

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

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10000/109/821

13 CORPS,
SEPT. 1940

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13 CORPS, ECONOMIC SECTION, MEETINGS & MINUTES
SEPT. 1946

7.
182, 211.
Also Minutes of Econ Section meeting AMG 13 Capes
is at Folios 316 for info. Please
see unemployment survey VG at 1
and Food report at 2.
J. M. M. 3/10.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

CONFIDENTIAL

Minutes of Economics Section Meeting held on 20 September

1945 at 1600 hours.

OCT 1 1945

PRESENT:

Lt. Colonel	D.S. BICKERSTETH	- (Economics (CHAIRMAN))
	C.A.W. STEPHENS	- Commerce
	J.E. FODEN	- Industry & Utilities
	P.W. RICE	- Transportation
Major	R.E. HUGHES	- Finance
	J.E. SKIRE	- Public Works
	H.P.J. MEAT	- Food
	H.A. HAYWARD	- Telecommunications
	K. COOPER	- Economics
Captain	H.T. COZER	- C.A.O. Trieste City
	L.H. WELLS	- Agriculture
	S.H. COMPTON	- Gorizia Area Supply
	J.F. FIELD	- Trieste Area Supply
	I.M. CALVANESE	- Supply
	N.E. HOLSTEN	- Labour

1. Lt. Col. BICKERSTETH, Economics.

A. FREDWOOD,

It is requested that the various Supply Officers give this Office a report on the status of firewood.
Captain KEMM (Gorizia Area Supply) replied that road blocks have proved very effective in the control of firewood in the Gorizia Area. Efforts are being made to keep the price of firewood at a minimum which should not be greater than 230 lire per 1000 lbs. Some difficulty in this price control however has been experienced in dealings with Trieste merchants who were offering up to 290 lire per 1000 lbs. As far as the Supply for Gorizia is concerned, at this time the situation appears to be satisfactory. Captain KEMM (Trieste Supply) stated that the firewood situation in Trieste appears to be satisfactory. The Consorzio Agrario is processing the wood it has in stock and it is leaned to the

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	F.W. RICE	- Transportation
Major	R.E. HUGHES	- Finance
	J.E. SQUIRE	- Public Works
	H.T.J. MUATT	- Food
	H.A. HANWARD	- Telecommunications
	K. COOPER	- Economics
Captain	H.T. COVER	- C.A.O. Trieste City
	L.H. WEL	- Agriculture
	S.H. COMDIOT	- Gorizia Area Supply
	J.P. KELI	- Trieste Area Supply
	I.M. CALVANESE	- Supply
	N.E. HOLSTEN	- Labour

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Captain KELI (Trieste Supply) stated that the firewood situation in Trieste appears to be satisfactory. The Consorzio Agrario is processing the wood it has in stock and it is loaned to the Comune about 50 % of its equipment and supplies for the Comune to process the wood that it is buying.

B. PRICE CONTROL.

Lt. Col. BICKERSTETH asked what is the present situation on price control which was discussed last week. Major COX replied that a meeting was held in Major Lyatt's office on the 16th to discuss the action to be followed in Venezia Giulia. The representatives of the Territorial Price Fixing Commission were present as well as representatives of SEPRAL. At that meeting

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it was felt that it would be unadvisable at the present moment to fix in Venezia Giulia an official price list to be enforced by agencies set up for the purpose. Instead, it was thought best to foster the institution of a self-imposed official price list similar to what had been done in Rome. The traders will be invited to carry out this price list on their own accord and help prevent speculative buying and selling. Thus the bonifide traders interests would be protected against disruptive dealers. Since this meeting two other changes in the Milan Price Fixing plan have taken place. Two members of the Price Commission are again in Milan studying the situation there and will report back to this Section over the week-end. As a matter of interest, Mr. De Gasperi, Prime Minister of Italy, made some interesting comments on price control in Milan earlier this week. Some of these statements reflect a change in the Italian policy on price control. In his speech at Milan, when the Fair was opened, he stated that "raise of prices differ from place to place, and that the Government did not think it advisable to standardize the enforcement of official prices. He preferred instead:

- 1) A more strict control on the retail of commodities distributed on ration cards;
- 2) Additional distribution of essential foodstuffs in the great working centers, these being arranged in agreement with the Allies;
- 3) Institution of distributing communal bodies with guarantee of a Government subsidy up to the extent of 60 % of the amount required;
- 4) Opening popular restaurants, 50 % of first expenses to be born by the Government.

He further added it is not to be forgotten however that the best contribution the Government can give is to increase the ration goods.

Lt. Col. BUCKENSTETH suggested that SEPRAL might be able to go out and buy certain items on the open market and by buying in bulk be able to distribute these items at much lower price than the prevailing prices. It was agreed by all that SEPRAL should be encouraged to buy more items to be distributed with a minimum of profit.

C. COMMITTEE OF ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION.

Lt. Col. BUCKENSTETH stated that the Committee of Economic Reconstruction has set up an office in this Headquarters under the supervision of this Section. Its Secretary is now working. The problem seems to be a

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C. COMMITTEE OF ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION.

Lt. Col. BICKERSTETH stated that the Committee of Economic Reconstruction has set up an office in this Headquarters under the supervision of this Section. Its Secretary is now working. Its first problem has already arisen. The problem seems to be a large amount of Swiss currency coming into this Area and finding its way to the black market. Finance replied that it had no notice of such dealings, but would investigate.

D. TOBACCO FACTORY.

Lt. Col. BICKERSTETH stated that permission for a private Tobacco Company to open a factory in Trieste had been refused. This was because a monopoly on tobacco sales and manufacture is possessed by the State Tobacco Monopoly. Finance likewise agreed that the State Tobacco Monopoly must control all tobacco sales.

