

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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LAMPEDUSA ISLAND
APR. 1945

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OFFICE OF A.C. LIAISON OFFICER
PALERMO SICILY
APO 394

CA Sect

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FILE : Lamp/3

23 April 1945

SUBJECT : Monthly Report for March for Lampedusa Island

30 APR 1945

TO : Headquarters Alcom, Rome.

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1. Due to faulty mail communications with the A.M.G. Island of Lampedusa, the monthly report for that Island for March has just reached this office. On the assumption that some of the items may be of interest in certain quarters in A.C., the information furnished by Major A. Watts, G.A.C. Lampedusa, is being submitted herein.
2. Increased prices of bread and pasta have not been applied. Major Watts states as the reason for this that the increase falls abnormally heavily on the A.M.G. Islands due to heavy freight rates. He states that correspondence has been opened with the Food Sub-Commission to see what can be done to alleviate the burden. Apparently a full report on the food situation has been prepared for the Food Subcommission.
3. Salvage operations by the Royal Navy are reported to have continued during the month, both labor and boats having been provided by A.M.G. Correspondence already passing through this office indicates that certain security measures taken by Maj. Watts, presumably on his own initiative, included prohibition of trawling by boats from Sicily in Lampedusan waters. Lack of means for transmitting in code has prevented Maj. Watts from informing this office the precise reason for the security measures to which he refers.
4. Maj. Watts reports that the fishing season opening in April should relieve the heavy charges for subsidies and unemployment. He states that the supply of fish to Malta fell off during the month of March owing to damage to the vessel supplying it. He also states that lack of rain has adversely affected agricultural prospects.
5. According to Maj. Watts, local administration has proceeded normally and public order and public health are satisfactory. His report complains of the unsatisfactory state of communications. He says no mail at all was received during the month of March, only telegraphic communication then being available with Sicily.

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- 1 - Ex Comd
- 1 - CA Sect
- 1 - Economic Sect
- 1 - PR & Int to Ital
- 1 - Pub
- 1 - Wally Cogg

EDWARD MORTON
Lt. Col. CE
A.C. Liaison Officer Palermo.

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