

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

ACC

10000/109/907
(VOL. I)

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

10000/109/907
(VOL. I)

RATION SCALES
MAY - DEC. 1944

Chief Commissioner.

93

P90.

Attached is submitted for your information/signature/approval.

This was in CAD's hands when we discussed
in Dec 12. I understood that he replied - but
then not the copy.

MS/15/100

✓

cc. 11/5/12
16/12

C50: for C of S to see folios 100-104: SAC MED. for conference. V.P. 14/12

105

106

1. What a distribution of this paper: I asked the other day
in a similar paper. It should be cc, C.O.S. & DECOS Eon.
2. B.f. at next COS meeting. *E.G. has been informed*
3. In meetings make sure Foral Sub Eon sees. - See note in 104

MS/15/100

107.

C50: answer to above minute: 1. see distribution note on folio 104. 2. Jpt. G.
has been informed for 12/12 agenda. 3. Foral Sub Eon has seen. Jpt. G. 10/12
Cenel(2). This was discussed at V.P. meeting *MS/15/100* 2/1/13

5057

Page Four.

C.O.S. (contd)

officer for Florence City and Province - and Capt. Mosley has already arrived. posted from Southern Region to replace him as permanent Supply officer.

C.O.S. (extra)

6.4.44

MS/17/44

14.11.44

26/11

C.S. Green MS/17/44 20/11

Col.

To see 62-63. Signal from AFHQ 6

Col. about the 300 Tonne ration.

MS/27/44

Col.

Pls see signal at 12.40 (on announcement of increase in price of bread).

MS/4/44

71

C.S.O: Pls see signal ref. 300 gram ration 5053

at 12.30

MS/9/12

See 4/4/44

92

See above for details

Col

64

To see 62-763. Signal from AFHQ to
CDS about the 300 gram ration.

MS/27/11

27/11

Col

57

Reo see signal at 12 66
(on announcement of increase in
price of bread).

4/12

TR/4/11

71

CSD: Reo see signal ref. 300 gram ration
at 12 70

9/12

See up to 69

92

CSD: for COS to see folio 90 9/15/12

Page Three

C.O.S.

1. Ref. AME 5 Army's SURREP for period 14 - 24 Oct. para. 2 as follows :

PISTOIA

The Provincial Commissioner reports that the people especially in the City of PISTOIA are very hungry and there are widespread complaints about the food shortage. A food demonstration took place in the city on 16th October. The grumbling is increased by the knowledge that the ration in the South is 300 grammes as against their own 100."

and your minute of 29.10.44 which reads :

I notice that the ration in the forward areas is still 100 gms. Cannot this be stepped up to 200 ? If not, is the objection lack of food or transport ?

2. I have spoken to Major IERIE of Food Sub-Commission who informs me that there are sufficient stocks of flour and grain for the 200 gms. bread ration for LUCCA and PISTOIA.

3. The exact position is as follows :

- 1) At LIVORNO are 5,000 tons of imported flour of which a sufficiently large balance can go to LUCCA/PISTOIA area.
to Livorno
- 10,000 tons are to be sent there also, ear-marked for the NORTH.
- 11) In GROSETO are 5,000 tons of local grain for the PISTOIA/ LUCCA area which are to be used if possible before the imported flour.

4. Lt. Col. BORDASS of Transportation Sub-Commission tells me that on 26.10.44 27 trips were made from LIVORNO to LUCCA carrying 108 tons of flour, and trucks have been running LIVORNO/LUCCA constantly since.

5. The crisis there seems to be over and presumably the 100 gms bread ration will now be stepped up to 200.

C.O.S. Office
Ext. 451
30.10.44

Since writing the above
Sig has come in, confirming
para. 5.

H. Flamm
T/Com.

5055

60

Acting Chief Commissioner

and your minute of 29.10.44 which reads:

I notice that the ration in the forward areas is still 100 gms. Cannot this be stepped up to 200? If not, is the objection lack of food or transport?

2. I have spoken to Major IMHIE of Food Sub-Commission who informs me that there are sufficient stocks of flour and grain for the 200 gms. bread ration for LUCCA and PISTOIA.

3. The exact position is as follows:

1) At LIVORNO are 5,000 tons of imported flour of which a sufficiently large balance can go to LUCCA/PISTOIA area.

10,000 tons are to be sent there also, ear-marked for the NORTH.

11) In GROSSETO are 5,000 tons of local grain for the LUCCA/PISTOIA area which are to be used if possible before the imported flour.

4. Lt. Col. BORMANN of Transportation Sub-Commission tells me that on 26.10.44 27 trips were made from LIVORNO to LUCCA carrying 108 tons of flour, and trucks have been running LIVORNO/LUCCA constantly since.

5. The crisis there ^{for} seems to be over and presumably the 100 gms bread ration will now be stepped up to 200.

C.O.S. Office
Ext. 451
30.10.44

Since writing the above
SG has come in, confirming
para. 5.

H. M. am
J/can.

60

5055

Acting Chief Commissioner.

Minute above and reply by your query of 30/10/44.
With find out about the Supply Office - Transport Illness.
H.S. (30/10/44)

Noted
JUD

61

C.O.S.

There was a very short interregnum when Major Young was suddenly ordered to U.K. Major Sykes was sent up immediately, however, as acting Supply.

603

47.

Signal (approx. 46) for you to see

Encl 24/10.

48

Acting Chief Commissioner. Alcyl 26/10/47

Submitted. (Econ. Sec. will in future have the

Archon copies) This all seems helpful.

775/241x.

605

51

Noted. AFHQ is giving no good support
WV 10/27

55

C.S.O. P.S. 53. 752. yours as 38 refers
27/10

56.

Col. 53 and 52 are the reply to the query you asked me to
send at 38.

5053

27/10

57

Acting Chief Commissioner.

OP 53 x 56

48

Acting Chief Commissioner.

10/13/44

Submitted. (Econ. Sec. will in future have the

Action copies) This all seems helpful.

17.5 (24/4)

(of 3)

51

Noted. AFHQ is giving no good report

WV 10/27

55

C.S.O. Plo 522 p 53. 752. yours at 38 refers

56.

27/10

Col.

53 and 52 are the reply to the query you asked me to

and at 38.

5053

27/10

57

Acting Chief Commissioner.

PP 53 & 54

attached submitted for your information/signature/5053

17.5 (27/4)

Noted ✓

17.5 (27/4)

Page 11 Seen Mr (9/10)

7.

CSO

→ NAF issued
MS/15/10

You must see Sec 5 & 6 and so must COS

on his return

Quoted 14/10.

He 12/10

Col

from 17. 24

18.

He 15/10

MS/15/10

35.

Col

You should see 33734. This will strengthen our position over the 300 man memorandum for C&A which is being typed now for AFCE's signature.

36

CSO I spoke about distribution of He 24/10

this which seems to have gone wrong

PRO should see.

~~MS/15/10~~

Please draft minute to DEOS Ecan Sec
asking them to submit plans for substitution

of products for wheat: Bentley
Chastants

5052

785017

You want see 3-6 and so want COS
on his return 12/10.

Col 10. 10/15/10

17. 15/10

35.

Col You should see 33134. This with Shenglian on
position over the 300 main memorandum for CAC
which is being typed now for Mee's signature.

CEO I spoke about distribution of 27/10

His which seems to have gone wrong
PRO should see.

Please draft minute to DEOS Ecan Sec
asking them to submit plans for substitution

of products for wheat: Bakery 5050
Chosmink
Tracye. 10/38.

10/38. 10/38/10

27. 43.

→ P.R.O

Trini file for your information in accordance
with COS minute 36 above.

L.O.S. 44. 10/38/10

See Lianha Goulder

TOP SECRET.

CCPT.

TOP SECRET.

ALLIED FORCES HEADQUARTERS.

K 542

Confidential

SAC (P) (44) 152
17th December 1944.

(Original - 24 26/10/45)

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE.

FOOD RATIONING IN ITALY.

Note by Secretary.

1. The Supreme Allied Commander has directed (Conclusion 3(c) of PC (44) 35th Meeting) that G-5 prepare for his approval a telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff advising them of the present position in regard to Sicilian wheat and the immediate action being taken and requesting guidance as to the course to be adopted in the event of continued Italian failure to secure adequate local assessment.
2. On 13th December the Chief Administrative Officer held a meeting, a record of which is contained in Paper No. PC (44) 152. It will be observed that at Conclusion (a) of the record of this meeting G-5 were directed to prepare a telegram to the Chiefs of Staff making a final request for the implementation of a 300 grams ration throughout liberated ITALY. A draft telegram has been prepared and coordinated with the appropriate authorities. A copy of this draft telegram is attached.

3. The Supreme Allied Commander in conference is requested:

- (a) To authorize the despatch of the attached draft telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff.
- (b) To direct that in the event of an unfavourable reply from the Combined Chiefs of Staff G-5, in conjunction with the appropriate authorities, prepare for his approval a further telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff recommending,
 - (i) the introduction of a reduced uniform bread ration throughout ITALY,
 - (ii) the terms of a statement for issue jointly by the United States and British Governments explaining the reasons which necessitated the introduction of the reduced uniform scale.
- (c) To endorse Conclusion (b) of the meeting held by the Chief Administrative Officer on 13th December to the effect that the Allied Commission be directed to draw up plans for further wheat shipments to SICILY after 10th January 1945, but to defer any action to implement such plans for the present.

(Sgd) J.H. LASCOMBES,
COLONEL
SECRETARY

AFC Distribution: CC, HQ AC (Copy Nos. 31-33)

Copy No. 14 - Chief Commissioner

wheat and the immediate action being taken and requesting guidance as to the course to be adopted in the event of continued Italian failure to secure adequate local assessment.

2. On 13th December the Chief Administrative Officer held a meeting, a record of which is contained in Paper No. PC (44) 152. It will be observed that at Conclusion (a) of the record of this meeting G-5 were directed to prepare a telegram to the Chiefs of Staff making a final request for the implementation of a 500 grams ration throughout liberated ITALY. A draft telegram has been prepared and coordinated with the appropriate authorities. A copy of this draft telegram is attached.

3. The Supreme Allied Commander in conference is requested:

- (a) To authorise the despatch of the attached draft telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff.
- (b) To direct that in the event of an unfavourable reply from the Combined Chiefs of Staff G-5, in conjunction with the appropriate authorities, prepare for his approval a further telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff recommending,
 - (i) the introduction of a reduced uniform bread ration throughout ITALY,
 - (ii) the terms of a statement for issue jointly by the United States and British Governments explaining the reasons which necessitated the introduction of the reduced uniform scale.
- (c) To endorse Conclusion (b) of the meeting held by the Chief Administrative Officer on 13th December to the effect that the Allied Commission be directed to draw up plans for further wheat shipments to SICILY after 10th January 1945, but to defer any action to implement such plans for the present.

(Sgd) J.H. LASCELLES,
COLONEL
SECRETARY

APSC Distribution: CC, HQ AC (Copy Nos. 31-33)

COS Distribution: Copy No. 31 - Chief Commissioner
" No. 32 - COS
" No. 33 - Pol Sec.

Copy to: ECEN SEC 20/12.
For S/C.

Minutes 105-109 refer.

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

AFHQ DISTRIBUTION in detail.

5050

DRAFT CABLE.

K 542

TO: OCS personal from Field Marshal Sir H. Alexander (repeated to the President and the Prime Minister respectively through State Department and Foreign Office channels).

1. This is a personal and urgent request to you for a firm and final statement of the policy of our two Governments on the provision of bread for the population of ITALY, SICILY and SARDINIA, supported by a firm and final guarantee of the means to implement that policy month by month over minimum periods of not less than six months. This request has the complete support of my political and economic advisers.
2. The policy of the Combined Chiefs of Staff has always been to allot sufficient imports to provide a basic ration of 200 grams of flour or 250 grams of bread. From the earliest days of our responsibility in ITALY a ration of 300 grams of bread has been recognized as desirable if disease and unrest are to be avoided. Such a ration is far below the standard obtaining in FRANCE and GREECE; it is lower than that in N.W. Europe as a whole. The matter is, therefore, not one of preferential treatment for ITALY; it is the primary and fundamental means of preventing unrest and disease and so of providing the conditions in ITALY necessary for the continuance of military operations.
3. As you have been advised, it has been our constant endeavour to raise the target figure of 300 grams by making full use of the local resources of ITALY. We have proved that there is always a discrepancy between what it is theoretically possible to amass for controlled distribution, and what is in fact, amassed and available for this purpose. This is no new problem and is always most acute in peasant-populated countries with weak local administration. We cannot hope within measurable time to correct it. It is therefore idle to discuss further the use of grain which for controlled distribution in support of a ^{50 43} billion scale is non-existent. Nor is it more useful to pass the responsibility to the Italian Government for a problem which they cannot solve.
4. Hitherto we have been able to establish a ration of 300 grams a month of the

months. This request has the complete support of my political and economic advisers.

2. The policy of the Combined Chiefs of Staff has always been to allot sufficient imports to provide a basic ration of 200 grams of flour or 250 grams of bread.

From the earliest days of our responsibility in ITALY a ration of 300 grams of bread has been recognised as desirable if disease and unrest are to be avoided. Such a ration is far below the standard obtaining in FRANCE and GREECE; it is lower than that in N.W. Europe as a whole. The matter is, therefore, not one of preferential treatment for ITALY; it is the primary and fundamental means of preventing unrest and disease and so of providing the conditions in ITALY necessary for the continuance of military operations.

3. As you have been advised, it has been our constant endeavour to raise the target figure of 300 grams by making full use of the local resources of ITALY. We have proved that there is always a discrepancy between what it is theoretically possible to amass for controlled distribution, and what is in fact, amassed and available for this purpose. This is no new problem and is always most acute in peasant-populated countries with weak local administration. We cannot hope within measurable time to correct it. It is therefore idle to discuss further the use of grain which for controlled distribution in support of a ⁵⁰~~50~~ ₄₃ ton scale is non-existent. Nor is it more useful to pass the responsibility to the Italian Government for a problem which they cannot solve.

4. Hitherto we have been able to establish a ration of 300 grams south of the Carigliano. It has not been possible to do so north of this line, where a 200 gram bread ration obtains. The disparity between the two zones is causing resentment and distress which have already led to disorders and this fact has again been brought to my notice by my Army Commanders. In the combat zone and in newly liberated areas the combination of undernourishment and the winter operational conditions is causing the greatest hardship; and the necessity for preventing militarily serious disorders in and near the combat zone is as imperative as the

785017

-2-

political and military necessity for preventing them in the south,

5. There is no doubt that the Italian people regard the statement made by the President and the Prime Minister as constituting a pledge which will not be broken; and in this connection I wish to quote the following statements on which they base their hopes.

a. "The first objective in improving the lot of the Italian people is to furnish relief from hunger and sickness and famine". (Joint statement by the President and Prime Minister, 26 September 1944).

b. "Steps are being taken to increase the bread ration in those areas in ITALY where food supplies are below the standard necessary to maintain full health and efficiency". (The President on 29 October 1944).

c. "Under any circumstances I have determined to assume the responsibility for asking General Wilson to increase the ration to 300 grams throughout all of ITALY that our forces occupy. Furthermore, I wish that you would ask the War Shipping Administration to send additional trucks, in whatever number is required, to provide a minimum transport system to get the food to the people". (The President's letter to the War Department dated 31 October 1944).

6. The amount of wheat being shipped to this country is not sufficient to implement these promises. Of late weeks the cuts which have been imposed make it impossible for me to plan consistently for any uniform ration. It will be superfluous for me to emphasize the administrative and political objections to an unstable ration scale for such a basic foodstuff as bread. It has, for example, been brought to my notice that some fifty to sixty thousand tons only are expected to arrive in this country in January, as against previously planned ^{50,400} 30,000 tons and advised shipments of ninety thousand tons of wheat equivalent. It is impossible to plan the feeding of a population of 25 million people (and later 45 million) with a plan which, as past experience has shown, may be upset from

- b. "Steps are being taken to increase the bread ration in those areas in ITALY where food supplies are below the standard necessary to maintain full health and efficiency". (The President on 29 October 1944).
- c. "Under any circumstances I have determined to assume the responsibility for asking General Wilson to increase the ration to 300 grams throughout all of ITALY that our forces occupy. Furthermore, I wish that you would ask the War Shipping Administration to send additional trucks, in whatever number is required, to provide a minimum transport system to get the food to the people". (The President's letter to the War Department dated 31 October 1944).
6. The amount of wheat being shipped to this country is not sufficient to implement these promises. Of late weeks the cuts which have been imposed make it impossible for me to plan consistently for any uniform ration. It will be superfluous for me to emphasize the administrative and political objections to an unstable ration scale for such a basic foodstuff as bread. It has, for example, been brought to my notice that some fifty to sixty thousand tons only are expected to arrive in this country in January, as against previously planned ^{50,400} and advised shipments of ninety thousand tons of wheat equivalent. It is impossible to plan the feeding of a population of 25 million people (and later 45 million) with a plan which, as past experience has shown, may be upset from week to week. Further, the shipping allotted to me for operational maintenance has already been so cut that it will not permit of any further reduction if operations are to continue as planned. I would also draw your attention to the fact that whatever difficulties confront us now they may be counted as small compared with those which we must meet in the densely populated areas of Northern ITALY.
7. In order to provide for a uniform 300 gram bread ration throughout ITALY, SICILY and SARDINIA (including the provision for future commitments in North ITALY),

-3-

I estimate that I shall require an average import of 185,000 tons monthly for the 5 months February to June. For each month during which that portion of ITALY north of our present line does NOT become a commitment, an average of 91,000 tons can be deducted, provided forward ~~stockpiling~~ stockpiling is eliminated.

8. I am aware in general terms of the shipping situation, and alive to the effect of conflicting claims of many operations in many theatres of war. It is my duty, however, to point out to you in terms which allow of no misunderstanding that I cannot continue to administer those parts of ITALY under my control in accordance with the policies quoted above and which are known to the Italians, unless I am regularly and continuously provided with the means to do so. I believe that, both for our immediate war effort and for the final achievement of peace, an ITALY which does not nurse the perpetual grievances of broken promises, hunger and apathy and a growing physical weakness of her people, will be the best testimony to the justice of Allied dealing. I do not think that firm and generous treatment will be without its effect as an example to other countries.

5047

⁹⁶⁻⁹⁷⁻⁹⁸ 6. C of S: to read folios (3, 4, 5) ⁽⁹⁹⁾ Noting Mr. Kirk's remarks, perhaps we can
yet implement a 300 gram ration uniformly if a favorable
reply to SACMED telegram (folio 3) before emanates from C.C.S. Feb 16/12

I.

Seen by cos. M. J.

Minute sheet from Temporary Jacket

5048

SECRET

6509

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

PO(44)152.
13th December 1944.

(Original - 4/20/45).

Confidential

SECRET

POLITICAL MEETING.

FOOD RATIONING IN ITALY.

Record of a meeting held in the Chief Administrative
Officer's Office at 1100 hours on Wednesday 13th
December 1944.

PRESENT:-

Lieutenant General J.G.W. Clark,
Chief Administrative Officer, AFHQ.

Honourable Alexander C. Kirk,
U.S. Political Adviser.

Mr. F. Broad, representing
British Resident Minister.

Colonel D.M. Libby, representing
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-4(A).

Major General R.G. Lewis,
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-4(B).

Colonel T.R. Egan, representing
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5.

Brigadier M.S. Lamb, representing
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission.

Colonel J.R. Butterworth,
G-5 Section.

Colonel J. Legg,
Allied Commission.

Mr. C. O'Flie, Deputy U.S.
Political Adviser.

SECRETARY:-

Major J.G. Sweetman.

5045

THE MEETING had before them the following documents from the Allied
Commission:-

- (a) A letter from the Chief Commissioner stating strongly the case for
implementing a 300 grams bread ration in ITALY, but recommending
that, in the event of shipping being inadequate to support such a
scale, ration parity should nevertheless be established throughout
the liberated area (including SICILY and SARDINIA).
- (b) A draft telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff, explaining the
position in regard to food supplies in ITALY and recommending that,
if shipping to make a 300 grams ration possible cannot be guaran-
teed, the decision to reduce the ration in the southern area and at
the same time equalize it throughout the country should be communi-
cated to the Italian Government in a joint statement to be made by the
Allied Governments.

See

46-89

785017

PRESENT:-

Lieutenant General J.G.W. Clark,
Chief Administrative Officer, AFHQ.

Honourable Alexander C. Kirk,
U.S. Political Adviser.

Brigadier H.S. Lush, representing
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission.

Mr. P. Broad, representing
British Resident Minister.

Colonel J.E. Sutherland,
G-5 Section.

Colonel D.M. Libby, representing
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-4(A).

Colonel J. Legg,
Allied Commission.

Major General R.G. Lewis,
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-4(B).

Mr. C. Office, Deputy U.S.
Political Adviser.

Colonel T.E. Henn, representing
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5.

SECRETARY:-

Major J.G. Sweetman.

5045

THE MEETING had before them the following documents from the Allied Commission:-

- (a) A letter from the Chief Commissioner stating strongly the case for implementing a 300 grams bread ration in ITALY, but recommending that, in the event of shipping being inadequate to support such a scale, ration parity should nevertheless be established throughout the liberated area (including SICILY and SARDINIA).
- (b) A draft telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff, explaining the position in regard to food supplies in ITALY and recommending that, if shipping to make a 300 grams ration possible cannot be guaranteed, the decision to reduce the ration in the southern area and at the same time equalise it throughout the country should be communicated to the Italian Government in a joint statement to be made by the Allied Governments.
- (c) A draft joint statement by the Allied Governments in accordance with (b) above.

COLONEL HENN stated that there were three problems which the meeting should consider. The first was that of wheat supplies for SICILY. The Supreme Allied Commander had reported on 24th September to the Combined Chiefs of Staff that he did not propose to import wheat into that island as sufficient grain was available. Later, in view of the failure of the assessment of Sicilian wheat to reach early estimates, the Allied Commission had been directed to investigate the possibilities of emergency feeding in SICILY, but examination had shown that little could be expected in this respect. At PO(44) 35th Meeting, Minute 3(c), G-5 had been directed to prepare a cable to the Combined Chiefs of Staff advising them of the position and the immediate action which had been directed, and requesting guidance as to the course to be adopted in the event of continual Italian failure to secure adequate local assessment. G-5's draft cable on this subject had not been concurred

by G-4(A), who maintained that any further diversion of shipping from operational requirements was not acceptable and consequently a ration, which could not be covered by existing allocations, could not be recommended. The second problem before the meeting was the consideration of the Allied Commission's recommendation that it was necessary to establish parity in rationing, so as to provide to the best of our ability an equitable standard throughout the country. The Allies had a clear responsibility in this respect. Thirdly, the meeting should produce a draft statement for publication in the event of the equalisation of the ration, at a level below 300 grammes, being necessary.

BRIGADIER LUSH said the Chief Commissioner was strongly of opinion that equalisation of the ration was essential. The decision as to the scale at which parity should be effected must be made on the basis of a firm allocation of shipping for the importation of supplies. It was important that no promise should be made to maintain the ration on a level higher above what the shipping allocation would permit. The Chief Commissioner further felt that any disparity in SICILY would create a most serious situation in that island. Brigadier Lush added that the fact must be faced that in SICILY further local supplies would not be produced for consumption on any appreciable scale no matter what action was taken. He further pointed out that the 300 grammes ration could not be implemented on the present shipping allocation without prejudicing the stock-pile which was earmarked to provide the minimum impact ration in northern ITALY.

MR. KIRK considered that the Chief Commissioner's letter made a very strong case for the establishment of a 300 grammes ration. In view of the present situation in ITALY and the statements which had been made by both the President and the Prime Minister (which had been interpreted in ITALY as a promise of a 300 grammes ration) he considered that SACRED ought to make the final request for an increased shipping allocation to allow of the establishment of a ration on this scale. The telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff should therefore state fully the case for such a ration and point out the serious consequences to be expected from any reduction so that the President and the Prime Minister could assess the responsibility involved in a decision to withhold further shipping. He did not consider that the telegram should include any reference to the establishment of the ration on the scale of 250 grammes, nor was it necessary to raise the question of a joint statement at this stage. It should be emphasized that the establishment of a 300 grammes ration would not represent an especial favour to ITALY at the expense of other countries, but was merely the minimum essential to prevent disease and unrest and provide conditions in ITALY suitable for the continuance of our military operations.

MAJOR GENERAL LEWIS agreed with Mr. Kirk that the telegram should be confined to presenting the case for a 300 grammes ration. He felt that experience in SICILY had shown that there was no sovereign remedy for producing hoarded grain quickly. Several measures were necessary and these took a considerable time. On current decisions, supplies for SICILY were ensured until 10th January only, consequently sufficient time for effective action to bring out hoarded supplies was not available. Representations had been made in LONDON that the procedure for making the recent cuts in shipping had discriminated unfairly against this theatre and some additional allocation might be made available. He mentioned whether it was right to divert in the next month some 14,000 tons of wheat to SICILY in view of Lieutenant General Clark's opinion (expressed in AAI message GAO 36 of 12 December) that further supplies were urgently required in forward areas if militarily serious unrest was to be avoided.

785017

should be made to maintain the ration on a level basis above what the shipping allocation would permit. The Chief Commissioner further felt that any disparity in SICILY would create a most serious situation in that island. Brigadier Lush added that the fact must be faced that in SICILY further local supplies would not be produced for assessment on any appreciable scale no matter what action was taken. He further pointed out that the 300 grams ration could not be implemented on the present shipping allocation without prejudicing the stock-pile which was earmarked to provide the minimum impact ration in northern ITALY.

