

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ACC

10000/100/370

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

10000/100/370

A.F. F. FORESTRY
SEPT. - NOV. 1943

338

E & A!

Ref note 5 - Policy re par 3c of 12A must await the return of Col Buttenworth. I believe Lt McDonald has ideas of a much larger forestry sub section than is possible under our over-all strength. Ref par. 6-3-1. Has instructions to screen personnel for specialists. If he is given the qualifications desired, he will attempt to fill requests for the limited number which will be available.

All sections must remember that they must reduce personnel to a minimum. JAA

I.

G-1.

Please see minutes 5 + 6. Will you explore the possibilities of complying with requests in para. 6 of 12a. and its references.
 /- D. Field Lt. Major Conf.

28 Oct.

JACS

Ref minute 7. This appears to be "bound up" with the reduction in establishment. If the matter is thought of sufficient importance it might be possible to include some of the experts asked for in the overall strength but then would only be at the expense of other agricultural interests.

W. H. Hagan Major
G-1

29 Oct

I.

G-1.

Please see minutes 5 + 6.

Will you explore the possibility of complying with requests in para. 6 of 12a. and its references.

1-2 Infield photo major cost.

28 Oct.

JACS

Ref minute 7. This appears to be "found up" with the reduction in establishment. If the matter is thought of sufficient importance it might be possible to include some of the expenses asked for in the overall estimate but then would only be at the expense of other agreed-upon items.

W. H. G. major G-1

29 Oct

4222

JACS Ref. 1A, 2A, phoned Col. Butterworth today explaining 1A. Conversation developed need of conference with him on policy re. supply including sources of supply, use of our "forestry" and other experts i.e. PWSU, Fuel etc. Arranged conference with him for Monday AM. 18, Oct, 43. Report of Conf. will follow.

D. J. Adams
Col. (EF)

16 Oct 43

JACS Above meeting took place between Col Adams, Col Butterworth and Lieut. Hammond. Col Butterworth approved policy outlined in memorandum of 14 Oct., and plan of operations suggested therein, including survey of Coarima forests and visit to Sachima. Enquiries such as those made in telegram to Mid. East were approved, but the channel for such enquiries to be through him (Col. Butterworth) direct on all matters of external supply. Col. Butterworth asked for memorandum on Forestry Sachima inquiries to be prepared for his forthcoming visit to Gen. MacSherry. L.H.L. handwritten.

19th October 1943.

3

JACS. Memorandum on Forestry Division's inquiries prepared for Col. Butterworth and approved by him 23 Oct. 1943 (See AC 11075/2). Also memo of situation as at 24th Oct. contained in memo. to Col. Adams (1075/2/12A).

Forestry A.C.

27 Oct

4.

Col Adams:- Have you seen this? What, if anything, has been done about Par 3e and Par 7?

for JACS

1001
 1943. Col. Butterworth appeared policy outlined in memorandum of 14 Oct. and plan of operations suggested therein, including survey of Coeur d'Alene and visit to Sackville. Inquiries such as those made in telegram to Mid-East were approved, but the channel for such inquiries to be through him (Col. Butterworth) direct, on all matters of external supply. Col. Butterworth asked for memorandum on Forestry Section queries to be prepared for his forthcoming visit to Gen. MacArthur. L.H. Handman.

19th October 1943.

3

JACS. memorandum on Forestry Division queries prepared for Col. Butterworth and approved by him 23 Oct. 1943 (See AC 1075/12). Note memo of situation as at 24th Oct. contained in memo. to Col. Adams (1075/12A).

Forestry A.C.

27 Oct

4.

Col Adams:- Have you seen this? What, if anything, has been done about Par 3e and Par 7?

for JACS

5.

J.A.C.S.

1. Col. Adams has received a copy of 12A. In his absence, no action can be traced.
2. Ref. para 3 (e). Can an indication of policy in respect of para 3 (c) please, be given? Ans (p) say that as Region 9 is not yet activated it might be possible to re-assign Capt. Weber if he suggested appointment of a Forestry Liaison Officer is agreed.
3. Ref. para 7. Lt. C.C. Mandy is included in 12A. Party X-B. AC due to leave Oct. 27. He has been given instructions as detailed.
4. On return of file G-1 will be asked about the possibilities of complying with request in para. 6.

27 Oct.

1001
 1943. Col. Butterworth appeared policy outlined in memorandum of 14 Oct. and plan of operations suggested therein, including survey of Coeur d'Alene and visit to Sackville. Inquiries such as those made in telegram to Mid-East were approved, but the channel for such inquiries to be through him (Col. Butterworth) direct, on all matters of external supply. Col. Butterworth asked for memorandum on Forestry Section queries to be prepared for his forthcoming visit to Gen. MacArthur. L.H. Handman.

1001
 1943. Col. Butterworth appeared policy outlined in memorandum of 14 Oct. and plan of operations suggested therein, including survey of Coeur d'Alene and visit to Sackville. Inquiries such as those made in telegram to Mid-East were approved, but the channel for such inquiries to be through him (Col. Butterworth) direct, on all matters of external supply. Col. Butterworth asked for memorandum on Forestry Section queries to be prepared for his forthcoming visit to Gen. MacArthur. L.H. Handman.

To: Brigadier P.M. Boulnois, O.B.E., M.C.,
Regional Commissioner of Sardinia.

From: Lieut. W.S.L. Macdonald,
Forestry Division, A.C.

Subject: Interim Report on Supply of Pit-props for Carbonia.

Date: 11th November 1945.

Reference: AC/1075/2 (Forestry).

Sir,

I have the honour to report that; -

1. Following perusal of the attached correspondence (App.A.) with regard to the supply of pit-props required to enable the functioning of the coal mines in Sardinia, and having regard to the general timber needs of the 15th Army Gp (as outlined in my memorandum of 14th October (Memorandum on Functioning of the Forestry Division of the Sub-Commission for Agriculture - AC/1075/2), authority was given me by M.G.S., A.P.M.Q., to carry out a survey of timber resources in Corsica, with a view to finding a source of supply for; -

a. Structural timbers required for the repair of ports and bridges destroyed by the retreating Germans in Italy.

b. Pit-props required to enable operation of the Sardinian coal mines.

2. As a result of my enquiries in Corsica I have ascertained that supplies of pit-props suitable for coal mining are procurable from; -

a. The Forests of Ospedale and Zonza (Port - Porto-Vecchio).

b. The Forest of Ghissonaccia (Port - Calzorello).

c. The Forest of Aetone (Port - Porto).

3. In the absence of Col. Koenig, I discussed the present, and future requirements of pit-props for the coal mines at Carbonia with Major Matthews and the Italian mining engineer who has been retained to assist in the exploitation.

The present output of coal is approximately 10,000 tons per month. This output is to be immediately increased to 25,000 tons, and to 75,000 tons within three months.

The production of each ton of coal requires 1.5 tons of wood.

1. Following perusal of the attached correspondence (App.A.) with regard to the supply of pit-props required to enable the functioning of the coal mines in Sardinia, and having regard to the general timber needs of the 15th Army Gp (as outlined in my memorandum of 14th October (Memorandum on functioning of the Forestry Division of the Sub-Commission for Agriculture - AC/1075/2), authority was given me by M.G.C., A.F.E.Q., to carry out a survey of timber resources in Corsica, with a view to finding a source of supply for: -

a. Structural timbers required for the repair of ports and bridges destroyed by the retreating Germans in Italy.

b. Pit-props required to enable operation of the Sardinian coal mines.

2. As a result of my enquiries in Corsica I have ascertained that supplies of pit-props suitable for coal mining are procurable from: -

a. The Forests of Ospedale and Zonza (Porto-Vecchio).

b. The Forest of Ghisonaccia (Port - Calzorello).

c. The Forest of Aetone (Port - Porto).

3. In the absence of Col. Koenig, I discussed the present, and future requirements of pit-props for the coal mines at Carbonia with Major Matthews and the Italian mining engineer who has been retained to assist in the exploitation.

The present output of coal is approximately 10,000 tons per month. This output is to be immediately increased to 25,000 tons, and to 75,000 tons within three months.

The production of each ton of coal requires 1.5 metres (lineal) of wood, of which 50% must be in lengths of 3 to 4 metres. Such lengths are unobtainable in Sardinia, but are readily obtainable in Corsica.

The present situation is that the mines cannot produce the quantity of 25,000 tons until suitable timber for pit-props is supplied.

Sufficient timber to produce the first 25,000 tons has been found at Abbasanta (See App. C.), subject to permission being secured from the Italian Military Authorities for its conversion to this use. Subsequent supplies of pit-props will require to be furnished from Corsica for at least some months.

4. The transport of the pit-props from the forest to the port will require motor transport being made available. Sufficient Italian military transport is believed to exist in Corsica, but permission must be secured from the Italian Military Authorities in Corsica for such use.

5. Sea transport from the ports listed under (2) above by Italian sailing ships, subject to the necessary authority being given by the Italian Admiralty at Maddalena (Admiral Brivonezi).

6. To expedite preparation and shipment, it is suggested that enquiries be made as to the possibility of A.M.F.A. making payments direct to the French

Department of Woods and Forests at Ajaccio, which department is also in a position to issue inspection certificates as to quality and specification of each parcel prior to shipment.

