

ACC 10000/147/294

P.44

POSTAL SECTION

P. O. W. LETTERS

30 JANUARY 1945 - JULY 1945

POSTAL SECTION

P. O. W. LETTERS

VOL I

30 JANUARY 1945 - JULY 1945

088/5

P 55-1111

Transcribed to P43-206

0886

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: F 92910
Date/Time of Origin: JUNE 14/1515E

Message Centre No: E/5001
Date Time Rec'd: JUNE 14/1610B
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: AFHQ, SIGNED SACRED CITE FHGEG
TO : ALCOM ROME

60

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL.

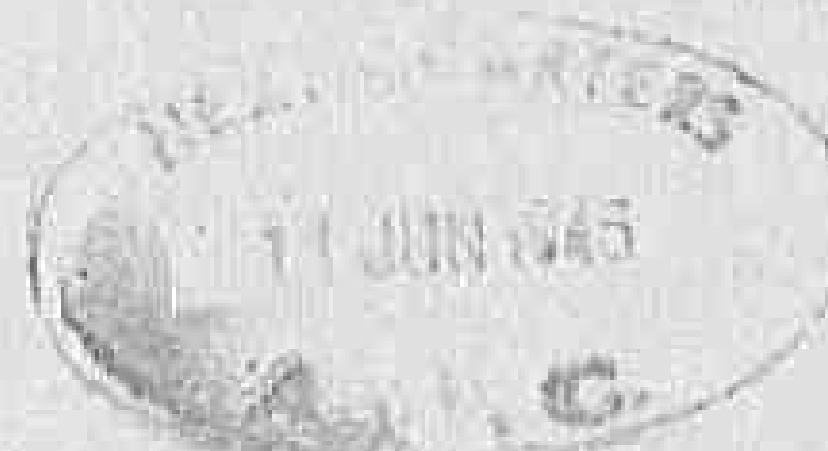
WAR DEPARTMENT advise despatch 75,000 pieces letter mail for North ITALY via NAPLES in their letter dated 6 June for information

DIST

ACTION : COMMUNICATIONS SC
INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FILE (2)
FLOAT

ACTION

3423



F

FILE	B/Fwd.
44	

Date

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

WIK/be

15th June 1945

P.44.59/09

Subject: Prisoner of War Mails.

To : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecomms.

1. Now that correspondence for Italian Prisoners of War in Germany has practically ceased, the amount of P.W. correspondence which must necessarily be dealt with at Naples is much reduced, and it appears to be very desirable to consider the establishment of direct Prisoner of War despatches from Rome.
2. If you agree, arrangements may be made to commence such despatches but prior notification of the date of commencement should be given to this Office so that overseas Censorship Stations may be duly notified.
3. The mails, which should include labelled bundles for the countries concerned, should be despatched to Naples Ferrovia for handing to the Army Post Office (properly listed) with the corresponding despatches from Naples.
4. If the despatches from Rome are established, the circulation of Prisoner of War correspondence from Provinces north of Campobasso and Naples could presumably be based on Rome and thus relieve Naples Ferrovia of much transit work.
5. Two copies of a circulation chart for use at Rome Ferrovia are connected.

with 34-2
H.H. SCUDDER
Lt. Colonel, Sig.C.
Director.

Inc.:
2 Copies of Circulation Chart.

CROSS	
REF	
FILE	
94	

Date _____

CORRISPONDENZA PER I PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA ITALIANI

Formazione Dispacci A ROMA

DESTINAZIONE	Da inoltrarsi	Sacchi da etichettarsi	Sacchi da consegnarsi a
I. Arabia Eritrea Australia Etiopia Ceylon India Cina Iran Cipro Iraq Giamaica Libano Egitto Nuova Zelanda Turchia Africa (esclusa Africa Francese, Marocco Spagnolo e Tangeri)	CAIRO	From: ROMA To: CHIEF P.W. CENSOR G.S.I. (12) CAIRO	British APO (a Napoli)
II. Tripolitania (esclusa Posta Aerea)	TRIPOLI	From: ROMA To: P.W. CENSOR TRIPOLI (via Egypt)	British APO (a Napoli)
III. Tripolitania (Posta Aerea)	NAPOLI	—	—
IV. Gran Bretagna Irlanda Gibilterra Indie Occidentali Inglesi Bermuda Tangeri	LIVERPOOL	From: ROMA To: PRISONER OF WAR CENSORSHIP SEALANS OFFSHORE NEWSHAM PARK LIVERPOOL (P.W. Mail)	British APO (a Napoli)
V. America del Nord, del Sud, e Centrale (eccetto Canada) Possedimenti degli Stati Uniti Indie Occidentali (eccetto Indie Occidentali Inglesi)	NEW YORK	From: ROMA District Postal Censor To: NEW YORK (P.W. Mail)	American APO (via British APO a Napoli)
VI. Canada	OTTAWA	From: ROMA To: Director of Postal Censorship OTTAWA (P.W. Mail)	American APO (via British APO a Napoli)

Occidentali Inglesi)	(P.W. Mail)	(via British APO a Napoli)	
VI. Canada'	OTTAWA	From: RCMA To : Director of Postal Censorship OTTAWA (P.W. Mail)	American APO (via British APO a Napoli)
VII. PRIGIONIERI IN MANO FRANCESE NELL'AFRICA CAMPI DAL N.1 AL N.50 (la maggior parte in numeri romani) NELL'AFRICA SETTENTRIONALE, OCCIDENTALE ED EQUATORIALE FRANCESE (in molti casi l'aggiunta "depot")	TUNIS	From: ROMA To: Controles Techniques TUNIS (P.W. Mail)	British APO (a Napoli) 1378
VIII. Altra destinazione inclusi Prigionieri in mani Inglesi e Americane nell'Africa Settentrionale (in molti casi l'aggiunta Orano, Matousa o Algeri)	NAPOLI	—	—

Istruzioni sulla compilazione delle etichette:

Sulle etichette dei sacchi si dovrà indicare: -

- Il peso lordo del sacco e del contenuto
- La lettera "P" sulle etichette dei sacchi contenenti il foglio d'avviso
- Il numero progressivo del dispaccio, seguito dal numero dei sacchi costituenti il dispaccio (per esempio ogni etichetta di un primo dispaccio formato da 3 sacchi, deve portare l'indicazione "1/3").

I dispacci, quando consegnati all'APC saranno accompagnati da una distinta.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

59
WJG/ame

P.44.59/CS.

12th June 1945

Subject: Correspondence for Prisoners of War in French Hands

To : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecommunications.

1. In the enclosed letter (which deals principally with the proposal to discontinue the double bagging of Prisoner of War despatches) the Service des Controles Techniques, Tunis raises the question of the possibility of dividing and separately labelling the correspondence addressed to Tunis, Algiers and Morocco.

2. So far as correspondence for civilians (due to be included in the Rome and Naples Civil Mails to Tunis), is concerned there is presumably no difficulty and separate labelled bundles for the countries concerned should be made up when warranted.

3. As regards correspondence for Prisoners of War in French Hands (due to be sent in the Naples to Tunis Prisoner of War despatch) there may be some difficulty as it is thought that the addresses of letters do not always show in which country the camp is situated.

The instructions given previously to the Naples Office by the Prisoner of War Censor Detachment to assist it in distinguishing Prisoner of War letters due to be sent to Controles Techniques Tunis were as follows: -

"Campi Per Prigionieri di Guerra del No. 1 al 50 (la maggior parte in numeri Romani). Ogni localita' nell'Africa Settentrionale, Occidentale ed Equatoriale Francese (in molti casi l'aggiunta "depot").

4. Will you please have the P.W. correspondence examined to see whether the desired division is practicable having regard to the addresses being used.

W.H.G. 3420

H. H. SOUDER
Lt. Colonel, Sigs. Co.
Director.

1 Inc.

Copy of: 2505/DTC

Copy to: Controles Techniques, Tunis.

CROSS REFS.	
FILE	T B, rwd.
44	

Date.....

J.L./J.E.
SERVICE DES CONTROLES
TECHNIQUES

- REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE -

DIRECTION REGIONALE
DE TUNISIE

N° 2505 /DR.T.

TUNIS, le

58

L'Inspecteur-Adjoint de 1^o CL.JURJO
Directeur Régional des Services des Contrôles
Techniques de Tunisie,

au

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

REFERENCE : P. 47.89. CS du 14. 4. 1945. -

Comme suite à votre enquête citée en référence, j'ai l'honneur de vous faire connaître que :

1)- L'abandon du système du double sac ne présenterait aucun inconvénient et faciliterait au contraire le travail tant de l'Office Postal Tunisien que de la Commission, à la seule condition, d'ailleurs prévue, que des indications nettement distinctes désigneraient les sacs contenant respectivement les plis destinés aux prisonniers de guerre et aux civils.

2)- Actuellement les sacs de courrier arrivant d'Italie et adressés aux Services Postaux de Tunis, renferment indistinctement des envois à destination de la Tunisie, de l'Algérie et du Maroc. Il serait préférable que, si ces sacs doivent nécessairement être dirigés sur Tunis, les envois pour le Maroc et l'Algérie soient nettement séparés, soit pas liasses, soit pas sacs.

Je vous serais obligé de m'indiquer dans le plus bref délai si les dispositions qui vous sont suggérées vous conviennent et, dans ce cas, à quelle date vous comptez les mettre en application.



CLASS.	
FILE	L. wd.
P. 44	
Date	7 JUL 1945

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
392
Communications Sub-Commission

57
MAG/bs

P.44.57/CS

11th June 1945

Subject: Despatch of Prisoner of War Mail.

To : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecommunications.

1. It has been agreed that the system of enclosing the Naples despatches to overseas Prisoner of War Censorship Stations in outer bags addressed to the civil overseas Office of Exchange may cease.

2. In future these Prisoner of War mails may be made up in the ordinary way in single bags addressed as indicated below:-

Destination

Bag label to be addressed

CAIRO

CHIEF P.W. CENSOR
G S I (12)
CAIRO

TRIPOLI

P.W. CENSOR
TRIPOLI (via EGYPT)

LIVERPOOL

PRISONER OF WAR CENSORSHIP
Seamans Orphanage
NEWSHAM Park
LIVERPOOL (P.W. MAIL)

NEW YORK

DISTRICT POSTAL CENSOR
NEW YORK (P.W. MAIL)

OTTAWA

DIRECTOR OF POSTAL CENSORSHIP
OTTAWA (P.W. MAIL)

TUNIS

CONTROLS TECHNIQUES
TUNIS (P.W. MAIL)

3. In accordance with previous instructions the bag labels should continue to bear indications of the total weight of the bag concerned, the number of the despatch, and the total number of bags in the despatch. In accordance with usual practice the labels of "final" bags containing the letter bills should be marked "F".

Copy to:

G-5, A.F.H.Q.

G-2, A.F.H.Q.

British Army Postal Directorate, A.F.H.Q.

A.G. Postal, A.F.H.Q.

Director of Censorship, IEF.

Chief P.W. Censor, Cairo, G S I (12), IEF.

H.E. SOUDDER

Lt. Colonel, IEF

Director.

2. In future these Prisoner of War mails may be made up in the ordinary way in single bags addressed as indicated below:-

Destination

Bag label to be addressed

CAIRO

CHIEF P.W. CENSOR
G S I (12)
CAIRO

TRIPOLI

P.W. CENSOR
TRIPOLI (via ECET)

LIVERPOOL

PRISONER OF WAR CENSORSHIP
Seamans Orphanage
NEWSHAM Park
LIVERPOOL (P.W. MAIL)

NEW YORK

DISTRICT POSTAL CENSOR
NEW YORK (P.W. MAIL)

OTTAWA

DIRECTOR OF POSTAL CENSORSHIP
OTTAWA (P.W. MAIL)

TUNIS

CONTROLES TECHNIQUES
TUNIS (P.W. MAIL)

3. In accordance with previous instructions the bag labels should continue to bear indications of the total weight of the bag concerned, the number of the despatch, and the total number of bags in the despatch. In accordance with usual practice the labels of "final" bags containing the letter bills should be marked "F".

Copy to:

G-5, A.F.H.Q.

G-2, A.F.H.Q.

British Army Postal Directorate, A.F.H.Q.

A.C. Postal, A.F.H.Q.

Director ME Censorship, MEF.

Chief P.W. Censor, Cairo, G S I (12), MEF.

P.W. Censor, Tripoli.

G.C. P.W. Censorship, Newsham Park, Liverpool.

Postal Services Dept. (OMB), Headquarters G.P.O., London, EC 1.

District Postal Censor, New York.

Director of Postal Censorship, Ottawa.

Controles Techniques, Tunis.

H.H. SCUDDER
Lt. Colonel, S
Director.

CROSS REFS.	172
FILE	44

Date

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

55
WHL/CS

P. 44.55/CS

9th June 1945

Subject: Routing of P.W. and Internee Mail from Switzerland.

To : Regional Commissioner
Lombardia Region (attn Postal Officer)

With reference to your 1043 of 25 May, my 8696 of 29 May and the A.F.H.Q. reply FX 88753 of 6th June.

1. It is not known which organisation raised the query put to your original enquiry.
2. As the correspondence is due to be addressed to the PWOD up to 12th July, it will presumably be carried as military mail to the unit concerned.
3. AFHQ indicate that full instructions will shortly be issued concerning the disposal of the mail after the 12th July, when circulation on PWOD will no longer be necessary.

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE.

WHL
J.H. SCUDDER
Lt. Colonel, Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to : G-5, AFHQ. (ref FX 88753)

CROSS REFS.	
FILE	
44	

Date.....