MR. KIRK considered that the Chief Commissioner's letter made a very strong case for the establishment of a 300 grams ration. In view of the present situation in ITALY and the statements which had been made by both the President and the Prime Minister (which had been interpreted in ITALY as a promise of a 300 grams ration) he considered that SACRED ought to make the final request for an increased shipping allocation to allow of the establishment of a ration on this scale. The telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff should therefore state fully the case for such a ration and point out the serious consequences to be expected from any reduction so that the President and the Prime Minister could assess the responsibility involved in a decision to withhold further shipping. He did not consider that the telegram should include any reference to the establishment of the ration on the scale of 250 grams, nor was it necessary to raise the question of a joint statement at this stage. It should be emphasized that the establishment of a 300 grams ration would not represent an especial favour to ITALY at the expense of other countries, but was merely the minimum essential to prevent disease and unrest and provide conditions in ITALY suitable for the continuance of our military operations.

MAJOR GENERAL LEWIS agreed with Mr. Kirk that the telegram should be confined to presenting the case for a 300 grams ration. He felt that experience in SYRIA had shown that there was no sovereign remedy for producing hoarded grain quickly. Several measures were necessary and these took a considerable time. On current decisions, supplies for SICILY were ensured until 10th January only, consequently sufficient time for effective action to bring out hoarded supplies was not available. Representations had been made in LONDON that the procedure for making the recent cuts in shipping had discriminated unfairly against this theatre and some additional allocation might be made available. He mentioned whether it was right to divert in the next month some 14,000 tons of wheat to SICILY in view of Lieutenant General Clark's opinion (expressed in AAI message CAO 346 of 12 December) that further supplies were urgently required in forward areas if militarily serious unrest was to be avoided.

COLONEL LIZBY said that discussions now proceeding would not produce an increase in the theatre shipping allocation greater than three to four ships per month. He stressed that military operations maintenance could not be subject to any further cuts if operations were to continue. There could be no question of providing increased civilian shipments within the existing allocation. It was for that reason that while this allocation stood he could not agree to any policy involving an increase on the ration (of 200 grams flour equivalent to 250 grams bread) which the Combined Chiefs of Staff had agreed in their reply to LAC 71 of 28 December 1945.

COLONEL LEWIS pointed out that the purpose of diverting 14,000 tons to SICILY was to avoid a reduction of the ration as the consequences such a step were likely to be more serious than failure to raise the ration in the north. The Allied Commission desired to raise the ration in the forward area but did not consider that this should be done until a firm shipping allocation had been

785017

received and consequently a firm assessment had been made of the scale of ration which could be maintained.

COLONEL BURNHAMPTON, in reply to Major General Lewis, stated that the shipping required to implement a 500 grams ration would be of the order of eight ships per month. He confirmed that the wheat was available and that shipping was the limiting factor. The advances of the armies had led to an increased civil commitment which it was not possible to meet within a static shipping allocation.

MR. BROAD agreed with Mr. Kirk that SACRED should recommend a 500 grams ration in the strongest possible terms.

BRIGADIER LUSH enquired whether planning for the import of further wheat into SICILY after 10th January should proceed. In his view such shipments would be necessary, though the Italian Government, should not be so informed at this stage.

THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

- (a) Directed that G-5 (in conjunction with G-4(A), G-4(B), British Resident Minister and U.S. Political Adviser) prepare for the approval of the Supreme Allied Commander a telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff making a final request for the implementation of a 500 grams ration throughout liberated ITALY in accordance with Mr. Kirk's remarks at "X" above.
- (b) Directed that the Allied Commission draw up plans for further wheat shipments to SICILY after 10th January 1945 but defer any action to implement such plans for the present.
- (c) Approved in principle the proposal to establish parity in ration scales throughout liberated ITALY but ruled that no further action towards such parity, or in regard to the proposed joint statement by the Allied Governments, be taken until a reply had been obtained to the telegram to be despatched under (a) above.

(Sgd) J.G. SWENTMAN,
MAJOR,
SECRETARY.

DISTRIBUTION.

Supreme Allied Commander
Deputy Supreme Allied Commander
Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
Air Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
Commander, Eighth Fleet, USN
Chief of Staff
Chief Administrative Officer
Deputy Chief of Staff
U.S. Political Adviser
British Resident Minister

Copy No.

1
2
3-4
5-12
13-14
15
16
17
18-20
21-24

785017

the SCHEFF after 10th January should proceed. In his view such stipulations would be necessary, though the Italian Government, should not be so informed at this stage.

THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

- (a) Directed that G-5 (in conjunction with G-4(A), G-4(B), British Resident Minister and U.S. Political Adviser) prepare for the approval of the Supreme Allied Commander a telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff making a final request for the implementation of a 300 grams ration throughout liberated ITALY in accordance with Mr. Kirk's remarks at "1" above.
- (b) Directed that the Allied Commission draw up plans for further wheat shipments to SICILY after 10th January 1945 but defer any action to implement such plans for the present.
- (c) Approved in principle the proposal to establish parity in ration scales throughout liberated ITALY but ruled that no further action towards such parity, or in regard to the proposed joint statement by the Allied Governments, be taken until a reply had been obtained to the telegram to be despatched under (a) above.

(sgd) J.G. SHEPHERD,
MAJOR,
SECRETARY.

DISTRIBUTION.

Supreme Allied Commander
Deputy Supreme Allied Commander
Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
Air Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
Commander, Eighth Fleet, USN
Chief of Staff
Chief Administrative Officer
Deputy Chief of Staff
U.S. Political Adviser
British Resident Minister
Director, FIB
Secretary, General Staff
Secretary, IS & PS
Chief Liaison Section
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission

G-1(A)
G-1(B)
G-2
G-3
G-3 Special Operations
G-4(A)
G-4(B)
G-5
Spares

Copy No.

1
2
3-4
5-12
13-14
15
16
17
18-20
21-24
25
26
27-29
30
31-33
34
35
36-37
38-39
40
41
42
43-44
45-50

G-1
G-2
G-3
G-4
G-5
G-6
G-7
G-8
G-9
G-10
G-11
G-12
G-13
G-14
G-15
G-16
G-17
G-18
G-19
G-20
G-21
G-22
G-23
G-24
G-25
G-26
G-27
G-28
G-29
G-30
G-31
G-32
G-33
G-34
G-35
G-36
G-37
G-38
G-39
G-40
G-41
G-42
G-43
G-44
G-45
G-46
G-47
G-48
G-49
G-50

Copy
G-1
G-2
G-3
G-4
G-5
G-6
G-7
G-8
G-9
G-10
G-11
G-12
G-13
G-14
G-15
G-16
G-17
G-18
G-19
G-20
G-21
G-22
G-23
G-24
G-25
G-26
G-27
G-28
G-29
G-30
G-31
G-32
G-33
G-34
G-35
G-36
G-37
G-38
G-39
G-40
G-41
G-42
G-43
G-44
G-45
G-46
G-47
G-48
G-49
G-50

ALFRED COPY ON FILE 45024

48074

94

SACRED US POLAD BR RES MIN

7951

9th December

Confidential

PRIORITY

10 DEC 1944

SECRET PD

PARA ONE PD FOLLOWING MY 7666 OF FIFTH DECEMBER FURTHER INVESTIGATION INTO REASONS FOR HUNGER DEMONSTRATION INDICATE THAT THIS WAS A SPONTANEOUS OUTBURST AGAINST HIGH PRICES PD

PAID TO SACRED US POLAD BR RES MIN FROM HQ ALOOM FROM LUSH PAREN

PARA TWO PD FURTHER SMALL DISTURBANCES TOOK PLACE SEVENTH DECEMBER PD SITUATION IN HAND PD

FURTHER INVESTIGATION REVEALS NO DEFINITE INFORMATION OF PROPOSED HUNGER MARCH BUT ALL POLICE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ANY SUCH EVENT ARE MADE PD

SOME PRESSURE BEING EXERCISED IN SOME DAILY PRESS FOR THREE HUNDRED GRAM RATION TO BE INSTITUTED QUOTING THE INCIDENTS REFERRED TO AS SIGNIFICANT OF THE PEOPLES INSISTENCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECENT PUBLIC DECLARATIONS PD CAN ONLY AGAIN STRESS THE URGENCY OF REACHING A DECISION ON THE THREE HUNDRED GRAM RATION

Copies for INFO. to: Sir Noel Charles
The Hon. A. Kirk
Chief Commissioner
COS
Econ. Sec.
P.S.

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

608

H. W. DRAGNETT
MAJOR AGD
Adjutant

504

11/12

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

14 December 1944
Confidential
5534

15 DEC 1944

G-5: 313.3

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Document (s).

TO : Brigadier M.S. Lush
Allied Commission

1. Forwarded herewith 1 copy
~~XXXXX~~ of INCOMING MESSAGE REF CAO 346

12 Dec 44. MC IN 10107. Copy No. 3.

2. Please acknowledge receipt on the form below, detach and return immediately to G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.

Col Henn
Compliments of Colonel Henn

CHARLES H. STOFFORD 5041
Brigadier General, G.O.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

SECRET

4807
SECRET

AFHQ MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING MESSAGE

LRAN
TOO: 121800
REGD: 122031A

AFSC X-515/12

up

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: MAIN AAI

TO: AFHQ

REF NO THIS MESSAGE: CAO 346, 12 DECEMBER, 1944.

Following message received from Fifth Army.

Since exchange of telegrams regarding civilian food situation in Fifth Army Area ending with yours undated reference number CAO 341, there has been virtually NO improvement. The ration is still 200 grams of bread per day per person supplemented by 600 grams per month of flour for spaghetti or the equivalent. Besides this AMG has been distributing 250 grams of dehydrated soup and 400 grams of dried peas per month but only in cities of 50,000 or more.

However, telegram from ALCOM number 6398 dated 23 November orders that there be NO distribution of these last items during December except occasionally in newly occupied villages.

This insufficient amount of food will NOT support a normal individual. Chronic undernourishment is giving rise to unrest. There have been recent demonstrations demanding a minimum of 300 grams daily per person. That amount is now being distributed in the South of ITALY a fact well known to the public in the Fifth Army area.

The Italian press has widely quoted a WASHINGTON Dispatch dated 3rd November, that President ROOSEVELT had given instructions that Italians throughout liberated ITALY receive at least 300 grams of bread per person per day.

SECRET

COPY NO. 5040

REF NO: CAO 346,

AFHQ X-515/12

Continued.

I am informed that the continued failure to provide adequate food is likely to cause militarily serious unrest particularly as the weather grows increasingly cold.

The whole situation is much aggravated by the acute shortage of transportation. It is appreciated that SACMED has made specific recommendations to Combined Chiefs of Staff to obtain necessary minimum ration.

Information is requested as to the prospects of finding means of providing 300 grams of bread daily per person.

Please pass to sections concerned to give Gen ROBERTSON report about this on his arrival at AFHQ.

NOTE: 6893 NOT IDENTIFIED IN AFHQ NO FILES

ACTION: C-5

INFORMATION: SGS
C-4
CAO
C/S MTO
US POLAD
QM
MR MACMILLAN
IS&PS
CINC MED
USN
HAAP
Q(MAINT)
**

NO IN 10107

12 Dec 44

2345A

Ref No: CAO 346

r/x

Car No 24

TOP SECRET

Confidential

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APG 394

Office of the Chief Commissioner

12 December 1944

Ref: 4507/79/605

SUBJECT: Food ration - ITALY.

TO: Supreme Allied Commander,
Allied Force Headquarters.

1. On receipt of copy of PDS telegram AM 465 and of the notification of the instructions which I shall shortly receive with regard to the food ration in SICILY, I called a meeting of my Vice Presidents and the French and Russian officers of the Commission in order to consider the overall food situation in this country. Colonel Katherworth representing G-5 was also present.

2. The meeting was unanimous in deciding that this Commission cannot afford to give its recommendations until it has had the benefit of the findings of this population study by G-3A and the Italian statistics. Indeed a substantial ration of 400 grams is to be provided to the President of the United States, a recommendation which is regarded as a precedent in this country. I realize that you have supported this view in the strongest possible manner and I am most grateful for the support which you have given in this matter.

3. I would add that General de Gaulle, the French representative, warmly supported this policy and urged that every step should be taken to prevent any shipping with the suggestion that neutral ships and even Italian shipping should be used to carry the food necessary. The Russian representative, General Gulevsky, supported his colleague in this statement. The meeting was also impressed by the fact that the ration in Sicily was based on approximately 400 grams for 55% of the population that in F.M.G., according to General de Gaulle, it is now 450 and may rise to 500 grams. These facts, it was felt, could not be long hidden from the Italian Government and the Italian people and must inevitably cause resentment against the Allies owing to the great difference in the treatment accorded to this country.

4. My advisers also stressed the urgent necessity in any case of establishing parity all over presently liberated Italy. The present disparity in having serious effects in the territory and G-3A, and the introduction of a 400 gram ration in Central Italy is regarded as a provocation and must certainly be implemented by the Allied Nations.

5. It was agreed, however, that whatever action could be approved by the G-5 it was vital that shipping should be guaranteed to implement the policy. It is impossible to plan the feeding of a population of 25 million people (and

5033

Allied Forces Headquarters.

1. On receipt of copy of CCS telegram 22 465 and of the notification of the instructions which I shall shortly receive with regard to food rationing in Sicily, I called a meeting of my Vice Presidents and the French and Russian officers of the Commission in order to consider the overall food situation in this country. Below, nevertheless recommending 0-5 was also present.

2. The meeting was unanimous in deciding that this Commission cannot receive from its recommendations more since less may be the basis of the feeding of this population should be a 500 gram bread ration. This is the minimum subsistence ration if we are to prevent disease and unrest. Indeed it has been recommended to the War Department as such by the President of the United States. A recommendation which is regarded as a provision in this country. I realize that you have suggested this view in the strongest possible manner and I am most grateful for the support which you have given in this matter.

3. I would add that General de Gaulle, the French representative, warmly supported this policy and urged that every step should be taken to prevent more shipping with the suggestion that neutral ships and even Italian warships should be used to carry the food necessary. The Russian representative, General Gualapov, supported his colleagues in this statement. The meeting also was impressed by the fact that the ration in GERMANY was based on approximately 400 grams for 85% of the population that in FRANCE, according to General de Gaulle, it is now 550 and may rise to 600 grams; and that in the rest of NW. EUROPE it is probably approximately 500 grams. These facts, it was felt, could not be long hidden from the Italian Government and the Italian people and must inevitably cause resentment against the Allies owing to the great differences in the treatment accorded to this country.

4. My advisers also stressed the urgent necessity in any case of establishing parity all over presently liberated ITALY. The present disparity in having serious effects in ALL territory and NOME, and the introduction of a 500 gram ration in General ITALY is regarded as a provision made and certainly be implemented by the Allied Nations.

5. It was agreed, however, that whatever ration scale was approved by the CCS it was vital that shipping should be guaranteed to implement the policy. It is impossible to plan the feeding of a population of 25 million people (and later 45 million) to a level which only just avoids starvation, with a plan which, as past experience has shown, may be upset from week to week by cuts in shipping.

6. If this could not be guaranteed on a 500 gram basis the meeting most reluctantly agreed that it would be better to evolve a plan which would be exempt from alteration - or which would allow for such reserves as could be used in future cuts.

Confidential

7. I directed, therefore, the attention of the meeting to various plans which had been prepared by my Economic Section and I decided, with their unanimous concurrence, to recommend to you that if it is impossible to implement throughout Italy, including eventually presumably German-occupied Italy, a basic ration of 300 grams, accounting for local resources known and anticipated, it should fix, as an unhappy alternative, a lower basic ration which should be equalized throughout the territory.

8. Judging from the shipping program now before us, in order to establish parity of ration throughout the territory and at the same time lay for a reasonable supply of food for Northern Italy with the resources of the transportation at our disposal, it would be necessary to reduce Sardinia, Sicily and Southern Italy from 300 grams to 250 grams and to raise Central Italy from 200 grams to 250 grams. This would enable the Commission to establish an impact ration of 145 grams in Northern Italy on liberation which could be increased by any local resources found available on liberation and could rise to 250 on distribution become possible.

9. I therefore recommend that if the 300 gram ration cannot be implemented, that this alternative be adopted as the next best solution.

10. I cannot conceal from you the serious situation which must be prevented from the reannouncement which I am forced to make. The political reactions against the newly formed Government and against the Allies in Southern Italy where the ration must be cut, and in Central Italy where the ration will not attain to that level, immediately prejudiced by the Allied Governments, must be grave. The Italian Government and people undoubtedly regard the fulfillment of the 300 gram ration backed by the assurance of the President and Prime Minister as a pledge which will not be broken. We must expect disaster arising from annihilation, a decrease in morale leading to an increase in crime and prostitution, an acceleration in inflation and the activities of the black market, disorders and the food riots which the Prime Minister, during his visit here, directed must be avoided. I would, however, rather face these admittedly serious difficulties with the knowledge that such a plan for feeding the population could be guaranteed and that the present disparity between North and South would disappear. The present uncertainty makes it virtually impossible to carry out a proper distribution of food and is most deleterious to the morale of the people.

11. Since any decision which does not implement the 300 gram ration is a reversal of the President's expressed wish and the implications of the joint statement of the President and the Prime Minister made at Quebec, I recommend that if decision is made to equalize the ration at 250, the reasons therefor should be communicated to the Italian Government in a joint statement to be made by the Allied Governments. Such a statement could be based on purely military reasons. It is imperative that it should be made without delay.

12. I attach a draft telegram which you may wish to send to the OSS together with a draft statement which might be communicated to the Italian Government and published in the press.

13. I have included in para 8 because I strongly recommend that the Italian be treated on a parity with the rest of Italy. I need not reiterate the

5038

9. I therefore recommend that if the 300 gram ration cannot be implemented, that this alternative be adopted as the next best solution.

10. I cannot overstate the seriousness of the situation which must be prevented from the recommendation which I am forced to make. The political relations against the newly formed Government and against the Allies in Southern Italy where the ration must be cut, and in Central Italy where the ration will not obtain to that level, are already provided by the Allied Government, must be given. The Italian Government and people undoubtedly regard the fulfillment of the 300 gram ration backed by the savings of the President and Prime Minister as a pledge which will not be broken. We must expect disaster arising from malnutrition, a decrease in morale leading to an increase in crime and prostitution, an acceleration in inflation and the activities of the black market, disorders and the food riots which the Prime Minister, during his visit here, directed must be avoided. I would, however, rather face these admittedly serious difficulties with the knowledge that such a plan for feeding the people can be guaranteed and that the present disparity between North and South would disappear. The present uncertainty makes it virtually impossible to carry out a proper distribution of food and is most deleterious to the morale of the people.

11. Close any decision which does not implement the 300 gram ration in a reversal of the President's expressed wish and the implications of the joint statement of the President and the Prime Minister will be serious. I recommend that if decision is made to curtail the ration at 250, the reasons therefor should be communicated to the Italian Government in a joint statement to be made by the Allied Governments. Such a statement could be based on purely military reasons. It is imperative that it should be made without delay.

12. I attach a draft telegram which you may wish to send to the OSS together with a draft statement which might be communicated to the Italian Government and published in the press.

SICILY

13. I have included in paragraph 13 a strongly recommended that the Island be treated on a parity with the rest of Italy. I need not reiterate the arguments against too severe penalization of the Italian civilian ration holders and I would only ask that the serious difficulties described above should not be increased by a definitely more serious position which must arise in Sicily if we were not to receive similar treatment by the rest of the country.

MEMO

Copy to Sir Noel Charles.

Mr. Ambassador Kirk. 1
Mr. L. L. 1
G-5 Sec, AFHQ 1
DOWS, Sec. Sec 1
DOWS, CA Sec 1
DOWS, Ret Sec 1
V. P. Sec (2) 1
V. P. Sec 1

Br. Sec. Min. Sec.

US Sec. Adv. Sec.

Sec.

Sec. Mr. S. Marshall 26

ELDER I. STONE
Colonel, USA
Chief Commissioner.

900000 Sec. 4 Jan. 26
Sec. Sec. Sec. Sec. 27
SPAS 26.2
29.3 - 25.3

5038

785017

DRAFT TELEGRAM.

TOP SECRET

TO: OCS

FROM: SACMED

Your PAK 465 noted.

Whatever decision may be reached regarding the bread ration for ITALY, I must ask that a firm shipping programme be laid down to implement this ration. I cannot ask the Italian Government nor the Allied Commission to work on a plan which will almost certainly be upset from month to month by cuts in shipping.

If such a guarantee cannot be given for the 300 gram ration, then I would rather work on a basic ration for all ITALY which can be met by shipping at the theatre disposal with a reasonable degree of certainty. From the shipping programme now before me, taking into account the necessity of stockpiling for the North, I can see no prospect of establishing an equalised ration at more than 250 grams of bread. Such a decision would entail reducing the present basic ration in Southern ITALY, SARDINIA and SICILY (see also my), and of producing an impact ration for Northern ITALY on liberation of 115 grams January 1st which would rise to 250 as distribution became possible.

Misuse and unrest would increase: we should have repercussions among the population and possible disorder for there is no doubt that the Italian Government and people regard the implementation of the 300 gram ration as a premise. But I would rather face reactions to a firm if unpopular decision than the growing discontent which is arising now owing to lack of certainty and lack of parity between the areas North and South of the GARIBOLDI.

However, since the decision to reduce the overall ration is **5037** and of the President's expressed wish and the implications of the President's and Prime

anyway decision may be reached regarding the bread ration for ITALY.

I must ask that a firm shipping programme be laid down to implement this ration. I cannot ask the Italian Government nor the Allied Commission to work on a plan which will almost certainly be upset from month to month by cuts in shipping.

If such a guarantee cannot be given for the 300 gram ration, then I would rather work on a basic ration for all ITALY which can be met by shipping at the theatre disposal with a reasonable degree of certainty. From the shipping programme now before me, taking into account the necessity of stockpiling for the North, I can see no prospect of establishing an equalised ration at more than 250 grams of bread. Such a decision would entail reducing the present basic ration in Southern ITALY, SARDINIA and SICILY (see also my), and of producing an impact ration for Northern ITALY on liberation of 115 grams January let which would rise to 250 as distribution became possible.

Disorder and unrest would increase: we should have repercussions among the population and possible disorder for there is no doubt that the Italian Government and people regard the implementation of the 300 gram ration as a promise. But I would rather face reactions to a firm if unpopular decision than the growing discontent which is arising now owing to lack of certainty and lack of parity between the areas North and South of the GARIBOLDI.

However, since the decision to reduce the overall ration is **5037** of the President's expressed wish and the implications of the President's and Prime Minister's joint declaration as well as the Prime Minister's instructions show here that food disorders were at all costs to be prevented, I recommend that the decision to reduce pursuant to your File 465 and the reasons therefor be communicated to the Italian Government in a joint statement to be made by the Allied Governments. This should be done without delay. It should be published and should be so worded as to show that this decision has had to be taken for operational reasons only.

86JOINT STATEMENTS ALLIED GOVERNMENTS.

The mounting intensity and approaching climax of the war against Germany on the Western Front and against Japan in the Pacific are now making the utmost demand upon the United Nations' shipping reserves. The Combined Chiefs of Staff at Washington, in view of the considerations of global military necessity, have drastically curtailed all shipping allotments other than operational to all theatres of war, including the Italian.

As a direct consequence thereof, and in order to use to the fullest extent all the available local resources of Italy in furtherance of the common fight against the enemy and for the liberation of the remainder of Italy in the North, the Allied Governments have an equalization of the basic bread ration throughout Liberated Italy at 250 grams per head, effective January 1.

The reduction in shipping means, that, until hostilities cease in Europe, imported wheat from Allied countries must be used most carefully not only to provide a basic ration for Liberated Italy but to build up adequate stockpiles of food for the North, whose inhabitants will thus be dependent upon the sacrifices and foresight of their brothers in Liberated Italy that they do not go hungry when the Allied and Italian Armies finally drive the German invaders beyond the Alps.

The new ration, in effect, is an increase for the inhabitants of Liberated Italy above the Garigliano River, who have been receiving only 200 grams since liberation, while it reduces to 250 grams the 300 gram ration of Southern Italy, Sicily and Sardinia, territories untouched by war for more than a year, whose countryside has enjoyed a bumper harvest, even in comparison with pre-war years.

The Allied Governments have imported into Italy more than 1,000,000 tons of foodstuffs for the civilian population alone since the liberation of Italy began on July 10, 1943, at a high cost in ships and men from enemy action on the seas. The policy of the Allied Governments has been steadily to promote a 300 gram ration universally throughout Italy as soon as possible. The policy now has to be set temporarily aside for military reasons of the most urgent nature: namely, that the war against Germany is fast approaching its decisive climax and will require every ship that can be spared from the Western Hemisphere to bring guns and ammunition to the great ports only recently freed and being prepared for operation in North-Western Europe. Likewise, the battle against Japan has called forth an unprecedented strain on even the vast resources of the United States in the areas of the Pacific where the distances that ships must travel from their loading bases are still immense.

The Allied Governments are marshalling their utmost strength for the approaching decisive battle of the struggle against Germany and Japan. High battle casualties have forced the Government of the United States to call men for the army who hitherto have not been needed, and every resource is being applied to the common task. In Britain, nearly two thirds of the whole population has been consciously engaged in the war effort for more than five years under conditions of bombardment, privation and sacrifice. The Italian people are now contributing their share to the United Nations' coming victory by utilizing every ounce of locally grown food, and by remembering that every ton saved in the South of Italy will be that much of a life-saving help to their fellow Italian citizens in the North.

