

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

ACC

10000/109/908
(VOL. II)

10000/109/908
(VOL. II)

RATION SCALES
DEC. 1944 - JUNE 1945

EX COMM
CSO.

197

151/EC

Please see passages marked at folio 7.

D.L. 23/6/45.

198

Signal R.C. Liguria Region that IV Corps in Sitrep 21 of 17/6 report
Bread ration increased etc. Ask R.C. to inform IV Corps and Alocm of
true situation.

M.S.I. 23/6/45.
5123

(Above minutes extracted from file 151/EC.)

104

To Cde.

And for the 11 May - as per 193 - implements Corg's
 Adv. mem 1030 regarding increase of best allowance in May
 before midlife mem & includes a midlife mem for office work
 employed by area from

CD
 12/17/41

PH
 12/17/41

5128

Chaf Com misiones

P.170. P.R.O. has a statement ready for issue

as soon as the gun fire. 12/5/52

Done See 4/10/182

See by E.C. also 183. 12/22

187.

C.S.O.
Executive Commissioner

To summarize contents of cables at folios 184, 185 and 186 on this new ration scale in Liberated Italy North of line: Naples - Campobasso northern boundaries (Garigliano - Trigno river lines) extending to all of present liberated Italy now:

1. All normal Consumer Bread Ration Card Holders.

200 grammes bread daily and 550 grammes pasta weekly.

2. Heavy Workers Supplements (all except Leghorn).

Scale A.

Midshift Meal: 150 gr bread
(daily) 6 oz. vegetables
0.8 oz. dehyd soup.

Supl. Card A.: 150 gr. pasta
(weekly) 200 gr. soup

Scale B.

no bread
6 oz vegetables } daily
0.8 oz dehyd soup }

110 gr. bread (daily): Supl. Card B

except

In Leghorn area, Scale B midshift meal has 46 grammes soup, 26 grammes dried vegetables and 28 grammes pasta.

In Leghorn area where special heavy midshift meal is issued to...

5127

FEB 21 1953

785017

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Executive Commissioner)

To summarize contents of cables at folios 184, 185 and 186 on this new ration scale in Liberated Italy North of line : Naples - Campobaseo northern boundaries (Garigliano - Trigno river lines) extending to all of present Liberated State now:

1. All normal Consumer Bread Ration Card Holders.

200 grammes bread daily and 550 grammes pasta weekly.

2. Heavy Workers Supplements (all except Laghorn).

676-677

Midnight Meal: 150 gr bread
(daily)
6 oz. vegetables
0.8 oz. dehyd soup.

Goal 3:

no bread } daily
6 oz vegetables }
0.8 oz dehyd soup }

Suppl. Card A.: 150 gr. pasta
(weekly) 200 gr. soup

110 gr. bread (daily): Sup. Cal. B

except

5127

In Leghorn area, Scale B midshift meal has 46 grammes soup, 28 grammes dried vegetables and 28 grammes pasta.

In Leghorn area where special Army midshift meal is issued to Army workers, which is greater than that shown in Scale A above.

25 Feb 45.

192

CSO: Please note para 3 of folio 191. This "juggling" is agreeable to Food S/C and they are so informing AMG 5th and 8th Armies. This adjustment of the bread/pasta ration has been occasioned by inadequate facilities for the handling of pasta in the areas.

5 MAY 45.

104

P162 W (357) - refer to volume 162-163

Chief Commissioner.

(162)

Attached is submitted for your information/signature/approval.

I urge most strongly that this should be sent

The delay of over 2 months from our agent appeal

"Decision" is a travesty of decent administration

✓ WJ cc TMS (14/12)

CSO: (1) & (170) REF (170)

(170) Tardite an

Although we "liberated", I know

AFHQ originally used as "OCCUPIED" To mean - "by The Allies" if now has 'The meaning of "by The enemy" if I should stan-
stated to expect very low percentage

WJ

5126

CSO

NSC 161 of

re: ECOS machine

WJ (16/12)

Ex Com

The delay of over 2 months from our agent office!
Decision is a brevity of recent administration
✓ GWD cc TMS (14/12)

