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

ACC 10000/147/361 REP 156. CS ACTIVITY REPORTS COMMUNICATION SUB COM

JAN 1944 - MAY 1946

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

ACTIVITY REPORTS COMMUNICATION SUB COMMISSION

Part I

JAN. 1944 - MAY 1946

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

REP 156

[illegible] REPORT FOR [illegible] 1946

[illegible] SUB-COMMISSION

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

2. Telecommunications:

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

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

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

(b) Telegraphs:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3. Posts:

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

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

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

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(b) Inland mails: As a result of representations made to 15th Corps and AMG agreement was obtained to the discontinuance of censorship of internal correspondence originating in Venezia Province. No internal correspondence originating in Italian Government territory is now submitted to censorship.

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

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

M.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
ATC 794
Communications Sub-Commission HHB/ec

RHP.156.83.CS 7 June 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO : Executive Commissioner

1. Herewith full and Abridged Reports for May 1946.

2. Would you please ensure that the Russian Liason Officer receives a copy.

H.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy

Signal Officer, R.A.A.C.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications-Sub-Commission

HHS/sp

REP.I56.82.CS.

II May 1946

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORT

TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for April 1946.

2. Would you please ensure that the Russian Liason Officer receives a copy.

H.H.SCUDDER.
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to : Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy.
Signal Officer R.A.A.C.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

HMS/je

REP.156.51.CS

3 May 1946

SUBJECT: Report Communications S/C.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. There is inclosed in duplicate a condensed narative report on the activities of and results obtained by this Sub-Commission up until May 1,1946.

2. In view of the expected reduction in activity of this Sub-Commission this report is to be considered as its final report.

H.H.SCUDDER
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

2 Incl.

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COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

The Communications Sub-Commission originated early in September 1943 as part of the Communications Section in the Allied Military Mission, under Admiral (then Capt.) Stone.

At that time concern was chiefly with Puglie, but little groups of telecommunications and postal officers were active in Sicily and South Italy, doing valuable work preparing the ground for the time when A.C. Officers had more scope.

The Ministry of Communications which was created in November 1943 had as its mainstay the present Under-Secretary of State for Posts and Telecommunications, Dr. Mario Fano. The Sub-Commission has been fortunate in having Dr. Fano as a loyal and efficient collaborator throughout its existence.

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

By the end of 1943, in spite of lack of transport, materials and personnel, a good start had been made on restoration of civil postal and telecommunications services. Sicily and King's Italy had letter and financial services. Sardinia had an air mail to the mainland. By February 1944, services had extended to the environs of Naples, and a big step had been taken by the start of a foreign mail service to the Allied and neutral world.

In April 1944, the Sub-Commission, in addition to its duties in the postal, telecommunications, and radio fields, assumed responsibility for Civil Censorship Group, a branch of G-2, AFHQ. This association was a most successful one uniting as it did under one direction, all sides of civil posts and telecommunications. It continued until November 1945, when Allied interest in Civil Censorship in Italian territory ceased and the remaining activities of the Group were absorbed by AFHQ.

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

Nevertheless, by April 1944 telegraph service had been restored to some 65% of the communes and between all provincial centres south of Naples and in Sicily. Telephone service to the public was limited by the Allies to urban local connections, but the Italian Govt. had circuits from Salerno to all provincial capitals on the mainland south of Naples and to the chief Sicilian towns. The Govt's underground cable circuits had been completed by mixed Allied and Italian gangs under the direction of one of our officers.

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Overhead circuits on the other hand were put through mostly by sheer hard work on the part of the Italian linemen, in country often deep an snow, with inadequate tools, and often entailing long journeys on foot.

By the end of May 1944, weight limits for domestic mails had been raised to 210 grammes; insured, express, and newspaper services had been inaugurated; and internal air mails had been started.

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

Advance Telecomms Boards were thus planned for Rome, Florence, Bologna, Milan, Genoa and Turin. Each Board was composed of representatives of the major military Signals Headquarters along with two from A.C.C. These boards eventually operated very successfullu.

Representatives of the Sub-Commission entered Rome on June 4 and 5, 1944.

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

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

Florence telephone plant unfortunately suffered systematic and extensive destruction by German demolition squads yet within two weeks civilians had brought into use a 500 lines automatic telephone exchange made from parts salvaged from the damaged exchanges. It was at this stage decided by the Army Authorities that it was better to permit controlled telecomms and postal services as widely as possible that to experience clandestine uncontrolled operations. Accordingly such services were authorised up to a short distance from the Army control line. 14-0

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

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In early September 1944, Florence had a postcard service. Many severely damaged telephone axchanges had been repaired. Submarine cables to Sicily were in civilian operation.

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

In the break-through to the North in April 1945, members of the Advance Telecomms Boards were attached to the Corps Signal Officers' staffs and in this way were enabled to enter important communications centers soon after liberation.

In Milan it was learned from the Italian staff and from Germans that great masses of Italian equipment had been taken and hidden in the Verona - Brenner area. As a result of inquiries made by officers of the Communications Sub-Commission, some 120 truckloads and 20 railway carloads of equipment were located and turned over to the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications.

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

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

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

Staff had to be recruited and trained in AMG territories in large numbers, and operating schools were accordingly started.

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

By August 1945 telephone service was open to all provincial capitals though circuits were very limited in number due to military

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requirements. Telegraph and telephone services were open to foreign countries.

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

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

21% of the pole routes and 40% of the wire were destroyed.

53% of amplifier station equipment was severely damaged or destroyed.

20% (at least) of the underground cable was damaged.

About 50 of the larger telephone exchanges and severalhundred small exchanges were destroyed or seriously damaged.

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

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

The main civil telegraph net is well supplied with channels nearly all installed since the enemy was pushed out. The civil telephone net has been restored to the extent of about 40% of pre-war circuits between large centres, though in a few areas where fighting took place the smaller centres have only a skeleton service. The civil telephone service will of course be greatly extended when the Allied Military restore the large number of Italian circuits at present being used by them.

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

Two unusual difficulties were experienced on the postal side. One was the unexpected volume of gift parcels received from USA in Dec.1945, namely 1½ million. They had so swamped the USA authorities that they were unable to sort them by provinces, thus later taxing the facilities of the Italian Post Office to the utmost.

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

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FULL REPORT FOR MARCH 1946

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

R.P.P.156

1. General:

Improvements have been made in Air Mail Services. Inter-urban telephone services have been extended and further international circuits completed.

2. Telecommunications:

(a) General: As a result of an inspection of certain installations by officers of this S/C and Italians during the month, draft schemes have now been prepared by the Italian Government for the early extension on a small scale of several important repeater stations and for repairs to the plant there. The tendency has been for the Italians to plan on a large scale without means to carry out such work, and with consequent delay, and danger to military installations. Funds are available for these small works.

(b) Telephones: The cable through the Modane tunnel was repaired after clearance of the tunnel. This enabled a Rome-Paris circuit and an additional Milan-Paris circuit to be completed. The other Milan-Paris cct is routed via Chiasso.

Inter-urban services between Trieste and the rest of Italy were extended, Rome now being connected directly to Trieste. Inter-urban services in the Bologna, Rovigo, Ferrara areas were much improved, and also the shorter distance services connecting small towns between Firenze and Livorno.

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(c) Telegraphs: A Milan-Paris 12 channels voice frequency telegraph system was brought into use via the Modane cable mentioned above.

Mantova has been provided with direct circuits to Modena and Bologna and 37 of its village telegraph offices have been connected to the main network during the month. Services in this province, which was rather a black spot, have therefore been considerably improved, and only 5 offices remain to be reconnected.

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(d) Radio - Telephone USA: This service has now been made available to troops in Naples.

3. Sabotage - Venezia Giulia.

Sabotage has increased to such an extent that, if not reduced, it will cause the disappearance of effective civil telecommunications services in Venezia Giulia. Military services are also badly affected.

The public has been informed that repeated repairs cannot be carried out.

Strong efforts are being made to find the thieves.

4. Materials required for second six months - Venezia G.

Lists submitted by AMG have been checked and a few alterations made before transmission to Reqn. Divn.

5. Posts:

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

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

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

(b) Albania: Postal services were opened via Jugoslavia.

(c) Just over 100.000 Bags of gift parcels from America were received during this month from ships discharging at Brindisi, Genoa and Naples. The U.S. Post Office is now sorting and labelling these mails for the various Provinces of Italy. Under present shipping conditions, however, the port of destination is

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not known with certainty before the vessel sails and consequently the parcel mails cannot be loaded for discharge at the most appropriate ports. The receipt of parcel mails for all parts of Italy at various ports is, of course, wasteful so far as railway haulage is concerned. Warning of prospective arrival of ships carrying these mails; the number of bags; and the probable date and port of arrival is now being received from U.N.R.R.A. Shipping.

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

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

H.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

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Enclosure 1

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR MARCH

1946

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

Air mail services have been extended to most parts of Africa, the Middle East, and Far East. International telephone and telegraph facilities were increased between Italy and France via Modane. Inter urban telephone services between Venezia Giulia and the rest of Italy were improved.

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WEG/cms

POSTAL SECTION - MONTHLY REPORT - MARCH 1946

Gift Parcel Service.

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

Air Mails.

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

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

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

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

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W.H. Glover Lt Col

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission HHS/ec

REP.156.79.CS

12 April 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner. 54

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for March 1946.

2. Would you please ensure that the Russian Liason Officer receives a copy.

H.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy 1
Signal Officer R.A.A.C. 1

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SIGNAL SECTION
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

April 3, 1946

SUBJECT: AC Private Wire Rome-Milan

TO : Director, Communications Sub Commission

1. The following information is result of traffic check made on the Milan direct line from 25 March 1946 to 2 April 1946, for 6 full days.

DATE		NUMBER OF CALLS	MINUTES OF CONVERSATION
25 March 1946	Outgoing	10	70
	Incoming	1	5
	Total	11	75
26 March	Outgoing	16	98
	Incoming	14	76
	Total	30	174
28 March	Outgoing	8	60
	Incoming	17	85
	Total	25	145
29 March	Outgoing	7	39
	Incoming	8	66
	Total	15	105
1 April	Outgoing	14	62
	Incoming	12	65
	Total	26	127
2 April	Outgoing	11	60
	Incoming	17	102
	Total	28	162

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RLP, 156

MARLEY B. BROWN, JR.
1st Lt., CE
Hq Signal Officer

File in AC Commun file
NARA
5/18

REP. 156

FULL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1946

Communications Sub-Commission

1. General. The improvement in the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications reported in January has been replaced by a general feeling of unrest and dissatisfaction which has had a bad effect on results obtained. Mail and telecommunications services, nevertheless, continued to be expanded and improved. Irregular sea transport is one of the major obstacles to improvement of overseas mail services.

The lack of personal transport for Telecoms Liason Officers in Venice, Rome and Trieste has seriously handicapped their work.

2. Telecommunications.

(a) General: Progress in the provision of plant extensions are in many cases extremely slow and State officials attribute this in part to lack of funds. This has been raised with the Ministry which has promised to take remedial action.

In many instances forward planning is deficient and provision of facilities is not considered until urgent need arises. Attention of the Ministry has been called to this since if allowed to continue it will result in no facilities being available for employment of telephone circuits released to civil use by Allied Military.

(b) Telephones: A considerable improvement in long distance telephone service has resulted during the month from the addition of 44 circuits either released by the Allied Military or built up by the Italian Administration.

International service was opened to Vienna, Warsaw and Prague. 1463

Telephone service between Venezia Giulia, Zone A and Jugoslavia has been opened. The service with Jugoslavia will shortly be extended to include the

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The lack of personal transport for Telecoms Liaison Officers in Venice, Rome and Trieste has seriously handicapped their work.

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International service was opened to Vienna, Warsaw and Prague.

Telephone service between Venezia Giulia, Zone A and Jugoslavia has been opened. The service with Jugoslavia will shortly be extended to include the whole of Italy.

(c) Telegraph:: The telegraph long distance service has now sufficient circuits, instruments and trained staff to give adequate service between all major cities.

Direct telegraph service was opened to Vienna

(d) Radio - telegraph. CINC, Mediterranean authorised resumption by the Italian Government of ship-to-shore radio-telegraph service.

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(c) Radio-Telephone:: Sun spots and unfavourable atmospheric conditions continued to disturb service on the Italy - U.S.A. radio-telephone link. This service has now been extended to include Leghorn and Gorizia for U.S. troops and will shortly include Naples. Civilian traffic (limited to Rome) continues to increase. Technical supervision of the operation of this link has been re-assigned to the Communications Sub-Commission by AFHQ and a radio Officer placed on temporary duty with AC.

3. Venezia Giulia.

(a) Services within Venezia Giulia are largely confined to the bigger towns owing to the extensive use of circuits made by military organisations.

There is a reasonable service however between Trieste, Gorizia, Udine, and the rest of Italy, especially as regards telegraphs. A recent addition of telephone circuits from Trieste to Venice and Bologna has considerably helped matters.

(b) Arrangements have been made with the Italian Govt. so that some of the 6 monthly requirements for Venezia Giulia can be obtained in Italy proper, mostly from manufacturing companies. The Telecomms Officer in Venezia Giulia will visit Milan shortly with Venezia Giulia representatives to make the necessary arrangements.

(c) Postal and Telegraph rates were doubled in Venezia Giulia from 1st March. These rates are again the same as the rest of Italy, where they were doubled recently.

(d) Sabotage and theft are extensive in Venezia Giulia. In a recent case several wires were removed during the night from a military route for over 2 miles in spite of armoured car patrols.

(e) A loan of 15 million lire to the local telephone company, arranged by AMG, will now place this organisation in a position to carry out essential repairs, etc.

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1402

(e) A loan of 15 million lire to the local telephone company, arranged by AMG, will now place this organisation in a position to carry out essential repairs, etc.

4. Posts.

(a) Gift Parcel Service: During February the distribution of the large accumulation of gift parcels received at Naples (following the extension of the service to all Italy) continued. Thanks to a better supply of railway vehicles

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good progress was made and by the end of the month the number of parcels on hand had been reduced to about 30,000.

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

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

(b) Naples Accommodation:

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

(c) SEP/PW Mails:

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

H.H. Scudder
H.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

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ABRIDGED REPORT FOR FEBRUARY
1946
Communications Sub-Commission

Improvement in restoration of mail and telecommunications services continued although irregular sea transport is one of the biggest obstacles to improvement of mails to countries overseas.

CINC Mediterranean authorised resumption by the Italian Government of ship-to-shore radio telegraph service.

1400

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

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission HHS/vl

14 March 1946.

HSP.156.76.CS

SUBJECT : Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for February 1946.

2. Would you please ensure that the Russian Liaison Officer receives a copy.

H.H.SCUDDER
Col., Sig.C.
Director

Copy to : Mr.Bernardoni, U.S.Embassy
Signal Officer R.A.A.C.

1289

Rep 35c

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR JANUARY 1946

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

General improvement continued in restoration of mail and telecommunications services.

At the suggestion of this Sub-Commission, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has created a Traffic Department and a Long Lines Department the existence of which will assist materially in the improvement of telecommunication services. The latter department is taking over from the Allied Military operation of long distance circuits still required for military use and it is hoped that within a short time operation of all long lines in Italy will be entirely carried out by the Italians.

Limited mail service was inaugurated with Austria and the Dutch East Indies.

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

FULL REPORT FOR JANUARY 1946
COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. General. Improvement in speed of mails and increase of telecommunication facilities continued during the month. There has recently been a marked improvement in the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry the employees of which are now showing a greater amount of energy and initiative than at any time since the Allied landings in Sicily.

2. Telecommunications

(a) General. As a result of repeated suggestions by the Communications Sub-Commission, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications put into being two new departments, the existence of which if energetically administered will result in a marked improvement in long distance telephone facilities. These two departments are a Traffic Department and a Long Lines Department the lack of both of which has been keenly felt. In both the U.S.A. and the U.K. similar departments have always been deemed essential to the efficient operation of long distance telephone service.

The Traffic Department is charged with responsibility for operating methods, practices and procedures and it has been arranged that one of the Officers of this Sub-Commission who was a traffic expert with the G.P.O. (Maj. L.G. Hawker) will give all possible assistance and advice to the new group.

The Long Lines Department is charged with overall supervision of long distance telephone circuits in respect to assignment, maintenance, fault control and construction. This group is absorbing the MARESTE organisation which, as mentioned in the January report was formed to take over from the Allied Military overhead routes which are being disposed of to the Italian Government. AFHQ signals has sent a Long Lines Liaison Group to Rome and this group is working with the Long Lines Department of the Ministry. It is hoped that in a comparatively short time all Allied Military long distance circuits will be entirely Italian operated.

(b) Telephones. Additional circuits were released by the

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(b) Telephones. Additional circuits were released by the Allied Military for civilian use and in addition the Ministry by application of carrier equipment, new construction and re-arrangement of existing circuits was able to put into service a very good number of useful long distance circuits. 1357

International telephone circuits were added to Lugano, and St. Moritz, Switzerland.

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A check in 10 provinces of N.E. Italy showed that 95% of the telephone exchanges existing before the war have now been reconnected to the telephone network.

(c) Telegraphs. Telegraphs rates in Italy will be doubled as of February 1, 1946.

3. Posts

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

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

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

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

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

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

The weight limit on correspondence to the Dodecanese

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

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

H.H. Scudder
H.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

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

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

REP. 156.

Front office will
of Sweden

MONTHLY TELECOMMUNICATIONS REPORT
JANUARY 1946

1. General: The Italian Office which was recently created for the control of provision and maintenance of military and civilian long lines, has done a fair amount of preparatory work and is now taking over the control of the main cables in S. Italy and Sicily.

As a result of experience, and after discussion with AFHQ offices, several changes have been made in the organisation. The Long Lines Office and the MARESPE organisation (which maintains and repairs the circuits) will be merged shortly.

2. Telephones:

(a) Circuits The following very useful telephone circuits have been released by the military during the month to the Italians.

Ancona	-	Pescara
"	-	Fano
Fano	-	Pesaro
Pesaro	-	Rimini
Rome	-	Gaeta - for Italian Navy.
Bologna	-	Ferrara
"	-	Ancona (2 ccts)

In addition, Italian personnel provided the following:

I. Rome-Lucca 2 ccts - by the provision of 1 + 3 carrier equipment on a Rome - Florence line, plus the use of existing Florence - Lucca circuits.
II. Various circuits in the Florence - Livorno main cable.
III. Provision of a 1 + 3 system on a Florence - Arezzo circuit.
IV. Catania - Messina cct.
V. A three channels carrier system has been installed between Milan and Verona.
VI. International circuits have been completed as follows: 6 - Como Lugano, 1 - Chiavenna St. Moritz, 1 - Tirano Poschiavo

1396

(b) Traffic. Several alterations proposed by Maj. Hawker of this S/C in a recent investigation of Civil operating methods were carried out. This S/C and the military are closely interested in this question as bad operating

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results in low traffic carried per circuit with consequent demands for release of more circuits from the Military. The Ministry of Posts and Telecomms has also taken considerable interest in Major Hawkers' proposals.

c. General. Other facts of interest are as follows:

(a) A check in 10 provinces of N.E. Italy (excludes Venezia Giulia) showed that 95% of the telephone exchanges have been reconnected to the telephone network, often however by single circuits.

(b) The Lodi - Milan route has been wired with 6 wires for the extension of the Allies Bologna - Lodi carrier telephone system to Milan.

3. Telegraph

(a) A super audio installation was completed and brought into use between Padova and Florence. This gives Padova a cable telegraph circuit which is a useful safeguard in the event of dislocation of overhead routes by storms.

(b) CSO provided simplex telegraph facilities for the Italian Navy on the following circuits: - Ancona - Fano, Fano - Pesaro, Pesaro - Rimini, and Roma - Gaeta.

4. Venezia Giulia. A few items of interest are as follows:

(a) The staff of the Circolo at Trieste especially the senior staff requires some reorganisation due to inefficiency. This is under investigation.

(b) Repairs have been made to the P.O. which will provide better protection from the weather.

(c) Four men have been arrested for theft of wire.

1395

(d) Out of 280 spare numbers in Trieste 150 has been released by the Military for civil use. The Concessionary Company intends to instal a 2000 lines extension in the Spring.

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5. **Rates.**

Telegraph rates will be doubled on 1st Feb. 1946.

6. Radio.

Authorities have been obtained from AFHQ for various radio frequencies for Italian use including those for a Ministry of the Interior public security short wave network covering Milano Torino Venezia Ancona and Bari, and a flood water control scheme in Venice area using a 7 metre wave on low power.

Frequencies are being changed at the moment in an endeavour to restore to Italy (and other nations) its frequencies registered with Berne and remove those registered by other countries.

H.T.W.MILLAR
Lt. Col. R.Sigs
Deputy Director.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission MHS/ee

REP.156.72.CS 9 February 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for January 1946.

2. As informed you last month, the Russian Liason Officer has stated that he would like a copy of each Monthly Report.

H.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer, R.A.A.C.

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

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ABRIDGED REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. An Italian organisation (AMRESIP) part of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, has been formed to take over the maintenance and repair of Allied Military telecommunications. Much of the plant has already been handed over to the care of this organisation, which is shaping well.

2. Postal and telegraph services are now in operation to all countries except ex-enemy countries, and also, in the case of posts, with the exceptions of Albania and British East Indies.

Division
D/Director
Chief Engineer
Chief Posts
Asst. Chief Engineer
Controller
Chief Clerk

REF. 156

Date 15 GEN 1946

File

FULL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. General. Additional train services and use of RAF air services helped to speed up internal and external postal services. Steady improvement took place in the telegraph and telephone position due to the completion of circuits and the release of others by the Allies.

Services are not yet permitted to Germany, Austria, Japan, Formosa, Manchuria and Korea. Italy has postal and telegraph communications with all other countries except those specified below.

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

British East Indies - Details not yet available of services working in this territory.

Telegraphs. Hungary.

2. Telecommunications.

(a) General: A scheme under which the maintenance of main as well as local military telecommunications will be carried out by Italian civilians is now in hand. The Italian organisation (MARETE) set up for the purpose has taken over many of the routes concerned, and is shaping quite well.

(b) Telephones:

(1) Carrier equipment (3 ch.) has been installed on the overhead route Milan - Verona to strengthen the East-West service in N.Italy and will be in operation shortly. A second pair has been completed on this route and another 3 ch. system will be installed on this pair.

(2) A general improvement has taken place in the connection of small exchanges to the main network, but the long distance service continues to be of a skeleton nature, owing to military requirements.

1691

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(c) Telegraphs:

(1) The long distance service which is now well supplied with channels, and has a reasonably sufficient amount of telegraph apparatus, has been further improved

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

in efficiency now that recently trained operators are benefiting by practical experience. Any defects in this service now are due to bad local organisation or to lack of practical experience of the staff rather than to technical deficiencies. Milan, for instance, has 55 direct working circuits or channels to 28 provincial capitals, plus 4 international channels to France and Switzerland.

(2) A large increase in traffic during the Christmas period was handled pretty well. For example, Milan Office, on Xmas eve, dealt with 64,000 telegrams, nearly double its normal traffic, maximum delay to Rome being 8 hours.

(3) The submarine cable to Barcelona was repaired and is ready for operation but an order from AFHQ has countermanded its use for the moment.

3. Posts.

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

Newspaper post from the rest of Italy to Venezia Giulia was restored.

(b) Foreign Services.

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

1390

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Services were restored to Czecho Slovakia and Hungary. With certain minor exception the postal services in operation between Italy and Foreign countries include all "correspondence" services covered by the Universal Postal Convention (Letters, Post, Printed Papers, Commercial Papers, Sample Post, Blind Literature).

Ordinary foreign parcel post services have not yet been restored because shortage of sorting office accomodation at certain main centres such as Naples; of difficulty in

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

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The flood of traffic announced by the U.S.A. postal authorities arrived through the month. At Naples 357,000 parcel bags (representing at least 1 1/2 million parcels) were unloaded during December, and smaller consignments were received at Genoa and Leghorn. Difficulty in accommodating these arrivals at Naples are reported and the trouble is accentuated by the shortage of rolling stock. The railway authorities are endeavouring to augment the number of wagons available for this service but it is inevitable that the great accumulation of parcels will take a lengthy period to distribute. The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications has been asked to report progress.

4. Civil Censorship.

The Civil Censorship Group has now been dissolved. A censorship group will operate under XIII Corps but without connection with this Sub-Commission.

All internal censorship has been abolished except in XIII Corps Area.

External Censorship is still in force at the moment, operated in Italian administered territory by the Italian Government. The latter has been informed by the Chief Commissioner that: "Censorship of communications is considered as a war measure and if, in order to implement economic and financial controls adequate to support Allied policies, the Italian Government find it is necessary to continue some form of Censorship of external communications, it is desired that such censorship be continued under the supervision of the Italian General Staff so as to ensure, as far as possible, that it will be of a non-political nature".

H.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director

1689

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

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission HTW:/ec

REF.156.70.G3 14 January, 1946

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for December 1945.

The Russian Liaison Officer has stated that he would like a copy of each monthly report. Would you please ensure that he receives a copy.

H.H.SCUDDER.
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardini, U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer H.A.A.C.
Civil Censorship Group.

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

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1945

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British East Indies - Details not yet available of services working in this territory.

Telegraphs Hungary.

2. Telecommunications.

(a) General: A scheme under which the maintenance of main as well as local military telecommunications will be carried out by Italian civilians is now in hand. The Italian organisation (MINISTE) set up for the purpose has taken over many of the routes concerned, and is shaping quite well.

(b) Telephones:

(1) Carrier equipment (3 ch.) has been installed on the overhead route Milan Verona to strengthen the East-West service in N.Italy and will be in operation shortly. A second pair has been completed on this route and another 3 ch. system will be installed on this pair.

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

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(3) The submarine cable to Barcelona was repaired and is ready for operation but an order from AFHQ has countermanded its use for the moment.

3. Posts.

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

Newspaper post from the rest of Italy to Venezia Giulia was restored.

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

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All internal censorship has been abolished except in XIII Corps Area.

External Censorship is still in force at the moment, operated in Italian administered territory by the Italian Government. The latter has been informed by the Chief Commissioner that: "Censorship of communications is considered as a war measure and if, in order to implement economic and financial controls adequate to support Allied policies, the Italian Government find it is necessary to continue some form of Censorship of external communications, it is desired that such censorship be continued under the supervision of the Italian General Staff so as to ensure, as far as possible, that it will be of a non-political nature".

H.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

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

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission HTFN/ec

14 January, 1946

REF.156.70.06

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for December 1945.

The Russian Liason Officer has stated that he would like a copy of each monthly report. Would you please ensure that he receives a copy.

H.F.SCUDDER.
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer R.A.A.C.
Civil Censorship Group.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission HTW/ee

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Civil Censorship Group.

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

69

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
COMMUNICATIONS APO 394 SUB COMMISSION

HHS/ab

KRP.156.69.CS

15th December 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. Herewith full and abridged reports for November, 1945.

H.H.SCUDDER
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernardoni
U.S.Embassy - Rome.

Signal Officer R.A.A.C.

Civil Censorship Group.

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

F

69.A

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. Both foreign and domestic telephone, telegraph and postal services continued to be expanded and improved.

2. Italy has now direct telephone communication with France, Switzerland and the U.K.

3. The 15,000th call by a member of the Allied Armed Forces was made on the Rome - U.S.A. radio-link, service on which for private calls was inaugurated July 1, 1945. This service continues to be a big factor in maintaining morale.

4. Mailings from the U.S.A. in the recently expanded gift parcel service have reached unprecedented volume, 2 ships en route to Rome conveying an estimated 800,000 parcels being reported as en route.

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

F

FULL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. General.

Steady improvement continued to be made in extension of both domestic and foreign telephone, telegraph and postal services.

2. Telecommunications

a. Telephones

The meter system of telephone tariffs which was introduced in Milan, Turin and Genoa was confirmed by Regional Order in the three Regions concerned. The system had been strongly attacked in the Press of Milan and Genoa but the issuance of Regional Orders and action by Officers of this Sub-Commission resulted in calming the situation and no further trouble is expected.

Wholesale thefts of copper wire have seriously interfered with both civilian and military telecommunications The shortage of copper sulphate for vineyards and the fact that copper wire immersed in sulphuric acid will produce that much needed material encourages such thefts.

Long distance telephone facilities were further expanded and with the inauguration of a telephone circuit (for the present limited to Government traffic) to London, Italy has now telephone service to Great Britain, France and Switzerland.

b. Telegraphs.

Gradual improvement in service has continued throughout Italy. An outstanding example of improvement is the Milan Telegraph Office which is now handling the same volume of messages as in pre-war times. The school for teleprinter operators in Milan which was started by Officers of the Communications Sub-Commission has now trained 66 operators.

1380

In Lombardia Region on May 1, 1945 less than 50% of the telegraph offices were operating. By the end of

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

November 84% were in operation and if it were not for the Provinces of Mantova and Cremona, where war damage to lines was heavy, the percentage would be well over 90.

c. Radio - telephone.

The 15,000th call since inauguration of the service July 1, 1945, was made during the month on the Rome - U.S.A. radio-telephone link. This service continues to be very popular with members of the Allied Forces and civilian use of the circuit is steadily increasing.

3. Postal.

a. Air mails.

New internal air mails were established:

Rome - Bologna - Treviso
Rome - Milan - Torino

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

General agreement has been reached with British Air Services for air mail from Italy to the U.K. and it is expected that final arrangements for this service will be reached shortly.

b. Surface mails.

Mail service with Yugoslavia was inaugurated and services to and from Italy and the following additional countries expanded to include letters, printed papers, commercial papers, samples and Blind literature up to normal weight limits:

Belgium Holland France
Egypt Switzerland Greece

c. Gift Parcels.

The U.S. Post Office notified the Italian Post Office that postings under the extended gift parcel service, reported in the October report, were unprecedented and that the promised division by Provinces could not be undertaken until after Christmas.

