AFHQ to do everything possible to facilitate carriage of the mails. Estimates of the traffic have been submitted and a favourable decision is anticipated.

The position with regard to services to and from America is not so satisfactory. Certain air mail despatches from USA to Italy have arrived without prior notification of frequency of service, etc., but as yet no reply has been received to renewed applications for air lift in the reverse direction.

SURFACE MAILS. New direct despatches were established to Australia, Argentina and Brasil.

Authority was given for the acceptance of postcards and letters containing family and personal messages for addressees in some of the territories liberated from Japanese occupation (Hong Kong, Malay, French Indo China and Straits Settlements). Pending the establishment of direct mails from Italy to the Far East this correspondence will be disposed of through Cairo.

The postal service between Italy and the British Empire, USA and its possessions, Russia and former Italian overseas possessions was expanded to include letters, printed papers, commercial papers, samples and blind literature up to the maximum limits specified in the Universal Postal Convention. The Italian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has been asked to propose similar extension to all foreign Postal Administrations with which mail services have been restored.

Arrangements were made for the inclusion of

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registered correspondence in the postal service between the British Army Post Office and the Italian Civil Post Office. The regulations of the US Army Post Office do not permit a similar direct transfer of registered correspondence and consequently any registered correspondence posted by Italians for US Army personnel has to be sent in the civil mails to New-York. Italian Post Offices have been instructed to advise the public of the resultant delay if such correspondence is for a soldier in Italy.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE. Notification was received that a satisfactory solution had been found to the vexed question of the acceptance by the Italian Government of lists of persons or firms to which (on account of enemy connections) business correspondence is prohibited. Pending publication by the Italian Government of the relative decree and of the Treasury regulations governing transactional commercial communications, the Post Office was authorized to accept non-transactional commercial correspondence for any countries except Germany, Austria, Japan, Formosa, Korea and Manchuria.

GIFT PARCELS. After consideration of the latest Italian proposals for handling the traffic, AFHQ was informed that agreement had been reached to the extension of the US Gift Parcel service to all Italy except Venezia Giulia provinces and also to the cities of Gorizia, Trieste and Pola. The increase in the maximum weight limit from 5 to 11 lbs was also agreed.

It remains to be seen what parcel traffic will result and whether the facilities available will prove adequate for the service. An example of the difficulties in operating such a service and affording it the necessary security occurred during the month when a ship carrying wheat and 10,000 bags of these parcels was diverted to Cagliari instead of proceeding to Naples. At Cagliari the mails had to be unloaded and left in the open while the wheat was discharged; they were eventually reloaded and taken to Leghorn where special arrangements had to be made and a special train obtained to convey the bags to Rome, Naples and Palermo.

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P.12.

POSTAL SECTION.

MONTHLY REPORT.

SEPTEMBER 1945.

Foreign Mails. Arrangements were made for the mails from Italy to Great Britain to be forwarded by civil trains via Switzerland. This should afford a more regular and quicker service than the previous arrangement under which the mails were handed to the British Army Post Office at Naples for despatch by sea. In the reverse direction the U.K. to Italy mails will also be sent overland and they will be dealt with at Milan in future.

Correspondence for certain northern European countries to which direct mails from Italy are not at present justified is now sent to Switzerland in transit.

Inland Mails. Full advantage continues to be taken of extensions and improvements of train services. In addition to a number of local train services, the following new travelling Post Offices were brought into operation:

- a)- Bologna - Verona - Venezia
- b)- Milan - Verona - Venezia

There is also a mail van from Turin to Milan in connection with b).

Internal Sample Post and Blind literature services were reintroduced and the despatch of daily newspapers to subscribers and agents was also extended to the service between North and South Italy.

Gift Parcels. Some useful work was done towards removing obstacles which up to the present have prevented the extension of the gift parcel scheme to all Italy. By direct negotiations with the British Army Postal Directorate it was possible to obtain for the civil Post Office the exclusive use of a large double Romney hut (about 6000 sq.feet) adjacent to the sorting office at Naples Railway Station. A.P.H.Q. is being pressed to release two other Romney huts for erection at Naples Port where the bulk of the parcel mails are landed. The first effect of the extension of the parcel service to Sicily and Sardinia was seen in a cable to the effect that nearly 30.000 parcel bags (approximately 300.000 parcels) had been loaded on a ship bound for Naples.

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WHG/ams

POSTAL SECTIONMONTHLY REPORTAUGUST 1945

The main problems of the month were connected with extensions of Foreign services and development of the internal postal arrangements to take advantage of improved railway facilities.

Foreign Mails:

By agreement with the French Postal authorities road services were established providing for an exchange of mails between Italy and France at Ventimiglia. Correspondence from Italy to France, Spain, Portugal, Corsica, Gibraltar, Tangiers, French North Africa and Spanish Morocco route via Marseilles.

A direct mail service to Switzerland via Luino has also been introduced and the question of using this route for correspondence for Northern Europe is the subject of correspondence between the Italian and Swiss Post Office.

A new mail to Eritrea has been established.

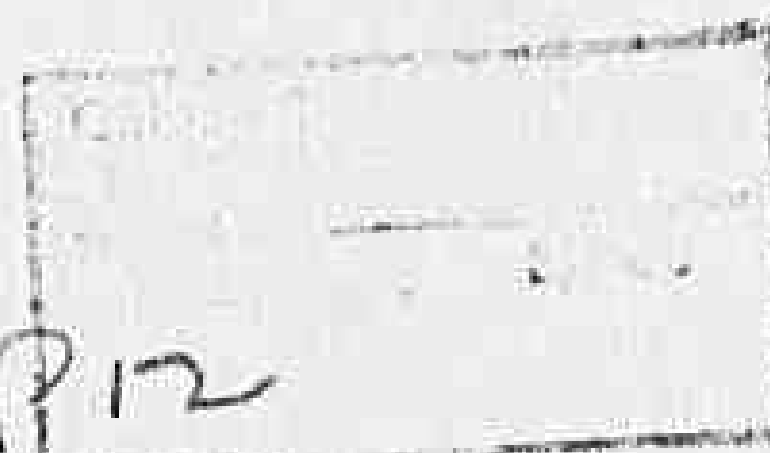
Inland Mails:

The extension of the Rome-Bologna civil train service onwards to Milan with connection to Turin and Genoa has resulted in a noticeable improvement in the transit time of correspondence between North West and Southern Italy.

A Railway Sorting carriage is attached to the train from Rome to Turin.

Railway sorting carriage working has also been introduced on the Rome-Bologna train service via Forlì.

Insured letters are now admitted in the postal service between Northern and Southern Italy.



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Date.....

P.12

POSTAL SECTION

MONTHLY REPORT

JULY 1945

1. Postage Rates.

The Italian Decrees governing postage rates were implemented in Military Government Territory as from 1st July 1945. These decrees represented a 100% increase in charges for most postal services but up to the present no serious complaint has been received.

2. Train Services.

The service to the North East was improved by the attachment of a postal van to the Rome-Ferli' train thrice weekly from the beginning of July instead of once a week. The road services from Ferli' to Lombardia and Venezia still are not working satisfactorily however.

A further improvement in services was afforded by the extension of the Rome-Florence thrice weekly civil train (to which a postal van is attached) through to Bologna.

3. Internal Services.

The improvements in rail services rendered it possible to extend the scope of postal services between South and North Italy (previously limited to 45 gram letters) to include most of the postal facilities in operation in Italian Government Territory.

4. Foreign Mail Services.

During the month the letter post was extended to Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland.

5. Prisoner of War Mails.

To relieve the accommodation difficulties at Naples it was arranged to make a duplicate range Prisoner of War despatches from Rome on which office the P.W. correspondence from Central and Northern Italy is now concentrated.

6. Postage Stamp Supplies for North Italy.

The printing of postcards and of the smaller denominations of stamps was continued at Novara. During the month 233 bags of stamps of the higher values (about 65 million stamps) were despatched to the North from Rome by the A.C. Air Courier services.

7. Venezia Giulia.

A postcard and 45 gram letter service from the rest of Italy to Venezia Giulia was authorised on 23th July. Pending clarification of the position concerning commercial transactions with Venezia Giulia this service has been advertised as open for family and personal messages only.

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POSTAL SECTION - MONTHLY REPORT - JUNE 1945

The development and equalization of postal services within the Northern Regions and the improvement of the links between North and South were the main problems of the month. Generally speaking the services within the Northern Provinces were made equivalent to those operating in Italian Government territory, but the service between the two territories had to be restricted to a 45 gram letter post because of the very poor transportation facilities across Emilia Region and up the west coast.

The provision of a thrice weekly civilian train service with a postal van attached on the Rome-Leghorn-Florence line, and the provision of an Alcom truck service connecting Leghorn and Genoa gave a reasonably satisfactory postal service between the South and Liguria and Piemonte Regions. Postal conditions remained very bad on the East, however, as it was not possible to obtain agreement to an increase in the frequency (once weekly during June) with which a civil postal van was attached to the Rome-Florence train. The proposed Alcom truck services from railroad to Milan and Venice did not materialize and had to be substituted by locally arranged services which worked very irregularly mainly owing to difficulties in connection with petrol supplies.

On 26th June authority was given for the resumption of postal services in UDINE, BOLZANO and TRIESTE thus bringing all Italy (with the exception of Venezia Giulia) once more within the Italian internal Postal system.

The Northern Provinces were also afforded connections with the Foreign mail service from Italy which was extended during the month to include 20 gram letter mail to Holland, Norway and Denmark.

The production of stamps of the lower denominations continued at Novara; while approximately 60,000,000 stamps of the higher values were forwarded from Rome by the A.C. Air Courier services. The stamp supply position was complicated by the necessity of providing for the increase in Postal Rates which it was decided to introduce in the Northern Provinces on 1st July.

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file P 12

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POSTAL SECTION MONTHLY REPORT MAY 1945

This was undoubtedly the most eventful month in the history of the Section. Instead of the familiar process of extending services from South to North a Province or two at a time, it was faced with the situation in which the indications were, although reliable information was lacking, that in large areas of the liberated territory postal services were in a condition to continue to operate and there was no valid objection from the security point of view to them being allowed to do so.

To avoid any artificial stoppage or delay on questions of postage rates or stamp supplies instructions were issued to Regions that where services were allowed to continue or resumed the Republican Fascist Stamps might continue to be used until new supplies were available and that existing internal rates of postage in the areas concerned should be maintained. The latter decision was made in the light of the general policy as regards prices north of the Economic Line.

In the practice, the proposal to continue the use of Republican stamps evoked considerable opposition from the CIM in the Northwestern Regions and arrangements were made by representatives of the Sub-Commission for small denomination Italian stamps and postcards of pre-Republican design to be produced in large quantities at the Novara printing works. The distribution of these supplies to all Post Offices concerned was a considerable problem. In Venezia there was not the same opposition to the continued use of Republican stamps.

In the meantime endeavour was being made both by telegram from Headquarters and by direct approach by representatives in the field to obtain from the Areas an indication of the provinces in which postal services might be allowed to operate, or -better still-, a list of those where security required that postal services should not function. After several modifications it was finally agreed (with certain reservations) that all the North except the provinces of Bolzano, Trento, Udine, Gorizia, Trieste, Pola and Fiume, should be opened for postal services to and from the South. On the basis of this decision the public in the South was authorized to post postcards and 45 gram letters for the newly opened area. The Northern Regions similarly advertised services to the South as stamp supplies became available: letters to Prisoners of war were also accepted.

Many problems in connection with postal transportation remain to be solved before it can be claimed that a reasonably efficient postal service is operating even with the restricted weight limit but wherever the means have been forthcoming the posts are working. The need for "trunk" road services working between railheads at Leghorn and Forlì and the large Northern centres was visualised and early in the month 15 Army Group was asked to provide for this purpose a small number of trucks. This request was refused and although the Transportation Sub-Commission agreed to help it had not been able to do so up to the end of May and the North-South connections depended on any means of fortune which Postal Officers were able to secure.

During the month the normal Southern type Italian postal service was extended to the remainder of Florence, Lucca and Pistoia Provinces and also introduced in Apuania and Ravenna Provinces; while the postcard services previously operating in Forlì was converted into the normal full service. The Southern regulations and postage rates thus were brought into operation right up to the economic boundary.

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During the month the normal Southern type Italian postal service was extended to the remainder of Florence, Lucca and Pistoia Provinces and also introduced in Aquania and Ravenna Provinces; while the postcard services previously operating in Forli' was converted into the normal full service. The Southern regulations and postage rates thus were brought into operation right up to the economic boundary.

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Foreign Services.

On 20th May a non-illustrated postcard service to Holland and a letter and postcard service to Luxembourg commenced.

Registration, previously limited to correspondence for the UK and USA, was extended to all the external letter services.

The scope of the new air mail to Tripolitania was widened to include correspondence for prisoners of war in that country.

Correspondence between Italian Civilians and Allied Forces on the Italian Mainland.

As the new Army conscription regulations permitted correspondence from Allied Forces on the Italian Mainland to local inhabitants, the ban on correspondence from Italian civilians to such Forces was correspondingly lifted. Judging from the number of enquiries on the subject which have reached this Section in the past from both Allied and Italian sources, this facility should give a good deal of satisfaction.

International Red Cross Messages for communication with civilians in enemy occupied territory.

In view of the altered circumstances the sale of these message forms was ceased. Messages in course of post will, however, continue to be dealt with.

Postal Section Monthly Report April 19451. Increase in Postage Rates.

On 1st April the external postage rates were increased to:-

Post cards	3 Lire	up to 20 grammes for each additional 20 grammes (applicable only to U.K. and British Empire. U.S.A. and U.S.A. possessions at present).
Letters	5 "	
Registration fee	10 "	

This increase was effected by Ministerial instruction, and the relative Decree has not yet been issued.

On the same date the internal postage rates were doubled by the Decree contained in Supplement to the Official Gazette, No. 39 of 31 March 1945. Implementation in Military Government territory by order dated 3rd April.

The new internal postage rates are as follows:-

	For local delivery	Outside local delivery area
Post cards	60 cent	1.20 Lire
Letters, each 15 grammes	1 Lire	2.- "

2. On 9th April the postal services were extended to include the whole of the Province of Pisa, Prato and Sesto in the Province of Florence, the cities of Lucca and Pistoia and the most Southern part of those Provinces.

3. An Air mail service for letters, not exceeding 40 grammes in weight, and postcards between Italy and Tripolitania was started on 23rd April. The air mail fee is 15 Lire for each 5 grammes.

