

mail

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1 June '45

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

20
WHG/vs.

P.47.562.CS

9th December 1945

SUBJECT. : Italy External Mail Services.

TO. : Transportation and Shipping Sub-Commission.

Reference your AC/676/19/Tn 3 of 6th December 1945.

1. Your suggestion that this Sub-Commission should deal direct with the Shipping Organisation regarding problems of mails conveyance is welcomed. As you will see from the copies of P.47.545 and P.47.544 of 2 Dec and P.47.543 of 3rd December direct action has already been taken in a further attempt to bring this matter to a head.

W. H. Green
Major
H.H. SCUDDER
Col. Sig. C.
Director.

8205

19
MFL/mb

TRANSPORTATION & SHIPPING SUB-COMMISSION

INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM

6 December 1945

Tels : Ext. 534

LC/676/19/Tn.3.

SUBJECT : Italy External Mail Services

TO : Communications Sub-Commission

1. Reference your P.47.546.02. of 2 December.

2. The difficulties experienced during the present interim period in trying to come to a satisfactory arrangement with the Allied Shipping Authorities are appreciated. So far, however, due mainly to the numerous changes that are taking place within the Shipping Organisations - British and American - little progress has been made. It has involved heavy correspondence between our two Sub-Commissions and it is suggested, in view of para 4 of your letter, that it could be simpler if you were to communicate with Ministry of War Transport Representative in Rome on the subject. This Sub-Commission has acted chiefly as a 'post office' for your requests, most of which are on postal rather than shipping questions.

3. If you are agreeable, this arrangement would save much correspondence and prove speedier, and this Sub-Commission meanwhile will readily give any advice or information you may need.

4. Your comments are awaited.

C.F.B.
C.F. BERRIDGE,
Major,
Chief, Movements Division

8204

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Communications Sub-Commission

WHG/vs.

2nd Dec 45

P.47.546.CS

SUBJECT. : Italy External Mail Services.

TO. : Transportation Sub-Commission. *Julio 14*

Reference your 676/14/Tn 3 of 5 October 1945.

1. The information was passed to the Ministry of Posts and Telecomms in my P.47.436 of 8 Oct 1945 and as no progress has since been reported enquiry was made into the position on a recent visit to Naples. This enquiry revealed once again that the position is not so simple as has been represented.

2. The Liaison Officer at Naples appears to have been unable to establish any contacts which will enable him to give the Post Office the necessary intelligence of prospective sailings from the various ports outside Naples. He is able to furnish them with details of departures from the port of Naples. Until either regular sailings from specified ports are re-established; or some central and complete source of shipping intelligence available to the Italian Government is set up, really satisfactory control of civil overseas mails work cannot be expected.

3. So far as mails contracts are concerned the position was found to be as follows: -

WSA : The negotiations between the Italian Post Office and American Export Lines have been suspended on instructions from America but, in the meantime, American Export Lines will agree to carry the mails.

MWT : The difficulty apparently is that the destinations in which the Post Office are interested are served by a variety of ships, some of which have no agents in Italy at present, but are operating directly under MWT or ST orders. It was stated that in the New Year the majority of the shipping will probably be on an owner-agent basis and it may then be possible to make progress in this matter.

4. In view of the general restoration of international postal service and the increasing use of Italy as a transit Country for such mails it is increasingly desirable to cease the remaining cases in which the civil post Office avails itself

./ 8203

- 2 -

of the Army postal services for the despatch of overseas mails. In these circumstances the Post Office has been instructed in the enclosed P.47.543.CS, P.47.544.CS, P.47.545.CS to proceed with proposals to this end.

4. 18.D

Perhaps you will enquire whether it would be

possible to obtain a general authority for the conveyance of civil mails by MWT and ST ships until such time as the arrangement of formal contracts becomes practicable. In effect, that would be the same arrangement as applies at present except that the responsibility of delivering the mails to the ships would rest with the Italian Post Office instead of with the Army Post Office.

