

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

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VENEZIA GIULIA, AMG ZONE, JUGOSLAV ZONE
TRADING
AUG., SEPT. 1945

Executive Commission:

1. Reference is made to Brigadier Dunlop's letter at folio 7 and the copy of pro-memoranda by Dr. Eriolini regarding the mineral refinery.

2. It would appear from Brigadier Dunlop's letter that to do what this firm requests might open the way to a more realistic and reasonable approach of similar problems. However, there seem to be several objections which were not brought up by Brigadier Dunlop. These are:

- (1) The firm is in Fiume, which is completely out of Italian Government or AMG territory and is under Yugoslav control. Although the Italian Government, through the Ministry of Finance, may own 80% of the shares directly or indirectly, it cannot exercise any right in a territory not under its or AMG jurisdiction.
- (2) The plea that the rehabilitation of this firm would give considerable employment is rather weak, as it is stated in the letter that only about 100 employees would be involved.
3. The approach to the whole problem is made more difficult when Dr. Eriolini states that if this firm were to be put in operation it could produce 200 tons monthly of various petroleum products that are not needed in the Yugoslav market nor in Fiume and therefore could be sent to Italy. It is doubtful whether the Yugoslav Government would permit this, even though they may not need the products.
4. It is requested that 40 or 50 ammonia cylinders be sent to the firm in Fiume, and the question may be raised as to whether it is possible or permissible to export necessary industrial equipment from Italy to rehabilitate a firm in territory wherein it is doubtful that the industry would be operating for the benefit of Italian economy.
5. Dr. Eriolini also asks for 50 or 60 quintals of foodstuffs to be sent to Fiume for the collective mess of the company. Where would this food come from? It seems the responsibility is neither that of the Italian Government nor of the Allied forces to supply food in that territory.
6. They also ask for ammonia, which it is said is necessary in restarting the plant. If I recall correctly, there is a considerable shortage of ammonia in Italy, and again there is the question of whether it is permissible or possible to send a product in short supply to a firm in a territory over which we have no control and from which it is doubtful whether the use of the product will benefit Italian economy.

7. In the last paragraph Dr. Eriolini states that representatives of the factory committee assured him that obstacles have been removed with the authorities of Fiume and the Yugoslav command in the town for the resumption of relations. He does not indicate what authorities in Fiume, and it is doubtful whether the Yugoslav Commander on his own responsibility can give the necessary assurances. At that, if it were possible to do this as easily as it appears from Brigadier Dunlop's letter and should steps be taken to do what is asked for by Dr. Eriolini, I believe it would create a precedent and every Italian firm having branches in other territories not controlled by the Italian Government would flood AC with similar requests.

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23 Aug 45

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A. E. ARNOLDY
Capt, Sp Res

VP Item See.

For information and any indicated action.

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1 Tel. 406

4047
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION
PRODUCTION DIVISION

DAC:lrw

(12)

Ref. RS/12.03

12 September 1945

SEP 14 1945

SUBJECT: Mineral Oil Refinery in Fiume

TO : His Excellency
The British Ambassador
Rome

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1. Further to my RS/12.03 dated 29 August 1945, I enclose a copy of a letter on the same subject submitted by the Yugoslav Delegation to the Advisory Council for Italy.

2. A similar letter has been sent to the American Ambassador.

D. L. ANDERSON, Brigadier.

D. L. ANDERSON
Brigadier
Deputy Vice-President

Enclosure

Copy to:
Executive Commissioner
Ref: 4047/4/EC dated 25/8/45

(10)

PA
(11)

(CAPT. ARNOLD)

14/9
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Tel. 406

40479
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION
PRODUCTION DIVISION

DLA:mb

Ref. ES/12.03

29 August 1945

AUG 29 1945

SUBJECT: Mineral Refinery in Fiume

TO : His Excellency
The American Ambassador
Rome

1. Attached is copy of a memorandum received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, relative to the alleged seizure of the Mineral Oils Refinery Company in Fiume. A copy of the Chief Legal Adviser's opinion on the case is also enclosed.
2. If you consider it advisable, you will doubtless wish to report the Italian case to the Yugoslavian Government through diplomatic channels, or if not, inform the Ministry of Foreign Affairs accordingly.
3. A similar letter has been addressed to the British Ambassador.

D. L. Anderson
D. L. ANDERSON
Brigadier
Deputy Vice-President

cc: Executive Commissioner
Ref: 4047/4/EC dated 25/8/45

SEE FILE

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(Copy passed for cc files)
(CARR ARNOLD)

785017

Tel: 454. 10

Ref: 4547/1/SC.

25 August 1945.

SUBJECT: Mineral Refinery.

TO : VP, Economic Section.

1. Enclosed is a copy of a letter EXII/311.18 dated 11 August 45 from RG Venezia Region and copy of a *provvedimento* sent to him by Dr. Radolini dated 7 August 45 regarding the mineral refinery in Piuma.