4. Letter and Postcard Services were extended to Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Greece and Roumania on 29th April.

POSTAL SECTION MONTHLY

March 1945

March
New Services As from 6th April the weight limit for the letter post in Military Government Provinces was increased to 1 Kilograms in conformity with that which already applied in Italian Government Territory.

March
Transport On the 15th ~~if~~ the new daily passenger train service between Rome and Naples commenced and a railway postal service became available three times a week on each of the lines - via Frosinone and via Cassino. As soon as the necessary cross-post connections can be arranged the Postal Administration will cease the Naples-Rome road service.

Parcels from U.S.A. The number of gift parcels received from the U.S.A. from the commencement of this year up to the 10th March is indicated below:-

City	Number of parcels bags received	Number of parcels received
Rome	2031	30323
Naples	866	13375
Palermo	928	14993

Internal Mail Statistics. Detailed counts of the various classes of correspondence "posted" were taken at all Offices in Italian Government Territory during the period 11th to 17th December 1944. The week's totals for the whole of the 36 Provinces concerned were as follows:-

Postage Prepaid Letters	2345191
" " Postcards	1040659
" " Manuscripts	101130
" " Newspapers (in abbonamento)	1342650
Ordinary correspondence sent postage free	620827
Registered letters paid	220528
" " post free	119370
Insured letters paid "	2374
post free	730261
Total	5871755

*The insured letter services in some Provinces is still restricted to official letters.

By applying the multiplier 52 it is possible to make some comparison of the present traffic (on a year's basis) with that dealt with in the same Provinces in the latest financial year for which statistics are available i.e. 1941-42:-

Yearly Postal Traffic (36 Provinces)		
Class of Correspondence	1941-1942	1944-1945
Ordinary correspondence (paid)	1,061,369,000	251,452,760
" " (free)	103,513,000	32,283,004
		11,467,456
		809,916,240
		71,234,996
		16,153,544
		Decrease

Postal

FULL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY, 1945
COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

I. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A. TELEPHONE

1. Lazio-Umbria Region

(a) Inter-provincial service for Terni and Perugia Provinces was authorized, and this service was begun.

(b) Exchanges were repaired or installed at Accettazione, Assisi, Costa de Castello (new auto.exchange), Gualdo Tadino, Agello, Nozzano, Poggio Mirteto, Ficulle, Lignano, La Quercia, San Martino, and Ronano. Ostia automatic exchange is also ready for service but power is not available.

(c) Since the reopening of the provincial service at Perugia, some 80 exchanges have been restored to service.

(d) Foligno exchange has been repaired and now consists of 2 urban positions and two inter-urban positions. It has an equipment capacity of 480 lines.

2. Abruzzi-Larche Region

(a) Inter-provincial service was authorized for ASCOLI and LACERATA provinces. The Ascoli service was restored, but Lacerata awaits the completion of circuits in hand.

(b) A few exchanges have been restored to service in each of the provinces of the Region.

3. Toscana Region

(a) Authority was given for the opening of inter-provincial service in GROSSETO Province. 5580

(b) In both Firenze and Pisa Provinces, routes have been reconditioned in the North of Toscana to the various provincial capitals and several are now ready for use, in readiness for services to be authorized.

(c) Local and intra-provincial service has now been restored in 55 towns or villages in Grosseto province and 18 in Siena province. In the other provinces of liberated Toscana, service has now been restored in 14 towns, subscribers numbering 6000 in Florence and 1500 in the rest.

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B. TELEGRAPHS

1. Lazio-Umbria Region

(a) Service was opened to Siena and Ancona, the former on a superaudio harmonica working on a Rome - Firenze telephone circuit, and the latter on four composite circuits on military circuits.

(b) As the transport difficulties of the Ministry of Communications in Rome area have been eased a little, work has now been resumed on the main Rome - Viterbo and Rome - Civitavecchia routes to the North.

2. Abruzzi-Marche Region:

(a) Additional offices have been connected to the general network in Ascoli, Teramo, Pescara, Chieti and Aquila provinces.

(b) Permission has been given by military security to open telegraph service to Pesaro. To date, the Allied Military Signals have not released a circuit, so the service is not yet open.

3. Toscana Region:

In connection with the opening of SIENA province for telegraph traffic, circuits were established between Siena and Asciano, Torrenieri, Montalcino, Paganico and Batignano.

4. Southern Region:

18 additional telegraph offices were re-stored to service, and a number of additional telegraph lines were erected.

5. Press Traffic:

Arrangements were completed for the distribution of news by private news agencies to be made throughout Italian Government Italy, following the withdrawal of the F.W.B. from this field.

Distribution was arranged by the combined use of the facilities of Italcable and the Posts and Telegraphs Department, regulations were agreed for the authorization of agencies, issue of licenses, tariff rates, and for the prevention of monopoly of the communication facilities by any agency. The service was due to start 1st March, 1945.

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C. RADIO

F.W.B. notified that they were handing over all control of the Italian Radio-broadcasting corporation (R.A.I.) on 1st March. Arrangements were completed for the transfer of pay of employees from F.W.B., release of requisitioned cars and equipment, etc.

D. STORES

(a) Notification was given by A.F.H.Q. that C.C.S., Washington had authorised stores to be supplied to the Italian Government in accordance with the requisition from this HQ. Arrangements are in progress with the Government for the collection of and accounting for the material. This covers the stores considered necessary on a "prevention of disease and unrest" basis, estimated on about a 5% overall restoration.

(b) Arrangements were concluded for the method of sale to the Italian Government of surplus military stores in situ, and the transfer of military circuits built in SARDINIA was made on repayment.

E. EXTERNAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS(a) Rome - Moscow Radio Telegraph Circuit

Service continued satisfactorily; traffic is light.

(b) Rome - United States and United Kingdom Radio Telegraph Service.

A proposal by the Italian Government that the Italcable facilities in Italy should be used for these circuits has been forwarded and recommended by this Commission. No other developments have been made.

(c) Rome - New York Radio Telephone Service

Tests were very satisfactory, and censorship regulations approved and all arrangements completed.

(d) Rome - Sofia and Bucharest Radio Telegraph Services

Permission was refused for the opening of services from Italy to Ex - enemy countries

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II. POSTAL

1. On the 26th February postal services were extended to Pesaro Province. As in the case of Ancona, the main service from Rome is by means of a Postal van connected once weekly to the Rome - Rimini military train. Representations have been made with a view to increasing the frequency of this service.
2. During the month the Military Railway Service agreed to a mail van being attached to the Rome - Grosseto - Leghorn military train twice instead of once a week.
3. Adjustments were made to a number of postal road services in Lazio - Umbria and Abruzzi - Larche Regions with a view to improving the inter-provincial connections.
4. Returns indicate that the total weight of postal effects - correspondence, printed matter, stores etc. - forwarded by rail and road services from Rome to Naples and the South now amounts to 50 tons a week.
5. The Gift Parcel service from the United States continues to operate satisfactorily. Further consideration was given to the possibility of extending the scope of the service beyond the four cities to which it is at present restricted, but the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs was reluctantly forced to the conclusion that transport and accommodation facilities are still inadequate for any such extension. In the early morning of the 11th February the Appio Branch Office, Rome was broken into by thieves who carried off 21 of the gift parcels. The unarmed guard on duty was apparently unable to intervene or to obtain assistance.
6. Representations have been made to A.F.H.Q. for permission to extend the service to France and other countries which have been liberated during recent months.
7. The 16th February was the first anniversary of the re-establishment of the Italian external mail service. Some idea of the present volume of this traffic is given by the following figures which show the weights recorded during February, at the two offices of exchange.

FEBRUARY FOREIGN MAILS (In Kilograms)

Office of Exchange	<u>P.O.W.</u>		<u>Civil</u>	
	Despatched	Received	Despatched	Received
Naples	2996	7689	3057	5478
Rome	-	1877	35	861

(An estimated total of over 4 million letters)

III. CIVIL CENSORSHIP1. POLICY MATTERS:a. Relaxation of Control of Italian Government.

Under the revised policy established by the combined Chiefs of Staff, the Allied Commission is withdrawing its control over Italian matters in Italian Government controlled Italy and is retaining only a small number of liaison officers in such territory. In conformity with its prior concepts, the commission has taken the position that since civil censorship is primarily a military responsibility the present organization and operating policies of the Group will not be affected by the change in their organization.

b. Attachment of Personnel to Base Commands.

As a result of the withdrawal of Allied Commission activities from Southern Region, it will be necessary to relieve certain of the personnel from their present attachment to units of the Allied Commission and attach them to base sections or commands.

c. Direct Allocation to Italian Government.

The policy of not making direct allocation to the Italian Government is being altered so as to permit direct dissemination on matters of financial interest. This change is being dictated partly because of the shortage of staff in the Finance Sub-Commission resulting in the material being handed over to the Italian Government without review, and partly in preparation for the large volume of comment sheets which is anticipated in connection with external mails when the Italian financial decrees and proclaimed lists are finally promulgated.

d. Additional Military Transport.

Under order issued by MTOUSA, the Special List of Equipment of the 6614 Communications Censorship Company (Ovhd), was increased by one C & R car and 5 jeeps for the specific use of the U.S. Navy Detachment attached to the company. Five jeeps have actually been drawn and a requisition for the C & R car is on file awaiting availability of stocks.

e. Yugoslav P.O.W. Mail

Under directions issued by G-2, A.F.H.Q., a special section is being set up in the Transadriatic Mail Station in Bari to handle the censorship of mail to and from German held Yugoslav prisoners of war.

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2. CENSORSHIP OPERATIONS:

a. Postal Subsection:

(1) Number of Stations: 14.

Internal Mail

14.5% ordinary mail, 15 % registered mail, and 27 % of military mail was censored.

Total Comment Sheets	3,786
Information Slips	1,265

(2) Spain, Portugal, Switzerland

The volume of mail was 8,554 pieces and 100% examination was exercised.

Total Comment Sheets	51
Languages Read	8

(3) Transadriatic Mail.

The volume of mail was 29,208 pieces, and 100 % examination was exercised.

Total Comment Sheets	178
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b. Landwire Subsection

(1) Total number of Comment Sheets submitted from the above stations during the last four weeks, Telephone 2,495 and Telegraph 892.

During the past month there has been no notable change in the type of material distributed to user agencies. As usual the greater number of comment sheets were sent to security agencies.

c. Cable and Radio Subsection.

Traffic report for period 28th January, 1945 to 24 February, 1945 is as follows:

Total number of messages	1,768
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The above figures include cable traffic transmitted via Cable and Wireless from Naples and Rome and radio traffic via Cable and Wireless and RCA to London and New York respectively. Also included are traffic figures for the Rome-Moscow circuit which was opened to civilian traffic on 1st February, 1945.

d. Dissemination Subsection.

During the month, 472 submission slips (i.e. an increase of 27% on the January figure) were disseminated to higher level headquarters, through G-2 (Communications Censorship). In most cases they were also passed to Allied Commission headquarters, for the information of the various Sub-Commissions concerned.

Over the same period, 8 Special Reports were drawn up and distributed; these are listed hereunder:

- (1) "APPRECIATION AND CENSORSHIP REPORT ON ITALIAN CIVILIAN AND MILITARY MAIL FOR FOUR WEEKS ENDING 20/1/45"
- (2) "PUBLIC OPINION TALLY, ITALY - 21/27 JAN 1945"
- (3) "PUBLIC OPINION TALLY, ITALY - 28 JAN - 2 FEB 1945"
- (4) "PUBLIC OPINION TALLY, ITALY - 3/9 FEB 1945"
- (5) "DIMINISHING POPULARITY OF THE ALLIES IN ITALY AMONG THE CIVILIAN POPULATION, ESPECIALLY IN ROME"
- (6) "REPORT ON MAIL CAPTURED AT FLORENCE"
- (7) "SMALLPOX AND TYPHOID IN ITALY"
- (8) "PUBLIC OPINION TALLY, ITALY - 10/16 FEB 1945"

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ABRIDGED REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1945COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION1. DOMESTIC FACILITIES

a. Considerable extensions were authorized by the military security authorities to the areas permitted open to civil communications. These are now:

- i. Postal boundary (foreign and domestic) is the Northern boundary of PESARO and AREZZO provinces, thence the line of the R. ARNO through the provinces of FIRENZE and PISA (including the provincial capitals)
- ii. Telegraph boundary (domestic) is the Northern boundary of PESARO and AREZZO provinces, the line of the R. ARNO through the province of FIRENZE, thence including SIENA and GROSSETO provinces.
- iii. Telephone boundary (inter-provincial service) is the Northern boundary of LACERATA, PERUGIA, and GROSSETO provinces; the province of FOGGIA is excluded. Provincial telephone service is allowed in ANCONA, SIENA and FOGGIA provinces.

b. Services are not in full operation in all the northernmost parts of these areas but they are being steadily restored.

c. P.W.B. notified their withdrawal on 1st March from activities in Italian Government territory. Arrangements were made for distribution of press by private news agencies, and for the return to the Italian broadcasting organization (R.A.I.) of personnel, equipment, transport and other facilities used by P.W.B.

FOREIGN FACILITIES

- a. Tests were satisfactorily made and all arrangements completed for the opening of the ROME - NEW YORK radio telephone service.
- b. Permission was received for the use of the Italian language in telegraph and telephone communications from Italy.

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3. STORES

- a. Authorization was received from C.C.S. (via A.F.H.Q.) for the issue to the Italian Government of the communication stores requisitioned from Allied resources on the 'prevention of disease and unrest' basis, this basis allowing for about a 3 % restoration of facilities.
- b. Arrangements were completed for the method of sale in situ of surplus military signal stores, and the transfer of circuits constructed by military signals in SARDINIA was completed and the price settled.

POSTAL SECTION REPORT - FEBRUARY 1945.

