

Box 82  
149 East 23<sup>rd</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10016  
May 15, 2018

Manager

  
00186 Rome, Italy

Dear Sir or Madam:

June 5, 2018 will be the seventy-fourth anniversary of the liberation of Rome by the Allies led by the United States. After a prolonged military campaign involving a series of difficult, costly and now legendary military operations, the Allied armies, commanded by an American, Lieutenant General (later General) Mark W. Clark, ended fascist rule in Italy, restored democracy to Italy and saved Italy from total destruction. In recognition of services rendered on behalf of Italy, Italy awarded General Clark the Order of Saints Maurice and Lazarus, Grand Cross; the Military Order of Savoy; and the Medaglia d'Argento.

To help you and your employees re-acquaint yourselves with the liberation of Rome, a part of Italian history that you and your employees may have forgotten, enclosed please find copies of two newspaper articles:

“Two German Armies Fleeing in Disorder”

“Roman Girls Mob Yankees”

Both reports were published in the June 6, 1944 edition of the New York City *Daily News*.

One article reports how “Allied troops swept across the Tiber River in force today to the tumultuous cheers of liberated Romans” and the other article reports how “The biggest beauty parade the American Army has seen in this war has turned out to welcome the Yanks into Rome. The girls act as if the Americans are the finest men they ever saw. Everybody is happy.” The article also reports how “To the girls of Rome, the Americans look he-men.”

I suggest that on June 5, 2018 you and your employees pause for a moment to commemorate the liberation of Rome and give thanks to the soldiers who liberated Italy and ensured its survival. Also, take a moment to thank the tourists who patronize your store. Many of these tourists come from the same countries that liberated Italy. Welcome them just as the Romans welcomed the Allied troops on June 5, 1944 – as friends.

Sincerely,

Phillip W. Weiss