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

Considerable apprehension is felt as to the adequacy of accommodation for this huge volume, especially in view of the inability of the U.S. Post Office to make promised sorting and the possibility of recurrence of ships arriving at Venice with parcels for Palermo, Naples and Rome.

One shipment reported by the U.S. Post Office consists of over 86,000 sacks and a second shipment of 50,000 sacks is also announced. These two shipments alone will contain over 800,000 individual parcels.

Special measures have been taken at Naples where in addition to the 2 additional Bonney huts previously reported as being erected other premises have been obtained on a temporary basis.

d. Venezia Giulia Foreign Mail Services.

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

4. Civil Censorship

Allied participation in Censorship of external Italian communications and Censorship was discontinued in accordance with AFHQ directive and the Italian Government so notified.

Further reductions took place in internal censorship activities which are still carried on in some AMG territory. This censorship will cease on turn - over of territory to the Italian Government at which time Civil Censorship Group is expected to be dissolved and any censorship which may be needed for Venezia Giulia carried on by XIII Corps.

H.H.SCUDDER
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

1379

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

68

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AMG 336
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: G25/249/AC 29 November 1945

Subject: Monthly Reports

To : Distribution below

1. It is realised that owing to a general shortage of officers and clerical staff it is difficult to carry out normal routine duties as promptly as could be wished. With respect to monthly reports however it is essential that delay should be avoided.

2. Monthly reports from all regions and Sub-Commissions should be received in the Executive Commissioner's office by the 25th of the month. For the past two months they have very rarely appeared until the 30th, and some reports are not received until as late as the 27th of the month. This hinders the production of the Allied Commission monthly report, which although it is solely a record of progress achieved during the past month, must reach ACC, the Combined Chiefs of Staff and the respective War Departments as soon as possible.

3. Will you please ensure prompt arrival of monthly reports.

for Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Distribution
Civil Affairs Section
Economic Section
Navy Subcommission
Land Forces Subcommission (MMIA)
Air Forces Subcommission
Communications Subcommission
G.H.Q. Subcommission
Public Relations Branch
Lombardia Region
Piemonte Region
Venezia Region
Liguria Region

AFHQ (CCS)
AFHQ Naples Command
ANF Livorno Zone
AMLO Bari
AMLO Sicily
AMLO Bologna
AMLO Adriatic Command

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CRS & REPS
FILE
REP 156
30 NOV 1945

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

66

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission HB3/ec

REF.156.66.CS 15 November, 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO : Executive Commissioner

1. Herewith full and adbridged reports for October, 1945.

H.H.SCUDDER,
Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to: Mr. Bernascconi U.S. Embassy
Signal Officer R.A.A.C.
Civil Censorship Group.

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

C

FULL REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1945

Communications Sub-Commission

1. General. General improvement in extension of international communications continued during the month. Speed of internal communications also showed marked improvement. The results of sound planning are now beginning to show good results. The main framework for efficient communications having been established by preparatory work accomplished in previous months, extensions and improvements to services are being carried out with gratifying speed and ease.

2. Telecommunications.

a. Telephones. The long distance service to subscribers in Lombardia Region has been appreciably improved by the addition of lines from Milan to Rome (2), Bologna and Florence.

Milan has now three circuits to Rome - two via Bologna and one via Chiasso.

In Venezia Region progress has been steady and 92% of all exchanges are now in operation. Of these, 28% have access to the main trunk network. Several new long distance lines have been released by the Allied Military. Piedmonte now has direct service to Switzerland via Turin - Lugano.

In Emilia, additional lines have been released for civil use resulting in marked improvement in service.

During the month a detailed study of traffic conditions in Northern Italy was completed by an officer of this Sub-Commission. The study showed considerable inefficiency and the results have been sent to the Ministry for study and appropriate action. As a result of previous presentations, the Ministry has created a Traffic Department (a innovation in the Italian telephone field) and it is hoped that with the assistance of this Sub-Commission this newly formed department will be able to show beneficial results in improving the utilization of telephone facilities.

1276

Many lines used by the Allied Military have now been turned over to the Italian civil organizations for maintenance. To enable this to be done reliable dyna Military stores

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

was obtained of a large number of vehicles and a considerable quantity of stores. This turn-over of maintenance is the first step in the complete return to Indian control of the telecommunications network.

b. Telegraph. The telegraph service in Londonderry is not feeling the good effects of the introduction some months ago of a training school for the recruits. The completion of the training of many of them and their allocation to circuits has result d in a considerable improvement in the service. In addition introduction of automatic transmitters on some of the main circuits has resulted in speeding up service.

About six of the telegraph offices in this region have been recommended to the main network, thirty seven having been completed during the month.

The position as regards the provision of [illegible] is now considerably improved and 33% of the total circuits required have now been provided.

In March it is hoped the proportion in operation will amount to 65% of the pre-war figure. Considerable delays in various provinces and difficulties in times by which they have delayed restoration there but the improvement should result in November.

In India, the loading of the long lines telegraph circuits has been improved.

c. Radio Telephony. Civilian service on the Army - U.S.A. link was further improved by granting of priority (except for official and press traffic) to civilian calls between the hours of 17.00 and 20.00 G.M.T. This link continues to carry a heavy volume of personal traffic for members of the Allied Armed Forces and has proved to be a stabilizing factor in maintaining morale.

d. International Conference. An officer of this Sub-Section visited the Paris Radio Conference to represent the interests of Iraq and Persia and to arrange for the purchase of frequencies for the Iraq Government Telegraph Service. As a result of his representations, Iraq will be allocated a number of frequencies in the tropical and trans-oceanic bands.

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

c. Venezia Giulia. The Trieste - Pola telegraph link was re-opened. Meetings continue to be held with the Jugoslav representatives and agreements have been reached on several questions affecting maintenance and division of tolls.

3. Postal.

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

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

b. Surface Mails. New direct despatches were established to Australia, Argentina and Brazil.

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

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

1275

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

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

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

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

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

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

4. Civil Censorship. Allied personnel was further requested during the month, due to relief of U.S. officers and men with high point years.

A.F.H.Q. has directed the continuance, until further notice, of Advanced censorship stations being operated in A.M.G. territory. This is understood to be due to the insistence of 5 District and XIII Corps.

L.L. SCHOEN,
Col. A.G.D.
Director.

1874

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

File 67

POSTAL SECTION MONTHLY REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1945.

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

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

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

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

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

1670

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

Arrangements were made for the inclusion of

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

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

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

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Communications 163

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

Ref: 325/239/AG

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

2 November 45

SUBJECT: Monthly Reports.

TO : Distribution below.

1. It is requested that in future the Public Relations Branch be furnished with four additional copies of all A.C. Sub-Commission monthly reports this bringing the number of their copies up to six.

2. Forty-five copies of each report will therefore be necessary.

For the Chief Staff Officer,
To the Executive Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:

Civil Affairs Section.
Economic Section.
Navy Sub-Commission
Land Forces Sub-Commission (AMGIA)
Air Forces Sub-Commission
Communications Sub-Commission
War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission

Copy to: Public Relations Branch

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

Rec'd
Fwd.
REP 156
2 NOV 1945
1371

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

62

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 8756/99/EC

27 October 45

SUBJECT: Civil Censorship

TO : Communications Subcommission

Sec 53

1. Reference your monthly report of August 1945 in which you requested the abolition of internal censorship.

2. Attached is a copy of the reply given by HQ 2 District in response to a query from this office asking for their arguments for the continuance of the censorship.

T. Hitz-Cleary Lt. Colonel

Chief Staff Officer
To Executive Commissioner

REP. 156
Date 29 OCT. 1945

1279

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

COPY

HEADQUARTERS 2 DISTRICT
GENERAL STAFF INTELLIGENCE
C.M.F.

GSI/2356

23 October 1945

SUBJECT: Civil Censorship

TO : HQ, Allied Commission

1. Reference your 8756 of 5 October 1945:

2. HQ 2 District are ultimately responsible for the maintenance of public order in a very large area covering the greater part of Northern Italy. It is therefore indispensable that this HQ be as fully informed as possible of the real situation here, making use of all available sources of information.

3. One of these sources is the Civil Censorship. Whilst it is agreed that the abolition of censorship may be desirable, it would on the other hand mean that a most useful source of information would no longer be available. This is particularly true of telephonic censorship where individuals are even less discreet than in letters.

4. The closing down of certain agencies has already limited the sources of information available to this HQ and it is felt that in the circumstances the continuance of censorship is essential.

/s/ C. A. Heydeman
Major General
Commanding

LH/ejs

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

D R&P 856

61

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 1945
COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. Marked improvement was made in extension of direct telecommunications to Foreign Countries and in speeding up both internal and external mail services.

2. An additional 5 internal civil censorship stations were closed.

H.H.SCUDDER,
Lt.Col.Sig.C.
Director.

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

160

TELECOMMUNICATIONS REPORT - SEPTEMBER

1. Telegraphs: The long distance telegraph service has been considerably extended by the bringing into use of voice frequency channels for which equipment had already been completed. This included direct links to Paris, and direct connection between N. Italy and Sicily.

The service from Emilia was greatly improved to the East by the provision of direct links between Rimini and Ancona.

Over 100 telegraph offices were reconnected to the main network during the month by the completion of circuits.

As teleprinters are now being made available at the Olivetti factory, the chief problem is that of trained personnel. The teleprinter is an instrument the operation of which can be learned fairly rapidly. Schools have been started in several of the large towns for the training of teleprinter operators and, in Milan, twenty have already been trained and are now at work. Eighty are in course of training there still.

Teleprinter mechanics are receiving a course at a special school in the Olivetti works.

Some idea of the telegraph problem is given by the fact that Milan office is now handling 35000 telegrams per day with traffic rising. This figure is 90% of the prewar daily traffic.

Arrangements have been made for a stock of spare parts for teleprinters in view of the greatly increased use of that instrument.

Service is still restricted to a very small number of places in Verona Province and an investigation is being made into the position there, as the Italian senior officials are inefficient.

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2. Telephones: A general improvement has taken place over N. Italy in the number of small exchanges connected to the network, but very few long distance circuits have been released by the military.

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

This service remains therefore of a rather skeleton nature. Discussions with the C.S.C. however have resulted in the promise of a fair number of I.D. trunks at the beginning of October.

The Italians continue gradually to resume responsibility for the maintenance and repair of military circuits.

3. Venezia Giulia: Several meetings have been held between the Telecomms and Posts Officer and the Jugoslavs, with the result that services have now been resumed between Zones A and B, the most important telegraph and telephone lines being between Trieste and Fiume. The Trieste-Pola telegraph link should be reopened shortly.

A telephone Pola-Trieste carrier channel has been installed and brought into service.

Trieste has been connected by voice frequency telegraph directly to Bologna and Genova.

H. W. Miller
Lt.Col.Royal S.
D/Director
Communications Sub-Commission.

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

TELECOMMUNICATIONS REPORT - SEPTEMBER

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

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The Italians continue gradually to resume responsibility for the maintenance and repair of military circuits.

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H.W. Millar
Lt.Col.Royal S.
D/Director
Communications Sub-Commission.

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

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

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Trieste has been connected by voice frequency telegraph directly to Bologna and Genova.

H.T.W. Millar
Lt.Col.Royal S.
D/Director
Communications Sub-Commission.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

HHB/og.

158

REF. 156.58.03

15th October 1945.

Subject : Monthly Reports

To : Signal Officer - H.A.A.C.

Herewith Full and Abridged Reports of this Sub-Commission for September 1945.

H.H. SCUDDER
Lt.Col,Sig.C,
Director.

Enclosure : Monthly Reports.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

HTB/ac

15th October 1945.

REF. 156.57.08

Subject : Monthly Report

To : Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy, Rome.

Herewith Full and Abridged Monthly Reports of this Sub-Commission for September 1945.

H.M. SCUDDER
Lt.Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Enclosure: Monthly Reports.

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

IEE/cg

REP.156.56.09

15th October 1945.

Subject : Monthly Report

To : Executive Commissioner, H.Q.A.C.

1. Herewith Full and Abridged Monthly Reports of this Sub-Commission for September 1945.

H.H. SCUDDER
Lt.Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Enclosures : Monthly Reports.

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

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Q1 REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER Q5

Communications Sub-Commission

1. General. During the month the most marked improvement was in extension of direct telecommunications to foreign countries and the speeding up of both internal and external mail service due to expansion of railway facilities.

2. Telecommunications.

a. Telephones: A general improvement has taken place over N. Italy in the number of small exchanges connected to the network, but very few long distance circuits have been released by the military.

This service remains therefore of a rather skeleton nature. Discussions with Army Signals however have resulted in the promise of a fair number of long distance trunks at the beginning of October.

The Italians continue gradually to resume responsibility for the maintenance and repair of military circuits.

b. Telegraphs: The long distance telegraph service has been considerably extended. This included direct links to Paris, and direct connection between N. Italy and Sicily.

The service from Emilia was greatly improved to the west by the provision of direct links between Rimini and Ancona.

During the month, over 100 telegraph offices were reconnected to the main network.

As teleprinters are now being made available at the Olivetti factory, near Turin, the chief problem is that of trained personnel. Schools have been started in several of the large towns for the training of teleprinter operators and in Milan, twenty have already been trained and are now at work.

Teleprinter mechanics are receiving a course at a special school in the Olivetti works.

Some idea of the telegraph problem is given by the fact that the Milan office is now handling 35000 telegrams per day with traffic rising. This figure is 30% of the prewar daily traffic.

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c. Radio-Telephone. Additional equipment was installed for use on the Radio - Telephone link between Italy and the U.S.A. and a total of over 3600 calls was handled during the month.

d. Submarine Cable. The Submarine Cable between Piumicino and Genoa was released by the military for operation by the Italian Government.

Subject to any future decision as to ultimate annexation of Submarine Cables, authority was granted for Italcable to repair and resume operation of the Anzio - Barcelona Cable.

e. Venezia Giulia: Several meetings have been held between the Telecomm and Posts officer and the Jugoslavs, with the result that services have now been resumed between Zones A and B, the most important telegraph and telephone lines being between Trieste and Pirano. The Trieste - Pola telegraph link should be restored shortly.

A telephone circuit Pola - Trieste has been installed and brought into service.

Trieste has been connected by telegraph directly to Bologna and Genoa.

3. Postal.

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

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

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

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

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

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

c. Gift Parcels. Progress was made in removing obstacles which up to the present have prevented the extension of the gift parcel scheme from the U.S.A. to all Italy. By direct negotiations with the British Army Postal Directorate it was possible to obtain for the Italian Post Office the exclusive use of a large double Nissen hut adjacent to the sorting office at Naples Railway Station. . . . . is being pressed to release two other Nissen huts for erection at Naples Port where the bulk of the parcel mails are landed. The first effect of the extension of the parcel service to Sicily and Sardinia was seen in a cable to the effect that nearly 30,000 parcel bags (approximately 300,000 parcels) had been loaded on a ship bound for Naples from the U.S.A.

4. Civil Censorship.

During the month of September an additional 5 Internal civil censorship stations were closed.

Internal Censorship is now only operating in the Provinces of Milan, Turin, Bolzano, Venezia and Udine.

As pointed out in August report, it has been recommended by this Sub-Commission that all internal censorship be discontinued. Stations listed above are being continued by direction from A.F.H.Q. on the insistance of Districts and XIII Corps. The situation will be reviewed at the end of October.

1356

H. H. SCUDDER,
Lt.Col. A.U.S.
Director.

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

FILE 155

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission HHS/ec

REF.156.55.CS 28th September, 1945

SUBJECT:Draft Press Release

TO : P.R.O. AC HQs.

In accordance with provision of Executive Commission Memo of 27th September submitted herewith is draft press release.

H.H.SCUDDER
Lt.Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Enclosure: Draft Press Release.

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Representatives of the Communications Sub-Commission entered the Northern Regions with the liberating troops and were instrumental in restoring civil postal, telephone and telegraph communications.

Disruption of railroad communications seriously interfered with resumption of postal services but by organizing road transport and utilizing Allied Army vehicles it was possible to restore a limited service within a few weeks after liberation. Local service in the main cities was restored within a few days after entry of Allied troops.

As the only stamps in circulation in the North were Republican Fascist it was necessary to print a supply of current Italian stamps and a total of 105,000,000 were printed and distributed during the month of May.

The damage to telephone and telegraph plant and equipment was generally less than in the South but restrictions imposed by the Germans had prohibited inter-urban service to all civilians except a very limited number of officials and important business concerns. This meant that staff and equipment had been dispersed and it was necessary to recruit staff, open schools and obtain new equipment.

A skeleton telegraph and telephone service was made available among Milan, Turin and Genoa a few days after liberation and during the succeeding months service was gradually extended throughout the territory so that by the end of September both telephone and telegraph services throughout the North provided adequate facilities for all essential needs. Telegraph circuits between North and South Italy are now restored to almost pre-war levels and it is hoped that marked improvement can soon be made in telephone facilities which for the moment are very limited between North and South.

Some idea of the magnitude of the task involved can be given by the amount of repair needed in order to restore to service the State Underground Telephone cable which is the back bone of interurban

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telephone communications in Italy. This cable was systematicslly damaged by the Germans and much of the equipment was removed. Since the landings in Italy over 130 Kilometers of new cable have been laid, more than 2200 breaks repaired, over 6000 new joints made and 19 important equipment centres completely reconstructed.

In the field of International communications, so vital to the restorution of Italy's foreign relations, marked progress has been made. International Letter Post, Telephone and Telegraph services to all countries in the World, are now functioning with a few exceptions such as Germany, Hungary, Austria and Japan and former Japanese controlled territory. Especially noteworthy is the opening to civilian use of the radio telephone circuit between Rome and New York.

In connection with problems of International postal services it is of interest that a recent shipment of gift parcels from the U.S.A. comprised over 29,000 mail bags.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
COMMERCE SUBCOMMISSION

Ref. AC/5127/A/Commerce

ERG/lc

15 September 1945

SUBJECT: Allied Commission Export Activities

TO : See Distribution List Attached

1. Attached is copy of letter from the President of the Council of Ministers in reply to the Chief Commissioner's letter, dated 31 July 1945, which dealt with the termination of Export Activities of Allied Commission, transmitted to you with our AC/5127/A/Commerce dated 31 July 1945.

see 41

2. The Chief Commissioner's reply to the questions raised by Prime Minister Parri is also attached, for your information and guidance. Please note that since writing this reply the procedure for submitting bids for sea transportation has undergone a change and is now as follows :

All Applications for sea transportation for goods to be exported from Italy should be submitted through the Istituto Nazionale per il Commercio Estero, Roma, Via Torino 107, in triplicate, direct to United Maritime Authority, Zone 3 Committee, Navy House, Naples.

Applications for shipping of goods to be imported into Italy from countries other than U.S. and U.K. are to be addressed in triplicate to U.M.A. as above but submitted to Allied Commission, Commerce Sub-Commission, Foreign Trade Division, for onward transmission.

1352

U.M.A. requests certain essential details and in order to ensure uniformity it is requested that the attached proforma be used when making bids for export or import shipments.

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552

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H.A.GENT,
Major,
Director
Commerce Subcommission

3 Encls.

Director	
D/Director	
Chief Telecoms	
Chief Postal	
[illegible] Coms O.	
Asst Chief Postal	
[illegible]ensorship	
[illegible] Clerk	

[illegible]	
FILE	B/fwd
REP 156	

Date 20 SET 1945

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

Office of the Chief Commissioner
Office of the Executive Commissioner
Economic Section
  Supply Division
  Production Division
  Requisition Branch
  Price Control Branch
Agriculture S/C
Commerce S/C
Finance S/C (3)
Food S/C (3)
Industry S/C (3)
Labor S/C
Public Works & Utilities S/C
Transportation S/C (3)
Civil Affairs Section
Communications S/C
Legal S/C
Public Relations
Public Safety S/C
Regional Commissioner, Lombardia Region
  " " Piemonte Region
  " " Liguria Region
  " " Veneto Region
  " " Venezia Giulia Region
  " " Emilia Region
AMG Naples Commune
Allied Commission, Liaison Officer, Palermo
Allied Forces Local Resources Section (5)
UNRRA HQ AFHQ (5)
AMG Livorno Zone
AMG Ancona Commune
AC Liaison Officer Bari
AC Liaison Officer Catania

Political Adviser (A) AC
Political Adviser (B) AC
US POLAD, AFHQ
UK POLAD, AFHQ
AFHQ G-5 Section (3)
U.S. Embassy
U.K. Embassy
Soviet Representative to AC
French Representative to AC

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

Price Control Branch
Agriculture S/C
Commerce S/C
Finance S/C (3)
Food S/C (3)
Industry S/C (3)
Labor S/C
Public Works & Utilities S/C
Transportation S/C (3)
Civil Affairs Section
Communications S/C
Legal S/C
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Political Adviser (A) AC
Political Adviser (B) AC
US POLAD, AFHQ
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AFHQ G-5 Section (3)
U.S. Embassy
U.K. Embassy
Soviet Representative to AC
French Representative to AC

Spares (25)

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

Translation

COPY

The President of the Council of Ministers

n. 589

Rome, 1.8.1945

Dear Admiral,

1) Referring to your letter of the 31st. in relation with the cessation of the activity of the Allied Commission for what concerns exports from Italy, I must express the satisfaction of the Italian Government for the progressive resumption of its economic and financial autonomy.

2) In my opinion, considering that the territory which is at present under the control of the Allied Military Government is shortly to be handed over to the Italian Government, it would be useless to study a particular procedure concerning the exports which might take place in the above mentioned territory, for the drafting and enforcement of a regulation necessarily require a certain period of time that might be longer than the lapse of time till the handling over of the Northern provinces to the Italian Government.

In any case, as the Allied Commission well knows, the liaison organisms between the above mentioned territory and that which has already been handed back to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government exist and can be made use of in case of need.

3) The Italian Government recognizes that the Allied Commission will go on keeping some control on export activities. A few observations are nevertheless necessary.

Regarding the control mentioned in a) of para 3) it must be taken in consideration that if the Allied Commission goes on examining statements about exportable surplus, even not included on list a), this will cause, as in the past, complications and delays prejudicial to the development of a normal trade.

It would be a good thing, at least for a certain list of products to be agreed upon, for us to be free to negotiate the exports without needing previous periodical authorizations based on declarations difficult to make.

One of the most serious problems for my Government is unemployment: the problem might be partly solved by importing raw materials to be transformed in finished products to be exported, but to reach this result, a certain liberty of action is necessary.

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For what concerns control mentioned in letter b) of para 3) the Italian Government hopes that it may in time be lessened, so as to be able to use for foreign trade some important items of its commercial balance.

4) According to the wish expressed by the Allied Commission, my Government has already taken action to establish by decree n. 331 of May 17, 1945, the "Ufficio Italiano Cambi", which will have to enforce the effective control on foreign exchanges requested from us in letter n.

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

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4) According to the wish expressed by the Allied Commission, my Government has already taken action to establish by decree n. 331 of May 17, 1945, the "Ufficio Italiano Cambi", which will have to enforce the effective control on foreign exchanges requested from us in letter n. 13432/F of the 18.7.1945.

While waiting for the particulars of the programs of the economic war which will have to be forwarded by the British and American Embassies, I hope that the question concerning the black list at present dealt with by the Minister of Foreign Affairs will soon be solved.

5) While expressing my great satisfaction at acknowledging what you expressed in point 5) of your letter, i. e. that all Nations are now free to negotiate directly with the Italian Government, and assuring you that we shall do our best to comply with what is expressed in point 6) of the said letter, and therefore find the information contained in n. 7 most useful, I take the liberty, my dear Admiral, of expressing a few wishes, on the granting of which depends the possibility of effectively carrying out an international trade.

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

a) As State control of private commercial initiatives must be established, it is obvious that the Government requires the effective functioning of the customs; without their collaboration, there could be no economic, financial and exchange activity of international trade.

The Government therefore deems it its duty to point out to the Allied Commission that its action in this sector would be frustrated if the resumption of the functioning of customs services and under the orders of the competent Italian control organisms is not allowed on all the frontiers of the State.

b) The Italian Government also deems it its duty to point out to the Allied Commission that though it will probably before long be able to resume foreign commercial correspondence, because the question of the black lists is shortly to be solved, the same thing cannot be said of foreign exchanges, which remains materially impossible till adequate means of transport, especially shipping, are available.

If freedom for international trade is to have a practical meaning, after being allowed to negotiate possible commercial agreements, Italy must have the material possibility of transporting wares with her own means, without depending for a hundred per cent from the other contractors who could make their privileged situation weigh heavily.

6) For what concerns the request which you expressed in point 9) of your letter, i.e. for my Government to take immediate action to organize its liaison offices and develop the necessary organization to carry out its new and indispensible requirements, I must tell you that I am doing everything to be ready as soon as possible to carry out these new tasks.

All the Administrations concerned are at present studying the question. The criterion which inspires them is to leave to private persons the task of managing, according to their own initiative, their relations with their foreign purveyors and clients, submitting nevertheless these relations to a strict control by the State. It will be necessary to draft a list which will include the greatest possible amount of exportable goods, and study at the same time a definite priority criterion for importable goods. All matters concerning foreign trade ought perhaps to be centralized in one State administration, the Industry and Commerce Department, which, with its Undersecretary for Foreign Trade, within the bounderies of the plan for imports and exports and according to the regulations fixed as exchange policy, will have a great possibility of action, and use as executive organ the "Istituto Commercio Estero", which has already had close contacts with the Allied Commission.

I shall send you the final organization draft on this matter, as soon as the Administrations concerned will be through with it.

S. Ferruccio Parri

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S. Ferruccio Parri 1349

Trans. e/c

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, ROME

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

Copy

31 August 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I thank you for your letter dated 1 August 1945, replying to my communication of 31 July, and am taking this opportunity of replying to the various points which you raise.

With regard to paragraph 2 of your letter, I agree that, in the existing circumstances, it is not necessary to prepare a special procedure to govern exports in the territory at present under Allied military control.

Further, I am in agreement with the suggestion made in your paragraph 3 that a list of items, of which an exportable surplus exists, should be prepared. Therefore, I suggest that your Government submit such a list to this Headquarters, so that it may be reviewed and, if possible, an overall clearance given.

While you will be the first to appreciate, my dear Prime Minister, the necessity for maintaining control over the movement of those commodities which are in world short supply, I have every hope and reason to believe that, with the final cessation of hostilities, the list of such commodities will gradually be reduced.

As regards your paragraph 4, the Combined Chiefs of Staff have advised us that the United States Proclaimed and British Statutory Lists should be adopted by your Government as a prerequisite to direct trade between Italy and those countries to which such lists have been applied.

I am gratified by the establishment of the new exchange control agency, the Ufficio Italiano dei Cambi, and I hope it will proceed to an effective control of Italian external assets as soon as possible.

1348

As regards paragraph 3 (c), I may say that we are in full agreement concerning the effective functioning of the Italian customs service. As far as we are aware, the customs service is operating at all ports and on all frontiers, except at those ports or portions of ports which are being used for Allied military or naval traffic. On the initiative of the Allied authorities the customs services in Allied Military Government territory have been reestablished and are functioning under normal Italian laws and regulations. The customs organizations now functioning in Allied Military Government territory (except Venezia-Giulia) will revert to full Italian Government control when such territory is returned to your Government.

With reference to the question of transport raised in your

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

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I am gratified by the establishment of the new exchange control agency, the Ufficio Italiano dei Cambi, and I hope it will proceed to an effective control of Italian external assets as soon as possible.

1348

As regards paragraph 3 (a), I may say that we are in full agreement concerning the effective functioning of the Italian customs service. As far as we are aware, the customs service is operating at all ports and on all frontiers, except at those ports or portions of ports which are being used for Allied military or naval traffic. On the initiative of the Allied authorities the customs services in Allied Military Government territory have been reestablished and are functioning under normal Italian laws and regulations. The customs organizations now functioning in Allied Military Government territory (except Venezia-Giulia) will revert to full Italian Government control when such territory is returned to your Government.

With reference to the question of transport raised in your paragraph 5 (b), a control has now been set up to deal with the very involved question of world transport facilities, in order that all nations may receive their fair share of the availability. This controlling body is known as the United Maritime Authority (U.M.A.).

All applications for shipping should be submitted by the appropriate Italian authority to the Shipping Employment Policy Committee, Berkley Square, London, with copy to United Maritime Authority Zone 5 Committee, Navy House, Naples. It is essential however, that all applications for shipping made on United Maritime Authority through Shipping Employment Policy Committee, London, should be coordinated by one Central Italian Organization.

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

I am very gratified to learn of the plans which are being prepared by your Government for the furtherance and control of Italy's foreign trade and I shall be very interested to see these when they are completed.

In my letter of 31 July, I presumed that the Italian Government authority which would be responsible for carrying on export activities would be your Istituto Nazionale per il Commercio Estero. Your letter to which I am now replying leads me to believe that perhaps this assumption was not entirely correct. In any case, I feel it my duty to draw your attention to the fact that the Istituto Commercio Estero has not been, in the past, as fully effective as might have been desired, due perhaps to the very heavy burden which was placed upon it. I am sure your Government will bear this in mind when considering its reorganization plans.

Rest assured, my dear Mr. Prime Minister, that any assistance or advice which the Allied Commission can render toward a happy solution of the foreign trade problems will be readily given.

