

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

785015

ACC

10000/100/1034

9 pp.

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REGION IV
OCT. 1943 - JAN. 1944

1 pp.

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FILMED AS FOUND
IN COLLECTION

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COPY

MESSAGE IN

IMPORTANT

SIOS:6582

TO:- 52 AREA INFO MOV BRUNTO 57 AREA MOVIT 6 BASE SUB AREA MOVE IT
71 SUB AREA MOV BRUNTO 2 PLAMBO 15 ARMY OF A Q

FROM:- DISTWO

SD 1735

92

FOLLOWING PERSONNEL AND VEHICLES FOR ANG REGION 5 ARE EXPECTED SHORTLY.
OFFERS 120 ORS 150 VEH 35. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THEY HAVE BEEN ROUTED
THROUGH TO MATERA BUT DUE TO LACK OF ACCOMMODATION THERE WILL HAVE
TO BE HELD IN TRANSIT CAMPS AND SENT FWD IN SAY 5 PARTIES. SHOULD THEY
ARRIVE YOUR PORT SIGNAL ABOUT REGION 2 SEND THIS HQ FOR DISPOSAL
INSTRUCTIONS

SEC

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION

ANG (HQ)

IMPORTANT

INFO RGS (ADV)

SEC 022345A

L.H.

(Above cable received through PLAMBO)

Rec. Hq.
3 Jan 1944
ANG.

5816

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

785015

104
SUBJECT:- OFFICIAL ORDER #34

RE HONORARIUM TO be paid mayor
OF Commune (Enq. Ital. text) - 24-11-43

See - Region #1 FILE - 601

5815

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

785015

604
Subject - General ORDER NO. 14
(Temporary Wage ADJUST.)

See General ORDERS - FILE - NO. 108

0564

(Info) D.C. 5 (0-51)

P.A.

SECRET
EQUALS BRITISH MOST SECRET AND SECRET

NR - 121

HEADQUARTERS
5-DEC 1943
AMG.

1344

ADDRESSED FOR ACTION TO :	PENCE AMG RPTD FREEDOM	1850	:	4834
	FOR MGS, SEARS FOR FARGO.			
INFORMATION TO :		TIME SENT :		040824A
FROM :	5TH ARMY FROM FILPOT FROM	TIME RECVD :		041320A
	AMG.			
IN REPLY REFER TO :	372	PRIORITY :		PRIORITY

Your PBS 1659 of 3rd December. AMG Region III and IV are directly under
 AMG 15th Army Group through whom all correspondence and action must be taken.
 ACC/AMG HQ have no authority or responsibility North of Northern Boundaries
 of BARI, POTENZA and SALERNO Provinces ABE chain of command of Regions III
 and IV is to AMG 15th Army Group only.

DISTRIBUTION:

ACC (ACTION)

CO

(Action) Ex off (Adm)
 (Info) Ady Gen
 File

5812

SECRET
EQUALS BRITISH MOST SECRET AND SECRET

0 5 6 51
604-
SUPPLY DISCUSSION
H.Q. REGION 4
16.00 Hours - 11 Nov. 43



OFFICERS PRESENT:

Brig. M. Carr, R.C.A.O., Region 4
Col. C. M. Cavare, S.C.A.O., City of Naples
Lt. Col. G. D. G. E. Findlay, Director of Transportation, Region 4
Lt. Col. S. W. Archibald, Director, Economics & Supply, Region 4
Major G. B. Sowers, Transportation, Region 4
Major F. E. Tuscani, Supply Officer, 5th Army A. M. G.
Major G. B. (J. A.) Todd, Adv. Adm. Ech. AMIG
Major D. E. Long, C.A.O., City of Rome
Capt. W. L. Batt, Jr., Staff Officer, AMG, 15th Army Group
Capt. C. R. Oden, Supply Section, Region 4

1. It was agreed that the responsibility for dealing with civilian supplies for Lazio is the function of the 15th Army A.M.G. until such time as control is handed over to Region 4.