W.H. Green
Major

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

8202

WSA NAPLES (ACTION) AFHQ FOR AG POSTAL MTOUSA FOR TN (INFO)

8259

9 NOVEMBER 45

PRIORITY

UNCLASSIFIED PD

PARA ONE PD FOOD SITUATION IN ITALY NECESSITATES WIDEST POSSIBLE
DISTRIBUTION OF SHIPS CARRYING FOOD STUFFS PD

PAREN TO WSA NAPLES FOR ACTION TO AFHQ FOR ABLE GEORGE POSTAL MTOUSA
FOR TN FOR INFO FROM HQ ALCOM CITE ACTPT PAREN

ANTICIPATE DIFFICULTIES WITH VESSELS CARRYING ARMY MAIL AND CIVIL
SUPPLIES WHEN DIVERSIONS ESSENTIAL TO CIVIL PORTS WITH NO ARMY
PERSONNEL FOR SUPERVISION AND GUARD DUTIES AND WHEN TRANSHIPMENT
TO ARMY POSTAL BASES DIFFICULT OR SUBJECT DELAYS PD REQUEST
THESE DIFFICULTIES BE POINTED OUT TO ARMY POSTAL AND SHIPPING
AUTHORITIES IN UNCLE SUGAR ABLE PD ANTICIPATE UNLIKELY YOU AGREEABLE
TO ROUTE VESSELS SOLELY TO PORT REQUIRED FOR DISCHARGE MAIL AND
THENCE TO SECOND PORT FOR DISCHARGE FOOD CARGOES OWING DELAY TO VESSEL
TURN ROUND PD

ECONOMIC SEC

FOOD S/C

COMMUNICATIONS S/C

WSA Rome

TRANSPORTATION S/C

676/113
8201
G.J. LEONE

CWO USA

Asst. Adjutant

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Transportation Sub-Commission

FILE

MPL/mb

14

5 October 1945

Tele : Ext. 318

676/14/Tn.3.

SUBJECT : Freight charges for Italian civilian mailTO : Communications Sub-Commission

1. Reference correspondence terminating with your P47. 412 of 27 September.
2. The question of a simple contract which could be used for freight rates to various destinations by vessels plying in the Mediterranean was discussed at the Mediterranean Shipping Board on 2 October.
3. It was ruled that it was not possible to arrange a general form of contract through W.S.A. or M.W.T. and that it would be necessary for the Italian Ministry of Marine, in conjunction with the Italian Postal Authorities, to sign contracts to cover carriage of mails with all Shipping Companies at present operating from Italian ports.
4. It is requested that this information be communicated to the interested Italian Authorities. W.S.A. and M.W.T. should be able to furnish the Companies concerned and the agents authorized to accept such contracts.

for the Director

P. A. A.

P.D.O. BUCHANAN.
Colonel

8-30

MEMO

CGM/ams

13

P.47.419/CS

Subject: Postal Communications Italy-Brasil.
To : Transportation Sub-Commission. ✓

1. The Swiss Political Federal Department have through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, notified the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications that the Brazilian Department of Posts and Telegraphs have published an article in Swiss local papers stating that two Brazilian ships: "Pedro I" and "Pedro II" will convey mails from Brasil addressed to all places in Italian territory now controlled by the Italian Government Administration.

2. For the purpose of recommending regular exchanges of despatches between Italy, Switzerland and eventually Central European countries with Brasil it would be exceedingly helpful if more detailed particulars could be made available regarding this service.

3. The immediate information required is:

- (a) Will these ships come under W.S.A. or M.W.T. control?
- (b) How frequent will the proposed sailings occur?
- (c) Times of arrival and departure of the above named vessels.
- (d) Ports of call in Italy.

4. Presumably there will be sailings to Brasil by ships other than those named but only the above details received in such a roundabout manner are at present available.

C. L. Maddock
Capt.

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

29th September 1945

8199

Communications Sub-Commission
Extn. 444.

6/6

Tel. 534

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APC 394
Transportation Sub-Commission

FILE
10
MPL/gg

Our Ref :- AC/676/8/Tn.3.

20 September 1945

SUBJECT :- Italian External Mail

TO :- G-5, AFHQ

1. Reference Communications Sub-Commission
Communication of 5 September para 3.

2. It is confirmed that, by agreement with the
Director General, Merchant Marine, Italian Ministry
of Marine, Col Mazzanti will act as liaison officer
between Italian Postal Authorities and PSTO (Med)
WBA and MWT.