Very truly yours,

/S/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Professor Ferruccio Parri
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

Distribution:

Office of the Chief Commissioner
Office of the Executive Commissioner
Economic Section
  Supply Division
  Production Division
  Requisition Branch
  Price Control Branch
Agriculture S/C
Commerce S/C (3)
Food S/C (3)
Industry S/C (3)
Labor S/C
Public Works & Utilities S/C
Transportation S/C (3)
AMG Livorno Zone
AMG Ancona Commune
AC Liaison Officer Bari
AC Liaison Officer Catania
Political Adviser (A) AC
Political Adviser (B) AC
US POLAD, AFHQ
UK POLAD, AFHQ
AFHQ G-5 Section (2)
U. S. Embassy
U. K. Embassy
Soviet Representative to AC
French Representative to AC

1347

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

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Very truly yours,

/S/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Professor Ferruccio Parri
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

Distribution:

Office of the Chief Commissioner
Office of the Executive Commissioner
Economic Section
  Supply Division
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Agriculture S/C
Commerce S/C (3)
Food S/C (3)
Industry S/C (3)
Labor S/C
Public Works & Utilities S/C
Transportation S/C (3)
Civil Affairs Section
Communications S/C
Legal S/C
Public Relations
Public Safety S/C
Regional Commissioner Lombardia Region
  " " Piemonte Region
  " " Liguria Region
  " " Venezia Region
  " " Venezia Giulia Region
  " " Emilia Region
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Allied Forces Local Resources Section (5)
UNRRA HQ AFHQ (5)

AMG Livorno Zone
AMG Ancona Commune
AC Liaison Officer Parri
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Political Adviser (A) AC
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US POLAD, AFHQ
UK POLAD, AFHQ
AFHQ G-5 Section (3)
U. S. Embassy
U. K. Embassy
Soviet Representative to AC
French Representative to AC

Spares (25)

1347

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

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

REQUEST FOR SEA TRANSPORTATION
Only One Consignment to be Shown on Each Bid
RICHIESTA PER TRASPORTO VIA MARE
Ogni Richiesta Serve per Una Sola Spedizione

...l No. of Bid
...a. della Richiesta _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Date
Data _ _

UNITED NATIONS AUTHORITY
Zone 3 Committee, Navy House, Naples

A request is made for shipping space to be provided for the undermentioned cargo:
Si richiede l'assegnazione di spazio a bordo per il sottomtato carico:

...ure of Cargo & Types of Packing Descrizione del Carico e dell'Imballaggio	Tonnage Tonnellaggio		Present Location & Nearest Port Luogo di giacenza e porto più Vicino	Date when Cargo Will be available Data in cui il carico è Disponibile	Final Dest... & Port Pref... Destinazion... tive e port...
	Gross Weight Metric tons Peso lordo Tonn.metriche	Measurement Cubic metres Misura Metri cubi			

...tails of heavy lifts over 5 tons, if any:
...ttagli di eventuali colli di peso superiore alle 5 tonn.: _ _ _ _ _ _ _

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

In Triplicate
In Triplice Copia

REQUEST FOR SEA TRANSPORTATION
Only One Consignment to be Shown on Each Rd
RICHIESTA PER TRASPORTO VIA MARE
Ogni Richiesta Serve per Una Sola Spedizione

Date
Data _____

...se, Naples

...space to be provided for the undermentioned cargo:
...spazio a bordo per il sottomotato carico:

Tonnage Tonnellaggio		Present Location & Nearest Port Luogo di giacenza o porto più Vicino	Date when Cargo Will be available Data in cui il carico è Disponibile	Final Destination & Port Preferred Destinazione definitiva e porto preferito	Consignor & Address Mittente e Indirizzo	Consignee & Address Destinatario e Indirizzo
Gross Weight Metric tons Peso lordo Tonn.metriche	Measurement Cubic metres Misura Metri cubi					

If any:
...superiore alle 5 tonn.: _____

Signed
Firma _____

Rank Sub-Commission
Grado Sotto-Commissione

...guarantee the allotment of shipping space.
...a non comporta garanzia di assegnazione.

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156

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/cg. 51

REP. 156.51.CS 17th September 1945.

Subject : Monthly Reports.

To : Civil Censorship Group

Herewith copies of Full and Abridged Reports of this Sub-Commission for August 1945.

H.H. SCUDDER
Lt.Col.Sig.C.
Director.

1345

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

156

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/log. 50

REP. 156.50.08 17th September 1945.

Subject : Monthly Reports.

To : Signal Officer - R.A.A.C.

Herewith copies of Full and Abridged Reports of this Sub-Commission for August 1945.

H.H. SCUDDER
Lt.Col.Sig.C.
Director.

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

156

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/cg. 49

17th September 1945

Rep. 156.49.CS

Subject : Monthly Reports.

To : Mr. Bernardoni, U.S. Embassy - Rome.

Herewith Full and Abridged Monthly Reports of this Sub-Commission for August 1945.

H.H. SOUDER
Lt.Col.Sig.C.
Director.

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

48

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/ec

15th September, 1945

HEP.156.48.CS

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO : Executive Commissioner, H.Q. A.C.

1. Herewith Full and Abridged Monthly Reports of this Sub-Commission for August 1945.

H.H.SCUDDER,
Lt.Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Enclosure: Monthly Reports.

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

152

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR AUGUST 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. Internal telephone, telegraph and postal services continued to be expanded and foreign services extended.

2. The situation with reference to internal communications is improving rapidly with the exception of telephone circuits between North and South where military needs still do not permit release of sufficient circuits to provide adequate facilities for minimum civilian requirements.

R.H. SOLBERG,
Lt.Col.Sig.C.
Director.

1341

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

REP 156

53

FULL REPORT FOR AUGUST 1945 COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. General. Improvement in internal services and extension of foreign services was very marked during August.

2. Telecommunications.

a. Telephones: The position as regards telephone circuits is improving rapidly except as regards communications between North and South.

In North Italy there is now a reasonable skeleton service between the provincial centres. In North West Italy and in Venezia much progress has been made and the small towns and villages are rapidly being connected to the network. For instance in Venezia, about 75% of the exchanges have been reconnected to the main network and the service considered to be at least as good in North West Italy.

Between North and South Italy however the service is of a very skeleton nature due to the use of nearly all available circuits by the military. It is hoped that a few circuits will be released shortly.

Facilities have been increased in various places during the month by the installation of carrier telephone systems.

Conditions in Emilia have been considerably improved though in Bologna progress is fairly slow due to the extent of the damage.

1340

b. Telegrams. The circuit position is satisfactory. In fact in some cases the Italian Telegraph Administration has more circuits at its disposal than in pre-war times. Lack of equipment and personnel has prevented taking full advantage of this situation. Steps are being taken in conjunction with the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications to remedy this condition.

The completion during the month of an installation at Bologna will enable the main network to be greatly supplemented.

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As regards the less important communes, the position in North West Italy is very good, in Venezia is good, and in Emilia fair. This represents rapid progress. For instance, out of 486 telegraph offices in Lombardia disconnected by damage from the main network at 31 May, some 287 have been restored, including 61 during August. In all 73% of the telegraph offices in Lombardia are now connected to the main network.

The completion of repairs to the Milano-Genova-Lucca-Firenze cable during the month has enabled this route to be used for voice frequency telegraphs this providing an alternative Roma - Milan route in case of damage to the Milan - Bologna - Firenze cable.

The great problem remaining now in the telegraph service is the training of staff. Since there had been no civilian service in North Italy for over a year before the Allies arrived, the staff had been dispersed and the instruments in many cases left to deteriorate.

A training school has been opened in Milan largely due to pressure from the Lombardia Telecoms Officer, and new staff has been recruited. It is hoped to have schools opened in other large towns shortly. Unfortunately Senior staffs are in many cases slow and unwilling to take responsibility, and they have to be pushed.

c. Radio - telephone. Over 5000 telephone calls now have been completed over the Roma - U.S.A. radio - telephone circuit which was opened to general service on July 1, 1945.

The General Post Office is being again approached with reference to instituting a similar service between Rome and Great Britain.

2. Postal

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

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

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

A new mail to Eritrea has been established.

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

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

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

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

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3. Civil Censorship. During the month, the telephone censorship station at Trento was discontinued and all telegraph censorship at Como and Cuneo was discontinued. The continuance of internal censorship is not considered justified by this Sub-Commission and its discontinuance has been recommended repeatedly to G-2 AFHQ. The closing of this activity, however, has been strongly opposed by Hqs. No. 2 Dist. and XIII Corps.

A verbal directive has been received from AFHQ requiring the continuance of internal censorship, both telephone and postal, in the following provinces:

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PILAR

PUCHIN

POLVARO

VENECIA

ULINE OR TRIESTE

The period during which such censorship will continue is indefinite, but the situation will be reviewed at the end of October.

AFHQ has been notified that on or about September 15, 1945 the following personnel can be released by Civil Censorship Group:

10 U.S. Army Officers
10 U.S. Army E.M.
2. U.S. Navy Officers
4. U.S. Navy Ratings

H.H.SCUDDER,
Lt.Col.Sig.C.
Director.

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

for 1947

TELECOMMUNICATIONS REPORT - AUGUST 1945

1. Telegraph Service: The circuit position is satisfactory. A comparison is shown on the attached Schedule of the pre war and post war numbers available between the most important towns.

In addition, the completion during the month of an installation at Bologna will enable the main network to be greatly supplemented.

As regards the less important communes, the position in North West Italy is very good, in Venezia is good, and in Emilia fair. This represents rapid progress. For instance, out of 486 telegraph offices in Lombardia disconnected by damage from the main network at 31 May, some 287 have been restored, including 61 during August. In all 75% of the telegraph offices in Lombardia are now connected to the main network.

The completion of repairs to the Milan-Genova-Lucca-Firenze cable during the month has enabled this route to be used for voice frequency telegraphs this providing an alternative Rome - Milan route in case of damage to the Milan - Bologna - Firenze cable.

The great problem remaining now in the telegraph service is the training of staff. Since there had been no civilian service in North Italy for over a year before the Allies arrived, the staff had been dispersed and the instruments in many cases left to deteriorate.

A training school has been opened in Milano largely due to pressure from the Lombardia Telecomms Officer, and new staff has been recruited. It is hoped to have schools opened in other large towns shortly. Unfortunately Senior staffs are in many cases slow and unwilling to take responsibility, and they have to be pushed.

2. Telephones: The position as regards telephone circuits is improving rapidly except as regards communications between North and South.

In North Italy there is now a reasonable skeleton service between the provincial centres. In North West Italy and in Venezia much progress has been made and the small towns and villages are rapidly being reconnected to the network. For instance in Venezia, about 75% of the exchanges have been reconnected to the main network and the service considered to be at least as good in North West Italy.

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Between North and South Italy however the service is of a very skeleton nature due to the use of nearly all available circuits by the military. It is hoped that a few circuits will be released shortly.

Facilities have been increased in various places during the month by the installation of carrier telephone systems.

Conditions in Emilia have been considerably improved though in Bologna progress is fairly slow due to the extent of the damage.

3. Venezia Giulia: All the telegraph and telephone circuits from AMG to Jugoslavia Venezia Giulia were cut by the Jugoslavs during the month.

Strong Efforts are being made to get the Jugoslaves to resume service.

As a matter of interest, the equipment of the telephone Company at Fiume (TELVE) has been placed under the control of a new organisation formed by the Jugoslavs. This organisation aims at placing all Posts and Telecommunications services including the telephone company under the Postal Direction.

The civil Press Agencies have been allocated the use of the Rome circuit for two hours each night to get off the news to Rome.

Eight important telephone and telegraph circuits have been brought into use during the month in AMG Venezia Giulia.

The Jugoslavs have cut the Trieste-Pola line and have used the wire for their circuits. This will probably be restored shortly. Meanwhile civilians have been given part use of a Military circuit until a civil carrier system can be installed on the military line.

1337

H.T.W. MILLAR,
Lt.Col. Royal Sigs.
Deputy Director.

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

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1356

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1335

H.T.W. MITLAR.
Lt.Col. Royal Sigs.
Deputy Director.

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COMUNICAZIONI TELEGRAFICHE

	TORINO a	TORINO b	MILANO a	MILANO b	GENOVA a	GENOVA b	BOLOGNA a	BOLOGNA b	VERONA a	VERONA b	PADOVA a	PADOVA b	VENEZIA a	VENEZIA b	TRIESTE a	TRIESTE b	FIRENZE a	FIRENZE b	LIVORNO a	LIVORNO b	ANCONA a	ANCONA b	ROMA a	ROMA b
TORINO	-	-	4	2	4	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
MILANO	4	2	-	-	4	2	3	1	2	1	1	-	3	1	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	4
GENOVA	4	2	4	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	3	2
BOLOGNA	2	1	3	1	1	1	-	-	2	1	1	1	4	1	2	-	3	-	1	-	2	-	3	3
VERONA	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
PADOVA	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
VENEZIA	2	1	3	1	2	-	4	1	2	1	3	1	-	-	4	2	2	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
TRIESTE	1	-	3	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
FIRENZE	1	-	2	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	3	3
LIVORNO	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-
ANCONA	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
ROMA	3	2	5	4	3	2	3	3	1	-	1	-	2	2	2	1	3	3	2	-	2	2	-	-
NAPOLI	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	2	-	1	-	6	3
PALERMO	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
CATANIA	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
BARI	1	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	2	1

a : Comunicazioni attive nel periodo anteguerra

b : Comunicazioni attive nel periodo attuale

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COMUNICAZIONI TELEGRAFICHE

BOLOGNA a	BOLOGNA b	VERONA a	VERONA b	PADOVA a	PADOVA b	VENEZIA a	VENEZIA b	TRIESTE a	TRIESTE b	FIRENZE a	FIRENZE b	LIVORNO a	LIVORNO b	ANCONA a	ANCONA b	ROMA a	ROMA b	NAPOLI a	NAPOLI b	PALERMO a	PALERMO b	CATANIA a	CATANIA b	BARI a	BARI b
2	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
3	1	2	1	1	-	3	1	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	-	2	1
1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	3	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	2	1	1	1	4	1	2	-	3	-	1	-	2	-	3	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
2	1	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	1	1	1	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	1	2	1	3	1	-	-	4	2	2	-	-	-	2	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
2	-	-	-	1	-	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	-
3	3	1	-	1	-	2	2	2	1	3	3	2	-	2	2	-	-	6	3	2	1	2	1	2	1
1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	2	-	1	-	6	3	-	-	3	1	2	2	2	2
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	1	-	-	2	1	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	2	2	-	-	-	1	1
1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	2	1	2	2	-	-	1	1	-	-

a : Comunicazioni attive nel periodo antoguerra

b : Comunicazioni attive nel periodo attuale

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

COMUNICAZIONI TELEGRAFICHE

	TORINO a	TORINO b	MILANO a	MILANO b	GENOVA a	GENOVA b	BOLOGNA a	BOLOGNA b	VERONA a	VERONA b	PADOVA a	PADOVA b	VENEZIA a	VENEZIA b	TRIESTE a	TRIESTE b	FIRENZE a	FIRENZE b	LIVORNO a	LIVORNO b	ANCONA a	ANCONA b	ROMA a	ROMA b
TORINO	-	-	4	2	4	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	2
MILANO	4	2	-	-	4	2	3	1	2	1	1	-	3	1	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	4
GENOVA	4	2	4	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	3	2
BOLOGNA	2	1	3	1	1	1	-	-	2	1	1	1	4	1	2	-	3	-	1	-	2	-	3	3
VERONA	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
PADOVA	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
VENEZIA	2	1	3	1	2	-	4	1	2	1	3	1	-	-	4	2	2	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
TRIESTE	1	-	3	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
FIRENZE	1	-	2	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	3	3
LIVORNO	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-
ANCONA	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
ROMA	3	2	5	4	3	2	3	3	1	-	1	-	2	2	2	1	3	3	2	-	2	2	-	-
NAPOLI	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	2	-	1	-	6	3
PALERMO	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
CATANIA	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
BARI	1	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	2	1

a : Comunicazioni attive nel periodo antaguerra

b : Comunicazioni attive nel periodo attuale

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

COMUNICAZIONI TELEGRAFICHE

GENOVA		VERONA		PADOVA		VENEZIA		TRIESTE		FIRENZE		LIVORNO		ANCONA		ROMA		NAPOLI		PALERMO		CATANIA		BARI	
	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	1	2	1	1	-	3	1	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	1	1	1	1	1	-	2	1
	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	3	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	-	2	1	1	1	4	1	2	-	3	-	1	-	2	-	3	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
	1	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	1	1	-	-	3	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	2	1	1	1	-	-	4	2	2	-	-	-	2	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
	-	-	-	1	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	3	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	-
	3	1	-	1	-	2	2	2	1	3	3	2	-	2	2	-	-	5	3	2	1	2	1	2	1
	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	2	-	1	-	6	3	-	-	3	1	2	2	2	2
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	1	-	-	2	1	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	2	2	2	-	-	-	1	1
	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	2	2	-	-	1	1	-	-

a : Comunicazioni attive nel periodo antegueerra

b : Comunicazioni attive nel periodo attuale

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

CENSS. [illegible]
FILE | F.O. B/fwd.
REF 156
23 AUG 1945
Date

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION
Foreign Trade Division

146

ERG/ram

Tel. : 245

22 August 1945

Ref. : AC/5127/A/Commerce

Subject: Termination of Export Activities of the Allied Commission

: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs -
Italian Government

Sec 41-1

1. Reference is made to the letter addressed by the Chief Commissioner to the President of the Council of Ministers dated 31 July with regard to the above subject.

2. Particular reference is made to paragraph (1) in which it was stated that the activities of the Allied Commission with respect to Italy's exports would terminate as from 31 July 1945, both in territory which has already been returned to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government and in the territory which is at present under Allied Military Government.

3. In order that there may be no misunderstanding, we wish to point out that "disputed areas" such as Venezia-Giulia do not come within the terms of the above statement.

4. It is requested that the above clarification be communicated by you to the interested Ministries and Departments of the Italian Government.

H. A. GENT
Major
Director
Commerce Sub-Commission

Fasc. 1352

Distribution

Office of the Chief Commissioner
Office of the Executive Commissioner
Economic Section
  Supply Division
  Production Division
  Requisition Branch
  Price Control Branch

Regional Commissioners
  Lombardia Region
  Piemonte "
  Liguria "
  Venezia "
  Venezia Giulia "
  Emilia "

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

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H. A. GENT
Major
Director
Commerce Sub-Commission

Distribution

Office of the Chief Commissioner
Office of the Executive Commissioner
Economic Section
  Supply Division
  Production Division
  Requisition Branch
  Price Control Branch
Agriculture S/C
Commerce S/C
Finance S/C (3)
Food S/C (3)
Industry S/C (3)
Labor S/C
Public Works & Utilities S/C
Transportation S/C (3)
Civil Affairs Section
Communications S/C
Legal S/C
Public Relations
Public Safety S/C

Spares (25)

Regional Commissioners
  Lombardia Region
  Piemonte "
  Liguria "
  Venezia "
  Venezia Giulia "
  Emilia "
AMG Naples Commune
AC, Liaison Off. Palermo
AFLRS (5)
UNRRA HQ AFHQ (5)
AMG Livorno Zone
AMG Ancona Commune
AC Liaison Officer Bari
AC Liaison Officer Catania
Political Adviser (A) AC
Political Adviser (B) AC
US POLAD, AFHQ
UK POLAD, AFHQ
AFHQ G-5 Section (3)
U. S. Embassy
U. K. Embassy
Soviet Rep. to AC
French Rep. to AC

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

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

45

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission HHS/vs

REP. 156. .CS 18th August 1945

SUBJECT. : Setting up of Telecomms Sub-Commission.

TO. : S.C.A.C. Venezia Giulia.
(Att: Telecomms Officer)

1. Telephone circuits are available between

Trieste - Venice
Udine - Trieste
Udine - Venice

but only 1 each. This gives however the possibility of 2 circuits from Trieste to Venice, if it is desired to so set up the circuits. The outlook for obtaining more circuits in the cable is not bright.

H.H. SCUDDER
Lt.Col.Sig.C.
Director.

Copy to : Regional Commissioners VenezieRegion
Att: Telecomms Officer

REP 156

1331

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

44

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

Ref. VG/COM

SUBJECT: Setting up of Telecoms Sub Commission

TO: The Director Communications
Sub Commission
HQ Allied Commission Rome

At a general meeting of the Allied/ Jugoslav Commission held to-day, it was decided to open up a Telecoms Sub Commission.

This Sub Commission cannot be recognized until the next General Meeting on 5th September, but I have authority to go ahead with any problem which needs an urgent solution.

I intend to push the following:

(1) Opening up of Telegraph facilities in Zone B and Jugoslavia
(11) Telephone resumption to small towns.
(111) Tariffs.

If the following telephone circuits which have already been asked for can be expedited, I think the Jugoslav side would be more interested.

Trieste - Venice 3
Trieste - Udine 3

Director
Director
Chief Telecoms
Chief Postal
H Q Coms 10/8/1945
Asst Chief Postal
Censorship
Chief Clerk

CROSS REFS
FILE REF 156

Seen the Senior Civil Affairs Officer

H. A. HAYWARD
Major R. Signals
Telecoms Officer
HQ A.M.G. 13 Corps

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

43

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission HTWM/epo

REF.156.43.CS

13th August, 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO: Executive Commissioner, HQ.A.C.

1. Herewith Full and Abridged Monthly Reports of this Sub-Commission for July, 1945.

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

2 Incls:
Incl 1. Full Report
Incl 2. Abridged Report.

13-9

File

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

FULL REPORT FOR JULY 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION RTL/pnc

1. GENERAL

The main development during the month, apart from a steady extension of internal services, was the extension of foreign services. Italian decrees imposing a considerable increase in postal and telecommunications charges were implemented in N.Italy.

2. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

a. The first stage of the backbone voice frequency telegraph network between important cities has been completed. Included in this stage are Torino, Genoa, Milano, Palermo, Venezia, Trieste, Firenze, Roma, Napoli, Bari, Catania, and Swiss towns. Other towns are served by circuits from these centres. Equipment is nearly ready to provide a large extension of the network.

The chief obstacle now to the provision of a good telegraph service is shortage of staff. This shortage is due to the fact that an ordinary civilian telegraph service has not been in operation in N.Italy for at least fifteen months. Operators are now being recruited and trained in certain centres.

Udine, Verona, and Bolzano were connected during the month to the telegraph network.

b. Fair progress has been made in some of the damaged areas of Emilia Region, all of the larger towns now being connected to the telegraph and telephone network. Palermo for instance has now 21 telephone circuits and 10 telegraph circuits to other large towns. Destruction in the areas fought over was almost complete and progress can only be slow.

c. Some 35 trunks have been added to the telephone network in Piedmonte during the month. A good telephone service has been opened between Milan and Switzerland. The town of Verona has been provided with useful circuits to Milan, Modena and Palermo, and Venice was connected to Palermo.

13-8

d. Civilians have been trained to replace military operators on military switchboards. Many are now operating the boards.

e. Italian Press traffic has been taken over by the Italian telegraph system from P.W.B., which had been passing the traffic on Military lines.

f. There have been some labour troubles but arrangements are made so that they do not affect the operation and maintenance of military circuits.

g. The Rome - U.S. radio telephone service is now working satisfactorily, and it is hoped to obtain a second radio circuit.

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

h. Some 150 trucks have been drawn from military stocks as a result of arrangements made a long time ago. These have been sold to the Italians. Serious difficulty has been experienced in getting petrol.

In addition vehicles are now being loaned from Military units to the Italians to enable the latter to take over maintenance of Military lines. Maintenance of such lines has been handed over so far in Bologna and Ancona areas, with a few lines here and there elsewhere.

5. POSTAL

a. Train Services

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

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

b. Internal Services

The improvement in rail services rendered it possible to extend the scope of postal services between South and North Italy (previously limited to HF area letters) to include most of the postal facilities in operation in Italian Government territory.

c. Prisoner of War Mails

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

d. Postage Stamp Supplies for North Italy

The printing of postcards and of the smaller denominations of stamps was continued at Rovara. During the month 260 boxes of the higher values (about 85 million stamps) were despatched to the North from Rome by the A.C. Air Courier service.

e. Venezia Giulia

A postcard and HF prac letter service from the rest of Italy to Venezia Giulia was authorised on 27th July. Pending clarification of the position concerning commercial transactions with Venezia Giulia this service has been advertised as open for family and personal messages only.

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

4. CIVIL CENSORSHIP

a. The following external censorship stations have been transferred to the Italian Government:

Rome - Postal and Cable Censorship Stations
Radio Telephone Monitoring station

Naples - Postal Censorship Station

Bari - " " "

Genoa - " " "

External censorship stations are being organized under Allied control as follows:

Genoa - Cable and Telephone Stations

Milan - " " " "

Torino - Telephone Station.

b. Internal censorship is maintained in Venezia Giulia and the Italian border provinces.

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

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR JULY 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION HTWM/epc

1. Foreign postal and telecommunications services were restored to several countries.

2. Postal and telecommunications services were opened between Venezia Giulia and the rest of Italy.

3. External censorship stations were transferred to the Italian Government.

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

1. 0 file in REP 156

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission AFHQ/epc

Damage to Italian Telecommunications Plant (excluding radio)

1. Telephone Exchanges

Over 200 lines: 15% destroyed or seriously damaged. (Includes a 20,000 line exchange at Naples, and Bologna exchange). About 25% of the rest were slightly damaged.

Under 200 lines: 30% destroyed, or seriously damaged, or removed by Germans. Generally speaking, damage to plant north of Bologna was much less than south of it.

2. Repeater Stations:

Of these, 25% were destroyed or seriously damaged.
10% were completely or almost completely stripped of equipment
Most of the rest were partially stripped.
About 70% of the voice frequency telegraph equipment was removed by Germans from the repeater stations. A considerable proportion of this has been recovered and reinstalled.

3. Underground Cable:

(a) Some 55 kilometers of main trunk cable have been destroyed and 56 kilometers weakened. Although this represents only about 2-3% of the total main cable mileage it is an important figure and represents a large capital outlay in repairs. Moreover, the damage occurs in short lengths representing a serious problem in rebalancing, etc. About 37½ new loading coils are required.
(a) Local underground cable has been seriously damaged in very many towns. No estimate has been made of the total damage.

4. Overhead Plant

It is impossible to give a percentage figure in this case owing to the huge amount of plant concerned, the very large number of pole routes, and the way they cross open country.

It can be stated however that nearly every trunk circuit has been damaged in some way.
Several hundred miles of routes have completely disappeared, and many thousands of poles have been destroyed. It is estimated that several hundred thousand miles of copper or iron wire have disappeared or become scrap.

5. Telegraph plant: The proportion of telegraph instruments destroyed by Germans is probably about 20%. This is an intelligent guess based on the offices inspected and the number destroyed or damaged.

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

HTWM/epc

Damage to Italian Radio Plant

Information available is given below:

1. R.A.I. (Broadcast Net):

a. Of the 42 medium wave transmitters in Italy, thirteen of them, or 31% have been destroyed. Twelve, or 29% were removed by Germans. Two others were dismantled by them but left in Busto Arsizio.

b. Of the eleven Italian owned medium wave transmitters abroad, the Tripoli plant was destroyed, and there is no news of others.

c. Other plant such as long wave transmitters, receivers, etc., was generally destroyed or pillaged, while most of the spare equipment was removed from stores.

d. The estimated expenditures on a pre-war valuation to substitute destroyed or removed plant belonging to R.A.I. is about 65,000,000 lire.

2. Italcable Plant:

About 20% of the plant has been destroyed, 13 % taken away by Germans, 38 % shifted by Germans to the North somewhere, and the remaining 28% left in situ.

3. State Telegraph Plant:

Reliable information on this plant is not available owing to the large number of comparatively small transmitters involved and the fact that they belong to the Army, Navy, Air Force, and the civilian Ministries. Many have been removed or destroyed.

The very important station of Coltano, has been destroyed. This acted as a control station for shipping amongst other things.

H.H.SCUDDER
Lt.Colonel, Sig.C.
Director,
Communications S/C.

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

41

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION
Foreign Trade Division

ERG/ram

Tel. : 245

31 July 1945

Ref. : AC/5127/A/Commerce

SUBJECT: Termination of Export Activities of the Allied Commission - Tam 640

TO : See Distribution List Attached

1. Attached is copy of a letter sent by the Chief Commissioner to the President of the Council of Ministers on 31 July 1945, for your guidance and whatever action may be necessary.

H. A. GENT
Major
Director
Commerce Sub-Commission

Attachment

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

1322

See 54

CONFD. FILE REF. 156 E/fwd. 2 AUG 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

31 July 1945

C
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41-1

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

1. I wish to inform you that after 31 July 1945, the activities of the Allied Commission with respect to Italy's exports, will terminate. This decision refers equally to the territory which has already been returned to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government and to the territory which is at present under Allied Military Government. This means that the Allied Commission will no longer act as a channel of communication for export orders or for matters referring to the procurement or implementation of such orders.

2. Insofar as concerns the application of the decision which I now communicate to you in respect to territory under the Allied Military Government the appropriate Italian authority (which I presume will be the Istituto Commercio Estero) will carry on all export activities as a unit but, though acting as principal, will be subject to Allied Military Government control. Details of procedure will be worked out with your appropriate Ministry.

3. There are certain controls which it will be necessary for the Allied Commission to continue to retain, over Italy's export activities:

(a) In order that the Allied military and civilian supply program may not be impaired by conflicting export activities, the Allied Commission will continue to screen all declarations of exportable surpluses, will require monthly statistics of exports effected after 31 July 1945, and will have access to all other relevant data.

(b) The Allied Commission will continue to be responsible for insuring that those commodities which have been declared exportable by your Government and which fall under Category "A" (as defined in a letter written under reference AC/5127/A/Commerce dated 18 April 1945 and addressed to your Minister of Industry & Commerce) are reported to the appropriate Allied authorities and are subsequently exported to the country which such authorities shall specify.

13.1

Details of procedure to insure the implementation of sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) above will be worked out with

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

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13.1

Details of procedure to insure the implementation of sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) above will be worked out with your appropriate Ministry by Foreign Trade Division, Commerce Sub-Commission.

4. Export Operations

see 46

I refer to my letter to you No. 13432/F of 18 July, and particularly to paragraph 6 thereof. It is expected that your Government will institute an effective foreign exchange control and will adopt such trade controls as are necessary to support the economic warfare objectives of the Allied Governments. The details of such objectives are to be communicated to you in the near future by the British and American Embassies in Rome. I would mention here specifically the importance of the adoption by your Government of the U. S. Proclaimed and British Statutory Lists and the prohibition of trade communications or financial relations with persons named in either of these two lists. Action on this matter has been repeatedly requested by Finance Sub-Commission in correspondence with the Ministry of Treasury

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

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

CONFIDENTIAL

Headquarters,
Allied Control Commission
CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP
APO 394, U. S. Army

GWM/vm

CCG/16-22

15 October 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Civil Censorship Activities for the Period 15 September to 15 October 1944.