5033

TOP SECRET

AFSA

MESSAGE CENTER

INCOMING MESSAGE

WAR
FILED: 082309Z
RECD: 090956A

APSC N 510/09
CB

PRIORITY

TOP SECRET

FROM: AGWAR FROM THE COMBINED CHIEFS OF STAFF (BOOK MESSAGE)

TO: ACTION WILSON, INFO SHAEP VERSAILLES FOR EISENHOWER,
CENTRAL DISTRICT UK BASE SECTION LONDON FOR BRITISH
CHIEFS OF STAFF

REF NO THIS MESSAGE: WX-74555, 08 December 1944.

FAN 465.

Urgency of problems in ITALY including bread ration is thoroughly understood here. Shipping situation is so acute that all Theaters are currently accepting deficits in requirements of operational character as well as those for essential civilian supplies. This situation is under urgent consideration by His Majesty's Government and the US Government.

Meanwhile, you should take NO steps to establish or maintain any bread ration in ITALY except such as you can support within shipping allocated to you under priorities which you are willing to establish in the light of your overall Military responsibilities in the Theater.

ACTION: G-5

INFORMATION:	SOB	MAFN
	IS&PS	0-4
	CAO	0-4 (B)
	C/S MTO	0-3
	QM	AO RECORDS
	C(MAINT)	**

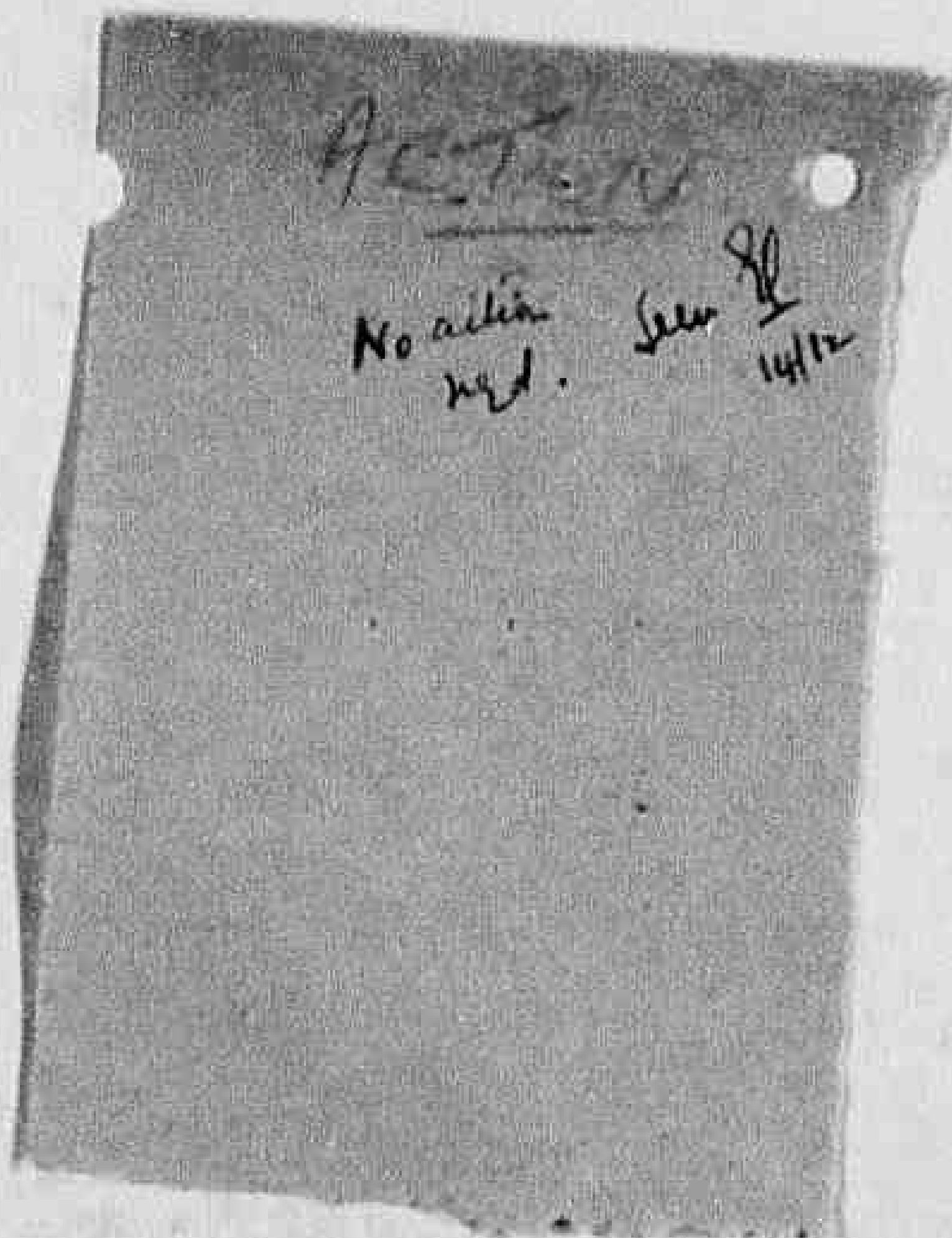
NO IN 7128 9 Dec 44 1043A Ref.No. WX 74555 p/D/GB

5035

TOP SECRET

COPY No.

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



785017

TOP SECRET

JXD/am

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION
AFC 394

R/1219

11 December 1944

SUBJECT: Ration Scale

TO : Chief of Staff, Allied Commission

1. You have asked me for my views on the possible reduction of the bread ration from nominal 300 grammes to nominal 200 grammes.
2. I have intentionally used the word nominal because I feel that we must, in honesty to the question, get clearly into our minds the fact that there is not even now a "300 gramme" ration.

(i) There is a daily ration of 200 grammes of bread.
That represents 160 grammes of flour. The balance is made up of water plus a little salt, yeast, etc.

(ii) There is a weekly ration of 550 grammes of pasta.
Equivalent to 78 grammes of pasta a day. This is equivalent to about 80 grammes of flour.

In other words, the daily food equivalent is about 240 grammes of flour.

3. The bread and pasta forms the most important portion of the daily ration. The full scale is set out below:-

	Grammes	Calories
Bread	200	495
Pasta	78	285
Sugar	4.2	17
Olive Oil	9.2	85
		882

Add for large towns:

Soup	8.3
Pasta	13.3

5033

21
45
66

TO : Chief of Staff, Allied Commission

1. You have asked me for my views on the possible reduction of the bread ration from nominal 300 grammes to nominal 200 grammes.

2. I have intentionally used the word nominal because I feel that we must, in honesty to the question, get clearly into our minds the fact that there is not even now a "300 grammes" ration.

(i) There is a daily ration of 200 grammes of bread. That represents 160 grammes of flour. The balance is made up of water plus a little salt, yeast, etc.

(ii) There is a weekly ration of 550 grammes of pasta. Equivalent to 78 grammes of pasta a day. This is equivalent to about 80 grammes of flour.

In other words, the daily food equivalent is about 240 grammes of flour.

3. The bread and pasta forms the most important portion of the daily ration. The full scale is set out below:-

	Grammes	Calories
Bread	200	495
Pasta	78	285
Sugar	4.2	17
Olive Oil	9.2	85
		882

Add for large towns:

Soup	8.3	21
Peas	13.3	46
M & V	13.3	56
		1015
		Approx. Total

503½

4. The proposal that you have asked me to consider is that the bread and pasta ration be cut by 1/3, so that the daily loaf will be about 130 grammes, say 4½ oz., the daily pasta 50 grammes, say 1 3/4 oz.

The resulting final figures in calories will be 755 in the case of cities over 50,000 inhabitants.

83

5. I am sure that any dietician will assure you that the present ration is below subsistence level. All my experts agree that in fact, even at present, people have to supplement the official ration by purchases on open market, black or otherwise.

6. Therefore, if the official ration be cut, people in an attempt to avoid hunger, will strive to increase their purchases.

In the country districts, they will find it possible to buy extra food, though of course, it will be a heavy financial strain.

In Naples, Bari and Taranto however, extra food is very hard to get. The present pressure on the black market will be increased and life for the poor will become very hard.

7. I appreciate that in much of Central Italy, the official ration is 200 grammes. It must, however, be remembered that parts of Tuscany and Umbria are rich agricultural regions, and that local food supplies can be purchased to augment the official ration. Moreover, the psychological effect of a reduction of ration must be borne in mind.

8. There may be food riots in the larger cities, but I should be more inclined to look for a breakdown in morale. I think that confidence in the Allies and the Allied Commission will receive a very serious blow. I am not sure what line of argument you would use in your broadcasts, but the 300 gramme statement by President Roosevelt was known throughout length and breadth of Southern Italy and we must accept the fact that the Italian populace will put every possible complimentary comment upon a subsequent reduction. Those Italian officials who are doing their best in face of hard times, to maintain their integrity and enthusiasm, will suffer disillusionment, and cynicism will be rampant.

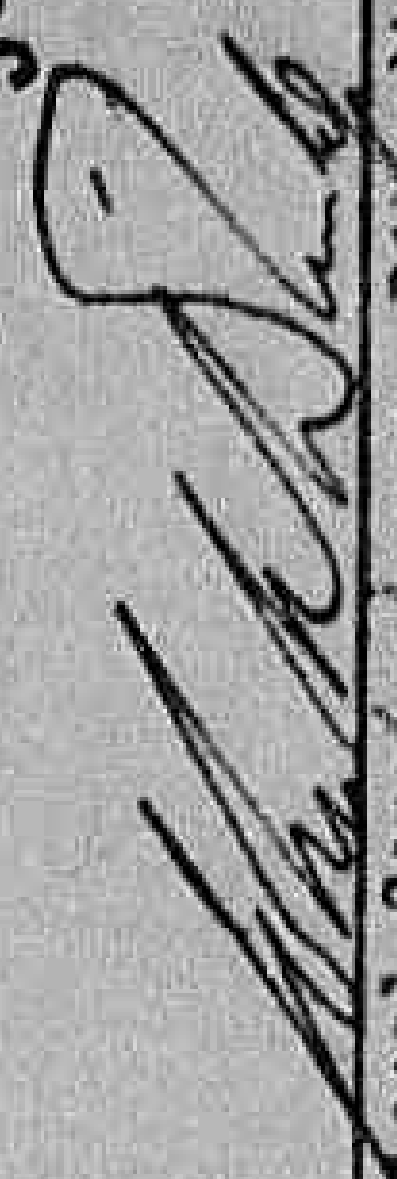
9. After all, while it may be a fair argument that Sicily has hidden reserves of grain, illegally withdrawn from amassing, that is not an argument that can be used in the case of the million inhabitants of Naples.

10. It may be argued that Naples got through last winter on a 125 gramme ration. In fact, there was an epidemic and there were deaths from starvation. Moreover, there were, last winter, hoarded stores from pre invasion days. The black market saved Naples from starvation.

11. I strongly urge that every effort be made to preserve the present ration scale at least until the middle of March, when warmer weather arrives.

7. I appreciate that in much of Central Italy, the official ration is 200 grammes. It must, however, be remembered that parts of Tuscany and Umbria are rich agricultural regions, and that local food supplies can be purchased to augment the official ration. Moreover, the psychological effect of a reduction of ration must be borne in mind.
8. There may be food riots in the larger cities, but I should be more inclined to look for a breakdown in morale. I think that confidence in the Allies and the Allied Commission will receive a very serious blow. I am not sure what line of argument you would use in your broadcasts, but the 300 gramme statement by President Roosevelt was known throughout length and breadth of Southern Italy and we must accept the fact that the Italian populace will put every possible uncomplimentary comment upon a subsequent reduction. Those Italian officials who are doing their best in face of hard times, to maintain their integrity and enthusiasm, will suffer disillusionment, and cynicism will be rampant.
9. After all, while it may be a fair argument that Sicily has hidden reserves of grain, illegally withdrawn from amassing, that is not an argument that can be used in the case of the million inhabitants of Naples.
10. It may be argued that Naples got through last winter on a 125 gramme ration. In fact, there was an epidemic and there were deaths from starvation. Moreover, there were, last winter, hoarded stores from pre invasion days. The black market saved Naples from starvation.
11. I strongly urge that every effort be made to preserve the present ration scale at least until the middle of March, when warmer weather arrives.

5035


Regional Commissioner, Brigadier

87

MEMORANDUM

WJL/ml

1st December 1944

SUBJECT: Visit of A.C. Personnel to Washington (LAC 709 refers)

The present status relative to AC estimates of requirements for subsistence items January through June 1945 for Italy, Sicily and Sardinia follows:

1. WHEAT/FLOUR

Discussions between Washington and London were still proceeding when Col Legg concluded his mission on 21 November 1944. On this date agreement had been reached with respect to the establishment of 300 gram bread ration for presently occupied Italy south of Rimini-Pisa line and formal approval was only a matter of procedure. The maximum quantity of wheat/flour which can be imported into Italy on the basis of present shipping program (Jan. thru June 45) are 107,000 tons per month. This program will probably have to accept deficits in the light of shipping difficulties. London has requested a firm program from Washington excluding any proviso in respect to probable deficits.

2. DAIRY VEGETABLES

US War Department (International Division) has agreed to supply (a) for north of Rimini-Pisa 58,440 tons, (b) for south 10,000 tons. Memorandum SPWQ 014 of 10 October 1944 for Commanding General ASF to International Division refers. Confirmation and phasing awaited.

3. MILK, EGGS, MEAT

AC estimates agreed and confirmed in CAL 966.

4. STRAW

for South

AC estimates agreed in final conversations with Col Levin AFHQ and Office of USG ASF. Confirmation and phasing awaited.

For the Chief Commissioner:

W. J. Lewis
W. J. Lewis
Colonel

Director, Food Sub-Commission

Chief of Staff

The present status relative to AC estimates of requirements for subsistence items January through June 1945 for Italy, Sicily and Sardinia follows:

1. WHEAT/FLOUR

Discussions between Washington and London were still proceeding when Col Legg concluded his mission on 21 November 1944. On this date agreement had been reached with respect to the establishment of 300 gram bread ration for presently occupied Italy south of Rimini-Pisa line and formal agreement was only a matter of procedure. The maximum quantity of wheat/flour which can be imported into Italy on the basis of present shipping program (Jan. thru June 45) are 187,600 tons per month. This program will probably have to accept deficits in the light of shipping difficulties. London has requested a firm program from Washington including any provision in respect to probable deficits.

2. MEAT

US War Department (International Division) has agreed to supply (a) for north of Rimini-Pisa 58,440 tons, (b) for south 18,000 tons. Memorandum from G-4 of 19 October 1944 for Commanding General AFM to International Division refers. Confirmation and phasing awaited.

3. EGGS

AC estimates agreed and confirmed in CAL 956.

4. OTHER

for South
AC estimates agreed in final conversations with Col Lewis AFM and Office of AFM. Confirmation and phasing awaited.

For the Chief Commissions:

W. J. Lewis
W. J. Lewis
Colonel

Director, Food Sub-Commission

Chief of Staff
Copy to: Economic Section
Overall Supply File

5032

Ref. 21-2/ /FOOD

WJL/ml

2 December 1944

REPORT COVERING SALIENT POINTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS WITH

AFHQ, U.S. WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON AND WAR OFFICE

LONDON, CIVIL AFFAIRS DIVISION WITH REFERENCE TO A.C.

FOOD ESTIMATES FOR SUBSISTENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL

ITALY, SICILY AND SARDINIA FOR THE PERIOD JAN. 1945

JUNE 1945.

1. Since AFHQ approval of the estimates was a pre-requisite to the visit to Washington and London, four days were spent in discussions with AFHQ, G-4, and G-5 at AFHQ, with one exception, namely the AC estimates for sugar, the estimates in general were approved.

2. On arrival in Washington on 28 September terms of reference prepared by AFHQ were filed with Civil Affairs Division, US War Department. Following a series of preliminary discussions the first meeting proper was held on the 29th of September. The following were present:

Col. Butterworth	representing A.F.H.Q.
Lt. Col. Lewis	"
Col. Hagan	" British Army Staff
Maj. Waldergrave	"
Col. Legg	" Allied Commission
Maj. Tolman	"
Lt. Col. Walters	" International Division/OSAC
Lt. Col. Campbell	" Office of the USG AGF

The trend of the discussions which followed clearly indicated stern opposition to the program. There were three main reasons:

1. The Civil Affairs Committee supply report;
2. The presence of two members of this Committee;
3. Apparent antipathy to the Italian program due to the lack of current factual information of the conditions in Rome and recently liberated areas.

The estimates and justification were subject to close analysis ⁵⁰³⁴ were debated in considerable detail. The outcome was,

(1) On the British side the estimates would be further reviewed with

ITALY, SICILY AND GARDINIA FOR THE PERIOD JAN. THRU

JUNE 1945.

1. Since AFHQ approval of the estimates was a pre-requisite to the visit to Washington and London, four days were spent in discussions with AAGC, G-4, and G-5 at AFHQ. With one exception, namely the AC estimate for sugar, the estimates in general were approved.

2. On arrival in Washington on 28 September terms of reference prepared by AFHQ were filed with Civil Affairs Division, US War Department. Following a series of preliminary discussions the first meeting proper was held on the 29th of September. The following were present:

Col. Butterworth	representing A.F.M.Q.
Lt. Col. Lewis	"
Col. Magaw	" British Army Staff
Maj. Waldergrave	"
Col. Legg	" Allied Commission
Maj. Tolman	"
Lt. Col. Walters	" International Division/WAC
Lt. Col. Campbell	" Office of the QM&A

The trend of the discussions which followed clearly indicated stern opposition to the program. There were three main reasons:

- a. The Civil Affairs Committee supply report;
- b. The presence of two members of this Committee;
- c. Apparent antipathy to the Italian program due to the lack of current factual information of the conditions in Rome and recently liberated areas.

The estimates and justification were subject to close analysis ⁵⁰³⁴ were debated in considerable detail. The outcome was:

- (1) On the British side the estimates would be further reviewed with US Departments and transmitted to London for consideration and comment and subsequently co-ordinated with US War Department;

(11) on the U.S. side, the representative of the JIS would complete his study of the estimates and prepare a memorandum for the International Division and CCAG;

(11) AG representative would be available for discussion with U.S. and British Staffs in this work.

3. Informal discussions followed with:

a. U.S. State Department including Director, European Affairs.

b. British Embassy staff.

c. F.E.A.

d. U.S. Department of Agriculture.

As a result of numerous informal discussions with the International Division some rigid attitude was apparent and subsequent discussions proceeded on a better note.

4. The Departments enumerated in para 3 were appreciative of the current factual information and reports conveyed by AG representatives in bringing these Departments up to date with the Italian situation. The memorandum referred to in para 2 was presented on the 12th of October and concessions on the AG estimates were approved. For example, an amount of 68,000 tons of pulses, always a contentious item, and which were excluded from previous programs, had been approved and AG estimates with respect to meat.

5. Further discussions resulted in acceptance of AG estimates for milk which have since been confirmed in LAC 966.

6. There was considerable opposition to the AG sugar estimates and AG produced in justification comparative ration scales for other theatres and what appeared on the surface, discrimination. This argument coupled with dietetic necessity for a minimum sugar ration of 250 grams per capita, compared with the present ration of 125 grams per capita, proved conclusive and resulted in ultimate acceptance.

7. From a supply standpoint wheat estimates were accepted for Mainland south of the Rimini-Pisa Line and Gardinia and will be programmed to maintain the 300 grams bread ration or equivalent. Estimates for Sicily were challenged in the light of General's memorandum dated the 24th of November to CUS. It was observed that wheat requirements for Sicily would have to be met from local shipments. Estimated requirements for north of Rimini-Pisa are subject to speculation (a) the demand on shipping tonnage and (b) the unknown situation in unoccupied Italy. Discussions between Washington and London were still proceeding when Col. Legg concluded his mission on 21 November 1944. On this date agreement had been reached with respect to the establishment of 300 grams bread ration for presently occupied Italy south of Rimini-Pisa Line and formal approval was only a matter of procedure. The maximum quantity of wheat/flour which can be imported into Italy on the basis of present shipping program (Jan. thru June 1945) are 107,000 tons per month.

- a. U.S. State Department including Director, European Affairs.
- b. British Embassy staff.
- c. F.R.A.
- d. U.S. Department of Agriculture.

As a result of numerous informal discussions with the International Division less rigid attitude was apparent and subsequent discussions proceeded on a better note.

4. The Departments enumerated in para 3 were appreciative of the current factual information and reports conveyed by AG representatives in bringing these Departments up to date with the Italian situation. The memorandum referred to in para 2 was presented on the 12th of October and discussions on the AG estimates were approved. For example, an amount of 68,000 tons of pulses, always a contentious item, and which were excluded from previous programs, had been approved and AG estimates with respect to meat.

5. Further discussions resulted in acceptance of AG estimates for milk which have since been confirmed in LAC 966.

6. There was considerable opposition to the AG sugar estimates and AG produced in justification comparative ration scales for other theatres and what appeared on the surface, discrimination. This argument coupled with diastetic necessity for a minimum sugar ration of 250 grams per capita, compared with the present ration of 125 grams per capita, proved conclusive and resulted in ultimate acceptance.

7. From a supply standpoint wheat estimates were accepted for Mainland South of the Rimini-Misa Line and Cardinia and will be programmed to maintain the 300 grams bread ration or equivalent. Estimates for Sicily were challenged in the light of Macdon's memorandum dated the 24th of November to OCS. It was observed that wheat requirements for Sicily would have to be met from shipments. Estimated requirements for north of Rimini-Misa are subject to speculation (a) the demand on shipping tonnage and (b) the unknown situation in unoccupied Italy. Discussions between Washington and London were still proceeding when Col. Legg concluded his mission on 21 November 1944. On this date agreement had been reached with respect to the establishment of 300 grams bread ration for presently occupied Italy south of Rimini-Misa Line and formal approval was only a matter of procedure. The maximum quantity of wheat/flour which can be imported into Italy on the basis of present shipping program (Jan. thru June 1945) are 107,000 tons per month. This program will probably have to accept deficits in the light of shipping difficulties. London has requested a firm program from

Washington excluding any proviso in respect to probable deficits.

8. The visit and presentation of AC estimates presented a set of problems and circumstances which could neither be anticipated nor foreseen. The atmosphere in the War Department was much disturbed by reports and Press publicity prior to the arrival of AC representatives. Planning Staffs in Washington and London were strongly of opinion that a periodical visit in connection with long term subsistence estimates would be both desirable and advantageous.

For the Chief Commissioners:

W. J. P. D.

W. J. P. D.
Colonel

Director, Food Sub-Commission

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief of Staff
Economic Section
File

5029

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

For the Chief Commissioner:

W. J. 2356
Colonel

Director, Food Sub-Commission

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief of Staff
Economic Section
File

5029

POSSIBLE DISTRIBUTION OF STOCKS AVAILABLE FROM NORTH ITALY

Potential Availability (ooo Met.Tons)

Assumed Date of Liberation

1 January
1 February
1 March
1 April
1 May
1 June

POSSIBLE BASED BREAD RATION PLUS SUPPLEMENTARY				
PLAN "A"	PLAN "B"	PLAN "C"	PLAN "D"	PLAN "E"
<u>475</u>	<u>422</u>	<u>322</u>	<u>244</u>	<u>377</u>
145	125	85	65	115
175	155	115	85	145
230	200	150	115	185
300	275	205	150	255
	300	300	230	300
			300	

NOTE 1.

Above ration scales could be implemented by supplies found in the North at the rate of 100 grams of bread per day for one month for each 50,000 tons of supplies found. Example: If Plan E is adopted, entry in the North made on 1 February and 100,000 tons are found in the area, the possible ration scale would be 185 grams instead of 145 grams because the available supply would be 477,000 tons instead of 377,000 tons as indicated above.

NOTE 2.

Each 10,000 ton decrease in expected imports will reduce the possible ration scales listed above by approximately 20 grams for one month. Example: If plan E is adopted, imports decreased by 30,000 tons, and entry to the North made on 1 April, the possible ration would be reduced from 255 to 235 grams because available supply would be 347,000 tons instead of 377,000 tons as indicated above.

2058

76A

POSSIBLE DISTRIBUTION OF STOCKPILE AVAILABLE FOR NORTH ITALY

POSSIBLE : BASIC BREAD RATION PLUS SUPPLEMENTARY				
PLAN "A"	PLAN "B"	PLAN "C"	PLAN "D"	PLAN "E"
<u>475</u>	<u>427</u>	<u>322</u>	<u>244</u>	<u>377</u>
145	125	85	65	115
175	155	115	85	145
230	210	150	105	185
300	275	205	150	255
	300	300	230	300
			300	

Quantity (000 Met.Tons)

of liberation

by
entry

Ration scales could be implemented by supplies found in the North at the rate of 100 grams of bread per man for one month for each 30,000 tons of supplies found. Example: If Plan E is adopted, entry in North made on 1 February and 100,000 tons are found in the area, the possible ration scale would be 255 grams instead of 145 grams because the available supply would be 497,000 tons instead of 397,000 tons indicated above.

15,000 ton decrease in expected imports will reduce the possible ration scales listed above by approximately 20 grams for one month. Example: If plan E is adopted, imports decreased by 30,000 tons, and entry to the North made on 1 April, the possible ration would be reduced from 255 to 235 grams because the available supply would be 367,000 tons instead of 397,000 tons as indicated above.

