

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

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COMPLAINTS & SANITATION
OCT. 1943

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785015

Confidential

Office Copy.

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TO : H.Q.S. A.F.H.Q.
FROM : J.C.S. Holding Planning Center
SUBJECT : Complaints - Sanitation
REFERENCE: AC/1140/6
DATE : 16 Oct. 1943

1A

Attached are three copies of a letter addressed to Brig. Parkinson, Head of the P.H. Sub-Commission A.C. who considers that the conditions found at Menerville might be tactfully brought to the notice of the French Authorities, more especially if Menerville is to be used as an entraining station *for troops.*

frequently

AB Athlone, Colonel

Brigadier
E. GUETERBOCK
Colonel
R.C. KINKWOOD
Joint Chief of Staff
Holding & Planning Center

5162

TO : Brigadier Parkinson
FROM : Lt. Col. J. MacFarlane, R.A.M.C.
DATE : 13 October 1943

Sir,

1. On Sunday, 10 October 1943, accompanied by Colonel Looms, Chief of Public Security Section, I inspected the latrines at Menerville Station.
2. The insanitary condition of the W.C. accommodation (Asiatic type) is beyond description! No water, foetid odours of nauseous vapour and pyramids of human excretion nearly two feet high.
3. FLY MENACE:- faeces covered with flies like decaying meat in a Bagdad Suq.
4. Officers and OR's are frequently obliged to spend several hours at this station. (N.B. DRAFT RZKYF had an unusual proportion of TIZI OUZOU Belly).
5. Conclusion: The appalling state of the sanitation at the station in combination with the fly menace constitutes a grave danger to the health of troops in transit and to people living in the locality.
6. Recommendation: It is my considered opinion that steps are necessary to inform the French Officials of Public Health in Algiers of this frightful, pre-historic lack of personal and public hygiene and I hereby beseech you to take all steps to have the matter rectified. Local labour for sanitary duties and to carry water can readily be obtained for a small financial outlay.

I am, Sir
Your Obedient Servant,


JAMES MACFARLANE
Lt. Col., R.A.M.C.

JM/jlc

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