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

1. During the subject period, the following are considered to be the more important developments:

Postal Censorship: In line with the established policy of turning over this form of censorship to the Commando Supremo at the earliest moment consistent with security requirements, Allied Censor Control Officers have been withdrawn from Sardinia, Sicily and the provinces south of the Rome-Aquila-Chieti line, with the exception of Naples, Foggia, Bari and Taranto. In the coming month the Bari and Taranto stations will likewise be turned over to the Commando Supremo. Likewise in accordance with the established policy of discontinuing internal censorship at the earliest possible moment, internal censorship has been discontinued in all provinces south of the Rome-Aquila-Chieti line, with the following exceptions:

Mainland:
Naples
Foggia
Bari
Brindisi
Taranto

Sardinia:
Cagliari

1350

Sicily:
Palermo
Siracusa

It is anticipated that all external mails will eventually be censored in Italy. In preparation for such eventality, the staff of the Rome station is being specially trained for this work. It is planned to concentrate as much of the external censorship at this station as possible, so that when the internal censorship is slackened or discontinued, the station will continue to function as an external mail station.

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

The Group has continued its policy of organizing stations in advance of the opening of postal facilities so as not to delay such opening. This method of operation has been particularly advantageous in clearing the post offices of impounded mail. For example some 80 tons of mail, exceeding 1,500 bags of mail were cleared from the Florence post office and sent via Group transportation to stations in nearby provinces where postal services had not yet started to be censored and dispatched.

A large proportion of the intelligence gathered by the Group is obtained from the captured and impounded mail found in the post offices in the front areas.

Telephone Censorship: The telephone censorship stations in Bari and Taranto have been discontinued and the equipment dismantled. A second telephone monitoring station has been opened in Naples to service additional subscriber lines and to monitor the long distance circuits which have been opened recently. A telephone monitoring station was opened in Florence on 4 September co-incidentally with the opening of local telephone service in that city.

Telephone censorship operations have been of considerable assistance to the security and police agencies in furnishing coverage of suspect names.

Cable Censorship: Twenty-four hour cable and radio censorship control was initiated in Rome on 21 September 1944. The principal purpose of this control is to assure that all traffic passing over RCA and C&W circuits has been duly authorized and censored by the appropriate agency involved. Because of the number of agencies that were participating in the different forms of censorship and because of the number of neutral government representatives in Rome some confusion had arisen. Under the present arragement, the Group acts as a central clearing point for all traffic.

13-9

2. Plans have now been completed for the organization and operation in the remainder of Italy and the necessary personnel has actually been designated. There appears to be a definite trend indicating the importance of external communications and all plans have been made to accomodate operations to this type of censorship, should this be the case.

Gordon W. McKean

GORDON W. McKEAN,
Lt. Col, Cavalry,
Civil Censorship Officer.

5. However, within the framework of the essential controls and regulations which your Government is expected to create and operate (controls which, I may remark in passing, are general controls imposed by all liberated countries) all countries are now free to deal directly with the appropriate Italian export authority, or with Italian private traders on a Government basis, or on a private basis, as you consider best, and through whatever channels your Government may decide.

6. Contracts and Proceeds

As from 31 July 1945, your Government will be responsible for all export contracts and further, will assume responsibility for and carry out any uncompleted contracts concluded prior to that date. This Commission will not be responsible or accountable for exports even relating to uncompleted contracts signed prior to 31 July 1945. Your Government will be responsible for making arrangements for payment of Italian exports and also for the collection of the proceeds of such exports.

7. Information regarding the accounting for export operations concluded prior to 31 July 1945, is being obtained from the recipient countries and agencies, by the Finance Sub-Commission of this Headquarters.

8. Communications and Negotiations

The U. S. Commercial Corporation, in accordance with the offer previously made to and accepted by your Government, is expected to act as your agent in the United States as from 1 August 1945, as an interim measure, pending full restoration of private trade and, for this purpose, it is expected that the U. S. Commercial Corporation will open a liaison office in Rome. From 1 August 1945, the United Kingdom Government will conduct its government buying through the British Embassy who will deal direct with the appropriate Italian authority. Other purchases will be made by private United Kingdom traders who will deal direct with that authority and contract as principals in accordance with the procedure outlined in paragraph 4, (ii) a), b), c), d) of letter AC/5127/A/Commerce dated 6 July 1945 to your Ministry of Industry & Commerce.

9. Copies of this memorandum are being issued to all Departments of the Allied Commission and to all outside interested Agencies, for compliance. You will, therefore, appreciate that immediate action by your Government is required to set up your own channels of communication and to develop the organization necessary to carry out its new and heavy responsibilities.

10. I shall appreciate, therefore, if you will inform me, as quickly as possible, of the action your Government has taken

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

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10. I shall appreciate, therefore, if you will inform me, as quickly as possible, of the action your Government has taken.

Sincerely,

(Signed) ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Professor Ferruccio Parri
President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

See Distribution attached

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

Office of the Chief Commissioner
Office of the Executive Commissioner
Economic Section
  Supply Division
  Production Division
  Requisition Branch
  Price Control Branch
Agriculture S/C
Commerce S/C
Finance S/C (3)
Food S/C (3)
Industry S/C (3)
Labor S/C
Public Works & Utilities S/C
Transportation S/C (3)
Civil Affairs Section
Communications S/C
Legal S/C

Public Relations
Public Safety S/C
Regional Commissioner Lombardia Region
  " " Piemonte Region
  " " Liguria Region
  " " Venezia Region
  " " Venezia Giulia Region
  " " Emilia Region
AMG Naples Commune
Allied Commission, Liaison Officer, Palermo
Allied Forces Local Resources Section (5)
UNRRA HQ AFHQ (5)
AMG Livorno Zone
AMG Ancona Commune
AC Liaison Officer Bari
AC Liaison Officer Catania

Political Adviser (A) AC
Political Adviser (B) AC
US POLAD, AFHQ
UK POLAD, AFHQ
AFHQ G-5 Section (3)
U. S. Embassy
U. K. Embassy
Soviet Representative to AC
French Representztive to AC

Spares (25)

13.7

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

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission HHS/epc

REF.156.40.CS 17th July, 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO: Executive Commissioner, HQ. A.C.

Herewith Full and Abridged Monthly Reports of this Sub-Commission for June, 1945.

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

2 Incl:
Incl 1. Full Report
Incl 2. Abridged Monthly Report.

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

FULL REPORT FOR JUNE 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION HHS/apc

1. GENERAL

Consolidation and extension of services was the main concern during the month of June, with emphasis being placed on increasing of facilities between main centres.

Authority has been granted for resumption of postal service to and from all Italy and all countries with the exception of Japan and Japanese controlled territory, Germany, Austria and Hungary. There are certain limitations on weight and nature of communications.

The Italian Post and Telecommunications Administration is now free to negotiate directly with Administration of other countries with reference to all administrative matters.

2. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Marked progress was made in restoring civil communication facilities not only in the north but between North and South.

Among the more important Telegraph and Telephone circuits made available may be mentioned:

Rome - Milan
Rome - Padua
Milan - Bologna

In the field of local communications it is of interest to note that of the 1035 telegraph offices existing in Lombardia Region before the war 679 are now connected. Communications in the Provinces of Cremona and Mantova suffered considerable damage but once the main routes are repaired conditions will improve rapidly.

With the opening of Bolzano, Trento and Udine to inter-provincial telegraph service all of Italy can now have telegraph communications and it is expected that by the end of July all Provincial capitals will be inter-connected.

Negotiations are now being conducted by the Italian Postal and Telecommunications Administration for reopening of telephone and telegraph service with Switzerland and France.

3. POSTAL

The development of postal services within the Northern Regions and the improvement of the links between North and South were the main problems of the month. Generally speaking the services within the Northern Provinces were made equivalent to those operating in Italian Government territory, but the service between the two territories had to be restricted to a 25 gram. letter post because of the very poor transportation facilities across Emilia Region and up the west coast.

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

The provision of a thrice weekly civilian service on the Rome - Leghorn - Florence line, and the provision of an Alcom truck service connecting Leghorn and Genoa gave a reasonably satisfactory postal service between the South and Liguria and Piemonte Regions. Postal conditions remained very bad on the East, however, as it was not possible to obtain agreement to an increase in the frequency (once weekly during June) with which a civil postal van was attached to the Rome - Forli military train. The proposed Alcom truck services from railhead to Milan and Venice did not materialise.

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

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

4. CIVIL CENSORSHIP

Internal censorship was abolished in Italy except for the border Provinces.

Discussions continued with the Italian Government concerning turn-over to Italian Administration of external censorship.

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

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR JUNE 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION HHS/epc

1. Marked progress was made in restoring communications facilities with special emphasis on connections between main centres.

2. Foreign mail service is now authorised between Italy and all countries except Japan and Japanese controlled territory, Germany, Austria and Hungary.

3. Internal censorship was abolished in Italy except for the border Provinces.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

40

Rep/ 156.39.CS

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO : Mr. Bernardoni
U.S. Embassy

1. In accordance with telephone conversation there is attached copy of the May report of this Sub-Commission

2. Future reports will continue to be sent you.

H.H.SCUDDER
Lt. Colonel Sig. C.
Director.

Incl: 1 copy of report for May 1945.

fl6

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

(39)

REF.156.40.C3 1st Ind. HHS/epc

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION, Allied Commission
A.F.O. 394 U.S.Army 19th June, 1945

TO: Signal Officer, R.A.A.C.

1. Those Allied organizations not entitled to use Military communication networks should be referred to this Sub-Commission for information reference the facilities available to Italian civilian use. Italian organizations should be referred to the Azienda.

2. Copy of Monthly Report of this Sub-Commission for May is inclosed and copies of future reports will be sent you if you are interested.

3. It is felt that any effort to keep you informed beyond sending copies of Monthly Reports would lead to confusion and serve no useful purpose.

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

1 Incl: Copy of May Report.

13.2

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

ROME AREA ALLIED COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE SIGNAL OFFICER
APO 794, US Army

JGC/LFR/pr
7 June 1945

AG 311 (Sig)

Subject: Civil Communications Facilities in Northern Italy.

To: Director, Communications Sub-Commission AC, APO 394, US Army.

1. Request information be forwarded this office regarding the status of civilian communications in Italy from Rome to the Austrian and Swiss borders, including:

a. Civilian telegraph.
b. Civilian telephone.
c. Civilian Postal service.

2. The above information is required to determine the action necessary on many requests of non-military or semi-military agencies established in Rome Area for use of military communications systems.

3. It is suggested that this office be informed of current major changes in the establishment of civilian communications facilities.

LFR

LOUIS P. REEVES
Lt Col, Sig C,
Signal Officer.

1311

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

ROME AREA ALLIED COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE SIGNAL OFFICER
APO 794, US Army

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LPR

LOUIS P. REEVES
Lt Col, Sig C,
Signal Officer.

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission HHS/epc

REP.156.38.CS 15th June, 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO: Executive Commissioner, HQ. A.C.

Herewith Full and Abridged Monthly Reports of this Sub-Commission for May, 1945.

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

2 Incls:
Incl 1. Full Report
Incl 2. Abridged Monthly Report.

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

FULL REPORT FOR LAY 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION HHS/epc

1. GENERAL

May was undoubtedly the most eventful month in the existence of the Sub-Commission. Instead of the familiar process of extending services from the South a Province or two at a time, over forty Provinces were liberated within a very few days.

Fortunately damage to telephone and telegraph plant was less than expected but such damage as existed was sufficient to pose major problems. Shortage of transport, as usual, delayed and hampered the work of restoration, but in spite of this by the end of May the most essential telephone, telegraph and postal services had been restored in Northern Italy.

Military security considerations necessitated limiting telephone, telegraph and postal services to an intra-provincial basis for the Provinces of UDINE, BOLZANO and TRENTO as well as all of VENEZIA GIULIA. With the above exceptions and some minor limitations on the eastern frontier, all services including foreign telegraph and mail service are now authorised for all of Italy.

2. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Destruction of local telephone plant, except for Bologna where the exchange was completely destroyed, was slight, so that in most large centres such as Turin, Milan, Genoa and Venice local telephone service was never interrupted.

Long distance telephone plant, however, had suffered, either through damage to outside plant or removal of repeater equipment. Sufficient equipment, however, was found and sufficient outside plant was repaired to enable limited civilian telephone service to be re-established about Turin - Milan - Genoa by May 9th - one week after the formal surrender of the Germans in Milan.

Communications from East to West were badly disrupted as well as the main trunk lines from North to South. However, it was possible to make available for civilian use a very limited telephone service from Rome to Florence and Bologna and it is expected that in June service will be extended to Milan and Venice [redacted].

1265

Destruction of telegraph facilities followed much the same pattern as for telephone facilities, but by the end of May telegraph facilities within regional boundaries had been repaired to an appreciable extent. In Venezia Region arrangements were made to telephone telegram where telephone lines were available and telegraph facilities did not exist.

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

Telegraph service between North and South Italy was interrupted by destruction of facilities. During the month telegram service for civilians was extended to Florence and it is expected that during June service will be extended to Milan and Venice. Authority was obtained for operation of a radio telegraph link between Milan and Rome.

3. POSTAL

Internal

Post Office buildings and supplies were generally intact but transport for postal use was virtually non-existant in the North. Added to the lack of transport was the fact that strong opposition existed in some regions to the use of Republican Fascist Stamps which were the only ones available. Lack of transport prevented shipment of any large quantities of stamps from Rome so it was necessary to make arrangements for production at Novara where luckily dies were found for certain pre-Republican stamps. A total of 105,000,000 stamps was printed and distributed during May which permitted re-opening of mail service on a limited scale throughout the North.

Mail service between North and South was opened by the end of the month, although shortage of transport forced limitation to post-cards and letters not exceeding 45 grams in weight.

New Army censorship regulations authorized correspondence between members of Allied Forces and civilian on the mainland.

External

On May 28 a non-illustrated postcard service to Holland and a letter service to Luxembourg commenced.

Registration previously limited to correspondence for the U.S. and U.K. was extended to all external letter services.

4. CIVIL CENSORSHIP

In pursuance of the policy of "fringe" censorship stations were closed in 7 cities in central Italy and stations opened in ten cities in the North.

Further discussions were held with representatives of the Italian Government in connection with the turning over of external censorship to the Italian Government. Tentative plans call for formal transfer on July 5th, 1945.

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

REP 136

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1. Increase in Postage Rates.

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

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

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

On the same date the internal postage rates were doubled by the Decree contained in Supplement to the Official Gazette, No. 39 of 31 March 45. Implementation in Military Government territory by order dated 3rd April. The new internal postage rates are as follows:-

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

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

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

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

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission JLH/epc

15th May, 1945

REP.156.36.CS

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO: Executive Commissioner, HQ. A.C.

Herewith Full and Abridged Monthly Reports of this Sub-Commission for April, 1945.

J.L.HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

2 Incls:
Incl 1. Full Report
Incl 2. Abridged Monthly Report.

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SPOCO FILE

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

FULL REPORT FOR APRIL 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

JLR/epc

I. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A. INTERNAL.

a. Towards the end of April the break-through of the Allied armies into North Italy began with the capture of Bologna on 21st April. From reports so far received it is possible to state that the destruction to communication facilities was much less than had been feared, although a considerable quantity of repeater station equipment was removed. However, the main urban and inter-urban exchanges, telegraph equipment and cables were largely intact, except for the towns near the line held at the beginning of the month, such as at Bologna and Piesa where the exchanges were completely destroyed, and except for the broken cables near Bologna and at certain damaged bridges in the northern area.

b. In the rest of Italy South of Bologna few developments of importance have occurred, though the re-establishment of exchanges and services progressed.

c. In the part of Italy north of Bologna, though many telegraph and telephone services were found to be in working order, the reports so far received do not enable a detailed report to be made.

B. EXTERNAL

Agreement was reached between the Italian Government and the representatives of United States and United Kingdom on the resumption of civil telegram service. Service is due to start 4th inv. In outline, the agreement provides for Italcable (the Italian concessionary) to accept and deliver telegrams to and from United States and United Kingdom, the transmission to be carried out by R.C.A. (to United States) or C.& W. (to United Kingdom) while these military communication agencies are in this theatre for essential allied military requirements.

Tariff agreements were also concluded.

1204

II. POSTAL

a. In the North some postal services were found to be working. The stamps being used were of course Republican Fascist and the rates were one-quarter of the rates current in the South.

b. Only minor extensions to postal services took place, Lucca and Pistoia being added, these bringing the mail service line quite near to the front line before the break-through.

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c. Air-mail service was opened between Italy and Tripolitania on 23rd April. The air-mail fee is 15 lire for each 5 grams up to a maximum of 40 grams.

d. Foreign mail services, for private matters only, was opened to France, Belgium, Greece, Bulgaria and Roumania. A.F.H.Q. rules that even non-transactional commercial correspondence to countries other than United States and United Kingdom must await establishment of a treasury control.

III. CIVIL CENSORSHIP

a. Censorship was closed in the provinces of AREZZO, FOGGIA, GROSSETO, PERUGIA and SIENA.

b. Censorship was opened in LUCCA and PISTOIA.

c. Arrangements were completed for censorship on all outgoing foreign mail to be done in this theatre from 1st May; this was previously restricted to certain countries only (Spain, Portugal, etc).

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

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR APRIL 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION JLH/ecc

1. Preliminary reports from North Italy show that the damage to civil communication services is not severe, though removal of equipment and damage to cables has been sufficient to prevent immediate resumption of services.

2. Foreign mail service was opened with France, Belgium, Greece, Bulgaria and Rumania.

3. Agreement was reached on the terms of opening cablegram service with United States and United Kingdom.

4. Censorship of all outgoing foreign mail was commenced in this theatre: previously United States and United Kingdom mail was done in United States, United Kingdom or at Cairo (for Australia, etc.) and only mail for a few countries (Spain, Portugal, etc.) carried out here.

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

JLH/epc

17th April, 1945

REP.156.36.CS

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO: Executive Commissioner, Hq. Allied Commission

Herewith full and Abridged Monthly Reports of this Sub-Commission for March, 1945.

J.L.HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

2 Incls:
Incl 1. Full Report
Incl 2. Abridged Monthly Report.

135-2

FULL REPORT FOR LARGER ZONE

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

I. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A. TELEPHONE

(1) Local:

a. Four further exchanges have been repaired or installed, including those at the following more important places:

Bracciano, Acquapendente, Monte Rotonda' (Umbria)
Sinalunga, Piombino, Portoferra, Pesto. (Toscana)

b. The small board at Pisa was replaced by a 300 line 3 position exchange.
About 1500 additional subscribers were added in Firenze city.

(2) Inter-Urban

a. With the completion of about 16 additional long-distance circuits between Naples and Rome, 4 additional circuits were allocated to the Italian Government on this vital line, doubling their previous allotment. The Naples inter-urban board was increased from 4 to 6 positions.

b. Several other additional inter-urban circuits were obtained by release from allied use or by construction or installation of carrier equipment. The more important included:

Naples to Aversa, Avellino, Benevento, Salerno, Castellamare
Rome to Monte Rotonda, Tivoli, Viterbo, Civitavecchia, Bracciano,
Viterbo to Orvieto, Celleno.

B. TELEGRAPHS

(a) The service to Firenze, for which security authority was given last month, was opened on 18th March, using a 3-channel V.F. equipment on a cable circuit allotted from Rome to Firenze. During the month circuits were established from Firenze to Siena and Arezzo. By the end of the month about 1000 telegrams a day were passing through the Firenze office.

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a. Many further extensions have been realized or are installed, including those at the following more important places:

Fraccano, Acquapendente, Monte Rotondo (Umbria)
Sinalunga, Piombino, Pontedera, Sueto (Toscana)

b. The small board at Pisa was replaced by a 300 line 3 position exchange.

About 1500 additional subscribers were added in Firenze city.

(ii) Inter-Urban

a. With the completion of about 16 additional long-distance circuits between Naples and Rome, 4 additional circuits were allocated to the Italian Government on this vital link, doubling their previous allotment. The Naples inter-urban board was increased from 4 to 6 positions.

b. Several other additional inter-urban circuits were obtained by release from Allied use or by construction or installation of carrier equipment. The more important included:

Naples to Aversa, Avellino, Benevento, Salerno, Castellamare
Rome to Monte Rotondo, Tivoli, Viterbo, Civitavecchia, Fraccano,
Vibenco to Orvieto, Solfano.

3. TELEGRAPHS

(i) The service to Firenze, for which security authority was given last month, was opened on 12th March, using a 3-channel V.F. equipment on a cable circuit allotted from Rome to Firenze. During the month circuits were established from Firenze to Siena and Arezzo. By the end of the month about 1000 telegrams a day were passing through the Firenze office.

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(ii) Several other telegraph circuits were restored including the following: Frosinone - Sopruno; Viterbo - Orte; Formia - Foligno; Foligno - Sogliato - Terni; Formia - Todi; Macerata - Senigallia; Siena - Grosseto.

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(35-3

(iii) Distribution of Press agencies traffic throughout Italian Government territory started. The handling of the traffic has been satisfactory; at the end of the month about 20,000 words a day was being dealt with.

C. RADIO

The transfer of F.W.B. radio activities in Italian Government territory to A.A.I. was completed.

D. STORES

The first consignment of stores has been received, and many releases of locally available signal stores in Allied military depots have been received and the stores drawn. There have been placed in Italian Government stores in Rome and Firenze, and those required for restoration in North Italy have been 'frozen.'

E. TARIFFS

Agreement was reached on the new (increased) rates for postal, telegraph and telephone services. This includes a change in the system of telephone charge to a metered basis.

F. EXTERNAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(i) The Rome - New York radio telephone service was opened on 2nd March by a conversation between the Prime Minister, Sig. DE GASPERI, and the Italian Minister in Washington. Traffic during the month, which is limited to official communications, was very light.

(ii) Delegations arrived from the P.C.C. (U.S.) and the G.P.O. (U.K.) to discuss the matter of restoration of civil telegraph services from Italy. No conclusions were reached during the month.

II. POSTAL

A. Mail Services

As from 6th March, the weight limit for the letter post in A.L.C. territory was raised to 1 kilogram to conform with that already authorised in Italian Government territory.

1300

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A. Statistics

a. Gift parcels from U.S.

Nearly 20,000 parcels have been received between 1st January and 10th March, 1945, for Rome, Naples and Palermo.

b. Internal mail

A detailed count has shown that nearly 6 million letters a week are dealt with in the provinces open to service. This is approximately 25% of the pre-war volume for the same area.

III. CIVIL CENSORSHIP

A. Censorship Stations

a. Postal and Telegraph censorship was ceased from 31st March in the provinces of ASCOLI, TERNI, AQUILA, PESCARA, TERAMO.

b. Telegraph censorship (pre-transmission) commenced in FIRENZE on 12th March, with the opening of that area to civil telegraphs.

c. Radio-telephone censorship commenced on the ROME - NEW YORK circuit with its opening to service on 2nd March.

B. Stations

a. Mail:
Internal mail: 13% civil mail was censored, in certain areas
22% rear area military mail was censored
6136 comment sheets.
Spain, Portugal, Switzerland mail: 100% censorship (12354 pieces)
10 languages read
61 comment sheets
Transmediterranee mail: 100% censorship (43096 pieces)
180 comment sheets.

b. Telegram and Telephone

Total of 4385 comment sheets.

1299

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

135-5

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR MARCH 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. DOMESTIC FACILITIES

a. The areas open to internal civil communications services have not changed during the month.

b. The chief developments have been the doubling of the number of Naples - Rome circuits open to civil use, and the commencement of telegraph service to Firenze and adjacent towns.

c. Signal Stores commenced to arrive for the planned restoration of communication services in North Italy.

d. Increased tariffs have been localised for postal, telegraph and telephone services.

2. FOREIGN FACILITIES

a. The Rome - New York radio telephone service, for official calls, opened 2nd March.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

JLH/epc

REP.156.35.CS

14th March, 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO: Executive Commissioner, HQ. Allied Commission

Herewith Full and Abridged Monthly Reports of this Sub-Commission for February, 1945.

J.L.HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

2 Incls:
Incl: 1. Full Report
Incl: 2. Abridged Monthly Report.

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

FULL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY, 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

I. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

A. TELEPHONE

1. Lazio-Umbria Region

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

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

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

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

2. Abruzzi-Marche Region

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

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

3. Toscana Region

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

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

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

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

B. TELEGRAPHS

1. Lazio-Umbria Region

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

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

2. Abruzzi-Marche Region:

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

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

3. Toscana Region:

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

4. Southern Region:

18 additional telegraph offices were restored to service, and a number of additional telegraph lines were erected.

5. Press Traffic:

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

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

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C. RADIO

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

D. STORES

(a) Notification was given by A.F.H.Q. that C.C.S., Washington had authorised stores to be supplied to the Italian Government in accordance with the requisition from this HQ. Arrangements are in progress with the Government for the collection of and accounting for the material. This covers the stores considered necessary on a "prevention of disease and unrest" basis, estimated on about a 3 % overall restoration.

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

E. EXTERNAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(a) Rome - Moscow Radio Telegraph Circuit

Service continued satisfactorily; traffic is light.

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

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

(c) Rome - New York Radio Telephone Service

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

(d) Rome - Sofia and Bucharest Radio Telegraph Services

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

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

II. POSTAL

1. On the 26th February postal services were extended to Pesaro Province. As in the case of Ancona, the main service from Rome is by means of a Postal van connected once weekly to the Rome - Rimini military train. Representations have been made with a view to increasing the frequency of this service.

2. During the month the Military Railway Service agreed to a mail van being attached to the Rome - Grosseto - Leghorn military train twice instead of once a week.

3. Adjustments were made to a number of postal road services in Lazio - Umbria and Abruzzi - Larche Regions with a view to improving the inter-provincial connections.

4. Returns indicate that the total weight of postal effects - correspondence, printed matter, stores etc. - forwarded by rail and road services from Rome to Naples and the South now amounts to 50 tons a week.

5. The Gift Parcel service from the United States continues to operate satisfactorily. Further consideration was given to the possibility of extending the scope of the service beyond the four cities to which it is at present restricted, but the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs was reluctantly forced to the conclusion that transport and accommodation facilities are still inadequate for any such extension. In the early morning of the 11th February the Appio Branch Office, Rome was broken into by thieves who carried off 21 of the gift parcels. The unarmed guard on duty was apparently unable to intervene or to obtain assistance.

6. Representations have been made to A.F.H.Q. for permission to extend the service to France and other countries which have been liberated during recent months.

7. The 16th February was the first anniversary of the re-establishment of the Italian external mail service. Some idea of the present volume of this traffic is given by the following figures which show the weights recorded during February, at the two offices of exchange.

FEBRUARY FOREIGN MAILS (In Kilograms)

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

(An estimated total of over ¼ million letters)

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

III. CIVIL CENSORSHIP

1. POLICY MATTERS:

a. Relaxation of Control of Italian Government.

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

b. Attachment of Personnel to Base Commands.

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

c. Direct Allocation to Italian Government.

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

d. Additional Military Transport.

Under order issued by MTOUSA, the Special List of Equipment of the 661st Communications Censorship Company (Ovhd), was increased by one C & R car and 5 jeeps for the specific use of the U.S.Navy Detachment attached to the company. Five jeeps have actually been drawn and a requisition for the C & R car is on file awaiting availability of stocks.

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e. Yugoslav P.O.W. Mail

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

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2. CENSORSHIP OPERATIONS:

a. Postal Subsection:

(1) Number of Stations: 14.

Internal Mail

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

Total Comment Sheets	3,756
Information Slips	1,265

(2) Spain, Portugal, Switzerland

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

Total Comment Sheets	51
Languages Read	8

(3) Transadriatic Mail.

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

Total Comment Sheets	178

b. Landwire Subsection:

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

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

c. Cable and Radio Subsection.

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

Total number of messages	1,768

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ABRIDGED REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. DOMESTIC FACILITIES

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

i. Postal boundary (foreign and domestic) is the Northern boundary of PESARO and AREZZO provinces, thence the line of the R.ARNO through the provinces of FIRENZE and PISA (including the provincial capitals)

ii. Telegraph boundary (domestic) is the Northern boundary of PESARO and AREZZO provinces, the line of the R.ARNO through the province of FIRENZE, thence including SIENA and GROSSETO provinces.

iii. Telephone boundary (inter-provincial service) is the Northern boundary of MACERATA, PERUGIA, and GROSSETO provinces; the province of FOGGIA is excluded. Provincial telephone service is allowed in ANCONA, SIENA and FOGGIA provinces.

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

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

2 FOREIGN FACILITIES

a. Tests were satisfactorily made and all arrangements completed for the opening of the ROME - NEW YORK radio telephone service.

b. Permission was received for the use of the Italian language in telegraph and telephone communications from Italy.

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3. STORES

a. Authorization was received from C.C.S. (via A.F.H.Q.) for the issue to the Italian Government of the communication stores requisitioned from Allied resources on the 'prevention of disease and unrest' basis, this basis allowing for about a 3 % restoration of facilities.

b. Arrangements were completed for the method of sale in situ of surplus military signal stores, and the transfer of circuits constructed by military signals in SARDINIA was completed and the price settled.

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REP.156.34.CS

JLH/epc

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO: Chief of Staff, HQrs. Allied Commission

Herewith full and abridged Monthly Report of this Sub-Commission for January, 1945.

Tel: 489081
Ext: 400

16th February, 1945

J.L.HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.
Communications Sub-Commission

Incl: 40 Copies of Report

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ABRIDGED REPORT FOR JANUARY 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

1. As a result of the comparitively static military situation in the theatre there have been no major changes in the communications situation in Italy.

2. Externally, the first telegraph service abroad for civil use was opened by the restoration of the Rome - Moscow radio telegraph circuit at the end of January. Negotiations were also begun for the opening of a Rome - New York radio telephone service, for Allied non-military use.

