

WAR DEPARTMENT
ARMY SERVICE FORCES
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL
WASHINGTON

3 September 1943

Miss K. Deakins,
c/o A. G. Carter,
Fort Worth Star-Telegram,
Fort Worth, Texas.

Dear Miss Deakins:

The Provost Marshal General directs me to reply to your letter of 27 August 1943 regarding Second Lieutenant Amon G. Carter, Jr.

Book publishers, through arrangements with the Office of Censorship, are permitted to accept orders for new books, which do not violate security regulations, from individuals in this country for shipment to American prisoners of war interned in Germany and Italy. Your order should be transmitted directly to the publisher who will pack, label, and ship the books.

A copy of the regulations issued by the Office of Censorship concerning the sending of printed matter is inclosed for your information.

Individuals, not necessarily next of kin, in the United States and its possessions may send only new books. It is not necessary to have a special permit to send books to American prisoners of war held by the enemy.

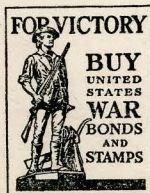
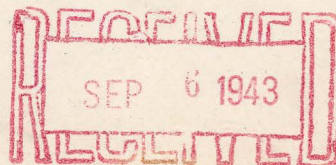
Since the War Department does not maintain a list of book publishers, this office is unable to assist in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Howard F. Bresee

Howard F. Bresee,
Colonel, C.M.P.,
Assistant Director, Prisoner of War Division

Incl:
Instructions for Books.



OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP
CHIEF POSTAL CENSOR
Washington, D. C.

March 13, 1943.

PROGRAM FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF BOOKS TO PRISONERS OF WAR

These regulations supersede all previous memoranda and regulations covering the book program.

A. General:

1. All magazines and newspapers regardless of date of publication are prohibited for shipment to United States and Allied prisoners of war and civilian internees confined in enemy countries and will be condemned.

2. Books containing any of the following material will be condemned:

- a. Navigational charts, plans, wharf and code maps or parts thereof.
- b. Meteorological charts.
- c. Charts of currents.
- d. Navigational reference books, including sailing instructions
- e. Lists of lights.
- f. Lists of wireless signals.
- g. Tide tables.
- h. Distance tables.
- i. Nautical and air almanacs, directories and calendars, etc. and supplements thereto.
- j. Information of any nature relative to ports, harbors, anchorages and inland waterways.
- k. Military, naval or air force subjects.
- l. Chemistry.
- m. Espionage.
- n. Explosives.
- o. Geography and map making.
- p. Lithography.
- q. Politics.
- r. Weapons and armaments.
- s. Wireless and radio.
- t. Enemy propaganda.
- u. Any subject which may be considered doubtful or of a technical or scientific nature, including patents, inventions and discoveries.

3. Under restrictions applied by Germany, books written by or including material of Jewish authors, emigres from enemy or enemy occupied countries and certain other authors are not permitted to enter Germany or German controlled camps, either directly or indirectly. Therefore, the shipment of books falling within this category will not be permitted.

4. All books (new and used) are subject to rigid censorship control and must conform to censorship requirements.

5. Mail shipments, particularly parcel post of all kinds, may be subject to delay because of government regulations on transportation.

6. Under International Conventions governing the treatment of prisoners of war, books mailed in accordance with this program will be carried without postage affixed when the parcel is appropriately indorsed to show that the addressee is a prisoner of war or an interned or detained civilian.

7. Books entering the United States or any of its possessions under this program will be rigidly examined by U. S. Censorship and condemned if titles or contents do not meet censorship requirements.

B. Approved Organizations:

1. Approved organizations in the United States, such as the Red Cross and Y.M.C.A. may send books, including used books, if they contain no writing, markings, or extraneous matter and no indication of writing, markings, or extraneous matter to libraries in prisoner of war camps in the United States and its possessions, but not to individual enemy prisoners of war, internees or detainees confined in these United States camps.

2. Used books, if they contain no writing, markings, or extraneous matter and no indication of writing, markings, or extraneous matter which are collected from any and all sources, may be sent by approved organizations in the United States, such as the Red Cross and Y.M.C.A., to their international headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland for distribution from Geneva under such restrictions as may be imposed by the controlling powers.

3. No used books will be sent direct by any organization in the United States to individual prisoners of war or interned civilians confined in enemy or enemy occupied countries or direct to camp libraries in enemy or enemy occupied countries.

4. Approved organizations in the United States cannot send books direct to libraries in prisoner of war camps in Allied countries or to enemy prisoners or civilian internees confined in camps in Allied countries.

C. Individual Senders:

1. Individuals in the United States and its possessions may send books to prisoners of war, internees and detainees in the United States and its possessions when such books contain no writing, markings, or extraneous matter and no indication of writing, markings, or extraneous matter therein.

2. Individuals in the United States and its possessions may send only new books to individuals officially identified as prisoners of war or civilian internees in enemy or enemy occupied countries under the following arrangements:

- a. No used books will be sent.
- b. Individuals desiring to send new books must place their order with a book seller or publisher. This book seller or publisher must mail the books to the prisoner indicated by the purchaser.
- c. Books must be placed in the mail by the book seller or publisher from whom purchased. In no case will the purchaser wrap or mail the books.
- d. The purchaser's name may appear on the shipping label but no writing, markings, or extraneous matter will be permitted inside the covering wrapper.
- e. One parcel of books weighing not more than five pounds will be permitted to go forward to identified prisoners of war or civilian internees in enemy or enemy occupied countries every 30 days. This restriction is necessary due to the limited amount of shipping space available.

3. Individuals in the United States and its possessions cannot send books to enemy prisoners of war or civilian internees confined in camps in Allied countries.



N. V. Carlson,
Lt. Col., AUS,
Chief Postal Censor.