8502

RESULTS OF MISSION REPORTED SUPPLIES 1 JANUARY - 30 JUNE 1945

	Forecast Received From AFHQ			AG Estimates Presented By Mission			Now Accepted			Tons	Net
	N.	S.	T.	N.	S.	T.	N.	S.	T.		
WHEAT	450,000	150,000	600,000	882,000	420,000	1,302,000	222,000	420,000	(a)	222,000	- 516
DRIED VEG.	-	-	-	87,660	48,210	135,870	58,440	10,000	(b)	58,440	ALL
SUGAR	2,700	16,200	18,900	16,200	35,460	51,660	2,700	35,460	(a)	-	-
MEAT	4,860	4,800	9,660	2,850	21,120	23,970	2,850	21,120	23,970	2,010	- 416
HEAT	-	-	-	10,980	9,180	20,160	10,980	9,180	20,160	10,980	ALL
FATS	13,500	-	13,500	13,500	-	13,500	13,500	-	13,500	-	-

- (a) Schedule of 107,000 tons per month not specifically earmarked for areas of North or South but requirements of remainder will be stockpiled for North.
- (b) U.S. War Dept. (International Div.) has agreed to supply amounts shown per memo 320HQ 014 of 10 October 1944 International Division. Confirmation and phasing awaited.
- (c) Signal WX 65237 of 18 November 1944 approves 16,200 tons for South but AG estimates agreed in final conversation and office of QM, ASF. Confirmation and phasing awaited.

5078

2052

RESULTS OF MISSION IMPORTED SUPPLIES 1 JANUARY - 30 JUNE 1945

Mission	AG Estimates Presented By Mission			Now Accepted			NET RESULTS - INCREASES AND DECREASES					
	N.	S.	T.	N.	S.	T.	N.		S.		T.	
							Tons	%	Tons	%	Tons	%
1,000	882,000	420,000	1,302,000	221,000	420,000	642,000	228,000	- 51%	270,000	+ 180%	42,000	7%
	87,660	48,210	135,870	58,440	10,000	68,440	58,440	ALL	10,000	ALL	68,440	ALL
1,300	16,200	35,460	51,660	2,700	35,460	38,160	--	--	19,260	+ 11%	19,260	+ 102%
1,460	2,850	21,120	23,970	2,850	21,120	23,970	2,010	- 4%	16,320	+ 340%	14,310	+ 148%
	10,380	9,180	20,160	10,980	9,180	20,160	10,380	ALL	9,180	ALL	20,160	ALL
1,500	13,500	-	13,500	13,500	-	13,500	-	-	-	-	-	-

with not specifically earmarked for areas of North or South but requirements of South are to be met and for North.

(v.) has agreed to supply amounts shown per memo AFHQ 014 of 10 October 1944 for Commanding General ASF to mission and phasing omitted.

1944 approves 16,200 tons for South but AG estimates agreed in final conversation with Colonel Lewis AFHQ mission and phasing omitted.

5013

78502

77

PLAN F
Incl. Sicily in Scale E

604
750
55

1,409

284
777

1,061
384

1,409

WIT SITUATION SUMMARY

Stocks 1 Nov 44
 Anticipated Imports 1 Nov 44 - 30 June 45
 Additional Assessment after 1 Nov 44

Potential Availability 1 Nov 44 - 30 June 45

Estimated consumption South of Pisa-Rimini line:
 1 Nov - 31 Dec 44
 1 Jan - 30 June 45

Potential Consumption 1 Nov 44 - 30 June 45
 Potential Availability for North Italy

LIBERATED ITALY (000)		
PLAN A	PLAN B	PLAN C
604	604	604
750	750	750
55	55	55
1,409	1,409	1,409
284	284	284
650	703	803
934	987	1,087
475	422	322
1,409	1,409	1,409

PLAN A:

From 1 Jan 45 a basic ration of 200 grams of bread per day plus 12½% for supplementary rations for all
 Rimini line, territory for remainder of 11,000,000

PLAN B:

From 1 Jan 45 a basic ration of 200 grams of bread per day plus 12½% for supplementary rations for Sicily
 plus 10% supplementary for remainder of liberated Italy South of Pisa-Rimini line.

PLAN C:

From 1 Jan 45 a basic ration of 200 grams of bread per day plus 12½% for supplementary rations for Sicily
 ration scale of 300 grams per day plus 7½% for supplementary rations in area south of Gargliano and coast
 of 225 grams per day plus 10% for supplementary rations in area North of Gargliano and South of Pisa-Rimini line.

SITUATION SUMMARY

17 DECEMBER 1944

LIBERATED ITALY (000 Metric Tons)

PLAN A	PLAN B	PLAN C	PLAN D	PLAN E
604 750 55	604 750 55	604 750 55	604 750 55	604 750 55
1,409	1,409	1,409	1,409	1,409
284 650	284 703	284 803	284 841	284 728
934 475	987 422	1,087 322	1,165 244	1,012 397
1,409	1,409	1,409	1,409	1,409

Pisa-Rimini line;

Pisa-Rimini line;
July

ration of 200 grams of bread per day plus 12% for supplementary rations for all of liberated Italy South of Pisa-Rimini line.

ration of 200 grams of bread per day plus 12% for supplementary rations for Sicily and a basic ration of 225 for remainder of liberated Italy South of Pisa-Rimini line.

ration of 200 grams of bread per day plus 12% for supplementary rations for Sicily, a continuation of current ration per day plus 7% for supplementary rations in area south of Gargliano and continuation of current ration scale for supplementary rations in area North of Gargliano and South of Pisa-Rimini line.

-3-

PLAN D:

From 1 Jan 45 a basic ration of 200 grams of bread per day plus 12½% for supplementary rations for Sicily of 300 grams plus 7½% supplementary rations for remainder of liberated Italy south of Pisa-Rimini Line.

PLAN E:

From 1 Jan 45 a basic ration of 200 grams of bread per day plus 12½% for supplementary rations for Sicily 250 grams plus 10% supplementary rations for remainder of liberated Italy south of Pisa-Rimini line.

Plan E is based on help from Army at point of collapse - otherwise

France 350 - 400

Greece 300 - 400

NW Europe

Help to the North

Neutral Ship line

Italian Bank/2500

Avoid

-2-

76

Basic ration of 200 grams of bread per day plus 12½% for supplementary rations for Sicily and a basic ration of 7½% supplementary rations for remainder of liberated Italy south of Pisa-Rimini Line.

Basic ration of 200 grams of bread per day plus 12½% for supplementary rations for Sicily and a basic ration of 6% supplementary rations for remainder of liberated Italy south of Pisa-Rimini line.

is based on help from Army at point of

false - otherwise

ance 350 - 400

ance 300 - 400

Europe.

Help to the North

Newborn Shift / ins.

Italian Party / 6802

Avoid

Confidential 75

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
ON FOOD RATIONS.

1. For months the Allied Commission with the help of the Supreme Allied Commander and backed by assurances of assistance from the heads of the United States and United Kingdom Governments, has been trying to establish a 300 gram ration throughout ITALY. The issue of this ration, which is considered by the Commission to be the minimum subsistence ration for normal adults, was accepted, unwillingly, by the Combined Chiefs of Staff in May at the initiation of the Supreme Allied Commander and has since that date remained the basic ration in SARDINIA, SICILY and the mainland of ITALY south of the GARIBOLDI. It has not been established north of that line in spite of every effort made by the Commission backed by the strongest recommendations of the SACO's division, the Regional Commissioners and by the Commanding General, Fifth Army, and direct evidence that (a) the 200 gram ration is inadequate; (b) the disparity between North and South is extremely resented. At a recent meeting the Regional Commissioners of LIGURIA, LOMBARDY and PIEMONTE urged that planning should continue on the basis of the 300 gram ration in Northern Italy.

2. The statements made by the President and Prime Minister, and the President's message to the War Department, have raised hopes in the Allied Commission and have been regarded as assurances by the Italian Government and population that a 300 gram ration will be instituted throughout Italy and that wheat will be imported in sufficient quantities to make this possible - always taking into account the employment of local resources.

3. The Director of the Food Sub-Commission has reported that in his recent visit to U.S.A. and U.K. Agreement was reached with respect to the establishment of a 300 gram bread ration for presently occupied Italy south of the GARIBOLDI line.

5022

ration throughout ITALY. The issue of this ration, which is considered by the Commission to be the minimum subsistence ration for normal adults, was accepted, unwillingly, by the Combined Chiefs of Staff in May at the initiation of the

Supreme Allied Commander and has since that date remained the basic ration in SARDINIA, SICILY and the mainland of ITALY south of the GARIBOLDI. It has not been established North of that line in spite of every effort made by the Commission backed by the strongest recommendations of the SCAO's Armies, the Regional Commissioners and by the Commanding General, Fifth Army, and direct evidence that (a) the 200 gram ration is inadequate; (b) the disparity between North and South is strongly resented. At a recent meeting the Regional Commissioners of LIGURIA, LAZIO and PUGLIA urged that planning should continue on the basis of the 300 gram ration in Northern Italy.

2. The statements made by the President and Prime Minister, and the President's message to the War Department, have raised hopes in the Allied Commission and have been regarded as assurance by the Italian Government and population that a 300 gram ration will be instituted throughout Italy and that wheat will be imported in sufficient quantities to make this possible - always, taking into account the employment of local resources.

3. The Director of the Food Sub-Commission has reported that in his recent visit to U.S.A. and G.S. "agreement was reached with respect to the establishment of a 300 gram bread ration for presently occupied Italy south of the ^{50%} Gariboldi line and that formal approval was only a matter of procedure". In fact the supply of 107,000 tons (January through June 1945) for this area was approved subject to shipping - and Colonel Legge makes the comment that such a program would have to accept deficits in the light of shipping difficulties. The seriousness of the shipping situation has been experienced recently and is fully confirmed by a telegram from Combined Chiefs of Staff which, while marking appreciation of the problem in Italy including that of the bread ration, calls attention to the acute shipping situation which is compelling all theatres to accept deficits both as regards

-2-

Confidential

operational needs and civilian supplies. The matter is under urgent consideration by both Governments, the bread ration in Italy should be established or maintained only at such a standard as can be supported within shipping allotted to the theatre.

This telegram was received simultaneously with advice that the shipping programme for January has been considerably reduced.

4. In view of past experience, of the telegram quoted above, and of other current advice, it appears extremely doubtful whether, even if the supplies necessary to maintain a 300 gram ration were approved, the shipping will ever be made available.

5. The present situation is as follows:

- (a) SARDINIA is on a 300 gram ration.
- (b) SICILY as from today will be 200 grams (SACRED's decision).
- (c) S. ITALY (up to CARIGLIANO) is on 300 grams.
- (d) CENTRAL ITALY (between CARIGLIANO and RIMINI-PISA Line is on 200 grams).
- (e) Planning for Kesselring's Italy is on 200 grams.

N.B. 300 gram ration = 200 grams bread daily plus 500 grams pasta weekly.
200 " " " " 150

As regards (b) we await the Combined Chiefs of Staff's decision to import wheat from January through June - otherwise the ration may have to be further reduced and depend entirely on wheat consumed.

As regards (e) it is very doubtful if transportation can be made available to maintain 200 grams, even if that is reached, for many months after liberation.

6. It is clear that if shipping is to be cut then the ration will have to be cut. We cannot continue to ask the Italian Government per A.M.G. to live hand to mouth without reserves and without sufficient stockpiles for future operations.

(In view of what the Supreme Allied Commander has recommended on the Allied Commission's behalf, in view of the opinion of the Allied Commission expressed

5023

current advice, it appears extremely doubtful whether, even if the supplies necessary to maintain a 500 gram ration were approved, the shipping will ever be made available.

5. The present situation is as follows:

- (a) SAMBURA is on a 300 gram ration.
- (b) SIOLLY as from today will be 200 grams (SAMUED's decision).
- (c) S.ITALY (up to CHAGLILAO) is on 300 grams.
- (d) CENTRAL ITALY (between CHAGLILAO and KILIM-FISA Line is on 200 grams).
- (e) Planning for Kueselring's Italy is on 200 grams.

N.B. 300 gram ration = 200 grams bread daily plus 550 grams pasta weekly.
200 " " = 200 " " 150 "

As regards (b) we await the Combined Chiefs of Staff's decision to import wheat from Germany through Tunis - otherwise the ration may have to be further reduced and depend entirely on wheat imported.

As regards (c) it is very doubtful if transportation can be made available to maintain 200 grams, even if that is reached, for many months after liberation.

6. It is clear that if shipping is to be cut then the ration will have to be cut. We cannot continue to ask the Italian Government for A.A.O. to live **5023** hard to death without reserves and without sufficient stockpiles for future operations.

(In view of what the Supreme Allied Commander has recommended on the Allied Commission's behalf, in view of the opinion of the Allied Commission expressed in the Chief Commissioner's memorandum 4807/003 of 21 October "Food Ration System in Italy", we must place with the Allied Commission our SACRED in the position of withdrawing one inch from recommendations repeatedly made but facts must be faced and advice must be submitted to SACRED to meet the realities of the situation).

7. A reduction in the ration is therefore not only necessary but may be forced upon us. The obvious places to make this reduction are S.ITALY and SAMBURA. The reduction has been forced upon us in SIOLLY; we cannot reduce in the North but must rather increase. We should aspire to parity.

-3-

Confidential

8. The disadvantages of such a reduction are obvious: we must expect disorder; resentment towards the Allies and the New Italian Government; adverse criticism in the U.S.A. and U.K.; reduction in output; increase in disense. We cannot prevent the last two consequences; wise publicity may help to minimize the first three.

9. The advantages of establishing parity in feeding throughout Italy are considerable and will be more so as we liberate the Northern territories.

10. (a) DMS Economic Section will advise as to the basic ration which should be established in all ITALY and the ISLANDS.

(b) Civil Affairs Section will advise on the national and public safety repercussions to such a decision.

(c) Political Section will advise on the position of the new Government if such an announcement was made at the outset of its term of office.

(d) Public Relations Officer will advise on the best presentation of the reduction (and increase) to the public both Italian and Allied.

(e) Chief of Staff will advise on the presentation of the Allied Commission's case to SACRED.

MS Enc

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

5023

11 Dec. 1944.
MSL/JG.

- considerable and will be more so as we liberate the Northern territories.
10. (a) Does Economic Section will advise as to the basic ration which should be established in all ITALY and the ISLANDS.
- (b) Civil Affairs Section will advise on the medical and public safety repercussions to such a decision.
- (c) Political Section will advise on the position of the new Government if such an announcement was made at the outset of its term of office.
- (d) Public Relations Officer will advise on the best presentation of the reduction (and increase) to the public both Italian and Allied.
- (e) Chief of Staff will advise on the presentation of the Allied Commission's case to SACRED.

118 (enc)

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

5023

11 Dec. 1944.
HSL/35.

Big Lush

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

72

10 December 1944

You are requested to attend a meeting in the Chief Commissioner's Office at 1030 hours, Monday, December 11th, to discuss the food situation in the Italian theatre of war.

J. A. Quayle
J. A. QUAYLE *HC*
Major, R. A.
Staff Officer to CC

DISTRIBUTION:

- ~~Chief of Staff~~ 10
- ✓ DCOS, Economic Section *hat*
- ✓ DCOS, Civil Affairs Section *RRK*
- VPS, Political Section *Civilian*
- ✓ DCOS, Establishments Section *J*
- DCCAO
- ✓ Russian Representative *Delivered by*
- ✓ French Representative *Capt. Ransbury*
- (PRO) *W. H. D. Styrone*

CSO, Economic Section
Director, Food Sub-Commission

5022

785017

4807
SECRET
 Confidential

FX 64753
 DEC 07/1930A

0/3372
 DEC 09/1630
 PRIORITY

AFHQ SIGNED WILSON, CITE: PHGEO, PHCAO, PHCOS
 AGWAR FOR COS FOR COAC, HILLDRING FOR STAFFORD, INFO: CENTRAL
 DISTRICT UK BASE SECTION (LONDON)/FOR HQ COMZONE MAIN (STOUZA) ++

-9 DEC 1944

++ TROOPERS.

SECRET.

62?
 FOR INFORMATION ONLY

This is LAC 877.

At request of MACMILLAN message sent to him is paraphrased to
 you as follows:

1. Grateful for information in your 2173, 4 December. No reply yet received to NAF 821.
2. Please represent in strongest manner the situation in which I have been placed by announcement of alleged promises for the 300 gram ration, the delay in obtaining a ruling from COS and prevailing uncertainty of the shipping situation. I cannot accept responsibility for a decision between the acceptance of the political consequences of delay or evasion, and the curtailment of operational requirements for the shipping program. It is essential that ruling be given quickly if simultaneous announcement is to be made of increased ration and increased price of bread as prepared by Italian Govt.
3. Following table shows wheat required January-June 1945 for mainland and SARDINIA but not including SICILY. Tonnages are in thousands. AG estimate repeats figures submitted to CGAC by LEGAL. Ration cards for 32 million is basis. Tabulate

5021

5/12
SECRET



SECRET

Confidential

69

Requirements for January, AC estimate - 107 (12), AFHQ estimate - 107 (12). Requirements February - June (each), AC estimate - 205 (23), AFHQ estimate - 156 (17) total 6 months, AC estimate - 1132, AFHQ estimate - 882 Note: Figures in parenthesis show ships per month at 9000 tons each.

Difference between estimates: AFHQ includes anticipated indigenous corn/rice at 200 and figures supplemental feeding at 7% as against AC figure of 12½ %. The overall result is substantially the same. If this program can be assured an immediate announcement of a 300 gram ration can be authorized.

4. GENERAL MAGRUDER, G-4 (A), does not agree to this signal on grounds of shipping shortage and unwarranted pressure on CCB. Mr. OFFER sees no objection to sending it.

5. With regard to urgency of problem see LAC 875, regarding alleged prospect of hunger march on ROME unless matter is speedily settled.

DIST.

Info-Action: Food S/C (2)
Info: Chief Commissioner
CoS
Secn Sec
File

SECRET



785017

68

SACRED US POLAD BR RES MIN

7666

5 Dec

Confidential

PRIORITY

SECRET PD

SUBJECT IS BREAD RATION FOR ITALY PD 3604/21/103

REFERRING NAF EIGHT TWO THREE THE FOLLOWING IS PRECIS OF A REPORT ON A ~~XXXXX~~
HUNGER MARCH IN ROME PD

PARIN TO AFHQ FOR SACRED US POLAD BR RES MIN FROM HQ ALCON FROM LISH PAREN

A FEW DAYS AGO A NUMBER OF WOMEN FROM A SUBURB OF ROME MARCHED INTO THE
CITY WITH A POSTER WHICH SAID QUOTE WE ARE HUNGRY UNQUOTE PD
LATER THEY VISITED REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN ROME PD THERE IS RUMOUR
OF THE FORMATION OF A QUOTE LEAGUE OF HUNGER UNQUOTE PD
IT IS REPORTED IN THE PRESS THAT IF THE FOOD PROBLEM IS NOT SOLVED BY
ONE SIX DECEMBER A HUNGER MARCH WILL START FROM PIAZZA CINQUECENTO AND
PROCEED THROUGH ROME PD COMMENT IS MADE ON THE EFFECT SUCH A MARCH
WOULD HAVE ON ITALIAN TROOPS PROCEEDING NORTH IF IT SHOULD ENCOUNTER
THEM PD

THIS REPORT CMA JUST RECEIVED CMA STILL REQUIRES INVESTIGATION BY OUR
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION CMA BUT SUGGEST IT IS A POINTER TO THE
URGENCY OF REACHING A DECISION ON THE THREE ZERO ZERO GRAM RATION

(Copies to: Sir Noel Charles, The Hon. A. Kirk.)

C.A. Sec.

File 3604 and 4807

Enroni Sec

Chief of Staff

300

NICHOLAS W. DRAGNETT
Major, AGD
ADJUTANT

5013

^{*807}
SECRET

FL 62480
DEC 032205A

Confidential
O/ 2727
DEC 040700A
PRIORITY
4 DEC 1944

From: AFHQ SIGNED WILSON CITE PHGE8

To: AGWAR FOR CCS, CENTRAL DISTRICT UK BASE SEC (LONDON) FOR BRITISH
CHIEFS OF STAFF, SHAET, ALCOM FOR INFO

SECRET. (This is NAF 823) Refer NAF 821

Bread ration for ITALY is subject.

1. In para 3 of NAF 821 the date agreed with the Italian Govt was quoted as 1 December.

2. The AG has been directed to approach the Italian Govt to secure a postponement of this date to 10 December. In view of cabinet crisis consent to change is temporarily delayed.

3. In order that this Hq may be prepared to meet the proposed new date of announcement request that instructions previously asked for be sent accordingly.

AC DIST

INT ACT ECON SEC (3)
INFO - SO TO C.C.
C.O.S
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FILE

P/A
GR 5/12
4/12

1-DEC-1944
A. C.

5018

SECRET

785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-COMMISSION
APO 39.
TEL. 489081-500

AO/3039/2/111

27 November 1944

SUBJECT: - Ration Scales.

28 NOV Recd

TO : - S.C.A.O. A.M.G. 8th Army.
Attn: S.P.H.O.

1. I feel that some explanation is necessary regarding a phrase which originated from this Sub-Commission, that "the old scale of hospital ration was generous under present circumstances."
2. This Sub-Commission has always held that the present hospital diets were inadequate being deficient especially in proteins and fats, and were the stocks of available food in Italy sufficient a recommendation would have been made long ago to increase the existing ration scales not only in hospitals and other institutes but for the general population. When however the Food Sub-Commission states that the available stocks in Italy are so regrettably low that an increase even in hospital ration scales would mean reduction all round, you will realize that this Sub-Commission is rather powerless in the matter.
3. The "present circumstances" does not refer to the very serious condition in the forward areas where one realizes that patients admitted to hospital are suffering from malnutrition which is a handicap to their recovery, but rather to the existing shortage of food supplies.
4. The whole food situation in Italy has caused this Sub-Commission great anxiety and were it possible one would like to be able to recommend a scale of rations which would provide 3000 calories for the civil population and one of at least 4000 for the inmates of hospitals.

P/A

CWP
28/11

G. F. Parkinson
Brig,
G.S. PARKINSON, Brigadier,
Director,
Public Health Sub-Commission.

Copy to: Chief of Staff, Allied Commission. ✓
VP, CA Section, HQ, AC.

GSR/jf

5017
5018

1/12

SECRET

#807 21.

63

Confidential

Office of the Chief Commissioner

26 NOV Recd

Attached Draft Signal

DCOS, Economic Section
Chief of Staff
Food Sub-Commission

25 November 4

62

The attached draft signal (from AFHQ to COS) ref 300 gram bread ration for Italy is forwarded for your information.


J. LANNIN
Lieut, USNR
Flag Lieut

cc: A Files

see Minute 64

SECRET

5018

DRAFT SIGNAL

~~SECRET~~
~~Confidential~~

PRIORITY

TO: AGMAR for CCS repeated Central District UK Base Section (London) for British Chiefs of Staff repeated SHAFY for info signed Wilson cite PHWEG. This is MAY _____.

Reference LAC 763, 766, CAL 902, and MAY 614.

Subject is 300 gram bread ration for Italy.

1. The situation in central Italy, particularly in Rome, Florence, and Pisa, is deteriorating due primarily to the food situation. My Intelligence Reports indicate the possibilities of disturbance in the cities during coming weeks, and I have found it necessary to take certain precautionary measures.
2. Also, the Chief Commissioner A.C. has advised me that with the Winter months upon us, he cannot much longer hold the population in line under the existing 200 gram ration and shortage of other foods.
3. Currently the Italian Government has advised A.C. of its decision to raise the price of bread from its present subsidized figure of five lire per kilo to eight lire per kilo. This is a measure which A.C. approve as tending to cut down the substantial and uneconomic government deficit arising from the bread subsidy, but it feels that the price increase unaccompanied by a ration increase is more than likely to have unfortunate consequences. A.C. has therefore asked the Italian Government to defer its announcement until 1 December.

4. In the face of this increasing pressure, I am still without a reply to my letter of September 24 recommending the authorization of the 300 gram ration. I have pointed out the urgency of this in my messages to you and officers from this headquarters and A.C. have visited Washington and transmitted our views fully. As I have also pointed out, the public announcements of the President and Prime Minister, including a statement of the President specifically referring to the 300 gram ration, have been given widely in Italy. Our failure to act in implementing these statements is not under-

weeks, and I have found it necessary to take certain precautionary measures.

2. Also, the Chief Commissioner A.C. has advised me that with the Winter months upon us, he cannot much longer hold the population in line under the existing 200 gram ration and shortage of other foods.

3. Currently the Italian Government has advised A.C. of its decision to raise the price of bread from its present subsidized figure of five lire per kilo to eight lire per kilo. This is a measure which A.C. approve as tending to cut down the substantial and uneconomic government deficit arising from the bread subsidy, but it feels that the price increase unaccompanied by a ration increase is more than likely to have unfortunate consequences. A.C. has therefore asked the Italian Government to defer its announcement until 1 December.

4. In the face of this increasing pressure, I am still without a reply to my letter of September 24 recommending the authorization of the 300 gram ration. I have pointed out the urgency of this in my messages to you and officers from this headquarters and A.C. have visited Washington and transmitted our views fully. As I have also pointed out, the public announcements of the President and Prime Minister, including a statement of the President specifically referring to the 300 gram ration, have been given wide publicity in Italy. Our failure to act in implementing these statements is not understood by the populace and makes our position doubly difficult.

5. I feel it is imperative that I be in a position to make an announcement on or prior to 1 December. I request instructions accordingly.

AC DISTRIBUTION FOR INFORMATION:

Economic Section
Chief of Staff Section
Food Sub-Commission
'A' Files

C O P Y

SECRET

785017

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

October 27, 1944

SUBJECT : Pasta/flour Ration.

TO : See Distribution.

1. In accordance with cable ref 5462 received from ACO HQ dated 27 October 1944 the following ration of pasta or flour will be given :

300 Grams of pasta or flour each fortnight (15 days) to bread ration card holders only, commencing on or about November 4th. First issue will be considered issue for first two weeks of November.

2. Provincial Supply Officers will arrange to immediately get pasta factories working so that this commitment may be met. Flour may be issued for first issue if pasta not available.

3. Bread ration will be increased to 200 grams in all areas under 5th Army AMG where that ration does not exist today.

4. Flour to implement the above may be drawn on 5th Army AMG depots only where local grain/flour stocks are not sufficient.

