

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

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

DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY
JUNE 1944 - JAN. 1945

785015

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HEADQUARTERS ROME AREA, MTOUSA
A.O. 791, US Army

Asst. Asst.	7/129
Asst. Asst.	MP
Chief Clerk	TV

RHS/REG/MP
8 January 1948

Memorandum:

To : Commanding Officers, All US Army Organizations or
Units, Rome Area Allied Command.

Provost Marshal, Rome Area, MTOUSA.

1. Attention of all concerned is invited to letter, Headquarters MTOUSA, G-400.73-800 IG, dated 23 December 1947 (copy attached). Applicable provisions of this letter will be strictly complied with by units of this command. Reports of showdown inspections and irregularities disclosed thereby will be made to this Headquarters. These reports should show the action taken in each case involving the illegal disposition of US Government property. Where the evidence supports the charges of selling Government property, the case will be a subject for court-martial.

2. The Provost Marshal will establish mobile road blocks on all highways leading into Rome for the detection of illegal movement of supplies, MTO's, stolen vehicles, unauthorized use of Government transportation, etc. Frequent raids will be made on all known black market installations. It is particularly desired to obtain evidence on sources of black market supplies which are definitely US Government property. Reports of all confiscations will be made to this Headquarters. All reports to the Provost Marshal General, MTOUSA, will be made through this Headquarters.

By command of Brigadier General BRO N:

HEADQUARTERS

AC-DIST

ACTION-2675 REGT

INFO-ESTAB-SEC

- EXEC-O (A)

- G-4(A)

I. E. CREEK

Captain, GS

Adjutant General

1 Incl: Ltr HQ MTOUSA
G-400.73/800 IG-0

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R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
RELIANCE WITH THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 512

AG 400.73/300 IG-O

26 December 1944

SUBJECT: Supply Security.

TO : All Concerned.

1. Although information recently received at this headquarters indicates that diversion or pilfering of government property on a large scale has been reduced, reports still show that petty pilfering, trading, and illegal diverting of government property continues to such a degree that the total represents a large volume. Recent investigations show that pilfering occurs in rations, clothing, post exchange supplies, and other materials easily converted to civilian use. In order to correct this situation, positive action must be taken by commanding officers in all echelons of command. In this connection, attention is called to Section I, Circular 36, this Headquarters, dated 16 March 1944, subject: "Illegal Disposition of Government Property".

2. Special emphasis will be placed upon frequent unannounced shakedown inspections of all troops. When such inspections disclose illegal disposition of government property, strict disciplinary action will be taken. Statements of Charges cannot be relied upon as an effective deterrent, and will not be used as a substitute for disciplinary action. Publicity programs will be instituted which will effect a wide dissemination to the troops of the results of such disciplinary action.

3. To prevent the movement of illegally acquired supplies into black market channels by civilians or soldiers, all major commands will establish mobile road blocks to prevent the passage of pilfered materials, AMOLs, stolen vehicles, and vehicles without proper trip tickets. Control points will also inspect all military personnel for passes, and military vehicles for illegal articles. Wherever possible, commanders will secure the cooperation of Italian authorities to have Carabinieri or other Italian police personnel utilized to make similar inspections of civilian vehicles and personnel at these same control points. Military Police patrols will frequently inspect small communities for AMOLs and supply trucks which may be found off the prescribed route to destination.

4. All railroad boxcars will, without exception, have the doors closed, sealed, and fastened securely with heavy wire or

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with a bolt, the threads of which have been burred after the nut is flattened. No pilferable items will be shipped in open or gondola cars except in extreme emergencies, and in such cases a special guard will be placed on such cars. The carrying of unauthorized civilians on supply trains is prohibited. Where authorized civilians are permitted on supply trains they will not be permitted to ride on cars carrying supplies. Whenever possible trains will be made up in such a way as to group together those cars carrying the most highly pilferable items in order to facilitate guarding. American cargo security officers or non-commissioned officers will be assigned to all vessels whenever they are transporting pilferable American supplies. American trucks from port installations and depots will be moved in small convoys of from three (3) to six (6) vehicles, one individual being responsible for the movement. Guards will be supplied for these vehicles by the dispatching installation whenever possible. Only in exceptional cases will single vehicles be dispatched. When American supplies are being moved in British trucks the American commander concerned will request British authorities to conform to this procedure.

5. Incidents of major pilferage will be immediately reported to the Provost Marshal General, this headquarters, through the local provost marshal.