J.L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director.

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1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

a. Telephones.

(1) Lazio - Umbria Region

a. Local service: (i) Exchanges were repaired or installed at Birnano, Cesano, Subiaco, Pontina, Borano, Tomba di Nerone, La Storta, and at a number of places served by small magneto boards.

(ii) As the small boards at Frascati and Tivoli are nearly full, a board of 100 lines capacity will be installed at each of these places.

(iii) The Frascati and Littoria local underground systems are under repair.

b. Inter-urban service: (i) Work has been delayed by the weather, but the overhead circuits listed below have been established.

Viterbo	- Tarquinia	1
Tivoli	- Subiaco	1
Rome	- Aquila	1

(ii) Repairs to the following are in hand:

Littoria	- Priverno	1	overhead circuit.
Frosinone	- Sora	1	" "
Orvieto	- Acquapendente	1	" "
Rome	- Poggio Mirteto	1	" "
Rome	- Frascati interurban cable.		

(iii) Further investigations were made to improve the service given by the Naples and Rome operators.

(2) Southern Region and Sicily.

a. Local service: About 500 additional telephones were connected in this Region during the month.

b. Inter-urban service:

(i) The following exchanges were connected to the inter-urban network.

Nocera	La Piano - Oria
S.Pietro Southzano	Torre Susanna
La Piano - Maglano	Campi Salice
S.Pietro	Sandanice

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(ii) The installation of civil type repeaters was completed at Castrovillari and the military equipment in a temporary building nearby was thereby released.

(iii) There was an 18% increase in long-distance calls in this Region during the month.

(iv) The repair of the Palermo - Trapani S.E.P. route is in hand. Three junctions in Sicily were repaired and brought into use.

(v) Theft of material from working lines and from depots (including poles) is considerable, especially on the outskirts of Palermo near the Airport.

(3.) Abruzzi - Marche Region

a. Local Service:

(i) Severe restrictions have been placed by the local military authorities on the number of civilian subscribers' to be connected to Ancona exchange. C.S.O. 1 District has taken up the matter with the South African Signals in Ancona.

(ii) Jesi automatic exchange has now 74 military and 36 civil subscribers' lines in operation.

(iii) Fabriano telephone and telegraph building has been converted into an Army O.R. Club. The telephone company still has one room there with a 50 line exchange in operation.

(iv) Osimo exchange brought into use.

(v) A few small exchanges have been restored in the other provinces of the Region.

b. Inter-Urban Service:

(i) Repairs to five positions of the civil trunk board at Ancona were completed for Army use. Three more were made ready for civilian service.

(ii) The inter-urban board at Jesi/is in premises occupied by S.A.A. Signals as a Signal Office. It has been suggested to them that the Signal Office be shifted into empty shop premises nearby, in order that the inter-urban board may be prepared for provincial telephone service, which is permitted in Ancona province.

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(iii) Eighth Army will not permit the repair of lines in Pesaro Province. In other provinces lines are under repair, but snow has badly hampered operations.

(iv) A cable Ancona - Falconara is under repair and the C.S.O. has promised six circuits for civil use. These will help to give outlets to Falconara, Jesi, Senegallia, Fano and Pesaro.

(4) Toscana Region

a. Local service:

(i) Florence: There are 5257 civilian subscribers' now connected to the Centro exchange of which 136 are from the Campo di Marte district.

On Alfredi exchange 147 civilian lines are now in operation.

Repairs are in progress to the equipment at Affrico.

Civilian personnel is extending the military automatic exchange from 800 to 1000 lines capacity, and additional second selectors have been installed to prevent congestion.

The local cable network has been extensively repaired.

(ii) Exchanges have been repaired or installed at Empoli (100 lines auto), Orbetello (10 lines), Paganico (30 lines), Follonica (50 lines), Patti (10 lines, Piombino (200 auto-lines), and Prato (400 lines, 79 working). Piombino cannot be opened until reasonably steady electric power is available. Three other completed exchanges are in the same position namely, Seeto, Peretola, and Castello.

A second switchboard has been installed at Montecatini raising the total number of lines available to 60.

Exchanges are under repair at Montecatini (auto) Pisa (100 lines temporary CB board, to be followed by auto), Fontedera (auto, nearly finished) and Pescia (CB).

Local cable networks are gradually being restored at Arezzo, Chiusi, Empoli, Livorno, Piombino, Pistoia, Fontedera, and Prato.

b. Inter-urban service:

(i) The following junctions were repaired and brought into use.

Siena province - 14 circuits. 1288
Grosseto " - 4 circuits.

In addition, some 15 villages without exchanges were connected by telephone to the nearest exchanges.

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B. Telegraphs

(1) Lazio - Umbria Region

a. Several telegraph offices have been connected to the main network in Rieti and Perugia provinces.

b. In number of cases, telephone circuits could be used to provide superposed telegraph, but there are few transformers available. Even where they are available, the Italian services are very slow in carrying out the work, chiefly due to bickering between the State and the telephone companies about the use of one another's lines and transformers.

(2) Southern Region and Sicily.

a. The following numbers of offices were connected to the main network:

Caserta Zone	- 4
Torre Annunziata Zone	-4
Carnobasso Zone	- 12
Capri Zone	- Capri
Pozzuoli Zone	- 2
Salerno Province	- 25
Sicily	- 13

b. In addition the following circuits were completed.

Bari	- Foggia	1
"	- Brindisi (for Italian Navy)	- 1
"	- Barletta	1
Trinitapoli	- Foggia	1
Barletta	- Canosa	1

c. Repairs are in hand on the following routes.

Brindisi	- Taranto
Lecce	- Vernole
Taranto	- Metaponto
Gioia del Colle	- Palagianello

Snow has held up the work on many circuits.

(3) Abruzzi - Marche Region

a. A few telegraph offices were added to the main network. 1987

b. Very little has been done by the Circolo in Ancona Province although authority was received to erect circuits on certain secondary routes. The Telecommunications Officer is going

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to take the Director of the Circolo round various places in the Province to try to get something done. The latter complains that he can do nothing without transport.

The main routes in Ancona Province are all in use by Allied forces.

(4) Tuscan Region

a. Grosseto and Orbetello were connected to the telegraph network. Many other telegraph circuits are under repair in Siena and Grosseto provinces, while the Pisa and Florence Circolo's are carrying out repairs to certain telegraph routes.

b. About 60 tons of bronze wire and 15 of iron were salvaged by the Florence Circolo. Probably a fair amount of bronze wire can be reconditioned for future use.

c. Many telegraph instruments were collected from various offices and sent to Florence for repair.

(5) Rome Moscow radio telegraph service.

a. The details of this service, authorised in December, were settled. This involved obtaining the release from P.W.B. use of a suitable transmitter and other equipment, acquisition of adequate space in Italcables offices, arranging times of work and frequencies with the Allied Military authorities and with Moscow, drafting and getting approval of censorship regulations, approving the public notice for opening of service, arranging the censorship routine, etc.

The censorship regulations, approved by A.F.H.Q, are

" 1. All outgoing and incoming traffic, other than Press, will be submitted to Civil Censorship by the operating company prior to onward transmission or further delivery. Press traffic will be submitted to Field Press Censorship; Press messages may be in English, French or Italian only.

2. Russian Government official messages will be submitted to Civil Censorship for the purpose of checking the authenticity of the message.

3. Italian Government message traffic of a classification below 'Confidential' may be transmitted by this circuit either in clear text or in an authorised brevity code: Italian Government message traffic of 'Confidential' classification will continue to be handled through hitherto authorised channels of communications.

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4. Official traffic to and from other governments will also be submitted to Civil Censorship for authentication in accordance with previously existing procedures. Languages permitted are those specified for such channels of communication.

5. All other types of traffic will be submitted to Civil Censorship for censorship. Languages permitted will be English, Italian, French, and Russian.

6. Civilian radio-telegraph traffic other than the classifications covered specifically by these regulations will be subject to complete censorship under the general cable and radio censorship regulations now in force.

7. Subjects which may not be mentioned in clear language messages include: ship movements, military topics of any kind, weather, movements of Allied government official or agents, any other information which may be of aid, or comfort to the enemy.

. Service opened on 27th January, 1945

b. Rome - New York radio telephone service

This service has been authorised and similar details as for the Moscow circuit have been dealt with. The service will at first only be open to Allied non-military use. Censorship regulations have been submitted to A.F.H.Q. for approval, and the somewhat elaborate monitoring supervision has been arranged. Owing to the poor transmission qualities of the local and long distance telephone circuits in Rome it has been decided that conversations from this end can only take place from a special telephone booth, which has been arranged centrally to the majority of prospective users. Tests are scheduled to begin in February.

c. Rome - U.S. and U.K. Telegraph service.

No agreement has been reached over the terms of the concession to be granted by the Italian Government to the Allied operating agencies.

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C. Planning.

Plans for the provision of equipment and circuits for North Italy were co-ordinated with C.S.O., L.of C., and C.S.O. No. 2 District. Details of equipment for manufacture locally were settled with the Italian Government.

A scheme was completed for the use of all available carrier telephone systems, and it is now being put into effect with equipment ready for installation at Naples, Avellino, Benevento, Campobasso, and nearly ready for installation at several places in Lazio and Abruzzi - Larche Regions.

D. Stores Procedure.

Authority has now been obtained from the Allied Military authorities for the complete control of communication stores in Italian Government administered areas by the Allied Commission. This authority has been devolved to the Italian Government with the proviso that specified minimum quantities of major items must be reserved for use in North Italy.

Previously, permission to use Italian stores for civilian circuits had to be obtained by the Allied Commission from the military authorities each time that a civilian project was contemplated in accordance with the Armistice terms by which all communication facilities were placed at the disposition of the Allies.

2. POSTAL

a. No further extension of the mail service area has taken place. In the last days of the month Security clearance was given to open up PESARO, and steps were taken towards commencing services by mid-February.

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

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

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

ROME City:	799 bags	- 12.000 parcels	approximately
NAPLES City:	620 "	- 9.300 "	"
PALERMO City:	556 "	- 8.300 "	"
VATICAN City:	6 "	- 100 "	"
TOTAL	1.981 "	29.700 "	"

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

f. Persistent endeavours are being made to obtain, through A.F.H.Q., authority for the Italian external mail services to link up with internal and external mail services which have been restored in certain recently liberated countries - particularly France and Greece. There is some slight hope that some success may be achieved during February.

g. The first direct mail (25 bags) was received from Russia. It contained no letters, but consisted entirely of newspapers, language text books etc. addressed to an agency in Rome. None of these items being permissible under the present regulations, delivery was held in abeyance pending reference to A.F.H.Q. (authority for the release of the items, and of further similar ones arriving in subsequent mails, was received in February. A.F.H.Q. are pursuing the question of communicating with Moscow).

h. Arrangements which had been made to commence an air mail service to Tripolitania were suspended at the last minute on a technical point of the financial obligations of the Italian Government. The issue had not been cleared with C.C.S. by the end of the month.

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3. CIVIL CENSORSHIP

I. GENERAL

Censorship of External Mails

In accordance with directives received from A.F.H.Q. necessary preparations are being made to handle the censorship of external mails to the United Kingdom and the United States upon the completion of arrangements for effecting financial controls by the Italian Government. A master watch list is being prepared and will include all names on the U.S. Proclaimed List, the British Statutary List, the "U" List, the Black List and special security names submitted by U.S. and British Governmental departments. The necessary personnel has been assembled and will be given a short training course in censorship of external mails. It is anticipated utilizing the services of the two British Liaison officers to assist in this training. In addition, a portion of the outgoing mail to U.S. and U.K. will be examined in advance of the official opening, so as to provide experience for the examiners. It is not anticipated that the necessary financial decrees can be promulgated by the Italian Government earlier than 1st March 1945. Close liaison is being maintained with the Finance Sub-Commission so as to ensure that the censorship organization will be prepared to initiate operations by the time the decrees are published.

II. POSTAL SUBSECTION

Censorship Operations

For all stations concerned (exclusive of SHAEF and Trans-adriatic Mail) 18% of ordinary mail, 15% of registered mail, and 33% of military mail was censored.

For the same period 15% of ordinary mail, 6.5% of registered mail, and 7.6% of military mail was re-censored.

Spain, Portugal, Switzerland

The volume of mail for this month was 9635 pieces and 100% examination was exercised.

Transadriatic Mail

The volume of mail for the month was 33613 pieces and 100% examination was exercised.

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External Mail Statistics

The latest statistics, as observed by the Allied Censor Control Officer of Naples, are shown below:

For the eight (8) week period 27th November - 21st January

OUTGOING POW MAIL ... 5229 Kg. (409 bags, approximately 1,307,250 letters)

Civil Mail...5432.5 Kg. (385 bags, approximately 679,062 letters)

INCOMING POW Mail.....12095 Kg. (644 bags, approximately 3,023,800 letters)

Civil Mail...7969 Kg. (593 bags,approximately 927,375 letters)

III.DISSEMINATION SUBSECTION

Censorship Operations.

1. Statistical summaries.

Submission Slips	372
Special Reports	9 (as listed hereunder)

"REPORT ON MAIL CAPTURED IN RAVENNA"

"PUBLIC OPINION TALLY - 16/22 DECEMBER 1944"

"APPRECIATION AND CENSORSHIP REPORT ON ITALIAN CIVILIAN AND MILITARY MAIL FOR FOUR WEEKS ENDING 22 DEC. 1944"

"PUBLIC OPINION TALLY - 23/29 DECEMBER 1944"

"REPORT ON MAIL CAPTURED AT FLORENCE"

"PUBLIC OPINION TALLY - 31 DEC. 1944/6 JANUARY 1945"

"PUBLIC OPINION TALLY - 7/13 JANUARY 1945"

"SERIOUS RIOTS IN SICILY"

"PUBLIC OPINION TALLY - 14/20 JANUARY 1945" 1281

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2. The number of Submission Slips given higher allocation during the month of January, shows a decrease of 39% compared to the preceding month. This can be attributed to the fact that there has been a complete stoppage of captured mail since November, 1944

There has been no falling off in the number of special reports prepared by the sub-section.

Policy Letters.

During January, several contacts have been held with Officers attached to the Joint Intelligence Collecting Agency, Rome, in relation to the advisability of our supplying them with copies of our Comment Sheets and Special Reports.

Very little material has been turned over to JICA in the past as they were not considered as an "action" agency. The outcome of our recent conversations with them, however, has been that they are now to receive those Comment Sheets and Special Reports of ours which relate to expressions of opinion on prominent political figures, economic conditions and new or proposed inventions, discoveries and the like.

In their turn, JICA have agreed to supply our Group with copies of their weekly News Summaries, which may prove of interest to us, particularly to our Special Reports Unit.

IV. LANDWIRE SUB-SECTION

Censorship Operations.

1. Latest four week's reports from four telegraph censorship stations show 114,612 telegrams handled. These stations submitted 151 comment sheets.

2. Rome telegraph censorship station in the past four weeks has pre-censored 147,407 telegrams submitting 557 comment sheets.

3. Foggia telegraph censorship station in the past four weeks has pre-censored 3,634 telegrams submitting 2 comment sheets.

4. Rome telephone station submitted 1602 comment sheets in the past four weeks.

5. The Amedeo telephone station in Naples submitted 273 comment sheets in the past four weeks.

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6. The Nolano telephone station in Naples submitted 216 comment sheets in the past four weeks.

7. The Florence telephone station submitted 49 comment sheets in the past four weeks.

8. A total of 2861 comment sheets were submitted by the telephone and telegraph censorship stations during the month of January.

. Policy

1. Authorization has been given by AFHQ for the extension of civil telegraph service into Siena province. When service is resumed post-censorship of telegrams will be carried out.

2. Authorization has also been received from AFHQ for the extension of civil telegraph service into Perugia. When service is resumed telegrams will be post-censored.

3. Effective 26 January 1945 the Rome telegraph station discontinued pre-censorship of telegrams with the exception of Vatican traffic. In the future outgoing civil telegrams will be post-censored.

V. CABLE AND RADIO SUBSECTION

Censorship Operations.

Traffic report for Rome and Naples for period, 24th December 1944, to 27th January, 1945, is as follows:

Total number of messages	2,855
Outgoing	665
Incoming	1,998
Transit	192
Classification of Messages	
Government	2,837
Civilian	18
Action taken	
Pass	2,844
Cancel	11

There has been no change in the situation concerning civilian traffic to and from the United States, and the United Kingdom since the last monthly report.

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Censorship of radio traffic over the Rome - Moscow circuit was initiated on the opening date of this service, 27 January, 1945 . Special regulations governing this circuit were prepared by this Subsection and approved by the Director, Communications Sub-Commission and are now in force. To date, except for service messages, there has been no outgoing traffic. Incoming traffic has been exclusively Press. This circuit is scheduled to be opened to civilian traffic on 1st February, 1945.

Monitoring equipment for the Rome - New York radio-telephone circuit has been installed at Headquarters, Civil Censorship Group at 2 Via Sallustiana, Rome. This equipment has been tested and all preliminary arrangements have been made for the censoring of traffic over this circuit. Proposed regulations governing this traffic have been forwarded to AFHQ, and regulations for patrons on official and press calls have been prepared. Detailed operational procedures, including instructions to Censor, and telephone operators, have been set up.

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JLH/epc

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In reply refer to: REP.156.33.CS

Subject : Monthly Report

To : Chief of Staff, H.Qrs. Allied Commission

Herewith full and abridged Monthly Reports of this Sub-Commission for December, 1944.

Tel: 489081
Ext: 400

15th January, 1945

J.L.HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director,
Communications Sub-Commission

Incl: Two Reports.

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File

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

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

MONTHLY REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1944

1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(i) Southern Region

a. Urban Telephone Service: Exchanges were repaired or installed at Manfredonia and seven small places. An officer has been working in Foggia and Campobasso provinces during December to obtain more civil communication facilities.

b. Provincial Telephone Service: The service in Foggia province was considerably improved.

In the provinces of this Region, excluding Foggia, about 45% of the pre-war exchanges have been reconnected to the network. Benevento and Avellino province are still not satisfactory but are improving; the position in these provinces is under investigation.

c. Inter-Provincial Telephone Service: The Italian Government requested additional Rome - Naples circuits. Records were obtained from the Government and it was found that the operation of the present circuits was not good. An officer was accordingly sent to Naples to examine operating conditions and methods and to suggest remedies.

d. Telegraphs: Nine-channel telegraph equipment was installed at Naples to work to similar equipment at Catania. The channels have now been allocated.

Four composite Rome - Naples circuits were obtained from Allied L.of C. Signals. The Italian Government made up two electronic relays for one circuit which is now in operation with teletype machines. Relays for the others are being made up, and meanwhile permission to use Hughes equipment has been requested.

(ii) Sicily Region

In Sicily 90% of telegraph offices are now reconnected and about half of the telephone offices. All provincial centres are of course connected to the network, and the numbers of inter-urban lines have been increased.

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(iii) Abruzzi-Marche Region

a. Urban Telephone service: Exchanges have been installed or repaired at Macerata, Camerino, and a large number of small exchanges. The Macerata board has 7 positions with 40 inter-urban lines and 720 C.B. subscribers' lines.

The 4 position, 40 lines, inter-urban switchboard and 200 lines of auto plant have been repaired at Teramo.

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The Sulmona board has also been repaired, consisting of two positions with 10 inter-urban and 240 C.B. subscribers' lines.

A 50 lines switchboard for local traffic has been installed in the Porto Nuova part of Pescara, and is cross-connected to the main local board (100 lines C.B.)

At Lanciano there is now a 5 position board in use with 20 inter-urban lines on 2 positions and 480 C.B. subscribers lines on the rest.

b. Provincial Telephone Service: Authority was received for Provincial telephone service in Ancona province. As all of the lines from Ancona to the larger towns of the province are in Allied use, it is not possible at the moment to restore much of the service.

In each of the other provinces of the region, several additional towns have been connected. About 40% of pre-war telephone offices (where service is allowed) have been reconnected to the network in Abruzzi - Marche Region.

c. Inter-Provincial Telephone Service: All provinces, where it is permitted, have inter-urban service.

The inter-urban board at Pescara (2 positions - 20 lines) has been extended in capacity to 40 lines. At Chieti the old 6 position 40 lines board has been rewired and brought into use.

d. Telegraphs: Authority was obtained for extension of telegraph service to Ancona province. It has not been possible to obtain a line from the military, but the C.B.O., L.of C has been asked for permission to place a 3600 cycles harmonica between Rome and Ancona, to work one way at a time on a 2 wire circuit.

Excluding Ancona province, about 25% of all telegraph offices in Abruzzi - Marche Region have been reconnected to the network.

e. Overhead Lines: Several telegraph lines in the Region were cut and used by Allied troops without warning. Several short lines were put through in Chieti province in a day or two on old Army field wire between exchanges. Unfortunately orders have been issued to recover such wire and such circuits have thus been disconnected.

Work is in hand on the Ancona - Pescara and Aquila - Populi routes.

Four bays of copper wire were stolen from the Aquila - Avezzano route.

1275

(iv) Lazio Region:

a. Urban Telephone Service: Exchanges were installed or repaired at Palestrina, Fiumicino, Perugia, and many smaller towns.

b. Provincial Telephone Service: Authority was obtained during the month for the reopening of Perugia province to telegraph and Provincial telephone service. By the end of the month, ten exchanges were connected to Perugia for Provincial service.

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Rome was connected to Palestrina (1 cct.) and Flumicino (2 ccts.) and a few other lesser provincial circuits were completed.

At least 30% of the telephone offices in Lazio Region now have service to the main network.

c. Inter-Provincial Service: All provincial capitals are connected to the main network except Perugia, for which permission has not yet been given, but for which a circuit to Terni is ready.

d. Telegraph: Permission having been given during December for the opening of a service to Perugia, this Province was connected, the service covering Perugia, Foligno, and a few other places.

Telegraph connection was established from Valmontone to Frosinone.

e. Overhead Lines: Work was seriously delayed during the month by the financial difficulties of the Posts and Telegraphs and consequent inability to hire transport for the Circolo. Work is still held up. For instance, due to route damage, it has only been possible to restore 5% of the telegraph offices in the Region.

The start of work on the main Viterbo route north has been delayed for the same reason.

In the reconstruction of lines to the smaller places, it has been necessary to use earth return telephone circuits to save wire.

An officer has been sent to Perugia to assist with the direction of Foligno Circolo there and for temporary liaison work with 2 District. The C.S.O. had issued an order cutting down civilian subscribers' in Perugia to below 500, and the A.C. officer succeeded in having this ban largely removed.

A route under repair between Terni and Perugia, and permission has been obtained to extend the circuits on this route over another route to Arezzo. Repairs to the first route will take about 6 weeks (1 telephone, 3 telegraphs).

Circolo finance difficulties at Foligno were temporarily cleared by the provision of an advance of 50,000 lire by the local Finance Officer.

1271

(v) Tuscan Region:

a. Florence: The automatic network consists of four large exchanges - Centro, Vittoria, Campo di Marte, and Affrico - and a number of small exchanges. The four [illegible] exchanges and a few small exchanges were seriously damaged.

By the end of November, 6000 lines of automatic equipment had been rebuilt in Centro exchange and 2900 subscribers' working. During December the latter figure was raised to 3100. Cabling and switching in the exchange has now been completed to cater for 10,000 subscribers'.

About 60 subscribers in Campo di Marte area have been connected

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over junctions to Centro exchange.

Rifredi a 600 lines exchange has been repaired to take 500 lines, of which 95 are now working.

Repairs are in progress at Affrico.

The underground local cable network is under repair, and several main subscribers' cables were repaired during the month.

b. Local Exchanges - Other Towns: Automatic exchanges are in progress of installation at Livorno, Lucca, Montecatini, Piombino, and Prato, while that at Pontedera is nearly ready. Automatic installations will be begun shortly at Pisa and Pistoia. Pending these installations being completed, small manual boards have been installed and brought into use at Pisa (one 40 lines board) and Montecatini (one 20 lines board). The existing small boards have been extended at Lucca, (where 120 lines are now connected), and Pistoia (now two 100 lines boards), have also been brought into use. SEVERAL SMALL EXCHANGES

c. Provincial Telephone Service: The service in Grosseto province has been considerably extended by the completion of circuits from seven important exchanges to various communities in their neighbourhood.

d. Telegraphs: A Grosseto - Civitavecchia circuit has been obtained from P.B.S. and work is in hand cutting it into Orbetello. This circuit will be used both by the Italian Navy and by the State Telegraphs. Service should be opened by the middle of January.

It is hoped to get a separate direct Grosseto - Civitavecchia circuit for Italian civilian use only at the end of the month, and also a Grosseto - Piombino circuit for the use of the Italian Navy, as negotiations have been made with P.B.S. to that end.

e. Line Plant:

Local Underground: Networks are under extensive repair at Florence, and to a limited extent, at Arezzo, Chiusi, Empoli, Grosseto, Leghorn area, Massa Marittima area, Montecatini, Piombino, Pontedera, and Prato.

Overhead: Several junction circuits are under repair.

(vi) Planning:

1573

The A.C. specification for civilian telecommunications plant for N.Italy was revised, on instructions from A.F.H.Q., so far as to include military type plant instead of commercial types.

Certain demands for switchboards were excluded from the new requisition as it was found possible to have them made with military assistance in the FATME factory. Specifications were prepared for these boards.

The demands for switchboards on the requisition were finally reduced to nil by the discovery of old type Siemens boards in T&TI stores. These are now in course of repair.

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2. POSTAL.

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

ANCONA, PERUGIA, SIENA:

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

which were opened to postal service on 16 December.

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

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

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

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

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

TOTAL. 697 Bags

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

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

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

3. CENSORSHIP I. GENERAL

a. Civilian Telegraph Service.

The situation as to reopening of external telegraphic communications between Italy and the United Kingdom and the United States, minus territory in enemy occupation remain the same as at last report. Failure of the Radio Corporation of America, Cable and Wireless Ltd., and Italcable to reach an agreement as to traffic rates continues to hold up the service. Censorship arrangements, however, are complete and personnel ready to handle traffic when service begins.

b. Rome - Moscow Telegraph Circuit. 1271

The opening of circuit has been authorised and traffic thereon will be subject to censorship control. Pre-censorship of this traffic, which will be mainly in the Russian language, is practically impossible because of lack of language qualified personnel; however, a sufficient number of qualified civilians may be recruited, for the purpose of post-examining this traffic.

II. POSTAL SUBSECTION

a. Censorship Operations.

For all stations concerned (exclusive of Spain, Portugal, Switzerland and Transadriatic Mail) 2% of ordinary mail, 1% of registered mail, and 32% of military mail was censored.

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For the same period 9% of ordinary mail, 6% of registered mail, and 9% of military mail was re-censored.

Total Comment Sheets	3287
Information Slips	1138
Italian Examiners	273
Re-examiners	36
Sorters and Clerks	89

Spain, Portugal, Switzerland

The volume of mail for the month was 6172 pieces and 100% examination was exercised.

Total Comment Sheets	36
Italian Examiners	9
Allied Personnel	4
Languages Read	8

Transadriatic Mail

The volume of mail for the month was 35,773 pieces and 100% examination was exercised.

Total Comment Sheets 216

"S" Force Operations

During the month of December "S" Force entered the cities of Ravenna and Faenza. Material was immediately removed to Rome, processed and comment sheets distributed to user agencies.

Closing and Transfer of Stations

On 18 December 1944 Chieti and Rieti stations were closed to censorship and Aquila was transferred to the Italians. On 19 December 1944, Pisa, Arezzo and Ancona stations were opened.

1279

External Mail Statistics

The latest statistics, as observed by the Allied Censor Control Officer of Naples, are shown below:

For the four (4) week period 30 October - 26 November

OUTGOING: POW mail ...2696.4 Kg.(255 bags, approximately 1,245,225 letters)

Civil mail..2332 Kg. (202 bags, approximately 298,500 letters)

INCOMING: POW mail.....7810 Kg.(475 bags, approximately 1,952,500 letters)

CIVIL MAIL.... 1617 KG (153 bags, APPROXIMATELY 257,875 LETTERS)

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III. DISSEMINATION SUB-SECTION

A. Censorship Operations

(1) Statistical Summaries

Submission Slips 610

Special Reports 10 (as listed hereunder)

"PUBLIC OPINION TALLY - 4 Nov.-10 Nov. 1944"

"PUBLIC OPINION TALLY - 11 Nov.- 17 Nov.1944"

"REPORT ON CAPTURED GERMAN MAIL"

"REPORT ON THE CAPTURED RECORDS OF THE CIVIL AND MILITARY CENSORSHIP OFFICE OF FORLI"

"PUBLIC OPINION TALLY - 18 Nov. - 24 Nov. 1944"

"APPRECIATION AND CENSORSHIP REPORT ON ITALIAN CIVILIAN AND MILITARY MAIL FOR FOUR WEEKS ENDING 25 Nov. 1944"

"PUBLIC OPINION TALLY - 25 Nov. - 1 Dec. 1944"

"PUBLIC OPINION TALLY - 2 Dec. - 8 Dec. 1944"

"SMALL-POX IN ITALY, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO NAPLES"

"PUBLIC OPINION TALLY - 9 Dec. - 15 Dec. 1944"

(ii) Compared to the month of November, December figures show a marked decrease in the number of Submission Sheets distributed to AFHQ level. There are two reasons for this, i.e.(1) with the slackening of front-line progress, there has been a reduced number of captures from Post-Offices in forward areas; (2) much of the mail handled in December emanated from sacks captured during the previous month and which, not being of recent date, had been set aside for examination after the November handling of more up-to-date captures

1769

IV. LANDWIRE SUBSECTION

A. Censorship Operations.

(1) Latest four weeks' reports from seven telegraph censorship stations show 105,637 telegrams handled. These stations submitted 165 comment sheets.

(2) Rome telegraph censorship station in the past four weeks

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has pre-censored 154,396 telegrams, submitting 575 comment sheets.

(3) Rome telephone station submitted 1855 comment sheets in the past four weeks.