CO S REF (170) 170 Tardite a
Although we "liberated" I have
originally used Think. attached to
as "OCCUPIED" EUS report
To mean - "by" 5126
The Allies" if 172
how has 'The' C.S.O.
meaning of "by" NDR 3 61 at
The ending of work be C.S.O.s in evidence
Should Stan 17/12/12

Ex C.S.O. 175-177 form a resume of events leading up to 300 ppm station 17/12/12
179-
C.S.O. 1777 seen. 17/12/12

We must try to write our minutes more neatly
or else by the team. This page is dated 17/12/12

141

All Office to see 136-140

Σ 23/1

(HOLD MEANING - SEE
PAGE ATTACHED ON REVERSE)

142 CC 2/6 JAN 25 RED

P.149. CD Hen telephoned to say that the
word had been re-occurred (what a word!)

was issuing.

MSA 25/1/45

156

Chief of Staff +

(Ain't this be

made 250 g
of bread, &

50 g of

pasta &

200

pk

5125

1.149. CD Henr telephoned to say that the
work had been recommenced (what a word!)
of war issues. MS (25/1/55)

156:

Chief of Staff +
(ant this be
made 250 g
of bread, &
50 g of
pasta. 2nd

157

5125

159

P 159 discussed at CC's political meeting
& it was decided on political grounds not to
send draft in 154 but to send 158.

MS (27/1/55)

Sir

Please see for info

John 147 on

24

3
You had
better defn
showing pic
- L. A. T. in: settled 2.4

CSO: for CPS to see.

MS/20/12

MS/20/12

124

Cos

123 10 300 Green ration.

Σ 4/1/41 241

125

Ref 123. Spdm Cos info on 123. Cos item 95 says no indication from US about 200 Green ration yet received. 31

127

AM Office 127. Cos 127 seen.

Σ 9/1. 129/11

131

CSO: to see 129 and 128 for info. 12/11

132

Police & see.

5122

128 re 300 German ration.

Σ 2/6/41 124

125

Ref 123. Spoke COS. info. on 123. Cos team 35 says no indication from Cos. about 200 German ration yet received.

Σ 31

127

All Affairs to see 117. Cos to see.

Σ 9/1. See 124

131

CSD: to see 129 and 128 for info. JER 121.

5122

122

Pol. Sec & see.

Σ 124

133

COS: See: 131

Σ 131

135

Cos. To see 134 - (if you want more ammunition)

Seen by C.D.S. 111.

Σ 141

⁴⁸⁹
INCOMING MESSAGE *199*
4 Com

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: 381
Date/Time of Origin: JUN 261700B

Message Centre No: E/6876
Date Time Rec'd: JUN 270900B
Precedence: PRIORITY

FROM: AND LIGURIA REGION
TO: HQ ALCOM CITE ACERC HPTD INFO AND 4 CORPS

JUN 27 1945

196
CONFIDENTIAL.

Reference ALCOM message 513.

Present ration scale for Provinces of GENOA SAVONA IMPERIA LA SPEZIA 150 grams of bread per day per capita plus 1 kilo each of pasta and rice per month starting 1 July, LUCCA and APUANIA under TOSCANA REGION scale 200 grams of bread per day per capita plus 350 grams of pasta per week. This headquarters has no knowledge of "increase to 300 grams minimum daily in all zones."

See 207
DIST

ACTION: Ex Commissioner 2
INFO: Chief Commissioner
Econ Sec
Food S/C 2
File 2
Float

See M 205
CONFIDENTIAL
513
ABD

7807

196

FOR ACTION AMO LIGURIA REGION RPTD FOR INFO IV CORPS

513

25 JUNE 45

ROUTINE

196A

CONFIDENTIAL PD

FOUR CORPS SITREP DATED TWENTY JUNE ON LIGURIA REGION STATES QUOTE BREAD
RATION INCREASED TO THREE HUNDRED GRAMS MINIMUM DAILY IN ALL OF ZONE PD
PAREN TO FOR ACTION AMO LIGURIA REGION RPTD FOR INFO IV CORPS FOR GEORGE
FIVE SECTION FROM HQ ALCOM CITE ACTING PAREN

INFORM FOUR CORPS AND ALCOM EXACT SITUATION

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

735

J.O.A.