2. It was proposed that the following personnel should be attached to 5th Army A.M.G. as early as possible for the purpose of planning and dealing with the initial stages with civil supply, transportation and labour problems during the move through Lazio up to and inclusive of the Rome area: -

1 Officer Economics and Supply Division	Region 4	
1 " Transportation	"	"
1 " Labor	"	"
1 Supply Officer Rome City	"	"
1 Transportation Officer Rome City	"	"
2 Officers for Supply, 15th Army Group		

3012

Region 4 will present the names of the Region 4 officers selected.

3. On approved requisitions for period November 1 to February 1, 345 tons of food, soap and medical supplies have been bid for port of Civita vecchia for period December 13-22. Major Todd stated that for same period December 13-22 Naples Port requirements bids had been increased for possible urgent use in Lazio.

4. The extreme difficulties of supplying Rome by road transport from Naples were discussed. Turning to sea transport Major Todd stated that a coaster had been requisitioned but that this vessel was scheduled for Civitavecchia. It was agreed that Civitavecchia lying 40 miles north of Rome could not definitely be counted on as a port of supply at the time supplies were needed. Lt. Col. Findlay, Transportation, Region 4, was appointed to make an investigation of ports and possible means of transportation to the Rome Area and to submit outline of alternative plans.

5. Major Todd stated that Major Higginbottom, acting Director of Shipping, is expected in Naples shortly. Brig Carr stated after the meeting that the attachment of officers (see 2) to 5th Army A.M.G. would be subject to the concurrence of R.C.A.O. Region 3.

Distribution:

All Officers Present; R.C.A.O., Region 3; Major J. Boettiger.

604
Palermo,
7 November 1943.

To: RCOAO, Region 1.

From: Transportation Officer (?), Region 4.

Subject: Labor Conditions, Caltanissetta Province.

0812
The undersigned proceeded to Caltanissetta Friday, 29 October 1943, pursuant to the invitation of the Labor Office, Headquarters, and travel order issued by Brigadier General McSherry. Reported to Lt. Col. Irish, SCAO, Province of Caltanissetta, as directed. Learned that Major Giles, who had previously been in charge of the Labor Division, had left the Province, and had been succeeded by Major Aust, Deputy SCAO and CAPC, who assumed this added responsibility. Was impressed with the energy and ability of Major Aust in the discharge of these manifold duties.

30 October 1943. Held a conference with Cav. Calogero Incardona, Civilian Director of Labor, Province of Caltanissetta. This officer had previously been Clerk of the Court, and according to CIO reports, had been a nominal fascist. Found him to be an amiable gentleman, and well qualified by judicial temperament for the office. He lacked experience in labor matters, but was reasonably familiar with Italian Labor Law. Was advised that the Employment Office at Caltanissetta had been activated under his supervision on 21 October 1943, but that the unemployed had been slow in registering. With the approval of Major Aust, arranged that all persons temporarily unemployed register at the Employment Exchange as a requisite of any form of public relief. Suitable notice was published in the press. Same day attended the CAO Provincial Conference.

1 November 1943. Held a conference with Cav. Incardona. Outlined to him the provisions of General Order No. 8, the Rules and Regulations issued pursuant thereto, as well as other documents in the provincial labor file pertaining to the conduct of his office. Also advised him how to prepare

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1 November 1943. Held a conference with Cav. Incardona. Outlined to him the provisions of General Order No. 8, the Rules and Regulations issued pursuant thereto, as well as other documents in the provincial labor file pertaining to the conduct of his office. Also advised him how to prepare monthly reports of unemployment and other labor matters, and instructed him to submit such reports in duplicate, one for the SCAG and one for the Regional Labor Office. Same day inspected the Labor Exchange at Caltanissetta, and found the work of the Exchange being conducted in a very satisfactory manner, with an adequate and efficient personnel. Office equipment and supplies also appeared to be adequate. Same day held a conference with Major Aust and Cav. Incardona. At the suggestion of the Director that he had not been able to procure an automobile and that such was necessary in the discharge of his duties throughout the Province, Major Aust agreed to make the necessary arrangements with the Prefetto.