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2. Lt. Col. RICE, Transportation.

The supply of railway waggons is critical. Italian State railways refuse to allow their waggons to go east beyond Trieste while the Yugoslav refuse permission for their cars to go west of Trieste. Both sides allege that the other side is stealing its railway waggons. The problem has been taken up by higher Headquarters but no satisfactory solution has been reached. However, arrangements have been made whereby Yugoslav Railway waggons are offloaded at Trieste and the load is then put on Italian Railway waggons where it is sent to its destination in Italy. This arrangement involves a considerable amount of time, as well as additional cost, but it is at present the only solution possible.

The trucks of the Area are experiencing great difficulty in obtaining gas and tyres.

In view of the situation on railway waggons, the lack of gas and tyres for trucks, it can be stated that the transportation situation in this territory is becoming more critical every day.

3. Captain WEIL, Agriculture.

The amassing of corn is proceeding unsatisfactorily. This is due to the low price paid and corresponding high price on the open market. This open market price is about 4,000 lire per Qtl. while the official price is 1,600 lire.

Arrangements have now been completed with Finance to offer a subsidy for the grain to be amassed. This subsidy will consist of a premium to be given in the form of phosphates and maybe blankets.

4. Major MYATT, Food.

Great difficulty has been experienced in the late arrival of shipping notices. It appears that the liaison between the shipping authorities and AFHQ is not what one would most desire.

Lt. Col. BICKERSTETH stated that a letter would be drafted on this subject to higher Headquarters setting forth the full facts and requesting something to be done, if possible, to alleviate this situation.

5. Major COX, Price Control.

Funerals in Pola are cheaper than they are in Trieste.

It appears that a few fish are still being allowed to waste.

However the Price Commission is carrying on a close supervision of the central market especially in regards to the excess of supplies for the consumers and the general public.

6. Captain CONDUCT, Gorizia Area Supply.

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6. Captain CONDUCT, Gorizia Area Supply.

The threatened bread-strike in Gorizia appears to be about settled.

7. Captain CALVANESE, Supply.

The 88 th Division had made a request to borrow 750 tons of flour. This has been approved.

Allied Commission has questioned our justification on some of our supplies for 1946, particularly in regards to coal and fuel oil.

8. Major MYATT, Food.

For a report on the present situation in the territory, see the attached Weekly Food Report.

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9. Captain CANTILLI, Labour.

For a report of the Unemployment Situation in this territory, see the UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION REPORT attached to these minutes.

For Chief of Economics:

Kenneth Cooper

KENNETH COOPER,
MAJOR F.A.,
DEPUTY CHIEF, ECONOMICS.

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APPENDIX "A".WEEKLY FOOD REPORT.

Situation as of 20 September 1946:

	B r e a d		P a s t a	
	Tons	subistence till Tons	subistence till Tons	subistence till
1. Flour				
A. Stock on Hand (dark flour)	2,010	448	4 23 Sept 1562	August ration (balance) Sept. (part)
B. In transit from Venice (white flour)	5,400	4,300	37 31 Oct. 1100	Sept. (balance)
C. In Port (white flour) repayment to Udine for 2000 tons of Wheat	8,001			
	1,600			
	6,401	3,401	30 30 Nov. 3000	October & November ration
D. Wheat Stock on Hand	1,267	1267	10 10 Dec.	

UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN VENEZIA GIULIA AS OF 19 SEPTEMBER 1946.

area	men	%	women	%	juven.	%	TOTALS	%	HEADS OF FAMILIES		UNEMPLOY RELIEF AS OF
									TOTALS	%(1)	TOTALS
COLUMN	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
TRIESTE	18096	54,8	11807	35,8	3090	9,4	32993	78,2	9766	29,6	10492
GORIZIA	3456	62,1	1770	31,8	340	6,1	5566	13,2	1316	23,7	2561
POLA	1619	44,6	1869	51,4	143	4,--	3631	8,6	968	26,6	736
TOTALS	23171	54,9(v)	15446	36,6	3573	8,5	42190		12050	28,5	13789
Trieste Comune (included in above totals).	15153	(v) 65,4	10227	66,2	2478	69,3	27858	66,--	7699	63,9	4702

Labor imported from outside Zone "A"
(For unemployment work relief projects)

Pola 3
Gorizia 175
Trieste 1345
TOTAL 1523

- (i) Percentage of column 7
(ii) Taken from contractors reports and Insp
(iii) Percentage of total of column 7 and 11
(iv) Percentage of column 7 Total
(v) Percentage of Totals line

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UNEMPLOYMENT SITUATION IN VENEZIA GIULIA AS OF 19 SEPTEMBER 1946.

n	%	women	%	juven.	%	TOTALS	%	HEADS OF FAMILIES		UNEMPLOYED WORK-RELIEF PROJECTS AS OF 10/9	
								TOTALS	% (i)	TOTALS (ii)	% (iii)
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	54.8	11807	35.8	3090	9.4	32993	78.2	9766	29.6	10492	31.8
	62.1	1770	31.8	340	6.1	5566	13.2	1316	23.7	2561	46.1
	44.6	1869	51.4	143	4.1	3631	8.6	968	26.6	736	20.3
	54.9(v)	15446	36.6	3573	8.5	42190		12050	28.5	13789	32.7
	(v) 65.4	10227	66.2	2473	69.3	27358	66.1	7699	63.9	4702	16.9

outside Zone "A"
work relief projects)

- (i) Percentage of column 7
(ii) Taken from contractors reports and Inspections
(iii) Percentage of total of column 7 and 11
(iv) Percentage of column 7 Total
(v) Percentage of Totals line

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