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

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EVACUATION, REFUGEES
JUNE, JULY 1943

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785015

FILMED AS FOUND
IN COLLECTION

1 Memo of Mr. Major Haley - Sketches

2 Memo.

3 To: C. A. S.

4 From: Adm. Org.

1

18 June

7983 19

MEMO/205/HA 24 July

785015

Amcor/205/HQ

24 July 1943

28 Jul 43

7983

FORCE 141

To: C.S.O.
ALGOT FANTOX

1. There appears to be a static refugee problem in a number of towns which I have visited. The refugees fall into two categories:

- (a) Refugees from towns now in the war zone, such as Siracusa, Catania, etc., who will in due course be returned to their domiciles but in the meanwhile must be cared for locally. The cost of transporting these refugees back will probably have to be an ALGOT charge when the time comes and their maintenance and transport should form the subject of a directive after you have had an opportunity of consulting with C.F.O.
- (b) Refugees from Libya, Tripoli, Sfax and Tunis. These refugees were evacuated before the occupation and they appear in large part to consist of people who originally came from Sicily and now are living with relatives. The Italian government has been paying these refugees, who are destitute, an allowance but it seems that if they are living with relatives and appear to be in any way gainfully employed the Italian government subsidy which was granted to them because they had lost their homes and assets in Africa should not be continued as a charge of either ALGOT or the local commune. If the refugees from North Africa are not originally of Sicilian origin but only reached here en route for some other part of Italy they will have to be treated as refugees and these should probably fall as a charge on ALGOT. But I think the C.A.'s should be warned to check very carefully the origins and whereabouts of Italian refugees from North Africa and also be warned it is not necessary to continue paying the Italian government subsidy to them if they can be reintegrated into the local population.

2. The same will apply to several thousand persons from Pantelleria who originally came from Sicily when they were expatriated from their original homes.

ADVANCED ALGOT HQ
In the FieldMAJOR GENERAL
C.C.A.O.

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To Slat

Directive after you have had an opportunity of consulting with C.F.O.

- (b) Refugees from Libya, Tripoli, Sfax and Tunis. These refugees were evacuated before the occupation and they appear in large part to consist of people who originally came from Sicily and now are living with relatives. The Italian government has been paying these refugees, who are destitute, an allowance but it seems that if they are living with relatives and appear to be in any way gainfully employed the Italian government subsidy which was granted to them because they had lost their homes and assets in Africa should not be continued as a charge of either AMCOT or the local commune. If the refugees from North Africa are not originally of Sicilian origin but only reached here en route for some other part of Italy they will have to be treated as refugees and these should probably fall as a charge on AMCOT. But I think the C.A.s should be warned to check very carefully the origins and whereabouts of Italian refugees from North Africa and also be warned it is not necessary to continue paying the Italian government subsidy to them if they can be reintegrated into the local population.

2. The same will apply to several thousand persons from Pantelleria who originally came from Sicily when they were expatriated from their original homes.

ADVANCED AMCOT HQ
In the Field

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MAJOR GENERAL
C.C.A.O.

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To SER

LT COL FARMLEY-SMITH

B.V. in arrival in Sicily

TS 25/7

Noted

25/7

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BIGOT

MOST SECRET

141F/7983/CA

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SUBJECT: Refugees

C.G.S., D.I Force

I entirely agree with your view and do not think it necessary to draw Task Force Commanders' attention to so obvious a problem. The solution to such problem must vary according to the situation, and C.A.O.s will, of course, do what they can and what they are ordered to do by their combat commanders.

The draft is returned.

HQ AMGOT
19 June 1943

ATM/ET

Major General,
C.C.A.O.,
AMGOT

PA 19/6/43

2609

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C.C.A.C.

2

What are your
views on this please?

I do not think it
necessary to draw Task
Force command attention to
a problem which is
self-evident

AAR

18 June

C.C.A.O.

1. What refugee problem
that arises on the first
landing will undoubtedly
embarrass the enemy
more than us.
2. On penetration however
a C.A.O. with a
division may well be
faced with refugees behind
our forward line.

3. This is so
elementary that it
is verifiability of
G staff & A and
behind part line
in cog units with
civil advisors.

No directive seems
necessary from C.G.S.,
but are C.A.O.s clear
where they will step
in.

Shirley. H. H.
may

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