*Communication 5/c*ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

CJM/irf

*56**2579*

G-5: 311.1

8 June 1945

SUBJECT: Mail via Chiasso

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission
APO 394

1. Reference is telephone conversation 8 June 1945 (Majors Greene and Macnamara speaking).

2. It is confirmed that there is no security objection to mail going via Chiasso but until 12 July this mail must be directed via Prisoner of War Censorship Detachment but after that date this will no longer be necessary.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

[Signature]
C. J. MACNAMARA
Major, P. C.*copy to Capt Alasia
11 June WHE*

34-6

CLASS.	
FILE	U/Two
<i>444</i>	

Date _____

0897

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

communications

Originator's Reference: FX 88753
Date/Time of Origin: JUNE 061850

Message Centre No: E/3977
Date Time Rec'd: JUNE 071340
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE FHGEG
TO : AICOM ROME INFO AICOM LOMBARDIA (MILAN) FOR ALASIA

54

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

(Reur ACCMN 8696)

No security objection through CHASSO. Until 12 July this type mail must be directed Prisoner of War Detachment Censorship and direction to PWCD no longer necessary.



DIST *3415*
ACTION COMMUNICATIONS SC
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FILE 2
FLOAT

Confirmed from Major Manamara GS that there is something missing from this. He will send amended copy. It means that until 12 July the mails should be addressed PWCD & after that presumably a civil address can be used. Full instructions will follow.

RESTRICTED

CHONS.	
FILE	by wd.
P.44	
Date	7 JUL 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

53
WHG/bs

P.44.52/CS

31 May 1945

Subject: P.W. Despatches from North of Italy.

To : British Army Postal Directorate
A.F.H.Q.Reference P/660 of 26th May 1945.

1. The objections you raise are appreciated and the special arrangements made at Turin only will be terminated as soon as a reasonable civilian service is available.

2. At the moment civil postal road connections between Northern Provinces and railheads to the South are very sketchy and the provision of facilities for civil mails on the southbound military trains is also infrequent. It is hoped however very shortly to obtain more satisfactory civil postal road services from Genoa, Milan and Venice to railheads and to get better postal facilities on the railway service thence to the South.

For the Chief Commissioner.

WHL
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

CROSS REF.	
FILE 44	L. wd.

Date.....

WHG/epc

5+52

AFHQ FOR FHGEG RPTD ALCON LOMBARDIA FOR ALASIA

8696

29 MAY 1945

ROUTINE

RESTRICTED PD

ENQUIRY RECEIVED MAY PRISONERS OF WAR AND INTERNEE MAIL FROM
INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS GENEVA BE ACCEPTED THROUGH CHIASSO INTO
NORTHERN ITALY PD

PAREN TO AFHQ FOR FHGEG RPTD ALCON LOMBARDIA FOR ALASIA FROM HQ ALCON
CITE ACCMN PAREN

HOW SHOULD MAILS BE ADDRESSED PD

IF MAIL MUST GO TO PETER WILLIAM CHARLIE DOG NAPLES IT MAY BE
PREFERABLE TO CONTINUE ROUTING VIA MARSEILLES AND SEA

3413

CROSS REFD	
FILE	
44	

Date _____

COMMUNICATIONS S/C.

489081 Ext: 444

File

Major William
P. 44 Files

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

*Communications*Originator's Reference: 1043
Date/Time of Origin: MAY 25/1500BMessage Centre No: E/2638
Date Time Rec'd: MAY 28/0850B
Precedence: ROUTINEFROM: LOMBARDIA REGION 9 DIVISON SIGNED ALASIA
TO : ALCOM ROME CITE ALCMN FOR POLETTI~~58~~ 51

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

1. MAY permission be had to receive PW and internee mail from
International Red cross GENEVA through northern ITALY WHIASSO

DISTACTION : COMMUNICATIONS SC
INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FILE (2)
FLOAT

3412



ACTION

44

F

RESTRICTED

BRITISH POSTAL DIRECTORATE,
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS,
C.M.F.

50 P/660.

26 May 45.

Subject:- Mails - POW - Enemy in Allied Hands.

To:- Allied Commission (Communications Sub-Commission),
C. M. F.

Ref. Lt-Col. Routh's D.O. letter P.44.45/CS, dated 19 May 45, to Lt-Col Harvey who is away at present.

1. Repeated efforts to contact you by telephone have been unsuccessful. We will raise no objections to any arrangements which Drummond and Green may have made locally with the APOs at Genoa and Milan for the conveyance of POW mails to Naples subject to availability of space.
2. We are not able to commit ourselves, however, to general agreement that POW mails for Naples should be handed over to APOs in the North for conveyance without any idea of the traffic involved. If some indication of this could be given we should be willing to examine the question and to render every possible assistance in the light of available facilities. In any event, it seems that our assistance should be limited to conveyance from the North to the nearest point southward at which civil postal services are functioning, as, if we conveyed them all the way to Naples, too heavy a burden would be placed on our trunk road services which are already carrying Italian military mails and mails from Italian civil offices to PM.3800 (Rome).
3. It seems, too, that the burden should be shared to some extent by the U.S. Army Postal Service which covers a considerable area in the North in which the British A.P.S. has no interest. We should not regard very favourably the idea of POW mail for Naples originating in U.S. APS areas being passed to British APOs for conveyance.

44

[Signature]
C.J. LANFORD
Major, RE.
D.A.D.A.P.S.
for D.D.A.P.S.

F 44

Copy to:- File.
HG

0902

~~W.D. & P. S. C.~~
~~Communication~~ S/C
1206

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

CJM/WSW

48

24 May 1945

Director	
Asst. Director	
Chief of Encoms	
Chief Postal	
H. Q. Coms O.	
Asst. Chief Postal	
Censorship	
Chief Clerk	

G-5: 311.1

SUBJECT: FW Mail for North Italy.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

Reference is your signal 7325 of 13 May.

This Headquarters has been informed that no direct loadings UK to Genoa are anticipated; therefore TROOPERS has been advised to load to Naples for onward routing.

For Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

3410

C. J. MACNALLARA,
Major, P. C.

IPW

CROSS. REFS.	
FILE	B/twd.
P44	

Date 27 May 1945



48

Telephone : HEADQUARTERS 1234

Telegrams : Postgen Cent London

Your Reference

P.O. Reference FW 9/45.

POSTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT,

GENERAL POST OFFICE,

LONDON, E.C.1.

// May, 1945.

SECRET

My dear Routh,

Referring to my letter of the 25th April, about Italian prisoner of war correspondence, Censorship have ~~since~~ furnished reports on the correspondence examined in mails 90 and 91 which were despatched from Naples on the 11th and 14th April respectively, and I enclose a statement giving particulars of letters postmarked more than 14 days before the date of despatch. It seems as though there may have been transport difficulties in Tuscany.

In addition, a considerable amount of correspondence dating back to 1943 was received in these mails. The letters were from Cosenza (July 1943), Benevento (August and September 1943), Foggia (September 1943), Frosinone (August and September 1943), Salerno (August and September 1943), Avellino (September 1943) and Naples (July to November 1943).

We have recently received a copy of a secret memorandum of the 20th March by GSI(12), G.H.Q., M.E.F., on prisoner of war mail passing through Middle East, and I enclose, for your information, an extract of the section devoted to incoming mail from Allied-occupied Italy. The statements regarding mis-sorting and mis-routing in Italy would seem to throw some light on the complaints made by Italian prisoners and their relatives about mail services to and from Italy; and perhaps you will drop a discreet hint in the proper quarter, with the view of bringing about some improvement.

be able to)—

Yours sincerely,

A. J. Wallis

Lieut. Col. R. A. G. Routh,
Chief Postal Officer,
Communications Sub-Commission,
Headquarters,
Allied Control Commission,
G.H.Q.



CHIEF REFS.	48
FILE 44	B, FWJ

Date...

Particulars of letters postmarked more than 14 days before despatch from Naples.

Place of Origin	No. of letters	Date of postmark	Date of despatch from Naples
Arezzo	20	24 - 30 March 1945	14 April
Florence	80	1 Feb - 23 March 1945	11 April
Foggia	19	24 - 30 March 1945	14 April
Frosinone	2	8 Jan: 1945	do.
Macerata	5	26 March 1945	do.
Matera	2	5 March 1945	11 April
Naples	11	4 - 11 March 1945	14 April
Pantellaria	12	23 - 29 March 1945	do.
Pescara	2	4 Jan: 1945	do.
Pistoia	18	22 - 30 March 1945	do.
Rome	2	7 March 1945	do.
Siena	59	22 - 27 March 1945	11 April
Terni	34	19 - 27 March 1945	do.
Trapani	29	23 - 29 March 1945	14 April

3408

GPO

SS 280.

SECRETExtract from Memorandum on Prisoner of War Mail passing through the Middle East.4 (b) From Allied-Occupied Italy

The bags are made up by the Italian Post Office at Naples - Care or, in the case mentioned in paragraph 3 (c) at A.P.O.'s farther North e.g. Florence.....

The contents of these bags are a medley of all types of letters and give the impression that very little thought is given to their job by those who made up the bags. As much as 35% of a bag has been found to be mail for others than Prisoners of War and, on the average, 8% of the contents of any bag is mis-sorts and misrouted items.

Prisoners of War and co-operator mail comprises letters for M.E., India, South Africa, Eritrea, East Africa and Russia as well as letters for Italian service personnel interned in Turkey. In addition mis-routed items are found for Prisoners of War in North Africa, West Africa, Equatorial Africa, G.B., U.S.A., Australia and New Zealand. The mis-routed items for Prisoners of War and mis-sorted items of all categories total $1\frac{1}{2}$ - 2% of the total mail bundled as for Prisoners of War.

Mis-sorted items, not bundled together with Prisoners of War mail, include letters from civilians and military personnel - Allied and co-belligerent - addressed to other civilians in Italy and in various parts of the world, to members of the Allied Forces in all theatres of war (with the Italian theatre predominating) to co-operators and co-belligerents not in the M.E. and beyond and to civil internees in all holding countries.

Letters franked "air mail" for Prisoners of War and civil internees in M.E. and beyond are always received in the Prisoner of War surface mail.

Occasionally a bag labelled Prisoner of War is found to be purely civilian when the contents are examined.

The

Correspondence from areas in proximity to zone of operations.

GPO

SS 280.

The deplorable sorting of the mail as outlined above necessitates the full time employment of two expert sorters to clear up the muddle, and, further, considerable clerical and despatch work has to be done to forward the mis-sorts to the appropriate departments.

Signed H.E.H. Glenn.
Col.

GSI (12)
GHQ MEF.
20th March, 1945.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
 AFO 394
 Communications Sub-Commission

RACR/ba

24 May, 1945

P. 44.47/CS

Subject: Italian Prisoner of War Correspondence.
 To : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecommunications.

On the 20th of April and the 1st of May, I wrote to you regarding complaints by Italian prisoners of war about the mail service to and from liberated Italy, and I asked you to have early enquiry made into cases of appreciable delay between the date of posting and the date of despatch of letters from Naples.

I shall be glad to hear early the result of the enquiries you have, no doubt, made in the matter.

I attach copy of a further list, received from London, giving particulars of correspondence observed in the undersigned prisoner of war mails from Naples, which had been postmarked more than 14 days before the date of despatch from Naples:-

No. 90	compatches	11 April
" 91	"	14 "

In addition a considerable amount of correspondence dating back to 1943 was received in these mails. The letters were from Cosenza (July 1943), Benevento (August and September 1943), Foggia (September 1943), Frosinone (August and September 1943), Salerno (August and September 1943), Avellino (September 1943) and Naples (July to November 1943).

Complaints have also been received from the Middle East (Egypt) regarding mis-sorting and mis-routing in Italy.

It is stated that bags made up at Naples-Caro contain a medley of all types of letters and give the impression that very little thought is given to their job by those who made up the bags. As much as 35% of a bag has been found to be mail for others than Prisoners of War and, on the average, 8% of the contents of any bag is mis-sorted and misrouted items.

Mis-sorted items, not bundled together with Prisoner of War mail, include letters from civilians and military personnel - Allied and co-belligerent - addressed to other civilians in Italy and in various parts of the world, to members of the Allied Forces in all theatres of war, to co-operators and co-belligerents not in the Middle East and beyond and to civil internees in all holding countries.

Items for the United Kingdom and the United States of America are also being mis-sent in Prisoners of War mails to Egypt. Occasionally a bag labelled "Prisoner of War" is found to be purely civilian.

Case	See 48
Date	
File	
144	

Bels

P. 44.47/CS of 24 May 1945
Continued

This deplorable sorting necessitates the full time employment of two expert sorters to clear up the muddle, and considerable clerical and despatch work.

It is essential that a thorough enquiry into the work in the Naples Post Office should be undertaken at once, to prevent further trouble, delay and distress to so many.

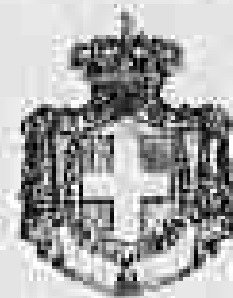
An early report on the action taken will be appreciated.

J.L.H.
J. L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

1 Encl. List of particulars of letters.

3406

Mod. 167



10

22 MAG 1945 194

46

*Ministero delle Poste
e delle Telecomunicazioni*

ISPETT. GEN. MOVIMENTO POST.