7. Subject to the immediate supply of motor transport to the ports, and the provision of sailing ships as mentioned under (b) above, delivery of sufficient Pit-props for the extraction of 75,000 tons of coal per month can be made to Carbonia's nearest port and railhead (S. Antioco) within one month of the date orders are placed.

8. A final report on the supply of Pit-props for Carbonia will be written on my return to Corsica.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Forestry Division, A.C.

Copies to:
Col. Koenig.
Col. Adams.
AC/1075/2 (Forestry)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Your obedient servant,

Forestry Division, A.C.

Copies to:
Col. Koenig.
Col. Adams.
AC/1075/2 (Forestry)

4220

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

cage

Military Government Section

MOB-463.3

23th September, 1943

SUBJECT: Mine Props for Sardinia.

TO : A/DCMG N.A.E.B. (Mil) North African
Economic Board.

1. AMG requires mine props urgently for use in Sardinia.
2. Following is an extract from Report of AMG Coal expert who is going into Sardinia with the special AMG detachment that will control the mines there.

" A. Mine Props. No mine props are available in Sardinia. In the past Dalmatian timber was imported for purposes available to the Allied Nations in the Mediterranean area is eucalyptus which is found in fairly extensive quantities in Algeria. It is estimated that approximately 1,700 mine props will be needed per month in Sardinia. These mine props may be round timber (not dimension lumber) with a minimum diameter at the small end of 5 inches. The lengths to which the logs should be cut in order to make suitable mine props cannot be furnished at the present time as this information will necessarily have to wait until examination of the mines is completed. However, it is recommended that permission be obtained from the French to fell some 2500 eucalyptus trees which can be trimmed and made ready for cutting into proper lengths immediately upon the receipt of the above information. The groves of eucalyptus should be chosen at places near railroad transportation."

3. Would you be good enough to contact the French Government and endeavour to negotiate the above proposal.
4. It will probably interest the French to know that N.A.E.B. is already investigating the possible use of Sardinian coal in N. AFRICA (until such time as it is possible to use the full production in Italy).
5. Further, it will be appreciated that French interests are being served by developing the Sardinian mines since the availability of exports to N. Africa will largely dependent on the amount of coal we can provide to Italy.

" 3. Mine Props. No mine props are available in Sardinia. In the past Dalmatian timber was imported for purposes available to the Allied Nations in the Mediterranean area is eucalyptus which is found in fairly extensive quantities in Algeria. It is estimated that approximately 1,700 mine props will be needed per month in Sardinia. These mine props may be round timber (not dimension lumber) with a minimum diameter at the small end of 5 inches. The lengths to which the logs should be cut in order to make suitable mine props cannot be furnished at the present time as this information will necessarily have to wait until examination of the mines is completed. However, it is recommended that permission be obtained from the French to fell some 2500 eucalyptus trees which can be trimmed and made ready for cutting into proper lengths immediately upon the receipt of the above information. The groves of eucalyptus should be chosen at places near railroad transportation."

3. Would you be good enough to contact the French Government and endeavour to negotiate the above proposal.

4. It will probably interest the French to know that N.A.E.B. is already investigating the possible use of Sardinian coal in N. AFRICA (until such time as it is possible to use the full production in Italy).

5. Further, it will be appreciated that French interests are being served by developing the Sardinian mines since the availability of exports to N. Africa will largely depend on the amount of coal we can provide to Italian industry.

J. E. BUTTERTON,
Colonel,
Military Government Section

4219

Appendix A.
N.A.E.B.
MILITARY DEPARTMENT

M-766

29 September 1943

SUBJECT:- Mine Props for Sardinia.

TO:- Mr. Hibben,
Procurement & Development Division,
N.A.E.B.

With reference to the conversation between yourself and Colonel Clarke, we attach herewith a copy of a letter we have received from the Military Government Section. Will you please let us have the benefit of your advice on this particular request.

Colonel,
NAEB, Military Department,

Appendix C.

CARBONIA - 2th November 1943

I N V E N T O R Y

OF THE LUMBER STORED IN THE RAILWAY STATION OF ABBASANTA, IN THE
STORES OF GENIO CIVILE.

ROUND PINE BEAMS from 4 to 10 linear meters long, and with a
diameter of 16 to 30 centimeters No 1.902
for a total length of 12.580 metres, about.

SQUARE BEAMS from 4 to 10 metres long, square section from
16 x 16 centimeters to 26 x 26 centimeters N. 2,003
total length 19.247 Linear meters
" volume about 641.260 cubic meters.

Enough for one month's production

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Oct. 10, 1943

TO : Major Ford, Military Department, NAEB.
FROM : Mr. Thomas Hibben, Procurement and Development Division.
SUBJECT: Pit Props for Sardinia.

With reference to your recommendation of Sept. 29th requesting information and the possibility of producing mine props for Sardinia, the following information is submitted:

1. The Civil requirements for North Africa of lumber exclusive of mine props have been presented as about 30,000 metric tons for the next six months. Of this amount we are importing some 1,500 tons and are endeavoring to secure the necessary quantity from North African and West African forests.
2. The Signal Corps requires 80,800 telephone poles and 40,000 cross arms which will require importation.
3. Packing of canned goods by Carnaud for military use will require 315 tons of box lumber.
4. Packing the surplus orange crop will require 28 million shocks (cases).

In view of these demands which already exceed the possible production of North Africa the shipment of timber to Sardinia which would require replacement in North Africa by importation can not be recommended.

It would seem much easier, quicker and more satisfactory to draw upon the extensive Timber supplies of Corsica.

THOMAS E HIBBEN
Acting Head, Industrial
Proc. Section

...for Sardinia, the following information is submitted:

1. The Civil requirements for North Africa of lumber exclusive of mine props have been presented as about 30,000 metric tons for the next six months. Of this amount we are importing some 1,500 tons and are endeavoring to secure the necessary quantity from North African and West African forrests.
2. The Signal Corps requires 50,800 telephone poles and 40,000 cross arms which will require importation.
3. Packing of canned goods by Carnaud for military use will require 315 tons of box lumber.
4. Packing the surplus orange crop will require 28 million shocks (cases).

In view of these demands which already exceed the possible production of North Africa the shipment of timber to Sardinia which would require replacement in North Africa by importation can not be recommended.

It would seem much easier, quicker and more satisfactory to draw upon the extensive Timber supplies of Corsica.

THOMAS E HIBBEN
Acting Head, Industrial
Pro. Sect., Procurement
and Development Division
NAEB

4218

24th October 1943.

To: Col. D.S. Adams, E.A.F. Sub-Commission, A.C.
From: Lieut. H.R.L. Macdonald, Forestry Division, A.C.
Subject: Situation Report - 24th October 1943.
Reference: 1075/2 (Forestry)

1. Extra-Italian Supplies of Timber for Urgent Requirements.

(a). Following the recommendations made in the Memorandum of 14th October 1943 (AC/1075/2), inquiries have been set on foot as to available external supplies of constructional timbers for Public Works, etc., Mr. Dolphin, U.K.C.C., Algiers, as to the specifications of the 5,000 tons of West African logs reported to be ready for shipment at Abidjan. Such woods, if of suitable dimensions, would require to be sawn to required sizes at a suitable point, probably in Italy. It is not recommended that orders should be placed for supply from the interior, in view of the slow rate of extraction, and delivery to the port of shipment.

(b). U.K.C.C. are making enquiries as to the availability of heavy structural timbers (including Eucalyptus piles) from Portugal. Replies to the queries under this head, and under (a) above, will be addressed to Col. Butterworth, M.G.S. for transmission to Col. Adams.

(c). A reply is awaited from Director of Works, Mid-East to the enquiry sent out with the approval of M.G.S. regarding a dump of bridge-building timber in the Sudan.

2. (a). Survey of Corsican Timber Resources.

This survey, when completed, will, it is hoped, yield information as to the availability of heavy structural timbers for Army and A.G. (Public Works and Transport) needs, together with recommendations as to measures for assisting extraction, shipment and utilisation.

(b). The Corsican survey will be followed by a survey of Calabrian forests, with the same ends in view (Calabria having the most important forests in Southern Italy).

(c). These surveys will enable decisions to be made as to the value of local logging and milling facilities, or as to the desirability of installing U.S. or British (Dominion) mobile logging and milling units.

3. Requirements of Timber by Allied Forces.

of extraction, and delivery to the port of shipment.

(b). U.K.C.C. are making enquiries as to the availability of heavy structural timbers (including Eucalyptus piles) from Portugal. Replies to the queries under this head, and under (a) above, will be addressed to Col. Butterworth, M.G.S. for transmission to Col. Adams.

(c). A reply is awaited from Director of Works, Mid-East to the enquiry sent out with the approval of M.G.S. regarding a dump of bridge-building timber in the Sudan.

2. (a). Survey of Corsican Timber Resources.

This survey, when completed, will, it is hoped, yield information as to the availability of heavy structural timbers for Army and A.G. (Public Works and Transport) needs, together with recommendations as to measures for assisting extraction, shipment and utilisation.

