

General Series

U.S. - Censorship,
Office of

1944

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.
June 23, 1944

File

Mr. Daniel J. Tobin, President
International Brotherhood of Teamster's
Union
222 East Michigan Boulevard
Indianapolis, Indiana

Dear Mr. Tobin:

A recent edition of the International Teamster has been called to our attention because it included on page 6 the reprint of a V-Mail letter which contained data in conflict with the requests of the Armed Forces clause on page 2 of the Code of wartime Practices.

The letter from Bernie C. Mazon was dated March 16, 1944, and the conflict occurred due to the inclusion of part of the unit identification. As you will notice from the enclosed copy of the Code, it is requested on page 2 that members of our forces overseas, about to embark, or on ships, NOT be identified or linked with their military or naval units or ships in PUBLISHED items, letters or addresses.

We understand how this information was believed to be appropriate for publication since the letter had been marked censored. However, letters from overseas are NOT censored for publication purposes, and editors are expected to delete from such mail any data in conflict with the Code requests, or which might have a security value. Therefore, before the letter was reprinted the identification (4 & 5 Batt. 4th SP/WPMS Bn.) should have been omitted. Normally, we would also request that the 4th Marine Division be omitted. However, the fact that this unit is in the Pacific area has been announced officially, and there is no objection to the publication of that unit. Component parts have not been announced.

Any time that a ship or unit identification has been released by either the War or Navy Departments there is no objection to the item being published. Care should be taken, however, to be sure the item has been cleared, and only the amount of data so released used.

Let us know if you have any questions, or if we can be of any assistance to you. In the meantime, we hope to say continue to receive your valued assistance in this matter, and wish to thank you for your cooperation in the past.

Sincerely yours,

Jack Lockhart

Jack Lockhart
Assistant Director (Press)

Enclosures - 2

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
WASHINGTON - 25

September 14, 1944.

Mr. Daniel J. Tobin,
Editor,
The International Teamster,
222 East Michigan Street,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Tobin:

Our attention has been called to the use of several overseas servicemen's addresses on pages 31 and 32 of your September issue of The International Teamster. In view of your excellent record of cooperation with voluntary censorship, we are writing to inquire about these addresses.

The Armed Forces clause of the Code of Wartime Practices for the American Press requests editors not to print complete unit addresses of men overseas and not to link Navy personnel with their ships. The identity and location of units overseas is information which enemy intelligence is anxious to get, and which we are just as anxious to protect.

May we have your assurance that staff members understand the requests of the Code and have been alerted to them? Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Jack Lockhart

Jack Lockhart,
Assistant Director (Press).

September 18, 1944

Mr. Jack Lockhart, Assistant Director,
The Office of Censorship
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lockhart:

I have just returned to my office in Indianapolis for a few days and find your letter of September 14, 1944. I notice you refer to the September issue of our International Magazine.

We have an enormous number of men in the service of the United States government, in the several branches, wearing the uniform of our country. We try to keep them posted on what is going on in this country, and we are exceptionally careful not to divulge or disclose the locations of our men on the sea or at the battlefronts. Surely if their letters come in to us, passed by the censor, with a certain address, for the information of our own members and in order to strengthen us in our war effort there at home, there should be no objections to printing the letters of men who write from a certain district--for instance, North Africa or England, or from Marine Barracks in this country.

However, it is our intention to scrupulously observe any rules laid down by your office. I think you are doing a swell job regardless of the fact that unjust criticism is aimed at your department, and especially at my good friend, Elmer Davis.

I have looked through the September issue of our magazine referred to in your letter. I see no addresses in that publication which would in any way disclose the location of a battleship or an airplane base.

Be assured of my further cooperation at all times.

Very sincerely yours,

GENERAL PRESIDENT.

DJT.GMC

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

WASHINGTON

25, D.C.

September 20, 1944

Mr. Daniel J. Tobin
General President
International Brotherhood of Teamsters,
Chauffeurs, Warehousemen & Helpers
of America
222 East Michigan Street
Indianapolis, Indiana

Dear Mr. Tobin:

Thank you for your reassuring letter of September 18 with regard to the use of servicemen's addresses in The International Teamster. Our records reflect the fine spirit of cooperation on the part of your publication of which you speak.

We know you are anxious to keep your members informed on the activities of your men in service through addresses and letters. Undoubtedly your editors realize, as the Press Code points out, that letters from combat areas are censored in the field for home consumption, and not for publication. When they are published, editors are asked to use all precautions that they do not disclose information on military and naval operations or indicate unit identification.

Could you send us copies of your magazine for two or three months and let us have a look at it? We would greatly appreciate it. Our office is at your service at all times. If we can serve you at any time, please call on us.

Sincerely yours,

Jack Lockhart
Jack Lockhart

Assistant Director (Press)

send July & August issues

Journals sent 9-28-44 Gmel