C.A. POSTS AND
Telecommunications
Subcommission

Sezione *Dir. I* *Se. I*

Let. N. 474003.C/9

Via Veneto - Roma

Allegati

Registral f. N.
del

OGGETTO

Posta da prigionieri di guerra per le
province liberate

Si fa riferimento al foglio N.P44
23 CS del 4 aprile u.s., e si trasmettono,
di seguito, i dati richiesti, in via breve,
sulla quantità della corrispondenza in og-
getto, giacente, al 5 del mese in corso,
nell'ufficio di Roma Ferrovia:

	sacchi	Kg.
Liguria		
per Genova	2	69.=
" La Spezia	2	55.500
Toscana		
Apuania Carrara	2	69.500
Apuania Massa	1	4.500
Emilia		
Bologna	15	445=
Ferrara	4	99
Modena	7	249
R. Emilia	4	107

3405

./.

Parma	2	57
Piacenza	1	52
	Totale	<u>1.187.500</u>

A tali quantitativi vanno aggiunti quelli certamente più cospicui per il Piemonte, la Lombardia ed il Veneto, motivo per cui, a parere della scrivente, si rende necessario il prolungamento della utilizzazione del treno Roma Livorno fino a Firenze e di quello Roma -Pesaro fino a Bologna.

IL DIRETTORE GENERALE



F

CROSS	
REF.	
FILE	44

Date _____

Communications Sub-Com. on
H.Q. Allied Commission
C.M.F.

P. 44.45/CS

19 May 1945

45

Dear Harvey,

I tried to 'phone you, but there is abnormal delay on the line and I am afraid it is too late to book a call.

Green who is at Milan, writes:-

Prisoner of War Letters

These are being accepted in Liguria, Piemonte and Lombardia.

I have told Drummond to ask the APO at Genoa to convey to Naples and will see the Milan APO myself. Could you see whether the British Army Postal Directorate would give a general agreement to POW mails addressed to Naples being handed to various APOs in the North as they proposed in the case of Italian Army Mail. I think that they would do so as A.F.H.Q. have always taken a fatherly interest in PW mail. I think that it would be preferable to send special PW Mails to Naples - making country labelled bundles where possible - because PW sorting is rather difficult and in any case a good deal has to go to Naples for PWCD.

Will you please say by return?

We shall also have to accept PW correspondence in the Emilia and Venezia Regions, and would like to use APO channels, if you agree, until we can provide outlets ourselves.

I hope you are keeping quite well and cheerful.

Kindest regards

Yours sincerely

R.H.

Lt. Col. W.C. Harvey
British Postal Directorate
Allied Force Headquarters
C.M.F.

CROSS	REFS
FILE	44

3404

Date

Excerpt CORRESPONDENCE FOR BRITISH PRISONERS OF WAR AND CIVILIAN
INTERNEES IN GERMANY 44

The following is the text of a press notice on the above subject which is being issued for publication and any inquiries from members of the public should be answered accordingly.

The Postmaster General announces that, as the Swiss Post Office cannot re-forward prisoner of war correspondence for Germany, the postal service to British prisoners of war and civilian internees in Germany is suspended, except in the case of the under-mentioned camps, for which both air mail and surface (free) correspondence will be forwarded by way of Sweden for as long as possible, viz.,

OFLAG XC, Stalag Luft I.

Correspondence can continue to be sent to civilian internees in Denmark.

(P.O.C. 2.5.45)

3403

44

WHG/epc

43

AFHQ FOR FHGEG RPTD ALCOM LIGURIA FOR DRUMMOND FR

7325

11th May, 1945

ROUTINE -

RESTRICTED PD

REUR FOX SEVEN TWO EIGHT ZERO NINE OWING POOR POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS

SOUTH TO NORTH PREFERABLE THAT PETER WILLIAM MAIL FOR NORTH ITALY

BE SENT BY SEA TO GENOA FROM OVERSEAS CENSOR STATIONS PD

PAREN TO AFHQ FOR FHGEG RPTD ALCOM LIGURIA FOR DRUMMOND FROM ALCOM HQCITE AGCMN PAREN

SUGGEST APOS AND TRANSPORTATION BE ASKED TO STATE WHEN HAND OVER TO

CIVIL AT GENOA IS PRACTICABLE

see 49

3402

COMMUNICATIONS S/C.

489081 Ext: 444

File (←) 44

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Communications

Originator's Reference: F 72809

Date/Time of Origin: MAY 09 1149B

Message Centre No: E/171

Date/Time Rec'd: MAY 10 0830B

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE FHGG

TO: ALCOM ROME

CONFIDENTIAL**ACTION** (42)**CONFIDENTIAL**

Weekly traffic about 25000 items 300 pounds.

Italian PW mail to northern ITALY from UK.

When you find it possible to arrange for delivery your agreement sought to send to ROME or other convenient centre so as to minimize delay.

Above is paraphrase of GEM 569 dated 5 May from TROOPERS.
Request your comment.DistAction - Communications SC
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
File 2
Float

3401	
CLASS	
FILE	44

Date _____

CONFIDENTIALFile

F 44

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

RACR/bs

11 May 1945

P.44.44/CS

Dear Beale,

Italian Prisoner of War Correspondence

With reference to the last paragraph of your letter P.W.9/45, dated April 16th, and addressed to Head.

It has not been possible to ascertain why, exactly, Mrs Febe Rosati in Vierno, via del Seminario 6, Prato, was not receiving airgraphs, letters and postcards from her husband, 234203, Cpl. Vierno Bruno, Bruna Camp, Stromness, Orkneys, up to January 28th last. Arrangements were duly made for delivery to callers of prisoner-of-war correspondence addressed to Prato, and this was widely known.

However, the addressee now acknowledges the receipt of letters from her husband.

As regards the general complaint about the mail service to and from liberated Italy, the appreciable interval between the date of posting and the date of despatch of the letters from Naples, and the laxity in date stamping the letters with the correct date, to which you and Wallis, in his letter of April 25th, refer, I have written to the Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecomms. twice, and asked the Director-General verbally, for an early enquiry and report.

W.J. Beale Esq.
Postal Services Dept.
General Post Office, London E.C.1

rk.

CROSS REFS.	
FILE	44

Date.....

3490

HEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

File Ref: 88/6

Date: 5 May 1945

SUBJECT: Non Delivery Of Correspondence.

TO : Communications Sub-Commission, Headquarters, AC.

1. Reference your P 44.34/CS of 20 April, the addressee now acknowledges the receipt of letters from her husband.

For the Regional Commissioner,

R.S. Drummond
R.S. DRUMMOND,
Captain,
Regional Postal Officer.

3393

CROSS REFS.	34
FILE 44	S.I.Wd.

Date 10 MAY 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

C/365/2

Censorship Control Hqrs.
17 Sh. Maspero,
Cairo.24th April 1945. **39**HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission.✓

I ^{have} ~~am~~ Reference your P/47/89/CS dated 14th inst.,
to inform you that the system of double bagging
mentioned in para 2 of your letter is not necessary
for Egypt.

Reference para 3 of your letter, P.O.W. mail
should continue to be addressed to the Chief P.O.W.
Censor but civil mail may continue to be labeled in
accordance with normal Postal procedure.

[Signature]
Major,
DEPUTY CHIEF POSTAL CENSOR.

Copy to :

O.i/c Central Postal Censorship, Cairo. Reference your
F.3/8 dated 14th inst., referred.

EPWS/EG

Director
D/Director
Chief
Chief
H
Asst
Censor
Chief

C	
k	
F	B/twd

3398

F

Date 24/4/45

48

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

WHG/ba

4 May 1945

P.44.33/CS

Subject: Italy External Mails-Labeling of Despatches.

To : G-5, A.F.H.Q.

Reference your 311.1 of 3 May 45.

1. The introduction of external mail censorship in Italy enables the civil despatches to be made in single bags addressed direct to overseas Post Office of Exchange as indicated in the lists furnished with P.47.98/CS of 13 April.

2. The point raised in P.47.90/CS of 14 April still applies as regards Prisoner of War despatches from Italy which continue to be censored overseas. Censorship Cairo, has replied to P.47.89/CS of 14 April stating that the double-bagging system is unnecessary for Egypt, and G 84 (12) C MEF has indicated that the proposals in P.47.89/CS are acceptable.

3. The Prisoner of War despatches from Italy are as follows:-

Naples	to	Cairo
		Tripoli
		Liverpool
		New York
		Ottawa
		Tunis

If no objection is seen, it is proposed to discontinue the double-bagging system and address these mails directly to the P.W. Censors concerned as proposed in P.47.89/CS.

For the Chief Commissioner.

Rh.
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

CROSS	10.47.114
REFS	
FILE	
44	

Date.....

JECT:- PW Mail - Bagging.

9140

Communications &c

GSI(1) Co. GHQ, MEF.
Omega House Ext. 4.

GSI(12)c/138.

26 Apr. 45.

HQ Allied Commission.
A.P.O. 394.
U.S. Army.

Italy External Mails - Labelling of Despatches.

Your P.47.89.CS dated 14 Apr. 45 refers.

This Branch raises no objection to the proposed change in procedure with regard to the bagging of POW mail.

HEADQUARTERS

FILE	B/fwd.
474	

Date 4 MAR 1945

(H.S. Knowles)
Major G.S. 336
for Col. (MC).

Communication

8875

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

J3/cjm

36A

G-5: 311.1-15

30 April 1945

SUBJECT: Mail from Italy to Russia.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference your P.44.29/CS of 6 April.

2. While there would be no objection on the part of this HQ to the censorship of P/W correspondence in Moscow instead of in Cairo, there is no prospect at present of transport for such mails from Italian to Russian Black Sea ports.

3. With regard to para. 4 of your letter under reference, G-2 has stated that external mail from Italy must be censored in Italy.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

Julius Byles
JULIUS BYLES,
Major, FA.

Try Capt Hayle 5:34

6 abt Hayle Transportation confirms
that there has been an irregular 3255
service to Russia. He will handle equines
and let us have details.

CROSS. REFS.	
FILE 44	B/Fwd. 15 May

Date 2 MAY 1945

35

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

RAGR/ba

1 May, 1945

P.44.35/CS

Subject : Italian Prisoner of War Correspondence.

To : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecomms.

On the 20th of April I wrote to you regarding complaints by Italian prisoners of war about the mail service to and from liberated Italy, and I asked you to have early enquiry made into case of appreciable delay between the date of posting and the date of despatch of letters from Naples.

With my letter P.44.33/CS I enclosed copy of a statement giving particulars of letters observed in recent mails from Naples to have been posted more than a fortnight before the despatch of the mail from Naples.

The attached copy of a further list, received from London to-day, gives particulars of correspondence, observed in the under-mentioned prisoner-of-war mails from Naples, which had been postmarked more than 14 days before the date of despatch from Naples:-

No. 86	despatched	28 March
" 87	"	31 "
" 88	"	4 April
" 89	"	7 "

An early enquiry and report will be appreciated.

ht.
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

3394

1 Inc.: List of letters.

15

CROSS	34-33
FILE	2 B. 2nd.
44	

Date

744

EMB



34A

Telephone : HEADQUARTERS 1234

Telegrams : Postgen Cent London

Your Reference

P.O. Reference P.W. 9/45

POSTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT,
GENERAL POST OFFICE,
LONDON, E.C.1.

25 April, 1945.

Confidential

My dear Routh,

Beale wrote to your predecessor, Colonel Head, on the 16th April about Italian prisoner-of-war correspondence, and we should be grateful if you would kindly refer to that letter as the following particulars are supplementary.

The enclosed statement gives particulars furnished by Censorship of correspondence, observed in the under-mentioned prisoner-of-war mails from Naples, which had been postmarked more than 14 days before the date of despatch from Naples, viz.,

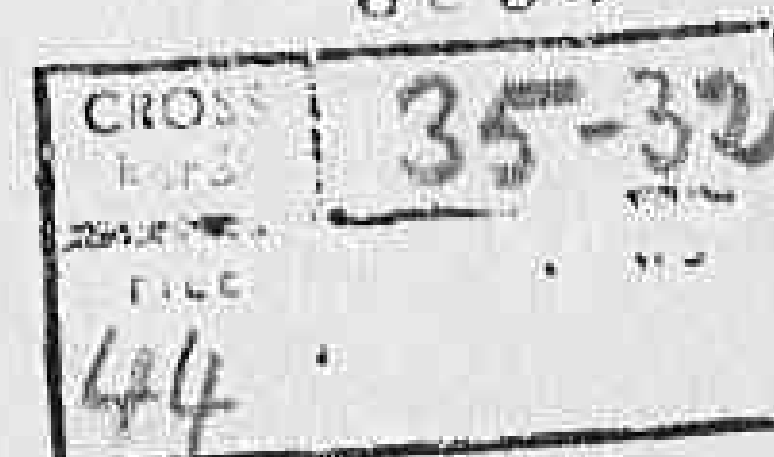
No. 86	despatched	28 March
No. 87	"	31 "
No. 88	"	4 April
No. 89	"	7 April

It is possible that the apparent delay to correspondence from Sicily may be explained by lack of opportunity for despatch from Sicily to Naples; and Censorship remark that letters from Pesaro Province contain remarks such as "Up to the present it has been impossible to post letters except when someone was travelling to a district where the postal service is functioning". We suppose, however, that as this Province was relatively near the operations zone it may have been in a kind of "buffer" zone for a time.

With kind regards and all good wishes

Yours sincerely,

N.E. Wallis



Date



Lt. Col. R. A. C. Routh,
Chief Postal Officer, Allied Control Commission,
C. M. F.