For the Commanding General

FRANK E. TOSCANI,
Lt. Col. F.A.,
Senior Supply Officer,
AMG Fifth Army.

/opn.
DISTRIBUTION:

G-4 5th Army	2
SCAO's all Corps	25
P.C. Lucca Province.	10
" Pisa "	10
" Pistoia "	10
" Florence "	10
" Florence City	10
" Bologna "	10
R.S.O. Region VIII	5
" Region IX	10
All P.C. Reg. IX	10

HQ 8th Army AMG Region	2
HQ ACO	5
ADV AG Hq AAI	2
Bible	

PA (5013) (1001)
cc g/h

4807

54

ALSCA NOTE

PAGE: 5462

TOSCANA REGION RPTD ABRUZZI MARCHI REGION OMA LAZIO REGION OMA AND SOAO FIFTH AND EIGHT ARMY

HA ADG

5462

1220/26-10/44

P/A. Confidential
328
P50
minutes
27/10
SECRET
PRIORITY
25 OCT Recd
FOOD SUB-COMMITTEE

January 27

WEDNESDAY

FOOD SUB-COMMISSION

ISSUE OF THESE ZERO ZERO GRAIN PASTA OR FLOUR FORTHRIGHTLY AUTHORIZED TO ALL
BREAD RATION CARD HOLDERS IN YOUR RESPECTIVE PD PARISH TO REGULAR SUPPLY OFFICERS
TOSCANA REGION CMA ABRUZZI MARCHE REGION CMA LAZIO REGION CMA AND REFD TO
REGAO FIFTH AND EIGHT ARMY FROM HQ AGO FROM LHO SIGNED STONE PARISH FIRST ISSUE
TO BE MADE ON OR ABOUT NOVEMBER FOUR WHICH WILL BE THE ISSUE FOR FIRST TWO WEEKS
IN NOVEMBER PD [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
FENANG AND ANCONA PROVINCES EXCLUDED FROM THIS PENDING INVESTIGATION OF GENERAL
GRAIN RATION

Copy to: Chief of Staff
Economic Section

L. T. MONTANT, JR.
1ST LT., AGC
ADJUTANT

SPECIAL

5013

PA 27

4807
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
ECONOMIC SECTION
APO 394

53
JI/mi

Tel: 761

AOC/ 7/-3 /FOOD

INTER OFFICE MEMO

24 October 1944

SUBJECT: Bread Ration Policy

27 OCT Recd

TO : Chief of Staff

38
Reference your 4807/38/COS of 23 October 1944.

1. Plans for substituting Barley for Wheat have already been prepared and sent up to the Regions. Copy of directive is attached.
2. Ministerial Decree on the use of Maiz and Rye has just been agreed to by this Section, and will operate throughout presently occupied Italy. It provides for the substitution of Maiz retentions by growers for wheat retentions, thereby adding to the total amount of wheat available for amassing. A comparatively small amount of Maiz is at present in the hands of the Consorzio, but the amount is too small for the moment to warrant any special scheme for its use. In North Italy, however, Maiz should be found in large quantities, and plans already exist for the substitution of part of the bread ration by the issue of Maiz and/or Rice.
3. It is not proposed to substitute wheat by chestnuts at the moment. These chestnuts are regarded as valuable supplement to the normal bread ration, and suggestions have already been put forward to the Italian Government for the implementation of plans to purchase and distribute these chestnuts in areas and to classes which are in greatest need of supplements to their present diet.

A. G. Antolini
A. G. ANTOLINI
Deputy Chief of Staff
Economic Section

5012

HEAD QUARTERS
ALLIED CONTINENTAL COMMISSION
Food Sub-Commission
A.C.C. 346

18/10/52

Tel: 178.27

16 October 1944

ACC/71-1/FOOD

SUBJECT: Barley

TO : Regional Supply Officers, Sicilian Region
Southern Region
Lazio-Marche Region
Abruzzi-Marche Region
Sardinia Region
All 5th Army

FROM : Sicilian Region
Sicilian Region
Piemonte Region
Lombardia Region
Venetia Region
All 8th Army

1. A considerable amount of barley is being imported into this country in the near future. Some grown barley is also available in large quantities and is being allocated for mixing with wheat flour for bread making.

2. This barley will be milled to give a yield of 80% and then mixed with wheat flour in the percentages of:

80%	Wheat
20	Barley

For bread making.

3. Supply officers will make arrangements for the milling of this barley, when grown or imported, as it becomes available.

4. It is not possible to state definitely the amount of barley that will become available in each province. Supply Officers, in conjunction with the Italian authorities should decide, within the limits of the ration mentioned above, the number of days on which barley mixture bread will be issued each month.

5. ACC/71-1/FOOD dated 15 July 1944 refers.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

Copy to:

Ministry of Agriculture (M.S. Bergamo)
Commissariato Generale dell'Alimentazione (Dott. de Marchi)

5011

W. J. LEE
Colonel

Director, Food Sub-Commission

TO : Regional Supply Officers, Sicily Region
 Southern Region
 Lazio-Umbria Region
 Abruzzi-Marche Region
 Sardegna Region
 All 5th Army

Lombardy Region
 Valle Region
 Piemonte Region
 Lombardia Region
 Veneto Region
 All 8th Army

1. A considerable amount of barley is being imported into this country in the near future. Some grown barley is also available in large quantities and is being allocated for mixing with wheat flour for bread making.

2. This barley will be milled to give a yield of 80% and then mixed with wheat flour in the percentage of:

80% Wheat
 20% Barley

For bread making.

3. Supply officers will make arrangements forthwith for the milling of this barley, some grown or imported, as it becomes available.

4. It is not possible to state definitely the amount of barley that will become available in near future. Supply Officers, in conjunction with the Italian authorities should decide, within the limits of the ration mentioned above, the number of days on which barley mixture bread will be issued each month.

5. ACC/71-1/FOOD dated 15 July 1944 refers.

For the Acting Ad of Commission:

[Signature]
 V. J. I. EUI
 Colonel
 Director, Food Administration

5011

Copy to:

Ministry of Agriculture (M.R. Bergamo)
 Commissione Generale dell'Alimentazione (Dott. de Menni)

Chief Staff Officer: 3 Minute Sheet
taken from Top: Jacket. 50
P 2 opposite approved
request at p. para 1. C.O.S. to see

(37)

encl
20/10

4
Find out what action has been taken by
Econ. Sec. W/26/x

5

C of S: Regions concerned being notified
by signal today to increase ration as
authorized. This information from Econ. Sec.

encl 24/10 W/26/x

P/A
encl

785017

SECRET

ALLIED CONTROL

INCOMING MESSAGE

INFO - ACTION

TO: AGWAR FOR CCS FOR CCAC AND INFO LEVIS RPTD FOR INFO TO CENTRAL DISTRICT

INCL BASE SECTION (LONDON) FOR ++ SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 8/24

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED WILSON

CLASSIFICATION:

REFERENCE No: PX 42911

PRECEDENCE: PRIORITY

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: OCT 23 1955A OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE PHREG PHCAO

24 OCT Read

++ BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF, HQ COMZONE MAIN (ETOUSA) SHAEP FOR SHGE, TROOPERS, ACC MAIN

SECRET. This is LAC 774. Bread Rationing in ITALY. Refer CAL 882.

1. Instructions noted and forwarded to ACC.
2. Grateful for any possible acceleration of decision. Continued delay making situation increasingly difficult. Riots in PALESTINE and threats of similar disturbances PISA area are indicative.

INFO - ACTION

my - Act:

my:

Alec

LIFE S

File

HEADQUARTERS

24 OCT 1944

A-3000

785017

BASE SECTION (LONDON) FOR ++ SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 8/24
 FROM: AFHQ SIGNED WILSON CLASSIFICATION: 24 OCT Recd
 REFERENCE No: FL 42911 PRECEDENCE: PRIORITY
 DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: OCT 23 1955A OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE FHCEG FHCAO

++ BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF, HQ COMZONE MAIN (ETCUSA) SHAEP FOR SHGE,
 TROOPERS, ACC MAIN

SECRET. This is LAC 774. Bread Rationing in ITALY. Refer
 CAL 882.

1. Instructions noted and forwarded to ACC.
2. Grateful for any possible acceleration of decision. Con-
 timed delay making situation increasingly difficult. Riots in PALERMO
 and threats of similar disturbances PISA area are indicative.

INFO - ACTION

14-Act

LAC 774

14-Act

A/OC

LAC 774

File



INFO - ACTION

OCT 24 0830A

DATE and Time of RECEIPT

Distribution:

SECRET

ACTION ACC MAIN

⁴⁸⁰⁷
SECRET

8785

AFHQ SIGNED SACRED

F 42350

OCT 221742A

COS
Confidential

109/22 *45*

PRIORITY

CITE PHOEG *2 OCT Read*

SECRET. Bread rationing in ITALY. Paraphrase of CAL 882, 21 October follows:

1. Still under consideration is policy on 300 gram bread ration.
2. Until CCS comments on letter 24 Sept no action will be taken on increase. End of paraphrase.
3. New Subject. We will keep you inform of developments.

Dist

Action - Econ Sec (3)

Info - A/CC

C o S

Food SC

File



Cos has been

ll 23/10
ua

SECRET

5008

OCT 222152A

5007

LL

LWS

Copy No 5.

Dist

- Copy 1. Mr Sydney Mitchell
2. Mr A. D. Morris
3. Mr. Hardin.
4. Political Section Ace
✓ 5. File

42

The following memorandum on Food Ration Scales in Italy has been prepared at the request of Mr. Sydney Mitchell and Mr. A. D. Morris of the Combined Civil Affairs Committee.

5008

Copy of 40, 41 & 42
filed in 2001/cos
The New Deal for Italy

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COUNCIL COMMISSION
CAF

Ref: 4807/008.

21 October 1944.

MEMORANDUMFOOD RATION SCALES IN ITALY

1. The 300 gram bread ration is in the opinion of this Commission the irreducible minimum and any scale below that figure, except for short periods in operational areas, is contrary to Allied military and political interests and announced aims. Indeed as recently as September 26 President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill in a joint declaration laid down that "first and immediate considerations in Italy are the relief of hunger and sickness and fear".

2. In stating our reasons for this opinion it must be remembered that Italy is fundamentally a bread-eating country and that flour, in one form and another must always be the basic ration together with sugar, and that other commodities are auxiliary thereto. These reasons are four (a) medical, (b) control of Black Market, (c) maintenance of law and order and (d) grain collection campaign.

3. Medical. If the ration is not maintained at a minimum of a 300 gram bread ration the health of the nation will in our opinion be permanently impaired. The present scale of 300 grams of bread and 4.15 grams of sugar which is the ration in the south of Italy produces only a calorific content of 763 calories. This is supplemented in urban districts of over 50,000 inhabitants by meat and vegetables producing an additional calorific value of 143 calories, making a total of 906 calories. The Health Committee of the League of Nations in 1936 advised that the daily average calorific intake for a man or woman living in a temperate climate and not engaged in manual labour should be 2,400 calories per day, and if engaged on moderate muscular work an additional 600 calories per day should be allowed. Furthermore a medical manual of the U.S. Army states that the calorific requirement of a soldier is approximately 3000 calories per day. As an interesting example of the inadequacy of this ration it may be mentioned that although inmates of prisons receive double the sugar ration (8.3 grams per day), many cases of malnutrition have occurred and are occurring. If the 300 gram ration is not established and maintained, the Commission is of the opinion that the calorific intake would be so low that even a "prevention of disease" standard would not be achieved. In view of the joint declaration of 26 September, quoted above, it is clear that failure to achieve this standard would be contrary to announced policy.

4. Control of Black Market. A large section of the populace in fact make up its rations by purchases on the Black Market. Every effort is made by law enforcement, by road blocks and other measures to reduce the Black Market to a minimum, but there can be no doubt that the Black Market at the present is of very large dimensions and it will so remain. All that can be done is to limit its extent and from experience an increase in the ration to 300 grams is essential. Italy will have this effect. By way of example it may be mentioned that in June when the ration was increased to 300 grams in Naples there was a very substantial fall in Black Market prices. However such action will force down

2. In stating our reasons for this opinion it must be remembered that Italy is fundamentally a bread-eating country and that flour, in one form and another must always be the basic ration together with sugar, and that other commodities are auxiliary thereto. These reasons are four (a) medical, (b) control of Black Market, (c) maintenance of law and order and (d) grain collection campaign.

3. Medical. If the ration is not maintained at a minimum of a 300 gram bread ration the health of the nation will in our opinion be permanently impaired. The present scale of 300 grams of bread and 4.15 grams of sugar which is the ration in the south of Italy produces only a caloric content of 763 calories. This is supplemented in urban districts of over 50,000 inhabitants by meat and vegetables producing an additional caloric value of 243 calories, making a total of 906 calories. The Health Committee of the League of Nations in 1936 advised that the daily average caloric intake for a man or woman living in a temperate climate and not engaged in manual labour should be 2,400 calories per day, and if engaged on moderate manual work an additional 600 calories per day should be allowed. Furthermore a medical manual of the U.S. Army states that the caloric requirement of a soldier is approximately 3000 calories per day. As an interesting example of the inadequacy of this ration it may be mentioned that although inmates of prisons receive double the sugar ration (8.3 grams per day), many cases of malnutrition have occurred and are occurring. If the 300 gram ration is not established and maintained, the Commission is of the opinion that the caloric intake would be so low that even a "prevention of diseases" standard would not be achieved. In view of the joint declaration of 26 September, quoted above, it is clear that failure to achieve this standard would be contrary to announced policy.

4. Control of Black Market. A large section of the populace in fact make up its rations by purchases on the Black Market. Every effort is made by law enforcement, by road blocks and other measures to reduce the Black Market to a minimum, but there can be no doubt that the Black Market at the present is of very large dimensions and it will so remain. All that can be done is limit its extent and from experience an increase in the ration to 300 grams about Italy will have this effect. By way of example it may be mentioned that in June when the ration was increased to 300 grams in Naples there was a very substantial fall in Black Market prices. Moreover such action will force down prices in such Black Market as is not eliminated. This will have the subsidiary benefit of enabling a larger section of the population to supplement their ration beyond a "prevention of diseases" standard.

It must not be overlooked that one of the serious effects of a large Black Market is that the poorer classes of many of the civil servants are forced to sell their furniture and possessions and to lend their daughters to prostitution in order to pay for food on the Black Market. Apart from its effect on law and order (see below) its effect on the V.D. rate amongst Allied troops is considerable.

40

5. Maintenance of Law and Order. It is the opinion of this Commission that the maintenance of law and order cannot be assured unless a minimum ration of 300 grams is maintained throughout liberated Italy. With an uncontrolled Black Market and a wholly inadequate bread ration, dissatisfaction, riots and industrial unrest generally are to be expected in many of the more important centers this winter. Such a situation must seriously affect the Allied war effort in Italy. A copy of a signal dated 19 October to General Alexander from General Mark Clark on the food situation in the Fifth Army area is attached.

6. War can the political effect be overlooked. Rightly or wrongly the government is blamed at present for the failure to produce food and if it cannot be established on a uniform basis at a level of (about) 300 grams it is to be feared that the consequent social unrest may well affect the stability of the Government. In present circumstances this would be undesirable not only for the country as a whole but in particular for the Allied war effort in Italy. In considering this aspect it should not be overlooked that it would now be impossible through lack of personnel to re-establish Military Government and the situation in the country might indeed become precarious.

7. Grain Collection Campaign. The question of rationing plays an extremely important part in the programs of easing. With say a 250 gram bread ration a tendency to refuse to come in order to hoard grain and later to sell it in the Black Market at fantastic prices is such that it becomes an important factor in the amount eased. It is thought that, if the ration can be established throughout at 300 grams, the incentive to refuse to accept, through not distinguished will be substantially reduced. This in turn will reduce import requirements and save shipping.

8. It will be seen from the foregoing that the results of a failure to fix a uniform minimum ration of 300 grams throughout liberated Italy may effect not only the whole economy of the country, but also the military and political aims of the Allied Governments. It is also apparent from what has been stated above and cannot be emphasized too strongly, that this Commission does not regard the ration of 300 grams as satisfactory or sufficient. It is merely put forward as a minimum which if established will probably avert the worst effects of inadequate rations which have been outlined above.

MILITARY W. STUBBS
Commander, USAR

Noting Chief of Campaign

COPYSECRET

8487

TO: PERSONAL TO ALEXANDER, AGO AND AFHQ FOR INFO C IN C AAI

FROM: CLARK

Oct 19 1435

872/19
Confidential

SECRET. Civilian food situation throughout 5th Army area is critical and will become increasingly so as we advance. The 200 grams of bread distributed daily are inadequate. Widespread unrest is manifest in LUCCA and PISA while actual public demonstrations have occurred in PISTOIA and FLORENCE. Unofficial sources of information indicate that more serious incidents may develop. If such occur combat troops might have to be diverted to maintain law and order. I am informed that enough imported food supplies are not in sight to permit adoption of a ration sufficient for health and efficiency in accordance with assurances recently given in WASHINGTON. An inseparable part of the food problem is the provision of sufficient road transport for the movement of imported or local supplies to the centers of consumption. Recommend that the urgent matter of providing adequate food and transport be given immediate consideration.

SECRET
Info-Action : ~~AGO~~ ^{AGO} ~~Sec~~ (3)
Info : A/CC
~~AGO~~ ^{AGO} (2)
CA Sect
File

Date and Time of Receipt October 19 1630

5003

5002

785017

38

Ext

300

Lt. Col. Shipp

Bread Ration - 5 Army

4807/38/008

Deputy Chief of Staff,
Economic Section.

23 Oct.

4

34

37

I refer to Gen. Clark's personal signal to Gen. Alexander of the 19th October, to signal No. FI 41062 of the 19th of October from AMHQ to AGWAR of which you received a copy, and to CDS signal No. 5145 of the 22nd of October to AMHQ, of which you also received a copy.

I am directed by the CDS to ask you to submit to him your plans for substituting wheat by alternative products such as barley, chestnuts or maize.

U
Chief Staff Officer
To the Chief of Staff

5003

37

AFHQ Info AAI 5 and 8 Armas

HQ AOC

5145

22 OCT

Confidential
SECRET
PRIORITY
CHIEF OF STAFF

SECRET PARA ONE PD IN ORDER TO MEET SITUATIONS THROUGHOUT AREA NORTH OF GARIGLIANO AS DESCRIBED BY COMMANDING GENERAL FIVE ARMY IN HIS SIX THREE FIVE FIVE OF ONE NINE OCTOBER PD I SUGGEST IMMEDIATE FORTNIGHTLY ISSUE OF THREE ZERO ZERO GRAMS PASTA OR FLOUR THROUGHOUT ITALY NORTH OF THE NORTHERN BOUNDARIES OF NAPLES SLANT CAMPORASSO PROVINCES WHICH IS PRESENT LIMIT OF THE HIGHER BREAD PASTA RATION PD PARISH TO AFHQ FOR BACKED INFO G IN G AAI CMA CG FIFTH AND EIGHTH ARMIES FROM HQ AOC FROM STONE PARISH THIS WOULD BE A PRELIMINARY STEP TO RAISING TO THREE ZERO ZERO GRAM LEVEL AS ALREADY PROPOSED TO CHARLIE CHARLIE SULAR BY YOU PD GRATEFUL APPROVAL SO THAT FIRST ISSUE CAN BE MADE ON OR ABOUT FOUR NOVEMBER PD

PARA TWO PD REFERENCE FIVE ZERO ZERO TRUCKS AUTHORIZED BY YOUR HQ ON ONE THREE SEPTEMBER REFERENCE AFHQ SLANT EIGHT ZERO SEVEN ZERO SLANT QUEEN ABLE EAST FOR AOC PD ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE WITH AFHQ CALLING FOR ASSIGNMENT TO AOC OF TWO GEORGE TAKE COYS AND TWO FIVE ZERO TRUCKS TOGETHER WITH EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL IN CONNECTION WITH ACTIVATION OF ADDITIONAL QUEEN COYS PD TO DATE NO REPEAT NO GEORGE TAKE COYS HAVE REPORTED PD ONLY ONE ZERO ZERO TRUCKS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED PD UNLESS YOUR COMMITMENT IS COMPLIED WITH IMMEDIATELY WE WILL HAVE EXTREME DIFFICULTY IN EVEN TRANSPORTING ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES REQUIRED TO INCREASE THE RATION AS INDICATED ABOVE AND IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO COMPLY WITH TRANSPORT ^{REQUIREMENTS} ~~REQUIREMENTS~~ TO IN REFERENCE MESSAGE PD

DISTRIBUTION:

In addition to regular distribution:

Acting Chief Commissioner
Office of the Chief of Staff
Food Sub Commission
Transportation Sub Commission

Economic Section and
With telegram under ref
TO: Mr. Kirk and Mr. Noel
Charles.

DEARO.

ORIGINAL SENT
5002
ON FILE 4810.

L.T. MONTAGNY.

785017

PERSONAL & PRIVATE

35

HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED COMBINT. COMMISSION,
APO 394.
Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref: 4807/35/COS.

Confidential 22 October 1944.

I am taking the opportunity of Monfort coming to A.I. to send you copies of SACMEP's telegram of Sept 24th and Oct 19th regarding the issue of a 500 gram bread ration all over Italy. You will see that action is being taken at the very highest level in order to try and get the bread ration on to this minimum subsistence scale. If this can be done, and we have been fighting for it now for six months, then I think a great deal of our, and your, anxieties can be assuaged.

We are, as Monfort will tell you, faced with a very serious food situation throughout Italy if the general terms of the President's and the Prime Ministers utterances are not implemented. It is the usual story of shortage of shipping.

There also arises the difficulty of transportation. We are having great difficulty in getting AFM to implement the assurance given to us that 500 trucks could be provided and formed into British and American OT Cops. There is, in fact, a time lag of very nearly a month. We are doing our best to overcome this but with your knowledge of the shortage of transportation throughout the theatre you will realise that our hopes are not very high.

With regard to feeding the population in NW and N. Italy, even if we have both the food and transport the lines of communication in the first instance are going to be so long that it may be impossible to provide proper food supplies for the civilian population until the port of Genoa is open. You yourself indicated this at the meeting on 12th Oct.

I am asking Monfort to explain this to General Hase and if possible to General Gunther, and I hope that the telegram sent by General Wilson will show that the best is being done to meet the situation caused by lack of coordination between public utterances and the implementation thereof.

M. S. LUSH

Major-General Sir Brian H. Robertson, Dt.,
XVVO, CM, CBE, DSO, MC,
Chief Administrative Officer,
HQ. ALLIED ARMY IN ITALY, G.M.F.

Copy to: Gen Lee
DCCAO, 3001
File 490/COS.

SECRET
ALLIED COMMUNICATION

INCOMING MESSAGE

8592

TO: AMEMB FOR CCS FOR CCAC INFO LEVIS RPTD FOR INFO TO CENTRAL DISTRICT

U K BASE SECTION (LONDON) FOR -- SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: N89/20

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED WILSON

CLASSIFICATION:

REFERENCE No: PX41062

PRECEDENCE:

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: Oct 191400A OFFICE OF ORIGIN: AFHQ, PHCAG

BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF, HQ COMZONE MAIN (ETCUSA), SHAFF FOR ENG2, TROOPERS, ACC.

SECRET. Subject is bread ration for ITALY. Reference CAL 852, LAC 736. Para 1. Recent public announcements, which have been given wide circulation in ITALY by the press, are interpreted by me to mean that the policy is to provide a 300 gram bread ration immediately semi this ration to be nation wide on liberation of the north. Para 2. Confirmation is requested that my understanding in Para 1 is correct and that you wish me to implement this policy. Para 3. This policy cannot be implemented without increased imports since the import program authorized for the months of November and December is below the monthly scale of imports indicated in Para 4 of my letter of 24 September. From a military standpoint the tranquility of the MEDITERRANEAN Theatre might be jeopardised if the 300 gram bread ration were not sanctioned. Para 4. If I am to establish a 300 gram bread ration, there are 2 alternatives: Sub para A (Step up monthly shipments to the level required to produce total imports of 1500000 tons during the harvest year. This would mean a monthly program based on all ITALY estimated at 165000 tons from January through June 1945, or beginning December if possible. Sub Para B Use existing stocks, together with imports under the existing program. The effect of this plan would be to exhaust the amassed grain by March 1st assuming inland transport not repeat not a limiting factor. **0003** only undertake this procedure under an absolute guarantee that stocks so used will be replaced in full to permit continuance of the 300 gram

REFERENCE No: PX41062

PRECEDENCE:

PRIORITY

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: Oct 1944 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF, HQ COMZONEMAIN (EFOUSA), SHAET FOR SNGZ, TROCTERS, ACC.

++: BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF, HQ COMZONEMAIN (EFOUSA), SHAET FOR SNGZ, TROCTERS, ACC.

SECRET. Subject is bread ration for ITALY. Reference CAL 852,

LAC 736. Para 1. Recent public announcements, which have been given wide circulation in ITALY by the press, are interpreted by me to mean that the policy is to provide a 300 gram bread ration immediately semi this ration to be nation wide on liberation of the north. Para 2.

Confirmation is requested that my understanding in Para 1 is correct and that you wish me to implement this policy. Para 3. This policy cannot be implemented without increased imports since the import program authorized for the months of November and December is below the monthly scale of imports indicated in Para 4 of my letter of 24 September. From a military standpoint the tranquility of the MEDITERRANEAN Theatre might be jeopardised if the 300 gram bread ration were not sanctioned. Para 4.