1. On the 26th February postal services were extended to Pesaro Province. As in the case of Ancona, the main service from Rome is by means of a Postal van connected once weekly to the Rome-Rimini military train. Representations have been made with a view to increasing the frequency of this service.
2. During the month the Transportation Sub-Commission was able to obtain the agreement of MHS to a mail van being attached to the Rome-Grosseto-Leghorn military train twice instead of once a week.
3. Adjustments were made to a number of postal road services in Lazio-Umbria and Abruzzo-Marche Regions with a view to improving the inter-provincial connections.
4. Returns indicate that the total weight of postal effects - correspondence, printed matter, stores etc. - forwarded by rail and road services from Rome to Naples and the South now amounts to 50 tons a week.
5. The Gift Parcel service from the United States continues to operate satisfactorily. Further consideration was given to the possibility of extending the scope of the service beyond the four cities to which it is at present restricted, but the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs was reluctantly forced to the conclusion that transport and accommodation facilities are still inadequate for any such extension. In the early morning of the 11th February the Appio Branch Office Rome was broken into by thieves who carried off 21 of the gift parcels. The unarmed guard on duty was apparently too frightened to intervene or to obtain assistance.
6. The 16th February was the first anniversary of the re-establishment of the Italian external mail service. Some idea of the present volume of this traffic is given by the following figures which show the the weights recorded during recent four-week periods at the two offices of Exchange:

Prisoner of War Mail		
Office of Exchange	Despatched	Received
Naples Rome	2996 Kilos —	7689 Kilos 1877 Kilos

Note: This does not include the correspondence to and from Italian P.O.W. in this theater which is exchanged directly between the P.O.W. Censorship Detachment and the Post Office at Naples.

Foreign Civil Mails

Lazio-Umbria and Abruzzo -
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Foreign Civil Mails

Office of Exchange	Despatched	Received
Naples Rome	3057 Kilos 35 Kilos	5478 Kilos 861 Kilos

Note: Except in the case of correspondence for certain neutral countries all foreign correspondence is despatched from Naples and censored at destination.

Representations have been made to A.I.H.Q. for permission to extend the service to France and other countries which have been liberated during the past twelve months.

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POSTAL SECTION REPORT - January 1945

1. Owing to the comparatively static military situation, no further extension of mail service operations was possible. In the last days of the month Security clearance was given to open up 15000, and steps were taken towards commencing services by mid-February.

2. In the case of four of the seven new provinces in which mail services commenced in December, internal correspondence other than commercial was originally restricted to postcards. This restriction was withdrawn, with the concurrence of 15th Army Group, early in January.

3. Following upon representations from A.F.H.Q., arrangements were completed and introduced for a parcel post service to civilian internees in the camps at Padula and Termi from their relatives. The use which is made of the service is controlled by the issue of a form by the Camp Commandant to the internee, who forwards it to the relative for attachment to the parcel as an authority for its posting and transmission.

4. The service for gift parcels from the U.S.A. to the four main cities in Italy is continuing satisfactorily. The bulk of the mail - for the mainland and Sicily - is being received at Naples, but some has been disembarked at Leshorn and brought down by rail. The Sicily items are sent forward by rail from Naples. Total receipts during the month were as follows:

ROME City:	799 bags	=	12,000	parcels	approximately
NAPLES City:	620 "	=	9,300	"	"
PALERMO City:	556 "	=	8,300	"	"
VATICAN City:	6 "	=	100	"	"
TOTAL	1,981 "	=	29,700	"	"

5. Without consultation of or notification to this Sub-Commission and the Italian Postal authorities, parcels from Italian P.O.W. Co-operators in the U.S. were being transmitted to Italy, to addresses throughout the latter delivery area. This premature move is giving rise to handling difficulties, and appears to have been made without due regard to such aspects as payment of or exemption from customs dues, proper labeling and security arrangements, delivery facilities, and participation in the service by other countries. A detailed representation has been made (Feb. 6th) to A.F.H.Q. - to whom the matter was apparently referred before the service commenced - urging that the service be suspended forthwith.

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6. Persistent endeavours are being made to obtain, through A.F.H.O., authority for the Italian external mail services to link up with internal and external mail services which have been restored in certain recently liberated countries - particularly France and Greece. There is some slight hope that some success may be achieved during February.
7. The first direct mail (25 bags) was received from Russia. It contained no letters, but consisted entirely of newspapers, language text books etc. addressed to an agency in Rome. None of these items being permissible under the present regulations, delivery was held in abeyance pending reference to A.F.H.O. (authority for the release of the items, and of further similar ones arriving in subsequent mails, was received in February. A.F.H.O. are pursuing the question of communicating with Moscow).
8. Arrangements which had been made to commence an air mail service to Tripolitania were suspended at the last minute on a technical point of the financial obligations of the Italian Government. The issue had not been cleared with C.C.S. by the end of the month.

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Postal Section
Annual Report for 1944

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Postal Section: Annual Report for 1944.(A) POSTAL SITUATION AT THE END OF 1943.

At the end of 1943 the postal services started by AMSCOT in SICILY in SEPTEMBER 1943 were working reasonably well, and a service for P.O.W. correspondence had been established, but the island had no postal connection with the mainland: SARDINIA had maintained a skeleton service where transport facilities were available, but was similarly cut off from the rest of Italy. The resumption of mail services in CALABRIA, LUCANIA, and the Province of SALERNO had been put in hand, together with the re-establishment of connections with the "Four Provinces of King's Italy" (BARI, BRINDISI, LECCE and TARANTO). The original maximum weight limits had been raised to 210 grs. in Sicily, and 90 grs. elsewhere. The pre-occupational postage rates were retained. On the 10th of December Region III had commenced in Naples City a local postcard and open envelope delivery, at the arbitrary postage rate of 50 cent.

(B) DEVELOPMENTS DURING 1944.Internal Postal Service.

() Mail despatches between SICILY AND THE MAINLAND commenced on 1st JANUARY; and a little

2872

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(B) DEVELOPMENTS DURING 1944.

Internal Postal Service.

- () Mail despatches between SICILY AND THE MAINLAND commenced on 1st JANUARY; and a little later a connection with SARDINIA was established by means of an air service from Lecce.

() During the first months of 1944 the Military situation was such that there was little prospect of much additional territory being released for postal development. In the east, Air Force Security requirements ruled out the possibility of including Toggia; while on the west Naples Province was crossed by the Army Rear Boundary. In view, however, of the need for using Naples as an outport and Office of Exchange for a Foreign Mail service, and the desirability of linking this large city with the remainder of the country and the Allied world, it was decided to press for some extension of the area open for postal services. Military Security agreed to services being extended to AVELLINO Province and the SOUTHERN PORTION OF NAPLES Province (including Naples City), and this took effect on 20th MARCH.

() The Naples Province services involved the maintenance of a purely arbitrary line of division not following any natural feature, between the parts of the Province "open" and "closed" to mail services, and this caused a good deal of trouble, especially as Post Office vehicles were already running into the northern half of the Province with official mails by means of which Post Office Financial services were being operated. As Security measures were tightened prior to the commencement of the spring offensive a good many difficulties were encountered in maintaining these motor servi-

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there were several illicit passengers hidden inside the vehicle!

() Despite these experiences, attempts were made to secure agreement to a similar arrangement which would permit services to be extended to include parts of Benevento Province, but movements of the 8th Army, and alterations of the ^{Army} ~~near~~ ^{Army} Boundary line prevented any agreement being reached, and the only development possible during April was the introduction of a local postcard service in Benevento City.

() Up to this period the Naples-Bari and Naples-Reggio mail services had been dependent on the very infrequent and overcrowded passenger train service, but as from 30th APRIL, thanks to the valuable support received from the Transportation Sub-Commission, the use of a compartment for civil mail purposes twice a week in each direction was conceded on the military passenger train Naples to Bari via Benevento.

3370

() On 1st MAY it was possible to announce the general raising of the weight limit for the internal post to 210 gms. and re-establishment of the following auxiliary services:

097

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2570

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Registration

Insurance

Express Letters

Newspaper Post (from publishers only)

Air Mail Service: Lecce-Sicily-Sardinia (daily)

Lecce-Bari-Salerno (thrice weekly)

Lecce-Bari-Palata (daily)

() At the END OF MAY a meeting with A.A.I. and Regional representatives was held at Naples to endeavour to agree upon some standardisation of procedure for the operation of Financial and POW services in forward areas, and for the automatic release of territory for extension of Postal services as the Army boundaries moved forward. It was agreed that, except where there were exceptional features, postal services could be extended without reference to the Army Security authorities provided the whole or part of a Province was left as a "buffer" between the delivery area and the Rear Army boundary line. With the prospect of steady operational advances, such a plan seemed likely to afford a satisfactory working basis which would release new territory as quickly as it could be developed for postal purposes.

() In MID-JUNE, postal services were extended to the BALANCE OF NAPLES PROVINCE and the whole of BENEVENTO. Shortly after, a daily despatch of mails was arranged by the Naples-Benevento-Bari military train.

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() The occupation of Rome on June 4th created a
postal situation calling for exceptional conside-
ration in view of the demand for the resumption of
private communications with the South. In order
to satisfy this natural desire for news, and to

minimise the use of illicit channels of communication, a special 25-word 100% censorship postcard service between ROME CITY, the Vatican City and the Postal delivery area in the South was commenced on 17th JUNE, the mails between Rome and Naples being conveyed at the outset by A.C.G. courier. The service was immediately popular, and large supplies of Postcards had to be sent from Rome to Naples where stocks were running very low. This postcard service was expanded into the normal letter service on 1st JULY, and by the end of the month CAMPOBASSO, FROSINONE, ROME and LITTORIA PROVINCES had been opened for mail services.

() The mail service between Rome and Naples was operated by means of a Rome contract road service running on alternate days in either direction, but the volume of mail, including official records etc., soon exceeded the capacity of the vehicle and another contract had to be arranged at Naples for a vehicle to work from that end and thus provide a six day service. As might be expected, in view of the paucity of civilian passenger road services between Naples and Rome and the consequent financial temptations offered to any civilian driver, there have been numerous instances of unauthorised conveyance of passengers on the mail vehicles. It was hoped that the introduction of a postal van working on the daily military

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of printed matter etc. through the Rome-Naples postal bottle-neck, it proved too slow for the ordinary letter post, and the road services were retained pending the introduction of a passenger train connection.

Following upon a forward movement of the Rear Army **Boundary** line, the extension of postal services to the Provinces of AQUILA, CHITTI, PESCARA, AND TERAMO was made possible towards the END OF AUGUST. BOGGIA was also included, the special ban which had up till then been placed on that Province having been lifted. RIETI Province was specially released and opened up for service early in September.

() On SEPTEMBER 1st, following representations by banks and business houses, the "carte mano-scritte" post- with a maximum weight limit of 1 kilo - was introduced in Provinces under the Italian Government's jurisdiction.

() During SEPTEMBER the civil air lines radiating from Naples were replaced by others working from

Rome as follows:	
Rome-Naples-Bari-Lecce	daily
Rome-Naples-Palermo	thrice weekly
Rome-Sardinia	thrice weekly

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Rome-Sardinia	thrice weekly

() Up to this stage, and by reason of there being no regular connection by sea, correspondence for Sardinia had been conveyed by air, without special air mail fee. It had become impossible,

however, for the air service to cope with the volume of traffic for the island, and the Italian Navy agreed to transport the heavier mail by means of a cruiser which was making periodical trips between the mainland and Sardinia. With the introduction of this arrangement, the public were required to ^apay/supplement for air conveyance. The carrying of the accumulations of mail to the deck of the cruiser at Naples was heavy and somewhat hazardous task, and the Post Office staff concerned will have welcomed the provision of a regular service by merchant vessel which was introduced at the end of the year.

() At the end of SEPTEMBER a special postcard service was set up for the CITY OF FLORENCE - similar to that which had been provided for Rome in the early days of liberation. (Following upon points which arose in connection with this case, a procedure was agreed upon by all concerned for the eventual provision of similar facilities for Milan, Turin, and other of the larger Northern cities.)

1108

() On 1st October an Italian Government Decree doubling the rates for internal postal services came into effect. (This Decree, incidentally,

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() On 1st October an Italian Government Decree doubling the rates for internal postal services came into effect. (This Decree, incidentally, provides for an increase of 100% in the rates and charges for most of the Post Office services, although many of them are not yet in operation).

() An agreement with A.A.I. that the Army Security line and not the Rear Administrative boundary should be the governing factor in deciding postal delivery limits enabled five more Provinces -ASSOLI-PIENO, GROSSETO, MACERATA, TERNI, AND VITERBO- to be opened, ON OCTOBER 16th.

() During OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER the operation of railway Travelling Post Offices was resumed on the routes Naples-Gioia Tauro and Naples-Taranto.

() NOVEMBER'S main development was the alteration of the maximum weight limit in the letter post in Italian Government Provinces from 210 gms. to 1 kilo. The primary object of this increase was to avoid anomalies arising from the fact that the higher weight limit was being applied to the new commercial and financial correspondence service to the United Kingdom and United States. In order, however, to avoid complications which would arise if advantage were taken of the relaxation to develop the transmission of certain commodities, a regulation was published prohibiting the inclusion of goods and merchandise in letter packets.

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() Representations were made to A.A.I. by this
Sub-Commission in December that with military
operations proceeding comparatively slowly,

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development of postal services on the basis of the "Security Line" limit left a good deal to be desired in actual practice. Administration of a number of Provinces which had been liberated for some months and which were well behind the fighting line was being hampered by lack of communication facilities, and it was known that correspondence was actually being transmitted through unauthorized channels. A.A.I. HQs., in reply, acknowledged that experience gained had come to warrant a less restrictive control on postal development, and they agreed that in future each Province should be considered on its merits. They approved the opening of mail services in the Provinces of ANCONA, PERUGIA, SIENA, AREZZO AND LIVORNO, and in FLORENCE and PISA Cities and those parts of Florence and Pisa Provinces which are South of the river Arno. Services in all this additional area were commenced by the end of the month. In the case of the four last named Provinces it was stipulated that postcards only could be used for private correspondence addressed to other parts of Italy. (This restriction was withdrawn in the New Year). The actual service between these newly opened provinces and Rome was dependant on a concession obtained allowing postal vans to be attached to military passenger trains

0983

some months and which were well behind the fighting line was being hampered by lack of communication facilities, and it was known that correspondence was actually being transmitted through unauthorized channels. A.A.I. HQs., in reply, acknowledged that experience gained had come to warrant a less restrictive control on postal development, and they agreed that in future each Province should be considered on its merits. They approved the opening of mail services in the Provinces of ANCONA, PERUGIA, SIENA, AREZZO AND LIVORNO, and in FLORENCE and PISA Cities and those parts of Florence and Pisa Provinces which are South of the river Arno. Services in all this additional area were commenced by the end of the month. In the case of the four last named Provinces it was stipulated that postcards only could be used for private correspondence addressed to other parts of Italy. (This restriction was withdrawn in the New Year). The actual service between these newly opened provinces and Rome was dependent on a concession obtained allowing postal vans to be attached to military passenger trains once weekly for Ancona and Livorno and twice weekly for Arezzo.