By command of Lieutenant General McNARNEY:

/s/ Albert W. Barr
ALBERT W. BARR
Captain, LCD
Asst Adjutant General.

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2 January 1945.

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HEADQUARTERS
MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 512

AG 400.73/800 IG-9

SUBJECT: Supply Security.

TO : All Concerned.

26 December 1944

Asst. Asst.

Asst. Asst.

Chief Clerk

1. Although information recently received at this headquarters indicates that diversion or pilfering of government property on a large scale has been reduced, reports still show that petty pilfering, trading, and illegal diverting of government property continues to such a degree that the total represents a large volume. Recent investigations show that pilfering occurs in rations, clothing, post exchange supplies, and other materials easily converted to civilian use. In order to correct this situation, positive action must be taken by commanding officers in all echelons of command. In this connection, attention is called to Section I, Circular 35, this headquarters, dated 16 March 1944, subject: "Illegal Disposition of Government Property".

2. Special emphasis will be placed upon frequent unannounced show-down inspections of all troops. When such inspections disclose illegal disposition of government property, strict disciplinary action will be taken. Statements of Charges cannot be relied upon as an effective deterrent, and will not be used as a substitute for disciplinary action. Publicity programs will be instituted which will effect a wide dissemination to the troops of the results of such disciplinary action.

3. To prevent the movement of illegally acquired supplies into black market channels by civilians or soldiers, all major commands will establish mobile road blocks to prevent the passage of pilfered material, AWOLs, stolen vehicles, and vehicles without proper trip tickets. Control points will also inspect all military personnel for passes, and military vehicles for illegal articles. Wherever possible, commanders will secure the cooperation of Italian authorities to have Carabinieri or other Italian police personnel utilized to make similar inspections of civilian vehicles and personnel at these same control points. Military Police patrols will frequently inspect small communities for AWOLs and supply trucks which may be found off the prescribed route to destination.

4. All railroad boxcars will, without exception, have the doors closed, sealed, and fastened securely with heavy wire or with a bolt, the threads of which have been burred after the nut is fastened. No pilferable items will be shipped in open or gondola cars except in extreme emergencies, and in such cases a special guard will be placed on such cars. The carrying of unauthorized civilians on supply trains is prohibited. Where

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Ltr Hq, MTCUSA, file AG
400.73/800 IG-0, dtd
28 Dec 44 (Cont'd)

authorized civilians are permitted on supply trains they will not be permitted to ride on cars carrying supplies. Wherever possible trains will be made up in such a way as to group together those cars carrying the most highly pilferable items in order to facilitate guarding. American cargo security officers or non-commissioned officers will be assigned to all vessels whenever they are transporting pilferable American supplies. American trucks from port installations and depots will be moved in small convoys of from three (3) to six (6) vehicles, one individual being responsible for the movement. Guards will be supplied for these vehicles by the dispatching installation whenever possible. Only in exceptional cases will single vehicles be dispatched. When American supplies are being moved in British trucks the American commander concerned will request British authorities to conform to this procedure.

6. Incidents of major pilferage will be immediately reported to the Provost Marshal General, this headquarters, through the local provost marshal.

By command of Lieutenant General McNAREY:

Albert W. Kark
ALBERT W. KARK,
Captain, IGD,
Asst Adjutant General.

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-G-4 (A)

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HEADQUARTERS
MEDITERRANEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
APO 512

RHF/awm

ADJ

ALCOM file

AG 400.703/594 ENG-O

6 December 1944

SUBJECT: Disposal of Small Cylindrical Air Type Containers.

TO : All Concerned.

1. Letter, Headquarters COMZONE MTOUSA, file 400.7-Q, subject as above, dated 2 November 1944, is rescinded.

2. It has been determined that the 5-gallon American Drum, inflammable liquid, is best suited for a gasoline container in this theater.

3. The British consider the American and Jerricans both suitable.

4. It is considered advisable, therefore, from the standpoint of standardization that, as soon as practicable, other types of small gasoline containers be withdrawn from use.

5. The containers rendered obsolete on this action are as follows:

- 5 US gallon Air Corps Cylindrical Can
- 7 US gallon Air Corps Cylindrical Can
- 7 1/2 US gallon Air Corps Cylindrical Can
- 9 US gallon Air Corps Cylindrical Can
- 4 Imp gallon Rectangular Can
- 4 Imp gallon Corrugated Cylindrical Can
- 4 Imp gallon Pellicans
- 2 Imp gallon Pellicans

6. British obsolete small sized containers will be turned over to the nearest British S and T (POL) representative.

7. Obsolete U.S. smallsize Air Corps cylindrical gasoline containers (5 to 9 U.S. gallon capacity) will be offered to United States Army organizations for such uses as waste baskets, grease cans, etc.