(b). The Corsican survey will be followed by a survey of Calabrian forests, with the same ends in view (Calabria having the most important forests in Southern Italy).

(c). These surveys will enable decisions to be made as to the value of local logging and milling facilities, or as to the desirability of installing U.S. or British (Dominion) mobile logging and milling units.

3. Requirements of Timber by Allied Forces.

(a). Nothing is known of Army requirements of lumber for essential needs.

(b). Col. F.B. Clarke (W.A.E.F.) is on his way to Italy for the purpose of founding a Board to co-ordinate the supply (and requisition) channels of all the American and British Supply Services.

(c). It is strongly recommended that contact be made by A.C. with this Board and that an officer of Forestry Division, A.C. be appointed as Forestry Liaison Officer to the Board, for the purpose of co-ordinating Army with essential civilian (Public Utility and Transportation, etc.) requirements. (See 1075/2/1A Par. 111).

(d). It is understood that Col. Butterworth, during his forthcoming visit to Italy, will make contact with Col. Clarke, and that he may have the opportunity of raising these questions contained in the Memorandum of 23rd October, 1943 (2075/2). It is considered that this a question of urgency with regard to Paper No. 421, making available supplies of material needed to assist the advance of the Allied Armies.

(e). If such contact should be established, it is recommended that Capt. Weber (Agric. Region 9) be appointed as Forestry Liaison Officer, being the only officer interviewed who has the requisite qualifications.

4. It is natural that when Regions and Sub-Commissions listed under the Memorandum to Col. Butterworth (LOA of 20th October 1943) commence functioning in the field, their timber requirements, for a variety of purposes, will come under review. It is strongly recommended that no action involving cutting of timber or ordering of supplies from sources external to Italy should be undertaken without reference to Forestry Division, A.C., Agriculture Sub-Commission, or Col. Adams (as head of E.A.F. Sub-Commission). It is recommended, therefore, that a communication be made to all Sub-Commissions and Regions, requesting that no instructions be issued which involve the felling (logging), milling or supply of lumber from internal (Italian) or external sources, without reference to Forestry Division.

5. Minimum Establishment for Forestry Division Officers.

It is estimated that liaison and collaboration with Army H.Q. under E(c) above will require the full-time services of at least one engineer with forestry training; two officers capable of making regional surveys and reports are required at A.C., and one officer is required for co-ordination and liaison with A.C. Sub-Commissions (Public Utilities, Transportation, Fuel, Industry and Commerce, and Agriculture.

In addition, it will be necessary for one forest officer to be allocated to each of the Regions containing important forests, to supervise milling and utilisation in collaboration with the re-constituted forest services.

6. Establishment of EM/OR.

Certain specially qualified personnel are required to permit the satisfactory functioning of Forestry Division in view of the necessity to make rapid, and reasonably accurate surveys of regional forests and timber supplies. Ability to act as interpreters to accompany (and drive for) officers making surveys, with experience in statistical compilation are the qualities required, and are possessed by the EM who were the subject of the application addressed to Major Watts (1075/2/6A), and it is recommended that these men, on arrival, should be assigned to Forestry Division, A.C.

7. Duties of Lieut Hardy in Sicily.

It is understood that Lieut. Hardy will proceed to Sicily with A.C. He has been instructed to perform the following functions during my absence in Corsica:-

(a). Make contact with Major Hartman and apprise him (Major Hartman) of the developments affecting Forestry Division since his departure.

(b). Under Major Hartman's guidance to carry out such of the activities outlined under the Plan of Operations (Memorandum of 14th October pp.4/5), as are applicable to Sicily.

In addition, it will be necessary for one forest officer to be allocated to each of the Regions containing important forests, to supervise milling and utilisation in collaboration with the re-constituted forest services.

6. Establishment of EM/OR.

Certain specially qualified personnel are required to permit the satisfactory functioning of Forestry Division in view of the necessity to make rapid, and reasonably accurate surveys of regional forests and timber supplies. Ability to act as interpreters to accompany (and drive for) officers making surveys, with experience in statistical compilation are the qualities required, and are possessed by the EM who were the subject of the application addressed to Major Watts (1075/2/6A), and it is recommended that these men, on arrival, should be assigned to Forestry Division, A.C.

7. Duties of Lieut Hardy in Sicily.

It is understood that Lieut. Hardy will proceed to Sicily with A.C. He has been instructed to perform the following functions during my absence in Corsica:-

- (a). Make contact with Major Hartman and apprise him (Major Hartman) of the developments affecting Forestry Division since his departure.
- (b). Under Major Hartman's guidance to carry out such of the activities outlined under the Plan of Operations (Memorandum of 14th October P.4/5), as are applicable to Sicily.
- (c). Continue the collation of reference material covered by the Plan of Operations.
- (d). Maintain contact with Sub-Commissions having timber or wood fuel requirements, and group such requirements, with recommendations as to how they are to be met, from information available.
- (e). Prepare all necessary material to enable a prompt survey of Calabrian forest resources and availability to be made immediately following my return.

4215

H. R. L. Macdonald

H. R. L. Macdonald.

checked L.S.

11A

MGS ALG V TIZ MESSAGE NO 5
OCTOBER 23 1943 TIME 1702

TO JACS AND MG SCHOOL & H C

REFERENCE YOUR AC/1075/2 OF 20 OCT

ARRANGEMENT S HAVE BEEN MADE FOR LIEUT N R L MACDONALD TO PROCEED ON OR ABOUT 26 OCTOBER TO CORSICA AS REQUESTED BY YOU X HE SHOULD REPORT TO THE DIRECTOR OF SERVICES DE BOIS OF FRENCH DIRECTION DE LA PRODUCTION INDUSTRIELLE ON 25 OCT PRIOR TO EMBARKING ON 26 OCT X HE WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A VEHICLE OF REGION 6 X THIS VEHICLE WILL BE DELIVERED TO REGION 6 IN SARDENIA BY LIEUT MACDONALD ON HIS RETURN JOURNEY FROM CORSICA X THIS VEHICLE WILL COUNT AGAINST THE 15 VEHICLES AUTHORIZED FOR ADVANCE PARTY REGION 6 IN THIS SECTION MEMORANDUM DATED 20 SEPT X ISSUE LT MACDONALD WITH THIRTY (30) DAYS RATIONS X TRAVEL ORDERS WILL BE ARRANGED BY THIS SECTION AND HANDED TO LT MACDONALD IN PERSON

BARRATT

4215

104

TO : MGS, AFHQ.
FROM : J. C. S.
SUBJECT : Memo. requested by Col. Butterworth prepared by Forestry Division for his use in Discussions in Italy.
REFERENCE : AC/1075/2 (Forestry)
DATE : 20 OCTOBER 1943.

1. With reference to the "Memorandum on Functioning of the Forestry Section of the Sub-Commission for Agriculture", dated 14th October 1943, attached hereto, giving the background information required by Col. Butterworth, attention is drawn to the plan of operations (Page 4), from which points for discussion have been prepared at his request for his forthcoming trip to Italy.

2. Forestry Division, A.C., is prepared to re-establish the functioning of Italian forestry services in order to make available maximum supplies of timber for military requirements, public utilities, transportation, telecommunications, acute civil needs, and eventually normal civil requirements.

3. Forestry Division is prepared to advise on the supply of such timbers as cannot be procured in Italy and which must be brought from external sources, making use of channels of information. Forestry Division will make available trained personnel for similar investigations (where necessary) to that which it is carrying out in Corsica. To facilitate these functions it is recommended that liaison should be established as early as practicable with Allied Armies Supply Services in Italy.

4. It is essential that supplies of timber should be made available immediately, and, therefore, that Forestry Division should commence functioning in Italy without delay. To effect this Italian forestry services must be reconstituted, where necessary, mills set in operation, labour and transport problems overcome, essential tool and machinery requirements supplied, etc. We suggest that Col. Butterworth may wish to ascertain when Forestry Division may commence functioning, and in what areas.

5. It is anticipated that fuel needs for power will require prompt attention in view of the coal shortage and the probable destruction of hydroelectric plants. There will, inevitably, be very heavy requirements for substituting wood for coal in industrial plants, in addition to the normal heavy consumption of firewood and charcoal.

- 2 -

6. In view of the shortage of rolling stock, information is needed as to the steps which have been taken to set freight car works in operation, and when the Division can commence functioning in the supply of timber.
7. Information is needed on the condition of railroads, and what Military action has been taken to secure ties.
8. Similar information is needed with regard to telecommunications and supply of telephone poles and cross-arms.
9. In view of the extra strain on road transport occasioned by the cessation of electrically operated railroads, together with the necessity to limit petrol imports, information is needed on what steps have been taken by the Italians to develop gas-producer units for vehicles and possibly certain industrial power requirements.
10. It is known that heavy exports of fruit were made to Germany in 1941/42, and there is likely to be a shortage of case wood. In view of the decision to export the citrus crop to the United Kingdom, information is required on the state of the fruit-case plants, and their position in regard to timber supplies.

D. J. Gueterbock
Brigadier,
E. GUETERBOCK.

Colonel.
R. G. KIRKWOOD.

for
Joint Chiefs of Staff.
Holding and Planning Centre.