(4) The Amedeo telephone station in Naples submitted 250 comment sheets in the past four weeks.

(5) The Nolano telephone station in Naples submitted 285 comment sheets in the past four weeks.

(6) The Florence telephone station submitted 152 comment sheets in the past four weeks.

(7) A total of 3282 comment sheets were submitted by the telephone and telegraph censorship stations during the month of December.

b. Policy.

(1) Telegraph censorship was discontinued in the provinces of Littoria, Frosinone, Viterbo, Chieti and Rieti on 18 December 1944.

(2) Telegraph censorship in the provinces of Aquila, Pescara and Teramo was turned over to Italian censorship authorities on 1st December 1944.

V. CABLE AND RADIO SUBSECTION

a. Censorship Operations.

Traffic report for the four-week period, 26 November to 23 December 1944, is as follows:

Total number of messages	2,728
Incoming	1,268
Outgoing	1,460

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VI. SPECIAL ACTIVITIES SUBSECTION

a. Censorship Operation

(1) Watch List

Statistics

General

Total on Red Watch list	292
Total on White Watch list	561
Total	853

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Postal

Number of intercepts forwarded to HQ.	83
Reports of local action	2
Number of intercepts disseminated	22

Telegrams

Number of intercepts forwarded to HQ.	179
Reports of local action	9
Number of intercepts disseminated	88

Telephones

Number of intercepts forwarded to HQ.	110
Number of intercepts disseminated	48

(Approximately all C/S received local Action)

(2) United States Office of Censorship and British Imperial Censorship Watch List.

Dissemination on names appearing in both Watch lists	1
Dissemination on names appearing in U.S. Watch List	9
Dissemination on names appearing in British Watch List	0
Total	10

(3) Signal Intelligence Laboratory.

i. Testing

4580 pieces of mail were tested for Signal Intelligence during the first part of the month, the volume was small, but there was a noticable increase in the final week.

ii. Deletions

The only deletions studied were place names with fieldpost addresses on POW mail from German-held territory. A large number were examined; six were read.

1267

iii. Code and Cipher

Statistics

Examined	220
Codes broken	48
Believed not to contain code	166
Believed to contain code but not yet broken	6
Comment Sheets	0

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33A

ABRIDGED REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1944

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

a. Civil telegraph and provincial telephone services were authorised in the additional provinces of ANCONA and PERUGIA.

b. Civil telegraph service from ROME to the SOUTH was much improved during the month by the release of circuits from Allied use and by the installation of equipment transferred from SICILY. Except to SARDINIA, Telegraph service within Italian Government territory is now satisfactory.

c. Many additional telephone exchanges in Regional Military Government territory were opened and many more are in final stages of installation; the results of work that has been in progress since July are now showing. Included in the towns with new services are PISA, MACERATA, TERAMO and MONTECATINI, and FLORENCE, LUCCA and PESCARA with much increased capacity.

d. No agreement has yet been reached on the terms forthe opening of cablegram service to the U.S. and U.K.

POSTAL

a. Mail services were extended into the provinces of ANCONA, PERUGIA, SIENA, AREZZO, LIVORNO, FLORENCE and PISA (the last two up to the R.ARNO only). This is a very notable extension and results from a change in policy of Hqrs 15th Army Group following representations by this Sub-Commission.

b. The first parcels arrived from the U.S. under the special service referred to in the October report; this first delivery included over 10,000 parcels.

1366

CENSORSHIP

Censorship was closed in the provinces of FROSINONE, LITTORIA, VITERBO, CHIETI and Rieti, and opened in the provinces newly included in postal services.

SUMMARY FOR 1944

a. The overall position on civil communications at the end of 1944 is not unsatisfactory. An increasingly liberal policy on the part of the Allied military authorities is manifest, which directly affects the facilities that this Sub-Commission is able to obtain for civil use.

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b. Letter services, internal and foreign, are operating up to a line approximately through PISA, FLORENCE and ANCONA. There is no parcel service, internal or external, except for a special gift-parcel service from the U.S. to the cities of ROME, NAPLES and PALERMO, due to lack of transportation and accommodation.

c. Telegraph services are authorised up to the northern boundaries of GROSSETO, PERUGIA and ANCONA; they are in a satisfactory state within Italian Government territory (except to SARDINIA), though still lacking in some forward areas.

d. Long-distance telephone services Are authorised within all Italian Government territory, except FOGGIA province: though too scanty to provide adequate facilities for ordinary civil use, they are just sufficient for governmental work.

e. Censorship is only exercised in the area forward of Italian Government territory plus the port areas and places of special military importance (ROME, FOGGIA, BARI, etc.) in that territory. Complete freedom of expression is allowed unless military security is directly affected.

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JLH/epc

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission
Tel:489081 Ext: 400

17th November, 1944

In reply
refer to: 1/1/32/CS

Subject : Monthly Report

To : Chief of Staff, Hqs.A.C.

Herewith Monthly Report of this Sub-Commission for October, 1944.

J.L.HENDERSON
Colonel
Director.

Incl: One Report.

1764

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

JLH/apc

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

MONTHLY REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1944

1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

a. Telephone: Intra-provincial service was authorised in the additional provinces of GROSSETO, TERNI, ASCOLI and MACERATA. Inter-provincial service was authorised in the additional provinces of CHIETI, PESCARA, AQUILA, TERAMO, AVELLINO, BENEVENTO, CAMPOBASSO, FROSINONE, LITTORIA, ROME, RIETI, VITERBO, and with SARDINIA.

Exchanges were repaired or installed and brought into use in: Civitavecchia, Civita Castellana, Tarquinia, Anagni, Albano, Valentano, Campagnano, Colleno, Montefrascone, Foligno, Spoleto, Orvieto, Littoria (automatic), Sulmona, Avezzano, Chieti, Lanciano, Pescara, Penne, Popoli, Ancona (automatic), Arezzo (automatic), Florence (automatic, now restored to 6000 lines capacity0, Siena (automatic), Pistoia, Lucca, Piombino.

Circuits were completed: Rome to Civitavecchia, Tivoli, Viterbo, Frascati, Civita Castellana; Terni to Foligno, Spoleto: Rieti to Terni, Aquila; Viterbo to Valentano: Aquila to Chieti; Pescara, Teramo; Teramo to Ascoli; besides many circuits to smaller towns.

The telephone cable to SARDINIA has been restored to the Italian Government, and taken into use by them.

b. Telegraph: Telegraph service has been authorised in all provinces listed in para. 1. of a. above. Restoration of circuits has now given the Italian Government telegraph communication to all provincial capitals of provinces under Italian administration plus the provinces of GROSSETO, TERNI, ASCOLI, MACERATA and RIETI to the north of Italian Government territory.

About 150,000 telegrams a month are now passing through the Rome Office.

Notification was received from A.F.H.Q. that civil radio and cablegrams would be permitted to U.S. and U.S. possessions and the U.K. and British Empire from 15th November, 1944.

2. POSTAL

1563

a. Internal postage rates doubled (previously as prior to Allied occupation) Oct.1st.

b. A.M. postage stamps withdrawn from use in Sicily-Oct. 1st.

c. Internal and Foreign mail services restored in all the further provinces of Ascoli, Grosseto, Macerata, Terni and Viterbo Preparations made in the Provinces of Ancona, Arezzo, Leghorn, Pesaro, Perugia, and Siena, which are now ready to introduce services on receipt of the necessary authority.

d. Restriction on type of language used in civilians' letters to places abroad removed. Any language now permissible.

e. Direct despatches of mails from Italy to Malta introduced.

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f. Conference held at A.F.H.Q. on subject of delay to P.O.W. and Civilian Mails addressed to U.S.

g. Announcements made in press and Radio broadcasts regarding resumption of Commercial Correspondence between U.S. and U.K. with Italy: action taken regarding postal arrangements.

h. Announcements made in Radio broadcasts and press of limited parcel service to be introduced between U.S. and Rome, Naples and Palermo; action taken regarding censorship, restrictions on contents, Custom Charges, and operating accommodation and transport.

i. Postcard services between members of Allied Forces in this theatre with Civilians in parts of liberated France; application has been made to extend the service to Italian Civilians.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff.
++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

Tel: 735

6 November 1944

Ref : 325/117/COS.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report.

TO : Civil Affairs Section
Economic Section
Navy Sub-Commission
Army Sub-Commission
Air Forces S/C
Communications S/C (info only)
War Materials Disposal & POW S/C
Public Relations Branch (Info only).

does not affect us - info only

1. A request has been received from G-5 Section, AFHQ, that in future 35 copies of the full length report prepared by Sub-Commissions should be sent to them instead of 30 as previously. Will you kindly, therefore, send to this office by the 15th of the following month 40 copies of your October and succeeding reports.

2. Following a study of these reports before their despatch to AFHQ the Chief of Staff has made the following comments :

a. As regards their length, he was glad to see that September reports are, taken as a whole, shorter than those for the previous months but, where ever possible, he wishes Sub-Commissions to aim at a further shortening of their reports.

1761

b. The majority of Sub-Commissions whose reports are longer than, say, 10 pages, include a table of contents. This is most useful and one should always appear at the beginning of a report of any length.

In some cases changes in staff have been made the subject of the first paragraph of a report. The Chief of Staff considers that these would more suitably be placed at the end of a report.

Director
Chief Technical =
Chief F =
H.Q. Comm O.
Asst Chief Postal
Censorship =
Chief Clerk

CROSS REFS
FILE CS/1/1 b/fwd
Date 7 NOV 1944

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

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

JLH/epc

(30)

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Telephone 489081 Ext.400

17th October, 1944

In reply
refer to: CS/1/1/30

Subject : Monthly Report

To : Chief of Staff, HQs. A.C.C.

Herewith Monthly Report of this Sub-Commission for September, 1944.

J.L.HENDERSON
Colonel
Director, Communications Sub-Commission

Incl: One report.

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COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

MONTHLY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER, 1944

1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

a. Telephone: The towns of LITTORIA, VELLETRI, FROSINONE, TERRACINA and VITERBO have been connected to the main telephone system. On the east side of Italy, the towns of TERNI, RIETI, AQUILA, and TERAMO have been interconnected, though there is still no connection from that side to the main system. Local services have been restored in several more towns.

An inter-urban board has been reconditioned and is being installed in FLORENCE in readiness for service.

b. Telegraphs: Telegraph service is now available to the same towns as those in para. a.

The telegraph cable from ROME to SARDINIA has been restored to the Italian authorities.

An examination of Italian Government facilities on foreign cablegrams and an investigation of their cipher systems have been started by an expert commission from London.

2. POSTAL

a. Postal services have been restored in the additional province of RIETI.

b. A special 25 - word postcard service has been set up between FLORENCE and the internal postal zone.

c. Direct despatches to SPAIN and PORTUGAL were introduced, in lieu of circulation via London.

d. The Naples - Rome carriage of mail has been transferred from road to rail.

e. Linking-up with the restricted civil mail service established in liberated France has been investigated and it is hoped the service will open shortly.

f. Foreign correspondence totalled well over 3 million items.

1259

3. CENSORSHIP

Internal censorship on mail and telegraph communications has now been discontinued in all provinces south of the ROME - AQUILA - CHIETI line, except in NAPLES, FOGGIA, BARI, BRINDISI, TARANTO, CAGLIARI, PALERMO and SIRACUSA. All these censorship stations are or shortly will be under Italian control except NAPLES and FOGGIA.

J.L.HENDERSON
Colonel
Director, Communications Sub-Commission

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

JLH/tJ:

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Tel. 489081 : Extn. 400

15th September, 1944.

In reply
refer to: CS/1/1/29

Subject: Monthly Report.

To: Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Herewith Monthly Report of this Sub-Commission for August, 1944.

J. L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director, Communications Sub-Commission.

JLH/tjj

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

MONTHLY REPORT FOR AUGUST, 1944

****

1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

a. Telephone. - Two additional Naples-Rome circuits have been made available, permitting the opening of a restricted service to civil use of this important channel.

Many urban telephone services have been restored, including the towns of Campobasso, Isernia, Venafro, Termoli, Lanciana, Chiati, Avezzano, Aquila, Teramo, Ascoli, Florence, Siena, Grosseto, etc.

Inter-urban service limited to intra-provincial calls has been authorised in the provinces of Foggia, Chieti, Pescara, Aquila, Teramo, Avellino, Benevento, Campobasso, Frosinone, Littoria and Rome; inter-urban circuits are now approaching completion in many areas. Full inter-provincial service is authorised and available in all provinces south of the above.

b. Telegraph. - Telegraph service has been authorised in all provinces listed above; in few cases are circuits available, but they are also now approaching completion in many districts.

The telegraph service from Rome to the south has been improved, but is still inadequate, and many telegrams from Naples and Bari are still arriving by post. Arrangements to effect improvement, which include transfer of equipment from Sicily, are in hand.

Submarine telegraph cables to Sicily and Sardinia have been handed over to the Italian authorities; so far only the Sicily circuit is restored to operation.

The Italian Foreign Office has been authorised to resume cablegram communications, in clear or in cipher, with all Italian Missions, etc., abroad, except that in Argentina. (This service was previously restricted to the Embassies at Madrid, Lisbon and Tangiers.)

2. POSTAL.

a. Internal and foreign mail services have been restored in the additional provinces of Foggia, Chieti, Pescara, Aquila and Teramo.

b. Palermo and Bari were closed as foreign mail transfer ports, leaving only Naples, and a few transfers through Catania.

c. Some 17,000,000 letters (about 70 tons), including

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Many urban telephone services have been restored, including the towns of Campobasso, Isernia, Venefro, Termoli, Lanciana, Chieti, Avezzano, Aquila, Teramo, Ascoli, Florence, Siena, Grosseto, etc.

Inter-urban service limited to intra-provincial calls has been authorised in the provinces of Foggia, Chieti, Pescara, Aquila, Teramo, Avellino, Benevento, Campobasso, Frosinone, Littoria and Rome; inter-urban circuits are now approaching completion in many areas. Full inter-provincial service is authorised and available in all provinces south of the above.

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2. POSTAL.

a. Internal and foreign mail services have been restored in the additional provinces of Foggia, Chieti, Pescara, Aquila and Teramo.

b. Palermo and Bari were closed as foreign mail transfer ports, leaving only Naples, and a few transfers through Catania.

c. Some 17,000,000 letters (about 70 tons), including about 12,000,000 P.O.W. letters, have been dealt with in the foreign mail service since the opening of services early this year.

J. L. HENDERSON
Colonel,
Director, Communications Sub-Commission.

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

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

JLH/rm

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Telephone 489081 Ext 400

13th August 1944

In reply refer to: CS/1/1/28.

Subject: Monthly Report.

To: Regional Control & Military Government Section.

Herewith monthly report of this Sub-Commission for July, 1944.

J.L.HENDERSON,
Colonel,
Director, Communications, Sub-Commission.

Incl: One report.

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

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

MONTHLY REPORT FOR JULY 1944

1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(a) Telephone

(i) All main telephone circuits to the south (e.g. Palermo, Messina, Reggio, Cosenza, etc), terminated at Salerno for Italian Government use, were put through to Naples. A total of five telephone circuits between Naples and Rome were handed over by the military for ACC/Government use; only three of these are trunk circuits, of which one is used by ACC Rome - Naples, one by Italian Government Rome-Bari, leaving only one circuit for Italian Government use to Naples that is suitable for extension to the south. The other two circuits are overhead circuits only suitable for Rome - Naples communications. The governmental trunk telephone facilities are therefore still extremely scanty.

(ii) Release on inter-provincial telephone facilities to civil use in Italian Government territory was given by military security. North of Naples, telephone facilities are reserved for Government use.

(b) Telegraphs

(i) Telegraph circuits were made available to the Italian Government from Rome to the South (Naples and Bari). The traffic capacity is fair, but not capable of carrying all traffic without heavy delay. Direct telegraph circuits were provided for the Italian Air and Navy Ministries from Rome to Bari.

(ii) Civil telegraphs between Rome and the south of Italy were opened on 21st July; by the end of the month over 5000 telegrams a day were being dealt with in the Rome office.

(c) Circuit Repair

Reconnaissances were completed, plans made, transport obtained, release of routes or wires from military signals arranged, and work has been in progress on restoration of civil communications in Regions IV and V. Due to the extensive damage and shortage of stores, little tangible results will be seen for some weeks.

1255

2. POSTAL

(a) Civil mail services, both internal and foreign, were extended to Rome on 1st July, and to the provinces of Rome, Littoria, Frosinone and Campobasso later in the month.

(b) The mail service between Naples and Bari, the main cross-Italy link, was increased to a daily service each way.

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ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

13th July, 1944.

In reply
refer to: CS/1/2/27

Subject : Monthly Report.

To : Regional Control & Military Government Section.

Herewith monthly report of this Sub-Commission for June, 1944.

J.L.HENDERSON
Colonel
Director, Communications Sub-Commission

Incl: One report.

JLH/epc

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

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

MONTHLY REPORT FOR JUNE 1944

1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

a. In Italian Government territory there have been only minor changes. The percentage of telegraph offices connected by the end of June reached 100% in Sardinia, 91% in Sicily and 84% in Italy, an average of 77% compared with the 65% reported in May. Unless more transport is made available, this probably represents the maximum restorable.

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

b. Communications to and within Rome have been the chief activity of the month. The Deputy Director of the Sub-Commission entered Rome on 5th June and the Chief of the Telecommunications Branch followed on the 14th June. In Rome, the urban automatic system was practically undamaged, but there were many problems of power supply, restoration of services to civilians, arranging for military installations including A.C.C. HQs, etc, that were dealt with by the combined efforts of Allied Armies and A.C.C. Telecommunications Officers. The first circuits to Rome were restored by the military on the overhead routes by about the middle of June, but all these were required for military purposes. The main underground cable was restored (24 circuits) on July 1st, by the civilian group working under the A.C.C. Telecommunications Officer, attached to the Chief Signal Officer, L. of C. This date was the original one given on 4th June, then estimated to give about five days in hand: these days were used up by the difficult repair of unforeseen damage to the cable by high-frequency current, a new form of sabotage. The repeater equipment in Rome for the main cable circuits was also damaged, as of course were all the intervening equipments from Naples to Rome, but this had naturally been anticipated.

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

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

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

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

The result will be that the restoration of telecommunications facilities in the new areas will proceed extremely slowly; it is considered that the provision of essential telegraph and telephone circuits is an absolute necessity for any centralized Government control to be effective: it is also considered that the existence of telegraph and telephone services economises in transport by making unnecessary a large proportion of courier services and visits. Unless some transport (of the order of fifty 3-ton trucks) is provided, the efficiency of Government from none will be seriously handicapped.

2. Postal.

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

b. To provide for postal matters in Rome, a Postal Officer was sent forward and arrived in the city on June 6th. Conditions were found to be very favourable. All post offices, on which cut of Bonds' notices were quickly affixed, were in good order and not occupied by any military units. In addition to the Central Post Office, there are five Branch Offices and seventy Sub-Offices in the city. Records, stamp stocks, etc. were generally intact. The personnel normally employed number some 5000 (apart from a large Ministerial staff) and the chief officials were readily available.

Transportation was normally provided by a contractor, the Post Office having no vehicles of its own. It has been possible to secure a number of the postal vans, but they are not all in running order.

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

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

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

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

2. Extension of services to the Provinces (Rome, Littoria and Frosinone) offered greater difficulties, mainly in relation to accommodations, transportation, and the establishment of branch posts. All three Provinces will be opened to service// before the end of July.

3. CIVIL CENSORSHIP.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4. OFFICER ESTABLISHMENT.

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

The distribution of available officers of this branch is:

1.	Lt.Col.	Chief Telecomm. Officer	HQR
2.	Major	Assistant Chief	HQR
3.	Lt. Col.	Cable system specialist	Attached 1. or 2.
4.	Major	Regional Officer	Region 1,2,6,7.
5.	Capt.	————	Region 3
6.	Major	————	Rome and Region 4.
7.	Major	————	Region 5.
8.	Major	————	Region 8.

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

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JLH/epc

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REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

15th June, 1944.

In reply refer to: CS/1/1/26

Subject : Monthly Report.

To : Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Herewith monthly report of this Sub-Commission for May, 1944.

J.L.HENDERSON
Colonel
Director, Communications Sub-Commission

1249

Incl: One Report.

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

JLH/epc

COMMUNICATIONS SUB-COMMISSION

MONTHLY REPORT FOR MAY 1944.

1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

a. There having been no change during May of the area placed under Italian administration, no major changes have taken place in the Telecommunications system. Detailed development has been in steady progress; in particular, the capacity of the telegraph circuits to Naples has been made adequate for the traffic with that city. The telephone circuits available for the Italian Government to Naples are however now very inadequate, due chiefly to the new Government including several political leaders resident in Naples; an increase in these facilities has been requested of the military authorities.

b. A tour was made by the officer in charge of the telecommunications branch of the provinces of Potenza, Matera, Bari, Brindisi, Taranto and Lecce, and many minor matters settled in regard to exchanges, circuits, stores, maintenance, etc., in conjunction with the Military Signal authorities. This tour, together with that reported in March, has completed his inspection of the area under Italian administration, and it is considered that the whole of this area can now be left to the Italian authorities with the local assistance of Regional Telecommunications Officer.

2. POSTS.

a. No major changes; detailed improvements have included the provision of four mail services a week from Naples to Bari (in place of two a week), and an air-mail service with Tripoli.

b. A conference was held with the Security Branch, A.A.I., R.C. & M.G. Section and the Finance Sub-Commission, to lay down the sequence and circumstances in which the resumption of postal finance services, advance postal services for P.C.W., mail, and normal postal services could take place in newly occupied areas. Agreement was reached and the results are being included in re-issues of A.C.C. Executive Memoranda Nos. 35 and 36.

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3. CIVIL CENSORSHIP.

a. A policy was approved by the Chief Commissioner, and A.F.H.Q. and A.A.I., agreement obtained, to turn over the operational control of internal mail and telegraph censorship to the Italian Government in Italian administered territory, and simultaneously to permit this control to be exercised by the Italian Supreme Command instead of by local prefects acting under instructions of the Ministry of the Interior. This has the result of centralising the control, and of

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ensuring that civil censorship is made primarily an instrument of military security and not a source of political information. A conference was held with the Italian Ministries concerned to settle the details, and the transfer will take place in June.

Policy control is retained by this Commission, and the normal direct executive control by Allied censors in areas forward of the Italian Government territory is not affected.

E. During the month the extent of control still attempted by A.F.H.Q. has led to some unsatisfactory situations. Despite the fact that A.A.I. is responsible for military security in Italy and A.C.C. for operational control of internal civil censorship, severe reductions in censorship personnel have been ~~received~~ by A.F.H.Q. without A.A.I., or our concurrence that the functioning of civil censorship would not be unduly impaired. This and other matters will be discussed at a meeting to be held in June at which A.F.H.Q. (I.M.C.) and A.A.I. will be present.

Security

ordered

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

JLH/epc

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REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

In reply refer to: CS/1/1/25

14 May, 1944.

Subject : Monthly Report.

To : R.C. and E.G. Section.

Herewith monthly report of this Sub-Commission for April, 1944.

J.L.HENDERSON
Colonel
Director, Communications Sub-Commission

Incl: One Report.

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

MONTHLY REPORT FOR APRIL 1944

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

a. Telegraph. The extension of the internal telegraph service has been authorised to include Avellino Province and Naples Province up to the R.Volturno. Service with Naples City has been inaugurated, by the end of the month about 550 messages a day have been passing through Naples post office.

The internal telegraph service is now restored to about 65% of the communes in the King's Italy which previously had such service, and includes all provincial capitals and large towns.

AFHQ have refused permission for any resumption of external civil cable or radio telegraph traffic.

b. Telephone. The civil telephone service, previously limited to urban calls, has been authorised for calls within provincial boundaries. Within King's Italy about 12% of the communes now have telephone communications to their provincial capitals and a further 9% to the local large town not a provincial capital.

The repair of the main Salerno - Reggio cable has been completed, making many additional long-distance telephone circuits available to the Italian Government. Direct telephone service for official use is now available from Salerno to all provincial capitals on the mainland in the King's Italy, and to Palermo, Messina and Catania in Sicily.

c. Planning. Plans have been completed as far as practicable for the restoration of telecommunications in enemy occupied Italy. Available equipment in southern Italy has been inspected and suitable items earmarked for future use; details of additional equipment needed have been forwarded to E.C.S., for supply from U.S. or U.K.

2. POSTS.

a. Additional Services. Arrangements were completed for restoration within the postal zone of internal service for the following classes of mail:

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Registered Letters
Insured Letters
Express Letters
Newspaper Post
Airmail (Italy - Sicily - Sardinia)
Maximum allowed weight was raised from 90 grams to 210 grams per letter.

b. Foreign Mail. The first inward foreign civil mails arrived during April, and included consignments from the U.K., U.S.A., North Africa, Egypt, India and Australia. The first New York consignment to reach Naples arrived on April 21st and comprised some 200,000 items.

c. Volume of Mail. The following sample figures are of interest:

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Posting Naples Post Office Month of April 1944.

Civilian Mail (Internal and foreign) 1,150,000 items.
Prisoners of War Mail 260,000 items.

Posting Sicily January - April (incl) 1944.
(Foreign mail only - statistics on internal mail not available)

Civilian Mail 280000 items.
Prisoners of War Mail 1,500,000 items.

d. Planning. Following on postal section proposals discussed at last conference of Regional Commissioners, the preparation of an outline of basic postal service arrangements was put in hand. This outline is intended to serve as a vade mecum for Allied and Italian officials who will be dealing with restoration of postal services in territory not yet occupied.

3. CIVIL CENSORSHIP.

a. The Civil Censorship Group, Italy, formerly operating under ING. APHQ., was transferred to A.C.C. toward the end of April. The headquarters personnel was moved from Palermo to Salerno and the group now forms part of the Communications Sub-Commission.

4. TITLE. As a result of the incorporation of the Civil Censorship Group, the name of the Sub-Commission was changed to its present more inclusive title.

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

JLH/epo

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REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

17 April, 1944

In reply
refer to: TPS/1/1/20

Subject : Monthly Report of Telecommunications and Posts Sub-Commission.

To : R.C. & E.G. Section, A.C.C., Naples.

Herewith monthly report of this Sub-Commission for March, 1944.

J.L.Henderson
Colonel
Director, Telecommunications and Posts Sub-Commission

1243

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

C O P Y

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND POSTS SUB-COMMISSION

REPORT FOR MARCH 1944

1. Telecommunications.

a. Telegraph. By the end of the month, the internal telegraph service had been restored within and between all parts of Government - controlled Italy and the insular possessions, except from Sardinia.

b. Telephone. Except for official calls, no permission had been granted for civil telephone services outside urban areas.

c. Field Work. The repair of the main Salerno - Reggio cable and the replacement of damaged repeater equipment was continued. Details of the circuit arrangements being made available to the Italian authorities were settled with C.S.C., L. of C.

2. Posts.

a. Mails. The internal and foreign mail service has been extended to include Naples and Avellino provinces up to the rear army boundary. The extension into Benevento Province is in hand.

b. Postal Bonds. This service has been extended to include Sicily.

c. Miscellaneous. Several special services for Vatican, I.R.C.C., Italian P. of W. have been arranged.

3. Tours. A tour of the main towns of Lucania, Calabria and Sicily was made by the officer in charge of the Telecommunications branch in company with the Under-Secretary of State for Telecommunications and Posts. As a result of this tour and the contacts made, release of a number of circuits (particularly in Sicily) were obtained for the Italian Government.

Several other minor tours were made to clear up situations between military Signals and civil authorities.

1242

4. Miscellaneous.

The associated activities of the Sub-Commission have included such items as: getting release of timber for telegraph poles; obtaining minor stores for the Italian Government, such as paper tape for teletypewriter; arranging for movement of Post Office personnel from occupied to unoccupied areas and vice versa; correspondence with military Signals over freeing of circuits for Italian Government use, and restoration of Dicat and Coast Watching circuits; Correspondence with civil censorship over censorship arrangements on postal and telegraph services;

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analysing and submitting to Economic Section proposed revised rates for telegraph, telephone and postal services; arranging for supplies of stamps from U.S. for Italian Government: arranging international postal services details; supervising Allied Control Commission Communications.

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

JLH/epc

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REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

In reply refer to: TPS/28/3/3

12 April, 1944

Subject : Regional Commissioners Conference.

To : R. C. & M. G. Section.

Reference your letter number 107/13/CA dated 29 March.

Herewith precis of report by this Sub-Commission required by para 2 (c) of your letter.

J.L.Henderson
Colonel
Director, Telecommunications, and Posts Sub-Commission

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

REPORT FOR MONTH OF MARCH BY TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND POSTS SUB-COMMISSION

1. Telecommunications.

a. Telegraph - Internal telegraph service restored in and between all ten provinces of the mainland and all provinces in Sicily. Also working within Sardinia, but no outlet from Sardinia, except for official traffic.

b. Telephone - Only urban calls allowed except for officials.

c. In hand - (i) extension of internal telegraph service to include Naples, Avellino, Benevento, up to rear Army boundary.

(ii) resumption of civil calls within provincial boundaries, up to zone line.

(iii) question of resumption of external cable service has been raised.

(iv) repair of the main Palermo - Reggio cable is proceeding; when complete, this will give official telephone service with Catanzaro, Reggio, etc. and with Messina, Catania, Palermo.

2. Posts.

a. Mails - The internal and foreign mail service has been extended to include Naples and Avellino provinces up to the rear army boundary. The extension into Benevento Province is in hand.

b. Postal Bonds. - This service has been extended to include Sicily.

c. Miscellaneous. - Several special services for Vatican, I.R.C.C., Italian P. of W. have been arranged.

3. Miscellaneous.

The associated activities of the Sub-Commission have included such items as: getting release of timber for telegraph poles; obtaining minor stores for the Italian Government such as paper tape for teletypewriter; arranging for movement of Post Office personnel from occupied to unoccupied areas and vice versa; correspondence with military Signals over freeing of circuits for Italian Government use, and restoration of Post and Coast Watching circuits; correspondence with civil censorship analysing and submitting to Economic Section proposed rates for telegraph, telephone and postal services; arranging for supplies of stamps from U.S. for Italian Government; supervising Allied Control Commission Communications,

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

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JLH/bo

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REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

14th March, 1944.