External Mails - Civil and P.O.W.

() The broad principles of a service to re-establish civil postal connections between liberated Italy and the Allied and neutral world had been settled at the beginning of 1944. Briefly, the arrangements were that overseas mail should be received and despatched by Naples, Bari and Palermo. The Italian Post Office was to hand over the outgoing mails to the American and British APO's which would forward the mails with their own sea-borne despatches.

() CIVIL correspondence between Italy and that portion of the world not under enemy control was to be transmitted in accordance with an agreed scheme of circulation, in mails between Italy and Cairo, London, New York, Ottawa and Tunis. Italian POW letters were similarly to be forwarded, in a separate series of mails, through Algiers, Cairo, Liverpool, London, New York, Ottawa, and the POW Censorship Unit (North Africa). For both types of mail the forwarding Offices mentioned were between them to undertake the censorship of ALL letters to and from Italy. (Certain modifications of these vouching and censorship arrangements have been made as services have developed).

5503

() In the light of the local monetary exchange rate, and the provisions of the International Postal Union Convention a 400% increase in the Italian pre-liberation Foreign Postage rates was originally proposed, but the Italian Government raised objections on the grounds that such an increase implied their acceptance of an equivalent currency devaluation. A compromise was reached which provided for a 100% increase resulting in the following

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Postcards	1.50 lire
Letters	2.50 " up to 20 gms.
	4.00 " " 40 gms. maximum.

Only personal correspondence not of a financial, commercial or business character was to be permitted.

() Following upon some delay in connection with a simultaneous Press release in London, Washington and Naples, a service on the foregoing basis was brought into operation on FEBRUARY 16th 1944, applicable to Sicily, Sardinia, and that portion of the mainland in which internal services were in operation. As the internal postal zone has been progressively extended, the services afforded from the outset have in each instance been linked up with the external mail.

() Prisoner of War mail services on the mainland became operative about the end of JANUARY . The disposal of such correspondence to and from relatives of POW living in liberated areas where the resumption of civil postal services had not been approved by Security gave rise to various problems. The desirability of affording a POW service in these cases was generally recognised, especially when the introduction of ordinary postal services was delayed for a long time for security reasons, as in the case of north Naples Province and Foggia. Various expedients were resorted to, such as the special distribution of incoming

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be available.

() Censors in the various countries where Italian POW are held have been instructed to commence despatching POW correspondence for any Italian Province as soon as the Capital town is in Allied hands.

() As from MAY, mails to Tripoli were despatched direct instead of through Cairo, and an inward mail service by air from Tripolitania was inaugurated during the same month.

() The closing of the British Base APO at Bari in JULY, and the American Base APO at Palermo in AUGUST, resulted in all incoming mails for Southern Italy having to be concentrated on Naples; while Rome became the inward Office of Exchange for correspondence for the newly liberated territory from Littoria and Frosinone Provinces northwards. Apart from certain mails despatched from Palermo via the British APO at Catania, Naples became the despatching point for all outgoing Foreign and POW correspondence.

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() The occupation of Rome brought a number of problems in connection with the Postal facilities to be afforded to the Vatican City having regard to its neutral status. In effect, for private mail, the Vatican City is afforded similar facilities to Southern Italy, but with special facilities in respect of enemy countries.

() The special Censorship Unit dealing with correspondence for Spain, Spanish Morocco, Tangiers, Portugal and Switzerland was transferred to Rome in SEPTEMBER, and arrangements were made to enable despatches to be made direct to those particular countries.

() Permission to use any language in writing to overseas addresses was given to the Italian public at the end of SEPTEMBER.

() In OCTOBER there was established a direct despatch, to Malta, correspondence for which island was sent previously to Egypt.

() Considerable embarrassment was caused to this Sub-Commission towards the end of OCTOBER by an Allied press and radio announcement (copied in the Italian press) to the effect that ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Commercial~~ ^{Commercial} correspondence was now permitted between Italy, Great Britain, and the United States. There had been no pre-consultation on this proposal, and many details such as types of documents admissible, increased weight limits etc. had to be clarified. It was not possible to make a full public announcement regarding the availability of this new facility until towards the middle of NOVEMBER. In

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weight limit, but up to the present the United Kingdom authorities have maintained the old limit of 40 gms., not being satisfied that the limitation on contents can be made effective.

() Registration of correspondence between Italy and the U.K. and U.S. was resumed in DECEMBER.

() At the end of OCTOBER notices appeared in the press stating that the U.S. President had instructed his Postmaster General to hasten facilities for individual Italo-American mailing food packages to their relatives and friends in Italy; and a few days later the Sub-Commission was asked to state immediately whether a parcel service of this kind could be undertaken. After urgent consultation with the Italian Post Office authorities it was agreed to accept such a service, limited (as had been proposed) to parcels addressed to the Cities of Rome, Naples, Palermo, and the Vatican, the parcels not to exceed 4 pounds in weight, to be restricted to one parcel per month from any sender to any one addressee, and to contain only food, clothing, medical and toilet articles. Even with such restriction the prospect of such a service was viewed with a good deal of apprehension, in view of the difficulties arising from lack of transport facilities and lack of available sorting office

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Agreement with the Italian authorities was obtained to the waiving of customs examination under conditions which excluded the sending of tobacco and cigarette lighters; to the quota of the postage due to the Italian Government for terminal costs; and to the special procedure and forms necessary in connection with the delivery of the parcels, which on account of transport deficiencies would have to be called for by the addressees.

At Naples, arrangements were made for the extensive emergency repairs to a badly damaged portion of the Central Post Office; and preliminary arrangements were made with the Port and Transportation authorities.

Posting of these parcels commenced in the U.S.A. on 10 Nov. and the first despatch of nearly 900 bags was advised as due to arrive in Italy about January 1st. Actually the third despatch arrived first, and was unloaded at Naples on 29th DECEMBER.

It consisted of

312	bags for Rome	
200	" " Palermo	
183	" " Naples	5558
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Total 697 bags.		

This consignment represents something over 10,000 parcels, rather less than the anticipated average weekly figure.

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-15-

() Arrangements have been made at Palermo for the handling of such parcel mails as it may be possible to send there direct by sea. Mails for Palermo, and for Rome, disembarked at Naples, are to be sent forward by rail. Provision has been made at Leshon for the onward conveyance of such other parcel mails as may be routed to and unshipped at that port.

X from mm.

() International Red Cross and Vatican Information Services.

In JANUARY 1944 the Sicilian public were informed that they could purchase for 11 lire at any Post Office, I.R.C. Message Forms for communicating with civilians living in enemy occupied territory. The purchase price was allocated to the International Red Cross (8Lire), Italian Red Cross (1 Lire) and the Italian Post Office (2Lire). Later in the month it was necessary to issue a warning relating to a black market in such ²⁰⁰message forms which arose in connection with an initial underestimate of requirements.

Shortly afterwards the Naples Delegate of the International Red Cross raised the question of a similar provision for the mainland and Sardinia, and it was arranged that the forms should be sold by Post Offices at a charge of 15 Lire, of which the Italian Post Office would retain 2 Lire.

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The price in Sicily was brought into line. Details of censorship, circulation, etc. were agreed, and the service commenced at Post Offices in liberated

Italy in APRIL.

A standard procedure for the treatment of International Red Cross messages and various information messages was introduced in MAY. In AUGUST instructions were issued to Post Offices that message forms originating in the provinces north of Naples, Benevento and Campobasso provinces would be dealt with by the Rome Delegation of the I.R.C. In NOVEMBER the message service was extended to Italian soldiers in Germany.

(1) The total number of letters for and from abroad, dealt with in 1944, was approximately 3.3 million. Postage Stamps

For the resumption of postal services in Sicily, 54 million specially printed postage stamps with the inscription "Allied Military Postage" were supplied from America. They were of 9 denominations, and were placed on sale as follows:

15 cent.	on 24 Aug. 43
25, 30, 50 cent. & 1 L.	on 17 Sept. 43
60 cent. & 2, 5 & 10 L.	on 20 Oct. 43

2556

() The original intention was that the same issue of stamps should be used on the mainland, but in view of changes in the political situation and the fact that services in Sardinia and part of Italy had continued, with the use of Italian stamps it was decided to maintain this procedure and to restrict the use of AM stamps to Sicily. The fact

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for Posts and Telegraphs was accordingly authorized to place orders in Naples for the production of a new 50 Cent. stamp. About 26 million of these stamps were printed on ungummed paper from ~~NOVEMBER~~ onwards.

() In connection with the resumption of a local delivery service in Naples in December, the A.D. had arranged for overprinting three denominations of Italian stamps with the inscription "Governo Militare Alleato". The numbers originally overprinted were disturbingly low however, and as might be expected this created an immediate philatelic "black market", and considerable trouble was experienced in connection with inquiries, forging of over-prints, etc.

() To safeguard the general supply position a further 53 million A.G. stamps were brought from the U.S.A. and held in reserve by A.M.A. at Naples, whilst stocks of Italian stamps on hand in Sicily were transferred to the mainland.

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() At the State printing works the machines, dies, and other apparatus were intact, and a certain amount of appropriate paper was available. Stamps bearing the Republican overprint, both in store and at Post Offices, were "frozen", but authority was given for the "P.M." overprinted stamps to be issued for ordinary purposes.

() All postage stamps were withdrawn from sale in Sicily on 1st OCTOBER, and replaced by Italian stamps.

() Difficulties in obtaining adequate supplies of suitable water-marked paper made it possible that a critical situation would arise as regards the supply of certain denominations which would be in demand following the doubling of postage rates on 1st Oct., and the opening of additional provinces for Postal services. To meet this situation, and to utilise existing stocks to the fullest extent it was decided in DECEMBER:

in consultation with the Italian Postal Authorities, that they would arrange to overprint the 200 million Republican stamps as follows:
20 cent. stamp: "Poste Italiane" - "60 cent."
25 " " : "Poste Italiane" - "1 lira"

In addition it was agreed that stocks of the no longer useful 25 cent. Italian stamp should be overprinted "30 cent." : and 30 cent. Republican

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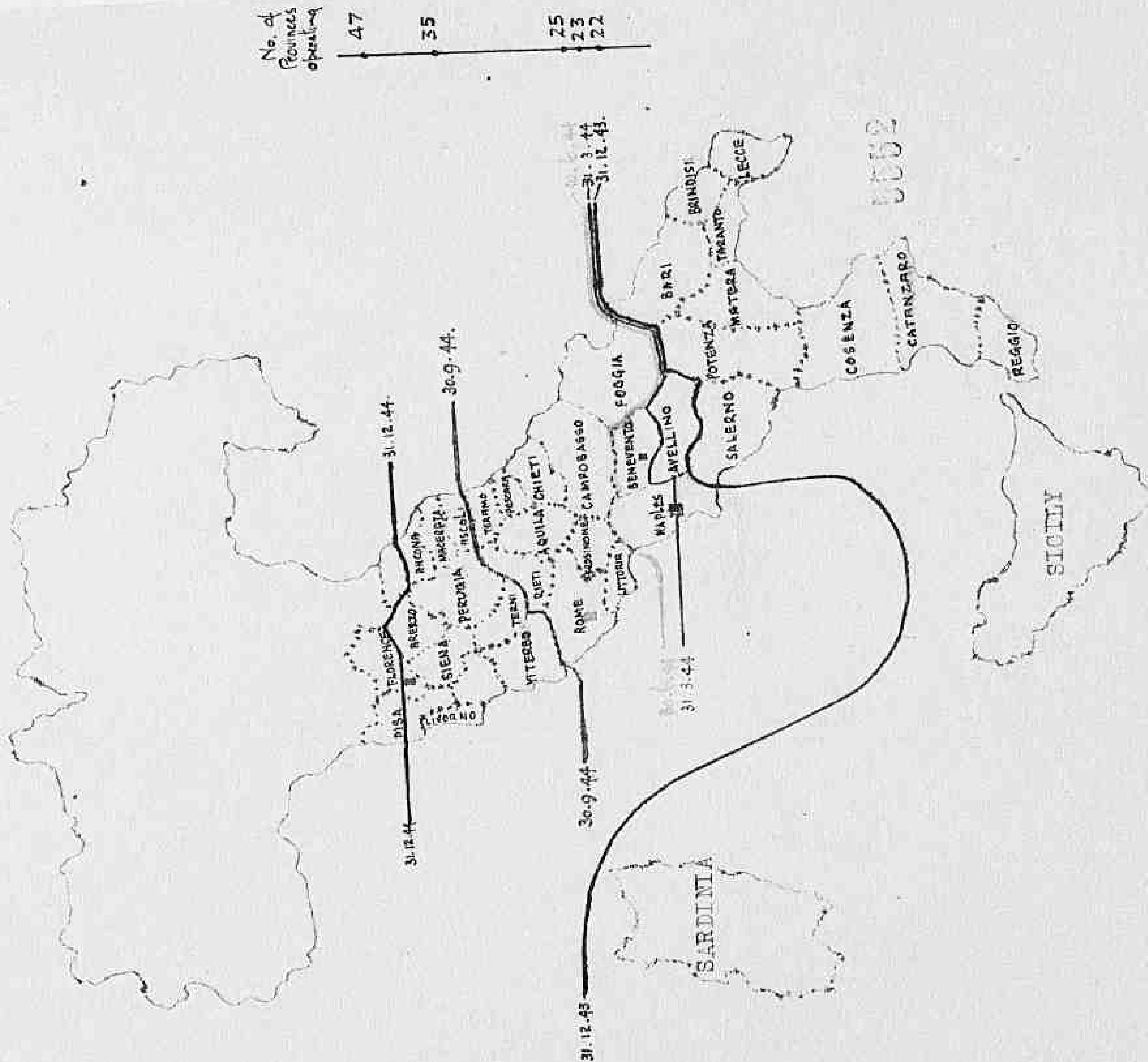
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In addition it was agreed that stocks of the no longer useful 25 cent. Italian stamp should be overprinted "30cent." ; and 30 cent. Republican overprint postcards ^{should be} overcoloured, and overprinted "60 cent."

() At Florence some little trouble was caused by the appearance of stamps unofficially overprinted "Welcome to the Allies" and similar slogans. It was ascertained that stamps to the value of 11,000 lire had been overprinted by a local philatelist who contended that he gave practically all of them to the Committee of Liberation for sale as souvenirs for charitable purposes.