46

Particulars of letters postmarked more than 14 days
before despatch from Naples

384 B

Place of Origin	No. of letters	Date of postmark	Date of despatch from Naples
Ancona	4 24	12 - 13 March 17 - 20 "	28 March 4 April
Aquila	78 16 14	1 - 15 " 12 - 16 " 16 - 20 "	28 March 31 " 4 April
Arezzo	4 17 17	9 " 13 - 16 " 25 - 29 January, 1 February, 13 March	28 March 31 " 4 April
Ascoli P.	16	12 - 16 March	31 March
Cagliari	4	10 "	" "
Caltanissetta	10	13 "	28 "
Chieti	9	11 - 14 "	31 "
Cosenza	4	18 "	4 April
Florence	45	17 - 23 "	7 April
Foggia	14 4	11 - 16 " 19 "	31 March 4 April
Prosinone	12	6 - 10 "	31 March
Grosseto	6	19 - 20 "	4 April
Naples	6	17 - 18 "	" "
Nuoro	10	9 "	" "
Perugia	23 12	11 - 12 " 20 "	28 March 4 April
Pesaro	93 91	2 - 13 " 9 - 16 "	28 March 31 "
Pistoia	15	16 - 23 "	7 April
Rieti	9	7 - 9 "	28 March

/Rome

Place of Origin	No. of letters	Date of postmark	Date of despatch from Naples
Rome	12 4	8 - 12 March 19 "	28 March 4 April
Sicily ⁺	94	18 - 20 "	" "
Siena	21	12 - 13 "	28 March
Syracuse	9	12 - 13 "	" "
Terni	147 16	6 - 13 " 12 - 16 "	" " 31 "
Trapani	74	5 - 16 "	" "

⁺ includes
Enna
Palermo
Ragusa
Syracuse
Trapani

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

33

Ref: 564/205/EC.

24 April 1945.

Subject: Control and Administration of
Surrendered Enemy Forces.To: Director,
Communications Sub Commission.

The following is an extract from a 15th Army Group Directive,
subject as above, regarding the postal services for surrendered enemy forces
in Northern Italy:

"Initially disarmed forces personnel mail will be handled
through the International Red Cross in same manner as for
POW's. Subsequently, mail will be handled through more
direct means (military or civilian), subject to security
considerations and the facilities that may become available.
In all cases, mail will be censored."

Emmett R. ...
Chief Staff Officer,
to Executive Commissioner.

3391

Director	.....
U/Director	.....
Chief Telecoms	.....
Chief Postal	.....
Chief Coms O.	.....
Chief Postal	.....
Censorship	.....
Chief Clerk	.....

CLASS.	
REFS.	
FILE	B/Fwd.
44	

Date 24 APR 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

In reply
refer to : P.44.34/CS

20 April 1945

Subject : Non-delivery of correspondence.

To : R.C., Toscana Region (attn. Postal Officer)

234203 Cpl. Violmo Bruno, Bruna Camp, Stromness, Orkneya, complains that his wife, Tebe Rosati in Violmo, born in Prato on 15 Sept. 1922, residing in Prato (Toscana) via del Seminario 6, has not received any mail from him since September 1944, though he has been writing regularly 2 Airgraphs, 2 letters and 4 postcards per month to her.

He is receiving mail regularly from his wife and in her last letter, dated 2nd January 1945, received on 14th March 1945, his wife still states she has not received any word from him.

Please have ^{discreet} enquiry made in the matter with the view of ascertaining what has gone wrong in this instance, and let me know the result.

By Command of Rear Admiral Stone

RL
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel
Director

3390

CROSS REFS.	328
FILE	Forw.

F 46

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

RACB/da

P.44.33/CS

20 April 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Prisoner of War Correspondence.

TO : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecomms.

1. The Postmaster General, London reports that there is still a number of Italian prisoners who complain about the mail service to and from liberated Italy. In some cases there still seems to be an appreciable interval between the date of posting and the date of despatch of the letters from Naples. Enclosed is a copy of a statement giving particulars of letters observed in recent mails from Naples to have been posted more than a fortnight before the despatch of the mail from Naples.

2. Will you be so good as to have early enquiry made into the cause of these delays and let me know the result?

3. Censorship have noticed some laxity in date stamping the letters with the correct date. For instance three letters from Cassano d'Adda were post-marked February 8th whereas they were dated March 2nd, 8th and 11th respectively. Five letters from Mirta post-marked February 7th were dated February 23rd, 24th, 25th, March 2nd and 4th respectively. No doubt urgent steps will be taken to prevent such incorrect date stamping in future.

Rh.
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

1 Enc. - 32c

3289

CROSS REF.	32-35
FILE	44
Date	

Tele. Code: HEAdquarters 1234.
Telegrams: Postgen. Cent, London

Your Reference
P.O. Reference P.W. 9/45.



3240
POSTAL SERVICES
DEPARTMENT.
GENERAL POST OFFICE,
LONDON, E.C.1.
16 April, 1945.

Dear Head,

Italian Prisoner of War Correspondence.

There is still a number of Italian prisoners who complain about the mail service to and from liberated Italy. In some cases there still seems to be an appreciable interval between the date of posting and the date of despatch of the letters from Naples. I enclose a statement giving particulars (furnished by Censorship) of letters observed in recent mails from Naples to have been posted more than a fortnight before the despatch of the mail from Naples. We suppose that this may be due to transport difficulties in the more remote districts, particularly near the zone of operations, but I should be glad if you would kindly look into this, and let me know in due course whether some improvement may be expected.

Censorship have noticed some indication of laxity in date-stamping the letters with the correct date, and have given us some photostats of covers to illustrate this. These photostats are enclosed and show three letters from Cassano Caudino post-marked February 8th whereas the letters were dated March 2nd, 8th and 11th. Five letters from Mirto were post-marked February 7th, but the writing dates were February 23rd, 24th, 25th, March 2nd and 4th. We think you would wish to know this, in case it might be possible to give some advice in the proper quarter.

During the examination of Mail No. 3588 despatched from Naples on the 24th of March, Censorship observed a folder from Monte San Gidsto

in

Lt. Col. S.H. Head. (on Behalf)

3588-34-41

in Macerata Province dated December 15th 1943, and post-marked January 3rd 1944, which was apparently in the post before the liberation of Macerata.

I take this opportunity to enclose a copy of a report to the War Office by the Commandant of an Italian Working Company about a complaint by an Italian co-operator that, although he writes regularly to his wife, and sends airgraph messages, she has not received any mail from him since September last. We are assured that the letters and postcards would have been duly despatched to Rome; it occurs to us that possibly a delivery of correspondence has not yet been arranged at Prato, and prisoner of war correspondence should be called for at an appointed office. In that event, the applicants' wife might not be aware of this; and if it would be possible for you to have discreet enquiry made in the matter, with the view of ascertaining what has gone wrong in this instance, we should be glad if you will kindly have this done.

Yours sincerely,

W. B. Smith

COPY

Kirkwall 413 Ext.366

REF/558/HELP/5

Subject: Absence of Mail.

TO:- War Office
P.W. 1
Curzon Street House
Curzon Street
LONDON W.C.

234203, Cpl. Vielmo Bruno

The a/m Soldier states he has been writing regularly 2 Airgraphs, 2 letters and 4 Postcards per month to his wife Tebe Rosati in Vielmo, born in Prato on the 15 Sept. 1922, residing in Prato (Toscana), via del Seminario 6, but his wife states has not received any mail from him since September 1944.

He is receiving mail regularly from his wife and his last letter dated 28 January 1945 received on 14 March 45 still states she has not received any word from him.

In accordance with Admin. Instr. No. 354 I am forwarding the case to you for necessary action - please.

(Sgd.) M.A.E. Osmond

Major.
Commanding 558 Italian Working
Coy.

Bruna Camp,
Stromness, Orkneys.
17 March 45

32_c

Particulars of letters postmarked more than 14 days
before despatch from Naples

Place of origin	No. of letters	Date of postmark	Date of despatch	Place of origin	No. of letters	Date of postmark	Date of despatch
Arezzo	4	13 Feb.	28 Feb.	Frosinone	1	3 Feb.	24 Feb.
"	70	9-20 Feb.	7 Mar.	"	22	3-5 Mar.	21 Mar.
"	30	19-23 "	10 "	Grosseto	2	8-13 Feb.	28 Feb.
"	14	25-28 "	14 "	Lucca	20	15-20 May (1944)	10 Mar.
"	2	1 Mar.	17 "	Littoria	2	8 Mar.	24 "
"	110	3-8 "	24 "	Macerata	3	1-2 "	" "
Avellino	36	8-19 Feb.	7 "	Pisa	40	3-9 Feb.	24 Feb.
Ascoli Pinceno	6	16-17 "	3 "	"	8	12-13 "	28 "
"	10	17-19 "	7 "	"	10	28 Feb.- 2 Mar.	17 Mar.
Aquila	10	18-21 "	7 "	Pantelleria	9	25 Jan.- 2 Feb.	17 Feb.
"	8	15-22 "	10 "	"	1	13 Feb.	28 "
"	12	3-6 Mar.	21 "	"	2	27-28 Feb.	14 Mar.
Ancona	4	6 "	" "	"	2	27 "	17 "
Agrigento	4	19 Feb.	14 "	Pescara	1	3 "	28 Feb.
Brindisi	4	3 "	7 "	"	3	18-19 "	7 Mar.
Bari	2	3 "	24 Feb.	"	20	20-23 "	10 "
Cagliari	2	20 "	7 Mar.	Perugia	3	12 Feb.	7 "
"	2	5 Mar.	21 "	Pistoia	43	12-19 "	" "
Caltanissetta	2	28 Feb.	17 "	"	"	"	"
Cosenza	1	6 "	10 "	Pesaro	4	4-6 Mar.	21 Mar.
Catanzaro	5	8-9 "	24 Feb.	Siena	3	12 Feb.	28 Feb.
"	9	6-9 "	28 "	"	23	6-9 Mar. 7 th	18 Mar.
"	2	8-9 Mar.	21 Mar.	Sassari	5	3-9 Feb.	24 Feb.
Campobasso	2	13 Feb.	28 Feb.	Trapani	3	12 "	28 "
Chiete	16	7-15 "	3 Mar.	"	3	1 Mar.	17 Mar.
Enna (Sicily)	2	19 "	7 "				
Florence	3	9-13 "	28 Feb.				
"	16	12-23 "	10 Mar.				
Foggia	4	3-4 Mar.	21 "				

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

Snare
31 bis
WAG/va

P.47.39.05

14th April, 1945

SUBJECT: Italy External Mails: Labelling of Despatches.

TO: Civil Postal Censor, Cairo
Chief P.O.W. Censor, Cairo
Civil Postal Censor, Tripoli
P.O.W. Censor, Tripoli
O/C Censorship, Newshan Park, Liverpool
District Postal Censor, New York
Director of Postal Censorship, Ottawa
Contrôleur Techniques, Tunis

1. Under the standing instructions despatches from Italy to your office are due to be made up in bags labelled to you which are enclosed in outer bags labelled to the town of destination e.g. Naples to Cairo.

2. It is not quite clear whether this system of double-bagging serves any really useful purpose and it has the disadvantage that if the service information (number of despatch "P" for bill bag, etc) is shown only on the outer bag label you may have some difficulty in checking the mail and finding the bill when the inner bags are delivered to you by the Post Office at destination.

3. Will you please consult the Postal authorities at your end and say whether, so far as the office of arrival is concerned, there would be any objection to the mails being sent in single bags addressed directly from the Italian Office of Exchange to your office, with an indication where necessary whether the contents are civil or P.O.W. Mail.

EXAMPLES

FROM NAPLES
TO CHIEF P.O.W. CENSOR
CAIRO

3386

FROM NAPLES
TO DISTRICT POSTAL CENSOR
NEW YORK
+(P.O.W. MAIL)
or
+(CIVIL MAIL)

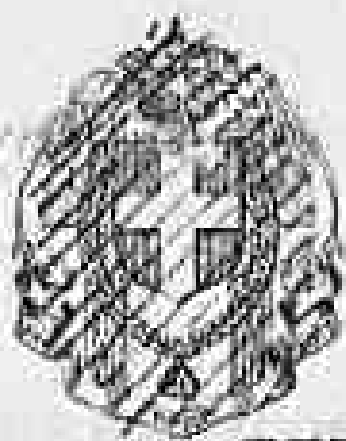
+ P.O.W. or Civil as appropriate. Civil and P.O.W. mails are due to be included in separate numbered series.

CROSS REFS.	
FILE	44

Date

For the Chief Commissioner.

J.L. Henderson
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.



MINISTERO DELLE COMUNICAZIONI

Direzione Generale delle Poste e dei Telegrafi

ISPETT. GEN. MOV. POSTALE

Servizio *Div. I Sez. I*
 Prot. N° *473843 0/9*
 Risposta al f. N° *423 Pd F 13*
 del *2.3.45*

-7 APR 1945

Roma

ALTO COMMISSARIO PER I
 PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA
 ROMA

OGGETTO: Supplemento del giornale
 "La Patria" per i prigionieri di
 guerra.

sp.c. COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
 Posts And Telecommunications Sub
 Commission =ROMA= *Via Veneto*

Nulla osta, da parte della scrivente, all'invio della pubblicazione settimanale ai campi di concentramento dei nostri Prigionieri di Guerra; pubblicazione che dovrà esser autorizzata dai competenti Organi della Commissione Alleata. = Gli esemplari della pubblicazione stessa dovranno seguire l'identico avviamento delle corrispondenze dirette ai prigionieri; sicchè verranno date in transito all'Ufficio Poste Napoli Ferrovia, per il successivo inoltrare a cura delle Forze Alleate. = Da Roma a Napoli, essendovi ormai una comunicazione ferroviaria giornaliera, le spedizioni saranno inoltrate esclusivamente con i treni. =

L'Ente, a cui indirizzare i pacchi nei vari paesi Alleati, dovrà essere indicato dalla competente Commissione Alleata; sembrerebbe tuttavia soluzione consigliabile quella di indirizzare i pacchi stessi, per la distribuzione delle copie, ai rispettivi Comandi dei Campi. =

Resta inteso che i pacchi già predisposti per i vari Enti o Comandi dei campi, che saranno stabiliti

./.

