

1916.

MAI/GEN/1#5

Confidential

No.

3~~4~~.

Governor

(SUBJECT).

1916.

Instructions to Postal Censor.

22nd February

Previous Papers.

894/17.

(MINUTES).

H.S. / To see -

C.D. Condell

22. 2. 16.

Issued for
22. 2. 16

Filed in Conf. Cabinet.

C.D.S.

23. 2. 16

Minutes from Governor 26. 2. 16.

Report to Governor re: Wireless messages - 10. 4. 16.

Minutes from Governor 18. 7. 16.

Subsequent Papers.

C. 30a

CONFIDENTIAL.

G.N. C. 64/16

Honourable Colonial Secretary,

Enclosed copy of revised "Notes on the
Postal Censorship of the United Kingdom" forwarded
for the information of the Officers concerned.

Douglas Young
Governor.

18th July, 1916.

H.E. / may I file this in my Confidential
C.S. paper on the subject, or does G.E. want to
keep it at Govt House.

C.D. Cordell

C.D.
19.7.16.

You can keep it.
19.7.16 *sd/*
G.N.

Mr. Goddard / Please peruse & return

Mr. W. Sec.

Read. Thankyou.

Th. G.

19.7.16

C.D. Cordell
C.D.
19.7.16.

CONFIDENTIAL



POSTAL CENSORSHIP IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

1. The objects of the Postal Censorship are :—

(a.) To stop all postal communications constituting a breach of the Defence of the Realm Regulations (especially Regulations 18, 18 B, 24 A, 27, 30 A and B, 42 and 50) or of any other enactments made in connexion with the war and to secure the conviction or admonition of persons shown by such communications to have committed or to be contemplating a breach of the law.

(b.) To supply the proper authority with information of special interest or utility, e.g., information in regard to enemy secret service and propagandist organizations, or sources and channels of supply.

(c.) To intercept all valuable goods or documents, other than genuine postal correspondence, of enemy origin or destination.

2. These objects are to be effected with the least possible interference with the innocent correspondence of allied or neutral subjects.

3. The following mails are now liable to censorship in England :—

(1.) *Terminal mails* (i.e., mails to and from the United Kingdom).

(a.) Mails to and from all foreign countries, their colonies and dependencies, except France, Russia, Italy and Japan.

(b.) Letters, &c., of prisoners of war.

(2.) *Mails from one foreign country to another.*

(a.) Mails entrusted by the postal administration of one foreign country to the British Post Office for transmission through the United Kingdom to another foreign country (ordinary "transit" mails).

(b.) Mails carried by neutral ships which call at or can conveniently be brought into a port of the United Kingdom.

(3.) *Miscellaneous.*

(a.) Letters addressed to the United Kingdom or passing through the United Kingdom which have been posted in the French Civil post-boxes near the zone of operations of British troops.

(b.) Letters written in languages unintelligible to the Field Censors abroad whose duty it is to censor them.

(c.) Letters which unauthorized persons have endeavoured to carry into or out of the United Kingdom and which they have produced for inspection when required to do so. (Defence of the Realm Regulations, 24 and 54.) Except as under (3) (a), or in the case of the correspondence of suspected individuals or firms, no letters to or from British, French, Russian or Italian territory, or which will after leaving the United Kingdom pass through French territory before reaching their destination, are censored in the United Kingdom.

4. Terminal mails to and from the Far East are only occasionally censored.

5. The following correspondence is exempted from censorship :—

(a.) Letters which are known to be on His Majesty's Service.

(b.) Letters addressed to or known to be from the Diplomatic Representatives of allied or neutral States or members of their staffs at the Embassies or Legations of those States, or the Consuls-General in London of those neutral States which are not diplomatically represented.

(c.) Letters addressed to or known to be from the Government Departments of allied or neutral countries.

(d.) Letters addressed to or known to be from British Consular officers of all ranks, and the Consuls-General and Consuls of allied Powers.

(e.) Letters addressed to Members of Parliament, at either House of Parliament.

(f.) The correspondence of certain specified persons.

6. *Foreign newspapers, &c.*—All newspapers, &c., are permitted to enter the United Kingdom except those of which the sole or main object is to influence the population of allied or neutral countries in favour of the enemy. The latter are only passed by the Censor when addressed to persons of whose loyalty there can be no doubt and who wish to receive them for legitimate purposes.

7. *Printed publications and other matter suitable for the conveyance of secret messages.*—Printed matter, pictorial cards, stamp collections, cinema films, photographic plates, films and paper, and gramophone records may only be sent out of the United Kingdom under certain conditions, by persons or firms who have obtained permission for the purpose.

WAR OFFICE,
21st April, 1916.

U: messages sent received by or sent from the
Govt. Wireless Station: -

Only non Government messages received or sent during
this month ~~was~~ (April 1916) were: -

18th April

A. From Cape Virgini - George Alezia, Stanley. Will you sanction
engagement to Violet

18th April

B. From Port Stanley (reply) I cannot give my sanction for Violet's
engagement to a man I have never seen or heard of. I shall
wait and hear from Violet and her grandmother - George
Alezia

18th April.

C. From New Year Islands SS "Camerones" - Marcos Lewis.
viaje abordo Camarones cuando saldran ustedes. Dod.

A. & C. were telephoned down by Mr. Lacey to the Postmaster
in person - B was telephoned up by the Postmaster to Mr.
Lacey.

Mr. Goddard, the Censor of wireless telegrams, had no
knowledge of the receipt or sending of any of the messages.
I have instructed him to arrange with the Postmaster
that in future all messages are to be censored and
initialled by him, Mr. Goddard, before they are sent
to the Govt. Wireless Station or are delivered in the
Falklands, as the case may be.

With regard to A. & B. - Mr. George Alezia is a
man employed in Williams' Store. He has a
daughter Violet who is over in Punta Arenas or
some part of Patagonia.

With regard to C. - Marcos Lewis is the son (or
grandson) of Mr. James Lewis (the correspondent
of the B.A. Herald). They both arrived here from

South

South America by the last mail from Punta Arenas. - The translation
of the telegram is, if I am not mistaken, - "I am travelling
on board the Camarones - when will you pay the account
Dod".

C. J. Connelly

C.S.

20.4.16

Am Col. Sec.

Thank you for action taken.

21.4.16

57
500

CONFIDENTIAL.

Honourable Colonial Secretary.

With reference to my Minute Confidential of the 22nd February, 1916, as the Government at Home have increased the vigilance of censorship over postal matter, and direct the same to be followed throughout the British Empire, I shall be glad if you will assume the duties of Chief Postal Censor in this Colony. Mr Goddard continuing as Postal Censor under your direction.

The Censorship of Postal matter is of great importance and cannot be too carefully undertaken.

As you are aware any mention of current movements of His Majesty's ships, any reference to works of Defence, telegraphs, etc. and any business transactions with the enemy are strictly forbidden.

Donald James
Governor.

26th February, 1916.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Hon. Col. Sec.

Please instruct Postal Censor that the originals, copies, or photographs of intercepted letters, accompanied where possible by a brief summary of their contents, should in future be furnished with his reports of local censored Postal matter and that such reports should in future be sent direct to the Chief Postal Censor, War Office, London.

Douglas Young
Governor.

22nd February, 1916.

Censor/ Please note *C. J. Conde*
C.J.
22. 2. 16.

Hon. Col. Sec.

With duplicate copy into war.

22. 2. 16

The Governor
Censor