5533

POSTAL SERVICES



Note. The restoration of INTERNAL civil postal services commenced on August 24th 1943 in Palermo City. INTERNAL mail services were resumed on 16th February 1944 for all the territory up to the 31.12.43 line.



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EXTERNAL mail services were resumed on 16th February 1944 for all the territory up to the 31.12.43 line.
Thereafter, internal and external mail facilities were afforded simultaneously in each further province opened up for postal services.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Communications Sub-CommissionREPORT OF CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP, ITALY

To implement the directive of the Combined Chiefs of Staff, CCS No. 271, Civil Censorship in Italy came into being originally as a staff function of Allied Force Headquarters under Information and Censorship Section (INC). The function of Civil Censorship included the gathering and dissemination to security agencies of military intelligence as well as the accomplishment of censorship security and the general censorship of civilian internal and external communications as and when permitted.

The carrying out of the mission was initiated in Algiers but subsequently on 2 December 1943, Field Operational Headquarters were established at Palermo, Sicily at which time a report was begun of all Civil Censorship activities together with preparation of Manuals of Operation, Rules and Regulations and other phases of Civil Censorship. This report was completed and submitted to Allied Force Headquarters in January 1944.

The principal activity of Civil Censorship at this stage was in Postal Censorship, since internal and external electrical communications had not as yet been authorized or initiated.

Civil Censorship continued to operate under INC of Allied Force Headquarters until 24 April 1944, at which time it was attached to Allied Control Commission for operation although continuing under INC, and subsequently G-2 (Communications Censorship), for policy purposes. On 25 April 1944, operating headquarters of Civil Censorship were again moved forward, this time to Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, Salerno. Between 16 June 1944, and 29 June 1944, various branches of Civil Censorship Group Headquarters were again transferred to Advance Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, Rome.

POSTAL SUBSECTION

Postal censorship operations began with the opening of nine stations in Sicily on 17 September 1943, the same day on which postal services were reopened in that area. Operations were expanded from that date until, on 1 April 1944, there were twenty-seven stations operating in Sicily, Sardinia, and Southern Italy. Inasmuch as landwire and cable facilities were not immediately opened to the public, personnel assigned for duty with these subsections were used to man postal censorship stations until such time as they were needed for their original assignments.

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During May 1944 an agreement was reached between the Allied (Control) Commission and the Italian authorities to transfer certain stations in rear areas to the Stato Maggiore Generale and to terminate censorship activity in others. This policy was adopted as a result of observations which revealed that these areas were no longer productive of information which justified the use of Allied personnel who were needed for more vital assignments. In the same month the policy of "fringe censorship" was established to coincide with the fall of Rome and the consequent forward movement of all Allied intelligence agencies. "Fringe censorship" provides for the staffing with Allied personnel of postal censorship stations within a given area behind the armies and the closing or transfer of all others to Stato Maggiore Generale.

Prior to the fall of Rome, the policy of maintaining "S" Force teams with the Armies was inaugurated and is still in operation. Such teams consist of one officer and one enlisted man who enter each city as it falls for the purpose of securing all written communications and dispatching them to establish censorship stations where they are read and evaluated. Material so secured has been productive of considerable material of intelligence interest.

On 31 December 1944 Civil Censorship Group was operating 14 postal censorship stations with a staff of 18 American officers, 3 British officers, 20 American enlisted men, and 435 trained Italian civilians. The Italian authorities operated eight stations in the rear areas.

It has been the policy of Civil Censorship to read approximately 8 to 10% of internal mail. Material of interest to Allied intelligence agencies is submitted in the form of comment sheets. Since its inception the Postal Subsection has received a total of 32,884 such comment sheets from the field stations.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES SUBSECTION

A special subsection was formed in January 1944 to deal with the Watch List, Codes, and Cyphers, and the Laboratory, together with certain types of special mails. Personnel consisted of 2 British officers, 1 American officer, and 1 U. S. enlisted man.

Skeleton operations were begun in the laboratory with the arrival of an additional officer and enlisted man from the Signal Intelligence Service. Operations were also limited during the second quarter of the year as a result of the absence of the officer-in-charge and the moving of the Civil Censorship Group to Salerno. In the quarter ending 30 September 1944, however, the laboratory commenced full operations in

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Rome with the arrival of eight enlisted men. Since that time this unit has been charged with the examination of SPS (Spanish-Portuguese-Swiss) mails.

A qualified cryptanalyst officer reported for duty with this subsection on 7 August 1944. Since that date, he has examined 1,238 pieces of mail and broken 244 codes.

During the year, over 2,000 names have been placed on the Civil Censorship Group Watch List for varying periods of time. Approximately 70% of these names have been handled at the stations by specially vetted Italian personnel. Since the beginning of operations 4,217 intercepts have been submitted to this subsection; of this number 1,082 received further allocation. As of December 1944, personnel of this subsection consisted of 1 British officer, 3 U. S. officers, 9 U. S. enlisted men and 2 Italian civilians.

LANDWIRE SUBSECTION

The Landwire Subsection of Civil Censorship Group is charged with censorship control of internal telegraph and telephone communications.

Authorization for the re-opening of telegraphic communications in Sicily and ten provinces in Southern Italy was received on 19 March 1944. Telegraph censorship units were organized in conjunction with the postal units in the various provinces. Civilians who had been investigated by the security agencies and found to be reliable were used as censors under the control of Allied personnel. Telegrams were examined after transmission. This policy has continued in force except for the provinces of Rome and Foggia where security requirements are such that pre-transmission censorship is desirable.

Telephone monitoring was inaugurated in Naples on 6 May 1944. Monitoring units have since been established in the main communication centers of liberated areas. These units are composed of civilian monitors, who have been carefully vetted, because of the lack of military personnel. They are under the control of Allied officers and only military personnel are used to perform work of a security nature. Telephone monitoring units work very closely with the various security agencies and have been found to be of invaluable assistance to them.

Future operations will be controlled by security requirements. As the line advances and telephonic communications permitted, units will be established at the main communications centers and as security needs dictate.

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CABLE AND RADIO SUBSECTION

Continued postponement of the reopening of external cable and radio facilities has confined actual censorship operations of this subsection to the handling of certain categories of government traffic. As of 15 November 1944, civilian traffic has been authorized, but inability on the part of the operating companies to reach an agreement on rates has precluded its acceptance. Censorship control over government traffic became effective in Rome on 21 September 1944, and was extended to Naples on 15 November 1944. Approximately 8,000 messages have been handled in both places since September.

Personnel consists of United States Navy officers and men with previous experience in United States Cable and Radio Censorship stations. As of 11 March 1944, there were 11 officers and 11 men assigned to this subsection. Early activity consisted of the preparation of Censorship Regulations and instructions, intensive indoctrination on local censorship procedures, and language instruction. Since February 1944, personnel have also been loaned to assist in the activities of the Postal, Landwire and Dissemination Subsections.

In anticipation of the extension of activities into all of Italy and the opening of facilities to diverse types of traffic, additional personnel were obtained in December 1944. Present strength is 16 officers and 25 men, with 3 officers and 1 man expected soon.

DISSEMINATION SUBSECTION

This was originally planned as a unit of the Liaison and Administrative Subsection, but the volume of work involved soon made it apparent that a separate subsection was necessary. The activities consist of analyzing and selecting from the bulk of the comment sheets submitted by the various stations, those likely to prove of interest to higher headquarters; the preparation of Special Reports and weekly and monthly public opinion tallies based on information gathered from comment sheets submitted; and the establishing of that allocation to be given to comment sheets, reports, and tallies. Involved in the carrying out of these activities are the essential functions of translating, typing and filing.

During the period 20 January 1944 to 31 December 1944, this subsection has handled 6,133 comment sheets and prepared approximately 103 Special Reports. The principal agencies to which comment sheets and Special Reports have been disseminated are:

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A.C. Headquarters	MAAF Int. (Gen.) AFHQ
G-2 (OI) AFHQ	N-2, AFHQ
OSS, AFHQ	G-2 (CI) AFHQ
G-2 (CC) AFHQ	CEWA, AFHQ
PWB, AFHQ	G-5, AFHQ
Med. Bo., AFHQ	G-2, AFHQ
Dir. Int. AFS (Wash.)	IRB (Imp. Gen.) London
GSI (c) AAI	G-2 (Int. Obj.)
JICA	GSI (Districts)
CI - RAC	FBSO

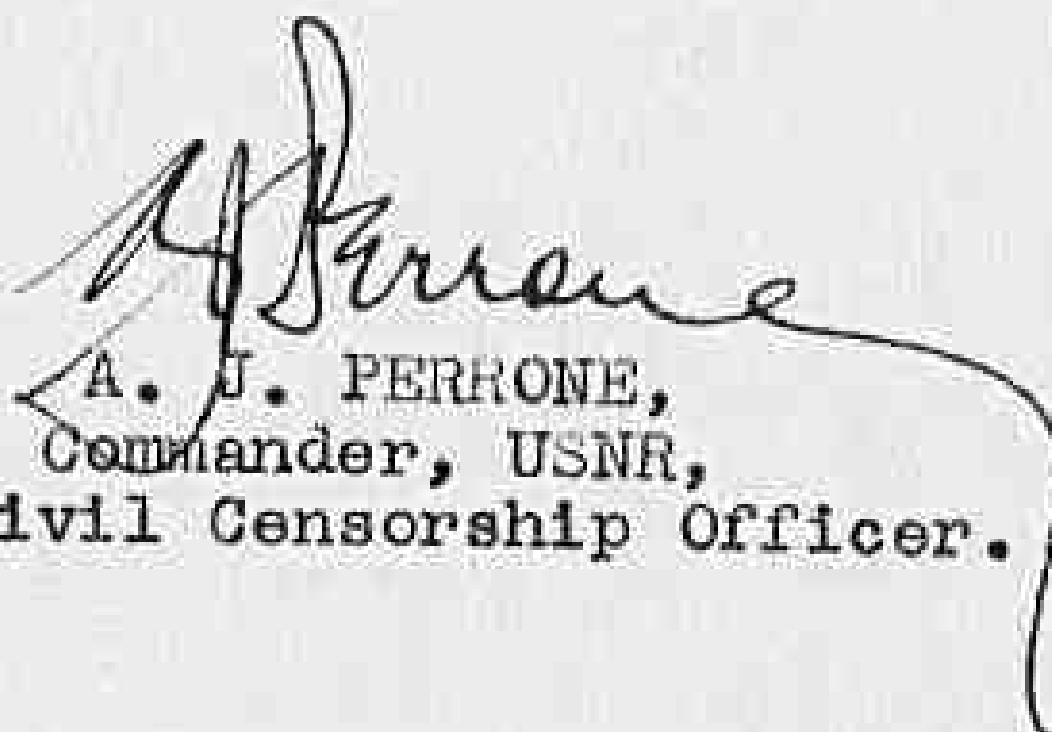
Depending on the requirements of the work, there have been periodical increases or decreases in the number of personnel assigned to this subsection. Present-day strength consists of: 2 British officers, 2 American officers, 2 enlisted men, and 4 civilians.

*

During the year 1944, Civil Censorship operations have been carried on throughout Sicily, Sardinia and that part of Italy now under Allied occupation. Censorship of internal and external mails and of internal landwire communications has been established "pari passu" with the opening of postal, telegraph and telephone facilities to the Italian public. Cable and radio censorship, due to the failure on the part of the operating companies to reach an agreement on divisions of charges for civilian traffic, has been confined to the handling of government traffic.

During the past year close cooperation has been maintained with all interested agencies which have indicated their need and desire for censorship intelligence. Periodic reports, based on information gleaned from communications, have been submitted to these and to higher levels.

In anticipation of the occupation of that part of the Italian peninsula now in enemy hands, Civil Censorship is prepared to extend its activities into that area. Plans have been formulated and personnel readied for this new assignment.


 A. J. PERRONE,
 Commander, USNR,
 Acting Civil Censorship Officer.

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NOTES: 1 -

NOTES: 1 - Open to Foreign and Italian postal services.
2 - Open to Foreign postal service and to business letters and private postcards on the Italian service.
3 - Open to Radio or Cablegrams to U.S. and U.K. and their possessions (when opened), and to Italian telegraph service.
4 - Open to Italian telegraph service only.
5 - Open to Italian long-distance telephone service.
6 - Open to Italian telephone service within provincial boundary only.
7 - Under Allied Censorship Officers.
8 - Under Italian Censorship Officers.
9 - Up to line of R. Arno only, including towns of Pisa and Florence

PERIOD 1 Sept. - 31 Dec. '43

DATE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009	1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1015	1016	1017	1018	1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1024	1025	1026	1027	1028	1029	1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035	1036	1037	1038	1039	1040	1041	1042	1043	1044	1045	1046	1047	1048	1049	1050	1051	1052	1053	1054	1055	1056	1057	1058	1059	1060	1061	1062	1063	1064	1065	1066	1067	1068	1069	1070	1071	1072	1073	1074	1075	1076	1077	1078	1079	1080	1081	1082	1083	1084	1085	1086	1087	1088	1089	1090	1091	1092	1093	1094	1095	1096	1097	1098	1099	1100	1101	1102	1103	1104	1105	1106	1107	1108	1109	1110	1111	1112	1113	1114	1115	1116	1117	1118	1119	1120	1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1126	1127	1128	1129	1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1135	1136	1137	1138	1139	1140	1141	1142	1143	1144	1145	1146	1147	1148	1149	1150	1151	1152	1153	1154	1155	1156	1157	1158	1159	1160	1161	1162	1163	1164	1165	1166	1167	1168	1169	1170	1171	1172	1173	1174	1175	1176	1177	1178	1179	1180	1181	1182	1183	1184	1185	1186	1187	1188	1189	1190	1191	1192	1193	1194	1195	1196	1197	1198	1199	1200	1201	1202	1203	1204	1205	1206	1207	1208	1209	1210	1211	1212	1213	1214	1215	1216	1217	1218	1219	1220	12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PERIOD 1 Jan. - 31 Mar. 1944