44

previi accordi tra cedeste Ente e la Commissione Allea-
ta, dovranno esser presentati, accuratamente e solidamente
confezionati, all'Ufficio postale di Roma - Ferrovia
(Santa Bibiana) salvo contrario accordo che possa interve-
nire tra cedeste Alto Commissario e la Commissione Allea-
ta.=

Si resta pertanto in attesa di ulteriori defini-
tive comunicazioni al riguardo.=

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO
(FANO)

F

CROSS. REFS.	
FILE	d/twd.

Date... 6 APR 1945

31
B

TRANSLATION

473843 C/9

7 April 1945

To : High Commissioner for P.O.W.

and for information

To : Allied Commission - Communications Sub-Commission

Subject : Supplement of the newspaper "La Patria" for the P.O.W.

No objection is seen, as far as our Administration is concerned, to the despatch of the weekly publication to the camps of our P.O.W.; publication which will have to be authorized by the competent branch of the Allied Commission. The copies of the newspaper should follow the same circulation of the correspondence addressed to P.O.W.; and therefore they will be given in transit to the Naples Ferrovia Post Office, for the further conveyance on care of the Allied Forces. The newspapers will be forwarded from Rome to Naples exclusively by train, because there is now a daily train service.

The Office to which the bundles should be addressed will be indicated by the competent Allied Commission; it would however seem an advisable solution to address such bundles of papers to the respective Camp Commandants, for the distribution of the copies.

The ~~papers~~ bundles, already ~~made up~~ and addressed to the various Offices or Camp Commandants as fixed in agreement between your Office and the Allied Commission, should be delivered, carefully and solidly made up, to the Post Office of Rome Ferrovia (S. Bibiana), if no different arrangements will be agreed between your Office and the Allied Commission.

We wait therefore to hear you furtherly for definite communications on the matter.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

64

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

COMMUNICATIONS

Originator's Reference: 67180

Message Centre No: D/6854

Date/Time of Origin: APR 04

Date Time Rec'd: APR 04/1830

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: SOTTOSEGREARIO STATO FANO

TO: P C COMMISSIONE ALLEATA POST AND T C SUBCOMMISSION ROME

ACTION

IN CLEAR.

DIRPOSTEL CHIETI ET LITTORIA ET PER CONOSCENZA TUTTE DIRPOSTEL
PROVINCIE AMMISTRATE GOVERNO ITALIANO + 4/1 RISULTA CHE DIPENDENTI
UFFICI C P SPEDISCONO AT COMITATO INTERNAZIONALE CROCE ROSSA
CORRISPONDENZE PER PRIGIONIERI GUERRA ET MESSAGGI CIVILI PUNTO
PRECISARSI IN PROPOSITO CHE INVII SUDDETTI DEBONO ESSERE INVECE
SPEDITI IN BUSTE INDIRIZZATE AT UFFICIO POSTE ROMA FERROVIA CUI COMPETE
SMISTAMENTO ET SUCCESSIVO INOLTRO PUNTO ISPOSTMOV DIRAMERA APPOSITA
CIRCOLARE SU TALE ARGOMENTO ++

+ SOTTOSEGREARIO STATO FANO +

To: Postal Directorates Chieti and Littoria and for all Direc. of Provinces
Under Italian Government Administration. *inform. Co* 3583

4/1 It results that depending offices of despatch to IRCC correspondences
for POW and messages for civilians. It must be made clear on the matter
that above despatches must instead be despatched in envelopes
addressed to Rome Ferrovia FO which is in charge
charge of the sorting and successive forwarding. Apposite circular will
on the subject will be sent by Ispostmov.

CROSS. REFS.	FILE
14-18	19
B/fwd.	

Date: 5 APR 1945

HEADQUARTERS
5 APR 1945

29

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

WHL/bs

In reply
refer to: P.44.29/CS

6 April 1945

Subject : Mail from Italy to Russia.

To : G-5, A.F.H.Q.

1. At the present time correspondence for Italian POW in Russia is due to be included in the mail from Naples to Chief POW Censor, Cairo; civil correspondence for Russia is included in the mail from Naples to Civil Postal Censor, Cairo. These mails, like all other Italian external mails are conveyed from the outpost under Allied Army Postal arrangements.

2. In the attached letter the Italian Red Cross (at the suggestion of the Sovietic Red Cross) raised the question of the establishment of a direct POW despatch from Italy to Russia by a sea service operated from a southern Italian port to Odessa. Transportation Sub-Commission has confirmed by telephone from A.F.H.Q. that such a service exists.

3. The proposal requires that decisions be sought on several points:-

- (a) Will censorship of POW correspondence in Moscow in lieu of Cairo be acceptable?
- (b) Would the direct mail be sent by the route proposed if it were handed to the APO in the usual way, and if not
- (c) May the Italian Postal Administration be allowed to make direct arrangements for the despatch and conveyance of the mail?

4. The same points will arise in connection with any proposal to establish a direct mail to Russia to include civil correspondence for that country and possibly for the liberated countries of Eastern Europe. In both cases the volume of traffic is likely to be very light and frequency, reliability and speed of service rather than bulk are the main considerations.

For the Chief Commissioner.

WHL

J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

1 Inc.

Letter 50425/282 of 5 April from C.R.I.

Copies to:

British Postal Directorate, C/o No. 15 Base APO, CH.
G-2, A.F.H.Q.

C.O.S.	36
FILE	E, fwd.
44	1000

Date



28
CROCE ROSSA ITALIANA
UFFICIO PRIGIONIERI, RICERCHE E SERVIZI CONNESSI

Prot. N.

Risposta N.

Oggetto

Italian Prisoners of War in U.R.R.S.

Allegati

AR/1s

50.123/28R
Roma, li 5th April 1945
VIA PUGLIE, 6 - Telet. 41.530 - 404.576
(Chiffre russo: 141131010001 / ROMA)

by hand

Dear Sir,

We beg to refer to previous conversation regarding the question of exchange of correspondence with Italian prisoners of war internés in the U.S.S.R. concentration camps and particularly to the possibility of accelerating this service as much as possible.

As already mentioned you, the Sovietic Red Cross at Moscow, suppose that there is a certain steamer service, operated by the Allied Authorities, from a southern Italian port to Odessa (black sea) and viceversa. They are under the impression that if we could utilise this service, the forwarding of mail to the U.S.S.R. might be expedited to the benefit of our p.o.w. and their families who have not heard from their relatives since they have been captured.

As we understand from you however that the mail service for U.S.S.R. is actually performed via Cairo (where censorship is made) thence to Teheran and onwards, we do not see how the suggestion of the Sovietic Red Cross can be adhered to, unless instructions are given to effect the censorship in Italy.

We do not know either, even if the question of censorship could be resolved, whether there is actually a saving of time by following the Sovietic Red Cross suggested route and under the circumstances we shall not make any alteration in our mail schedule instructions for U.S.S.R. pending your definite advice on the matter.

Major GREEN
Postal Service - Sub-Commission
Allied Commission

= ROME =

SEE 29
/...

Allegati

AR/l's

Dear Sir,

We beg to refer to previous conversation regarding the question of exchange of correspondence with Italian prisoners of war internés in the U.S.S.R. concentration camps and particularly to the possibility of accelerating this service as much as possible.

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Major GREEN
Postal Service - Sub-Commission
Allied Commission

= ROME =

/...

44

Whatever your decision may be however, in order to save time, we would kindly ask you to instruct the censorship either at Cairo or Naples as the case may be, to arrange to forward our p.o.w. mail for U.S.S.R. which generally consists in Red Cross cards with printed address as per specimen already sent you and of which another copy is attached hereto, all in one bunch to avoid dispersion and consequent delay.

Awaiting to hear from you on the above matters, we take the opportunity to thank you very much for your kind cooperation and remain

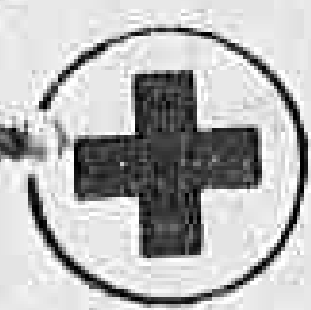


(A. Cassinis)

Director Prisoners of War Office

Italian Red Cross

0941



CROCE ROSSA ITALIANA
POSTA DEI PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA
ПОШТА ВОЕННО ПЛЕННЫХ
PRISONERS OF WAR POST

IN FRANCHIGIA

Mittente
Посыльный
Cognome
Фамилия
Nome
Имя
Indirizzo
Адрес

Cognome e Nome del Prigioniero
Фамилия и Имя Пленного

Grado
Чин

Campo di Concentramento №
Лагерь Военно Пленных №
Центральное Бюро Военнопленных

МОСКВА
Куйбышева 12
С. С. С. Р.
U. R. S. S. R.

Mod. 37

(Data)

For 27 destroyed cancelled

26

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

WHE/bs

In reply
refer to: F.44.26/CS

5 April 1945

Subject : Prisoner of War Despatches to Cairo.

To : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecomms.

P.H.64/CS

With reference to previous correspondence on the subject of missorting.

1. A long report has been received from the censorship authorities in Cairo in which strong complaint is made of what is described as the deplorable sorting of the mail from Naples to the Chief POW Censor. In addition to the inclusion of items for Italian Prisoners of War in countries correspondence for which is not due to circulate to Cairo, many items are received addressed to Civilians in Italy and members of the Allied Forces. Moreover it is stated that on occasions the entire contents of a bag labelled POW mail is found to consist of correspondence addressed to Civilians.

2. It is therefore suggested that it would be advisable for you to have a surprise check made of the contents of one of these mails.

3. Some difficulty is also apparently being experienced in checking the mails on arrival and identifying the bill bags. It is not quite clear how this arises as a good deal of trouble used to be taken at Naples over the preparation of labels for these despatches. As you are aware, the civil despatches are due to be numbered in an entirely separate series from the POW despatches. The detailed labelling is as follows:-

	Inner Bag	Outer Bag
Civil Mail	FROM NAPLES TO CIVIL POSTAL CENSOR CAIRO	FROM NAPLES TO CAIRO (Civil Mail)
P.O.W. Mail	FROM NAPLES TO CHIEF POW CENSOR CAIRO	FROM NAPLES TO CAIRO (POW Mail)

On the outer label is also due to appear the weight of the bag and figures indicating the serial number of the despatch and the total number of bags in that despatch. The letter "T" should be shown on the label of the "final" bag of each despatch which contains the foglio d'avviso.

0944

ef
B

P.44.26/CS of 5 April 1945

- Continued -

4. In order to assist in identifying these bags will you please arrange for details mentioned in para. 3 to be shown on the inner bag as well as the outer bag label if this is not already the practice. The question whether it is now possible to discontinue the use of the outer bags has been raised and a further communication will be sent when further information on this matter is available.

WHL
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

CROSS REF.	
FILE	1, TWO
44	

Date

3378

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

WHG/bs

In reply
refer to: P.44.25/C3

5 April 1945

Subject : Naples P.O.W. Despatches to Cairo.

To : G-5, A.F.H.Q.

Reference your 311.1 of 1st April 1945.

1. The question of the low standard of sorting efficiency has already been raised with the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and fresh representations will be made in the light of the relevant portions of the report by GHI (12), MEF.

2. It should be pointed out however that there are certain features in the report which suggest that some further enquiry into the treatment of these mails on arrival at Cairo is desirable. Under the standing instructions the Civil and POW despatches from Naples should be made up entirely separately in bags addressed to Civil Post Censor, Cairo and Chief POW Censor, Cairo. These are enclosed in outer bags addressed Naples to Cairo "Civil" and Naples to Cairo "POW" respectively. The Civil and POW despatches are in entirely separate numbered series and each outer bag label is due to bear figures indicating the serial number of the despatch and the total number of bags included in the despatch. The label of the "final" bags containing the bills are due to be marked "F". The despatches are made up once or twice a week and handed over to the No. 15 Base Army Post Office with a list on which the Civil and POW mails are shown separately. Records at 15 Base APO will indicate whether the authorised procedure is being carried out.

3. It is quite probable that several despatches both Civil and POW arrive at Cairo together but from the details shown on the labels it should be possible to "tick-in" the mails and, in accordance with standard practice, to prepare a Bulletin de Verification if there is any irregularity in the make-up of any mails. The trouble may possibly be due to some arrangement under which the outer bags and the relative labels giving the necessary data indicating number bill bags etc., are being removed before the mails are collected by the Chief POW Censor. On this assumption instructions have been given that the data should also appear on the inner bag labels.

4. It would be a better arrangement, particularly in view of the shortage of mail bags, if the double-bagging system could be discontinued and the mails addressed simply from Naples to Civil Post Censor, Cairo and Chief POW Censor, Cairo. Perhaps this suggestion will be made to MEF if the British Postal Directorate sees no objection.