/wow.

785015

TO: M.G.S. A.P.H.Q.

FROM: J. C. S.

SUBJECT: Authority to send Forestry Officer to Corsica for Survey of Timber Supply.

REFERENCE: AC/1075/2

DATE: 20 Oct. 1943

1. Requirements of timber, (particularly heavy timbers) for emergency construction in Italy will be substantial.
2. Information to hand indicates Corsica, as the nearest possible source of Timber Supply in view of the proximity of Bastia (Corsica) to Italian West Coast Ports. Corsica formerly (pre-war) supplied Italy with Oak and Maritime Pine. These considerations make the use of Corsican Timber vitally important.
3. The first step is to send an experienced officer from Forestry Div. AC to make "on the ground" investigation. He should go via Sardinia to check with Lt. Col. Koenig, region 6, now there, on Timber needed for pit props, required for development of Sardinian coal mines.
4. A recent conference with the Director of Services de Bois of French Direction de la Production Industrielle, Algiers developed the information that he is eager to make a survey, without delay, for the purpose of ascertaining conditions since the Axis occupation. He feels that it would be desirable for our forestry Officer to accompany him. Such a joint survey is obviously most desirable from the point of view of A.C.
5. These matters were discussed with Col. Butterworth, 13 Oct. 1943, in Algiers. As a result of this conference request is made, herewith, for authority for Lieut. N.R.L. Macdonald, (Forestry AC) to proceed to Corsica via Sardinia by sea transport, returning to Algiers after completion, for the purpose of making this investigation.

D. J. Edwards
Col. R.F.
Brigadier,

2. Information to hand indicates Corsica, as the nearest possible source of Timber Supply in view of the proximity of Bastia (Corsica) to Italian West Coast Ports. Corsica formerly (pre-war) supplied Italy with Oak and Maritime Pine. These considerations make the use of Corsican Timber vitally important.

3. The first step is to send an experienced officer from Forestry Div. AC to make "on the ground" investigation. He should go via Sardinia to check with Lt. Col. Keenig, region 6, now there, on Timber needed for pit props, required for development of Sardinian coal mines.

4. A recent conference with the Director of Services de Bois of French Direction de la Production Industrielle, Algiers developed the information that he is eager to make a survey, without delay, for the purpose of ascertaining conditions since the Axis occupation. He feels that it would be desirable for our forestry officer to accompany him. Such a joint survey is obviously most desirable from the point of view of A.C.

5. These matters were discussed with Col. Butterworth, 13 Oct. 1943, in Algiers. As a result of this conference request is made, herewith, for authority for Lieut. W.R.L. Macdonald, (Forestry AC) to proceed to Corsica via Sardinia by sea transport, returning to Algiers after completion, for the purpose of making this investigation.

D. J. Edwards
Col. R.E.F.

Brigadier,
E. GUETERBOCK

Colonel,
R.G. KIRKWOOD
Joint Chiefs of Staff,
Holding & Planning Center.

/ear

4213

TO: M.G.S. A.F.H.Q.

FROM: J. C. S.

SUBJECT: Visit to Corsica and Sardinia by Lt. N.R.L. Macdonald, Forestry AC and Mr. J.R. Muzard, Chef du Service de Bois, Departement de la Production Industrielle.

REFERENCE: 1075/2

DATE: 19 Oct. 1943.

1. Following the conference held with Colonel Butterworth, yesterday, Lt. Macdonald held interviews with Mr. Muzard and the Chef du Departement de la Production Industrielle at the Lycee Fromentin.
2. Complete agreement was reached with regard to the proposed joint survey of Corsican Forest Resources and Sardinian pit prop requirements, and the Chef du Departement ask that an official communication be made by M.G.S. as to the reasons for the survey, in order that necessary authorisations could be issued.
3. We are enclosing, herewith, a rough draft covering the points agreed upon at Lt. Macdonald's interview and would emphasize that in preparing this, our intention was purely to provide an indication of the lines suggested by the Commissaire, for the confirmatory letter required, which you will doubtless modify at your discretion.

E. Gueterbock

Brigadier,
E. GUETERBOCK

Colonel,

4212

1. Following the conference held with Colonel Butterworth, yesterday, Lt. Macdonald held interviews with Mr. Muzard and the Chef du Departement de la Production Industrielle at the Lycee Fromentin.
2. Complete agreement was reached with regard to the proposed joint survey of Corsican Forest Resources and Sardinian pit prop requirements, and the Chef du Departement ask that an official communication be made by M.G.S. as to the reasons for the survey, in order that necessary authorizations could be issued.
3. We are enclosing, herewith, a rough draft covering the points agreed upon at Lt. Macdonald's interview and would emphasize that in preparing this, our intention was purely to provide an indication of the lines suggested by the Commissaire, for the confirmatory letter required, which you will doubtless modify at your discretion.

E. Gueterbock

Brigadier,
E. GUETERBOCK

for

Colonel,
R.G. KIRKWOOD
Joint Chiefs of Staff,
Holding & Planning Center.

/ear

(Rough Draft)

TO: Monsieur le Commissaire de la Production et du Commerce, L
Lycee Fromentin, Alger.

SUBJECT: Survey of Corsican Forest Resources in Relation to Joint Allied
Requirements for Military and Civil Needs.

DATE: 20 Oct 1943.

1. As a result of conferences held between representatives of this Department, and officials of your Department, on the subject of Corsican forest resources, it appears to be highly desirable that a survey of Corsican forests and milling facilities be carried out without delay.
2. For many reasons it is desirable that such a survey be made jointly by an expert of your Department in company with a qualified representative of our own.

3. The principal reasons for this joint survey which have emerged from these conferences may be summarized as under: -

- i. There is an urgent need to secure supplies of pit props for the development of Sardinian coal mines, and investigation has shown that for this purpose Corsica is the nearest source. The need for this development is felt equally by both parties.

- ii. The military requirements of both the French Army in Corsica and the 15 Army GP, together with the timber requirements of public utilities in Italy, Corsica and North Africa necessitate immediate information as to the state of Corsican mills and transport facilities, so that requisitions for essential machinery and tools (if any) may be made with the minimum of delay. This again is a matter of common interest between us.

- iii. In order to assist the advance of the Allied Forces in Italy, it will be necessary to prepare in advance supplies of bridging and constructional timbers which may be immediately available for restoring bridges and communications when required. In view, therefore, of the proximity of Corsica to Italian west coast ports, we are eager that every effort be made to insure the availability of such supplies in Corsica. In this respect we feel sure that you will share our desire.

- iv. We, therefore, would be most appreciative if you would give your consent to the proposed joint survey of Corsican forest resources, milling facilities, etc., to be carried out by Mr. J. R. Muzard, Chef du Service de Bois and Lieut. N. R. L. Macdonald, Forestry Section of the Allied Commission.

3. The principal reasons for this joint survey which have emerged from these conferences may be summarized as under: -

i. There is an urgent need to secure supplies of pit props for the development of Sardinian coal mines, and investigation has shown that for this purpose Corsica is the nearest source. The need for this development is felt equally by both parties.

ii. The military requirements of both the French Army in Corsica and the 15 Army Gp, together with the timber requirements of public utilities in Italy, Corsica and North Africa necessitate immediate information as to the state of Corsican mills and transport facilities, so that requisitions for essential machinery and tools (if any) may be made with the minimum of delay. This again is a matter of common interest between us.

iii. In order to assist the advance of the Allied Forces in Italy, it will be necessary to prepare in advance supplies of bridging and constructional timbers which may be immediately available for restoring bridges and communications when required. In view, therefore, of the proximity of Corsica to Italian west coast ports, we are eager that every effort be made to insure the availability of such supplies in Corsica. In this respect we feel sure that you will share our desire.

4. We, therefore, would be most appreciative if you would give your consent to the proposed joint survey of Corsican forest resources, milling facilities, etc., to be carried out by Mr. J. R. Muzard, Chef du Service de Bois and Lieut. W. R. L. Macdonald, Forestry Section of the Allied Commission.

5. In order to estimate actual requirements of timber for Sardinian coal mines, it will be necessary for Lieut. Macdonald to visit Sardinia, and it would be an added advantage, as we feel sure you will agree, if Mr. Muzard could accompany him.

6. In the event of your favorable reply, it is suggested that Mr. Muzard and Lieut. Macdonald should travel by sea to Corsica, whence they can reach Sardinia by coastal shipping.

TO: The Director
Forest Products Research Laboratory,
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research,
PRINCES RISBOROUGH,
NICKS.

FROM: Forestry Section,
Sub-Commission for Agriculture,
Allied Commission,
c/o AFHQ,
BNAF.

SUBJECT: Information Service Between Forest Products Research Laboratory
and Allied Commission.

REFERENCE: AC/1075/2(For)

DATE: 15 October 1943.

Sir:

The functions of the Forestry Section of the Allied Commission cover all phases of forestry and timber utilization within the areas of Italy which have already been occupied or will, eventually, be occupied by the Allied Forces. In view, therefore, of the exceedingly wide range of these activities, it is hoped that your Department may be prepared to assist us in some of the problems with which we are at present faced, and which may develop from time to time.

