

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

785015

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10 pp.

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REPORTS FROM REGION III
SEPT., OCT. 1943

10pp.

FOLIO	DATE	REF.	TO/FROM
1	16 Sep	-	From P.W. B Salazar.
2	24 "	-	minute by CCAO.
3	27 "	-	To: RCAO Region III
4	27 "	AL/30/5	From: Amgot Liaison 15 AG
5	12 Oct	2318	From 5 th Army AM & Signed Clark
6-7	12 "	-	From Lt Col J. F. Whitaker AUSA
8	13 "	-	From HQ, Amgot 5 th Army Region III
9	17 "	104/H8	To Col B <i>Sturme</i>

1189

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

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9 17" 104/H8 To Col ~~Ex~~ Hume.

File
GOT/104/HQ

AMCOT HQ., SICILY

17 October 1943 (9)

MEMO. TO: Colonel Edgar Erskine Hume

SUBJECT: P.W.R. Report

1. Reference your letter dated 13 October 1943 with attached letter from Lt. Col. Whitaker.
2. Herewith a copy of extracts from the report to which Lt. Col. Whitaker referred in his letter.
3. You will note that he quoted the two numbered paragraphs beginning, respectively, "the food situation" and "Looting by the Italians".
4. In the preceding paragraph the following statements were made: "...Allied Military Government is refusing to face up to the situation...", "the ineptitude of the local A.M.G. authorities can not be over stressed".
5. It is requested that you bring these points to the attention of Lt. Col. Whitaker for his comments.

FRANK J. MCSHERRY
Brigadier General, USA
D.C.C.A.O.

1188

PAJ
20/10

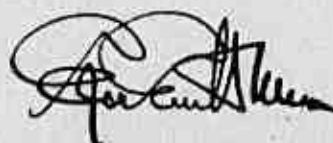
HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Region III, A.P.O.464, USA.

13 October 1943

FROM: Colonel E. E. Hume.

TO : Brig. General Frank J. McSherry, DCCAO, AMG, Palermo.

1. The attached letter from Lt. Col. Whitaker testifies to his appreciation of AMG. He says he has never criticized AMG's work in any way.
2. Our relations with PWB have been very good and I would be surprised to hear of criticism from that quarter.



EDGAR ERSKINE HUME,
Colonel, G.S.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS 5th ARMY
Psychological Warfare Br. (Inc) AFHQ
APO 464 USA

12 October 1943.

MEMORANDUM: To Commanding Officer Allied Military Government, 5th Army.

1- A report of the Psychological Warfare Branch, Forward Team with 5th Army, to PWB AFHQ, dated 16 September, includes two paragraphs of background intelligence on the situation of the moment in Salerno. They follow:

"The food situation is still critical in Salerno and the prospect of any fresh supplies becoming available is unlikely until we can extend the area occupied by us. The area at present occupied is not a grain producing one and there are no large stocks of grain in it. Yesterday the people were issued with pasta; though there was not enough to go around for everybody. Today they are having bread and tomorrow they are going to be given peas. After this the future looks black unless fresh stocks can be found. Long queues can be seen this morning outside the bread shops. In addition the people here seem to be craving for cigarettes to an even greater degree than elsewhere and this morning there is a queue of about 200 men and women outside one of the tobacco shops waiting in the hope of getting an issue though the place is empty.

"Looting by the Italians in the town looks as though it will reach an even higher climax than yesterday, judging by the number of people that are carrying looted goods about, the number of street brawls one sees and the number of crowds outside the shops which are being looted. The carabinieri and the military police have been instructed to stop the looting but they are practically powerless and it is said that in some cases they have actually encouraged it or shut their eyes and walked in another direction. There is however a patrol of 2 carabinieri and 2 C/MPs walking around the town trying to stop the looting. Unfortunately they are insufficient to have much effect."

2- This report was prepared by a British intelligence officer with PWB and approved by the undersigned. The purpose of such intelligence is to provide a background for PWB propaganda. It is highly confidential, not to be circulated and never to be used in propaganda directly. Without such intelligence PWB radio programs might paint a picture of Allied efforts in Italy which would seem to Italian listeners to be unrealistic. Credibility is the whole measure of

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-2

the efficacy of propaganda and more difficult than anything else to achieve. An unrealistic report of a situation which Italian radio listeners can see first-hand is likely to destroy their credence in everything which the whole of Allied radios may say for six months or a year. Incidentally, in this connection PWB requested the London and Washington propaganda agencies to modify propaganda likely to create in the minds of the peoples of occupied countries impossible hopes for food and other shipments in conjunction with Allied invasions.

3- It is regrettable that the report quoted above should have been construed as a criticism of AMG. No criticism is made or implied in a report which indicates the tragic state of the Italian people, inescapable after a war which climaxed Fascist mismanagement. PWB personnel with this army has remarked the fact that AMG officers have entered Italian towns and cities with the first assault troops, from Agropoli to Naples. They have performed miracles. No invading army can be expected to devote a large percentage of its shipping space to food for civilians or of its troops to police duties. But PWB personnel is unanimous in the belief that AMG has made the best possible use of both, restoring order and public services in remarkable fashion.

4- The undersigned is grateful moreover for the cooperation extended to PWB Forward Teams by AMG both with the 7th Army in Sicily and with the 5th Army here.

JOHN T. WHITAKER.
Lt. & Col. A.U.S..
CO PWB 5th Army.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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11/15

MEMO NO: 00103
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P.H.D.

- P*
- Above named geobank (several days after Col. Augner)
2. Action has been taken on requirements?