25
B

P.44.25/CS of 5 April 1945

-Continued-

5. There are other points which make the report somewhat unconvincing. For example, it will be observed that items for POW in Australia and New Zealand are ~~reported~~ as being mis-routed to Cairo whereas actually that is the authorised circulation (for recent confirmation see Middle East letter P/CIV/150 of 16th February 1945 enclosed with your 311.1 of 14th March). Similarly, the inclusion in a surface despatch of letters on which the public has irregularly put Air Mail stamps (when no air-service has been advertised) is quite in order.

For the Chief Commissioner.

J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

CROSS REFS.	
FILE	110
44	

Date

3376



Ministero delle Comunicazioni
DIREZIONE GENERALE DELLE POSTE E DEI TELEGRAFI

Roma 4 APR. 1945

1^a On. Commissione Al-
leata - Poste and T.C.
Subcommission ROMA

Lettera IV Div 1 Pa 2
Rel. N. 419042/835077/XPS

Dispositivo N. P.44.18/CS
del 22.2.1945

OGGETTO - Corrispondenze di prigionieri di guerra.

In relazione alla nota sopradistinta si ha il pregio di partecipare che sono state fatte da questo Ministero le debite contestazioni alle Direzioni Prov.li P.T. di Chieti e di Litteria perché gli Uffici corrispondenze e Pacchi da esse dipendenti sogliono includere in buste d'ufficio indirizzate al Comitato Internazionale della Croce Rossa corrispondenze per prigionieri di guerra e messaggi civili.

Si partecipa, altresì, che allo scopo di evitare il ripetersi di inconvenienti della specie da parte di Uffici postali dipendenti da altre Direzioni P.T., l'Ispettorato Generale

SEE 20 = 1 =
44

del Movimento Postale ha diramato in proposito
un'apposita circolare a tutte le Direzioni P.T.
delle Province amministrato dal Governo Italiano

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO
(Fado)

Director	.....
D/Director	.....
Chief Telecoms	.....
Chief Postal	.....
H Q Coms O.	.....
Asst Chief Postal	.....
Censorship	.....
Chief Clerk	.....

CNC SS.	
FILE	b1wo
P.44	

Date: 4 APR 1945

F

TRANSLATION

4 April 1945

419042/835027/1PS

Subject : P.O.W. correspondence.

Ref. your P.44.18 CS we inform you that the due ~~contacts~~^{contacts} have been made by this Ministry to the Directions of Chieti and Littoria because the C. and P. Offices depending on them use to include P.O.W. correspondence and civil messages in service envelope addressed to the I.R.C.C.

We inform also that in order to avoid new inconveniences by the offices depending on other Prov. Directions, the General Inspectorate for Postal Movements has issued on the matter a circular to all the Provincial Directions under Italian Government Administration.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

3374

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
 AND
 Communications Sub-Commission

23
 HKG/ba

In reply
 refer to: P.44.23/3

4 April 1945

Subject : Prisoner of War Mail arrangements in liberated Provinces
 prior to resumption of Civil Postal Services.

To : Rome Headquarters, Emilia Region.

Reference your enquiry of 30th March 1945.

1. The standing arrangements as agreed to by AAI early last
 year and since operated in "forward Provinces" are as follows:-

(A) Prisoner Mail

(a) Censor Stations in P/W-holding countries begin forwarding
 mail from P.W. to Italy as soon as the Provincial Capital is in Allied
 hands.

(b) Such mail addressed to Provinces where postal services
 do not operate is despatched by Ferrovia Post Office in bags which
 are due to be addressed

PRISONER OF WAR MAIL
 FROM: ROME
 TO : PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR
 POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

.....(Name of Province Capital)
 An upper label is due to be attached addressed:-

"PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER
 AND

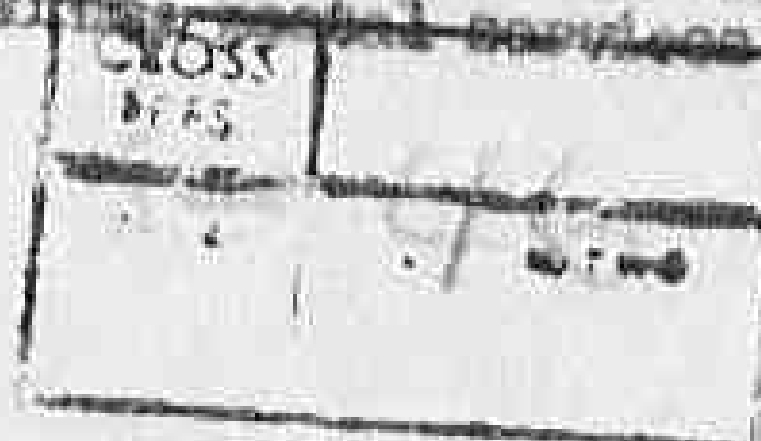
.....PROVINCE"

The bags so addressed are delivered periodically by the
 Post Office to AG Headquarters for conveyance to destination by courier
 services.

(c) On arrival at destination the mail is due to be handed
 over by the Provincial Commissioner's office to the Post Office Provincial
 Directorate for disposal in accordance with local arrangements. Usually
 Security does not permit a house-to-house delivery but the correspondence
 (P.W. mail only) is distributed to Post Offices in the Province by the
 services used for the conveyance of funds and documents relating to Post
 Office Financial Services and is made available for delivery to "callers".

(B) Returning Mail to Prisoners of War.

(a) Letters addressed to Italian Prisoners of War posted at
 Post Offices in Provinces not open for normal postal services should be



P.44.23/OS of 4 April 1945
- Continued -

made up into packets or bags addressed to the Allied Censorship Control Officer at the Provincial Capital.

(b) These despatches of outgoing P.W. mail should be conveyed to the Provincial Capital either by the Postal (financial) Motor Services referred to in para. A (c) above or by AMG channels as the local AMG authority decides.

2. The only other correspondence which may be included in the special inward or outward P.W. despatches are International Red Cross Messages.

3. The labelling of the despatches made from Rome Post Office is in accordance with the foregoing instructions, it is thought that necessity for covering letter (suggested in the memo of 26th March) should not arise. The Italian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications is being asked to ensure that the labels are clearly prepared in "block" capitals.

By Command of Rear Admiral Stone

WHL
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

Copies to:

- ✓ Despatch Office
- ✓ Civil Censorship Group
- ✓ R.C. Emilia Region
- ✓ " Liguria "
- ✓ " Lombardia "
- ✓ " Piemonte "
- ✓ " Venezia "
- ✓ A.M.G. 15 Army Group
- ✓ " 8th Army
- ✓ " 5th Army

Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecomms. (reference para 3)

CROSS REFS.	
FILE	3372
Date	

0952

EXT-418
Major Newell

(22)

HEADQUARTERS EMILIA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

ATH/afp

26 March 1945

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Commanding Officer, Rear Headquarters, Emilia Region.

1. The following named personnel have reported to this headquarters for duty:

1st Lt	Ralph F. Germann
Capt	B. R. Fairweather
Major	J. G. S. G. Shute
Capt	M. G. Toomer
Major	H. B. Bell
Capt	T. C. Gardner

2. Request you communicate with Message Center, Hq Allied Commission and ask them to forward a covering letter with all bags of POW mail marked for this area stating to whom it is to be transmitted and identifying contents.

By order of Colonel BOWMAN:

ALDEN T. HINSON
1st Lt, AC
Adjutant

JEE 23

3871

44

~~SECRET~~

Communications S/C

336.
4368ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TBJ/as

214

1 April 1945

G-5: 311.1

SUBJECT: Routing of Mail to and from Italy.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Attached is a copy of extracts from memo on P/W Mail passing through Middle East (GSI (12), GHQ, MEF, dtd 20 Mar 45).

2. The above has been passed to this section by G-2(CI) this HQ with a request that whatever remedial action is possible may be taken.

3. Will you please enquire into the matter and ensure that all possible remedial action is taken.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

Incl:
as above*W. B. Jackman*
17 col.
T. B. JACKMAN
Lt. Colonel

3370

25-26	
FILE	B/fwd.
44	

Date 2 APR 1945

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~21
BEXTRACTS FROM MEMO ON P/W MAIL PASSING THROUGH
MIDDLE EAST (GSI (12), GHQ, MET, dtd 20 Mar 45)

3. (c) INCOMING MAIL from Neutral and Allied Countries

From Allied Occupied Italy mail is received in closed bags addressed to Chief P/W Censor, Cairo. This is intercepted by C.P.C. and is held for collection by us. At times a few bags are received from 4 B.A.P.O. These prove in the to be from areas in proximity to the zone of operations.

4. (b) INCOMING MAIL from Allied Occupied Italy

The bags are made up by the Italian P.O. at Naples - Gare, or, in the case mentioned in para 3(c) above, at APOs farther North, e.g. Florence. They reach the M.E. in batches. It is evident that one W/B covers a complete consignment which is in part P/W and partly civilian mail. The W/B is placed in any bag of a specific consignment and, when it has been put in a bag of P/W mail, it is received here. When the W/B is not received, it may be assumed to be in a bag with civilian mail.

The contents of these bags are a medley of all types of letters and give the impression that very little thought is given to their job by those who make up the bags. As much as 35% of a bag has been found to be mail for others than Ps/W and, on the average, 8% of the contents of any bag is mis-sorts and mis-routed items.

P/W and co-operator mail comprises letters for M.E., India, South Africa, Eritrea, East Africa and Russia as well as letters for Italian service personnel interned in Turkey. In addition mis-routed items are found for Ps/W in North Africa, West Africa, Equatorial Africa, G.B., USA, Australia and New Zealand. The mis-routed items for Ps/W and mis-sorted items of all categories total 1% - 2% of the total mail bundled as for Ps/W.

Mis-sorted items, not bundled together with P/W mail, include letters from civilians and military personnel - Allied and co-belligerent - addressed to other civilians in Italy and in various parts of the world, to members of the Allied Forces in all theatres of war, (with the Italian theatre predominating) to co-operators and co-belligerents not in the M.E. and beyond and to civil internees in all holding countries.

Letters for our Ps/W who were in camps in Italy are still coming through for 'Return to Sender'.

Undeliverable letters of all types are included regularly in the bags.

Letters franked "air mail" for Ps/W and civil internees in M.E. and beyond are always received in the P/W surface mail.

Occasionally a bag labelled P/W mail is found to be purely civilian when the contents are examined.

The deplorable sorting of the mail as outlined above necessitates the full time employment of two expert sorters to clear up the muddle, and, further, considerable clerical and despatch work has to be done to forward the mis-sorts to the appropriate departments.

~~SECRET~~

P.44.20/CS 1st Ind RLM/ejs
 PRISONER OF WAR CENSORSHIP DETACHMENT, APO 512, US Army, 2 April 1945.

TO: Chief Commissioner, Communications Sub-Commission, Headquarters
 Allied Commission, APO 394, U.S. Army.

In compliance with paragraph 2, basic communication the following
 information is hereby submitted:

Provinces in Northern Italy to which
 PW correspondence is being forwarded

Alessandria
 Aosta
 Asti
 Belluno
 Bergamo
 Bolzano
 Brescia
 Como
 Cremona
 Cuneo
 Fiume
 Genoa

Gorizia
 Imperia
 Mantova
 Milano
 Novara
 Padova
 Parma
 Pavia
 Piacenza
 Pola
 Rovigo
 Savona

Sondrio
 Trento
 Treviso
 Trieste
 Udine
 Varese
 Venezia
 Vercelli
 Verona
 Vicenza
 Zara

Michael Hoppitt Major CAC
 for ROMIE L. MELTON,
 Major, Infantry,
 Chief PW Censor.

3368

Director	
D/Direct	
Chief	
Chief	
H	
Asst	
Chief	
Chief	

*file. In view of latest
 developments it is
 considered undesirable
 to send via France
 at this late stage
 with.*

7.44

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

WHG/bs

In reply
refer to: P.44.20/CS

28 March 1945

Subject : Prisoner of War Mail for Northern Italy.

To : P.W. Censorship Detachment
APO 512, U.S. Army

1. It is found that at Rome Ferrovia Post Office there are a number of bags of old censored correspondence from Italian P.W. to relatives in North Italy.

2. Before a decision is given as to disposal or continued retention, would you please say to which Provinces in Northern Italy current P.W. correspondence is being forwarded via France at the present time.

For the Chief Commissioner

W. H. Green
major
for J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

SEE 140

3367



*Ministero delle Poste
e delle Telecomunicazioni*

Ispett. Gen. Mov. Postale
L. 10. I. L. I.
Del. N. 473109 I/2 P.G.
Allegati

Roma 27 MAR 1945

Commissione Alleata
Poste And Telecommunications
Sub Commission

Via Veneto

R O M A

Risposta al N. 5.44. II.C.S.
del 24.2.45.

OGGETTO: Corrispondenze di prigionieri di guerra

Con riferimento al foglio sopraindica-
to:

1) A Napoli Ferrovia non trovansi giacente alcun quantitativo di corrispondenze spedite da prigionieri di guerra e dirette a Nord del confine entro cui si svolge adesso il servizio postale od alle provincie tuttora fuori del territorio liberato; in quanto come ebbe a riferirsi con la precedente nota p.n. del 22.2.u.s, le corrispondenze stesse furono, da Napoli, proseguite a Roma.

2) A Roma Ferrovia trovansi giacenti corrispondenze della specie, raccolte:
in 12 sacchi per Kg. 360 dirette in

"	35	"	"	"	1050	3366 dirette in Monte Lombardia
"	29	"	"	"	870	dirette nel Veneto.
"	2	"	"	"	60	dirette in Liguria

555 20-

44

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

Inreply
refer to : P.44.18/CS

22 March 1945

Subject : Prisoner of War correspondence.