Exhibit No. 1. A sample book for the registration of workers (Libretto di lavoro), as well as sample forms used for the "Tessera per Impiegati" and "Tessera per Operai", as used in the Province, are attached hereto.

2 November 1941. For the purpose of obtaining the salary schedules of all employees of representative communes, called at the offices of the Communes of Caltanissetta (pop. 50,467), San Cataldo (Pop. 17,138), Sommatino (pop. 11,850), Serradifalco (pop. 8,658), and Delia (pop. 6,723).

Exhibit No. 2. The foregoing wage data of public employees in the Province is attached hereto for the information and use of the Regional Labor Office. Respectfully request that the data for the city of Caltanissetta, after being copied, be returned promptly to the Provincial Director of Labor, since it is the original and was obtained with that understanding.

Same day accompanied Cay. Incardona in a visit to the largest sulphur mine (Trabia) in the Province. Ascertained that about 10,000 sulphur mine workers are unemployed in the Province. The Trabia Mine normally employs 2,000 workmen, but now has a crew of only 30 men, working a night shift, pumping water. The primary need is electric power. Was advised by the Public Works Division, Caltanissetta, that electric power would be made available about November 10th. The Chief Engineer at the mine stated that it would require from 30 to 60 days to restore the mine in working order, and that he would need approximately 1,600 timbers per month for normal operation, which heretofore has been obtained from Calabria, in addition to two trucks and some mechanical equipment, but could, with some help, employ 600 workmen and gradually increase the total. Was advised by the Public Works Division, Caltanissetta, that a report of the engineering requirements had been forwarded to Headquarters, Palermo; also that timber is available at Calabria, depending upon the availability of transport. Noted at Gela a number of large barges on the beachheads formerly used in commercial transport trade between the mainland and Malta, some of which might possibly be repaired and used to transport the necessary timber for the sulphur mines.

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Exhibit No. 3. Obtained and attach hereto a complete listing of all classifications of labor for all sulphur mines in Sicily. Respectfully request that the original, after being copied, be returned promptly to the Provincial Director of Labor, Caltanissetta, since it was obtained with that understanding and is needed. Am indebted to the Finance Division, Headquarters, for the averages as computed and shown thereon.

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3 November 1943. Accompanied Cav. Incardona to Gela for the purpose of establishing a branch employment office in that Comune (the second largest in the Province). Ascertained that a new Sindaco was about to be installed, and the matter was accordingly postponed pending such installation. Same day surveyed the fishing industry at Gela. Was advised that 400 fishermen were idle, and that only six small boats were available. Talked with a number of fishermen, who expressed the need of three or four large motor boats. It appears that the boats at Licata normally give employment to the fishermen at Gela, but are restricted to that port. As soon as the military situation permits, the release of these boats in the normal trade is urgent, not only to provide employment to the fishermen at Gela, but to augment an acute food shortage.

Exhibit No. 4. Obtained and attach hereto, for the information and use of the Regional Labor Office, comprehensive data on the wage rates of the various classifications of agricultural employments throughout the Province.

4 November 1943. Attended a Conference at Mussomeli of the Sindacos of the twelve northernmost communes. A number of these officers expressed the need of a general wage adjustment, and particularly in the areas of the salt and sulphur mines.

Exhibit No. 5. Obtained and attach hereto, for the information and use of the Regional Labor Office, the prevailing wage rates for the principal industrial classifications at Caltanissetta.

