

0759

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

ACC

10000/105/393

INFO  
JULY

0760

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

785016

10000/105/393

INFORMATION FOR EUROPEAN THEATER  
JULY 1943 - MAR. 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 994  
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref: A/15B/CA.

26 Mar 45.

SUBJECT: Questions relating to AMG in  
Sicily and Italy (Public Health).

TO: Chief of Public Health and Welfare Division  
US Group CC (Germany), APO 712.

- 1 The Director the Public Health Sub-Commission has shown me the questions you have requested him to answer and points out that although they are simple in nature they will in fact require the writing of an extremely long and complicated report on the activities of the Public Health Sub-Commission in the whole of Italy.
- 2 Owing to shortage of staff and great pressure of work, and in view of the amount of work involved, it will not be possible to prepare such a report and I suggest that you should obtain copies of the detailed monthly reports prepared by the Public Health Sub-Commission, which go both to the War Department, Washington, and the War Office, London. It is suggested that you read these reports in detail, when, I feel sure, a complete picture will be obtained which indicates the answers to your questions.

For the Chief Commissioner:

*G. R. Upjohn*  
G. R. UPJOHN, Brig.,  
VP CA Section.

Copy to : Public Health Sub-Commission.

0762

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS  
U.S. GROUP CONTROL COUNCIL  
APO 512

Log:

FILE:

Date: 17 March 1945

SUBJECT: questions relating to AMG in Sicily and Italy (PublicHealth)

No.	From	To	Date	
1	Chief, Chief, Public Public Health Health and Officer, Welfare Allied Div. Control US Gp CC Commission, APO Italy. 742.		17 Mar 45	Request answers to questions if information available.

Col HANSEN  
Chief of Public Health and Welfare  
Division  
US Group CC (Germany)  
APO 742

Forwarded by Major E. F. DAILY at request of  
Col HANSEN. E.F.D.

509



Questions - AMG in Sicily and Italy (public health)  
Period covered: July 1943 to Dec. 1944.

1. Personnel (Official)
  - a. Were the PHOS adequate in number? in training?
  - b. Could AMG have proceeded with less as far as PHOS were concerned?
  - c. Was there a tendency to operate rather than supervise?
  - d. What did the PHO's accomplish as far as safeguarding the health of troops is concerned?
    - (1) - Was cooperation with surgeons always in evidence?
    - (2) - Did V.D. rates decline in Naples, Palermo, Rome, when AMG programs were put into effect. To what were rises or declines in rate <sup>among troops</sup> attributed?
    - (3) - Were there many (or any) instances of epidemics in troops traceable to civilian contacts (typhus, V.D, typhoid) ?
  - e. What is the general opinion of the public health officers whom AMG supervised---?
    - (1) Were they adequately trained, efficient, cooperative, professional men?
    - (2) Were public health activities in Sicily and Italy maintained "status quo" under AMG? - were they improved by AMG supervision? - did they deteriorate? Why ?

(3) How was the morale of Italian p.h.o.'s - ?  
did they show initiative ? were they inactive  
unless specifically ordered to do something ?  
How did they respond to orders ?

(4) Was there a feeling of professional kinship  
among Italian and AMG pho's which over-rode  
political differences?

(5) Was there any genuine Fascist ideology in evi-  
dence among the Italian pho's ?

2. Supplies.

(a) Did AMG receive medical supplies in time to  
fill urgent local needs ?

(1) What supplies? insulin? disinfectants?  
anesthetics ? sulfonamides? sedatives?

(2) How soon after Invasion did they reach the  
continent.? Reggio? - Naples? Aosta?

(b) Were these supplies <sup>used</sup> to fill native shortages or  
to combat communicable diseases dangerous to  
occupying troops ?

(c) Did AMG at any time need to draw on Army Med-  
ical Depots to rob them of supplies when the  
function of AMG was actually to lighten the  
burden on Military operations ?

(d) How could MG best meet its responsibilities  
immediately after the conquest of a country  
as far as medical supplies are concerned ?



- (1) What is (or was) the obligation of AMG to the Italian people re- medical supplies ?
- (2) Did the conquered Italian Army cooperate fully in distribution of its <sup>own</sup> supplies for Italian civilian use ?

### 3. Facilities.

- ✓ a. How successful was cooperation between surgeons and AMG pho's in securing needed hospital space for (1) troops- (2) civilians. Any conflicts ? Why ? (<sup>POTENZA,</sup> ~~Potenza~~, Naples contagious disease hosp.)
- b. Were facilities in Italy and Sicily ever adequate to meet civilian peacetime needs ? What obligation did AMG have to increase the quality or quantity of these facilities ? Was there ever a tendency to "build up" a public health system or to provide facilities that did not exist before ?
- c. Did Italians expect AMG to hand out new facilities and largesse as part of liberation ? Were any demands ever made on AMG in that direction ? (Water works) (sewages <sup>disposal plant</sup> ~~special~~ sanatorium<sup>a</sup>, hospitals, equipment, supplies)

### 4. Mobility and Intelligence.

- a. Does AMG feel that pho's were informed as to the exact state of public health conditions in Italy or Sicily ? What are the

reasons for the answer ?

- b. How long did it take to get a letter from HQ Region II to Reggio (farthest point) and get a reply ?  
Civilian channels-----?

AMG channels ? (latter averaged 10 days).

- c. How accurate was disease reporting during 1944 ?  
Was it less accurate than in 1934 ?

- d. Did all pho's have dependable transportation to take them immediately to any place where they had to go : Did it make any difference whether they did or did not<sup>go</sup> ? Could they supervise by "remote control", via courier, telephone, and letter ?

5. a. What was the AMG action in combatting the typhus epidemic in Naples ?

- b. How did AMG control venereal diseases ?

What evidence is there of success or failure to do so?