Copy to Exec Sec (Food & C)

(INFO COPY ON 157/ET)

See 257.

See M. 205 ^{OD} 30/6

5122 199

Extr. from IV CORPS Sitrep of 20 Jun. 1945.

196A

18 June 1945

LIGURIA REGION

Italian civilian traffic across control line normal. Fewer guards at road blocks.

Bread ration increased to 300 grams minimum daily in all of zone. Plebiscite at Dolceaqua majority in favour of France. Repair works on road and railroad proceeding.

196

5121

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
A.P.C. 194.
FOOD SUB-COMMISSION

WHN/ai

Tel: 489081 ext. 476

15 May 1945

Ref: 48-3/108/FOOD

MAY 17 1945

SUBJECT: Supplementary Rations - Heavy Workers for Armed Forces

TO : Regional Commissioner, Toscana Region
(Attn: Regional Food Officer) Emilia
Liguria
Piemonte
Lombardia
Venezia

Commissioner Naples Command
Commissioner Ancona Command

SCAO AMI 5th Army
SCAO AMI 3th Army

AC Liaison Officer Palermo
AC Liaison Officer Catania
AC Liaison Officer Naples
AC Liaison Officer Bari

High Commissioner for Food

1. Reference in letter 48-3/108/FOOD dated 11 May 1945, based on AFHQ Admin. Memo No. 30, 1945.

2. Above letter, effecting changes in midshift meal for Heavy Workers Scale 1(A), and for Office workmen, employed by Armed Forces, is to be read as an amendment to Ration Scales appointed for these categories.

3. Specifically, Scale No. 11 is amended to an overall entitlement of 480 grams of flour daily; and Scale No. 18, is amended as per 11 May letter.

By command of Rear Admiral STONE:

Copies to:

Hq. 15th Army Group, G-5 Section
Office of Executive Commissioner
Economic Section
Civil Affairs Section
Labor Sub-Commission
AFHQ G-5
AFHQ
Public Health Sub-Commission

W. J. LEOG
Colonel

Director, Food Sub-Commission

5120

4804

193

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
A.P.O. 394
FOOD SUB-COMMISSION

AJP/51

Tel: 489081 Ext. 476

11 May 1945

MAY 12 1945

Ref: 43-3/02/FOOD

SUBJECT: Supplementary Rations for Heavy Workers for Armed Forces

TO: Regional Commissioner:
(Attn: Regional Food Officer)

Toscana Region
Emilia Region
Liguria Region
Piemonte Region
Lombardia Region
Venezia Region

Commissioner Naples Commune
Commissioner Ancona Commune

A.C. Liaison Officer Palermo
A.C. Liaison Officer Catania
A.C. Liaison Officer Naples
A.C. Liaison Officer Bari

SCAO AMG 5th Army
SCAO AMG 8th Army

High Commissioner for Food

1. A.E.H. 1. Admin. Memo No. 56/1944 has been rescinded and AFHQ Admin. Memo No. 30/1945 dated 3 May substituted, which effects changes in the Midshift Meal Scale 1 (A) and the meal for Office Workers, as follows:

MIDSHIFT MEAL FOR WORKING
OTHER THAN OFFICE WORKERS

			Cost.
Bread	3 1/5 lb.	(272 grams)	3 Lire
Fresh Veg.	6 ounces	(170 grams)	3 Lire
Dehyd. Soup	4/5 ounces	(23 grams)	1 Lire
Salt	1/5 ounces	(5.7 grams)	-

OFFICE WORKERS
(Where considered desirable)

A Standard Meal Consisting of:

Pasta	40 grams	) At a cost of 5 lire per head per meal
Dried Veg.	20 grams	
Dehyd. Soup	20 grams	
Salt	5 grams	
Olive Oil	5 grams	
(When available)		

5113

(CAPT. ARNOBY)

RESTRICTED ¹⁸⁰⁷

R/250
AMR 031500A

B/403
MAR 031500A
IMPORTANT
MAR 4 - 1945

FROM: AMO REAR 8 ARMY

TO: HQ ALCOM INFO 15 ARMY GRP FOR CIVIL AFFAIRS, 5 ARMY FOR AMO

get
5/3

RESTRICTED

Ration scales bread pasta.