8. Those cans not desired by Army organizations are to be turned in to Quartermaster Salvage for disposition under current instructions for disposal of salvage materials.

By command of Lieutenant General McNARNEY:

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R. H. FRESE,
Captain, AGD,
Asst Adjutant General. 2166

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HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
APO 782

~~ADJ.~~

45815

Kules
MP

AG 400.7 BPSM (14 July 44)

14 July 1944

Subject: Sentence Awarded for Illegal Disposition of Government Property.

To : See Distribution.

Under the provisions of paragraph 55, General Order Number 115, this Headquarters, dated 14 June 1944, subject: "Property Loss Prevention Authority (PLPA)", company or similar unit commanders will assemble their units and read to them the following sentence awarded for illegal disposition of Government property. This information will be imparted to every individual in the organization, and after having been read will be posted on bulletin boards and at other conspicuous places.

a. In that Private Noah W. Sines, ***** Signal Service Company, did, at *****, on or about 8 June 1944, unlawfully sell two (2) bath towels, of the value of about \$0.76, issued for use in the military service of the United States.

Sentence - To be confined at hard labor at such place as the reviewing authority may direct, for two (2) months and to forfeit twenty-five dollars and thirty-three cents (\$25.33) of his pay per month for a like period.

By order of Colonel OXI:



L. F. Nickel
L. F. NICKEL
Lt. Col., A.C.D.
Adjutant General

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HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
APO 782Adj-Adv.
4-3564
File
5/190

AG 400.7 BPSM

- 1 11M 1944

29 June 1944

SUBJECT: Sentences Awarded for Illegal Disposition of Government Property.

TO : See Distribution.

Under the provisions of paragraph 5c, General Order Number 115, this Headquarters, dated 11 June 1944, subject: "Property Loss Prevention Authority (PLPA)", company or similar unit commanders will assemble their units and read to them the following sentences awarded for illegal disposition of Government property. This information will be imparted to every individual in the organization, and after having been read will be posted on bulletin boards and at other conspicuous places.

a. In that Private Ivory Cooper, Company ***, **Quartermaster Service Battalion, did, at ***, Quartermaster Service Battalion (Italian) vicinity of ***, on or about 3 December 1943, feloniously take, steal, and carry away 2 bags barrack value of about \$1.08, 12¹/₂ pairs shoes, service value of about \$45.75, 10 pairs socks, light wool value of about \$2.50, 3 drawers, woolen value of about \$3.68, 1 jacket, field value of about \$5.76, 17 jackets, herringbone twill value of about \$35.19, total value of about \$93.97, property of the United States furnished for the military service thereof.

Sentence - To be dishonorably discharged the service, to forfeit all pay and allowances due or to become due, and to be confined at hard labor at such place as the reviewing authority may direct, for ten (10) years. (Two previous convictions considered).

b. In that Private Albert J. Holmes, Jr., **Quartermaster Service Company (then Company ***, **Quartermaster Service Battalion), did, at ***, on or about 16 January 1944, knowingly and willfully apply to his own use and benefit, a United States Army 2¹/₂-ton truck of the value of about \$2200.00, property of the United States furnished and intended for the military service thereof.

In that Private Albert J. Holmes, Jr., **Quartermaster Service Company (then Company ***, **Quartermaster Service Battalion), did, at ***, on or about 31 January 1944, knowingly and willfully apply to his own use and benefit, a United States Army GMC truck, of the value of about \$2200.00, property of the United States furnished and intended for the military service thereof.

Sentence - To be dishonorably discharged the service, to forfeit all pay and allowances due or to become due, and to be confined at hard labor at such a place as the reviewing authority may direct for a period of ten (10) years. (One previous conviction considered.)

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By order of Colonel OXX:

L. F. Nickel

L. F. NICKEL
Lt. Col., A.G.D.
Adjutant General

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	MP.		
AG 400.7 RPSE	Asst. Asst.	Asst. Asst.	Chief Clerk

HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR SECTION
HEADQUARTERS
24 JUN 1944
A.C.C.

ADJ.

42535

Fils

22 June 1944

Subject: Illegal Disposition of Government Property Preventive Program.

To : See Distribution.

