

THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP

WASHINGTON 25

April 28, 1944

The Editor,  
Spokane County Medical Society Bulletin,  
Spokane County Medical Society,  
Spokane, Washington.

Dear Sir:

We have just seen a copy of the April, 1944 issue of the Spokane County Medical Society Bulletin, which on Page 15 contained much information enemy agents would like to learn and which is restricted by the Code of Wartime Practices for the American Press. We are certain this information was not intentionally revealed and we believe that you do not know of, or do not understand, the requests of the Code, a copy of which is enclosed.

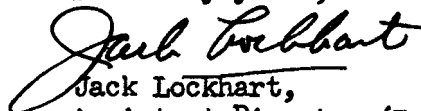
In the Armed Forces clause on Page 2, you will see that there are no restrictions on the publication of military addresses of men in the United States. You are requested not to link names or identification of ships with names of naval personnel and not to identify military units serving outside of the United States or about to embark. If an address is in care of a fleet post office or has an APO number in care of a seaport, it is safe to assume that the man is aboard ship, outside of the country or about to leave. In such cases, ships and military units should not be identified.

In actually addressing mail, however, it is necessary to include ship or unit identification to insure delivery. This makes it impossible under the Code for you to publish addresses of men on ships or overseas which will get the mail to them. But the security is so great that we must ask you to follow the Code requests even if it means less mail for the men. Mail is important, but security and the safety of the men are more important.

There is no objection to your association forwarding letters to men if their friends want to send them to you for that purpose. Neither is there any objection to printing in your news letter a statement that you will send in personal letters complete addresses of individuals to their friends who request them. Of course, we are assuming that you will know the persons who ask for the addresses and that you will not broadcast them premiscuously.

Will you please tell us at your earliest convenience if you understand the Code, or if you have any questions? If you care to submit anything to us before publication, we will handle it immediately. Your cooperation is urgently requested.

Sincerely yours,

  
Jack Lockhart,

Assistant Director (Press)

Enclosure: Code