3. With the closing of the Shipping Intelligence
Room in Naples, this officer will keep in constant
touch with the Shipping Authorities mentioned in order
to ascertain when ships are due to sail to ports to
which Italian civil mail is consigned.

L. Laraman
M.F. LARAMAN
Major R.E. *Long*

Copy to :- G-4 (Nav & Tn) A.F.H.Q.
Italian Ministry of Marine
3 Piazza Minerva Rome.
Communications Sub-Commission
W.S.A. Rome
M.W.T. Rome

8198

TN-760

9

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of Chief of Transportation
APO 512

Ref: AC/676/6/Tn.3.

17 September 1945

SUBJECT: Loading of Italian Civilian Mail in Military Controlled Ports

TO: Headquarters Allied Commission
Transportation Sub-Commission
APO 394, U. S. Army

1. Reference is made to your letter dated 27 August 1945, subject as above.

2. Under present arrangements shipments of incoming mail from the United States are received at shipside by Italian Postal authorities. It is believed that both the loading of outgoing mail and the unloading of incoming mail can be handled satisfactorily as outlined in paragraph 5. of your letter. Postal authorities would necessarily have to be vouched for by your headquarters before passes would be issued.

FOR THE CHIEF OF TRANSPORTATION:

J. T. DAVAH

J. T. DAVAH
Colonel, T.C.
D/Chief of Trans.

8197

646

WAR SHIPPING ADMINISTRATION

Navy House, Naples

September 16, 1945

Subject: Italian External Mails
Proposed discontinuance of handling by Army Post Offices

To: Transportation Sub-Commission (attention Major Laraman)

From: War Shipping Administration, Med.

1. Reference is made to P.47.365/CS, dated September 5, 1945 addressed to you by Major Green on behalf of Lt.Col. Soudder.

2. This letter is correct except in paragraph 6. The War Shipping Administration are in a position to assist in the signing of a contract for mail between the Italian Government and the berth operators of War Shipping Administration ships. As a matter of fact, no mail will be carried until such a contract is concluded.

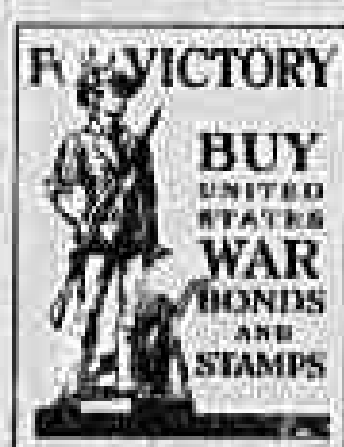
Robert Nicol

Robert Nicol

Regional Director, W.Mediterranean

copy sent to *[Signature]*
Maj Green
29

8196



676

MEMO

P.47.365/CS

Subject: Italian External Mails.
Proposed Discontinuance of handling by Army Post Offices.

To : Transportation Sub-Commission (attn. Major Laraman). ✓

1. With reference to your AC/676/6/Tn 3 of 27th August to G-4
(Mov. and Tn) A.F.H.Q.

2. The problem has been discussed at Naples Navy House with
representatives of W.S.A., M.W.T., and U.M.A.
Broadly speaking the two main considerations are: -

(a) The provision of some machinery under which the Italian
Post Office can obtain up-to-date information regarding the port of
departure and date of sailing of ships leaving for destinations to which
mails are at present despatched or to which direct mails will be justified
under the proposed system of despatches at irregular intervals.

(b) The arrangements for the payment for the conveyance of
mails.

3. As regards 2(a) the matter is not so simple as was suggested
at the meeting held in Rome and it was ascertained that U.M.A. can give the
information only as regards certain destinations within the Mediterranean
area. All parties concerned agree that until shipping reverts to "liner
berth" working there will be considerable difficulties in operating civil
foreign mails work on a peace time basis. The one central record which
appears to be issued giving an almost complete picture of shipping movements
from Italy is a "Secret" Shipping Intelligence summary published at Navy
House but as this does not give the dates of departure from Italian ports
it has little value for the purpose of indicating by what dates the mails
can be despatched from the Censor stations to reach the ports concerned in
time to make the connections. The only course open appears to be for a
representative of the Italian Government (preferably of the Merchantile
Marine) to be furnished with a list of destinations to which mails are due
to be despatched and to be responsible for visiting the various Shipping
Authorities at Navy House Naples at fairly frequent intervals to obtain the
necessary particulars for transmission to the Post Office. It was suggested
that Col. Mazzanti of the Italian Merchant Marine who is Liaison Officer
with Medbo Naples would be a suitable Officer to undertake this work. A
statement is connected showing the actual and probable destinations of mails
as annotated by the M.W.T. representative (Mr. Oakland) to indicate the
sources of the necessary information.