1. In compliance with General Order No. 115, this Headquarters, dated 14 June 1944, immediate drastic corrective action will be taken by Commanders of all units to prevent pilferage, sale, barter, abandonment or other illegal disposition of U. S. Government Property.

2. Company and similar Unit Commanders will personally bring to the attention of all enlisted men of their organizations, through instruction of at least one (1) hour per week, the necessity for safeguarding Government property, the effect of such losses upon our war effort, and the resulting disciplinary action that will be awarded to those convicted of wrongfully disposing of U. S. property. In this connection it will be emphasized that for every article intended for the use of U. S. Troops and wrongfully disposed of, a duplication of labor at home and additional space for shipping is required. It will be further explained that one of the most severe penalties that can be given by a Military Court is a Dishonorable Discharge; that a man returning home after being dishonorably discharged is in the eyes of the people of the United States a criminal. He has betrayed himself, his family, his community, and his government. That he automatically loses his citizenship, his right to vote, and to hold office. He cannot hold a government position. That Discharge Certificates are always requested by employers after any war and a dishonorable one removes the chance for any worth while job. That it is impossible to keep hidden the fact that a man has received a Dishonorable Discharge. A record is kept in Washington and is available to every community in the United States. That a man with a Dishonorable Discharge, branded as a criminal, will find it impossible to establish credit. He will be prohibited from joining patriotic organizations - former friends, learning of his disgrace, will avoid his company. With this in view, it is not hard to understand how the family of an individual will be forced to suffer in his disgrace in the community.

3. In order to further implement the education of all troops, notices on bulletin boards, in mess halls, and at other conspicuous places will be posted calling attention to the serious loss to the government due to the illegal disposal of property.

4. It is believed that if our soldiers are made "Property Responsibility Conscious" and if they know that they themselves and their comrades in combat are the real losers, their loyalty and sound common sense will cause them to report every instance of the illegal disposition of government property that comes to their attention.

5. Commanders of all echelons will be responsible for the immediate initiation and the vigorous prosecution within their respective commands of

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an educational program which will insure that all personnel are fully aware of the absolute necessity of causing the illegal disposal of government property to cease.

By command of Major General WILSON:

L. F. Nickel

L. F. NICKEL
Lt. Col., A.G.D.
Adjutant General

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HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR I. SECTION
APO 782

AG 400.7 BPSFL

22 June 1944

SUBJECT: Sentences Awarded for Illegal Disposition of Government Property.

TO : See Distribution.

Under the provisions of paragraph 5e, General Order Number 115, this Headquarters, dated 14 June 1944, subject: "Property Loss Prevention Authority (PLPA)", company or similar unit commanders will assemble their units and read to them the following sentences awarded for illegal disposition of Government property. This information will be imparted to every individual in the organization, and after having been read will be posted on bulletin boards and at other conspicuous places.

a. Private Eugene Brunnon, *** QM Laundry Co, did at *** on or about 9 March 1944, without authority knowingly take and carry away a service rifle, value about fifty seven dollars (\$57.00), property of the United States.

Sentence - To be dishonorably discharged the service, to forfeit all pay and allowances due and to become due, and to be confined at hard labor at such place as the reviewing authority may direct for a period of three (3) years (two previous convictions considered).

b. Private T. C. Jones, *** Engineer Depot Company, and Corporal Jesse P. Thomas, *** Replacement Bn., acting jointly and with common interest did, near *** on or about 4 March 1944, knowingly and willfully, apply to their own use and benefit one (1) 3/4-ton weapons carrier of the value of about \$1,650.00, property of the United States furnished and intended for the military use thereof.

Sentence - As to each accused: To be dishonorably discharged the service, to forfeit all pay and allowances due or to become due, and to be confined at hard labor at such place as reviewing authority may direct for one (1) year.

c. In that Private Jerry Walfair, *** M Truck Company, did at *** on or about 25 December 1943, knowingly and willfully apply to his own use a GMC, 2 1/2-ton cargo vehicle, USA registration #4162226, of the value of about \$2,200.00, property of the United States, furnished and intended for the military use thereof.

Sentence - To be dishonorably discharged the service, to forfeit all pay and allowances due or to become due, and to be confined at hard labor at such place as the reviewing authority may direct for a period of five (5) years.

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Adjutant RBW

Asst. Acs. NR

Asst. Acs.

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By command of Major General WILSON:

L. F. Nickel

L. F. NICKEL
Lt. Col., A.G.D.
Adjutant General

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