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COUNTRY	TOTAL		1 Jan. 44		1 Mar. 44		1 May 44		1 July 44		1 Sept. 44		1 Nov. 44		1 Jan. 45		1 Mar. 45		1 May 45		1 July 45		1 Sept. 45		1 Nov. 45		1 Jan. 46		1 Mar. 46		1 May 46		1 July 46		1 Sept. 46		1 Nov. 46		1 Jan. 47		1 Mar. 47		1 May 47		1 July 47		1 Sept. 47		1 Nov. 47		1 Jan. 48		1 Mar. 48		1 May 48		1 July 48		1 Sept. 48		1 Nov. 48		1 Jan. 49		1 Mar. 49		1 May 49		1 July 49		1 Sept. 49		1 Nov. 49		1 Jan. 50		1 Mar. 50		1 May 50		1 July 50		1 Sept. 50		1 Nov. 50		1 Jan. 51		1 Mar. 51		1 May 51		1 July 51		1 Sept. 51		1 Nov. 51		1 Jan. 52		1 Mar. 52		1 May 52		1 July 52		1 Sept. 52		1 Nov. 52		1 Jan. 53		1 Mar. 53		1 May 53		1 July 53		1 Sept. 53		1 Nov. 53		1 Jan. 54		1 Mar. 54		1 May 54		1 July 54		1 Sept. 54		1 Nov. 54		1 Jan. 55		1 Mar. 55		1 May 55		1 July 55		1 Sept. 55		1 Nov. 55		1 Jan. 56		1 Mar. 56		1 May 56		1 July 56		1 Sept. 56		1 Nov. 56		1 Jan. 57		1 Mar. 57		1 May 57		1 July 57		1 Sept. 57		1 Nov. 57		1 Jan. 58		1 Mar. 58		1 May 58		1 July 58		1 Sept. 58		1 Nov. 58		1 Jan. 59		1 Mar. 59		1 May 59		1 July 59		1 Sept. 59		1 Nov. 59		1 Jan. 60		1 Mar. 60		1 May 60		1 July 60		1 Sept. 60		1 Nov. 60		1 Jan. 61		1 Mar. 61		1 May 61		1 July 61		1 Sept. 61		1 Nov. 61		1 Jan. 62		1 Mar. 62		1 May 62		1 July 62		1 Sept. 62		1 Nov. 62		1 Jan. 63		1 Mar. 63		1 May 63		1 July 63		1 Sept. 63		1 Nov. 63		1 Jan. 64		1 Mar. 64		1 May 64		1 July 64		1 Sept. 64		1 Nov. 64		1 Jan. 65		1 Mar. 65		1 May 65		1 July 65		1 Sept. 65		1 Nov. 65		1 Jan. 66		1 Mar. 66		1 May 66		1 July 66		1 Sept. 66		1 Nov. 66		1 Jan. 67		1 Mar. 67		1 May 67		1 July 67		1 Sept. 67		1 Nov. 67		1 Jan. 68		1 Mar. 68		1 May 68		1 July 68		1 Sept. 68		1 Nov. 68		1 Jan. 69		1 Mar. 69		1 May 69		1 July 69		1 Sept. 69		1 Nov. 69		1 Jan. 70		1 Mar. 70		1 May 70		1 July 70		1 Sept. 70		1 Nov. 70		1 Jan. 71		1 Mar. 71		1 May 71		1 July 71		1 Sept. 71		1 Nov. 71		1 Jan. 72		1 Mar. 72		1 May 72		1 July 72		1 Sept. 72		1 Nov. 72		1 Jan. 73		1 Mar. 73		1 May 73		1 July 73		1 Sept. 73		1 Nov. 73		1 Jan. 74		1 Mar. 74		1 May 74		1 July 74		1 Sept. 74		1 Nov. 74		1 Jan. 75		1 Mar. 75		1 May 75		1 July 75		1 Sept. 75		1 Nov. 75		1 Jan. 76		1 Mar. 76		1 May 76		1 July 76		1 Sept. 76		1 Nov. 76		1 Jan. 77		1 Mar. 77		1 May 77		1 July 77		1 Sept. 77		1 Nov. 77		1 Jan. 78		1 Mar. 78		1 May 78		1 July 78		1 Sept. 78		1 Nov. 78		1 Jan. 79		1 Mar. 79		1 May 79		1 July 79		1 Sept. 79		1 Nov. 79		1 Jan. 80		1 Mar. 80		1 May 80		1 July 80		1 Sept. 80		1 Nov. 80		1 Jan. 81		1 Mar. 81		1 May 81		1 July 81		1 Sept. 81		1 Nov. 81		1 Jan. 82		1 Mar. 82		1 May 82		1 July 82		1 Sept. 82		1 Nov. 82		1 Jan. 83		1 Mar. 83		1 May 83		1 July 83		1 Sept. 83		1 Nov. 83		1 Jan. 84		1 Mar. 84		1 May 84		1 July 84		1 Sept. 84		1 Nov. 84		1 Jan. 85		1 Mar. 85		1 May 85		1 July 85		1 Sept. 85		1 Nov. 85		1 Jan. 86		1 Mar. 86		1 May 86		1 July 86		1 Sept. 86		1 Nov. 86		1 Jan. 87		1 Mar. 87		1 May 87		1 July 87		1 Sept. 87		1 Nov. 87		1 Jan. 88		1 Mar. 88		1 May 88		1 July 88		1 Sept. 88		1 Nov. 88		1 Jan. 89		1 Mar. 89		1 May 89		1 July 89		1 Sept. 89		1 Nov. 89		1 Jan. 90		1 Mar. 90		1 May 90		1 July 90		1 Sept. 90		1 Nov. 90		1 Jan. 91		1 Mar. 91		1 May 91		1 July 91		1 Sept. 91		1 Nov. 91		1 Jan. 92		1 Mar. 92		1 May 92		1 July 92		1 Sept. 92		1 Nov. 92		1 Jan. 93		1 Mar. 93		1 May 93		1 July 93		1 Sept. 93		1 Nov. 93		1 Jan. 94		1 Mar. 94		1 May 94		1 July 94		1 Sept. 94		1 Nov. 94		1 Jan. 95		1 Mar. 95		1 May 95		1 July 95		1 Sept. 95		1 Nov. 95		1 Jan. 96		1 Mar. 96		1 May 96		1 July 96		1 Sept. 96		1 Nov. 96		1 Jan. 97		1 Mar. 97		1 May 97		1 July 97		1 Sept. 97		1 Nov. 97		1 Jan. 98		1 Mar. 98		1 May 98		1 July 98		1 Sept. 98		1 Nov. 98		1 Jan. 99		1 Mar. 99		1 May 99		1 July 99		1 Sept. 99		1 Nov. 99		1 Jan. 00		1 Mar. 00		1 May 00		1 July 00		1 Sept. 00		1 Nov. 00		1 Jan. 01		1 Mar. 01		1 May 01		1 July 01		1 Sept. 01		1 Nov. 01		1 Jan. 02		1 Mar. 02		1 May 02		1 July 02		1 Sept. 02		1 Nov. 02		1 Jan. 03		1 Mar. 03		1 May 03		1 July 03		1 Sept. 03		1 Nov. 03		1 Jan. 04		1 Mar. 04		1 May 04		1 July 04		1 Sept. 04		1 Nov. 04		1 Jan. 05		1 Mar. 05		1 May 05		1 July 05		1 Sept. 05		1 Nov. 05		1 Jan. 06		1 Mar. 06		1 May 06		1 July 06		1 Sept. 06		1 Nov. 06		1 Jan. 07		1 Mar. 07		1 May 07		1 July 07		1 Sept. 07		1 Nov. 07		1 Jan. 08		1 Mar. 08		1 May 08		1 July 08		1 Sept. 08		1 Nov. 08		1 Jan. 09		1 Mar. 09		1 May 09		1 July 09		1 Sept. 09		1 Nov. 09		1 Jan. 10		1 Mar. 10		1 May 10		1 July 10		1 Sept. 10		1 Nov. 10		1 Jan. 11		1 Mar. 11		1 May 11		1 July 11		1 Sept. 11		1 Nov. 11		1 Jan. 12		1 Mar. 12		1 May 12		1 July 12		1 Sept. 12		1 Nov. 12		1 Jan. 13		1 Mar. 13		1 May 13		1 July 13		1 Sept. 13		1 Nov. 13		1 Jan. 14		1 Mar. 14		1 May 14		1 July 14		1 Sept. 14		1 Nov. 14		1 Jan. 15		1 Mar. 15		1 May 15		1 July 15		1 Sept. 15		1 Nov. 15		1 Jan. 16		1 Mar. 16		1 May 16		1 July 16		1 Sept. 16		1 Nov. 16		1 Jan. 17		1 Mar. 17		1 May 17		1 July 17		1 Sept. 17		1 Nov. 17		1 Jan. 18		1 Mar. 18		1 May 18		1 July 18		1 Sept. 18		1 Nov. 18		1 Jan. 19		1 Mar. 19		1 May 19		1 July 19		1 Sept. 19		1 Nov. 19		1 Jan. 20		1 Mar. 20		1 May 20		1 July 20		1 Sept. 20		1 Nov. 20		1 Jan. 21		1 Mar. 21		1 May 21		1 July 21		1 Sept. 21		1 Nov. 21		1 Jan. 22		1 Mar. 22		1 May 22		1 July 22		1 Sept. 22		1 Nov. 22		1 Jan. 23		1 Mar. 23		1 May 23		1 July 23		1 Sept. 23		1 Nov. 23		1 Jan. 24		1 Mar. 24		1 May 24		1 July 24		1 Sept. 24		1 Nov. 24		1 Jan. 25		1 Mar. 25		1 May 25		1 July 25		1 Sept. 25		1 Nov. 25		1 Jan. 26		1 Mar. 26		1 May 26		1 July 26		1 Sept. 26		1 Nov. 26		1 Jan. 27		1 Mar. 27		1 May 27		1 July 27		1 Sept. 27		1 Nov. 27		1 Jan. 28		1 Mar. 28		1 May 28		1 July 28		1 Sept. 28		1 Nov. 28		1 Jan. 29		1 Mar. 29		1 May 29		1 July 29		1 Sept. 29		1 Nov. 29		1 Jan. 30		1 Mar. 30		1 May 30		1 July 30		1 Sept. 30		1 Nov. 30		1 Jan. 31		1 Mar. 31		1 May 31		1 July 31		1 Sept. 31		1 Nov. 31		1 Jan. 32		1 Mar. 32		1 May 32		1 July 32		1 Sept. 32		1 Nov. 32		1 Jan. 33		1 Mar. 33		1 May 33		1 July 33		1 Sept. 33		1 Nov. 33		1 Jan. 34		1 Mar. 34		1 May 34		1 July 34		1 Sept. 34		1 Nov. 34		1 Jan. 35		1 Mar. 35		1 May 35		1 July 35		1 Sept. 35		1 Nov. 35		1 Jan. 36		1 Mar. 36		1 May 36		1 July 36		1 Sept. 36		1 Nov. 36		1 Jan. 37		1 Mar. 37		1 May 37		1 July 37		1 Sept. 37		1 Nov. 37		1 Jan. 38		1 Mar. 38		1 May 38		1 July 38		1 Sept. 38		1 Nov. 38		1 Jan. 39		1 Mar. 39		1 May 39		1 July 39		1 Sept. 39		1 Nov. 39		1 Jan. 40		1 Mar. 40		1 May 40		1 July 40		1 Sept. 40		1 Nov. 40		1 Jan. 41		1 Mar. 41		1 May 41		1 July 41		1 Sept. 41		1 Nov. 41		1 Jan. 42		1 Mar. 42		1 May 42		1 July 42		1 Sept. 42		1 Nov. 42		1 Jan. 43		1 Mar. 43		1 May 43		1 July 43		1 Sept. 43		1 Nov. 43		1 Jan. 44		1 Mar. 44		1 May 44		1 July 44		1 Sept. 44		1 Nov. 44		1 Jan. 45		1 Mar. 45		1 May 45		1 July 45		1 Sept. 45		1 Nov. 45		1 Jan. 46		1 Mar. 46		1 May 46		1 July 46		1 Sept. 46		1 Nov. 46		1 Jan. 47		1 Mar. 47		1 May 47		1 July 47		1 Sept. 47		1 Nov. 47		1 Jan. 48		1 Mar. 48		1 May 48		1 July 48		1 Sept. 48		1 Nov. 48		1 Jan. 49		1 Mar. 49		1 May 49		1 July 49		1 Sept. 49		1 Nov. 49		1 Jan. 50		1 Mar. 50		1 May 50		1 July 50		1 Sept. 50		1 Nov. 50		1 Jan. 51		1 Mar. 51		1 May 51		1 July 51		1 Sept. 51		1 Nov. 51		1 Jan. 52		1 Mar. 52		1 May 52		1 July 52		1 Sept. 52		1 Nov. 52		1 Jan. 53		1 Mar. 53		1 May 53		1 July 53		1 Sept. 53		1 Nov. 53		1 Jan. 54		1 Mar. 54		1 May 54		1 July 54		1 Sept. 54		1 Nov. 54		1 Jan. 55		1 Mar. 55		1 May 55		1 July 55		1 Sept. 55		1 Nov. 55		1 Jan. 56		1 Mar. 56		1 May 56		1 July 56		1 Sept. 56		1 Nov. 56		1 Jan. 57		1 Mar. 57		1 May 57		1 July 57		1 Sept. 57		1 Nov. 57		1 Jan. 58		1 Mar. 58		1 May 58		1 July 58		1 Sept. 58		1 Nov. 58		1 Jan. 59		1 Mar. 59		1 May 59		1 July 59		1 Sept. 59		1 Nov. 59		1 Jan. 60		1 Mar. 60		1 May 60		1 July 60		1 Sept. 60		1 Nov. 60		1 Jan. 61		1 Mar. 61		1 May 61		1 July 61		1 Sept. 61		1 Nov. 61		1 Jan. 62		1 Mar. 62		1 May 62		1 July 62		1 Sept. 62		1 Nov. 62		1 Jan. 63		1 Mar. 63		1 May 63		1 July 63		1 Sept. 63		1 Nov. 63		1 Jan. 64		1 Mar. 64		1 May 64		1 July 64		1 Sept. 64		1 Nov. 64		1 Jan. 65		1 Mar. 65		1 May 65		1 July 65		1 Sept. 65		1 Nov. 65		1 Jan. 66		1 Mar. 66		1 May 66		1 July 66		1 Sept. 66		1 Nov. 66		1 Jan. 67		1 Mar. 67		1 May 67		1 July 67		1 Sept. 67		1 Nov. 67		1 Jan. 68		1 Mar. 68		1 May 68		1 July 68		1 Sept. 68		1 Nov. 68		1 Jan. 69		1 Mar. 69		1 May 69		1 July 69		1 Sept. 69		1 Nov. 69		1 Jan. 70		1 Mar. 70		1 May 70		1 July 70		1 Sept. 70		1 Nov. 70		1 Jan. 71		1 Mar. 71		1 May 71		1 July 71		1 Sept. 71		1 Nov. 71		1 Jan. 72		1 Mar. 72		1 May 72		1 July 72		1 Sept. 72		1 Nov. 72		1 Jan. 73		1 Mar. 73		1 May 73		1 July 73		1 Sept. 73		1 Nov. 73		1 Jan. 74		1 Mar. 74		1 May 74		1 July 74		1 Sept. 74		1 Nov. 74		1 Jan. 75		1 Mar. 75		1 May 75		1 July 75		1 Sept. 75		1 Nov. 75		1 Jan. 76		1 Mar. 76		1 May 76		1 July 76		1 Sept. 76		1 Nov. 76		1 Jan. 77		1 Mar. 77		1 May 77		1 July 77		1 Sept. 77		1 Nov. 77		1 Jan. 78		1 Mar. 78		1 May 78		1 July 78		1 Sept. 78		1 Nov. 78		1 Jan. 79		1 Mar. 79		1 May 79		1 July 79		1 Sept. 79		1 Nov. 79		1 Jan. 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No. 785015