Circulate with file

*Maj Green any action from anyone
particularly X*

WHG/ams

see 9A

676 file 5

81

676

*Green
principle
with by name*

./ P.47.365/CS
continued.

4. The Naples representatives of M.W.T., W.S.A. and U.M.A., promised to do everything possible to facilitate the arrangement, but it is not clear how the necessary information can be obtained by the Italians in respect of S.T.O. controlled ships nor whether such ships can be used for civil mail purposes under the proposal.

5. There are likely to be complications at a later date when M.W.T., W.S.A. and U.M.A. cease to have the present control and the movement of shipping is transferred to various shipping agencies but remains on a "tramp working" basis.

6. On the question of the negotiation of contracts for the conveyance of these mails neither M.W.T. or W.S.A. are in a position to decide locally under present conditions and this appears to be a matter on which A.F.H.Q. may need to consult London and Washington before the Italian Post Office can be instructed on what basis to proceed. It will need to be borne in mind that there are mails to Prisoner of War Censors as well as civil mails involved.

*7. at 02
Actioning
29/9/45
a
H. H. Scudder*

W. H. Green
major
for H. H. SCUDDER
Lt. Colonel, Sig. C.
Director.

5th September 1945

1 Inc.

Copies to:

G-4 (Mov. and Tn) A.F.H.Q.
G-5 : A.F.H.Q.
British Postal Directorate A.F.H.Q.
A.G. Postal A.F.H.Q.
Under Secretary of State for Posts and Telecommunications.
M.W.T. Naples (Mr. Oakland).
W.S.A. Naples (Mr. R. Nicoll).

8194

Communications Sub-Commission
Extn. 444.

*Agree the by Major
M. H. Campbell
W. H. Green
PAIO. Council*

ITALY : OVERSEAS FOREIGN MAIL DESPATCHES (actual and probable)

Country of Destination	To be despatched in Ships Sailing	Information concerning future Sailings, date and Port of Departure to be obtained from
* U.S.A.	Direct	M.W.T. and W.S.A.
* CANADA	Direct	
BRASIL	Direct	
ARGENTINA	Direct	
* EGYPT	Direct	M.W.T. and S.T.O.
INDIA	to Cairo	
RUSSIA	to Cairo	
TURKEY	to Cairo	
PALESTINE	to Cairo	
* ERITREA	to Cairo	
AUSTRALIA	Direct or to Cairo	
SOUTH AFRICA	Cairo	U.M.A. and S.T.O.
SOMALIA	Cairo	
* TRIPOLITANIA	Cairo	
* GREECE	Direct	
ALBANIA	Direct	
JUGO SLAVIA	Direct	

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Country of Destination	To be despatched in Ships Sailing	Information concerning future Sailings, Date and Port of Departure to be obtained from
- UNITED KINGDOM - ALGIERS - TUNIS	Direct Direct Direct	M.W.T. (This mail will probably be sent by overland route in the near future) } M.W.T. and W.S.A.

- Existing Mails.
(Mails to the other countries mentioned will probably be warranted if the sailings are not more frequent than once a fortnight on an average).

20371
Tel. 534

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Transportation Sub-Commission

6
EPL/ga

Our Ref :- AG/676/6/Tn.3.

30 August 1945

SUBJECT :- Loading of Italian Civil Mail
in vessels controlled by UNW

TO :- Direttore Generale
Marina Mercantile
Piazza Minerva Rome.

1. Please note that it is proposed on 30 Sep.
that all Italian civilian mail will be handled by
Italian Postal Authorities instead of by Army
Postal Services, as at present.