2. In connection with this matter is attached also copy of my minute dated 23 August 45 to the Executive Commissioner, who now directs that your Section take whatever action you deem necessary in this matter.

3. It would be appreciated if you would inform this office of any action taken.

A. B. ARNOLDY.

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Executive Commissioner.

Incls: As stated.

See F. 11.12

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Handwritten signature and date 28/8

HEADQUARTERS
VENEZIE REGION
Allied Military Government
APO 394

11 August, 1945

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission
Executive Commissioner

AUG 18 1945
AUG 20 1945

SUBJECT : Mineral Refinery.

FILE NO : RXII/311.18

1. I attach herewith a copy of a promemoria handed to me by Dott. Exiolini, with a free translation.
2. I am sending this to you rather than directly to the Economic Section because it seems to me that this has an importance over and above the pure question of trade.
3. The matter was first brought to my notice by Avv. Matter, the Prefect of Venice, who felt that such an approach, made with the tacit approval if not with the actual encouragement of the Jugo-Slav authorities of Fiume, might open the way to a more realistic and reasonable approach on both sides.
4. I submit the matter for your consideration in this light.

[Signature]
Regional Commissioner

Encl. (6)

JKD/lgc

(Case File)

RAFFINERIA DI OLII MINERALI
SOCIETA' PER AZIONI

Venice, 7 August 1945

MEMORANDUM

for the Regional Commissioner, A.M.G. Venezia Region
Brigadier J.K. DUNLOP

50% of the shares of the "Raffineria di Oili Minerali" Societa per Azioni (ROMSA) (Mineral Oils Refineries), situated in Fiume with Offices both in Fiume and Venice, is held directly by the Italian Government (Ministry of Finance) and the other 50% by AGIP of which the said Ministry holds 50% of its shares.

Totally, the Government partakes in the ROMSA, directly or indirectly, with 80% of the shares.

Since the events of Fiume of last April this office, acting according to rules vested in it by the Board of Administration, has been practically separated from the Fiume factory.

Indirectly, we were informed that after the liberation, our Firm, like other industries of Fiume, was administered by workers and employees representatives, while the civil and political organs had appointed a fiduciary.

A sort of political relaxation presently existing, and other acute technical and economical problems, brought about a partial revision of the managing criterion assumed during the period immediately following the liberation.

During the last few days we have been often visited by Deputies of the Factory Committees, with whom we have examined and discussed the many financing and reconstructing problems of the shareholders' rights (Italian Government), and of the workings and sale of a part of the products.

Therefore, we ask this Command for the permission to renew our relations with the Fiume Refinery and to solve any eventual problems.

Original folio 3
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- 2 -

From conferences held with the representatives of the "Comitato di Fabbrica" it resulted that they could sell at once, through these offices, from existing products about 500 tons followed by 200 tons monthly of various petroleum products, that are not needed neither in the Yugoslav market nor in the city of Fiume, but are, on the contrary, needed by the Italian market.

The proceed of the sale should be used by the shareholders (It. Govnt.) to pay working expenses and for partial re-building of the Fiume plants.

We have also been asked to send to Fiume, for the present, 40-50 ammonia cylinders, needed to initiate works in a Refinery plant (namely that of "deparaffination" (deparaffinazione) and filtration of mineral oils.

This Office of Venice will be accountable for goods' payment, accounts and cylinders and will be answerable to the Allied and Italian authorities.

It will also be necessary for the issuance of a permit to send to Fiume 50/60 lbs of foodstuffs (soup-paste, rice, flour, kidney-beans, powder milk, sugar and other goods).

The truck for transporting both the cylinders and these products, will be sent from the Fiume factory.

As the industrial product is necessary for re-initiating a work that will employ one hundred workers, the foodstuffs would be used by the Factory's collective messes, frequented by 700 workers and employees who, due to the present post-war situation are compelled to ask our help. This Office formerly supplied a big part of the necessary foodstuffs for workers, employees and their families (about 3000 persons).

These foodstuffs are paid by our Firm, and we ask earnestly the Allied and Italian authorities to help us in the allotment.

As the ammonia is immediately needed, we beg for an early decision, so that we can inform the Factory of Fiume to send a truck.

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At the same time we will also inform our shareholders (It.Govnt.) of the request made to us by Fiume Factory and to send the necessary money for salaries and wages, amounting to about one million and a half monthly.

It is clear that the question refers to some problems, arisen from the conferences held with the Committee and Factory Syndicate deputies; these should be solved by an exchange of products, services and interests.

Therefore, due to the importance of the above question we ask the interference and the consent of the Allied and Italian authorities.

These reasons are not only based on an immediate economic interest, but also on sentiments of civil and human solidarity towards people who for so many years have worked with a Firm that may continue to exist and produce, independently from the economic and political agreements of the coming peace treaties.

It would not be a good policy to give up the possibility of resuming our work, ^{and} to undervalue the willingness of the workers of Fiume and which we wish to reciprocate.