If I am to establish a 300 gram bread ration, there are 2 alternatives: Sub para A (Step up monthly shipments to the level required to produce total imports of 1500000 tons during the harvest year. This would mean a monthly program based on all ITALY estimated at 165000 tons from January through June 1945, or beginning December if possible. Sub Para B Use existing stocks, together with imports under the existing program. The effect of this plan would be to exhaust the amassed grain by March. 1st assuming inland transport not repeat not a limiting factor. 1003 only undertake this procedure under an absolute guarantee that stocks so used will be replaced in full to permit continuance of the 300 gram

DATE and Time of RECEIPT

Distribution:

SECRET

ACTION

SECRET

Page 2 contd

Confidential

33
8592

ration until the next harvest season. Without such guarantee I can see nothing but trouble ahead. Para 5. I recommend the first alternative. However even if approved, I would be unable to announce such a plan prior to the approval of a shipping program to meet it. Para 6. Your instructions are requested. In the meantime and in any event AGO will step up its efforts to realize maximum local production, particularly in products which may be substituted for wheat, and will continue to tighten up the administration of cereals wherever possible.

DISTInfo-Action: Ucon Suc 3
3-5-50 (3")

Info

: A/CC
100-5
File

copy passed for 'A' Files. 20 Oct 44.

**SECRET**

October 20 1944

Mr Antolini -
This is appar-
ently a defense
for not
telegraphing us.
Re New. &
Dec. arrivals

VA → *[Signature]*
C.O. *[Signature]*
NY 1/14/11

TOP SECRET BY AUTHORITY OF SAC

441150
TOP SECRET *4807* *32*

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

G-5 Section

AFG 612

Confidential

7 October 1944

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Information - AFHQ to ACC

19 OCT Reed

TO : R.C.
A.C.C.
Personal for Capt. E. Stone, USM *8.*

1. Ref your conversation with Gen. Spofford and reference to subject in your 5-350 A 5 Oct.
2. Advice of planned and expected supply shipments is at present transmitted as follows:-
 - (a) Approx 30 days ahead of ships' arrival a Planned Loading Advice is forwarded A.C.C. by cable (to Food Subcommittee).
 - (b) Approx 6 days ahead of ships' arrival cable advice is forwarded A.C.C. giving details of what is arriving both as to ship, port and items (the latter extracted from actual Manifests). This is amplified by a more elaborate letter (see TAB A). 16 copies are forwarded to A.C.C. Food Subcommittee.
 - (c) In addition, there is forwarded copy of G-4 Mov & Tptn. Weekly Report to MEDPO (TAB B).

This reports all the major supply and movement highlights of the current week and is, we feel, the sort of information you require.

Appendix "A" to the report of 1 Oct gives information re Nov/Dec cereal shipments for ITALY (as advised by Col. Bitterworth).

Previously, copy of this Report has been forwarded only to A.C.C. Food Subcommittee, but request has been made that in future a further copy be addressed to you personally. It will be noted that this document is Top Secret and refers to areas and operations other than ITALY.

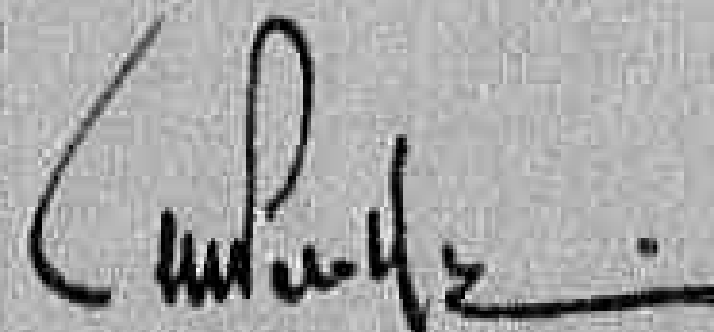
- 1 -
TOP SECRET

4998
PMT
52/10

TOP SECRET Confidential

3. The problem of what information should be passed on has given us concern for some time. The position changes so frequently in respect of: allocations - amounts - sailings - sources of supply - availabilities, etc, and the constantly changing operational position so often necessitates the cancellation, revision or delay-ing of plans which were firm yesterday, that it is most difficult to decide to what extent - and at what stage - information can be usefully transmitted.

The MEDBO Report (TAB B) is however quite a detailed, major document, but if further information is required will you please advise.



G. H. RULE

Lt. Colonel, RASC

Economics & Supply Division

2 Incls: as above

4997

TOP SECRET

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

Confidential

Ref. MGS/C-7

4 October 1944

SUBJECT: Civil Supplies - Maintenance Period
8 - 17 October 44.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.
(Attn: Economic Section, ACC) (14)
Headquarters, ACC Regions Sicily, Lazio, Abruzzi - Marche
Sardinia, Tuscany (2)
Southern (6)

1. The attached appendix shows the civil supplies which it is intended to sail from all sources to destinations as shown for the Maintenance Period 8 - 17 October. Destinations given are firm subject to -

- (a) ultimate acceptance by AJI for the operational zone,
- (b) last minute diversions by AFHQ for non-operational zone.

2. This letter is intended to serve as advance information and a convenient guide to all stores arriving. While every endeavour is made to indicate all categories of items together with their tonnage, it cannot be over-emphasized that it is the duty of ACC and Provincial Officers to maintain constant touch with Movements in order to obtain up to date information of sailings and to check firm manifests quantities of all commodities with which they may be concerned.

3. Tonnages are from ships manifests except where indicated.

4. Tonnages by ports are as follows:-

NAPLES and SATINITE Ports	3,160
BARI and East Coast	<u>1,715</u>
Total-All Ports	<u>4,875</u>

5. Provision for the Maintenance Period 18-27 September was notified in our MGS/C-7 of 14 September; changes for that period are as follows:-

(a) Firm destinations:

(i) John H. Eaton	Naples and on to Leghorn	4998
(ii) Walter E. Ranger	Naples	
(iii) James Bowle		
(iv) James Nesmith		

(b) The James Harrod slipped back into Maintenance period 28 Sept - 7 Oct.

6. Provision for Maintenance Period 28 Sept. to 7 Oct was notified in our MGS/C-7 of 25 September 44. Changes

Recent Economic Section, ACC
Headquarters, ACC Regions Sicilia, Lazio, Abruzzi - Marche
(2)
(6)
Sardegna, Toscana
Southern

1. The attached appendix shows the civil supplies which it is intended to sail from all sources to destinations as shown for the Maintenance Period 8 - 17 October. Destinations given are firm subject to -

- (a) ultimate acceptance by ASI for the operational zone,
- (b) last minute diversions by AFHQ for non-operational zone.

2. This letter is intended to serve as advance information and a convenient guide to all stores arriving. While every endeavour is made to indicate all categories of items together with their tonnage, it cannot be over-emphasized that it is the duty of ACC and Provincial Officers to maintain constant touch with Movements in order to obtain up to date information of sailings and to check from manifests quantities of all commodities with which they may be concerned.

3. Tonnages are from ships manifests except where indicated.

4. Tonnages by ports are as follows:-

NAPLES and SATELLITE Ports	3,160
BARI and East Coast	<u>1,715</u>
Total-All Ports	<u>4,875</u>

5. Provision for the Maintenance Period 13-27 September was notified in our MCS/C-7 of 14 September; changes for that period are as follows:-

- (a) Firm destinations:

(i) John H. Eaton	Naples and on to Leghorn	4998
(ii) Walter E. Ranger	Naples	
(iii) James Bowie		
(iv) James Mesmith		

(b) The James Harrod slipped back into Maintenance period 28 Sept - 7 Oct.

6. Provision for Maintenance Period 28 Sept. to 7 Oct was notified in our MCS/C-7 of 25 September 44: Changes are as follows:

- (a) Add James Harrod (see para 5b)
- (b) Final destination Julius Rosenwald - Naples
- (c) James Duncan proceeding to Naples then on to Leghorn.
- (d) Add under East Coast arrivals, in MIS 63 for BARI, LL 93, Langhorne carrying 20 tons stationery.
- (e) Sampler also carries 32 tons stationery.

7. See Appendix "B" (Medical)

J. Richardson
J. Richardson
Jr. Co.
SECRET
Economics

SECRET

APPENDIX "B"

Medical supplies on HR 654 are refrigerated and care should be taken on discharge.

Details of medical supplies are as follows:-

	<u>Detail</u>	<u>lbs</u>	<u>Stored</u>
HR 654	{ 1 Bx Tetanus Antitox 20000 Unit	51	REF
	{ 52 Bx Insulin U 20	3,875	REF
BA 514	{ 4/8 Mx 157200 Wadding Sheet	26,660	1 TD
	{ 211 Bx 59080 Yard Muslin	18,779	4 TD
	{ 899 Bx 1576 AC Acetylsal 5 Gr. TAB	54,839	4 TD
	{ 1,404 Bx Sulfathiaz 7 7 Gr TAB USP	67,392	4 TD
	{ 65 Bx Medical Supplies Drugs	11,635	4 TD
	{ 3 Bx Quin Dihydrochl	362	5 TD
	{ 167 Cr Cresol Saponated Sol	20,040	5 TD
	{ 3 Bx Pituitary Sol Post Lobe	276	5 TD
	{ 1,139 Bx Drugs Chemicals Biological	80,520	5 LH
	{ 658 Bx 5266 Doz Band Plaster 6 In.	52,664	1 TD

Copy to:- HQ AAI (Adm. Ech)

CG NATOUA

SOS NATOUA

HQ No. 1 District

HQ No. 2 District

HQ No. 3 District

CG PES

CO NORBS

Officer in charge ACC Depot #93 PIUMINO

Officer in charge ACC Depot LEHOFEN

Officer in charge ACC Depot ANCOBA (Att. Capt Kelly)

ACC Port Liaison Officer, BARI

Provincial Officer, BRINDISI

Provincial Officer, BARI

785017

HR 654	REF	51	REF
1 Ex Tetanus Antitox 20000 Unit		3,875	
52 Ex Insulin U 20			
4/8 Lx 157200 Wadding Sheet	1 TD	26,660	
211 Bx 59080 Yard Muslin	4 TD	18,779	
899 Bx 1576 AC Acetylsal 5 Gr. TAB	4 TD	54,839	
1,404 Bx Sulfathiaz 7 7 Gr TAB USP	4 TD	67,392	
66 Bx Medical Supplies Drugs	4 TD	11,636	
8 Bx Imin Dihydrochl	5 TD	362	
167 Gr Cresol Saponated Sol	5 TD	20,040	
3 Ex Pituitary Sol Post lobe	5 TD	276	
1,139 Bx Drugs Chemicals Biological	5 LH	80,520	
658 Bx 5266 Box Band Plaster 6 In.	1 TD	52,664	

Copy to:-

HQ AAI (adm. Ech)
 CG MATOUSA
 SOS MATOUSA
 HQ No. 1 District
 HQ No. 2 District
 HQ No. 3 District
 CG PES
 CO MOPES

(3)
 (2)
 (2)
 (2)
 (2)
 (2)

Officer in charge ACC Depot #93 PICHINO
 Officer in charge ACC Depot LECHORN
 Officer in charge ACC Depot ANCONA (Att. Capt Kelly)
 ACC Port Liaison Officer, BARI
 Provincial Officer, BRINDISI
 Provincial Officer, BARI
 Provincial Officer, REGGIO
 Provincial Officer, CROTONE
 Provincial Officer, CATANIA
 Provincial Officer, SYRACUSE
 Provincial Officer, MESSINA
 Port Liaison Officer, c/o ACC Depot 676 NAPLES

U.S.A.
 M.M.T.R. for Col. Anderson.
 G-4 (A), AFHQ
 G-4 (B), AFHQ
 G-4, M & T, AFHQ
 G-4, AFHQ
 G (MINT), AFHQ
 DST, AFHQ
 CRD (B), AFHQ

(2)
 (2)

SECRET

29
Confidential

Appendix to I-1005

PROVISION TO MEET DEMANDS FOR CIVIL SUPPLIES FOR THE
MAINTENANCE PERIOD R - 17 OCTOBER
ALL IN DWT LONG TONS GROSS

CONT	INTENDED DESTINATION	SHIP		Beans dry white	Peas dry green	Sugar	Buttons	Paper printing	Printed matter	News- print	Cigar- ette Cover Stock	E- st Dy m
		CODE	NAME									
UKS 64	Naples	—	Bonladi (a)			2682						
UGS 55	ITE	BA 519	David Bushnell					39				
UGS 55	ITE	HR 653	Joseph Pulitzer						19			
UGS 55	ITE	BA 514	Abraham Lincoln					25				
UGS 55	ITE	HR 654	Walter Reed				1					
TOTAL West Coast				-	-	2682	1	64	19	-	-	2
UGS 55	Bari	HR 669	Deborah Gannett	109	72					102	5	
UGS 55	Barletta		Cantakait (a)									
TOTAL East Coast				109	72	-	-	-	-	102	5	
GRAND TOTAL				109	72	2682	1	64	19	102	5	2

No manifests seen.

SECRET

Appendix to P 4995 Q/7 of 4 October 1944

PROVISION TO MEET DEMANDS FOR CIVIL SUPPLIES FOR THE
MAINTENANCE PERIOD 8 - 17 OCTOBER
ALL IN D^T LONG TONS GROSS

SECRET

SHIP	Beans dry white	Peas dry green	Sugar	Buttons	Paper printing	Printed matter	News- print	Cigar- ette Cover Stock	Explo- sives & Dyna- mite	Dyna- mite	Phos- phate Rocks	Medi- cal Supplies	TOTAL
Benledi (a)			2682										2682
David Bushnell					39				204	39			282
Joseph Pulitzer						19							19
Abraham Lincoln					25							149	174
Walter Reed				1								2	3
	-	-	2682	1	64	19	-	-	204	39	-	151	3160
Leborah Garnett	109	72					102	5					288
Antakait (a)											1427		1427
	109	72	-	-	-	-	102	5	-	-	1427	-	1715
	109	72	2682	1	64	19	102	5	204	39	1427	151	4875

Subject: C.O.S. in World
REG. 20.11.10

Confidential

Confidential (in) 5/11/10

1 Oct 10

Ref: 13.11.10

15. C.O.S. in World

According to this report above stated requirements and the status of the programme as at 1 Oct 10, the requirements of C.O.S. for Dec 10 will be notified as soon as possible by C.O.S. Washington. All the figures are subject to the availability of supplies, particularly for Dec.

16. Available Stock, 10 Oct 10

(a) the loading requirements given to MIDAST (before receipt of C.O.S. 10 Oct 10) have been available from 10 Oct 10. Available stocks are:

	Wheat	Flour	Total
1st 42 days			
Available stock (i)	103,000	49,000	152,000
Available stock (ii)	50,000	Nil	50,000
Available for allocation	103,000	49,000	152,000
Total	253,000	53,000	306,000

(i) = 3000 17,000 tons flour and wheat already set up for

(ii) = 3000 17,000 tons flour and wheat to be wheat.

(b) of the above

C.O.S. have allocated

Wheat	Flour	Period	To
46,000		15 Oct - 15 Dec	3. PLANNED
27,000	20,000	Nov.	PLANNED
	14,000	Oct	PLANNED
			4994

" " " "

A.F.S. has

8

of the program as at 1 Oct. after receipt of Cal III. Sources of supply for Dec shipments will be notified as soon as possible by C.O.S. WASHINGTON. All the cargoes are subject to the availability of supplies, particularly for Dec.

16. WASHINGTON, WISCONSIN

(a) The loading requirements given to MINIST (before receipt of Cal III) have provided for 15,000 tons of available stocks are -

	Wheat	Flour	Total
Let 42 days			
Wheat stockpile (1)	105,000	10,000	152,000
Wheat working stock (11)	50,000	Nil	50,000
Available for allocation	105,000	10,000	152,000
TOTAL	258,000	53,000	311,000

(i) = 3000 17,000 tons flour and wheat already set up for

(ii) = 3000 17,000 tons flour and wheat already set up for

(b) Of the above

C.O.S. have allocated

" " "

A.F.S. has

TOTAL

Wheat	Flour	Period	To
46,000		15 Oct - 15 Nov	S. ZIMMER
27,000	20,000	Nov.	ITALY
73,000	14,000	Oct	TOTAL
	34,000		107,000

4992

(c) It will be seen that whilst the total lay off (107,000) to MINIST is within their total tonnage available for allocation (109,000), the proportion of flour required for Italy is such that 30,000 tons would have to be borrowed from the WASHINGTON stockpile.

(d) MINIST have been instructed to load 14,000 tons flour to ITALY in Oct. replacing 10,000 into the WASHINGTON stockpile, but the provision of 20,000 tons flour in Nov. will have to be referred back to WASHINGTON in view of MINIST's inability to provide.

/total about 2.....

(c) In view of the above, the weightage assigned to each is equivalent of $\frac{1}{10000}$ and $\frac{1}{100000}$ respectively.

[illegible]

Country	Value	Imports	Exports	Balance
USA	7,000	2,000	2,000	5,000
UK	12,000	2,250	2,250	9,750
Canada	17,000	2,500	2,500	14,500
France	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Germany	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Italy	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Japan	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Spain	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Sweden	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Switzerland	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Netherlands	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Belgium	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Austria	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Portugal	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Greece	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Turkey	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
India	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
China	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Japan	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
USA	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
UK	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Canada	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
France	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Germany	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Italy	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Japan	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Spain	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Sweden	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Switzerland	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Netherlands	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Belgium	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Austria	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Portugal	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Greece	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
Turkey	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
India	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250
China	27,000	2,750	2,750	24,250

(a) It is understood that the UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT is receiving a demand for the purchase of 100,000 copies of the book "The American Revolution" by the National Historical Society, for \$135,000. The book is being published by the National Historical Society, and the demand is for 100,000 copies.

Serial	Trans	Type	From	To	Period
1	9000	Barley	SWITZERLAND	TUNISIA	during Oct.
2	4000	C. sales	(100,000 25,000)	TUNISIA	by end Nov.
3	3000	"	(H. MORRIS 20,000)	ALGERIA	"
4	2200	"	N. ALGERIA	ALGERIA	"
5	3000	"	"	ALGERIA	by end Dec.

(11) WHEAT AND WHEAT FLOUR - 10,000 tons

Quantity	Unit	From	To	Remarks
10,000	tons	AFRICA	AFRICA	SAFARI 1850
10,000	tons	AFRICA	AFRICA	FOR SLAVER 2250
10,000	tons	AFRICA	AFRICA	FOR KILN 1000
10,000	tons	AFRICA	AFRICA	if not acceptable
10,000	tons	AFRICA	AFRICA	being referred back to
10,000	tons	AFRICA	AFRICA	WHEAT (see 100)

17. WHEAT, N. AMERICA

(a) It is understood from WHEAT and WHEAT that AMERICA is accepting a transfer from the WHEAT activities in N. AMERICA for 135,000 tons currently to Africa N. AMERICA by end Dec.

(b) WHEAT WHEAT suggests the following programs, shipments from N. AMERICA to be within the 50-50 arrangement and subject to diversion by WHEAT to meet operational needs. N. AMERICA has been asked to confirm that 24,000 tons delivered to be in N. AMERICA (Serial 2 below) is actually available and that the delivered programs could be handled. This program by N. AMERICA of 140,000 tons to S. AMERICA has been deferred by C.O.S.

Serial	Tons	Type	From	To	Period
1	9000	Barley	AFRICA	TUNISIA	during Oct.
2	6000	Barley	AFRICA (25,000)	TUNISIA	by end Nov.
3	30000	Barley	AFRICA (20,000)	AFRICA	by end Dec.
4	22000	Barley	N. AMERICA	AFRICA	by end Dec.
5	30000	Barley	N. AMERICA	AFRICA	by end Dec.
	135000				

(c) It must be emphasized that, to date, no continuation of this program has been received from C.O.S. The question of procurement procedure between WHEAT and AMERICA is being taken up separately and will be dealt with in the next report.

18. CIVIL SUPS. AMERICA

(a) AMERICA has stated that their programs for acceptance of civil sups is as follows:-

1 ship every 5 days at 10000 D + 60 to D + 120

2 ships every 10 days at 10000 D + 90 to D + 120 incl.

While any be diverted from AMERICA to AMERICA. Civil sups will be cleared separately from ports in AMERICA or AMERICA under control of civil affairs or AMERICA authorities. Civil sups will not be stored in AMERICA under port control.

/cont sheet 3....

STATEMENT OF GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND STATUS OF PROCUREMENT
AS AT 1 OCT 44 AFTER RECEIPT OF C.I. 813

Theatre	Requirement	Period	PROVISION				Remarks
			Tons	Type	From		
EUROPE	43,500	15 Aug - 15 Oct	45,445	Flour	U.S.A.		2 ships in US 4
	109,000	15 Oct - 15 Dec	3,000	Wheat	ORIN		A.P.S. Stock
			9,000	Flour	ORIN		Requirement
			25,000	Wheat	U.S.A.		during Nov.
			21,000	Wheat	Not allocated		during Dec
			46,000	Wheat	WHEAT		
			109,000	Wheat and Flour			
ITALY	43,500	Oct	26,400	Wheat	AUSTRALIA		3 vessels 80
							US vessel 92
							US vessel 92
			20,000	Barley	IRAN		262
			46,400	Barley and wheat			Bunkis 43,500
	100,000	Nov	27,000	Wheat	WHEAT		43,000 Wheat; 25,
			20,000	Barley	IRAN		
			20,000	Flour	WHEAT		
			25,000	Flour	U.S.A.		4 ships US 53
			7,000	Wheat	USA		
			99,000	Barley, Wheat & Flour			TOTALS: 25,
							25,000 Wheat
	100,000	Dec	20,000	Barley	IRAN		16,000 Wheat; 10
			9,000	Wheat	Not allocated		
			56,000	Wheat			
			22,500	Flour			
			101,500	Barley, Wheat & Flour			97,500 Wheat 50,115: 25

(a) NOTE: 70,000 wheat/flour Nov requirement and 72,500 wheat/flour Dec requirement, all for parts of the year, provide against contingencies. If the area is not reached, any unused portion will be increased as part

STATEMENT OF GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND STATUS OF PROGRAMS
AS AT 1 OCT 44 AFTER REPORT OF C.I. 913

TOP SECRET

APPENDIX "A"

Period	Tons	Type	From	Remarks
Aug - 15 Oct	45,545	Flour	U.S.A.	2 ships in US 49, 1 in each US 52, 53, 55, 56 & 57.
Oct - 15 Dec	3,000	Wheat	USAF	A.F.M. Stock.
	9,000	Flour	USAF	Repayment
	25,000	Wheat	U.S.A.	during Nov.
	21,000	Wheat	Not allocated	3 ships US 60.
	46,000	Wheat	MIDEAST	during Dec
	109,000	Wheat and Flour		
Oct	26,400	Wheat	AUSTRALIA	3 vessels 8000 US vessel 9200 US vessel 9200 26400
	20,000	Barley	IRAQ	In addition, 14,000 tons flour is being loaded by MIDEAST for Italy.
	46,400	Barley and wheat =		Equals 45,500 Wheat
Nov	27,000	Wheat	MIDEAST	43,000 Wheat; 25,000 South, 18,000 North.
	20,000	Barley	IRAQ	20,000 North
	20,000	Flour	MIDEAST	25,000 North
	25,000	Flour	IRAQ	7,000 North
	7,000	Wheat	USAF	TOTALS: 25,000 South 70,000 North (a)
	99,000	Barley, Wheat & Flour =		95,000 Wheat
Dec	20,000	Barley	IRAQ	16,000 Wheat; 16,000 South
	9,000	Wheat	Not allocated	2,000 South
	50,000	Wheat	"	50,000 North
	22,500	Flour	"	22,500 North
	101,500	Barley, Wheat & Flour =		97,500 Wheat TOTALS: 25,000 South 72,500 North (a)

Requirement and 72,500 wheat/Flour Dec requirement, all for North of the MIDEAST/IRAQ line are approved to be used. If the area is not reached, any unused portion will be warehoused as part of stockpile.

Appendix 'A' (Cont'd)

Theatre	Requirement	Period	PROVISION		
			Item	Type	From
GREECE	52,050	Oct	10,35	flour wheat	US STOCKPILE
	52,050	Nov			
	52,050	Dec			
	52,050	Jan			
	52,050	Feb			
			not yet known		
YUGOSLAVIA	62,717	Oct			US STOCKPILE
	62,717	Nov			
	62,717	Dec			
	62,717	Jan			
	62,717	Feb			
			not yet known		
ALBANIA	833	Oct			US STOCKPILE
	833	Nov			
	833	Dec			
	4,450	Jan			
	4,450	Feb			
			not yet known		
AUSTRIA	25,000	Dec	not yet known		

TOP SECRET

Requirement	Period	Tons	PROVISION	from	Remarks
52,050	Oct	5,430	Flour wheat	WE STOCKPILE	already loaded
52,050	Nov	10,36			
52,050	Dec	not yet known			
52,050	Jan				
52,050	Feb				
52,717	Oct	not yet known	WE STOCKPILE		
52,717	Nov				
52,717	Dec				
52,717	Jan				
52,717	Feb				
833	Oct	not yet known	WE STOCKPILE		
833	Nov				
833	Dec				
4,450	Jan				
4,450	Feb				
25,000	Dec	not yet known			bagged wheat for stock pile

2002

SECRET

4807
5806 7.10.10
249
Confidential

ACC rptd ACC MAIN FOR STONE, INFO, AAI : CG 5 ARMY, CG 8 ARMY

84/24

AFHQ SIGNED SACRED

PRIORITY

FX 43285

CITE FHCEG FHGDS FHCAO

OCTOBER 241815A

25 OCT Recd

SECRET. 1. Ref ACC 5145 of 22 October. Confirming conversation ANTOLINI/
BUTTERWORTH 21 October no objection this HQ to proposed fortnightly issue of
300 grams pasta/flour to area indicated a ✓

2. Trucks. 104 GT Coy available 0001 hours 26 October. Available
date of second GT Coy now organizing will follow. 100 US trucks delivered.
Balance 150 US trucks available 15 Nov. Above delays due to operational
priority for trucks to AAI and PBS, for 5 Army haulage.