An immediate and most valuable assistance which it might be possible for you to render us, would be in the preparation and despatch of reference material which it is impossible to obtain here, and in making available to us the results of any research which has been carried out within your Department of which we may stand in need.

To enable you to form an opinion as to what material might be of value to us it will be necessary to give you an outline of the present problems with which we have to deal.

Our first, and most urgent task is to make available from whatever sources are in existence, timber supplies for temporary repair to public utilities, ports and harbors, bridges, railways, rolling stock, and all types of vehicles which may be needed for transport. The guiding principle in this respect is to make every effort to supply local needs from such material as may exist in the immediate neighborhood, and therefore to avoid, so far as possible, relying on external sources, either for timber requirements or for machinery or tools required to extract or fashion timber supplies. This involves the use of material not normally suited for the employment to which it

DATE: 15 October 1943.

Sir:

The functions of the Forestry Section of the Allied Commission cover all phases of forestry and timber utilization within the areas of Italy which have already been occupied or will, eventually, be occupied by the Allied Forces. In view, therefore, of the exceedingly wide range of these activities, it is hoped that your Department may be prepared to assist us in some of the problems with which we are at present faced, and which may develop from time to time.

An immediate and most valuable assistance which it might be possible for you to render us, would be in the preparation and despatch of reference material which it is impossible to obtain here, and in making available to us the results of any research which has been carried out within your Department of which we may stand in need.

To enable you to form an opinion as to what material might be of value to us it will be necessary to give you an outline of the present problems with which we have to deal.

Our first, and most urgent task is to make available from whatever sources are in existence, timber supplies for temporary repair to public utilities, ports and harbors, bridges, railways, rolling stock, and all types of vehicles which may be needed for transport. The guiding principle in this respect is to make every effort to supply local needs from such material as may exist in the immediate neighborhood, and therefore to avoid, so far as possible, relying on external sources, either for timber requirements or for machinery or tools required to extract or fashion timber supplies. This involves the use of material not normally suited for the employment to which it is put, including the substitution and/or mixture of hardwoods for softwoods, and in situations where the timber so employed will be submitted to wear and loads tables of breaking strains are essential to enable optimum utilization.

In addition, valuable lessons must have been learned by the necessity for similar urgent repairs of a temporary nature in the United Kingdom, during this war, and any information which is in your possession would be most welcome. As an example we are awaiting full details of a process for laminating small pieces of timber into large baulks, by means of a special cold gluing process, which Madison Forest Products Laboratory are sending us. This, if applicable to our work may enable us to use local timbers for heavy dimension work which would otherwise require to be transported by sea.

It has been found in North Africa that production in local mills was retarded by the shortage of machinery and tools such as hand saws and circular saws, winches, files, etc., and it will be necessary to supply similar material in the new theatre of operations. We therefore are in need of logging and sawmill machinery manufacturers catalogues and any information you can give us which will help us to decide on the feasibility of extracting and milling under newly developed methods, which will conserve materials and enable rapid conversion will be of very great value.

We are arranging for the employment of U.S. Army Mobile Units for logging and milling, which have proved their worth in North Africa, but if you can recommend any small portable units which have been developed in the United Kingdom during the war, and which will be suitable for transportation from one small wood to another for the purpose of converting timber into boards and planks we should be glad to learn of them.

As one of our principle aims is to restore timber workers to employment, and so relieve the strain on our relief organizations, we are also anxious to know of any developments in the nature of wood using industries which might be made use of. As Italy produces very large quantities of charcoal, and is short of coal, any developments in the employment of charcoal as a fuel for industrial and domestic power and heating, or in gas producer units for transport vehicles would be of the greatest interest.

The value of plywood for all types of construction has been well established, and as no supplies can be imported, any new method of production which may be applicable under local conditions, and which does not require elaborate plant would be of very great value. New uses for sawdust and waste offer another interesting field, while the necessity for packing fruit and food products renders any development in the production of fruit cases and boxes of importance if it can be employed locally.

We do not possess any ready reckoners for calculating the contents of round or sawn timber, and though this is scarcely within your province, it would be of the greatest material assistance if you could procure for us a supply of the latest types, including tables for calculating the sawn product of round logs.

Finally, as we have no tables of equivalent strength here, we should be most grateful if you would be so kind as to give us the equivalent dimensions required for the West African timbers listed in App. "A" are used instead of the yellow pine and Douglas fir specification in App. "B". Any information or printed material which you are in a position to send us may be sent by airmail if you notify our office in London.

We shall be deeply appreciative if you find that you are able to assist us in at least some of the queries we have placed before you.

and so relieve the strain on our relief organizations, we are also anxious to know of any developments in the nature of wood using industries which might be made use of. As Italy produces very large quantities of charcoal, and is short of coal, any developments in the employment of charcoal as a fuel for industrial and domestic power and heating, or in gas producer units for transport vehicles would be of the greatest interest.

The value of plywood for all types of construction has been well established, and as no supplies can be imported, any new method of production which may be applicable under local conditions, and which does not require elaborate plant would be of very great value. New uses for sawdust and waste offer another interesting field, while the necessity for packing fruit and food products renders any development in the production of fruit cases and boxes of importance if it can be employed locally.

We do not possess any ready reckoners for calculating the contents of round or sawn timber, and though this is scarcely within your province, it would be of the greatest material assistance if you could procure for us a supply of the latest types, including tables for calculating the sawn product of round logs.

Finally, as we have no tables of equivalent strength here, we should be most grateful if you would be so kind as to give us the equivalent dimensions required if the West African timbers listed in App. "A" are used instead of the yellow pine and Douglas fir specification in App. "B". Any information or printed material which you are in a position to send us may be sent by airmail if you notify our office in London.

We shall be deeply appreciative if you find that you are able to assist us in at least some of the queries we have placed before you.

4209

W. H. H. H. H.
Director,
Sub-Commission for Agriculture.

P.S. When sending any material to us, the simplest method would be to forward it to Civil Affairs (Military Government) Department. The War Office, S.W. 1, with a covering note asking that it should be posted to us by air mail.

APPENDIX "A"

<u>Timbers</u>	
12" x 12"	200
	500
	400
8 x 16"	600
6 x 12"	1,000
2 x 6"	600
	400
	2 ft.
	10 ft.
	12 ft.
	12 ft.
	12 ft.
	14 ft.
	12 ft.

4" planking 14 ft. long 100 n. E/F.

Spikes for A 12" timbers, B 4" planking, C 2" bracing

The above requisition covers the estimated requirements for ten rail bridges and ten highway bridges plus 30%.

APPENDIX "B"

Table of Species Included in West African Parcel

<u>Species</u>	<u>Density</u>
Samba	0.6 - Soft suitable for planks
Frake	0.75
Framiri	0.8 - Good but limited
Kotibe	0.8 " "
Wiangon	0.8 - Medium plentiful
Froke	0.6 " "
Tisma	0.8 - Quality unknown
Sipo	0.7 - Good but limited
Aboudikro	0.85 - Medium plentiful
Tosse	0.85 - Like Iroko
Mekore	0.85 - Quality unknown
Bali	0.85 " "
Dabena	1.0 - Good. Acacia - type
Azole	

4" planking 14 ft. long 100 m. P/T.

Spikes for A 12" timbers, B 4" planking, C 2" bracing

The above requisition covers the estimated requirements for ten rail bridges and ten highway bridges plus 30%.

APPENDIX "B"

Table of Species Included in West African Parcel

Species	Density
Serba	0.6 - Soft suitable for planks
Frake	0.75
Fremiri	0.8 - Good but limited
Kotiba	0.8 - " "
Wiangon	0.8 - Medium plentiful
Froke	0.6 - " "
Tisma	0.8 - Quality unknown
Sipo	0.7 - Good but limited
Aboudikro	0.85 - Medium plentiful
Besse	0.85 - Like Iroko
Makore	0.85 - Quality unknown
Bali	0.85 - " "
Dabema	1.0 - Good, Acacia - type
Azobe	1.2 - Plentiful furniture and bldg.
Tali	1.2 - Quality unknown

The usual lengths of West African woods in the log are 12 to 20 ft. ^{42 ft. diameters} of 18 inches to 4 ft. 6 in. at the butt. Individual species are difficult to obtain and the majority of shipments are mixed as the above. Any quantity of such wood is available 200 miles inland but extraction to port is very slow.

6A.

TO: Major Watts.
FROM: Lieut. N.R.L. MacDonald.
SUBJECT: Suggested EM/OR Requirements for Forestry Section of
Sub-Commission for Agriculture A.C.
REFERENCE: AC/1075/2.
DATE: 15 Oct 43.

The present requirements of Forestry Section are for EM/OR with experience in compiling statistical data under direction. For this purpose a knowledge of Italian and French is desirable, as many of the sources of reference will be in those languages.

From the plan of operations for the immediate future, which has been approved by Col. Adams, it is apparent that two such men are required now, one at TIZI-OUZOU, and the other at PALERMO, working under the direction of Major Hartman.