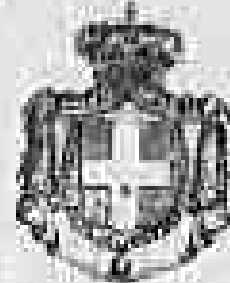
To : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecomms.

1. Certain Post Offices are incorrectly inclosing correspondence for Prisoners of War and International Red Cross messages in envelopes addressed to the Comitato Internazionale Croce Rossa.
2. I enclose three such envelopes.

WHL
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel
Director

SEE 24

3365



*Ministero delle Poste
e delle Telecomunicazioni*

Ispett. Gen. Mov. Postale
Servizio *Dir. I Dir. I*
Tel. V. 473109 I/2 P.G.
Allegati

Roma, 27 MAR 1945

Commissione Alleata
Poste And Telecommunications
Sub Commission
Via Veneto

R O M A
Ripetizione A. 5.44. II. C.S.
del 24.2.45

Oggetto: Corrispondenze di prigionieri di guerra

Con riferimento al foglio sopraindica-
to:

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2) A Roma Ferrovia trovansi giacenti corrispondenze della specie, raccolte:

in 12 sacchi per Kg.	360	dirette in	
"	35	"	"
"	29	"	"
"	2	"	"

386b
1050 dirette in
Lombardia
870 dirette nel
Veneto.
60 dirette in
Liguria

585 20-

in 20 sacchi per Kg. 600 dirette in
Emilia.

Totale : sacchi 98 per Kg. 2940.

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO
M. FANO

CROSS. REFS.	
FILE T.30	B/Fwd.

Date 27 MAR 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

Inreply
refer to : F.44.18/CS

22 March 1945

Subject : Prisoner of War correspondence.

To : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecomms.

1. Certain Post Offices are incorrectly inclosing correspondence for Prisoners of War and International Red Cross messages in envelopes addressed to the Comitato Internazionale Croce Rossa.
2. I enclose three such envelopes.

WHL
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel
Director

SEE 24

3365

Censorship of Yugo Slavia P/O and Internee mails.

Note : Censorship of correspondence:

(a) to and from Yugo-slave prisoners of war held in Germany, and

(b) to and from Yugo slave prisoners, civilian and military Internees held in Switzerland

is performed under the direction of A.C.C.O. Transadriatic Mail Section Bari.

W.H. GREEN
Major

19 March 1945

Copy in File 4
" 44

3364

46

TRANSLATION

Subject : P.O.W. correspondence.

Ref. your letter P.44.11/CS of 24 Feb.

1. At Naples Ferrovia no correspondence is at present on hand from P.s O.W. addressed to places Northern of the boundaries in which the postal service is now operated or outside the liberated territory; as we informed you in our previous letter, file as above, of 22 feb., such correspondence have been forwarded from Naples to Rome.

2. At Rome Ferrovia there are at present on hand:

12	bags	with	360	kg.	addressed	to	Piemonte.
35	"	"	1050	"	"	"	Lombardia.
29	"	"	870	"	"	"	Veneto
2	"	"	60	"	"	"	Liguria
20	"	"	600	"	"	"	Emilia

Total 98 bags with 2940 kg.

3363

UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

0964

COPY

Subject:- Civil Mails from Italy to Cairo.

CHQ MEF
P/Civ/150
16 Feb 1945

AFHQ.

1. Reference your letter AG 311.1/051-0 of 21 Jan 45, the question of establishing direct closed civil mails to such countries as Eritrea, East Africa, South Africa and Australia has been referred to the Director (ME) Censorship who was stated that the change would help censorship in Egypt and would greatly speed up the mail services in question.
2. The Chief Prisoner of War Censor Mideast has stated, however, that direct mails containing correspondence for POW or Italian Cooperators should NOT be made up for the places in question since the censorship of such correspondence is a Middle East commitment; it is desired that POW correspondence should continue to be included in mails addressed to Chief POW Censor, Cairo, as at present.

Major RE,
(H.W. BARNES)
for DDAPS.

SEE P-7-53/CJ

3362

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

WHIG/ba

13 March 1945

In reply
refer to: P.44.15/CS.

Subject : Mail for Italian P.O.W. in the United Kingdom.

To : G-2 (OC), A.F.H.Q.

Reference your GCB/1040/624 of 5 March 1945.

1. The Italian Post Office has been instructed to address the P.W. despatches to the United Kingdom accordingly.

2. It should be mentioned that the address quoted in your letter is that which was used originally but it was altered to "O/O Censorship, Newsham Park, Liverpool" on instructions given in Troopers 64630 of 1st August 1944.

For the Chief Commissioner

WHL
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

1 Inc.: Letter P.44.14/CS to Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs.

3361

F44

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

WHG/bs

In reply
refer to: P.44.14/G3

13 March 1945

Subject : Mail for Italian P.O.W. in the United Kingdom.
To : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecomms.

1. Correspondence addressed to Italian Prisoners of War in the United Kingdom should be despatched uncensored to:-

Prisoner of War Censorship
Seamus Orphanage
Newsham Park
Liverpool, England.

2. Please instruct all offices to which the Foreign Mail Circulation Chart was issued (particularly Naples Ferrovia) to amend the relative entry in column 3 accordingly.

W.H. Green
major
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

Copy to:
G-2 (CG), A.F.H.Q.

3360

CROSS REFS.	15-13
FILE	44
L. rwd.	

Date.....

13

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
APO 512, US Army

CCB/1040/

b24

5 March 1945

SUBJECT: Mail to Italian P/W in the United Kingdom.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
Att: Director Communications Sub-Commission,
APO 394, U. S. Army.

1. This will confirm previous instructions to the effect that all mail addressed to Italian P/W held in the United Kingdom should be forwarded uncensored to:-

Prisoner of War Censorship
Seamans Orphanage
Newsham Park
Liverpool, England

2. Request that you notify all postal authorities with whom you deal of the above instructions.

For the A. C. of S., G-2:

RNW/eml

☒	CIVIL CENSORSHIP	<i>Am</i>
☒	CABLE & RADIO	
☒	POSTAL	<i>S. H. 1</i>
☐	LANDWIRE	
☐	DISSEMINATION	
☐	SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	
☐	ADJUTANT	
☒	MAJOR GREEN	
	FILE	

Thomas H. Finn
THOMAS H. FINN, 3359
Lt. Col., G.S.C.,
G-2 (CC) Section.

SEE 14-15

44
4265

MAR - 7 1945

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
APO 512, US Army

(12)

CCB/1040/ 385

20 February 1945

SUBJECT: Letters to P.O.W. Censors.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
Att: Director, Communications Sub-Commission,
APO 394, U.S. Army.

1. Reference your letter P.44.7/CS, 16 February 45.
2. Subject letters were returned by this section. There is no POW Censor in either Tunis or Algiers.

For the A.C. of S., G-2:

Thomas H. Finn
THOMAS H. FINN,
Lt. Col., G.S.C.,
G-2 (CC) Section.

*Tunis mail is from. controls techniques } No action
Algiers maintain 3358*

file P44/12

46

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

11
WHG/ba

In reply
refer to: P.44.11/63

24 February 1945

Subject : Correspondence for Prisoners of War.

To : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecomms.

With reference to your 473109 1/2 P G of 22nd Feb.
1945.

1. It is apparent that there was a misunderstanding in this matter as the intention was that only the correspondence for regions adjacent to the area open for Postal Services should be forwarded to Rome and not that for the Northern Regions.

2. It is not clear how such a misunderstanding could have arisen however as the possibility of disposing of the items for Northern Italy via POW Censorship channels was discussed on several occasions and as soon as such a route was available the necessary instructions were given in P. 152/708 of 4th October 1944. No indication was given on receipt of this letter that the correspondence in question had already been forwarded to Rome.

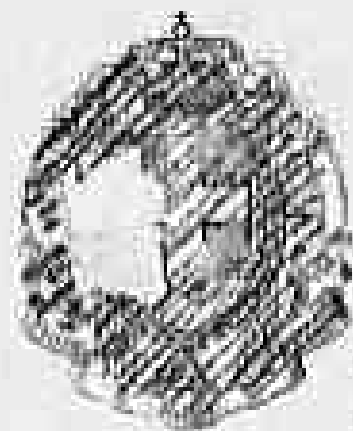
3. In view of the long time this correspondence has been on hand and of the fact that more recent correspondence from the prisoners concerned will have been sent through the proper channels, it may not now be worth disposing of these communications by a route which, at this stage, may afford less prospect of delivery than if we await the liberation of the Provinces concerned.

4. Before a definite decision is given, please obtain from Rome and Naples offices a statement shewing the approximate weight of Prisoner of War correspondence on hand for each Italian Province north of the Postal Service boundary.

W.H. Green
for J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

CROSS REFS.	11
FILE	B, rwd.
44	

Date



MINISTERO DELLE COMUNICAZIONI

Direzione Generale delle Poste e dei Telegrafi

Ispett. Gen. Mov. Poste

Servizio Div. I Sez. I

Prot. N° 473109 I/2/P.G.

Risposta al f. A.P. 15.370/C.S.

del II. I. 1945

Roma, 22 FEB 1945

Commissione Alleata Posta
And Telecommunications
Subcommission

Via Veneto

ROMAOGGETTO: Corrispondenze per
prigionieri di guerra

Si fa seguito alla nota pari numero del
18 Gennaio u.s.

La Direzione P.T. di Napoli (alla quale si era
dato ordine di accertare per quali motivi corrispon-
denze di prigionieri di guerra, dirette in province
settentrionali, erano state fatte proseguire da Napoli
a Roma) informa che il provvedimento fu preso in segui-
to a disposizione del Maggiore Green, avendo egli riten-
nuto utile che tali corrispondenze fossero concentra-
te in un ufficio più vicino alle zone di destinazione.

Import: Correspondence for P.O.W. -

3356

Further to our, same number, of 18th Jan.

The Pres. Direction of Naples (to which we
had ordered to ascertain the reasons
for which P.O.W. correspondence,
addressed to Northern Provinces,
had been forwarded from Naples

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

to Rome) informs that the measure has been
taken following an instruction of Major
Green, who considered it useful to concentrate
such mail correspondence to an office
near to the zones of destination - The Dir. Date

CROSS. REFS.	11
FILE	6/1wd.

22 FEB 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

SHH/bs

In reply
refer to: P.44.9/CS.

16 February 1945

Subject : Italian P.O.W. in Russia;

To : Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecomms.

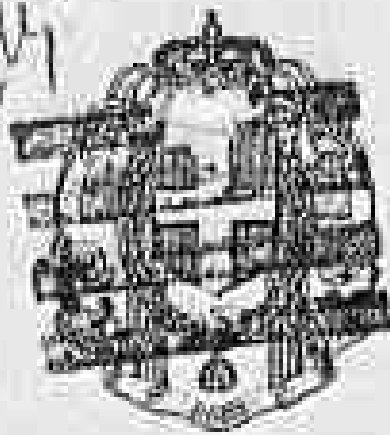
Will you be good enough to say if there have been
any developments regarding the position referred to in my
letter P.15.403/CS of 22nd January 1945.

hnd
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

3355

CAUSE	
FILE	
44	16 Feb.

Date.....



MINISTERO DELLE COMUNICAZIONI

Direzione Generale delle Poste e dei Telegrafi

Mod 167

Servizio IV Div. I Sez. II
 Prot. N° 418602/588411 PS
 Risposta al f. N° P.15.400/CS
 del 22.1

Roma, 16 FEB 1945

ALL. ON. COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
 COMMUNICATIONS SUB COMMISSION
 R O M A

OGGETTO: Corrispondenze per
 prigionieri di guerra ita-
 liani in Egitto.

A seguito del foglio di peri numero in da-
 ta 30 gennaio u.s., si partecipa a codesta On. Commis-
 sione che delle informazioni assunte è risultato quanto
 segue:

1°) Le cartoline della Croce Rossa Italiana per pri-
 gionieri di guerra vengono sempre regolarmente inoltra-
 te tanto da Roma Ferrovia quanto da Napoli Ferrovia;

2°) Il bollo con la dicitura "Al mittente - per ser-
 vizio sospeso" quale appare sul recto delle cartoline
 da Firenze per il prigioniero Beckerelli in Egitto, non
 è in uso presso l'Ufficio postale di Roma Ferrovia. Un
 bollo con le caratteristiche dell'impronta applicata sul-
 la cartolina anzidetta non esiste poi nè presso l'Ufficio
 di Napoli Ferrovia, nè presso il Distaccamento Censura
 Prigionieri di guerra di Napoli.

Capt. Hammond advised
 by phone - re both cases.
 We will check up
 at Florence.

CROSS. REFS.	1-3
FILE	B/1wd.
P.44	

Date 16 FEB 1945

F.

E' comunque da ritenersi per certo che si tratti di un semplice errore, tanto più che il disservizio non si sarebbe ripetuto. (1)

Si assicura infine che la cartolina in questione è stata rinviata all'Ufficio di Napoli Ferrovia, per l'inoltro al destinatario, previa revisione da parte della Censura e dopo avere provveduto alla cancellazione del timbro erroneamente impresso sull'indirizzo.

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

(FATO)

- (1) Note :- The second postcard sent to the Ministry does not change the position as far as Rome & Naples are concerned. —
 Considering that the two cases have both occurred at Florence it would appear that the two postcards have been there misrouted in, say, France correspond bundle and returned to the sender. — If this did not happen at Florence it might have occurred in some other P.O., but it is impossible to say which one — In any case it seems that it can be excluded that a large quantity of mail be involved in the mistake —

TRANSLATION

Subject : Correspondence for Italian P.O.W. in Egypt.