In reply refer
to: TTS/1/1/19

Subject: Monthly Activity Report.

To: Regional Control and Military Government Section, ACC, Naples.

Reference your 319.1 dated 23rd February, 1944.

The monthly report of this sub-Commission for February is attached herewith.

J. L. Henderson
Colonel,
Director, Telecommunications and Posts Sub-Commission.

12.8

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND POSTS SUB-COMMISSION

MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY, 1944.

1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

(a) Circuits for the Italian Government.

By negotiations with the military authorities concerned the following additional major facilities were made available to the Italian Government:-

(i) A switchboard was established in Naples and circuits connected for the two Italian Ministries in Naples (railways and shipping), and other Italian Government offices in Naples, and a junction circuit connected with the Italian Government exchange in Salerno.

(ii) An Italian teletype circuit was arranged from Salerno to Naples, and an additional circuit from Salerno to Bari.

(iii) Local circuits in the Salerno Area.

(iv) Authority was obtained from the Italian Government to transmit official messages to Palermo (Sicily) and Cagliari (Sardinia) via the military operated submarine cables from Naples. The routing of handling this traffic was established.

(b) Future Planning.

A complete schedule of minimum requirements for the Italian Government in the unoccupied and occupied areas, including Sicily, was drawn up in consultation with the Under Secretary of State, and forwarded to the Chief Signal officers of the Line of Communications and ACSF.

(c) Stores.

A complete list of Italian communication stores in unoccupied territory was received from the Under Secretary of State and submitted to the Chief Signal officer, ACSF. A general release of stores not required for military use is awaited.

(d) Transport.

Release of eight vehicles was obtained for the use by the Italian Government in the maintenance of military and civil circuits in unoccupied territory.

(e) Sub-Commission policy.

1237

A conference was held of the officers of the Telecommunications Branch of this Sub-Commission, at ACC HQ and with Regions, and a policy of development laid down. This policy has been submitted to the Regional

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Naples, and an additional circuit from Palermo to Bari.

(iii) Local circuits in the Palermo Area.

(iv) Authority was obtained from the Italian Government to transmit official messages to Palermo (Sicily) and Cagliari (Sardinia) via the military operated submarine cables from Naples. The routing of handling this traffic was established.

(b) Future Planning.

A complete schedule of minimum requirements for the Italian Government in the unoccupied and occupied areas, including Sicily, was drawn up in consultation with the Under Secretary of State, and forwarded to the Chief Signal Officers of the Line of Communications and ACSF.

(c) Stores.

A complete list of Italian communication stores in unoccupied territory was received from the Under Secretary of State and submitted to the Chief Signal Officer, ACSF. A general release of stores not required for military use is awaited.

(d) Transport.

Release of eight vehicles was obtained for the use by the Italian Government in the maintenance of military and civil circuits in unoccupied territory.

(e) Sub-Commission Policy.

1237

A conference was held of the officers of the Telecommunications Branch of this Sub-Commission, at ACC HQ and with Regions, and a policy of development laid down. This policy has been submitted to the Regional Control and Military Government Section for inclusion in a general directive to be issued.

(f) Work Started.

The re-position of the main underground cable from Atena to Reggio was commenced by the Chief Signal Officer, L of C, with an ACC telecommunications officer in charge of the work.

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(c) AGC Communications.

The main AGC signal office was moved to Naples. This included the transference of the wireless station and the cipher staffs from Salerno to Naples and the installations of teletypes in the Signal offices at Salerno and Naples on to the PBX teletype switchboard.

The single position exchange in the AGC Naples was changed for a two-position board.

2. POSTAL.

(a) At the beginning of the month the effective strength of the Postal Branch was one officer in Italy and one in Sicily. On the 9th February three additional officers arrived from the Holding Center; these were sent to survey the postal arrangements in regions II, XII and VI.

(b) On the 16th February an international letter and postcard service was started, linking up Sicily, Sardinia, and the ten provinces of Italy with all Allied and neutral countries abroad (other than those occupied by the enemy).

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

[redacted] 6470 24 FEB 1944

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary General
APO 394

In reply refer to:
Sec.1

23 February 1944

Subject: Monthly Report to AFHQ.

To: Naval Sub-Commission
Air Force Sub-Commission
Army Sub-Commission
War Material Disposal Sub-Commission
Displaced Persons Sub-Commission
Telecommunications and Posts Sub-Com.

/3

With reference to previous instructions on the subject, will you kindly note that in the future monthly reports should be addressed to G3 and G5 Section, Headquarters Allied Control Commission, instead of to the Secretary. Reports should reach the G3 and G5 Section by the 15th day of each month.

Robert E. Lee
ROBERT E. LEE
Major, A.G.D.
Secretary General

DISTRIBUTION:

3 - As Sub-Com. Concerned
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Lieut. Col. [illegible]
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Col. P. [illegible]
Maj. H. [illegible]

1255

Rec'd. 25 Feb. 44.

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

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
(Rear Echelon)
APO 394

7 February 1944

SUBJECT: Sitrep to AFHQ 29 Jan. to 4 Feb. 1944.

TO : Deputy President, ACC.

Sitrep above period telecommunications and posts, no change.

For the Deputy President, Allied Control Commission:

J.L. HAMILTON
Colonel,
Tel-Comm. & Posts
Sub-Commission.

1234

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

HWTM/t33

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

In reply refer
to: TPS/1/1

11th February, 1944

Subject:- Activity Report for the Month of January, 1944.

To:- Deputy Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission.

Herewith attached is Monthly Activity Report for January, 1944.

J. L. Henderson
Colonel,
Telecommunications and Posts Sub-Commission.

ACTIVITIES REPORT
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND POSTS SUB-COMMISSION
MONTH OF JANUARY, 1944

1. Telecommunications.

To save typing the Under Secretary of State for Telecommunications and Posts is referred to below by name, i.e. Dr. Fano.

(a) Communications Board, Italy (para (a) in December report)

(i) As stated in the December report ACC is represented on this Board. A representative of this sub-commission attended a meeting in January.

(ii) As a result of the Sub-Commission's proposals, the Board agreed in principle that Dr. Fano should control all Italian telecommunication stores (i.e. Army, Navy, Air Force and civilian) subject to the release of these stores by CMC, MG, AMAF. This centralised control will simplify considerably the treatment of stores questions.

(iii) The Board also agreed that demands for non-operational circuits from the Italian Army, Navy, Air Force and civilian services should be passed to ACC after co-ordination by the Telecommunications Board of the Command Group. This arrangement centralises demands.

(b) Communications Board, HQ. 2 District (para (b) in December report)

(i) A representative of this Sub-Commission attended a meeting in January, when agreement was reached that civilian telephone employees would be permitted to maintain completely a number of main overhead routes, transport for the purpose being supplied from Allied resources.

(ii) At an informal discussion after the meeting, a representative of the CMC agreed to employ Italian gangs on Allied construction projects, transport being supplied for the purpose.

(c) Restoration of Telephone and Telegraph Service in Lucania and Calabria (item 4 of December report)

(i) Although a skeleton service is now in operation in these regions, it is quite inadequate.

(ii) Some weeks ago, Dr. Fano was asked by the CMC, HQ. 2 District, for a list of the quantities of main items required at Italian Army, Navy, Air Force and civilian depots. The CMC has been unwilling to release stores for the project until this is supplied. Dr. Fano as a result of the meeting in para (b)(ii) above is now in a position to provide the list.

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attended a meeting in January.

(ii) As a result of the sub-Commission's proposals, the Board agreed in principle that Dr. Fano should control all Italian Telecommunications stores (i.e. Army, Navy, Air Force and civilian) subject to the release of these stores by CSO, NB, AMF. This centralised control will simplify satisfactorily the treatment of stores questions.

(iii) The Board also agreed that demands for non-operational circuits from the Italian Army, Navy, Air Force and civilian services should be passed to AMG after co-ordination by the Telecommunications Board of the Commando Supremo. This arrangement centralises demands.

(b) Communications Board, No. 2 District (para (b) in December report)

(i) A representative of this sub-Commission attended a meeting in January, when agreement was reached that civilian telephone employees would be permitted to maintain completely a number of main overhead routes, transport for the purpose being supplied from Allied resources.

(ii) At an informal discussion after the meeting, a representative of the CSO agreed to employ Italian gangs on Allied construction projects, transport being supplied for the purpose.

(c) Restoration of Telephone and Telegraph Service in Lucania and Calabria (item k of December report)

(i) Although a skeleton service is now in operation in these regions, it is quite inadequate.

(ii) Some weeks ago, Dr. Fano was asked by the CSO, No. 2 District, for a list of the quantities of main items of stores at Italian Army, Navy, Air Force and civilian depots. The CSO has been unwilling to release stores for the project until this is supplied. Dr. Fano as a result of the decision in para a(ii) above is now in a position to provide the list, probably by mid-February. It is expected that stores will then be released for the project.

1232

(d) Italian Requirements of Circuits in Southern Italy for the Italian Government.

(i) A schedule at the end of January was in course of preparation by Dr. Fano, at the sub-Commission's request showing the Government's requirements for the whole of southern Italy.

(e) Reconditioning of Italian Circuits (para k of December report)

(i) Arrangements were made with CSO No. 2 District to ...

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that the Italian Government would see proposals for the requisitioning of all circuits before those were actually requisitioned.

(i) The Italian Government objected to the requisitioning of the DICAT circuits.

After some investigation it was found that the DICAT organisation was still being used, partly for Allied purposes. Accordingly the matter is now in the hands of No. 2 District G(Ops) to investigate the importance or otherwise of this organisation.

(f) Transport for Mr. Fano.

As a result of repeated requests by this sub-Commission and of the inclusion of transport requirements in projects, authority has been received from CMC, MQ, ACSF, for the supply of three vehicles from the MQ No. 2 District pool of second-hand vehicles for use in the rehabilitation of overhead routes in Southern Italy. The number is quite inadequate but it will enable a start to be made.

(g) Wire facilities for ACC and the Italian Government in Palermo Area. (para e of December report)

The installations were satisfactorily completed.

(h) Frequencies for Italian Radio Circuits (para f of December report)

The Director of this sub-Commission represented ACC at a conference in Algiers called by AFHQ for the purpose of discussing the whole problem of the allocation of frequencies for Italian use. The conference decided against the proposal of this sub-Commission that ACC should have authority equal to that of CINC Med., Air CINC Med., and GOC DNO, ACSF to authorise the opening of radio circuits for the Italian Government.

As regards the Italian Government's request for a radio link to Sardinia, it was stated at the conference that the Government would be allowed to have messages sent via the Naples-Palermo-Cagliari submarine cable service which would be opened early. This should supply the Government with the service it requires.

(i) ZIAF (para j of December report)

Further representations were received from Dr. Fano and complete re-examination of the whole circumstances of the Allied interruptions to the operation of the administration etc of ZIAF has been recommended to the Chief Commissioner.

(j) Cipher for use on Italian messages to Sardinia.

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end of the inclusion of transport requirements in projects, authority has been received from C-in-C, MTO, ACSF, for the supply of three vehicles from the MT No. 2 district pool of second-hand vehicles for use in the rehabilitation of over-head routes in southern Italy. The number is quite inadequate but it will enable a start to be made.

(g) Wire facilities for ACC on the Italian Government in Palermo Area. (para e of December report)

The installations were satisfactorily completed.

(h) Frequencies for Italian Radio Circuits (para f of December report)

The Director of this sub-Commission represented ACC at a conference in Algiers called by AFHQ for the purpose of discussing the whole problem of the allocation of frequencies for Italian use. The conference decided against the proposal of this sub-Commission that ACC should have authority equal to that of CINC Med., Air CINC Med., and GOC IND, ACSF to authorise the opening of radio circuits for the Italian Government.

As regards the Italian Government's request for a radio link to Sardinia, it was stated at the conference that the Government would be allowed to have messages sent via the Naples-Palermo-Cagliari submarine cable service which would be opened early. This should supply the Government with the service it requires.

(i) ZIAR (para j of December report)

Further representations were received from Dr. Fano and Complete re-examination of the whole circumstances of the Allied interruptions to the operation of the administration etc of ZIAR has been recommended to the Chief Commissioner.

(j) Cipher for use on Italian messages to Sardinia.

In anticipation of the service preliminary cipher arrangements have been made.

1921

(k) Intelligence information.

In order to obtain certain radio information for AFHQ (Int) discussions have been held with the Chiefs of the Italian Cipher and Intelligence Offices.

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2. Postal Service.

(a) Internal and Foreign Mails.

(i)a During the month the officers at Brindisi and Salerno attended conferences at AFHQ. MTO and Brindisi respectively on the subject primarily of foreign mails. Discussion has also taken place regarding the development of internal services.

(ii) The first half of the month was occupied in consolidating the internal Postal Service and in effecting a link with Sicily and Sardinia. Foreign mail service will commence 16th February, 1944. Working instructions have been prepared in conjunction with the Under Secretary of State and have been circulated to the Provincial Directorates and to Sicily and Sardinia.

(b) Registration Service in Sicily.

Following representation by the Banks, a limited registration service was set up in Sicily on 10th January. The weight limit was fixed at 2Kg and regulations regarding rates of postage and scales of indemnity for loss were fixed at the old rate. It is not considered opportune to extend this service to the mainland at present.

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LDD/drr

15

28 January 1944

In reply
refer to: AG 319.1
C/1/1-15

Subject: Reports (Weekly to AFHQ)

To: Internal Transportation Sub-Commission.
ACC c/o Mov & Tn., AFHQ Adv Adm Eah..
C.M.F., Naples.

14

1. Reference is made to your letter ACC Tn/47/7 dated 25 Jan 44 relative above.

2. Your recommendation as set forth in paragraph 3 of reference letter is approved with the understanding that the recommendation applies only to the Internal Transportation Sub-Commission and that reports will include King's Italy as well as Regions I and II.

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Vice-President
Communications Section

cc: AG File

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

13

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

LDD/mar

Communications Section

27 January 1944

In reply refer to:
AG - 319.1
CS/1/1/13

Subject : Sitrep to AFHQ 21 to 28 Jan 44 - Communications Section

To : Deputy President, A C C

Sitrep above period, telecommunications, shipping and internal transportation, no change.

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Vice - President
Communications Section

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

Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.
C/o Mov & Tn.,
AFHQ Advanced Administrative Echelon,
C.M.F.

Our reference : ACC Tn/47/9

Date : 26 Jan 44.

TO : HQ., ACC (For Capt. Stone).
BRINDISI.

SUBJECT : Reports of activities.

1. Reference this Sub-Commission's letter ACC Tn/47/2 dated 4 Jan 44.

2. At the request of Capt Street a further copy of report under above reference is forwarded with this letter.

Colonel,
Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.

Copy to:
Capt Street, HQ., ACC. Brindisi.

Seen by Capt. Stone —
Col D. —
Capt. Street —

1257

Rec'd 28 Jan 44

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

AHS/hd

22 January 1944

In reply refer to:
CS/1/1/12

Subject: Monthly Activities Report

To: Col S A Fitch, Internal Transportation Sub-Commission c/o Mov & Tn, AFHQ Adv Adm Sch, Naples

Reference your ACC Tn/47/5 of 19 January. May we have, please, another copy of your report for December, to which reference is made under 3, for our files, as the copy has apparently gone astray.

A. H. STREET, D.S.O.
Captain

1246 5

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

20 January 1944

In Reply refer to:

AG 319.1
CS/1/1-10

Subject : Reports to AFHQ, (weekly)

To : Deputy President, Allied Control Commission

1. In compliance with 319.1 Hq. AGC 19 Jan 44 above subject following is sitrep period 14 to 21 January - Communications Section.

a Tele-Communications Sub Commission

Acute shortage of wire signal facilities King's Italy due to use by Allied Military. Rehabilitation of lines in Region 2 progressing slowly as material limited and being reserved by Allied authority. Use of radio frequencies by Italians not authorized. Italian government renewing request that S.I.A.R be returned to company management with Allied control. Progress made on extension of internal mails, details being worked out for introduction of PW and foreign mails. Use of post office buildings by Allied troops for operations and billets placing burden on civil postal administration.

b Shipping Sub Commission

Shipping functions being set up under new general directive of re-organized sub-commission, releasing MWT/WSA personnel

c Internal Transportation Sub Commission

Acute shortage of highway transport placing heavy burden on available rail facilities. Movement by rail of authorized civilian freight generally satisfactory. Rail facilities for movement of passengers grossly inadequate to meet demands - situation serious.

KILBY W. STAS
Captain, USNR
Vice - President
Communications Section

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

Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.,
C/o Mov & Tn. .
AFHQ Advanced Administrative Echelon,
C.M.F.

10

Our reference : ACC Tn/47/5

Date : 19 Jan 44.

TO HQ., ACC.
(Comms. Sect.)

SUBJECT: Monthly activities Report.

6

1. Reference your CS/1/1 dated 15 Jan 44, received today.

2. Your paras 1 and 2 are noted.

3. Regarding your para 3, the report for December was rendered to HQ., AMG on 4 Jan 44, and a copy was handed to Capt. Stone.

Colonel,
Chief of Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.

Seen:- Capt Stone
Col. D.
Capt Street Seen

See 17224

Received 22 Jan 44.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

LDW/hd

(9)

In reply refer to:
AG 319.1
CS/1/1

19 January 1944

Subject: Reports (Weekly) to AFHQ

To: Chief, ACC Shipping, Telecommunications & Posts, and Internal Transportation Sub-Commissions

1. Reference is made to attached copy of order AG 319.1 Eq ACC, dated 19 January 1944, above subject.

2. With respect to such required weekly reports, it will be appreciated if situation information from Shipping and Internal Transportation Sub-Commissions is sent each week to the Communications Section at Brindisi (Salerno after the move) in order that it can be included in the reports due on the 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th of each month.

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Vice-President
Communications Section

1 Incl:
As above

RRR 14

1243

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

COPY/bd

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

AJC/dfe

19 January 1944

In reply
refer to: 319.1

Subject: Reports to AFHQ

To: Captain Stone (Col Densmore)

1. AFHQ have directed that, in addition to the monthly report which formed the subject of General Taylor's memorandum of 5 Jan 1944, weekly situation report also must be submitted. This will consist of a brief summary of the Commission's activities whatsoever their nature may be, political, economic or otherwise.

2. Reports will be sent to the Secretariat to arrive by the 7, 14, 21 and 28th day of each month. The reports will be coordinated and sent to AFHQ by cable. The following is a specimen of the type of cable which will be sent and reports to the Secretariat will be framed with this terse layout in mind.

"Sitrep period 6 to 13 Political satisfactory Region 1, prospect of turnover continues unpopular Region 2. Food arrivals have eased situation. Supply coal situation falling western part Sicily where railway service partly suspended, clothing shortages becoming acute Region 2 but recent ANCROSS supplies should ease. Crime satisfactory. Health no change. Personnel no change. Refugees satisfactory. Price tendencies no change Region 1 upward Region 2. General comments Brindisi conference 7th clarified situation regarding orders and interference by Italian Government officials. Disposal large surplus citrus fruit crops Region 1 causing anxiety owing limited export facilities."

By command of Lieutenant General MACFARLANE:

HENRY W. STONE
Captain, USAIR
Acting Chief of Staff

1222

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

LDD/hd

19 January 1944

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AG 319.1
CS/1/1

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ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Vice-President
Communications Section

1 Incl:
As above

1251

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

COPY/hd

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

AJC/dfe

19 January 1944

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"Sitrep period 6 to 13 Political satisfactory Region 1, prospect of turnover continues unpopular Region 2. Food arrivals have eased situation. Supply coal situation falling western part Sicily where railway service partly suspended, clothing shortages becoming acute Region 2 but recent AMCROSS supplies should ease. Crime satisfactory. Health no change. Personnel no change. Refugees satisfactory. Price tendencies no change Region 1 upward Region 2. General comments Brindisi conference 7th clarified situation regarding orders and interference by Italian Government officials. Disposal large surplus citrus fruit crops Region 1 causing anxiety owing limited export facilities."

By command of Lieutenant General MACFARLANE:

ELMER W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief of Staff

12.0

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

In reply
refer to: 319.1

19 January 1944

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To: Captain Stone (Col. Densmore)

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"Intvg period 6 to 13 political satisfactory Region 1, prospect of turnover continues unpopular Region 2. Food arrivals have eased situation. Supply coal situation filling. Western part chiefly where railway service partly suspended, clothing shortages becoming acute Region 2 but recent additional supplies should ease. Crime satisfactory. Health no change. Movement no change. Refugees satisfactory. Price tendencies no change Region 1 upward Region 2. General comments Brindisi conference 7th clarified situation regarding orders and interference by Italian Government officials. Disposal large surplus citrus fruit crops Region 1 causing anxiety owing limited export facilities."

By command of Lieutenant General [illegible]:

Robert E Dow
ROBERT E. DOW
MAJOR, A.G.D.

for ALBERT A. STOCK
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief of Staff

Seen by: Capt. Stone
Col. D 12:9 Work
Col. M
Capt. S

Received 19 Jan 44

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

(1)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

RMS/afe

In reply
refer to: AG 319.1
CS/1/1

16 January 1944

Subject: Activities Report - Tele-Communication and Posts, Shipping and Internal Transportation Sub-Commissions, Month of December 1943.

To: Deputy President, Allied Control Commission.

1. Reference Commission memorandum 319.1 dated 5 January 1944, relation to monthly activity reports from sub-commissions.

2. Attached are reports of sub-commissions in the Communications Section as indicated above for the month of December 1943.

ELBERT W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Vice-President
Communications Section

3 Incls.
Incl # 1 - Tele-Communication & Posts Report
Incl # 2 - Shipping Report
Incl # 3 - Transportation Report

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

15 January 1944

ACTIVITIES REPORT
SHIPPING SUB-COMMISSION
MONTH OF DECEMBER 1943

1. General. Officers assigned to the Shipping Sub-Commission were stationed in Naples and carried out both AMG and ACC shipping functions. Pending the announcement with respect to the composition and functions of the Shipping Sub-Commission (ltr. MAS-AFHQ 24 Dec 43) activities of shipping personnel consisted of:

a Attending conferences in Naples of the Transportation Committee and the Transportation Sub-Committee -Adv Adm Ech.- AFHQ, and attending meetings of MEDBO with which the Sub-Commission had been requested to represent Hq AMG and ACC in shipping matters.

b In conjunction with representatives of MEDBO, MWT and WSA initiated steps to collect all auxiliary motor schooners into a central pool.

c Participated in conferences with Admiral Berens regarding the establishment of a central schooner pool.

2. Composition and Functions of Shipping Sub-Commission. A directive regarding the composition and functions of the Shipping Sub-Commission, as agreed at AFHQ with C in C Mediterranean and MWT/WSA was transmitted to ACC by letter MAS - AFHQ dated 24 December 1943. Initial steps were taken in connection with the reorganization of the Sub-Commission and the preparation of detailed instructions to implement the basic directive. The Shipping Sub-Commission now consists of Mr. Gibson Graham as nominal head with Mr. C. W. Kalloch as Deputy, and necessary staff. Mr. Ian D. Campbell as head and Mr. Robert Nicol as Deputy act for Mr. Graham and Mr. Kalloch in Italy. ACC is providing certain officers to act on behalf of the Sub-Commission in the various regions. Such officers will be members of the Sub-Commission and will initially be drawn from officers now assigned to the Sub-Commission.

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15 January 1944

ACTIVITIES REPORT
SHIPPING SUB-COMMISSION
MONTH OF DECEMBER 1943

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a Attending conferences in Naples of the Transportation Committee and the Transportation Sub-Committee -Adv Adm Eqb.- AFHQ and attending meetings of MEDBO with which the Sub-Commission had been requested to represent Hq AMG and ACC in shipping matters.

b In conjunction with representatives of MEDBO, MWT and NSA initialed steps to collect all auxiliary motor schooners into a central pool.

c Participated in conferences with Admiral Barone regarding the establishment of a central schooner pool.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

LHB/mms

16 January 1944

ACTIVITIES REPORT
TELECOMMUNICATIONS & POSTS SUB-COMMISSION
MONTH OF DECEMBER 1943

1. TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

a. Communications Board-Italy. A combined Policy Signal Board, known as "Communications Board-Italy" was organized at Bari, with CSO 15 Army Group as President, to co-ordinate demands for telecommunications originated by Allied Forces and the Allied Control Commission on the Italian civil and military authorities, and those originated by the Italian civil and military authorities on the Allied Forces and the Allied Control Commission. This Board also co-ordinates demands between the Italian civil and military authorities and the Allied Forces in respect to labor, material, and transport for the provision of telecommunications.

(1) In connection with ACC's membership on the Board, a representative of this Sub-Commission attended all meetings and presented the Commission's signal requirements as well as acting in the interest of the Undersecretary of State for Telecommunications and Posts, Italian Government, whose office also holds membership.

(2) Matters of policy with respect to control of stores and facilities as well as channels for demands are still the subject of discussion and clarification.

b. Communications Board No. 2 District. A signal communications board was set up known as "Communications Board No. 2 District", CSO No. 2 District President. The functions of this Board are "to co-ordinate and arrange the communications requirements of all services, Allied and Italian, civil and military, in No. 2 District".

(1) A representative of this Sub-Commission attended all meetings held during the month. It is the responsibility of such representative to ensure that all requirements of the services in which he is interested are fully sifted and co-ordinated so that he can present to the Board a clear picture of his requirements with their respective priorities. Requirements extending beyond the borders of No. 2 District are presented, as an agreed demand, to CSO L of C, Italy.

(2) A considerable number of matters involving conflicting interests were presented to the Board by the Sub-Commission's representative in connection with the Undersecretary of State for Telecommunications & Posts,

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

a. Communications Board-Italy. A combined Policy Signal Board, known as "Communications Board-Italy" was organized at Bari, with CSO 15 Army Group as President, to co-ordinate demands for telecommunications originated by Allied Forces and the Allied Control Commission on the Italian civil and military authorities, and those originated by the Italian civil and military authorities on the Allied Forces and the Allied Control Commission. This Board also co-ordinates demands between the Italian civil and military authorities and the Allied Forces in respect to labor, material, and transport for the provision of telecommunications.

(1) In connection with ACC's membership on the Board, a representative of this Sub-Commission attended all meetings and presented the Commission's signal requirements as well as acting in the interest of the Under-Secretary of State for Telecommunications and Posts, Italian Government, whose office also holds membership.

(2) Matters of policy with respect to control of stores and facilities as well as channels for demands are still the subject of discussion and clarification.

b. Communications Board No. 2 District. A signal communications board was set up known as "Communications Board No. 2 District", CSO No. 2 District President. The functions of this Board are "to co-ordinate and arrange the communications requirements of all services, Allied and Italian, civil and military, in No. 2 District".

(1) A representative of this Sub-Commission attended all meetings held during the month. It is the responsibility of such representative to ensure that all requirements of the services in which he is interested are fully sifted and co-ordinated so that he can present to the Board a clear picture of his requirements with their respective priorities. Requirements extending beyond the borders of No. 2 District are presented, as an agreed demand, to CSO L of C, Italy.

(2) A considerable number of matters involving conflicting interests were presented to the Board by the Sub-Commission's representative in conjunction with the Under-Secretary of State for Telecommunications & Posts, Italian Government and considerable progress was made with respect to the establishing of co-ordinated working arrangements.

1215

c. Wire facilities for Italian Government and ACC in Salerno Area. A plan was prepared covering both the Italian Government and ACC's requirements. Requests were made of the 15th Army Group for the allotment of 6 telephone circuits (2 ACC and 4 Italian Government) in the Bari-Naples cable. Initially, 3 circuits have been assigned. It is not believed that these will be adequate. Requests were made on CSO L of C Italy for necessary circuits and PBX installations at Salerno. Salerno requirements of the Italian Government are being handled by the Italian Government. A representative of the Sub-Commission was sent to Salerno to supervise the installation of ACC facilities.

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d. Radio Frequencies for Use of Italian Government During Move. A request, on behalf of the Italian Government, was sent to AFHQ, for allotment of radio frequencies for communication between the Supreme Commando and Ministries of War, Navy, and Air, during the move to Salerno area. This request was not favorably considered by AFHQ on the ground that frequencies could not be allocated without interference to Allied operations in Italy.

e. Radio Facilities for Use of ACC During Move. Arrangements were made with AFHQ for a radio team at Salerno to operate FATIMA Salerno on FATIMA-ALGIERS circuit as a net during move. Call signs JJAM FATIMA Brindisi, JJAM Fatima Salerno.

f. Radio Frequencies for Italian Radio Circuits, General. The Italian Government presented an application for authority to employ certain radio frequencies including a circuit to Sardinia. The application was divided into three service requirements, Army, Navy, and Air Force. This application was submitted by the Commission to the proper authorities for approval. A separate request was made by the Commission to AFHQ with respect to a radio circuit for Italian use to Sardinia. It was ruled by AFHQ that the requested frequencies could not be authorized, that use of frequencies cannot be further degraded in Italy by allocation of frequencies to non-tactical users.

g. Cipher for Use of Italian Government. AFHQ, through ACC, authorized for the use of Italian Government a modified double transposition cipher. Details for the application of the cipher were worked out with the Government and arrangements made for the transmission of Italian Government communications between Italy and Spain.

h. Restoration of Telephone & Telegraph Services in Lucania and Calabria. A plan for the restoration of civil telephone and telegraph services in Lucania and Calabria was presented to the Commission by the Under-Secretary of State for Telecommunications and Posts, Italian Government. The Plan was examined by this Sub-Commission and after conferences with representatives of the Under-Secretary's Office, a revised plan and request for release of materials was presented to CSC No. 2 District for approval. This matter is being coordinated with AMG Region II.

i. Radar Equipment. Co-ordinated details with respect to German Wurzburg Radars required for research laboratories in USA and UK.

j. E.I.A.R. Recommendation, upon application of Italian Government, was made to AFHQ that the Rari radio personnel payroll be returned to E.I.A.R. as well as its administration and direction, with the Allied retaining full control over policy and programs. The matter was not favourably considered by AFHQ on the grounds that it was considered hazardous to propaganda channels and that propaganda requirements would not permit a change at the time. It is intended to make further representations and recommendations in the matter.

k. Miscellaneous Matters Handled.