It is evident that at a later stage, when it will be necessary to carry out tours of occupied territory for the purpose of inspecting forests and milling conditions the services of a driver who can act as Personal Assistant to the inspecting officer would be highly desirable.

There are three E M either here or on the way who appear to fill the above requirements, and it is requested that application be made for them to be assigned to Forestry Section - they are :-

32712842 T4 Sgt. Franco ^{SMOKYINA} ~~Smorrina~~. May also act as Sgt i/o office staff - due at TIZI-OUZOU in 7 - 10 days.

11091904 Cpl. Laurence W. Shenfield - due at about the same time.

32866145 Pte. Oscar Gizeit - already at TIZI-OUZOU - or

31310296 Pte. E.D.C. Rutledge - due in three weeks.

NRLM/wcw

Lieut. ²⁰⁷
N. R. L. MacDonald.

5A

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Oct. 10, 1943

TO : Major Ford, Military Department, NAEB.
FROM : Mr. Thomas Hibben, Procurement and Development Division.
SUBJECT: Pit Props for Sardinia.

With reference to your recommendation of Sept. 29th requesting information and the possibility of producing mine props for Sardinia, the following information is submitted:

1. The Civil requirements for North Africa of lumber exclusive of mine props have been presented as about 30,000 metric Tons for the next six months. Of this amount we are importing some 1,500 tons and are endeavoring to secure the necessary quantity from North African and West African forrests.
2. The Signal Corps requires 50,800 telephone poles and 40,000 cross arms which will require importation.
3. Packing of canned goods by Carnaud for military use will require 315 tons of box lumber.
4. Packing the surplus orange crop will require 28 million shocks (cases).

In view of these demands which already exceed the possible production of North Africa the shipment of timber to Sardinia which would require replacement in North Africa by importation can not be recommended.

It would seem much easier, quicker and more satisfactory to draw upon the extensive Timber supplies of Corsica.

THOMAS E. HIBBEN
Acting Head, Industrial
Pro. Sect., Procurement
and Development Division
NAEB

42118

Copy

N. A. E. B.
MILITARY DEPARTMENT

5A

M - 766

29 September 1943

SUBJECT: - Mine Props for Sardinia.

TO: Mr. Hibben,
Procure & Development Division,
N.A.E.B.

With reference to the conversation between yourself and Colonel Clarke, we attach herewith a copy of a letter we have received from the Military Government Section. Will you please let us have the benefit of your advice on this particular request.

Colonel,
NAEB, Military Department.

4205

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

CAGS

5A

Military Government Section

MGS - 463.3

SUBJECT: Mine Props for Sardinia.

TO : A/DQMG N.A.E.B. (M11)

1. AMG requires mine props urgently for use in Sardinia.
2. Following is an extract from Report of AMG Coal expert who is going into Sardinia with the special AMG detachment that will control the mines there.

" a. Mine Props. No mine props are available in Sardinia. In the past Dalmation timber was imported for this purpose. The only timber at all suitable for mining purposes available to the Allied Nations in the Mediterranean area is eucalyptus which is found in fairly extensive quantities in Algeria. It is estimated that approximately 1,700 mine props will be needed per month in Sardinia. These mine props may be round timber (not dimension lumber) with a minimum diameter at the small end of 5 inches. The lengths to which the logs should be cut in order to make suitable mine props cannot be furnished at the present time as this information will necessarily have to wait until examination of the mines is completed. However, it is recommended that permission be obtained from the French to fell some 2500 eucalyptus trees which can be trimmed and made ready for cutting into proper lengths immediately upon the receipt of the above information. The groves of eucalyptus should be chosen at places near railroad transportation."
3. Would you be good enough to contact the French Government and endeavour to negotiate the above proposal.
4. It will probably interest the French to know that N.A.E.B. is already investigating the possible use of Sardinian coal in N. AFRICA (until such time as it is possible to use the full production in Italy).
5. Further, it will be appreciated that French interests are being served by developing the Sardinian mines since the availability of exports to N. Africa will be largely dependent on the amount of coal we can provide to Italian industry.

J. E. BUTTERWORTH,
Colonel,

Military Government Section

4201

Copy

N. A. E. B.
MILITARY DEPARTMENT

5A

29 September 1943

M - 766

SUBJECT: - Mine Props for Sardinia.

TO: Mr. Hibben,
Procure & Development Division,
N.A.E.B.

With reference to the conversation between yourself and Colonel Clarke, we attach herewith a copy of a letter we have received from the Military Government Section. Will you please let us have the benefit of your advice on this particular request.

Colonel,
NAEB, Military Department.

4205

4 A

LUMBER SUPPLY IN U. S. - W.P.B. MATERIALS SUBSTITUTION LIST "9
JULY 15, 1943.

LUMBERGROUP IINSUFFICIENT FOR WAR

Balsa (all grades)
Basswood (all grades)
Beech (all grades)
Cypress (Tank and Boat Stock)
Douglas Fir (all boards, thick clears and dimension).
Eastern Hemlock (all grades).
Eastern Spruce (all grades).
Eastern White Pine (all grades).
Hackberry (all grades).
Hard Maple (all grades).
Hickory (all grades).
Idaho White Pine (No. 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5; Inch Shop, 5/4 and thicker).
Magnolia (all grades).
Mahogany (all grades).
Noble Fir (No. 1 No. 2 Aircraft & Ladder stock)
Northern White Pine (all grades)
Norway Pine (all grades)
Pecan (all grades)
Ponderosa Pine (No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; Inch Shop, 5/4 and thicker)
Rattan
Red Gum (all grades)
Red Oak (all grades)
Rock Elm (all grades)
Sap Gum (all grades)
Sitka Spruce (Aircraft & Ladder-all boards and box)
Soft Elm (all grades).
Soft Maple (all grades).
Southern Pine (all boards and box grades)
Sugar Pine No 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; Inch Shop 5/4 thicker.
Sycamore (all grades).
Teak (all grades)
Walnut (all grades)
West Coast Hemlock (Boards-Aircraft-Ladder).
Water Tupelo (all grades)
Western Larch (all boards)
White Ash (all grades)
White Oak (all grades)
Yellow Birch (all grades)
Yellow Poplar (all grades)

GROUP II

Cypress (F.A.S. Selects, No. k Shop. No. 1, 2, 3, Box-Pecky).
Douglas Fir (Flooring, Drop Siding, Ceiling: 2x4's and 2x6's- 42.
all grades).
Idaho White Pine (Selects, Factory Selects. No. 3 clear. No. 1 Shop).
Noble Fir (Selects. Shop)
Ponderosa Pine (Selects. Factory Selects. No. 3 clear. No. 1 Shop).
Redwood (Selects. No. 1, 2, 3)

-2-

Sitka Spruce (Shop-dimension)
Southern Pine (Selects, Shop, 2x4's and 2x6's - all grades)
Sugar Pine (Selects, Factory Selects. No. 3 clear).
West Coast Hemlock (Flooring, Drop Siding, Ceiling, Dimension).
Western Red Cedar (Selects. No. 1)
Western Larch (No. 1,2,3, in 2" dimension).

GROUP III - AVAILABLE

Douglas fir (3" and 4" plank and timbers, all grades; 2" plank 8"
and wider No. 1 or higher).
Southern Yellow pine (3" and 4" plank and timbers, all grades; 2"
plank 8" and wider No. 1 or higher).
Western Larch (3 and 4 inch plank and timbers)
Western Red Cedar (No. 2 and 3).

4202

~~2A~~
3A
MGS ALG V MGS TIZ
MESSAGE NO TWO
15 OCTOBER 1943 TIME 1705

TO JACS HOLDING AND PLANNING CENTERS

REQUEST CLARIFICATION MGS NO 2 15 OCT SUBJECT BRIDGE TIMBERS THIS LOOKS
LIKE MILITARY OR NAVAL MATTER WHAT IS MGS INTEREST? WHERE DID INQUIRY
ORIGINATE?

BUTTERWORTH

AC/1075/2
E & F.

4201

TO HGS AETD ~~AND~~ GALT E TO DIRECTOR OF WORKS MID-EAST BEGIN 2A

FROM JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF HOLDING & PLANNING CENTER

AC/1075/2 15 OCTOBER 1943 STOP PLEASE MAKE INQUIRIES FORTHWITH
AS TO AVAILABILITY OF DUMP OF BRIDGE TIMBERS REPORTED TO BE
LYING ON THE NILE AT MALAKAL-JUBA REACH STOP REQUIRED FOR
PORT AND HARBOUR REPAIR ITALIAN MAINLAND STOP IF AVAILABLE
GABLE SPECIES SPECIFICATION AND QUANTITIES IN EACH
DIMENSION STOP ALSO APPROXIMATE EARLIEST DATE PARCEL WOULD
ARRIVE PORT SOUDAN IF PUT ON RAIL IMMEDIATELY

[Approved for transmission -

D. J. Adams

Colonel E-F

for J.A.C.S.]

Message sent,
1630 hrs, 15 Oct 43.

B. M. Poulos *SP4*
Asst. Chief Clerk, C.R., A.C.

4200

14 October 1943.

1A

SUBJECT: Memorandum on Functioning of Forestry Section of the Sub-Commission for Agriculture.