Dist

*Copy of above
on "Transport for Civilian
Supplies"*

Action - Economic Section
Info - Chief of Staff.
Food (2)
In SC
A/CO
File

5-
4991

CosBREAD RATION

1. At page 3 is our first report to be allowed to raise the bread ration from 200 to 300 grams per day.
2. At page 4 is an elaboration of our report in answer to some questions of AFHQ.
3. At page 5 is SACMGO signal authorizing the increase.
4. At page 7 is ACCI final instructions to the field on the matter.

E. J. M. V.
18/11.

Thank you.

4993

M/Lex

11A

Nome del o dei vari proprietari

Nome della tipografia e del suo direttore

Numero di copie per ciascun numero

Formato e numero di pagine

Stima del quantitativo di carta mensile ritenuto necessario

Indicazione se si tratti di fogli o bobine

Indicazione della zona di circolazione

Indicazione di mezzi di circolazione

Indicazione del quantitativo di carta già in possesso al momento della domanda e luogo dove la medesima trovasi

Indicazione del quantitativo di carta che si ritiene verrà usata e del luogo dove la stessa si trova

(firma)

Eventuali osservazioni del S. C. A. O.

785017

SECRET

4807
Gw C/S
Confidential
24

A/CC 400.38

12 October 1944

15 OCT Recd

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Myron Taylor

EXTRACTS FROM A CABLE TO GENERAL WILSON

October 10, 1944

"As previously advised, to maintain a 300 gram bread ration would require 130,000 tons monthly as from July last or total of 320,000 tons up to November 1st. As total imports for this period will be 184,000 tons only, import tonnage necessary to maintain 300 gram ration through Italy from November 1st would be 165,000 tons monthly beginning November.

"We are presently faced with following facts relative to bread ration for all Italy. Receipt of wheat/flour shipments for November and December of 100,000 tons monthly. ANHQ proposes to call forward January through June 100,000 tons each month. Bread ration beginning November 1st would have to be not more than 235 grams for all Italy unless imports are brought up to our July estimate or equivalent to 165,000 tons beginning November through June 1945.

"If bread ration is now to be reduced in those areas where it is now 300 grams this will be contrary to implications President's statement with serious consequences here and danger of collapse of balance of wheat amassing and olive oil amassing in South.

"Situation in regard other imported supplies follows:

"Due to discontinuance certain items and reduction of others from allowed import program, present daily ration scale is thirteen grams meat and veg stew, thirteen grams dried veg, eight grams de-hydrated soup but is now limited to towns with population of fifty thousand and above plus universal ration four grams sugar daily with provision for hospitals and other special classes. Even on above limited basis supplies of meat, soup, dried vegs in hand with balance scheduled to arrive will last only four months for Italy up to line of Po.

"These facts coupled with possible reduction in bread ration south of Garigliano will present not only a grave feeding problem with attendant consequences but will impair rather than ensure even a minimum subsistence level. During coming winter months we would have to expect increase in diseases and disorders.

4983

"May I have instructions as to whether (a) the present bread ration of 300 grams south and 200 grams north of Garigliano line is to be main-

SECRET

SWP/17

SECRET

Confidential

tained or (b) whether ration for all Italy is to be equalized through 235 grams involving cutback southern Italy; (c) whether ration for all Italy is to be equalized at 300 grams as recommended in your Airgram to CCS of September 24th."

SACRED has agreed to cable the CCS to point out that presently scheduled shipments are not sufficient to implement the President's statement.

HENRY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

cc: CofS
A files
Brig. Parkinson

4888

SECRET

URGENT

TO: Economic Section
Attention Mr. Antolini.

12 OCT Recd
13 OCT Recd

1. The attached papers are forwarded you for reading.

2. After you have read them would you please have copies of them made and return the originals as soon as possible to Chief of Staff Section. *The originals of B and C may be kept by you if required.*

11th October, 1944

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

11 October 1944

TO: Chief of Staff

Attached papers are returned. We have a copy of "A".

for *Carabinieri*
A. G. ANTOLINI
Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
Economic Section A.S.S.

TH/1312

~~SECRET~~

ADDED FOR THE HEADQUARTERS
SECRET

~~Confidential~~ 21
A

24 September 1944

SUBJECT: Bread Ration for Italy.

TO : The Secretaries The Combined Chiefs of Staff.

Reference: LAC 453 and LAC 471

1. In authorizing the temporary increase, effective 1 July last, of the bread ration in Italy from 200 to 300 grams, I directed the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Control Commission to submit a study of the problem of the basic food supply through the next harvest year on the basis of early experience in the collection of the crop. This was with a view to assessing the total requirements and any proposed import programme, on the basis of which I would make my recommendation on the ration to apply during the balance of the harvest year. Such a study has been submitted and has been the subject of extensive discussion between my Staff and the Officers of the Allied Control Commission.

2. It is apparent that the purpose for which the temporary increase was granted has been, in large measure, achieved. The amassment is, on the whole, proceeding successfully, particularly in the areas where the larger ration has been actually distributed. While it is impossible to measure the effects of this factor with accuracy, I believe that there has been collected substantially more of the current harvest than would have been the case had the lower ration remained in effect. Moreover, the anti-inflationary effect of the increase has been definitely felt. In Naples the black market dropped rapidly upon the increase of the ration, and the cost of living has since resisted upward pressure, due largely to the availability of a subsistence ration without recourse to illegal channels. Accordingly, I am satisfied that the action which I felt compelled to take in June has proved well advised.

3. The study submitted by the Chief Commissioner, based on the latest information available, indicates a prospective total amassment of wheat in the amount of 2,000,000 metric tons. This is to be compared with the slightly smaller estimate of 1,900,000 tons submitted by this headquarters in LAC 607 of 17 August. Both of these estimates are based on limited intelligence and on a number of assumptions as to conditions which will be found North of the Pisa-Rimini Line. The local production, without any imports, will be sufficient to provide a basic ration of 160 grams of bread per day per persons for all of Italy for the harvest year ending 30 June 1945. This is on the basis of 76% of the population holding ration cards, a figure which the Chief Commissioner states is the minimum which can be safely contemplated. Within this figure an allowance of 12% is made for supplementary rations and feeding of institutions and other non-producing consumers.

- 1 -
~~SECRET~~

4988

SECRET

Confidential 20

4. On the basis of the data figures to the harvest, the percentage of ration card holders, and the allowances for supplementary rations, the following table shows imports required to provide the respective rations indicated:

<u>BASIC RATION</u> (Grams of bread per person per day)	<u>IMPORTS OF WHEAT REQUIRED</u> (in metric tons)
200	510,000
250	1,140,000
300	1,536,000

5. In considering what the ration should be, I have had regard to the following factors:

- a. It is the objective of the Allies in planning for liberated areas that basic ration be fixed at a point which will permit the target figure of 2,000 calories per day to be attained. Unless rations from local sources are heavy in calories, which is not the case in Italy, this objective requires the maintenance of a high bread ration. This is recognized by the fact that the target figure for the bread ration in other liberated territories is 300 grams per day.
- b. Supplementary feeding of the urban population will continue to present great difficulties over the next year. Transportation is the key to this problem. However, in view of the continuing military demand which must be met in the North without decrease in the immediately foreseeable future, the high degree of destruction of other than automotive transportation facilities, and the extreme shortage of automotive transport available for civilian supply, it is not likely that the cities can be supplied with locally produced commodities in quantities sufficient to make up basic deficiencies to any great extent below the 300 gram figure.
- c. The demand for bread, whether or not available on the legal market, will be not less than 300 grams per person per day. This means that in rough proportion to the amount that the legal ration is fixed below this point, resort will be made to the black market. This in turn will raise the family cost of living by swollen black market prices. If this condition exists generally, the pressure for overall general wage increases cannot be resisted. The end result will be a serious inflationary factor.

SECRET

4985

0
SECRET

0
Confidential 19

- d. There is a condition of the urban population, I am advised, a condition of under-nourishment which is the cumulative result of the war years, the mis-management of the Fascist government and oppression by the Germans. While we are in no way responsible for this condition, and have, in fact, in some measure, arrested its growth during the year in which we have had responsibility, we cannot on that account overlook the consequences of prolonging the condition.
- e. No objective observer would support the statements made in some quarters that conditions are now worse than under German occupation, but there is much to be said for the proposition that they should be a great deal better. At any rate, it is important that the population in the first of the liberated territories, and the one which has been under our administration the longest, should feel that progress is steadily being made. I consider this something more than a morale factor.

6. The foregoing considerations lead me to recommend a ration of 300 grams of bread throughout liberated Italy for the current harvest year. I consider that a lower ration scale should only be contemplated if conditions North of the Pisa-Rimini Line are substantially worse than estimated. My recommendation of a 300 gram bread ration amounts to an increase of 60 grams of bread over the amount presently authorized by you. This would require, as indicated above, estimated imports of approximately 1,500,000 metric tons during the current harvest year. In appraising this substantial figure several facts should be borne in mind:

- a. Under the proposed programme there will be involved a lower per capita import of wheat than was the case during the first year of the occupation. The comparable figures are calculated at 125 lbs per person for the year July 1943-1944 and 75 lbs per person for the coming year.
- b. It should not be lost sight of that Italy normally imported substantial quantities of wheat in peace years when conditions in respect to cultivation, fertilizer, agricultural equipment, labor, and transport, were not subject to present difficulties. The average importation in the pre-war years has been stated to be upwards of 800,000 tons annually. I feel that the excess only should be measured as the contribution to Italian economy necessitated by the dislocation caused by combat in Italian territory.

4984

SECRET

785017

0 SECRET

Confidential

- c. In the estimates agreed by Allied Control Commission and my staff there is substantial allowance for scorching of the territory North of the Pisa-Rimini line. If by reason of a rapid advance or the failure of the enemy to destroy or remove the stocks which are now on hand, a less serious condition is found, the requirements will be proportionately lessened. The amounts involved could range up to 300,000 tons.
- d. Based on the figures for April-June armed forces are benefiting from local foodstuffs, largely perishables, amounting, with forage, to an annual rate of some 300,000 tons.

7. In considering these large demands I have of course taken into account the administrative factor. Without question the administration of the Italian rationing and distribution system is and will be a continuing problem. Given the total demoralisation of the governmental structure from which Italy is just beginning to emerge, against a background of normally low administrative standards it could hardly be otherwise. I am confident, though, that progress is being made through the efforts of ACC to improve the food administration and to enforce strict control of grain supplies, domestic and imported. In most localities I do not believe that weak administration is itself the major factor in supply. In Sicily it may be. There, the management is not going well. We know, however, that the current crop is sufficient to feed the island. I, therefore, propose to withhold imports of grain from Sicily and to leave to the local administration the problem of forcing an equitable distribution of the resources which are known to be available. I will so far as administratively possible take similar measures in other areas in which there is evidence that the local administration is unwilling to make or incapable of making its fair contribution to the overall problem, particularly where, as in Sicily, we have made our contribution toward putting the people well along the road to recovery.

8. I request your early advice and instructions.

/s/ H. M. Wilson

/t/ H. M. WILSON

General

Supreme Allied Commander
Mediterranean Theatre

SECRET

4983

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Food Sub-Commission
APO 394

OEL/ml

Tel: 206

ACC/30-1 /FOOD

10 October 1944

SUBJECT: Food Requisitions

TO : AFHQ C-5 Section

1. In Feb. 44 a program of food imports on an annual basis was submitted to AFHQ based upon ration scales of 28 grams per day of dried vegetables 250 grams per month of sugar, 28 grams per day of meat/cheese and 100 grams per day of milk. The latter item was estimated for 5% of the population.

2. LAC 18 of 3 May set forth the AFHQ program of imports for the period July-Dec. 1944 as follows:

Milk	3,900 metric tons
Sugar	13,650 " "
Dried Veg.	98,625 " "
Meat	42,300 " "

This program was considered satisfactory because it was based upon acceptable ration scales as proposed by ACC.

3. A letter dated 25 May from AFHQ notified ACC that meat, milk, sugar and dried vegetables had been eliminated from the shipments scheduled for August. Col. W.J. Legg addressed a memorandum to the Economic Section, ACC refuting the assumption that deliveries of dried vegetables could be curtailed. This was repeated in the Economic Section's letter of 8 June to AFHQ requesting a different decision on the Sept. program.

4. Letter from AFHQ dated 19 June indicated dried vegetables would be included in Sept. shipments. Signal of 28 June from AFHQ asked for explanations of Sept. schedule calling for 6800 tons of dried vegetables. Reply was made by signal dated 5 July requesting all shipments of dried vegetables scheduled through Nov.

5. A signal dated 5 July from AFHQ requested import requirements for all Italy for Oct. Nov. and Dec. This was supplied with letter dated 18 July which requested the following:

Sugar	8,610 metric tons
Milk	1,695 " "
Dried Veg.	23,645 " "
Meat	3,800 " "
Fats	1,710 " "

6. Signal dated 31 July sent by AFHQ indicated sugar requirements for

4982

116

the period Nov. through Feb. of 5,400 tons. As the reason for the reduction was not known, signal dated 7 Aug. requested AFHQ to clarify in view of program outlined in LAG 18 of 3 May (see par. 2 above) and proposed program for Oct. Nov. and Dec.

7. In order to obtain clarification of the proposed imports program, the Vice President of the Economic Section by letter dated 21 Aug. requested AFHQ to furnish a schedule of imports proposed for the year beginning 1 July 44. A reply dated 26 Aug. was received from Col. Butterworth in which the following quantities were listed for the period 1 July 44 to 30 June 45

Sugar	32,287	metric tons
Milk	14,271	" "
Dried Veg.	7,434	" "
Dehyd. soup	6,000	" "
Meat	9,194	" "
Fats	18,000	" "
Fish, salt	1,778	" "

8. Col. Butterworth's letter of 26 Aug. requested an estimate of food requirements for the period 1 Jan. to 30 June 1945. The following estimates were submitted personally by Col. W.J. Legg to AFHQ in the latter part of Sept.

Sugar	51,660	metric tons
Milk	23,970	" "
Dried Veg.	135,840	" "
Meat	20,160	" "
Fats	13,500	" "

9. In a memorandum to the Economic Section dated 1 Sept. it was pointed out that to provide a diet such as is recommended by the Public Health Sub-Commission, annual imports of 1,300,000 tons of food would be required as compared with AFHQ schedule of 1,048,000 tons.

10. Signals were dispatched to AFHQ on 7 and 8 Sept. pointing out need for food supplies north of Pisa-Rimini line prior to November, the earliest date for which shipments had been phased.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

A.G. ANPOLINI
Acting Head
Economic Section

4982

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
ECONOMIC SECTION
A.P.O. 394

Tel: 489081 Ext. 206

408/21-2/1000

SUBJECT: Wheat Requirements

TO : AFHQ, O-5 Section

10 October 1944

W. N. Sewell

1. In response to a request dated 8 July 1944, AFHQ was informed by letter dated 7 August that on the basis of proposed imports of wheat for the year beginning 1 July 1944, totaling 560,000 metric tons, it would be possible to provide a uniform ration for all Italy of 200 grams of bread per day. It was pointed out that a basic ration of 300 grams per day had been in effect since 1 July for a large section of southern Italy which would cause a monthly deficit of 35,000 tons.

2. On the basis of a revised proposal of wheat imports totaling 1,120,000 metric tons for the year reported by Col. Butterworth on 5 September, AFHQ was notified by memorandum that a basic bread ration for all Italy could be provided at the rate of 200 grams per day.

3. Wheat import requirements are estimated for the period 1 November 1944 to 30 June 1945 on the basis of a uniform bread ration of 200, 250 and 300 grams per day as follows:

Wheat or equivalent required:

For period 1 July--31 Oct. '44
For period 1 Nov. 44--30 June '45

Wheat or equivalent provided:

Estimated maximum
Imports 1 July--31 Oct. '44

Imports required for period
1 Nov. 44 - 30 June '45

Wheat Import Requirements (000 Metric Tons)			
200	250	300	
1,704	2,130	2,555	
2,700	3,126	3,551	
2,053 184	2,053 184	2,053 184	
463	889	1,314	
2,700	3,126	3,551	

letter dated 7 August that on the basis of proposed imports of wheat for the year beginning 1 July 1944, totaling 560,000 metric tons, it would be possible to provide a uniform ration for all Italy of 200 grams of bread per day. It was pointed out that a basic ration of 300 grams per day had been in effect since 1 July for a large section of southern Italy which would cause a monthly deficit of 35,000 tons.

2. On the basis of a revised proposal of wheat imports totaling 1,120,000 metric tons for the year reported by Col. Butterworth on 5 September, AFHQ was notified by memorandum that a basic bread ration for all Italy could be provided at the rate of 200 grams per day.

3. Wheat import requirements are estimated for the period 1 November 1944 to 30 June 1945 on the basis of a uniform bread ration of 200, 250 and 300 grams per day as follows:

Wheat Import Requirements (000 Metric Tons)		
200	250	300
2,700	3,126	3,551
2,053	2,053	2,053
184	184	184
463	889	1,314
2,700	3,126	3,551

Wheat or equivalent required:

For period 1 July--31 Oct. '44
For period 1 Nov. '44--30 June '45

Wheat or equivalent provided:

Estimated maximum
Imports 1 July--31 Oct. '44
Imports required for period
1 Nov. '44 - 30 June '45

4. The estimate of wheat import requirements presented to AFHQ 4982
N. J. 1,500, late in September for the period 1 January to 30 June 1945 totals 1,312,000 metric tons based upon an assumed ration scale for all Italy of 300 grams per day beginning 1 November 1944. That estimate also assumes consumption north of the Pisa-Rimini line at a basic ration scale of 300 grams of bread per day. The estimate in the preceding paragraph assumes consumption in that area up to 1 November at the basic rate of 200 grams per day which is the minimum that may be anticipated.

14

5. The latest available indications are that the wheat (or equivalent) imports for the year will be 932,000 metric tons of which 748,000 tons are scheduled for the period 1 November 1944 to 30 June 1945. Reference to the table in paragraph 3 will show that this is insufficient by 141,000 tons to permit a basic ration scale of 250 grams per day.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

A. G. ARTHUR

Acting Head

Economic Section

5285

SECRET

ALLIED COMMISSION

INCOMING MESSAGE **CONFIDENTIAL**

TO: AGWAR FOR CCS FOR CCAC INFO CENTRAL DISTRICTUK BASE SECTION (7637)

LONDON FOR BCS INFO HQ COMZONE ++ SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 104/11

PROM: AFHQ SIGNED WILSON

REFERENCE No. FI 37156

CLASSIFICATION: PRIORITY

PRECEDENCE: 12 OCT Re

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: 111146A OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE PHCEG

++ ETOUSA INFO SHAFF FOR SHCE INFO ACC

SECRET. This is LAC 736.

1. Bread ration for ITALY.-- We have seen text President's statement RE ITALY in which he says: Steps being taken to increase bread ration those areas ITALY where food supplies below standard necessary to maintain full health and efficiency.

2. Can we assume from this that you are likely to give early approval to proposals in letter to you of 24 Sept from General WILSON.

INFO - ACTION

Dist

Info-Action - Info

Info Info Info (3)

A/CC
File (M)

See 14

7

HEADQUARTERS
12 OCT 1944
A.C. 4979

SECRET

CLASSIFICATION: **PRIORITY** **12 OCT 44**
 PRECEDENCE: **12 OCT 44**
 REFERENCE No. **FX 37156**
 DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: **111146A OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE PHCEG**

++ ETOUSA IKFO SHALT FOR SHGE INFO ACC

SECRET. This is LAC 736.

1. Bread ration for ITALY.-- We have seen text President's statement RE ITALY in which he says: Steps being taken to increase bread ration those areas ITALY where food supplies below standard necessary to maintain full health and efficiency.

2. Can we assume from this that you are likely to give early approval to proposals in letter to you of 24 Sept from General WILSON.

INFO - ACTION

Dist

Info-Action

Info

Q O S (3)

A/CC

File (M)

See 14

See 1

HEADQUARTERS
 12 OCT 1944
 A.C. 4979

SECRET

DATE and Time of RECEIPT **OCT 112120A**

Distribution:

INFO - ACTION

785017

SECRET2807
cos

C.O. S 2

7613

Confidential

12

ACC PERSONAL FOR STONE

AFHQ SIGNED SIGNED

F 37157

OCT 111147A

HEADQUARTERS
11 OCT 1944
A. C. C.

86/11

PRIORITY

CITE: FROED

11 OCT 1944

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

~~SECRET~~. Your comments on press reports regarding ITALY are noted. Ref your S-350 of 5 October. We are without information other than the press announcement and as in similar cases, we believe that no action in respect of policies announced should be taken until instructions, which have been requested, are received. You will be advised promptly of any such instructions. Meanwhile it is not thought that any communication to the Italian Government is justified or indeed possible.

Your comment on the bread ration is likewise noted. In view of the fact that the Vice President of the Economic Section, the Director of the Food Subcommittee and other experts from your staff as well as the Chief Civil Supply Officer from this Headquarters are now in WASHINGTON, we think it may be assumed that the questions you raise on the supply implications of these announcements are being canvassed with the proper authorities. Meanwhile public announcements and Italian expectations based thereon are not taken here to warrant any decrease in importance of effecting maximum realization of local resources this winter.

SECRET

OCT 111570A

DIST
ACTION: M.A. to A/CC(2)
INFO: A/CC
C.O.S. -
File (M)

4978

SECRET

4807
COS

A.P.H.Q.

HQ ACC

1644

10 OCT '44

1.

Confidential

SECRET

PRIORITY

A/Chief Commissioner

11 OCT Read

SECRET FURTHER BY SUGAR SLANT THREE FIVE ZERO OF FIVE OCTOBER FOUR FOUR RELATIVE
FOOD SITUATION PD PAREN TO ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS FROM HQ ACC SIGNED STAFF PAREN
DESIRE TO APPLY STATEMENT REGARDING TONNAGE REQUIRED FOR THREE HUNDRED GRAMME HEAD
RATION PD THIS WOULD REQUIRE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY THOUSAND TONS MONTHLY AS FROM
JULY LAST OR TOTAL OF FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTY THOUSAND TONS UP TO NOVEMBER FIRST PD
AS TOTAL IMPORTS FOR THIS PERIOD WILL BE ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY FOUR THOUSAND TONS
ONLY ONE TONNAGE NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN THREE HUNDRED GRAMME RATION THROUGHOUT
ITALY FROM NOVEMBER FIRST WOULD BE ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY FIVE THOUSAND TONS MONTHLY
BEGINNING NOVEMBER PD WE ARE PRESENTLY FACED WITH FOLLOWING FACTS RELATIVE TO HEAD
RATION FOR ALL ITALY PD RECEIPT OF WHEAT SLANT FLOUR SHIPMENTS FOR NOVEMBER AND
DECEMBER OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND TONS MONTHLY PD TOTAL AMOUNTING OF WHEAT ESTIMATED
AT ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY THOUSAND TONS SOUTH OF FISA SLANT HINDI LINE PD
PRESENT AMOUNTING OF WHEAT THIS AREA ACTUALLY EIGHT HUNDRED AND TWENTY THOUSAND TONS PD
ESTIMATED AMOUNTING OF WHEAT NORTH OF FISA SLANT HINDI LINE EIGHT HUNDRED AND NINETY
THOUSAND TONS PD ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS PROPOSALS TO CALL FORWARD JANUARY THROUGH
JUNE ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND TONS EACH MONTH PD HEAD RATION BEGINNING NOVEMBER FIRST

...../1

4977

785017

Confidential

1997

Vocal Cord Lesions

7th 1000 01

32

1999

[illegible][illegible]

4973

785017

SECRET

4807/100

AFHQ

SECRET

HQ AGO

4-390

5 OCT

Confidential

SECRET

PRIORITY

ACTING CHIEF COM.

SECRET PD I REFER TO PRESS REPORTS OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING ITALY WHICH ARE WIDELY REPORTED TODAY PD PAREN TO AFHQ FOR SACRED CIA UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISOR AND BRITISH RESIDENT MINISTER FROM HQ AGO FROM BEING PERSONAL PAREN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE RECEIVED WITH GREAT SATISFACTION BY ALL ITALIANS BUT I AM CONCERNED LAST THEY MAY READ INTO THE SENTENCE THAT QUOTE STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO INCREASE THE GRAIN RATION IN THOSE AREAS OF ITALY WHERE FOOD SUPPLIES ARE BELOW THE STANDARD NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN FULL HEALTH AND EFFICIENCY UNQUOTE CIA A COMMITMENT ON OUR PART TO INCREASE IN THE NEAR FUTURE THE RATION TO THREE HUNDRED GRAMS WHICH HAS ALWAYS BEEN CONSIDERED THE MINIMUM SUBSISTENCE LEVEL AND WHICH WE UNDERSTAND SACRED HAS RECOMMENDED PD THIS WILL REQUIRE THE ONE THREE ZERO ZERO ZERO TONS PER MONTH WHICH WE ORIGINALLY REQUESTED LAST SUMMER PD IF THE SCHEDULED NINE FIVE ZERO ZERO ZERO TONS PER MONTH CALLED TO YOU BY SOUTHERN PAREN WHICH PLEASE CONFIRM PAREN IS NOT INCREASED CIA WE WILL HAVE TO REDUCE THE THREE HUNDRED GRAM RATION NOW PERTAINING TO SOUTHERN ITALY TO A LOWER LEVEL PD PARA PD PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT THAT ONE FIVE ZERO ZERO ZERO TONS ARE SCHEDULED WOULD CIA IF MONTHLY SHIPMENTS ARE MEANT CIA PROVIDE A RATION IN EXCESS OF THREE HUNDRED GRAMS PD PARA PD AS I SHALL BE QUESTIONED BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR EARLY INSTRUCTIONS AS TO HOW I AM TO INTERPRET THIS SENTENCE AND WHETHER AND WHEN ANNOUNCED AND IN WHAT AMOUNTS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO FULFILL ~~RECOMMENDED~~ PROGRAM

SECRET

AUTHENTICATED:

WILSON E. STONE

A.P.H.Q.

