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2 June
VI-1911HUNGARYCOMMUNICATIONSNo Telegrams With Answers Paid Accepted For HungarySOURCE ROME: No information availableDATE OF OBSERVATION: June 1952

For about one month, the Italian post and telegraph office in ROME has not agreed to accept telegrams for Hungary with answers paid. When our source enquired at the management, he was told that this order was given when the Hungarian post service annulled the former Italo-Hungarian agreement on such cables. No explanations for this action were given by the Hungarian authorities, but competent Italian circles believe that there were two reasons for these measures: i.e. 1) because this kind of telegram is inconvenient for the Hungarian politics with regard to foreign currency, and 2) because too many Hungarian refugees who have not received news from relatives in Hungary for a long time started sending telegrams with prepaid answers, to which the Hungarian post service was obliged to answer in case the telegram could not be delivered. As a great number of the addressees have been deported, the Hungarian post service would have to admit that they "have left for an unknown destination," thus confirming the suspicions of the refugees that their relatives have been arrested.

EVAL. COMMENT: No direct confirmation available on above case, but we know from private information that for some time difficulties have arisen from Hungarian side concerning the service of telegrams with prepaid answers. Released for information only.

Complete, 23 June