1. Your signal 2171 of 21 February gives bread 200 daily pasta 500 weekly.
2. Your letter 43-1/62/FOOD of 24 February gives normal consumer bread 200 daily pasta 550 weekly.
3. 5 ARMY AMO gives bread 250 daily pasta 40 daily. We are following first. Please confirm this correct.



FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Dist

Action - Post (2)
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
Exec Comm
Econ Sec
File (3)
Float

240

RESTRICTED

245118
511 M. 192
5/3

190
JCB

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 391
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 4507/190/EC.

3 March 1945.

Subject: 300 Gram Bread Ration.

To: RC Emilia Region.

18H

I enclose copy of a signal which was despatched to you on 21 February. I have checked with the Military Signals, and they have advised me that this was delivered to your Regional HQ on the morning of 22 February by H13 from Eighth Army.

If you still cannot trace having received this signal, it might be worth while checking with Eighth Army Signals from whom I got my information.

See file
8761/EC

Major E. Talbot

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Encl.

Copy to: Economic Section.

511

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner.

Ref: 487/199/EC.

26 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Italian Bread Ration.

TO : VP, Economic Section.

1. Reference Paper SAC (P)(45) 5 dated 17 February 1945, copy of which was sent to you by this office on 19 February 1945.
2. Enclosed herewith to complete your file is an extract from the Minutes of SACREY's Political Meeting held on 20 February at which this paper was discussed.
3. A further copy of both SAC (P)(45)5 and the extract from the Minutes of the Meeting is forwarded for the information of your Food Sub-Commission.

Chief Staff Officer,
to the Executive Commissioner.

/JL.

5118

SUBJECT: Italian Bread Station.

TO : VP, Economic Section.

1. Reference Paper SAC (P)(45) 5 dated 17 February 1945, copy of which was sent to you by this office on 15 February 1945.

2. Enclosed herewith to complete your file is an extract from the Minutes of SAC(EN)'s Political Meeting held on 20 February at which this paper was discussed.

3. A further copy of both SAC (P)(45) 5 and the extract from the Minutes of the Meeting is forwarded for the information of your Food Sub-Commission.

/s/

WLB
A Chief Staff Officer,
to the Executive Commission.

5118

785017

188

EXTRACT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

SAC (P) (45) 1st Meeting
20th February, 1945

K 77

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE
(POLITICAL)

10. ITALIAN BREAD RATION
(Paper No. SAC (P) (45) 5)

176

THE CONFERENCE had before them a statement summarizing the developments which had led to the authorization of the 300 gram bread ration throughout liberated ITALY.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROBERTSON explained that 1st March had originally been suggested as the date for a public announcement if one were thought to be necessary, but the Allied Commission had since stated that, owing to the difficulty of concealing administrative preparations it would be impossible to maintain complete security for so long. The Combined Chiefs of Staff had therefore been asked to authorize 21st February as the date for any press release. It was hoped, however, that the Combined Chiefs of Staff would agree that no press release was necessary.

MR. KIRK observed that any formal announcement on this matter would over-emphasize the delay which had taken place in implementing the 300 gram ration.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

Took note of Paper No. SAC (P) (45) 5 and of the above statements.

SEE 189

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

5115

785017

COPY

AMG TOSCANA REGION (ACTION) RPTD HQ FIFTEENTH ARMY GROUP (INFO)

2316

22 FEBRUARY 1945

PRIORITY

SECRET PD

FEB 23 1945

PARA ONE PD SUBJECT IS RATIONSCALE PD

PAREN TO AMG TOSCANA REGION FOR SUPPLY OFFICER (ACTION) RPTD HQ FIFTEENTH ARMY GROUP
PIO STEWART (INFO) FROM ALCOM CITE ACTOD PAREN

