

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

785017

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PURCHASES & ACQUISITIONS, GERMAN
SURRENDERED FORCES
MAY, JUNE 1945

4041
7
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

Ex Com 2836
TBJ/JJJr

11 June 1945

SUBJECT: Purchases by German Surrendered Forces.

13 JUN 1945

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394

1. Reference is made to your 4041/3/EC of 25 May.
2. Attention is called to 15 Army Group signal CAS/597 of 8 June repeated to you which gives the reply of 15 Army Group to this Headquarters FX 87166 of 4 June repeated to you.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

HEADQUARTERS
12 JUN 1945
A. G.

PA 8/3718

T. B. JACKMAN
Lt. Colonel.

RESTRICTEDCAS/597
JUNE 081130Z

4041

E/4175
JUNE 081735Z
ROUTINE

From: 15 ARMY GROUP

To: AFHQ CITE PHGEG INFO ALCON

RESTRICTED

1. Reference your EX 87168.
2. Following reported by 5th ARMY:

"Further Reurad CAS/589. Additional and complete investigation discloses purchases except fresh vegetable for diabetic hospitalized patients stopped over 2 weeks ago. BOLZANO all shops marked off limits to Germans. Provincial Commission BOLZANO Province reports as follows: Three and one half weeks ago Germans in 2 towns in question were purchasing considerable amounts merchandise. All shops were immediately closed for period 2 weeks. Upon opening were placed off limits to Germans. No purchase by Germans since that date. Commanding General 88 Division confirms no purchase by Germans in BOLZANO and MERANO or elsewhere in this area. Provost Marshall reports no purchases by Germans in BOLZANO or MERANO. No Germans allowed to circulate between hospitals in town MERANO without proper pass. Germans found in either BOLZANO or MERANO without pass are arrested. No Germans allows (allowed?) in shops and cards in shop windows indicate off limits to Germans. Hospitals town MERANO necessitate traffic by Germans between facilities which cover most of town.

- 2 -

RESTRICTED

(Cite Alcon)

Pd. 17% per the 1

RESTRICTED

(6)

2. Report cited of large purchases by Germans is considered either outdated or erroneous. Action being continued to insure to unauthorized purchases will be made by Germans."

Dist

Info-Action - Public Safety SC
Info - Chief Commissioner
Exec Comm
Econ Sec
CA Sec
Finance SC
File

RESTRICTED

3716

KOH ~~580~~ *580*
INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: FK 87168
Date/Time of Origin: JUN 041158Z

Message Centre No: E/3578
Date Time Rec'd: JUN 041530Z
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE FHOBO
TO: 15 ARMY GROUP INFO ALCOM ROME

5 JUN 1945

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

German personnel stated making large purchases local shops in BOLZANO and
MERANO areas. Attention drawn to AG/386-3/163 100-0 of 18 May. Request you
ensure preventive action taken forthwith.

DIST

ACTION

INFO ACTION: Executive Commissioner 2
INFO: Chief Commissioner
File ~~2~~ ECONOMIC SEC
Floor FINANCE S/C

FILE

Flatt

*Info copy to file 580/EC Construction & Admin of
Surrendered Enemy Forces.*

Major Menden seen

RESTRICTED

see file 6-7
HEADQUARTERS
3715
4 JUN 1945

PA 7/6

3

Ref: 4041/3/20.

Ref: 478201

25 May 1945.

SUBJECT: Purchases by German Surrendered Forces.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters,
Attn: G-5 Section.

1. It has been reported by AAF officers in the BELAND area (including MERAND) that heavy purchases in local shops were being made throughout the area by German personnel. These purchases include items such as clothing, wireless sets and bicycles.
2. Your attention is drawn to AG 386.5/163 LCC-0 dated 18 May 1945, para 7 a. where it is stated that "enemy forces will not be permitted to make any local purchases on their own account".
3. This matter is brought to your notice for such action as is considered appropriate.

For the Chief Commissioner:

[Signature]
Brigadier,
Reserve Commissioner.

rel 341 1/4
25/5
HA

3A

EXTRACT FROM AG 386.3/163 LOG-O dated 18 May 45

Para 7 3.

"a. Local Purchase and use of Currency by the Enemy.

- (1) The enemy forces will not be permitted to make any local purchases on their own account. Should it be found economical to supply them with such local produce as may be not required for civilian or Allied military use, such produce will be purchased by Allied military authorities on enemy behalf, in conformity with existing AFHQ/MTUSA instructions as to method of procuring local resources.
- (2) Accounts outstanding against the enemy in respect of purchases made previous to surrender will be forwarded to AG/ASG for such investigation or other action as may be considered appropriate."

785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Establishment Section

LPM/jp
16 May 1945.

MAY 17 REC'D

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Executive Commissioner, Allied Commission.

1. In compliance with paragraph 4 of Minutes of Executive Commissioner's meeting of 15 May, the following is submitted for consideration.

2. It has been observed by the Deputy Executive Commissioner and by other Allied officers present in the Bolzano area (including Merano) that heavy purchases in local shops were being made throughout the area by German personnel. These purchases include principally, such items as clothing, wireless sets, bicycles, and the like.

3. It is considered that the effect of such purchases on the local economy, plus the fact that there has been considerable thieving on the part of the Germans of such articles as indicated above, might well lead to inflationary results. It appears to be for consideration, therefore, whether some representations might not be made to AFHQ to secure correction of this situation.

L.T. Montant, Jr.
L.T. MONTANT, Jr.,
Captain, AGD.

3712

See 3

4.

Situation in BOLZANO.

Captain MONTANT reported on a recent visit. He stated that with effect from 12 May 15 Army Group had handed over liaison work to a Fifth Army detachment. BOLZANO had a 60% German speaking population. The Germans had six to eight divisions in the area, with HQs and offices throughout the city. Colonel FISKE had sent a telegram stressing the need for an industry officer and a Finance officer for temporary duty to clear up problems. There was some dispute in connection with the Brenner railroad. Under the Armistice terms the Germans had to rebuild this, but the Italian workers refused to work under German direction any longer and the Germans were doing what work they could with the 6,000 German workers available, without active cooperation from the Italian railroad workers. There was some discussion on this at the meeting.

The refugee situation was in hand. VI Corps reported they had only 5,000 refugees. The German/Austrian and the Brenner frontiers had been closed, in order to control refugee movement.

The CIN had been extremely cooperative in providing transport.

It had been arranged that all German MPs would be replaced by Americans in BOLZANO City by the end of the week and the situation should improve. Colonel FISKE was concerned at the possibility of the Germans removing loot from this area to their new destination. Ex C directed Captain MONTANT to put up a memorandum on this.

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1820