PERIOD 1 April - 30 June 1944

CREATING HOLISTICALLY LIVED VITALITY

[illegible]

17 Sept. 43

18 Dec. 43

15	Dec.	43
17	Dec.	43
18	Dec.	43
18	Dec.	43
15	Mar.	44
19	Mar.	44
19	Mar.	44
20	Feb.	44
26	Mar.	44

5 June 44

204

1	Taranto - Telephone Censorship opened	19 June 1944
2	Bari - Telephone Censorship opened	31 May 1944
3	Naples - Telephone Censorship opened	6 May 1944
4	Rome - Telephone Censorship opened	14 June 1944

1948

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

* 1 Toronto - Telephone Censorship ceased 4 Sept. 44

* 1 Toronto - Telephone Censorship ceased 4 Sept. 44

75TH

1 July 44

42

✱ ✱

15 Dec. 43

18 Dec. 43

15 Mar. 44

25 July 44

July 44

5 June 44

2 Sept. 44

4

Sept. 4

24 Sept. 44
24 Aug. 44

27 AUG. 44
27 AUG. 44

27 AUG 1971

04 Sept. 44

Sept. 27

4

1 Sept. 44

4

* 1	Taranto - Telephone Censorship ceased	4 Sept.	44
* 2	Bari - Telephone Censorship ceased	5 Sept.	44
* 3	Florence - Telephone Censorship started	4 Sept.	44

123
* * *

PERIOD 1 Oct. - 31 Dec. 1944

RECEIVED 10/10/44

CITY	RECEIVED			RECEIVED			REMARKS
	Actual	Partial	Full	Actual	Partial	Full	
ALBANY	2	3	6	3	6	8	1 July 44
ALBANY							1 July 44
ALBANY							15 Sept. 44
ALBANY							1 July 44
ALBANY							15 Sept. 44
ALBANY							1 July 44
ALBANY							15 Nov. 44
ALBANY							1 Nov. 44
ALBANY							15 Mar. 44
ALBANY							20 Feb. 44
ALBANY							18 Dec. 44
ALBANY							5 June 44
ALBANY							2 Sept. 44
ALBANY							24 Sept. 44
ALBANY							27 Aug. 44
ALBANY							27 Aug. 44
ALBANY							19 Dec. 44
ALBANY							24 Sept. 44
ALBANY							17 Sept. 44
ALBANY							19 Dec. 44
ALBANY							1 Sept. 44
ALBANY							19 Dec. 44
ALBANY							17 Sept. 44

1 July 44	
1 July 44	
15 Sept. 44	
1 July 44	
15 Nov. 44	
1 Nov. 44	
15 Mar. 44	
20 Feb. 44	* 1
5 June 44	18 Dec. 44 * 2
2 Sept. 44	
24 Sept. 44	
27 Aug. 44	
27 Aug. 44	
19 Dec. 44	
24 Sept. 44	
17 Sept. 44	
19 Dec. 44	
1 Sept. 44	
19 Dec. 44	
17 Sept. 44	

* 1 and * 2 - Rome and Naples - Cablegrams and Radiograms (15 Nov. '44) censored in Rome and Naples. Service permitted in following provinces: AQUILA, AVELLINO, BARI, BENEVENTO, BRINDISI, CAMPOBASSO, CATANZARO, CHIETI, COSENZA, FROSINONE, LECCE, LITTORIA, MATERA, NAPOLI, PESCARA, POTENZA, REGGIO CALABRIA, ~~VITERBO~~ RIETI, ROMA, SALERNO, TERAMO, VITERBO, VATICAN CITY, SICILY, SARDINIA.

Postal Branch Report - December 1944

1. Following upon representations made by this Sub-Commission to A.A.I. Hqs., agreement was reached that provinces might henceforward be opened for postal services at an earlier stage than previously, subject to consideration of each case on its merits. Following upon this, it became practicable to restore mail services in the following provinces:

ANCONA, PERUGIA, SIENA:

AREZZO & LIVORNO: FIRENZE & PISA: (City, and South of the Arno only)	} Outward correspondence to be restricted to commercial letters and private postcards.
---	--

2. In connection with this extension of services, arrangements were made with the Transportation Sub-Commission for the use of mail vans on the military trains from Rome to ANCONA (weekly), AREZZO (bi-weekly) and LIVORNO (weekly). Due to requisitioning of part of the Post Office building at ANCONA, it was necessary to concentrate the delivery services for that Province on JESI.

3. Following upon submissions made to A.F.H.C. a prohibition should be imposed on the inclusion of goods and articles in the authorized 1 kilo. letter post operating from the U.S. and U.K. to Italy (the limit having been raised essentially to permit of the transmission of commercial documents), it was announced that the U.S. would provide accordingly. The U.K., on the other hand, indicated that they were not in a position to ensure compliance with such a restriction, and that they would accordingly continue to regard 40 gms. as the maximum weight. Postings from Italy, up to the 1 kilo. limit, had in the meantime been announced as restricted to written and printed matter as permitted by the standing regulations extended to cover the posting of "commercial correspondence".

4. Arising essentially from this lifting of the ban on the transmission of commercial etc. correspondence, and documents to and from the U.K. and U.S., the operation of the registered letter post with those countries was resumed.

5. During the month final preparations were made for dealing with the parcels due to be received in mails from the U.S. Postal Officers conferred with the Allied Transportation etc. and Italian Postal authorities at Rome, Naples and Palermo regarding the bulk handling of the mails, accommodation, and disposal of the individual parcels. A visit was also made to Livorno to provide for the southward despatch of such shipments of parcel mails as will arrive at that port. The first mail to come to hand (actually the third one despatched) arrived at Naples on December 28th, and comprised the following:

312	bags for ROME City
200	" " PALERMO City

and South of the Arno) and private post offices only)

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312	bags for	ROME City
200	"	" PALERMO City
183	"	" NAPLES City
2	"	" VATICAN City

TOTAL 697 bags

This consignment, rather less than the anticipated over weekly figure, represents something over 10,000 parcels

6. The question of postage stamp supplies was examined in detail with the Italian postal authorities, and provisions agreed upon to meet the situation created by the 100% increase in postage rates applied on October 1st, and the operative and pending extensions of the postal delivery area. The main of various steps to be taken was the overprinting of some 200 million stamps of an issue specially printed by the Fascist Republican Government.

7. During the month the Chief Postal Officer paid a visit to London to discuss with the War Office (and Postal Departments working to them) a number of matters concerning Italy's position in relation to the present and future functioning of international mail services. Useful information was gained, and a number of uncertainties and outstanding queries disposed of.

POSTAL SECTION - REPORT NOVEMBER 1944 -

1. During the month progress was made with the preparations for various extensions of internal and external services.
2. The regulations governing the letter post between Italy and the United Kingdom and the United States were modified to permit the inclusion of certain types of commercial and financial correspondence.
3. The maximum weight limit for the letter post within Italy and the U.K. and U.S.A. was raised from 210 gr. to 1 kilo in Italian Government Territory.- The 210 gr. limit will be retained for the present for internal correspondence posted in I.G. Territory where the transport services available for Post Office purposes are more restricted. A special regulation prohibiting the inclusion of goods and articles other than written or printed matter has been introduced to prevent abuse of the extended facility.
4. Stamps. Proposals were approved for overprinting and rendering unobjectionable the very large stocks held of certain denominations of Fascist Republic stamps and postcards.
b. Eighty bags of stamps and postcards were sent to Florence in readiness for the extension of services in that area.
5. Air Service to Sardinia. As this air service was the only means of conveyance available for civil mail to Sardinia no special air mail fee was being charged. The volume of correspondence and printed matter has however grown to such an extent that it is quite outside the capacity of this air service. Air conveyance is therefore now restricted to urgent official correspondence and private correspondence with air mail fees prepaid. Other correspondence is at present being sent under unsatisfactory circumstances by ships of the Italian Navy. It is hoped that a regular service by a merchant vessel will be available in the near future.
6. International Red Cross Messages. The message forms which were originally intended only for messages to civilians in enemy occupied territory may now be addressed to Italian soldiers in Germany.

-2-

7. Foreign Mails. The figures in respect of the external Civil and P.O.W. letter mail traffic for the four weeks ended 18th November are as follows:-

Arrivals		Despatches	
N° Of bags	Weight in Kilos	N° Of bags	Weight in Kilos
Civil	238	194	2155
P.O.W.	472	241	2481

These figures do not include correspondence to and from Italian P.O.W. in BNAF and CMF areas.- Direct daily transfers of such letters are made between the Naples Post Office and the Censor Detachment concerned.

3542

Postal Section - Report October 1944

1. Internal postage rates doubled (previously as prior to Allied occupation) Oct. 1st.
2. A.M. postage stamps withdrawn from use in Sicily- Oct. 1st.
3. Internal and Foreign mail services restored in all the further provinces released by Security for postal operations: Ascoli-Piceno, Grosseto, Macerata, Terni and Viterbo. Advance preparations made in the Provinces of Ancona, Arezzo, Leghorn, Pesaro, Perugia and Siena, which are now ready to introduce services on receipt of the necessary authority.
4. Restriction on type of language used in civilians' letters to places abroad removed. Any language now permissible.
5. Direct despatches of mails from Italy to Malta introduced.
6. Conference held at A.S.M.G. on subject of delay to POF and Civilian Mails addressed to U.S.
7. Announcements made in press and radio broadcasts regarding resumption of Commercial Correspondence between U.S. and U.K. with Italy: Action taken regarding servicing arrangements.
8. Announcements made in radio broadcasts and press of parcel service to be introduced between U.S. and restricted areas of Italy: Action taken regarding censorship, restrictions on contents, custom charges, and operating accommodation and transport.
9. Postcard services between members of Allied Forces in this theatre with Civilians in parts of liberated France: Application has been made to extend the service to Italian Civilians.

551

FOL

COPY

Postal Section - September

1. The slowing down of military operations only enabled one province - Rieti - to be released for normal postal services, which were introduced accordingly. Advance preparations were made in several other provinces which were ready to introduce services on receipt of the necessary authority.
 2. A special 25 - word postcard service was set up between Florence City and the postal services zone in the south.
 3. Direct despatches to Spain and Portugal were introduced - in lieu of circulation via London.
 4. The scope of the internal mail service was extended to include "Manuscript" items up to L. Kg in weight, in the Italian Government area.
 5. The train service between Rome and Naples was made available for mails, which are being carried accordingly. This is proving of great assistance in disposing of large quantities of official postings.
 6. Steps were taken towards linking up with the restricted civil mail service which has been set up in Liberated France.
- 7540

COPY

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- 1540
- 742

SH/ec

Postal Section Report For August 1944

1. Internal and foreign mail services were restored in all the further provinces released by Security for postal operations - Foggia, Chieti, Pescara, Ancona and Teramo. It was hoped that similar releases would have been secured for further Provinces on the West side, but up to the end of the month this had only been secured (on August 30th) for Rieti province (in which services were started on September 4th).

2. Following upon the closing down of the Army Base Post Offices at Palermo and Bari (through which deposits foreign civil mails were received and despatched), Naples became the main foreign mail concentration point. Certain foreign mails continue to be received and despatched through the British A.P.O. at Catania, and direct despatches from abroad to Rome are being established. Direct outward mails from Rome will become justified when more Northern provinces are opened up to full mail services (P.O.W. correspondence is already being dealt with in several of them).

3. Following upon receipt of a cable from Russia, a direct mail from Moscow is expected to be established. It is hoped that this may contain correspondence from Italian P.O.W. in Russia. Very little correspondence to P.O.W. in that country is being posted, as the men have apparently not been enabled to advise their relatives of their addresses.

4. Due to varying causes (incidence of mail transportation facilities, accumulation of prematurely posted correspondence, abnormal postings which immediately follow the opening up of new territory) it has not been found practicable to draw any conclusions as to the general trend of foreign mail traffic. As the transmission of commercial correspondence is precluded, it is probable that there is no great variation either way once the service has been operating again for two or three months.

Correspondence RECEIVED

	Weight	Estimated No. of Letters
P.O.W. (as from Jan. 1944)	11,000 Kgs.	2,750,000
Civil (2 " March 44)	7,000 "	1,750,000
Civil and P.O.W. mixed (as from March)	10,000 "	2,500,000
Total	28,000 "	7,000,000

Correspondence DESPATCHED

P.O.W. (as from Jan. 1944)	30,000 Kgs.	7,500,000
Civil (" " March 44)	10,000 Kgs.	2,500,000
Total	40,000 "	10,000,000

Grand Total 17 Million letters (68 tons)

5. In Rome all sorting work has been transferred from the out-of-date accommodation in use on our occupation to the pretentious new sorting office which was in the last stages of completion. Working facilities have also been improved in Naples by the re-occupation of a large part of the main sorting

by a Railway Operating Battalion - and

British A.P.O. at Catania, that direct cables from Rome will become justified being established. Direct outward mails from Rome will become justified when more Northern provinces are opened up to full mail services (P.O.W. correspondence is already being dealt with in several of them).

3. Following upon receipt of a cable from Russia, a direct mail from Moscow is expected to be established. It is hoped that this may contain correspondence from Italian P.O.W. in Russia. Very little correspondence in P.O.W. in that country is being posted, as the men have apparently not been enabled to advise their relatives of their addresses.