PARA TWO PD FURTHER TO SIGNAL TWO TWO NINE ZERO FEBRUARY TWO TWO WHICH INCREASED
NORMAL CONSUMER BREAD SLASH PASTA RATION PD HEAVY WORKER SUPPLEMENTARY RATIONS WILL
BE AS FOLLOWS PD SCALE ABLE (IN AREAS OTHER THAN THOSE WHERE SPECIAL ARMY MIDSHIFT
MEAL IS ISSUED) CMA MIDSHIFT MEAL AS AT PRESENT PD SUPPLEMENTARY CARD ABLE ALL AREAS
CMA ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY GRAMS PASTA TWO HUNDRED GRAMS SOUP WEEKLY PD SCALE BAKER
LIVORNO AREA CMA MIDSHIFT MEAL CMA NO BREAD SIX OUNCES FRESH VEGETABLES CMA FORTY
SIX GRAMS SOUP TO EIGHT GRAMS DRIED VEGETABLES CMA TWO EIGHT GRAMS PASTA PD SCALE
BAKER CMA REMAINING AREAS CMA NO BREAD SIX OUNCES FRESH VEGETABLES FOUR FIFTHS OUNCE
SOUP PD SUPPLEMENTARY CARD SCALE BAKER ALL AREAS CMA ONE HUNDRED AND TEN GRAMS BREAD
XXX DAILY

DISTRIBUTION:

ECONOMIC SECTION

FOOD SUB-COMMISSION

206

N. W. D. RAGNETT
LT. COL. AGD
ADJUTANT

785017

COPB

AND EMILIA REGION RPTD AND FIFTH ARMY RPTD AND EIGHTH ARMY RPTD HQ FIFTEENTH ARMY GROUP
(INFO)

2307

22 FEBRUARY 45

PRIORITY

SECRET PD

PARA ONE PD SUBJECT RATION SCALE PD

PAREN TO AND EMILIA REGION FOR SUPPLY OFFICER RPTD AND EIGHTH ARMY FOR SUPPLY OFFICER
RPTD AND FIFTH ARMY FOR SUPPLY OFFICER RPTD HQ FIFTEENTH ARMY GROUP FOR STEWART (INFO)
FROM ALCON CITE ACPOD PAREN

PARA TWO PD FURTHER TO SIGNAL TWO ONE SEVEN ONE FEBRUARY TWO ONE WHICH INCREASED NORMAL
CONSUMER BREAD SLASH PASTA RATION PD HEAVY WORKER SUPPLEMENTS WILL BE AS FOLLOWS PD
SCALE ABLE PD MIDSHIFT MEAL CMA ONE FIVE ZERO GRAMS BREAD SIX OUNCES FRESH VEGETABLES
CMA FOUR FIFTHS OUNCE DEHYDRATED SOUP PD SUPPLEMENTARY CARD ABLE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY
GRAMS PASTA CMA TWO HUNDRED GRAMS SOUP CMA WEEKLY PD SCALE BAKER CMA MIDSHIFT MEAL CMA
NO BREAD CMA SIX OUNCES FRESH VEGETABLES CMA FOUR FIFTHS OUNCE SOUP PD SUPPLEMENTARY
CARD BAKER CMA ONE HUNDRED AND TEN GRAMS BREAD CMA DAILY

DISTRIBUTION: REG. COM. LAZIO UMBRIA REGION ATTN: SUPPLY OFFICER
REG. COM. ABRUZZI-MARCHE REG. ATTN: SUPPLY OFFICER
ECONOMIC SECTION

FOOD SUBCOMMISSION

206

N. W. DRAGNETT
LT. COL. AGD
ADJUTANT

5116

4807

184

FEB 23 1945

AMG EMILIA REGION RPTD FIVEARMY RPTD AMG EIGHTARMY RPTD
HQ FIFTEENTH ARMY GROUP

2171

21 FEBRUARY 45

PRIORITY

FEB 23 1945

SECRET PD

PARA ONE PD SUBJECT IS RATION SCALE PD

PARA TO AMG EMILIA REGION FOR SUPPLY OFFICER RPTD FIVEARMY
FOR AMG FOR SUPPLY OFFICER RPTD EIGHTARMY FOR AMG FOR SUPPLY
RPTD HQ FIFTEENTH ARMY GROUP FOR STEWART FROM ALCOM^{CITY}TACPOD PAREN