The representatives of the Factory Committee assured us their interference with the Authorities of Fiume and the Yugoslav Commands of the town, for the removal of any eventual obstacles and the encouragement for a resumption of relations.

Raffineria di Olii Minerali

Società per s.p.a.

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Venezia, 7 agosto 1945

Pro memoria

per il Commissario Generale Regionale dell'A.M.G. Gen. Dunlop

La Raffineria di Olii Minerali Soc.p.Az. (ROMSA) con stabilimento e sede in Fiume nonché sede a Venezia, appartiene per il 50% direttamente allo Stato italiano (Ministero delle Finanze) e per l'altra metà alla Agip, nella quale il predetto Ministero possiede il 60% delle azioni.

In totale quindi lo Stato partecipa nella Romsa direttamente e indirettamente coll'80%.

Dopo gli avvenimenti di Fiume dell'aprile u.s. questa Direzione, funzionante con i regolari poteri conferitile dal Consiglio di Amministrazione, è rimasta praticamente staccata dallo stabilimento di Fiume.

Notizie indirette segnalavano che, analogamente alle altre industrie di Fiume, la nostra Azienda era passata, dopo il crollo, in amministrazione a rappresentanti e delegati degli impiegati ed operai, mentre gli organi politici e cittadini avevano provveduto alla nomina di un fiduciario.

Una certa distensione politica che sembra essere in corso, l'affiorare ed acuitizzarsi di problemi tecnici ed economici, ha portato con se, come era logico attendersi, una parziale revisione dell'atteggiamento assunto nel periodo che seguì immediatamente il crollo.

In questi ultimi tempi abbiamo avuto ripetute visite di delegati del Comitato di Fabbrica, con i quali sono stati esaminati e discussi molti problemi inerenti al finanziamento ed alla ricostruzione, nonché ai diritti degli azionisti (Stato italiano) ed alle lavorazioni e collocamento di parte dei prodotti.

Per queste ragioni ci permettiamo rivolgerci a codesto Comando affinché acconsenta questa ripresa di relazioni con la Raffineria di Fiume e

per il Commissario Generale Regionale dell'A.M.G. Gen. Dunlop

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Dalle discussioni avute coi rappresentanti del Comitato di Fabbrica, è risultato che dalle esistenze e dalla produzione, potrebbero far collocare, tramite questa Sede, prontamente cca. 500 tonn. e successivamente 200 tonn. mensili di prodotti petroliferi diversi, che non dovrebbero interessare il mercato jugoslavo né la città di Fiume. Questi prodotti invece sono richiesti dal mercato italiano.

Con il ricavato di queste vendite sarebbe possibile agli azionisti (Stato italiano) sopperire alle spese di esercizio, nonché a parte delle spese inerenti alla parziale rimessa in efficienza degli impianti di Fiume.

Inoltre ci è stato richiesto di provvedere all'invio a Fiume, per ora, di 40-50 bombole di ammoniacca, necessarie alla messa in opera di un impianto della raffineria stessa e precisamente di quello della depurazione e filtrazione degli olii minerali.

Per il pagamento della merce, delle cauzioni, e delle bombole e per il loro ritorno, se ne rende garante questa Sede, la quale ne risponde di fronte alle Autorità alleate e italiane.

Contemporaneamente sarebbe gradito ci venisse accordato il permesso per inviare a Fiume 50/60 q.li. di generi alimentari (pasta, riso, farina, fagioli, latte in polvere, zucchero, oppure quanto di meglio si potrà trovare).

Il camion per il trasporto sia delle bombole che di questi prodotti, verrà messo a disposizione dallo stabilimento di Fiume.

Mentre il prodotto industriale è necessario per la ripresa di una attività che darà lavoro ad un centinaio di operai, l'invio dei generi alimentari andrebbe a beneficio delle mense collettive della Società, mense che alimentano i 700 dipendenti colà dislocati che, per particolare contingenze derivanti dalla situazione creata dalla guerra, si trovano attualmente in condizioni di richiedere il nostro appoggio e la nostra solidarietà.

Anche in passato era questa Sede che provvedeva ad inviare per gli operai ed impiegati gran parte dei viveri necessari a loro ed ai loro familiari (3000 persone circa).

Questi prodotti alimentari verrebbero pagati dalla nostra Azienda, e per la loro assegnazione facciamo vivo appello alle autorità alleate ed italiane.

Poiché l'ammoniacca è di immediata necessità ed impiego, preghiamo cortesemente una decisione possibilmente pronta, onde da parte nostra si possa avvertire lo stabilimento di Fiume di inviare l'automezzo per il ritiro.

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In questi giorni andremo ~~in~~ inoltre a sottoporre agli Azionisti (Stato italiano) la richiesta fattaci di provvedere all'invio dei fondi necessari per le paghe e stipendi, emmentanti, grosso modo, ad un milione e mezzo di lire mensile.

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