TO: : Colonel Adams, E & F Sub-Commission.

FROM: Lieut. N. R. L. Macdonald.

Sir:

I. The purpose of this memorandum is to present an exposé of the present situation of the Forestry Section in relation to the rest of the Sub-Commissions of A.C. & A.M.G. L of C, together with a plan for the immediate activities of the Forestry Section, after considering the factors which emerge from this necessarily rapid and incomplete survey.

II. Introduction

From the discussions held in your presence with Major Hartman, and after considering the available information, the general lines of policy agreed upon with regard to the work of the Forestry Section may be summarised as follows:

1. Within the limits prescribed by the general policy of A.C. to carry out such work with regard to forest resources as may assist the advance of the Allied Forces in Italy.

2. In collaboration with the Sub-Commissions of A.C. using or dependent to an extent upon forest products, to recommend such steps as will hasten the reemployment of the Italian Civilian population normally employed in forestal occupations and lumber utilisation.

3. To assist in the re-establishment of the Italian forestry service, and in the intervening period, to advise on such exploitation of Italian forest resources as will make available maximum supplies for all needs, without impairing the forest capital.

III. Primary Needs.

In view of the destruction caused by the retreating Germans, the necessity for restoring port and harbor facilities and communications with the minimum of delay is of first importance to the Allied Armies in order to expedite unloading and transport of war materials, and in next degree of urgency, for the restoration of public utilities for civilian needs.

This consideration, therefore, focuses attention on:-

1. What are the most urgent requirements from the view point of

...considering the available information, the general lines of policy agreed upon with regard to the work of the Forestry Section may be summarized as follows:

1. Within the limits prescribed by the general policy of A.C. to carry out such work with regard to forest resources as may assist the advance of the Allied Forces in Italy.
2. In collaboration with the Sub-Commissions of A.C. using or dependent to an extent upon forest products, to recommend such steps as will hasten the reemployment of the Italian Civilian population normally employed in forestal occupations and lumber utilization.
3. To assist in the re-establishment of the Italian forestry service, and in the intervening period, to advise on such exploitation of Italian forest resources as will make available maximum supplies for all needs, without impairing the forest capital.

III. Primary Needs.

In view of the destruction caused by the retreating Germans, the necessity for restoring port and harbor facilities and communications with the minimum of delay is of first importance to the Allied Armies in order to expedite unloading and transport of war materials, and in next degree of urgency, for the restoration of public utilities for civilian needs.

This consideration, therefore, focuses attention on:-

1. What are the most urgent requirements from the view point of timber supplies.
2. From where, and by what means, are these supplies to be made available.

From the very limited information available it is, nevertheless, apparent that large dimension lumber is required with the greatest degree of urgency for restoring port and harbor facilities at Naples and other ports and bridges throughout the occupied area.

Other urgent requirements are telephone poles and cross arms for military and civilian purposes, railway rolling stock repair and construction, and pit-props for mining, particularly in Sardinian coal mines. To obtain an approximation of total immediate requirements a survey on the spot is considered to be essential as reports from C.A.Os will not be sufficiently comprehensive nor rapidly available.

IV. Supply (General)

The largest dimensions of lumber for port and harbour work are unobtainable in the Mediterranean and as they are irreplaceable by any substitute, must be provided by sea transport. This particularly applies to piles.

Lt. Col. Jenny (Public Works & Utilities) has prepared an interim requisition (see App. "A") for supply of such lumber from the United States, but, as such shipments require ocean transport, it has been thought desirable to make every possible enquiry as to potential sources within reach of coastal transport. From this it has emerged that 5,000 tons of West African logs are lying at French West African ports awaiting shipment, and information was obtained from Col. Viney (Transportation) ^{of the} RE dump of bridging timber in the Sudan. The specification and table of species of the French West African logs is attached in App. "B", while enquiries are on foot regarding the extent and availability of the Sudan dump, and also as to possible supplies from Nigeria and the Belgian Congo of logs whose shipment had been interrupted by the war. In this connection it should be understood that work on public utilities and the like will be of an emergency nature and therefore that any timbers which will serve for a sufficient period of time should be utilized. Thus, comparatively inferior species such as some of the West African may prove adequate for the emergency. Furthermore, it has been ascertained that a method of building up large dimension lumber by lamination has been developed by the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin, details of which are being sent to North Africa by Air Mail. Should this method prove to be practicable under local conditions it would have considerable value in adding to supplies (see Para. V. below).

It is unlikely that any of these timbers will prove suitable for piles, as, in the dimensions required for piles, the only trees available would be of young growth which, in equatorial woods is fast grown and has insufficient strength for pile driving. Pile requirements will, therefore, require to be supplied from the United States and Australia. This is the view also held by NAEB and therefore orders and shipping priorities should be placed as soon as approximate requirements are ascertained (but see x(vi)).

V. Local Supply

The smaller dimensions required for port and harbour work and bridge building must, if possible, be supplied from sources which are readily available to the zone of operations, the object being to reduce sea transport to a minimum and maximise local production.

Of sources which may be tapped, Italy, North Africa, and Portugal come naturally under review in order of proximity. Of the situation regarding milling and transport in Italy itself, at the present time, nothing is known, and a survey of mills and dumps on the spot is urgently needed. In normal times Corsica supplied oak and maritime pine to Italy's western seaboard and to North Africa (which has always been an importer of lumber) and

work on public utilities and the like will be of an emergency nature and therefore that any timbers which will serve for a sufficient period of time should be utilized. Thus, comparatively inferior species such as some of the West African may prove adequate for the emergency. Furthermore, it has been ascertained that a method of building up large dimension lumber by lamination has been developed by the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin, details of which are being sent to North Africa by Air Mail. Should this method prove to be practicable under local conditions it would have considerable value in adding to supplies (see Para. V. below).

It is unlikely that any of these timbers will prove suitable for piles, as, in the dimensions required for piles, the only trees available would be of young growth which, in equatorial woods is fast grown and has insufficient strength for pile driving. Pile requirements will, therefore, require to be supplied from the United States and Australia. This is the view also held by NAEB and therefore orders and shipping priorities should be placed as soon as approximate requirements are ascertained (but see x (vi)).

V. Local Supply

The smaller dimensions required for port and harbour work and bridge building must, if possible, be supplied from sources which are readily available to the zone of operations, the object being to reduce sea transport to a minimum and maximise local production.

Of sources which may be tapped, Italy, North Africa, and Portugal come naturally under review in order of proximity. Of the situation regarding milling and transport in Italy itself, at the present time, nothing is known, and a survey of mills and dumps on the spot is urgently needed. In normal times Corsica supplied oak and maritime pine to Italy's western seaboard and to North Africa (which has always been an importer of lumber), and now that it has come under the control of the Comité de la Défense Nationale, becomes the most valuable source of supply, particularly in view of the proximity of Bastia to Naples. Nothing is known by the French Direction de la Production Industrielle in Algiers of the state of Corsica's forests since 1940, and the Director of the Service de Bois is anxious to make a survey without delay for the purpose of French military and North African Government requirements. It is not, at present, known whether 15 Army Gp are also intending to make a survey, but, as all decisions relating to the utilization of Corsica's lumber supplies will be given by the Comité de la Défense Nationale, it would certainly assist satisfactory arrangements being made with the minimum delay, if the French and 15 Army Gp surveys were made concurrently. It was further pointed out by the Director, Service de Bois, that, for the same reasons it would be highly desirable for a representative of AC to accompany him on his survey. A further consideration from the viewpoint of AC is that

such a joint survey would enable harmonious arrangements to be made between the French, 15 Army Gp and AC in a manner to satisfy the requirements of each without overlapping (see VI & IX below).

North Africa has no value as an additional source of supply under the arrangements made by NAEB as the present demand for lumber necessitates some importation from the United States. A decision as to whether urgent requirements in Italy should take precedence over French requirements in North Africa, for such material as might be supplied from this Theatre would be a matter requiring to be dealt with on the Allied Headquarter Staff level and is not dealt with in this memorandum, though considerable supplies for North African civilian requirements are now being secured from Moroccan and Tunisian mills and the U.S. Army has in consequence cancelled future orders for lumber for the North African Theatre.

No information exists at present with regard to supplies from Portugal if such should be required.

VI. Provision for Future Needs.

As the campaign in Italy progresses, more local sources will become available, but it is a reasonable assumption that the longer the campaign lasts, the greater will be the degree of destruction carried out by the Germans, and, in consequence, the greater will be the need for readily available supplies of the requisite dimensions of lumber in order to assist consolidation and further advance. Furthermore, as Italy's need for fuel has been so great as to necessitate shipments of coal from Germany, should the forested areas remain in enemy hands throughout the winter, it is reasonable to assume that dumps of lumber may be used to supplement fuel requirements. It is recommended, therefore, that caution should be exercised in presuming that suitable lumber for vital work will be found in Central and Northern areas as they are occupied, and that planning should include provision of essential needs, not only in already occupied areas, but for the certain requirements which will be met with later. In other words, to prepare supplies in advance, particularly if such supplies require sea transport.