PARA TWO WITH EFFECT FROM ONE MARCH ALL PROVINCES OF PRESENTLY
LIBERATED ITALY NORTH OF THE NORTHERN BOUNDARIES NAPLES SLASH
CAMPOBASSO PROVINCES WILL HAVE BREAD SLASH PASTA RATION OF TWO
ZERO ZERO GRAMS BREAD DAILY AND FIVE FIVE ZERO GRAMS PASTA
WEEKLY FOR ALL NORMAL COSUMER BREAD RATION CARD HOLDERS

PARA THREE PD ADJUSTMENTS TO SCALE ABLE AND BAKER FOR HEAVY
WORKERS CONSEQUENT UPON THIS INCREASED RATION WILL BE
FORWARDED IMMEDIATELY PD

DISTRIBUTION (BY ELS)

REGIONAL COMMISSIONER, LAZIO - UMBRIA REGION,
ATT: SUPPLY OFFICER
REGIONAL COMMISSIONER, ABRUZZI MARCHE REGION,
ATT: SUPPLY OFFICER

FOOD S/C

NOTE: ²⁰⁶Spoke to Food S/C sent copy of this signal
sent to TOSCANA Region ref 2290 dated 22 Feb

5113
N.W. DRAGNEFF
LT. COL., AGD
ADJUTANT

FEB 22 1945

SECRET

F 30948
FEB 21 1945

B 2777
FEB 21 1945
PRIORITY

Port: AMHQ SIGNED BACKED WITH PHOTO
To: ACTION ALONG RICE

FEB 22 1945

SECRET

This is paraphrase of TAC 470.

Subject: bread ration for ITALY.

CCS in agreement that no undue prominence should be given to increase in ration. Any date selected by theatre for local announcement is satisfactory. Allied Commission will make no interpretive comment. Publicity if any should merely state that previously announced plans are being carried out.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

List

Action - Boon (3)
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
SO to Chief Commission-
EX Comm
CA Sec
File

SECRET



see 57/180

Brig Lush

182

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

236/R1/PRB

February 21, 1945.

FEB 22 1945

Press Release - Held for Release at 1700 hrs.

On the basis of plans previously announced, the bread ration for liberated Italy will be 300 grams or its equivalent in bread and pasta (200 grams of bread daily and 500 grams of pasta weekly) effective March 1st, the Allied Commission and Italian Government announced to-day.

PASSED FOR PUBLICATION BY FIELD PRESS CENSOR.

VP's meetings

H

N

AFPO 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

236/R1/2PB

February 21, 1945.

FEB 22 1945

Press Release - Hold for Release at 1700 hrs.

On the basis of plans previously announced, the bread ration for Liberated Italy will be 300 grams or its equivalent in bread and pasta (200 grams of bread daily and 350 grams of pasta weekly) effective March 1st, the Allied Commission and Italian Government announced to-day.

PASSED FOR PUBLICATION BY FIELD PRESS CENSOR.

VP's meetings.

HL

R

5111

4807
SECRET

FK 29662
FEB 19443A

(179)
Spec Com
FEB 20 1945
B/2486
FEB 19 1930A
CP PRIORITY

From: AFHQ SIGNED ALEXANDER CITE PHOENIX
101 ACTION: AGWAR FOR GUS AND TO JASSO FOR BJS REPEATED INAF AND ALONG
FOR INFO

SECRET

This RAF 867.

Bread ration for ITALY. RAF 865 refers.

1. We consider that it is administratively impossible for the Allied Commission to maintain fullest security while arranging for issue of 300 grams of bread to become effective 1 March.

2. It is most desirable that the issue begin on 1 March as authorized. To achieve this end and also to include an announcement in a joint press release with the Italians, it is proposed that the announcement date be advanced to 1600 hours ROME time 21 February. Otherwise security cannot be maintained while the administrative preparations are going forward.