Following on our letter, file as above, of 30 Jan. 1945, we inform your Commission that, from information, the following points have been stated:

1. The It.R.C. postcards for P.O.W. are always regularly forwarded by Rome Ferrovia as well as Naples.
2. The stamp "Al mittente - servizio sospeso" appearing in front of the postcard from Florence to the P.O.W. Becherelli in Egypt is not used at the Rome Ferrovia Post Office. A stamp with the characteristics of the one appearing on the above postcard does not exist neither at Naples Ferrovia nor at the P.O.W. Censorship Det.

It can any way be considered certain that it is the case of a mistake, also because the misunderstanding has not been repeated. We ensure you also that the postcard under notice has been sent to Naples Ferrovia, to be forwarded to the addressee, after having been censored, and after the wrong stamp has been deleted.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

3353

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

SHH/bg

16 February 1945

In reply
refer to : P.44.7/G3.
Subject : Letters to P.O.W. Censors.
To : G-2 (GG) Section, A.F.H.Q.

1. Enclosed are (1) Two envelopes (with contents) from this Sub-Commission, addressed to the P.O.W. Censors at TUNIS and ALGIERS.
(ii) G-2 envelope in which the above were received back at this Headquarters.
2. No covering letter was received with item (ii).
3. It is not known how or why the letters came to be diverted to A.F.H.Q., and whether there is some objection to them going forward. May information be furnished please.

For the Chief Commissioner

J.L.H.
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

3352

CROSS REFS.	272
FILE	40
Date	28 Feb 1945

COMMUNICATIONS S/C 226

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

KPM/as
64

13 February 1945

G-5: 311.1

SUBJECT: Mail of Italian Co-operators.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

Attached hereto is copy of G-2, AFHQ, CCB/1040/203A dated
10 Feb 45 forwarded for your information.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

K. P. Manno
K. P. MANNOCK
Jnr/Comd

Incl:
as above



CROSS REFS.	<u>53351</u>
FILE	<u>44</u>

Date.....

COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
APO 512, U. S. Army

10 February 1945

CCB/1040/203A

SUBJECT: Mail of Italian cooperators.

TO : Commanding General, Headquarters ETOUSA, APO 887, U.S. Army.
(Att: A C of S, G-2)

1. Reference is made to Ltr AG 311.1 PD, above subject, Postal Div MTOUSA, dtd 18 Nov 44, and to 1st Ind, Hq MTOUSA, dtd 3 Feb 45, on Ltr AG 311.11 PW, above subject, Hq ETOUSA, dtd 13 Jan 45.

2. The Allied Commission (Italy) reports that an increasing quantity of correspondence is being posted by Italian civilians addressed to persons in Italian Service Units using U.S. APO numbers. Some of these persons are even using the addresses of U.S. Army units to which they are attached, instead of an accommodation address such as a cover P/W camp number.

3. The result of this practice is that correspondence for the men concerned cannot be distinguished from U.S. Army mail by the Italian Civil Post Office or by the Allied Censor Control Officer. It is sent to a U.S. Base Post Office without passing through censorship in this theatre and there sorted with considerable difficulty in order to be dispatched to ETOUSA.

4. For security reasons it has always been the policy of this headquarters that no P/W or internees should use APO numbers as return addresses. In the first letter referred to in Par 1 above it was suggested that Hq ETOUSA might wish to consider the advisability of adopting a similar policy, but no reply has yet been received. Request that this headquarters be advised as to whether action is contemplated in this matter.

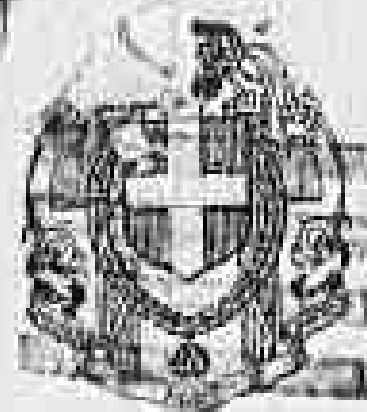
For the A C of S, G-2:

3350
THOMAS H. FINN,
Lt. Col, GSC
G-2 (CC) Sec

Copies to:

G-5 AFHQ
AG (OP)
AG Postal

GPC/ccs



MINISTERO DELLE COMUNICAZIONI

Direzione Generale delle Poste e dei Telegrafi

Servizio IV Div. I Sez. II
 Prot. N° 418608/588608-1/PS
 Risposta al f. N° P.15.385/CS
 del 17.1

Roma, -7 FEB 1945

ALL ON. COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
 POSTS AND T.C. SUB COMMISSION
 Via Veneto R O M A

OGGETTO: Posta per prigionie-
 ri di guerra in Germania.

In seguito a quanto codeste On. Commissione
 ha comunicato col foglio sopra distinto, questo Ministe-
 ro ha telegraficamente invitate le dipendenti Direzioni
 Provinciali P.T. ad effettuare le verifiche del caso.

Da tali verifiche è risultato che, effettiva-
 mente, continua ad essere impostata una certa quantità
 di corrispondenze in buste private per prigionieri di
 guerre in Germania.

Si è pertanto confermato alle Direzioni me-
 desime che le corrispondenze di cui trattasi devono es-
 sere senz'altro restituite ai mittenti; e si sono inte-
 ressate le Direzioni stesse a provvedere perchè nell'a-
 trio di ciascun ufficio venga esposto un opportuno avvi-
 so per il pubblico.

In considerazione di ciò, si ritiene che, al-

meno per ora, non sia il caso di prendere accordi con

CROSS. REFS.	P.31.40
FILE P.15	B/fwd.

F

./.

44

Date.....

la Croce Rossa Italiana per comunicati da pubblicarsi
nelle stampe quotidiane.

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

(ENZO)

MODULARIO
C. - Telegr. - 87

Mod. 30 ter

Ufficio Telegrafico di

TELEGRAMMA

Riceuto il Per il circuito N.		194 ore Ricevente	N. del registro di ricevimento			
Qualifica	DESTINAZIONE	PROVENIENZA	Numero	Parole	Data della presentazione	Indicazioni eventuali d'ufficio
	24 Alf .					

Ord. 197 - 9-5-941 - XIX - An. Strada, Frosinone - 21x25,7 (4.0x0.000)

AA

Roma 112180 44 tf 5 1420

dir postel provincie sotto controllo governo italiano eta pe commis-
sione alleata poste and to sub comm roma
4/1 riferimento paragrafo ventiquattro bollettino ~~ma~~ una parte seconda
anno corrente dispongasi che corrispondenze in buste private aut comun-
que irregolari dirette prigionieri guerra in germania vengano restituit-
te mittenti munite annotazione spiegativa punto opportuno avviso in pro-
posito sia esposto atrio ciascuno dipendenti uffici
sottosegretario stato fano

Ref. post. 24 Bollettino N° 1 - Part II - 1945 - Arrange that correspondence
private envelopes or in any way irregular addressed to POW in Germany
be ~~handled~~ returned to senders marked with explanatory note. -
A suitable notice on the matter be exhibited in the hall of the
intermediate offices -

TRANSLATION

8 Feb. 1945

Subject : Mail for P.O.W. in Germany.

Following what your Commission has notified in P.15.385/03, this Ministry has asked, by telegram, the depending Prov. Directorates to verify accordingly.

From the enquiry it results in effect that a certain amount of correspondence in private envelope continues to be despatched for the P.O.W. in Germany.

We have therefore confirmed to the above Directorates that the correspondence in question must be returned to the senders; and we have asked the same Directorates to provide that in each P.O. hall a suitable public notice be exhibited.

Considering this, we believe, at least for the time being, it is not necessary to make arrangements with the Italian Red Cross for a communication to be published in the daily press.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE

3347

WHS/ds

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

In reply
refer to : P.44.5/55.

5 February 1945

Subject : Postal Addresses of Italian Cooperators
Serving with American Units.

To : G-5, A.F.H.Q.

1. It has been observed that an increasing quantity of correspondence is being posted by Italian civilians addressed to American Army addresses. The explanation appears to be that Italian cooperators in some theaters are being allowed to use the address of the American Army Unit to which they are attached, instead of being given an "accommodation" address such as a Dummy P.O. Box, Camp Number.

2. The net result of this policy (which is understood to be dealt with in STOWA letter 311.1 of 10th Jan. 1945) is that the correspondence for the men concerned cannot be distinguished from American Army mail by the Italian Civil Post Office or by the Allied Censor Control Officer, and it therefore circulates to the American Base APO instead of the P.V. Censorship Detachment.

For the Chief Commissioner.

W.H.G.
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

Copies to :

G-5, A.F.H.Q.
AC Postal A.F.H.Q.
Civil Censorship Officer, A.C. H.Q.

CROSS REF	6
FILE	Byrwd.

Date _____

7.44

HEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

29 January 1945

Ref. 88/1/28

Subject: Attached Postcard.

TO : Communications Sub-Commission, Hq., A.C.

1. The attached postcard, addressed to a P.O.W. camp in Great Britain has been returned to the sender "per servizio sospeso".

2. Enquires can perhaps be made.

For the Regional Commissioner,

R.S. Drummond
R.S. DRUMMOND,
Captain,

Regional Postal Officer.

*P.C. handed to
Liz. Navi. who will
report.*

See 1

8

*BIF 15
2*

F44

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

2A

In reply
refer to : P.44.2/03

1 February 1945

Subject : Circulation of Correspondence for Italy from
Italian Prisoners of War.

To : See Distribution.

1. It is notified that there are now two Inward Offices of Exchange in Italy - Rome and Naples - and where the amount of correspondence justifies, a separate series of despatches should preferably be made up for each Office of Exchange. If only one despatch to Italy is regularly warranted, it should be made to Naples.
2. The correct address for such mails is the "Allied Censor Control Officer Naples" (or Rome) and the bag labels should be marked with the gross weight, and the indication "POW".
3. It would be appreciated if labelled bundles could be made up for separate Provinces when warranted.
4. Where separate mails are made up for Naples and Rome, the Naples mail should include items for Sicily and all mainland provinces in the south up to and including Naples, Benevento and Campobasso Provinces; the Rome mail should include correspondence for liberated provinces north of those mentioned. A detailed list showing the Provinces due to circulate to each Office of Exchange is connected.
5. It is preferable that Prisoner of War correspondence should reach Italy in despatches separate from those containing Civil correspondence.
6. The foregoing does not affect the current instructions that correspondence from Italian POW in U.M.F. or any hands is due to circulate to POW Censorship Detachment, APO 512.

CROSS REFS. 17	
FILE	Ex. wd.
44	

Date: _____

J.L.H.
J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel
Director.

F. 44

P.44.2/03 of 1 February 1945
-Continued-

Distribution to:

Chief P.O.W. Censor Algiers *Ø*
 Agaña
 Bombay
 Cairo
 Liverpool
 London
 Malta
 Melbourne
 New York
 Perth (Australia)
 Rabat
 Sidney
 Tripoli
 Tunis *Ø*

Copies to :

G-5, A.F.H.Q.
 G-2, A.F.H.Q.

*Ø See 7. Not Sent
 9-12*

3344

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POW
Circulation of Correspondence for Italy, Sicily and Sardinia.

NAPLES

Islands of: Sicily
Sardinia
Provinces of: Avellino
Bari
Benevento
Brindisi
Campobasso
Catanzaro
Cosenza
Foggia
Lecce
Matera
Napoli
Potenza
Reggio-Calabria
Salerno
Taranto

ROME

Provinces of: Ancona
Aquila
Arenzo
Ascoli Piceno
Chieti
Firenze
Forli
Frosinone
Grosseto
Littoria
Livorno
Lucca
Macerata
Perugia
Pesaro
Pescara
Pezaro
Pisa
Pistoia
Ravenna
Rieti
Roma
Siena
Teramo
Terni
Viterbo

Note. The above list is up-to-date as
at 1st February 1945.
Further Provinces may be added (to the Rome
list) as their capital towns come into
Allied hands.



MINISTERO DELLE COMUNICAZIONI

Direzione Generale delle Poste e dei Telegrafi

Mod. 107

Servizio IV Div. I Sez. II
 Prot. N° 418602/588603 IPS
 Risposta al f. N° P.15.400/CS
 del 22.1

Roma 30 GEN. 1946

ALL. ON. COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
 POSTS AND T.C. SUB COMMISSION
 R O M A

OGGETTO: Corrispondenze per
 prigionieri di guerra ita-
 liani in Egitto.

In relazione al foglio sopra distinto, si
 condivide l'ipotesi manifestata da codesta On. Commis-
 sione, e cioè che la cartolina indirizzata a un prigio-
 niero di guerra in Egitto, e restituita con l'indicazio-
 ne " Al mittente = Servizio sospeso " sia stata respin-
 ta per errore.

Ad ogni modo vengono chieste informazioni a
 gli Uffici postali di Roma Ferrovia e di Napoli Ferro-
 via, e si fa riserva di ulteriore riferimento non appe-
 na possibile.

Subject: letters to Italian P.O.W. in Egypt.
Ref. your P.15.400/cs

*We are also of the opinion you expressed
 that the postcard, addressed to a P.O.W. in
 Egypt, and sent back to sender marked
 "Al mittente - servizio sospeso", has
 been returned by mistake.*

*In any way, we are asking inquiries to the P.O.s of Roma e
 Napoli Ferrovia, and we will send you further information
 as soon as possible -*

IL SOTTOSGREGARIO DI STATO

The L. of. 1. Oct

See 3

8
30.12

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F. 44

0989