2. Information of sailings will be provided by
UMA and vessels will be nominated by them for out going
civilian mails. The Italian Postal Authorities will
also undertake to receive all mail arriving from overseas
in this Country. The concentration points for the mail are
to be Genoa, Naples and Brindisi.

For the Director :-

L. Laraman
M.F. LARAMAN
Major R.E.

hraj

Copy to :- Communication S/C.

8191

FILE

Tel. 534

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Transportation Sub-Commission

MPL/SS

Our Ref 1- AC/676/6/Th.3.

27 August, 1945

SUBJECT :- Loading of Italian Civilian Mail in Military
Controlled ports.

TO :- G-4 (Mov & Tr.) A.F.H.Q.

1. Arrangements are now being made with the Italian postal authorities for the receipt and despatch of all civil mails to be handled by them instead of as at present by the Army postal services.

2. The various problems which will face the Italian Authorities in re-establishing pre-war arrangements are being considered and it is expected that it will be possible for the Italians to take over on 30 Sept. This will be confirmed later.

3. The 3 concentration points for outgoing mails are expected to be Genoa, Naples and Brindisi and these ports, with the possible addition of Bari, are the ones which it is anticipated will be used as far as possible.

4. In the event of MVI or WSA allocating one of their vessels to load mails from a port controlled by the Military, can permission be granted for Italian postal (motor) vans to enter the Military Controlled area of ports when this is required. 8197

5. It is suggested the Italian authorities should, if you agree in principle, apply to Port Commandants for port passes or any other authority proposed. Similarly if mails arrive by vessels carrying Military cargoes which would be worked in Military ports or areas controlled by the Military, entry to collect mails would be necessary and it is anticipated that every assistance would be given by Military Authorities in such ports.

see 7

TO :- C-4 (Mov & Tr.) A.F.H.Q.

1. Arrangements are now being made with the Italian postal authorities for the receipt and despatch of all civil mails to be handled by them instead of as at present by the Army postal services.

2. The various problems which will face the Italian Authorities in re-establishing pre-war arrangements are being considered and it is expected that it will be possible for the Italians to take over on 30 Sept. This will be confirmed later.

3. The 3 concentration points for outgoing mails are expected to be Genoa, Naples and Brindisi and these ports, with the possible addition of Bari, are the ones which it is anticipated will be used as far as possible.

4. In the event of HWI or WSA allocating one of their vessels to load mails from a port controlled by the Military, can permission be granted for Italian postal (motor) vans to enter the Military Controlled area of ports when this is required.

5. It is suggested the Italian authorities should, if you agree in principle, apply to Port Commandants for port passes or any other authority proposed. Similarly if mails arrive by vessels carrying Military cargoes which would be worked in Military ports or areas controlled by the Military; entry to collect mails would be necessary and it is anticipated that every assistance would be forthcoming by Military Authorities in such ports.

For the Chief Commissioner :-

i Key Distribution:
ii Questions

Inform for info

DPH. *W. E. LARAHAN*
Major R.E.

Copy to :- Communication S/C

File

ECOW Sec

SWP

9023
13.07

(4)

CJM/jrs

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

23 July 1945.

G-5: 311.1

SUBJECT: Civil Mail to and from Italy.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 394

Reference is AC/676/2/TN.3 of 29 June 45.

1. It is suggested that the Communications Sub-Committee arrange a meeting with WSA and Italian Government in Rome to decide on the carriage of mails to the US and arrange a contract.

2. Similarly an approach to the British General Post Office and possibly the Shipping representative at Allied Commission by the Italian Government would reveal some other method of mail conveyance other than troopships and thus relieve the Army Post Office of the incubus of civil mail.

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

[Signature]
C. J. MACNAMARA
Major, P. C.

8189

7

(2)

HEAD QUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
 174 174
 Transportation Sub-Commission

ONE/adj

Ref. : 20/570/1/Ta 1

29 June 1945

SUBJECT : Civil Mail to and from Italy.

see 3
see 4

TO : G-3 Section A.F.H.Q.

all

1. Attached is a copy of a letter received from Communications Sub-Commission regarding the possible hand back to the Italian Civil Post Office of its normal peacetime responsibilities, in the matter of arranging for the shipment of foreign mail traffic, now being undertaken by the Allied Army Post Offices.