Dist

Info-Action - Econ Sec (3)

Info - A/President

Chief Commissioner

S.O. to Chief Commissioner

Executive Commissioner

CA Sec

File

SECRET

20 FEB 45
5113
A. C.

785017

COPY

(Original - file 29/02)

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

SAC (P) (45) 5

17th February, 1945

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE
(POLITICAL)ITALIAN BREAD RATIONDevelopments Leading to Authorization of the 300 Gram Ration

Note by Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

1. In May 1944 the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission recommended to the Supreme Allied Commander that the bread allowance be increased from 200 grams to 300 grams to provide an adequate bread ration for the people and to stimulate the movement of the coming harvest. After studying the problem SAC advised the CCS on 8 June that he intended to authorize a bread ration of 300 grams, as a temporary measure only, the ration to apply during the winter 1944-45 to be the subject of a later recommendation.

2. Upon being informed of his action in proceeding with the authorization the CCS pointed out that this was a high policy matter, and should not have been undertaken without the approval of the Governments of UK/US. Therefore the authorized increase must come from local resources.

3. In September SAC submitted to the CCS his recommendation that the 300 gram bread ration should be authorized for all of Italy (with the exception of Sicily which at that time was thought to be self-sufficient) for the balance of the harvest year. Also in September, 1944, the Chief of the Food Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, presented in person to the CCAC the food requirements for January/June 1945.

4. In October, referring to public announcements by the Prime Minister and the President that 300 grams was to be adopted as the ration for Italy, SAC asked that he be given an early reply to his September message. In November, and three times in December, SAC called the attention of the CCS to the seriousness of the situation in Italy, and pressed for a favorable reply authorizing the 300 grams. On December 9th the CCS replied that the subject was under urgent consideration by His Majesty's Government and by the U. S. Government.

5. In JAN 4/8 and W-22519 of 18 January 1945, the CCS authorized the establishment of the 300 gram bread ration for liberated Italy but placed on SAC the responsibility for deciding when it was practicable to do so in the light of "the currently approved shipping programs". SAC replied that his stock position and the advice for January and February shipments

136

5105

ITALIAN BREAD RATION
Developments Leading to Authorization of the 300 Gram Ration

Note by Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

1. In May 1944 the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission recommended to the Supreme Allied Commander that the bread allotment be increased from 200 grams to 300 grams to provide an adequate bread ration for the people and to stimulate the movement of the coming harvest. After studying the problem SAC advised the CCS on 8 June that he intended to authorize a bread ration of 300 grams, as a temporary measure only, the ration to apply during the winter 1944-45 to be the subject of a later recommendation.
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5. In JAN 4/76 and V-22519 of 18 January 1945, the CCS authorized the establishment of the 300 gram bread ration for liberated Italy but placed on SAC the responsibility for deciding when it was practicable to do so in the light of "the currently approved Shipping Programs". SAC replied that his stock position and the advice for January and February shipments made it impracticable to increase the ration at an early date. He cited the serious condition due to the non-arrival of promised wheat shipments and stressed the absolute necessity for establishing the 300 gram ration immediately to avert unrest throughout the country. He emphasized the discrepancy between actual arrivals for the months of November, December, and January and allocations, but stated that, provided the February programs were met in full, it would be possible to initiate the 300 gram ration in early March.

CONFIDENTIAL

See Index (188)

CONFIDENTIAL

6. Arrivals of wheat scheduled for February totalled 136,000 tons. This provided a surplus for the month of 36,000 tons.

7. On 14 February the Chief Commissioner asked that 300 gram ration be extended to all of occupied Italy, effective 1 March.

8. A summary of the stock position (attached as an annex) was prepared which indicated that the wheat in the Theatre, together with that which could confidentially be counted upon to arrive, provided a margin of safety that would permit the immediate authorization of the 300 gram ration.

9. As a result of this study SAC wired the Chief Commissioner, AG, on 16 February, giving authority for the extension of the 300 gram bread ration, to all of occupied Italy effective 1 March 1945, stating that no announcement ~~was~~ would be made until the wishes of the GCS regarding such public announcement were made known.

10. Simultaneously with this cable to the AG the SAC advised the GCS of his action and requested their instructions concerning the public announcement. As to the latter SAC advised that no major pronouncement be made on the subject at this time.