100 AUG

1644

10 OCT 44

Confidential

Chief of Commission

IN MESSAGE AND DISCUSSIONS TO MAY 1 HAVE INSTRUCTIONS AS TO WHETHER PAPER AND PAPER
THE FURNISHMENT OF THESE HONORED GRAMES SOUTH AND TWO HONORED GRAMES
NORTH OF CAROLINA LINE IS TO BE MAINTAINED OR PAPER BAKER PAPER WHETHER RATION
FOR ALL ITALY IS TO BE EQUALIZED THROUGH TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIVE GRAMES
INSTEAD OF SEVEN HUNDRED ITALY PAPER CHARLIE PAPER WHETHER RATION FOR ALL ITALY
IS TO BE EQUALIZED AT THESE HONORED GRAMES AS RECOMMENDED IN YOUR AIRGRAM TO
ONE OF SEPTEMBER TWO FOUR

L.T. MONTAGNE, JR.
1ST LT. ADG.
Adjutant

SECRET

4975
4975

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

Confidential

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

SUBJECT : Bread Ration for Italy.

TO : The Secretaries the Combined Chiefs of Staff.

Reference : LAC 453 and LAC 471.

1. In authorizing the temporary increase, effective 1 July last, of the bread ration in Italy from 200 to 300 grams, I directed the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Control Commission to submit a study of the problem of the basic supply through the next harvest year on the basis of early experience in the collection of the crop. This was with a view to assessing the total requirements and any proposed import programs, on the basis of which I would make my recommendation on the ration to apply during the balance of the harvest year. Such a study has been submitted and has been the subject of extensive discussion between my Staff and the Officers of the Allied Control Commission.
2. It is apparent that the purpose for which the temporary increase was granted has been, in large measure, achieved. The assessment is, on the whole, proceeding successfully, particularly in the areas where the larger ration has been actually distributed. While it is impossible to measure the effects of this factor with accuracy, I believe that there has been collected substantially more of the current harvest than would have been the case had the lower ration remained in effect. Moreover, the anti-inflationary effect of the increase had been definitely felt. In Naples the black market dropped rapidly upon the increase of the ration, and the cost of living has since resisted upward pressure, due largely to the availability of a subsistence ration without recourse to illegal channels. Accordingly, I am satisfied that the action which I felt compelled to take in June has proved well advised.

3. The study submitted by the Chief Commissioner, based on the latest information available, indicates a prospective total assessment of wheat in the amount of 2,000,000 metric tons. This is to be compared with the slightly smaller estimate of 1,900,000 tons submitted by this headquarters in LAC 507 of 17 August. Both of these estimates are based on limited intelligence and on a number of assumptions as to conditions which will be found North of the Pisa-Rimini Line. The local production, without any imports will be sufficient to provide a basic ration of 160 grams of bread per day per person for all of Italy for the harvest year ending 30 June 1945. This is on the basis of 76 % of the population holding ration cards, a figure which the Chief Commissioner states is the minimum which can be safely contemplated, within this figure an allowance of 12½ is made for supplementary rations and feeding of institutions and other non-producing consumers.

4. On the basis of the same figures as to the harvest, the percentage of ration cards holders, are the allowance for supplementary rations, the following table shows imports required to provide the respective rations indicated :

BASIC RATION (Grams of bread per person per day)	REPORTS OF	
	WHEAT REQUIRED	
	(in metric tons 510,000	
	1,140,000	

785017

Control Commission to submit a study of the problem of the basic supply through the next harvest year on the basis of early experience in the collection of the crop. This was with a view to assessing the total requirements and any proposed import programme, on the basis of which I would make my recommendation on the ration to apply during the balance of the harvest year. Such a study has been submitted and has been the subject of extensive discussion between my Staff and the Officers of the Allied Control Commission.

2. It is apparent that the purpose for which the temporary increase was granted has been, in large measure, achieved. The assessment is, on the whole, proceeding successfully, particularly in the areas where the larger ration has been actually distributed. While it is impossible to measure the effects of this factor with accuracy, I believe that there has been collected substantially more of the current harvest than would have been the case had the lower ration remained in effect. Moreover, the anti-inflationary effect of the increase had been definitely felt. In Naples the black market dropped rapidly upon the increase of the ration, and the cost of living has since resisted upward pressure, due largely to the availability of a subsistence ration without recourse to illegal channels. Accordingly, I am satisfied that the action which I felt compelled to take in June has proved well advised.

3. The study submitted by the Chief Commissioner, based on the latest information available, indicates a prospective total assessment of wheat in the amount of 2,000,000 metric tons. This is to be compared with the slightly smaller estimate of 1,900,000 tons submitted by this headquarters in LAC 607 of 17 August. Both of these estimates are based on limited intelligence and on a number of assumptions as to conditions which will be found North of the Pisa-Rimini Line. The local production, without any imports will be sufficient to provide a basic ration of 160 grams of bread per day per person for all of Italy for the harvest year ending 30 June 1945. This is on the basis of 76 % of the population holding ration cards, a figure which the Chief Commissioner states is the minimum which can be safely contemplated, within this figure an allowance of 12½% is made for supplementary rations and feeding of institutions and other non-producing consumers.

4. On the basis of the same figures as to the harvest, the percentage of ration cards holders, are the allowance for supplementary rations, the following table shows imports required to provide the respective rations indicated:

BASIC RATION (Grams of bread per person per day)	EXPORTS OF WHEAT REQUIRED (in metric tons)
	510,000
	1,140,000
	~~1,650,000~~

5. In considering what the ration should be, I have had regard to the following factors.

a. It is the objective of the Allies in planning for liberated areas that basic ration be fixed at a point which will permit the target figure of 2,000 calories per day to be attained. Unless rations from local sources are heavy in calories, which is not the case in Italy, this objective requires the maintenance of a high bread ration. This is recognized by the fact that the target figure for the bread ration in other liberated territories is 300 grams per day.

b. Supplementary feeding of the urban population will continue to present great difficulties over the next year. Transportation is the key to this problem.

- 2 -

Confidential

However, in view of the continuing military demand which must be met in the North without decrease in the immediately foreseeable future, the high degree of the destruction of other than automotive transportation facilities, and the extreme shortage of automotive transport available for civilian supply, it is not likely that the cities can be supplied with locally produced commodities in quantities sufficient to make up basic deficiencies to any great extent below the 300 gram figure.

- c. The demand for bread, whether or not available on the legal market, will be not less than 300 grams per person per day. This means that in rough proportion to the amount that the legal ration is fixed below this point, resort will, be made to the black market. This in turn will raise the family cost of living by swollen black market prices. If this condition exists generally, the pressure for overall general wage increase cannot be resisted. The end result will be a serious inflationary factor.
 - d. There is among sections of the urban population, I am advised, a condition of under-nourishment, which is the cumulative result of the war years, the mismanagement of the Fascist Government and oppression by the Germans. While we are in no way responsible for this condition, and have, in fact in some measures, arrested its growth during the year in which we have had responsibility, we cannot on that account overlook the consequences of prolonging the condition.
 - e. No objective observer would support the statements made in some quarters that conditions are now worse than under German occupation, but there is much to be said for the proposition that they should be a great deal better. At any rate, it is important that the population in the first of the liberated territories, and the one which has been under our administration the longest, should feel that progress is steadily being made, I consider this something more than a morale factor.
6. The foregoing considerations lead me to recommend a ration of 300 grams of bread throughout liberated Italy for the current harvest year. I consider that a lower ration scale should only be contemplated if conditions North of the Pisa-Rimini line are substantially worse than estimated. My recommendation of a 300 gram bread ration amounts to an increase of 60 grams of bread over the amount presently authorized by you. This would require, as indicated above, estimated imports of approximately 1,500,000 metric tons during the current harvest year. In appraising this substantial figure several fact should be borne in mind:
- a. Under the proposed programme the re will be involved a lower per capita import of wheat than was the case during the first year of the occupation. The comparable figures are calculated at 125 lbs per person for the year July 1943-1944 and 75 lbs per person for the coming year.
 - b. It should not be lost sight of that Italy normally imported substantial quantities of wheat in peace years when conditions in respect to the cultivation, fertilizer, agricultural equipment, labor, and transport, were not subject to present difficulties. The average importation in the pre-war years has been stated to be upward of 800,000 tons annually. I feel that the excess only should be measured as the contribution to Italian economy necessitated by the dislocation caused by combat in Italian territory.
 - c. In the estimates agreed by Allied Control Commission and my staff there is

a serious inflationary factor.

d. There is among sections of the urban population, I am advised, a condition of under-nourishment, which is the cumulative result of the war years, the mismanagement of the Fascist Government and oppression by the Germans. While we are in no way responsible for this condition, and have, in fact in some measures, arrested its growth during the year in which we have had responsibility, we cannot on that account overlook the consequences of prolonging the condition.

e. No objective observer would support the statements made in some quarters that conditions are now worse than under German occupation, but there is much to be said for the proposition that they should be a great deal better. At any rate, it is important that the population in the first of the liberated territories, and the one which has been under our administration the longest, should feel that progress is steadily being made, I consider this something more than a morale factor.

6. The foregoing considerations lead me to recommend a ration of 300 grams of bread throughout liberated Italy for the current harvest year. I consider that a lower ration scale should only be contemplated if conditions North of the Pisa-Rimini Line are substantially worse than estimated. My recommendation of a 300 gram bread ration amounts to an increase of 60 grams of bread over the amount presently authorized by you. This would require, as indicated above, estimated imports of approximately 1,500,000 metric tons during the current harvest year. In appraising this substantial figure several facts should be borne in mind:

a. Under the proposed programme the re will be involved a lower per capita import of wheat than was the case during the first year of the occupation. The comparable figures are calculated at 125 lbs per person for the year July 1943-1944 and 75 lbs per person for the coming year.

b. It should not be lost sight of that Italy normally imported substantial quantities of wheat in peace years when conditions in respect to the cultivation, fertilizer, agricultural equipment, labor, and transport, were not subject to present difficulties. The average importation in the pre-war years has been stated to be upward of 800,000 tons annually. I feel that the excess only should be measured as the contribution to Italian economy necessitated by the dislocation caused by combat in Italian territory.

c. In the estimates agreed by Allied Control Commission and my staff there is a substantial allowance for scorching of the territory North of the Pisa-Rimini line. If by reason of a rapid advance or the failure of the enemy to destroy or remove the stocks which are now on hand, a less serious condition is found, the requirements will be proportionately lessened. The amounts involved could range up to 300,000 tons.

d. Based on the figures for April-June armed forces are benefiting from local food-stuffs, largely perishables, amounting, with forage, to an annual rate of some 300,000 tons.

7. In considering these large demands I have of course taken into account the administrative factor. Without question the administration of the Italian rationing and distribution system is and will be a continuing problem. Given the total demoralization of the governmental structure from which Italy is just beginning to emerge, against a background of normally low administrative standards it could hardly be otherwise. I am confident, though, that progress is being made through the efforts of ACSI to improve the

8c
Confidential

food administration and to enforce strict control of grain supplies domestic and imported. In most localities I do not believe that weak administration is itself the major factor in supply. In Sicily it may be. There, the assessment is not going well. We know, however, propose to withhold imports of grain from Sicily and to leave to the local administration the problem of forming an equitable distribution of the resources which are known to be available, I will so far as administratively possible take similar measures in other areas in which there is evidence that the local administration is unwilling to make or incapable of making its fair contribution to the overall problem, particularly where, as in Sicily, we have made our contribution toward putting the people well along the road to recovery.

3. I request your early advice and instructions.

/s/ ? H.M. Wilson

/t/ H.M. Wilson
General
Supreme Allied Commander
Mediterranean Theatre.

785017

CONFIDENTIAL

REF. 6803

IBS (ACTION) RPTD DISTWO (ACTION) RPTD AMO REGION V CAMPOBASSO (ACTION) RPTD ACC
SARDINIA (ACTION) RPTD ACC CATANZARO REGION VII

ACC MAIN

6803

2000/27 JUNE

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIORITY

FOOD SUB COMMISSION

SUBJECT IS NEW BASIC RATION SCALE PD

FIRST PD ANNOUNCED INCREASE IN BASIC BREAD RATIONSCALE FROM TWO ZERO ZERO GRAMS TO
THREE ZERO ZERO GRAMS WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY ISSUE OF PASTA RATION OF FIVE FIVE ZERO
GRAMS PER WEEK CMA AND WILL BE EFFECTIVE FOR SICILY CMA SARDINIA AND ITALIAN MAINLAND
SOUTH OF NORTHERN BOUNDARIES OF CAMPOBASSO AND NAPLES PROVINCE PD

SECOND PD CONTRARY TO OUR SIGNAL SIX SIX SEVEN FOUR OF TWO FIVE JUNE CMA LOCALLY
PRODUCED WHEAT MAY BE USED FORTHWITH AS AVAILABLE PD PAREN TO IBS FOR STUBBLEBINE FOR
HANDOCK FOR ACC REGION ONE FOR REGIONAL COMMISSIONER (ACTION) RPTD DISTWO FOR ACC
REGION TWO FOR REGIONAL COMMISSIONER (ACTION) RPTD AMO REGION V CAMPOBASSO FOR
REGIONAL COMMISSIONER (ACTION) RPTD ACC SARDINIA FOR ACC REGION SIX FOR REGIONAL
COMMISSIONER (ACTION) RPTD ACC CATANZARO REGION VII FOR REGIONAL COMMISSIONER FOR
(ACTION) FROM ACC MAIN FROM LUSH SIGNED STONE PAREN

THIRD PD EFFECTIVE DATE PD ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT DEEMED ADVISABLE TO ALTER EFFECTIVE
DATE FOR NEW RATION SCALE PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED AS FIRST JULY CMA IT IS APPRECIATED
THAT DELAY IN ISSUING THE RATION WILL BE INEVITABLE IN CERTAIN AREAS PD THEREFORE
DATE FOR ACTUAL DISTRIBUTION OF INCREASED RATION WILL BE DETERMINED BY EACH REGIONAL
COMMISSIONER IN LIGHT OF HIS LOCAL SITUATION PD

FOURTH PD ALL BASIC RATION CARD HOLDERS WILL BE ENTITLED TO NEW RATION FOR THE PRESENT
BUT IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT STEPS BE TAKEN TO REDUCE PERCENTAGE OF RATION CARDS TO
PROPER LEVELS PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED BY REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS PD

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

REF: 4003

2000/27 JUNE

THE (ACTION) DIRECTOR (ACTION).....

FIFTH PD ADJUSTMENT OF HEAVY WORKER AND OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL RATES SCALES WILL BE
SUBJECT OF SEPARATE DIRECTIVE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to: Acting Chief Commissioner
HC & MG Section
Economic Section
Regional Commissioner, Region III

4563

ROBERT A. JONES
Captain, AGO
Deputy Adjutant

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

ACC MAIN PERSONAL FOR MACFARLANE

MEMORANDUM SIGNED SIGNED

757264.

JUN 092656

Confidential

SECRET

PRIORITY

CITE FIELD-FIELD-FIELD

YOUR M 211 OF 22 MAY AND MEMORANDUM CC/3/362 OF 3 JUNE REFER. AUTHORITY IS GIVEN TO INCREASE THE BREAD RATION IN LIBERATED ITALY FROM 200 GRAMS PER DAY TO 300 GRAMS PER DAY AS FROM 1 JULY. THIS IS SUBJECT TO RESERVATION THAT A REDUCTION MAY BE NECESSITATED AFTER HARVEST HAS BEEN COLLECTED IF THE THEN SUPPLY SITUATION MAKES SUCH ACTION NECESSARY. PARA. ESTIMATES IF WHEAT LOCALLY AVAILABLE IN ITALY, EVEN ON FAVORABLE ASSUMPTIONS AS TO HARVEST AND PROPORTION TO BE COLLECTED, ARE NOT ENCOURAGED DUE TO THE PROBABILITY OF OUR HAVING TO FEED GREATER AREA OF ITALY AS THE ARMIES ADVANCE. IN VIEW OF THIS FACT AND OF HEAVY SUPPLY DEMANDS IN OTHER AREAS OF THEATER, CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL THAT YOU SUBMIT STUDY ON PROBLEM OF BASIC FOOD SUPPLY THROUGH THE NEXT HARVEST YEAR AS SOON AS EXPERIENCE AS TO CROP COLLECTION HAS BEEN OBTAINED, WITH ESTIMATES OF REQUIREMENTS AND ANY PROPOSED IMPORT PROGRAM. SINCE IMPORTS MUST BE KEPT TO THE MINIMUM, YOUR STAFF SHOULD, AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE, CONSIDER WHETHER ANY CHANGE IN THE BASIC POLICIES FOR PROVISION OF SUPPLIES TO ITALY MAY BE REQUIRED.

ACC. REG.

Action - Group 2.
FILE
SF

SECRET



MF
4968

ALLIED COUNTRIES COMMISSION - OUTGOING MESSAGE

CLASS: SECRET

PRIORITY

FROM : ACC MAIL FROM MACPARIAN PERSONAL

TO : AFHQ TO SAC MED FOR MCS

RFP NO: 1211

22 May 1944

Confidential

Reference your PL8558 of 20 May. Basic proposal is that increase of ration is indispensable element in whole amassing and price control program. Proposal has not repeat not been put forward merely on financial grounds. Following message is from supply point of view only. Proposal is not repeat not designed to increase total consumption of bread. Although ration is two hundred grams the average urban consumption of bread from all sources is estimated to be more than three hundred grams. Therefore the effect of increase in ration to three hundred grams will be designed to reduce black market demand rather than to increase total consumption of wheat in area. Your question one. Based on experience to date in AMG Region III our experts have every confidence in being able to enforce reduction of ration card holders to 65% of population by July 1, 1944. The increase of basic ration itself should ensure attainment of this objective by easing administrative difficulties and by obtaining increased cooperation of Italian authorities. Your question two. Our estimated goal of quantity to be amassed is 693,000 tons, 385,000 tons Italy, 58,000 Sardinia, 250,000 Sicily. This is computed on basis of early estimate of total crop less legal retentions for food and seed. Thus there is no allowance for leakage to black market except for illicit sales in black market out of permitted retentions. However yield is computed at 8 quintals per hectare which is now considered as conservative in light of present crop conditions. Your question three. Impossible to estimate the extent quantitatively but we are convinced that the effect of prior announcement will be very substantial and indeed indispensable to attaining amassing goal of 693,000 tons. Your question four. **4987** consider adjustment of laborers ration as workable alternative to general increase in

not been put forward merely on financial grounds. Following message is from supply point of view only. Proposal is not repeat not designed to increase total consumption of bread. Although ration is two hundred grams the average urban consumption of bread from all sources is estimated to be more than three hundred grams. Therefore the effect of increase in ration to three hundred grams will be designed to reduce black market demand rather than to increase total consumption of wheat in area. Your question one. Based on experience to date in AMG Region III our experts have every confidence in being able to enforce reduction of ration card holders to 65% of population by July 1, 1944. The increase of basic ration itself should ensure attainment of this objective by easing administrative difficulties and by obtaining increased cooperation of Italian authorities. Your question two. Our estimated goal of quantity to be amassed is 693,000 tons, 335,000 tons Italy, 58,000 Sardinia, 250,000 Sicily. This is computed on basis of early estimate of total crop less legal retentions for food and seed. Thus there is no allowance for leakage to black market except for illicit sales in black market out of permitted retentions. However yield is computed at 8 quintals per hectare which is now considered as conservative in light of present crop conditions. Your question three. Impossible to estimate the extent quantitatively but we are convinced that the effect of prior announcement will be very substantial and indeed indispensable to attaining amassing goal of 693,000 tons. Your question four. **14987** Consider adjustment of laborers ration as workable alternative to general increase in basic ration. Even with present heavy workers ration the great demand on the black market is for workers families and general public. On general question I repeat again object of proposal is to obtain largest results from amassing and thus save shipping. The policy is not to establish a basic ration which there is no reasonable prospect of maintaining, but if in spite of all efforts to achieve maximum amassing, supplies prove inadequate, basic ration may have to be reduced in the future and should not repeat not be regarded as absolutely irrevocable commitment. In accordance with your instructions ration increase will not be announced but I must emphasize urgency of reaching decision.

SECRET

M194

N.F.
also SF

3

ACC MAIN (GEN MACFARLANE C COMM)

12th. May. 1944.

SECRET

V16

PRIORITY

Confidential
GEN MACFARLANE

A.F.H.Q.

MY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING TELEGRAM PD PARA TWO AFHQ FOR MEX FROM ACC MAIN FROM MACFARLANE
PERSONAL PAREN AT THE PRESENT MOMENT THE POPULATION OF CONWILLIGIENT ITALY IS ON A RATION
 WHICH IS BELOW SUBSISTENCE AND REQUIRES AUGMENTATION FROM UNCONTROLLED SOURCES PD THE
 NECESSARY CEILING AS REGARDS WAGES PROVIDES A BARE SUBSISTENCE WAGE PD UNLESS WE INCREASE
 THE FOOD RATION WE ARE BOUND TO BE FACED WITH LABOUR TROUBLES RESULTING IN INEVITABLE
 WAGE RAISING AND INFLATIONARY CONSEQUENCES PD TO KEEP THE COUNTRY CONTENTED AND TO
 ENSURE A MORE EFFECTIVE COOPERATION IN THE WAR EFFORT IT IS BECOMING DAILY MORE OBVIOUS
 THAT WE MUST INCREASE OUR BASIC RATION PD PARA TWO PD I RECOMMEND MOST STRONGLY THAT THE
 PRESENT BREAD RATION OF TWO THOUSAND GRAMMES BE RAISED TO THREE THOUSAND PD THIS WOULD
 REPRESENT AN INCREASE OF ONLY FORTY GRAMMES OF FLOUR OVER AND ABOVE THE RATION SCALE
 APPROVED BY AFHQ PD PARA THREE PD PLANS ARE NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION TO ALLOT RATIONS TO
 PROVINCES ON A BASIS OF A PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION WHICH WILL BE FIXED FOR EACH
 PROVINCE AND WHICH SHOULD REDUCE THE NUMBER OF RATION CARD HOLDERS TO SIXTYFIVE PER CENT
 OF THE POPULATION AS A WHOLE PD IF THIS IS SUCCESSFUL OUR FLOUR REQUIREMENTS ON THE
 PROPOSED RATION SCALE WOULD EXCEED PRESENT ISSUES BY ONLY ABOUT ELEVEN PER CENT PD PARA
FOUR PD I WISH TO EMPHASISE THAT THE PRESENT CONSUMPTION OF BREAD IS NOT IN FACT 1944

4355

737

SECRET

Confidential

M194 - 2

TO THOMASERD GRAMME AND IT NEVEN WILL BE SO LIMITED PD WITH A THOUSAND LIRE PRICE OF WHEAT AND A THREEHUNDRED GRAMME RATION WE WOULD AT LAST HAVE REASON TO HOPE THAT WE CAN SOLVE THE BLACK MARKET PROBLEM PD ~~XXXXX~~ FIVE PD WITH A THREEHUNDRED GRAMME RATION AND THE BLACK MARKET IN WHEAT AND BREAD LARGELY ELIMINATED CMA THE NECESSARY IMPORTATIONS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR SHOULD PROBABLY NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNTS THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED WITH A THOMASERD GRAMME RATION CMA A FLOURISHING BLACK MARKET AND THE IMMEDIATE THREAT OF INFLATION BY PARA SIX PD I WOULD POINT OUT THAT WITH A THREEHUNDRED GRAMME RATION IT WOULD BECOME POSSIBLE SERIOUSLY TO CONSIDER INCREASING THE PRICE OF BREAD AS THE NECESSITY FOR SUBSTANTIAL PURCHASES IN THE BLACK MARKET COULD BE VERY GREATLY REDUCED CMA AND WITH EVEN A CONSIDERABLE RISE IN THE PRICE OF BREAD A RATION CARD HOLDER WOULD BE ABLE TO PURCHASE HIS REQUIREMENTS AT MUCH LESS OUTLAY THAN HE HAS TO MAKE AT PRESENT PD THIS WOULD NATURALLY HAVE THE EFFECT OF SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCING THE BREAD SUBSIDY BY PARA SEVEN PD I AND MY ADVISERS ARE CONVINCED THAT THE PROPOSED RAISING OF THE BREAD RATION WILL CONTRIBUTE MATERIALLY TO THE SUCCESSFUL AMASSING OF WHEAT PD PARA EIGHT PD WE ENVISAGE AMASSING BARLEY CMA OLIVE OIL AND OTHER CROPS IN DUE COURSE PD THE PRICE OF THESE WILL BE FIXED IN RELATION TO THE PRICE FIXED FOR WHEAT PD THE EXTENT TO WHICH IT

4965

Confidential

M194 - 3

WILL BE POSSIBLE TO DILUTE WHEAT FLOUR WITH BARLEY AND OTHER FLOUR IS NOW BEING
INVESTIGATED BY PARA NINE PD I WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR EARLIEST POSSIBLE SANCTION TO
THIS PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE BREAD RATION WHICH I DESIRE TO BRING INTO EFFECT ON JULY
FIRST AND WHICH I WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE SOONEST POSSIBLE

4965

NOEL MASON MACFARLANE
Lieutenant-General,
Chief Commissioner.

SECRET

B
7