P.R. for CS 218:

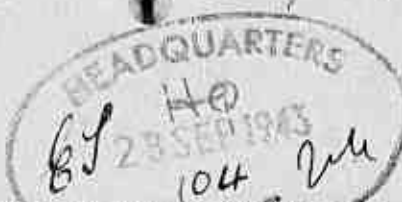
DCSO.

1. Original copy this signal was returned 18/10. by Col. Cheyne on 11 Oct. at which time he stated that no further action was necessary by this HQ. because direct action is being taken by 5 Army.

has
DPAH.

P.A.T.

18/10



AL/30/5

27. Sep. 43.

Memorandum to: C.S.O., AMGOT H.Q. PALERMO.

From : AMGOT LIAISON Branch.

The C.C.A.O. directed me to find out the name of the officer in charge of P.W.B. 5th Army whose department issued the criticisms on AMGOT, SALERNO. I understand the officer concerned is Lt.Col. Whittaker.

RJPT/JG.

Colonel,
S. S. O.

B.V. for C.C.A.O.

Mated

1188

29/9/43

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File 104/HP

Col. Hume, R.C.A.O. Region III

27 Sept.

3

The bearer, Capt. Graham, is coming to your HQ to bring certain papers which we wish you to have and to obtain from you any requests for personnel, supplies, etc. that you may care to transmit through him. I have asked him to get an up-to-date list of your personnel and their present disposition and to bring back whatever oral reports you may care to give him since I know that you have probably little time for written reports.

We have heard stories indirectly of conditions in the Naples area. Any intelligence which you have that would enable us to forward supplies, etc. more intelligently would be appreciated.

General McSherry will arrive at your HQ late Wednesday or on Thursday.

CHARLES M. SPOTFORD
Colonel, G. S. C.
Chief Staff Officer

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ROUTING SLIP.

C.C.A.O.
~~P.C.S.A.O.~~
C.S.O.
A.C.S.O.
Lt. Col. Clough.
Major Pirie.
Major Smith
Major McDougall
Major Pearey
Capt. Talbot
Capt. Farrar
Capt. Sherwood
Capt. Zervudachi
Capt. Graham
Capt. Van Deusen
Lt. Van Heukelom
Lieut. Krupa
P.R.O.
Adviser F.A. & M.
Education Officer.

REMARKS.

To see CCAO's note
on folio 2

6/10
Date

69
Registry

1121
7780

HQ AMGOT (US CONT)

BUCK SLIP

(date)

S: _____
(date)

FROM	TO
CG	
C of S	
Adjutant	
Capt McDougall	
Capt Kait	
Capt Graham	
Civ Supply Div	
Legal Div	
Enemy Prop Div	
Public Safety Div	
Finance Div	
Public Health Div	
Civil Affairs Div	

- FOR:
- _____ Information and guidance
 - _____ Approval or disapproval
 - _____ Necessary action
 - _____ Action taken
 - _____ Investigation and report
 - _____ To note and return
 - _____ File
 - _____ Dispatch

REMARKS: _____

(2)

C.CAO.

1. Capt J. J. Quinn is in charge
of Salerno and I think he
is a much better man than
the one who wrote this report. ?
JPM's

This is an
interesting report and
need not be rebutted.

J. J. 20/9

785015

HQ ANGOT (US CONT)

BUCK SLIP

(date)

S: (date)

FROM	TO
CG	
C of S	
Adjutant	
Capt McDougall	
Capt Kait	
Capt Graham	
Civ Supply Div	
Legal Div	
Enemy Prop Div	
Public Safety Div	
Finance Div	
Public Health Div	
Civil Affairs Div	

FOR:

- Information and guidance
- Approval or disapproval
- Necessary action
- Action taken
- Investigation and report
- To note and return
- File
- Dispatch

REMARKS:

EXTRACTS FROM

PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH.

16 September 1943.

SALERNO.

Subject: Report Number 3, to 16 September 43.

To : Commanding Officer, P.W.B., A.F.H.Q.

" " The production difficulties are certainly greater than those experienced elsewhere. Firstly there is the enemy shelling which upsets the workers who are in the town and keeps those who are not here from coming back. Secondly there is the question of food. The population really is in the verge of starvation and as the Allied Military Government is refusing to face up to the situation the population has resorted to looting as a means of keeping themselves alive. If our employees are working for us during the whole of the day they lose all the best opportunities for looting. Also such small quantities of food as are distributed by A.M.G. are distributed in such a way that it takes a whole day to draw the rations. The ineptitude of the local A.M.G. authorities cannot be overstressed. Difficult though the situation is much could be done would they show some drive and leadership. At the moment both these qualities are conspicuous by their absence. " "

"1. The food situation is still critical in Salerno and the prospect of any fresh supplies becoming available is unlikely until we can extend the area occupied by us. The area at present occupied is not a grain producing one and there are no large stocks of grain in it. Yesterday the people were issued with pasta; though there was not enough to go round for everybody. Today they are having bread and tomorrow they are going to be given peas. After this the future looks black unless fresh stocks can be found. Long queues can be seen this morning outside the bread shops. In addition the people here seem to be craving for cigarettes to an even greater degree than elsewhere and this morning there is a queue of about 200 men and women outside one of the tobacco shops waiting in the hope of getting an issue though the place is empty.

2. Looting by the Italians in the town looks as though it will reach an even higher climax than yesterday, judging by the number of people that are carrying looted goods about, the number of street brawls one sees and the number of crowds outside the shops which are being looted. The carabinieri and the military police have been instructed to stop the looting but they are practically powerless and it is said that in some cases they have actually encouraged it or shut their eyes and walked

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C.S.O.

Alban has just come in.

2. I don't know whether it is any guide but in P.E.

we always had to discount a lot of what P.W.B. reported

in O.R.A.

Reilly.

Seen by CSO

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