2. It is felt by this Sub-Commission, that as long as the movements of personnel ships remain "secret" and the principal ports are being used for redeployment, the call forward of mail for shipment must continue to be done through Allied channels.

3. May we have your views as to whether or not the shipping authorities (including F.M.F.C. (Med) and En (A)) should be prepared to deal direct with the Italian Post Office.

8188

For the Chief Commissioner :

[Signature]
 C.E. COMPTON
 Major L.S.

Copy to : G-4 (Have En) A.F.H.Q.
 Communications Sub-Commission.
 Shipping Sub-Commission.

Info copy to Economic & Co

file

20421

WHG/bs

MEMO

P.47.230/CS

SUBJECT: Foreign Mail to and from Italy.

TO : Transportation Sub-Commission, Shipping.

1. From the re-establishment of Foreign letter mail services to and from Italy in February 1944 up to the present time the arrangement has been for the Italian civil Post Office to hand its outgoing overseas despatches to the British and American Army Post Offices for forwarding with army mails, while the incoming letter mails were similarly received through Army channels and handed to the civil Post Office at Naples.
2. A somewhat different arrangement was introduced for the special gift parcel service from the United States - the only type of parcel service introduced up to the present -. In this case the parcel bags are not handled by the Army Post Office, but special arrangements for assistance in the matter of road transport by the Naples Port Battalion were made to overcome the transportation difficulties which made the Italian hesitate to agree the commencement of a service which was being urged by the U.S. Government.
3. In recent signals from CCS there is the reference of an intention to expect the civil Post Office soon to undertake its normal peacetime responsibilities in the matter of arranging for the conveyance and treatment of foreign mail traffic. This has already caused the British Army Postal Directorate to enquire of G-5, AFHQ, whether it can now be relieved of the responsibility of handling civil foreign mails.
4. In normal times the civil Post Office has its own premises in the principal ports; can hire its own labour for loading and unloading; and arrange for road transport to be available on call at any time, day or night. It makes contracts with shipping companies defining all necessary conditions and responsibilities and it has full access to information concerning the movement of shipping in which it is interested.
5. Unfortunately few of these facilities are available today and it, therefore, is necessary to study whether modified arrangements are practicable to enable the Post Office to carry out its functions if the assistance of the Army Post Office is withdrawn before port and shipping facilities revert to normal peacetime working conditions. The A.C. Shipping Instructions have been studied, but the procedure laid down therein, which is designed for the export and import of bulk consignments of commodities, does not appear to be suited to the requirements of a mails service which needs to cater for frequent despatches to a variety of destinations; varying traffic; latest possible connections; and safe custody of mails. It seems possible, however, that in the exceptional circumstances, if the work has to be done on a civilian basis, it would be better for the Post Office to work through the "Istituto per il Commercio Estero" rather than introduce another agency into this field.
6. Your advice on this problem would be appreciated.
7. A statement is attached showing the destination to which foreign civil and prisoner of war letter mail are at present despatched and the weight of

8187

handed to the civil post office.

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6. Your advice on this problem would be appreciated.

7. A statement is attached shewing the destination to which foreign civil and prisoner of war letter mail are at present despatched and the weight of mail available each week for each destination. The weight is likely to increase considerably in the near future in view of the opening of services to the northern provinces and the agitation which may be anticipated now that hostilities are over for the restoration of commercial and printed paper services, parcels and other facilities which are still suspended.

W.H. Scudder

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

1 Inc.: Statement shewing weekly average weight of Foreign, Civil & P.O.W. correspondence despatched.

Communications Sub-Commission
Extn 444

25 June 1945

ITALY - Approximate weekly weight of Foreign, Civil and POW
Mail despatched.

DESTINATION

WEIGHT IN KILOS

CAIRO	500	
TRIPOLI (via Egypt)	40	
LIVERPOOL	300	φ
LONDON	50	φ
NEW YORK	1500	US
TUNIS	70	X
MARSEILLES	80	X
MALTA	3	
GENEVA	8	
MADRID	9	X
LISBON	4	X
ATHENS	20	

8186
US

NOTE: These weights are likely to be considerably increased as a result
of the opening of services in Northern Italy.

X Now overland
φ Not overland yet
but requires milk runs

2045