VII. Standard Specifications.

The standardization of sizes in sawn lumber to be employed in urgent work will greatly facilitate production and supply from all sources, and will enable maximum recovery from logs, making off-cuts available for a variety of purposes. An attempt will be made to "tie-up" British and American specifications to this end, in conjunction with the RE (Bridging) School and equivalent U.S. Army Engineering School.

VIII. Production-Milling.

NAEB experience in North Africa

VI. Provision for Future Needs.

As the campaign in Italy progresses, more local sources will become available, but it is a reasonable assumption that the longer the campaign lasts, the greater will be the degree of destruction carried out by the Germans, and, in consequence, the greater will be the need for readily available supplies of the requisite dimensions of lumber in order to assist consolidation and further advance. Furthermore, as Italy's need for fuel has been so great as to necessitate shipments of coal from Germany, should the forested areas remain in enemy hands throughout the winter, it is reasonable to assume that dumps of lumber may be used to supplement fuel requirements. It is recommended, therefore, that caution should be exercised in presuming that suitable lumber for vital work will be found in Central and Northern areas as they are occupied, and that planning should include provision of essential needs, not only in already occupied areas, but for the certain requirements which will be met with later. In other words, to prepare supplies in advance, particularly if such supplies require sea transport.

VII. Standard Specifications.

The standardization of sizes in sawn lumber to be employed in urgent work will greatly facilitate production and supply from all sources, and will enable maximum recovery from logs, making off-cuts available for a variety of purposes. An attempt will be made to "tie-up" British and American specifications to this end, in conjunction with the RE (Bridging) School and equivalent U.S. Army Engineering School.

VIII. Production-Milling.

NAEB experience in North Africa has definitely shown that deficiencies in logging and milling requisites have seriously hampered the availability of supplies. Furthermore, the experience gained here has established the great value of employing mobile logging and milling companies of the U.S. Army, two of which are actively operating in North Africa, one in Southern Morocco, and the other near Ain Drahan.

It is therefore necessary to discover by local survey, without delay, the state of mills in Italy and Corsica (see V) in order to prepare requisitions for essential machinery and tool requirements. Furthermore, as the extent of dislocation is certain to be far greater in Italy than it has been in North Africa, it is strongly recommended that negotiations be commenced following the Corsican survey for the purpose of securing the services of at least one of the U.S. Mobile units. NAEB opinion on this point is, that if it were shown to the satisfaction of 15 Army Gp, that production for army requirements in Italy would be expedited by employing one or more of these units, 197

the unit at Ain Drahan could be readily transferred. Other such units, Australian and Canadian, are operating in England, and in view of the large outputs which will be required in Italy, it is recommended that enquiries as to their availability should not be delayed.

IX. Other Urgent Requirements.

a. Pit-props are needed immediately for developing the Sardinian coal mines. It has been shown by NAEB that North Africa cannot be relied upon as a source of supply, and in this connection also, Corsica becomes the most natural source, necessitating action in collaboration with the French Service de Bois as indicated under (V). "Crash mining" is the most common form employed in Italian mines and for this purpose Corsican maritime pine is the most suitable of the local species.

b. No information is at present available regarding telephone post cross arm or railway rolling stock requirements, but the same principle of being prepared for replacing large scale destruction in these, as in the port and bridge timbers is recommended.

c. Requirements as to food packing, fruit cases and wine staves will not be available until the reports of the agriculture Sub-Commission are prepared.

X. Outline of Suggested Plan of Operations.

After consideration of the foregoing, the suggested plan of operations for the Forestry Section in the immediate future is as follows:

(i) A survey of the forest resources and milling situation in Corsica to be carried out jointly with the Director of the Service de Bois, and if possible, an engineer from 15 Army Gp.

(ii) Should an engineer of 15 Army Gp not be available, that, following such survey, contact should be established and maintained with 15 Army Gp in order to correlate requirements.

(iii) A survey of the milling situation in the occupied portions of the mainland of Italy be carried out forthwith to establish both availability of supplies and essential tool and machinery requirements.

(iv) As a result of the contact under (ii) above, and dependant upon the results of the Corsican survey, an immediate request be made for the transfer to Corsica of mobile logging and milling units from North Africa and/or the UK.

(v) Enquiries be commenced forthwith as to the supply of the parcel of West African logs and the Sudan dump, if available- destinations to be decided according to local requirements.

c. Requirements as to food packing, fruit cases and wine staves will not be available until the reports of the agriculture Sub-Commission are prepared.

X. Outline of Suggested Plan of Operations.

After consideration of the foregoing, the suggested plan of operations for the Forestry Section in the immediate future is as follows:

(i) A survey of the forest resources and milling situation in Corsica to be carried out jointly with the Director of the Service de Bois, and if possible, an engineer from 15 Army Gp.

(ii) Should an engineer of 15 Army Gp not be available, that, following such survey, contact should be established and maintained with 15 Army Gp in order to correlate requirements.

(iii) A survey of the milling situation in the occupied portions of the mainland of Italy be carried out forthwith to establish both availability of supplies and essential tool and machinery requirements.

(iv) As a result of the contact under (ii) above, and dependant upon the results of the Corsican survey, an immediate request be made for the transfer to Corsica of mobile logging and milling units from North Africa and/or the UK.

(v) Enquiries be commenced forthwith as to the supply of the parcel of West African logs and the Sudan dump, if available- destinations to be decided according to local requirements.

(vi) Dependant upon what orders (if any) for piles have been placed by the U.S. Army, that AC requisitions be made immediately, and in view of the length of time required for pile orders to be delivered (up to six months), every effort should be made to explore the possibility of employing concrete piles where practicable.

(vii) Examination of the possibility of preparing standard milling specifications for heavy structural timbers in such a way as to secure maximum recovery for essential purposes from the mills in relation to other timber requirements.

(viii) (Covered under (i) above) Examination of pit-prop requirements for Sardinia.

(ix) Such action as may be indicated then reports from 15 Army Gp as to telephone poles and cross arms and from Transportation Sub-Commission on rolling stock and permanent ways requirements become available.

See memo for information
(x) Preparation of questionnaires for sub-commissions whose activities cover branches of timber utilization or labor requirements relating to the Forestry Section.

(xi) Application of the Madison System for laminated construction, if the reports, on arrival, show its practicability. *OK*

(xii) Establishing and maintaining contact with Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wisconsin and Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough, Bucks, with regard to new developments in methods of utilization, suitability of substitute timbers for emergency requirements, strength equivalent tables and the like. *OK*

(xiii) Preparation of a comprehensive report after collation of available reference material, and when reports on the, at present, unknown factors covered by this memorandum are secured. No reference has been made to the firewood and charcoal industries and these aspects will be dealt with in a later memorandum in the near future. *OK*

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

N. R. L. Macdonald

N. R. L. Macdonald.

Copies to:
AC/1075
Major Hartman

4195

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your Obedient Servant,

N. R. L. Macdonald

N. R. L. Macdonald.

4195

Copies to:
AC 1075
Major Hartman

APPENDIX "A".P.W.U. Requisition No. 1

<u>Size</u>	<u>Piles</u>	<u>Length</u>
12" top 6" bottom	100	25 ft.
	100	30 ft.
	100	35 ft.
	250	40 ft.
	<u>Timbers</u>	
12" x 12"	200	8 ft.
	500	10 ft.
	400	12 ft.
8 x 16"	600	12 ft.
6 x 12"	1,000	12 ft.
2 x 6"	514 600	14 ft.
	400	12 ft.

4192

4" planking 14 ft. long 100 m. B/F.

Spikes for A 12" timbers, B 4" planking, C 2" bracing.

The above requisition covers the estimated requirements for ten rail bridges and ten highway bridges plus 30%.

APPENDIX "B".Table of Species Included in West African Parcel.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Density</u>
Samba	

4194

Timbers	
12" x 12"	200
	8 ft.
	500
	10 ft.
	400
	12 ft.
8 x 16"	600
	12 ft.
6 x 12"	1,000
	12 ft.
2 x 6"	544 600
	14 ft.
	400
	12 ft.

4" planking 14 ft. long. 100 m. B/F.

Spikes for A 12" timbers, B 4" planking, C 2" bracing.

The above requisition covers the estimated requirements for ten rail bridges and ten highway bridges plus 30%.

APPENDIX "B".

Table of Species Included in West African Parcel.

Species	Density
Samba	0.6 - Soft suitable for planks
Frake	0.75
Framiri	0.8 - Good but limited
Kotibe	0.8 - " "
Niangon	0.8 - Medium plentiful
Froke	0.8 - " "
Tisma	0.8 - Quality unknown
Sipo	0.7 - Good but limited
Aboudikro	0.85 - Medium plentiful
Bosse	0.85 - Like Iroko
Makore	0.85 - Quality unknown
Bali	0.85 - " "
Dabema	1.0 - Good, Acajou - type
Azobe	1.2 - Plentiful furniture and building
Tali	1.2 - Quality unknown

The usual lengths of West African woods in the log are 12 to 20 ft. with diameters of 18 inches to 4 ft. 6 in. at the butt. Individual species are difficult to obtain and the majority of shipments are mixed as the above. Any quantity of such wood is available 200 miles inland but extraction to port is very slow.

0973