(1) Seizure of telephone lines by Allied Military without notice

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f. Radio frequencies for Italian radio circuits, General. The Italian Government presented an application for authority to employ certain radio frequencies including a circuit to Sardinia. The application was divided into three service requirements, Army, Navy, and Air Force. This application was submitted by the Commission to the proper authorities for approval. A separate request was made by the Commission to AFHQ with respect to a radio circuit for Italian use to Sardinia. It was ruled by AFHQ that the requested frequencies could not be authorized, that use of frequencies cannot be further degraded in Italy by allocation of frequencies to non-tactical users.

g. Cipher for Use of Italian Government. AFHQ, through ACC, authorized for the use of Italian Government a modified double transposition cipher. Details for the application of the cipher were worked out with the Government and arrangements made for the transmission of Italian Government communications between Italy and Spain.

h. Restoration of Telephone & Telegraph Services in Lucania and Calabria. A plan for the restoration of civil telephone and telegraph services in Lucania and Calabria was presented to the Commission by the Under-Secretary of State for Telecommunications and Posts, Italian Government. The Plan was examined by this Sub-Commission and after conferences with representatives of the Under-Secretary's Office, a revised plan and request for release of materials was presented to COS No. 2 District for approval. This matter is being coordinated with AMG Region II.

i. Radar Equipment. Co-ordinated details with respect to German Wurzburg Radars required for research laboratories in USA and UK.

j. S.I.A.R. Recommendation, upon application of Italian Government, was made to AFHQ that the Bari radio personnel payroll be returned to S.I.A.R. as well as its administration and direction, with the Allied retaining full control over policy and programs. The matter was not favourably considered by AFHQ on the grounds that it was considered hazardous to propaganda channels and that propaganda requirements would not permit a change at the time. It is intended to make further representations and recommendations in the matter.

k. Miscellaneous Matters Handled.

(1) Seizure of telephone lines by Allied Military without notice 4214

(2) Employment of State telephone and telegraph employees.

(3) Cable terminal facilities - Sardinia

2. POSTAL SERVICE.

a. Palermo Province. ACC Postal officer from Brindisi was loaned to AMG Region II in order to organize and supervise initial postal services for Palermo Province.

b. Civil Mail Service, Apuglia, Regions I, II and VI. Authority having been received, detailed arrangements were made with the Italian Government for the commencement on 20 December, of the internal mail service in and between "Four Provinces" of Apuglia, the Province of Palermo, and the Provinces contained

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in the Regions of Calabria, and Lucania. Service limited to postcards and letters under 90 grams weight, and postal financial services limited to money orders and postal remittance letters. Authority was given and detailed arrangements made for the commencement of internal mail service in and between "Four Provinces" of Apuglia, the Province of Salerno, the Provinces contained in the Regions of Calabria, Lucania, Sicily, and Sardinia.

g. Foreign Mail. Preliminary operational details were worked out with AFHQ and ASC in connection with the introduction of foreign mails. Considerable progress was made having in mind the large number of problems involved requiring approval of the CCS. It is expected that authority will be received for starting foreign mail service in January.

d. Prisoner of War Mail. Most of the details with respect to initial handling of POW mail were completed. This service should be in operation in January.

e. Mail of Italian Military Units in Forward Areas. Procedure of handling such mail and method of censorship was co-ordinated with ISD.

f. Post Office Buildings. The Under-Secretary of State for Telecommunications and Posts directed the Commission's attention to the large number of Post Office buildings that were being occupied by Allied Forces either as billets or for operational purposes. The Under-Secretary requested that wherever possible such buildings be returned to the Italian Post and Telegraph organization. This matter was taken up with both the 15th Army Group and No. 2 District, but so far it has not been possible to obtain effective results.

g. Official Italian Government Mail. Arrangements were made for the dispatch of official Italian Government mail destined for Bari-Naples-Catania-Palermo and Algiers via A.C.L.S. and for its censorship at AFHQ.

h. Stamps. Permission was obtained from ASC authorities for the loan of a supply of Italian stamps from Foggia, Naples, and Palermo, for use in the "Four Provinces" of "King's Italy."

i. Printing and Paper Supply. Complaint was received from the Under-Secretary of State for Telecommunications and Posts that due to the requisitioning of printing plants and the freezing of paper stocks by PWB and Allied Military authorities, it was not possible for the Government to have necessary postage stamps, postal forms, and other required Government printing done. Conferences were had with services involved, and a program that will include requirements of the Italian Government is being worked out.

3. CENSORSHIP.

This Sub-Commission has cooperated with I.S.C. regarding censorship of all communications. Direct communications with the Italian Government with respect to censorship regulations, etc. were dispatched to the Government thru the ASC. Assistance was given ISD with regard to censorship of Italian Civil Communications in all but forward areas and in the establishment of Allied Censor Control

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

LMD/hd

15 January 1944

In reply refer to:
CS/1/1

Subject: Monthly Activities Report

To: Director Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, Adv Adm Sub AFHQ, Naples

1. Memorandum Order (319.1) Hq Allied Control Commission, 5 January 1944, requires each section to obtain reports of activities for each sub-commission under its control. The reports will cover the activities of the previous calendar month, that is, the report due in January will cover the activities of December.

2. It is requested a report be prepared each month and submitted to the Communications Section on or before the 13th day of the month. This will require that the report for January be submitted on or before 13 February.

3. With respect to report for month of December, it is requested that you submit such report to Hq AMG Naples, if this has not already been done, with a request that it be forwarded to MG-AFHQ. Since the December report is due at AFHQ on 13 January, may this matter be expedited.

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Vice-President
Communications Section

Ltr 11

1212

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

ENS/mar

In reply refer to: CS/1/1

15 January 1944

Subject : Monthly Activity Reports, Shipping Sub-Commission

To : Mr. Ian D. Campbell - Shipping Sub-Commission,
c/o Mediterranean Shipping Board (Italy)
Adv. Adm. Hdq. AFHQ, C.M.F.

1. Memorandum order (319.1) Hq. A.C.C. 5 January 1944 requires each section to obtain a report each month of activities from each sub-commission of the section. The report will cover the activities of the previous calendar month, that is, the report due 13 February will cover the activities of January. It will be appreciated if you will arrange to have a report prepared each month and sent to the Communications Section of A C C on or before the 13th.

2. Enclosed for your file is copy of report that was sent in for December 1943.

ELLSWORTH W. STONE
Captain, USNR

Vice-President
Communications Section

1 Encl
1 Dec 43 Report

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

(5 a)

15 January 1944

ACTIVITIES REPORT
SHIPPING SUB-COMMISSION
MONTH OF DECEMBER 1943

1. General. Officers assigned to the Shipping Sub-Commission were stationed in Naples and carried out both AMG and ACC shipping functions. Pending the announcement with respect to the composition and functions of the Shipping Sub-Commission (ltr. MED-AFHQ, 24 Dec 43) activities of shipping personnel consisted of:

a Attending conferences in Naples of the Transportation Committee and the Transportation Sub-Committee -Adv Adm Sub.- AFHQ, and attending meetings of MEDBO with which the Sub-Commission had been requested to represent H, AMG and ACC in shipping matters.

b In conjunction with representatives of MEDBO, MWT and WSA initiated steps to collect all auxiliary motor schooners into a central pool.

c Participated in conferences with Admiral Barone regarding the establishment of a central schooner pool.

2. Composition and Functions of Shipping Sub-Commission. A directive regarding the composition and functions of the Shipping Sub-Commission, as agreed at AFHQ with C in C Mediterranean and MWT/WSA was transmitted to ACC by letter MED - AFHQ dated 24 December 1943. Initial steps were taken in connection with the reorganization of the Sub-Commission and the preparation of detailed instructions to implement the basic directive. The Shipping Sub-Commission now consists of Mr. Gibson Graham as nominal head with Mr. C. A. Kallock as Deputy, and necessary staff. Mr. Ian D. Campbell as head and Mr. Robert Nicol as Deputy sat for Mr. Graham and Mr. Kallock in Italy. ACC is providing certain officers to act on behalf of the Sub-Commission in the various regions. Such officers will be members of the Sub-Commission and will initially be drawn from officers now assigned to the Sub-Commission.

12.0

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

EWS/DBT

15 January 1944

In reply
refer to: CS/1/1

Subject : Monthly Activity Reports, Shipping Sub-Commission

To : Mr. Ian D. Campbell - Shipping Sub-Commission,
c/o Mediterranean Shipping Board (Italy)
Adv. Adm. Exh. AFHQ, C.M.F.

1. Memorandum order (319.1) Hq. A.C.S. 5 January 1944 requires each section to obtain a report each month of activities from each sub-commission of the section. The report will cover the activities of the previous calender month, that is, the report due 13 February will cover the activities of January. It will be appreciated if you will arrange to have a report prepared each month and sent to the Communications Section of A C S on or before the 13th.

2. Enclosed for your file is copy of report that was sent in for December 1943.

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR

Vice-President
Communications Section

1 Encl
1 Dec 43 Report

13209

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

10

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

SHV/hd

In reply refer to:
TC/6/1

10 January 1944

Subject: Report on HQ Postal Activities during November & December 1943

To: C30, AMG IT4

1. At the beginning of November there was one postal officer in Region I, and one other at HQ. An ACC officer joined the Section during the month.

2. The first half of November was occupied in consolidating, with the Region I officer, the postal service arrangements in Sicily, and in reviewing provisional directives, and preparing drafts of further ones covering fresh aspects which arose. Later in the month one HQ postal representative proceeded from Palermo to Brindisi and thence to Salerno, to examine and organize the postal services in the latter province. A second representative visited AFHQ, MED, for one week, to consult, and collaborate regarding the extension of internal mail services and the introduction of foreign mails. Preliminary operational details were worked out on return.

3. During December, the work at Salerno continued and a postal service for the province as set up on January 3rd. The Palermo representative was meanwhile engaged on organization matters and foreign mail service work, in particular, the latter chiefly in relation to Region I, which was supplied with draft operating instructions and schedules. (Advice from AFHQ was awaited on outstanding issues upon which rested the completion of details for, or introduction of, the foreign service). Points related to the commencement of internal service in Region II were dealt with. On December 10 the office was practically closed down preparatory to moving to Salerno/Naples, which latter place was reached by road, after many deferments of departure, on December 24. The two representatives conferred at Salerno on December 26/27 and one was called to Brindisi on December 29.

S. H. HEAD
Major
Postal Section AMG

cc, Lt Col Densmore

1209

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

COPY

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

In reply
refer to: 319.1

5 January 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Vice Presidents.

This Commission is required to submit monthly reports to embrace the Italian political, economic and general situation. In order that this report may be prepared, each section will be required to obtain reports of activities from each sub-commission under its control. These reports will be co-ordinated and pertinent material extracted and submitted as one section report to the Secretary's office not later than the 16th of each month. This report will cover the activities of the previous calendar month, that is, the report due 16 January will cover the activities of December. The Secretary's office will co-ordinate the section reports and forward one report from the Commission not later than the 18th day of each month to the Military Government Section, A.F.H.Q.

For the Deputy President, Allied Control Commission:

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
Brigadier General, USA

DISTRIBUTION:

1 - Gen. Taylor
1 - Capt. Stone
1 - Mr. Caskie
1 - Col. Murphey (for Mr. Grady)
1 - Major Doe
1 - AG File
1 - Diary

1268

Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.,
c/o Mov & Tn.,
AFHQ Advanced Administrative Echelon,
C.M.F.

3.A

Copy

Our reference : ACC Tn/47/2

Date : 4 Jan 44.

TO : D.C.C.A.C., H.Q., AFHQ. (APO 394).

SUBJECT : Reports of activities.

1. Reference your letter dated 29 Dec 43 under reference 911. No previous requests for Monthly Reports have reached this Sub-Commission. The following report, therefore, deals with the period up to the end of December 43.

2. Relations between the Movement and Transportation organisation of the Allied Military Forces and the Transportation organisation of ACC/AMG.

(a) It was essential for these relations to be clearly established and defined in order

(i) to ensure that the transportation requirements of the Allied Military Forces were not prejudiced in any way by the operations of the AMG/ACC transportation organisations.

(ii) to ensure that during the period when it was essential for the Allied Military Forces to retain complete control of the transportation facilities, the transportation requirements of AMG/ACC to meet essential civil needs were satisfied, and

(iii) to enable, without delay, portions of the transportation facilities to be handed over from time to time to AMG/ACC control as soon as the Allied Military Forces had no further vital interest in them.

(b) These relations were established in principle at a meeting held at AFHQ on 7 Oct. 43. The meeting was attended by the following :-

Lt.Gen. F.M. Cole	- C.A.O.
Cmdr. Dick	- RN
Brig. Gen. Holmes	- [illegible]
Brig. D.P. Rhe Philipe	- G-4 (Mov & Tn)
Brig. Guesterbeck	- AMG/ACC
Col. Kirkwood	- AMG/ACC
Col. Maxwell	- MCB/
Col. S.A. Fitch	- Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.

3. Effect of decisions of AFHQ meeting of 7 Oct 43 on location of this Sub-Commission.

By these decisions this Sub-Commission was required to work in close conjunction with the Movement and Transportation organisations of the Allied Military Forces. In accordance with instructions, therefore, the chief of this Sub-Commission and a small staff proceeded from ALGIERS to AFHQ Mov & Tn

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1. Reference your letter dated 29 Dec 43 under reference G11. No previous requests for Monthly Reports have reached this Sub-Commission. The following report, therefore, deals with the period up to the end of December 43.

2. Relations between the Movement and Transportation organisation of the Allied Military Forces and the Transportation organisation of ACC/AMG.

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Col. Kirkwood	- AMG/ACC
Col. Maxwell	- USA/
Col. S.A. Fitch	- Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.

3. Effect of decisions of AFHQ meeting of 7 Oct 43 on location of this Sub-Commission.

By these decisions this Sub-Commission was required to work in close conjunction with the Movement and Transportation organisations of the Allied Military Forces. In accordance with instructions, therefore, the chief of this Sub-Commission and a small staff proceeded from TIZI OUZOU to AFHQ Mov & Tn on 10 Oct 43, and the remainder of the Sub-Commission proceeded from TIZI OUZOU on 4 Nov 43, to Advanced Administrative Echelon, AFHQ. The two Sub-Commission parties joined up in NAPLES on 18 Nov 43.

4. Principal Directives authorising and laying down the organisation, with brief descriptions.

(a) AFHQ General Order No.66, dated 22 Oct 43. - This makes the DCMRS responsible for the rehabilitation, technical development and operation of all Italian State and privately owned railways, except for those portions which may from time to time be returned to civilian operation under the supervision of ACC. It also provides that all US Railway Service Troops, the Railway Portion of the British Tn Service and Italian railway personnel and material will be at his disposal, and will operate under his direction.

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(b) AFHQ Administrative Memorandum No.76, dated 9 Nov 43. - Section I deals with the respective responsibilities for the control and operation of Italian railways of (i) the movement and transportation organisations of the Allied Military Forces, including the Military Railway Service, and (ii) the transportation organisations of AMG/ACC, and defines the relations between (i) and (ii). Section II refers to Inland Waterways and Highways (except local bus and tram services) and applies the same principles as for railways. The Memorandum gives effect to the decisions of the AFHQ meeting of 7 Oct 43, and requires to be read as a whole, because it is the basis of the existing organisation.

(c) Advanced Administrative Echelon AFHQ - Administrative Instruction No.14, dated 6 Dec 43. - This sets out in greater detail the requirements of (b) above based upon experience in the field, and also sets up a Transportation Committee composed of appropriate representatives of the Allied Military Forces, AMG/ACC, NTDCC, Shipping Sub-Commission, and the Undersecretary of State for Italian Railways and Highways. The object of the Committee is to

(i) Examine the essential civil requirements for transportation.
(ii) Recommend the extent to which civil requirements can be met within the limits imposed by military necessities.
(iii) Allocate the requirements between the various means of transportation available.

The Instruction also sets the disposition and functions of AMG/ACC Transportation Officers whom it has been found necessary for this Sub-Commission to attach to the more important British and US Military Movement and Transportation offices throughout occupied territory.

At the first meeting of the Transportation Committee held on 11 Dec 43, it was decided to set up a Sub-Committee to deal with "rides" for transportation and matters of detail. Both Committees are now functioning and the Secretary is provided by this Sub-Commission.

Administrative Instruction No.14 should be read as a whole.

5. Memoranda issued by this Sub-Commission. - In order to assist all concerned in ACC and AMG to secure transportation to meet essential civilian requirements it has been necessary for this Sub-Commission to circulate memoranda in amplification of Advanced Administrative Echelon AFHQ Administrative Instruction No.14 dated 6 Dec 43 as follows :-

ACC Tn Memorandum No.1 dated 10 Dec 43
ACC Tn Memorandum No.2 dated 29 Dec 43.

6. General results of experience of the organisation.

(a) The organisation is still 'young' and has notyet got over its "teething troubles". Movements required by AMG/ACC, however, have been and are being carried out through this organisation and sufficient practical experience has been gained to indicate that the system will work efficiently. The chief difficulties at the moment result from poor communications, insufficient co-ordination of transportation requirements between the various sections of AMG/ACC, largely due to the fact that the various organisations have not yet settled down and do not understand fully the manner in which the

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(b) These difficulties are regarded as temporary and great improvement is hoped for as soon as the latest re-organisation of AMG/ACC has got into its stride and recovered from the inconveniences resulting from the moves from Palermo and Brindisi to Naples and Salerno.

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7. Co-operation with Transportation organisations of Operational Forces.

The closest possible contact is maintained with the appropriate branches of the Movement and Transportation organisations of the Operational Forces and with the Director General Military Railways Service. The working relationship is harmonious and considerable assistance is rendered to this Sub-Commission. The necessity for this Sub-Commission to work in the same building as the Movement and Transportation branch of the Operational Forces is proved by experience.

8. Specific achievements - Railways.

(a) On account of shortage of staff and equipment, and the fact that the organisations are not yet working smoothly, it is not possible to obtain a proper record of movements. The following gives some small indication of what had been and is being done.

(b) Basic Schedule of Trains for passenger and freight civil purposes - Mainland. This, subject to slight amendments, is shown in Appendix "A" to Minutes of Meeting of Transportation Committee on 11 Dec 43. It is being arranged in conjunction with AMMS and Italian Undersecretary of State for Railways and Highways. Most of the trains are already running and a heavy passenger and freight traffic is being conveyed. Additional trains are run as necessary for workmen, and for essential traffic beyond the capacity of the trains in the Basic Schedule.

(c) Railway Services for civil mails. Facilities were offered by this Sub-Commission to the Postal Sub-Commission for conveyance of mails on the bi-weekly trains, which is already running, between Naples, Potenza, Taranto, Brindisi, Bari, and various other intermediate stations and branch connecting services. Full advantage of the facilities will be taken by the Postal Sub-Commission and mails will commence to pass on 5 Jan 44. Close contact will be maintained with Postal Sub-Commission so that facilities can be extended as soon as circumstances permit.

(d) Freight movements directly arranged through this Sub-Commission. From 11 December to 30 December 1943 movements affecting Regions 2 and 3, and AMG 15 Army Group, aggregating approximately 5560 tons were arranged. Many more movements are being fixed up.

9. Section I - Sicily.

(a) The fact that Sicily is directly under AFHQ and not Advanced Administrative Echelon necessitates separate instructions being issued for that Region. As soon as it was decided to set up a Transportation Committee for the mainland and the procedure shown in Advanced Administrative Echelon Administrative Instruction No.14 was agreed, steps were taken by this Sub-Commission for a similar Committee and organisation to operate in Sicily.

(b) The Transportation Committee is now functioning satisfactorily in Sicily and a Basic Schedule of Trains sufficient for essential civil needs is in operation.

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indication of what had been and is being done.

(b) Basic Schedule of Trains for passenger and freight civil purposes - Mainland. This, subject to slight amendments, is shown in Appendix 'A' to Minutes of Meeting of Transportation Committee on 11 Dec 43. It is being arranged in conjunction with ROMFS and Italian Undersecretary of State for Railways and Highways. Most of the trains are already running and a heavy passenger and freight traffic is being conveyed. Additional trains are run as necessary for workmen, and for essential traffic beyond the capacity of the trains in the Basic Schedule.

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(d) Freight movements directly arranged through this Sub-Commission. From 11 December to 30 December 1943 movements affecting Regions 2 and 3, and AMG 15 Army Group, aggregating approximately 5560 tons were arranged. Many more movements are being fixed up.

9. Region I - Sicily.

(a) The fact that Sicily is directly under AFHQ and not Advanced Administrative Echelon necessitates separate instructions being issued for that Region. As soon as it was decided to set up a Transportation Committee for the mainland and the procedure shown in Advanced Administrative Echelon Administrative Instruction No.11 was agreed, steps were taken by this Sub-Commission for a similar Committee and organisation to operate in Sicily.

(b) The Transportation Committee is now functioning satisfactorily in Sicily and a Basic Schedule of Trains sufficient for essential civil needs is in operation.

(c) The necessary steps are being taken for the transfer from 1205 to ACC conditions. In this connection there is some difference of opinion regarding the number of Internal Transportation Sub-Commission officers required there under ACC conditions. A separate communication with recommendations will be sent to you if it proves impossible for this Sub-Commission to settle the matter satisfactorily.

10. Highway transportation to meet essential civil requirements.

(a) The general position is unsatisfactory. AMG Regions and AMG 15 Army Group have encountered great difficulties in this connection, mainly owing to lack of reliable information from Italian sources, shortage of suitable vehicles, and difficulties in organising what was available owing to shortage of suitable personnel and poor communications.

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(b) By arrangement with Lt.Col. Henderson of the Central Economic Committee, two qualified officers of this Sub-Commission are being given the necessary authority and facilities to conduct a thorough survey and make the necessary recommendations, the matter being treated as one of great urgency.

11. Ports.

(a) All the important ports are still under the control of the Operational Forces. AFW/ACC have only been concerned with watching their own interests there as regards inward shipments of Civil Supplies.

(b) It was always assumed by this Sub-Commission that Shipping would be controlled by NAVCO and no difficulties were foreseen in connection with the responsibility for the internal workings of Ports which was included in the functions of this Sub-Commission. Since, however, the decision was made at AFHQ to set up a separate Shipping Sub-Commission the question has arisen as to the which Sub-Commission under ACC conditions should be responsible for Ports.
The functions of the ACC Shipping Sub-Commission had been understood to be the supervision of Italian ships and shipbuilding.
The draft of the functions of the Shipping Sub-Commission puts the control of "harbours", which is understood to embrace Ports, in their functions.
It is understood the purpose of this was to prevent two Sub-Commissions dealing with the Italian Ministry of Mercantile Marine.
The Internal Transportation Sub-Commission considers that Ports ought to remain under their supervision. Ports are regarded as primarily an internal terminal facility, bound up with railways and road transport for the delivery to and clearance from them of all goods carried by ships. In the Operational Forces set up, Ports are operated and controlled by M and Movements.
In order to have all possible information available, this Sub-Commission, by arrangement with the Shipping Sub-Commission has requested Gen. di Meisondo for details of the working of his functions at Ports and a similar enquiry was to be made from Admiral Denny by the Shipping Sub-Commission. Replies have not yet been received.

12. Inland Waterways.

No activities in this connection have yet arisen. The Italian Undersecretary of State for Railways and Highways has stated verbally that his department is responsible for Inland Waterways, and on present knowledge, therefore, it is correct that the responsibility should remain included in the functions of this Sub-Commission. To make absolutely certain of the position the Italian Undersecretary of State for Railways and Highways has been requested to furnish confirmation. The reply has not yet been received.

13. Sardinia (Series 6).

(a) The personnel who are performing transportation functions in Sardinia were unknown to this Sub-Commission. A representative was therefore sent to make enquiries and render any assistance which might be necessary. He was instructed to remain in Sardinia if required to do so by the senior officer there. His report was to the effect that he was not required to remain and that generally speaking the transportation position was considered to be satisfactory.

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question has arisen as to the which Sub-Commission under ACC conditions should be responsible for Ports.
The functions of the ACC Shipping Sub-Commission had been understood to be the supervision of Italian ships and shipbuilding.
The draft of the functions of the Shipping Sub-Commission puts the control of "harbours", which is understood to embrace Ports, in their functions.
It is understood the purpose of this was to prevent two Sub-Commissions dealing with the Italian Ministry of Mercantile Marine.
The Internal Transportation Sub-Commission considers that Ports ought to remain under their supervision. Ports are regarded as primarily an internal terminal facility, bound up with railways and road transport for the delivery to and clearance from them of all goods carried by ships. In the Operational Forces set up, Ports are operated and controlled by Ln and Movements.
In order to have all possible information available, this Sub-Commission, by arrangement with the Shipping Sub-Commission has requested Gen. di Meimendo for details of the working of his functions at Ports and a similar enquiry was to be made from Admiral Barone by the Shipping Sub-Commission. Replies have not yet been received.

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(b) Regarding the possibility of the railways being handed over to the control of ACC, the latest discussion with [illegible] indicated that the Operational Forces were likely to retain complete control for some considerable time.

14. Conclusion.
It is fully realised that what has been achieved is but a fraction of what is to be done in the future. The definite progress made, however, under rather difficult conditions, is encouraging and no effort will be spared to effect every possible improvement.

Colonel,
Chief of Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.

Copy to :- H.Q., ACC (for Capt. Stone).

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File "Shipping" 1
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HEADQUARTERS, FORWARD ECHELON
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
SHIPPING SUB-COMMISSION
A.P.O. 394

4 January 1944

SUBJECT: Report of Activities of Shipping Sub-Commission for Month of December 1943.

TO : D. C. C. A. O.

1. Reference is made to directive dated 29 December 1943 requesting monthly reports on activities of all sub-commissions.

2. The following activities of the Shipping Sub-Commission for month of December were undertaken:

a) Drafted the suggested mission and responsibilities of the Shipping Sub-Commission and regional representatives.

b) Drafted suggested directives covering shipping and salvage operations within Sicilian waters.

c) Attended conferences in Naples of the Transportation Committee and Transportation Sub-committee, A.F.H.Q. and of MEDBO to which groups the Shipping Sub-Commission was requested to represent Hq.A.M.G. and A.C.C. in shipping matters.

d) As a representative of Medbo together with the representative of war shipping [illegible] initiated steps to gather all auxiliary [illegible] schooners into a central pool.

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e) Participated in conferences with Admiral Barone and his representative regarding the establishment of the above referred to central schooner pool.

At the present, the situation regarding Italian coastal shipping is somewhat confused owing to the rather vague definition of jurisdiction among the various Allied agencies concerned, but it is hoped that the position will be clearified in the near future.

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3. The task of gathering all schooners not under the direct control of the Military and Naval authorities is rendered extremely difficult owing to the fact that most available tonnage had already been taken up, either by charter, requisition or siezure by various Allied agencies.

4. It accordingly appears that relatively few free schooners remain and are scattered indescriminatively about in numerous small ports.harbors within liberated Italy . In order to procure these remaining vessels it will be necessary to rely heavily upon the cooperation of the Italian Government. Efforts are now being made in Naples through Mediterranean Shipping Board to accomplish these desired results.

JOSEPH C. HICKINGBOTHAM, Maj.,
Acting Director,
Shipping Sub-Commission.

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HEADQUARTERS, FORWARD ECHELON
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
SHIPPING SUB-COMMISSION
A.P.O. 394

4 January 1943

SUBJECT: Report of Activities of Shipping Sub-Commission for Month of November 1943.

TO : D. C. C. A. C.

1. Reference is made to directive dated 29 Dec. 1943, requesting monthly reports on activities of all sub-commissions, which directive was first notice received.

2. The Shipping Sub-Commission during the month of Nov. was composed of three officers who directed their activities by necessity into two primary fields of importance;

1) The rehabilitation of coastal shipping in Sicilian waters.
2) The formulation of general policies covering the more extended activities of the Italian Merchantile Marine.

Regarding the local activities within Sicily, the following plans and operations were undertaken:

a) Established an Italian Advisory Committee of Representatives, agents and ship owners in Palermo.

b) Established liason with representative of War Shipping Administration, Ministry of War Transport and Allied Military and Naval authorities.

c) Took steps to re-establish the Capitaneria in Eastern Sicily.

d) Obtained the assistance of the Ministry of War Representative in Eastern Sicily to initiate and supervise local shipping activities in Eastern Sicily.

e) Operated a number of auxiliary motor schooners for the movement of Amgot cargoes from Palermo to various ports in Sicily.

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f) Conducted cursory surveys of ports and vessels in Sicilian waters with assistance of the Italian Advisory Council and Ministry of War Representative in Catania.

In regards to the broader problems of Italian Merchantile Marine, the following conferences were attended:

a) November 1 - 4, trip to Bari, Catania, to see Nasbo Sub-Commission.

b) November 8 - 12, trip to Algiers, contacted Nasbo and Water & Movement representatives Hq.

c) November 23 - December 1, attended conferences at Naples, Brindisi, Torrento and discussed the following:

NAPLES: Wages, Engineering Material, surplus foods and forage prices.

BRINDISI: Contacted Capt. Stone regarding Shipping Sub-Commission.

TORRENTO: Contacted Admiral Barone re Italian Merchantile Marine.

3. In view of the fact that no general plans regarding the mission and function of the Shipping Sub-Commission have been formulated prior to the arrival of the Acting Director of Shipping Sub-Commission in Palermo, considerable ground work by way of investigation had to be undertaken, which endeavor was considerably handicapped due to the lack of communications and personnel.

Joseph C. Hickingbotham

JOSEPH C. HICKINGBOTHAM, Major,
Acting Director,
Shipping Sub-Commission.

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