Conclusions

General Wages: It is well known that wage rates in Italy have long been among the lowest in Europe, and particularly in Sicily. It is not within the scope of this report to discuss the effect on prices of the depreciation of the value of the lira, in conjunction with the addition of occupational forms of currency, or the effect upon prices caused by an acute shortage of most consumable goods. According to the wage data attached hereto, employees in public, private, and agricultural employments find themselves in a disadvantage in relation with other

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Emergency Measures: Emergency measures have already become necessary in order to curb social unrest. Effective 1 October 1943, the wages of employees of flour mills and pasta factories in the Province of Caltanissetta were increased 30%; and according to my information, certain wage rates in the building trades in the city of Caltanissetta have been increased 75%, while the same classifications in the city of Messina received an increase of 50%. Such adjustments, although haphazard, were undoubtedly necessary.

Wage Policy: It is gravely doubtful whether an emergent wage policy, with its inevitable lack of uniformity, is the wisest policy to pursue, and especially in the absence of any orderly and lawful labor representation. Under such circumstances we strongly recommend a uniform policy in adjusting the equities of the internal economy, in so far as military necessity will permit, with proportional emphasis in adjusting the income of the lowest paid salary and wage earners. The Provincial Director of Labor expressed his opinion that permissive wage adjustments in civilian employments would be freely acceptable to employers.

Sulphur Miners: It will be observed from the wage schedules of sulphur miners throughout Sicily, for all classifications of labor, that the average daily wage is 809 £ 14.93. Prior to the occupation this wage was supplemented, first, by the indemnity di presenza, and second, by the family allowance. The indemnity di presenza was, in effect, a wage increase authorized by the Italian Government in order to meet the increase in the cost of living. According to my information, it amounted to ten lire per day in most cases -- a very substantial part of the daily wage -- of which six lire was paid by the employer and four lire by the Istituto di Previdenza. It is my understanding that the amount of the contribution previously paid by the Istituto di Previdenza, in the case of private as distinguished from public employments, has been discontinued by directive, and that many employers have accordingly discontinued their contributions. It is doubtful whether, even if the indemnity di presenza were included, the miners would return to work at existing wage rates, and it is quite probable that if they are obliged to do so, labor unrest, strikes, and even acts of violence may be anticipated. Whatever the reason may be, the sentiment of men who work underground is quasi-social in some respect, a characteristic nowhere better demonstrated than in our own country.

Labor Syndicates: The Provincial Director of Labor, whose views I found reasonably conservative, expressed the opinion that sanction for the organization of independent labor syndicates would tend to counteract communistic tendencies. Major Aust expressed no objection to meetings

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Unemployment: According to our observation, larger numbers of people are daily congregating in the public squares. At this season of the year, many people are

normally unemployed. This situation has been greatly aggravated by the destruction or paralysis of a large part of the industries throughout the region, and by the concentration of refugees in urban areas, of which there were approximately nine thousand in the city of Caltanissetta alone. The most important industry in Sicily, aside from agriculture, is sulphur mining. It is highly important that this industry be revived as quickly as possible. Police reports disclose a sharp increase in crime in the mining areas. For this reason we recommend that the public in these areas be immediately advised as to the steps being taken to rehabilitate the mines, and that an announcement be made of permissive adjustments of wage rates in order to circumvent present labor agitation. Reemployment in the mines will be gradual, extending over two or three winter months, and we therefore suggest that the prospect of employment on public roads in the rural areas, and clearing up the debris and repairing the streets in urban areas, be carefully explored.

Citation: I wish to report that the driver of my car, P/fe Poli, was highly competent in the discharge of his duties, and rendered invaluable assistance as an interpreter.

Hudson C. Tamm

Major, Spec-Res., AUS; In Charge
of the Labor Division, Region 4.

(United States Commissioner of
Conciliation; Special Examiner,
National War Labor Board; Panel
Chairman, Philadelphia Regional
War Labor Board; Professor of
Economics, The Pennsylvania State
College. Cited by the United
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Distribution:

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Distribution:

Chief, Labor Sub-Commission;
Director of Labor, Region 1;
SOAO, Province of Caltanissetta;
DOCAO, Region 4.

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