4. Due to varying causes (incidence of mail transportation facilities, accumulation of prematurely posted correspondence, abnormal postings which immediately follow the opening up of new territory) it has not been found practicable to draw any conclusions as to the general trend of foreign mail traffic. As the transmission of commercial correspondence is precluded, it is probable that there is no great variation either way once the service has been operating unhampered for two or three months.

Correspondence RECEIVED

	Weight	Estimated No. of letters
P.O.W. (as from Jan. 1944)	11,000 Kgs.	2,750,000
Civil (2 " March 44)	7,000 "	1,750,000
Civil and P.O.W. mixed (as from March)	10,000 "	2,500,000
Total	28,000 "	7,000,000

Correspondence DISPATCHED

P.O.W. (as from Jan. 1944)	30,000 Kgs.	7,500,000
Civil (" " March 44)	10,000 Kgs.	2,500,000
Total	40,000 "	10,000,000

Grand Total 17 Million letters (68 tons)

5. In Rome all sorting work has been transferred from the out-of-date accommodation in use on our occupation to the modern new sorting office which was in the last stages of completion. Working facilities have also been improved in Naples by the re-occupation of a large part of the main sorting office, which had been tenanted by a Railway Operating Battalion - and left by them in a state of dereliction.

6. August 24th marked the first SGT - 400 postal anniversary, namely that of the re-occupation, at Palermo, of postal delivery services in Allied occupied Italy.

S. H. HEAD, Lt. Col.
Chief Postal Officer

The following figures show the approximate amount of foreign correspondence which has been handled this year during the period up to the end of August.

POSTAL SECTION REPORTJuly 1944

1. The special 25-word postcard service between Rome City and the South, introduced in mid-June, was extended at the beginning of July to include letters, for both internal and foreign mails. Later in the month the service was further extended to cover the whole of Rome province. The provinces of Littoria, Frosinone and Campobasso were also opened up for internal and foreign mails.
2. The frequency of interchange of mails between the Naples and Bari sides of the mainland was increased by the introduction of a daily despatch of mails in each direction between those two centres.
3. Inspections and enquiries were put in hand towards starting up services in five more provinces.

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COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION
MONTHLY REPORT FOR JUNE 1944

1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

a. In Italian Government territory there have been only minor changes. The percentage of telegraph offices connected by the end of June reached 100% in Sardinia, 51% in Sicily and 84% in Italy, an average of 77% compared with the 65% reported in May. Unless more transport is made available, this probably represents the maximum restorable.

In Sicily practically all military signal personnel have been withdrawn and the maintenance of the military circuits still remaining has been taken over by Italian organizations under arrangements made by the Regional Telecommunications Officer. In the Naples area telegraph service has been restored to the larger suburban areas, Torre Annunziata, Portici, Torre del Greco, Resina etc.

b. Communications to and within Rome have been the chief activity of the month. The Deputy Director of the Sub-Commission entered Rome on 5th June and the Chief of the Telecommunications Branch followed on the 14th June. In Rome, the urban automatic system was practically undamaged, but there were many problems of power supply, restoration of services to civilians, arranging for military installations including A.C.C. Hqs, etc. that were dealt with by the combined efforts of Allied Armies and A.C.C. Telecommunications Officers. The first circuits to Rome were restored by the military on the overhead routes by about the middle of June, but all these were required for military purposes. The main underground cable was re-stored (28 circuits) on July 1st, by the civilian group working under the A.C.C. Telecommunications Officer, attached to the Chief Signal Officer, I. of C. This date was the original one given on 4th June, then estimated to give about five days in hand; these days were used up by the difficult repair of unforeseen damage to the cable by high-frequency current, a new form of sabotage. The repeater equipment in Rome for the main cable circuits was also damaged, as of course were all the intervening equipments from Naples to Rome, but this had naturally been anticipated.

The establishment of these circuits will allow an allocation to be made for the Italian Government and A.C.C. use.

c. Reconnaissances have been made of the overhead routes and the telecommunications facilities in the newly liberated area. Between Rome and Naples the damage is very extensive and it will be some time before civil circuits can be restored with the limited facilities available for the work. North of Rome reports have been obtained of the state of telephone exchanges and telegraph offices and of

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overhead routes in Region 8. These are not, in general, very badly damaged.

d. Transportation. The acute shortage of transport is being increasingly felt as the area expands. Telecommunications services can neither be restored nor maintained without transport to carry line parties with poles, wire and other stores, and few reconnaissance and inspections and the movement of equipment. A very limited amount of transport has been provided from Army sources for the civil maintenance of routes carrying military circuits, but the Allied Armies have not been prepared to allocate transport for exclusively civil services. Repeated applications to A.C.C. has have been finally met with the reply that they are not prepared to allocate any at their disposal nor to request any from Allied authorities.

The result will be that the restoration of telecommunications facilities in the new areas will proceed extremely slowly; it is considered that the provision of essential telegraph and telephone circuits is an absolute necessity for any centralized Government control to be effective; it is also considered that the existence of telegraph and telephone services economises in transport by making necessary a large proportion of courier services and visits. Unless some transport, (of the order of fifty 2-ton trucks) is provided, the efficiency of Government from Rome will be seriously handicapped.

2. POSTAL.

a. The main development in the South was the restoration of internal and foreign letter services in the provinces of Benevento and in the remainder of Naples province, which is now fully served. Registration, insurance, express, air-mail, and money order services were extended to those areas simultaneously for internal mails. Endeavours were made to obtain a security clearance for the restoration of mail services in Foggia, which has so far carried an exceptional restriction; this matter is not yet resolved.

b. To provide for postal matters in Rome, a Postal Officer was sent forward and arrived in the city on June 8th. Conditions were found to be very favourable. All Post Offices, on which "Out of Bounds" notices were quickly affixed, were in good order and not occupied by any military units. In addition to the Central Post Office, there are five Branch Offices and seventy ³⁵6 Offices in the city. Records, stamp stocks, etc. were generally intact. The personnel normally employed number some 4000 (apart from a large Ministerial staff) and the chief officials were mostly available. Transportation was normally provided by a contractor, the Post Office having no vehicles of its own. It has been possible to secure a number of the postal vans, but they are not all in running order.

Assorted stocks of postage stamps were on hand, in quite large supply for most denominations. These stocks comprised a

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number of the normal Italian issue, a further number which had been overprinted by the Republican Government, and two denominations of a special Republican issue which are stated not to have been put on sale. All other than the normal stamps are being called in and "frozen".

The printing establishment Stato Postgrafico was able to retain all stamp dies, and has printing material available to reproduce further large stocks of the normal Italian stamps, which will continue to be the only authorized issue for use on the mainland. Further urgently required stocks of Postal Bonds can also be supplied, and this matter is already in hand. Altogether the position for augmenting stocks of "value forms" is very favorable, and so far as the Postgrafico is concerned, it would appear that this is far from being due to chance.

With regard to Postal Services in Rome. On June 15th a post card delivery service within the city was introduced. Meanwhile the authority of the Security Branch, A.A.I. was secured to afford a two way 25 - word postcard service between Rome city and the Vatican City and those areas in which postal services were already operating. The first despatch under this service was made on June 19th. On June 23rd The Chief Postal Officer visited Rome with the object of extending the mail facilities to include letters and to link up the Rome area with the foreign mails. The availability of such a service was announced to the public on July 1st.

c. Extension of services to the Provinces (Rome, Littoria and Grosinone) offered greater difficulties, mainly in relation to accommodations, transportation, and the establishment of Branch posts. All three Provinces will be opened to services before the end of July.

3. CIVIL CENSORSHIP.

a. The hand over of operational control to the Italian Supreme Command in Italian Government territory took place, and the Allied Censorship Officers were withdrawn from all stations in that area except at the traffic ports for foreign mail. Italian censor officers have also been attached to censorship stations in A.M.G. territory to prepare the transfer that will take place when this territory is handed over to the Italian Government.

b. In accordance with the 'fringe' policy of censorship, all censorship on internal communications was ceased in 14 out of 22 provinces in Italian Government territory, leaving only the port areas.

c. The Civil Censorship Branch transferred from Salerno to Rome on 27th June.

d. Civil Censorship Officers accompanied 'S' force into Rome,

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and took over a large quantity of mail from enemy territories. The records of the Republican Censorship were also impounded and a great deal of valuable information extracted.

e. Telephone censorship was set up in Rome, utilizing the very elaborate equipment already installed there.

f. The divided control of Civil Censorship between A.F.H.Q. and A.A.I. and A.C.C. Headquarters is still the cause of friction, and a meeting held with Lt. Col. Hoover of I.N.C., A.F.H.Q. was fruitless. This difficulty will remain until the organization is more logically arranged.

4. OFFICER ESTABLISHMENT.

The large extension of the area has strained the resources of the Sub-Commission beyond the limit of efficient service, particularly in the telecommunications branch.

The distribution of available officers of this branch is:

1. Lt. Col.	Chief Telecomms. Officer	Hqs
2. Major	Assistant Chief	Hqs
3. Lt. Col.	Cable system specialist	Attached L. of C.
4. Major	Regional Officer	Region 1,2,6,7.
5. Capt.	_____	Region 3
6. Major	_____	Rome and Region 4.
7. Major	_____	Region 5.
8. Major	_____	Region 8.

The officer for Region 1,2,6,7 and the officer for Rome and Region 4 both have too extended a territory to cover efficiently; there is no reserve for forward regions or for sickness.

SBH/epc

MONTHLY REPORT (POSTAL BRANCH)

May

1. Capt. Maddock and Lt. Krull took up duty and were assigned to regions as Regional Postal Officers.
2. Capt. Turner visited Algiers in connection with Vatican and Red Cross services. Comprehensive instruction issued on his return.
3. Two extra mail despatches weekly (making 4 in all) established between Naples and Bari.
4. Air Mail from Tripoli commenced.
5. Financial Services started up in Benevento Province.
6. Meeting held in Naples with Security Censorship Regional and Finance Sub-Commission representatives. Agreed statement of policy drawn up in relation to resumption of financial and mail services, and special advance services for P.O.W. correspondence.

S.H. HEAD
Lt. Col.
Postal Director.

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SHH/epc

Notes on April & May

Postal

April.

1. Following new services were commenced:-
 - a. Registered, Insured, and Express letters.
 - b. Newspapers (from Publishers)
 - c. Air Mails between Italy, Sicily and Sardinia.
2. Maximum weight limit for ordinary letters raised to 210 grams.
3. Inward foreign civil mails began to arrive from U.K., U.S., etc.
4. International Red Cross communications service started in Italy.
5. Postal Officers Conference held in Salerno.

May.

6. Civil Air Mail service from Tripoli commenced.
7. Mail service by train between Bari and Naples increased from two to four trips each way weekly.
8. Financial services started in Benevento Province.
9. Censorship on mail between contiguous communes withdrawn.
10. Two additional Postal Officers posted to Sub-Commission, enabling assignments to be made to Region IV and V.
11. Conference of Communications (Postal), Finance, Security, Regions IV and V and 5th and 5th Army representatives (to be) held (on May 29th) to agree upon procedure for development of mail and financial services in forwarded areas.

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For Conf of 29 May

Monthly Report
Postal Section
April 1944

1. Arrangements were made to commence the following new internal mail services on May 1st:-

Registered Letters
Insured "
Express Letters
Newspaper post (between publisher and subscriber ~~and~~
~~subscriber~~ only)
Air mails (Italy-Sicily-Sardinia)

Maximum weight for all areas now operating raised to 210gms per letter (No limit for official correspondence).

2. The first inward foreign civil mails began to arrive at Naples, Bari and Palermo. Despatches received included those from the U.K., U.S., North Africa, Egypt, India and Australia. The first New York consignment to reach Naples arrived on 21st April and comprised some 200,000 items.
Postings in Naples for the month of April were approximately:-

Civilian mail (Internal and Foreign)	1,150,000
Prisoners of war mail	260,000

3. Substantial amounts of outward foreign mails continue to be forwarded. The following (approximate) figures relate to Sicily only for the period January - April inclusive:-

Despatched to P.O.W. abroad :	1½ million letters and postcards
" to Civilians abroad :	250,000 letters and postcards

4. Some 50 million Allied Military Postage stamps had been distributed to Post Offices in Sicily to date. It has been decided that requests received from philatelists abroad to purchase such stamps will not be met.

5. The frequency of mail despatches from Matera Post Office to the subordinate provincial Post Offices was increased from once to thrice weekly.

6. The International Red Cross letter service, already operating in Sicily and Sardinia, was commenced in Sicily.

7. The General Post Office in Palermo, which had been almost entirely occupied by the 7th Army to the exclusion of the Civil Postal authorities, was handed back to the latter except for a very small section.

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8. A conference of Postal and PP.TT. officers, with Civil Censorship representatives present, was held at Salerno.

9. Following upon Postal Section proposals discussed at the last conference of Regional Commissioners, the preparation of an outline of basic postal service arrangements was put in hand. This is intended to serve as a Vade Mecum for Allied and Italian officials who will be dealing with the first stages of restoring Postal mail and financial services in territory not yet occupied or opened up for service.

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MEMO:-

Postal Branch activities - March 1944

Lt.Col. Prodgers left for U.K.
Capt. C.I. Turner joined the Branch from A.F.H.Q.

1.- A supply of 52 million "Allied Military Postage" stamps was received, by arrangements, from U.S.A.. Of these, 14 million were shipped to Sicily to replenish certain denominations of their original stock of 54 million. The balance is being held (by AFA Naples) for use in Italy and/or Sardinia if existing stocks of Italian stamps run out and can not be replenished. Arrangements were made to transfer to Italy existing stocks of Italian stamps on hand in Sicily.

2.- Internal and foreign postal services were re-opened in Avellino Province, and in that portion of Naples Province which is rearwards of the rear Army boundary. A collection and delivery service was also commenced in Benevento town.

3.- The Postal Bonds service was extended to Sicily.

4.- Various meetings have been held with the International Red Cross delegate, the British and Italian Army Post Office representatives and the Allied Publications Board, in relation respectively, to the setting up of an International Red Cross message service, the stabilisation of a system for handing correspondence for Italian military personnel, and the introduction of an internal news paper post. The full effective result of these discussions will be seen in April. The Red Cross service is already operating in Sicily and Sardinia, and instructions have been issued for its commencement in Italy.

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