11. The Supreme Allied Commander's Conference is requested to take note of the above account.

(Contd) C.M.S.

5105

9. As a result of this study SAC wired the Chief Commissioner, AC, on 16 February, giving authority for the extension of the 300 gram bread ration, to all of occupied Italy effective 1 March 1945, stating that no announcement was made until the wishes of the OCS regarding such public announcement were made known.
10. Simultaneously with this cable to the AC the SAC advised the OCS of his action and requested their instructions concerning the public announcement. As to the latter SAC advised that no major announcement be made on the subject at this time.
11. The Supreme Allied Commander's Conference is requested to take note of the above account.

(Date) C.M.S.

3106

CONFIDENTIAL

(174)

File

ARR:

2009

16 February

PRIORITY

URGENT 7D

(173)

YOUR FOX TWO EIGHT TWO ONE FOUR OF ONE SIX FIVE ZERO FD
 PAGES TO APPE FOR 2-5 FROM ALCOA SITE ACROSS PAGES FD
 SUBJECT THAT WE MUST MAKE ANNOUNCEMENT BEFORE FIRST MARCH FD
 FINALLY BECAUSE LOCAL DISSEMINATION MUST BEGIN FEBRUARY TWO TWO
 AND CANNOT POSSIBLY GUARANTEE SECURITY AFTER THAT DATE FD
 BEFORE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT KNOWS BULK PRICE OF BREAD
 FIRST MARCH AND WE MUST INFORM THEM OF OUR INTENTIONS FD
 MUST NOT LIFT SECURITY FEBRUARY TWO ZERO WHEN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT
 ARE HOLDING MEETING TO DISCUSS PRICE OF BREAD AND MAKE POSSIBLE
 ANNOUNCEMENT AS SOON AFTERAS POSSIBLE

Copy to: Chief Coordinator
 Economic Section
 Food Sub-Commission

Executive Coordinator

33

(Sd) M. Chish
 Brigadier,
 Executive Coordinator.

5107

6502

L

4804
SECRET

732314
FEB 16/1945

173
172
17R
202
FEB 17/0830
PRIORITY

FROM: AFHQ SIGNS BACKED CITY: PENDING.
TO: ALCON ROME.

FEB 17 1945

SECRET.

Authority is given for extension of 300 gram bread ration to all occupied ITALY effective 1 March 45 as requested in your ALCON 1727 of 14 February.

The wishes of combined Chiefs of Staff regarding any public announcement are being sought.

Especially you should proceed to make necessary preparations to effect increased ration, but maintain fullest security this subject.

AS SENT
Action → Room Sec (2)
Info → By Coordinator (S)
A/President
Chief Coordinator
S.O. to Chief Coordinator
S.O. to
C.I. Sec
File

SECRET

See (174)

HEADQUARTERS

3188

170

AFHQ FOR SACRED

1727

14 February 1945

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

SECRET PD

SUBJECT IS EXTENSION OF THREE HUNDRED GRAM BREAD RATION TO ALL OCCUPIED ITALY PD

PAREN TO AFHQ FOR SACRED FROM HQ ALCOON CITY AGED SIGNED STONE PAREN

I WISH TO IMPLEMENT THIS INCREASED RATION TO BE EFFECTIVE ONE MARCH AND SHALL REQUIRE YOUR AUTHORITY NOT LATER THAN SIXTEEN FEBRUARY PD UNLESS I RECEIVE THIS AUTHORITY BY THIS DATE A FURTHER POSTPONEMENT WILL HAVE TO BE MADE WITH ALL THE BAD RESULTS POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC OF WHICH YOU HAVE FULL KNOWLEDGE

Copies to: H.M. Ambassador
U.S. Ambassador

Int. Dist.

PA to Acting President
SO to CC
Pol. Sec.
Room. Sec. (2)
Civil Affairs Section

Office of the Chief of Staff

300

Major,
for Brigadier,

see Folio 169

see M 130

7 Feb 5105
5502

168

Draft Telegram

14 February 45.

To: AMHQ for SAC/PHO

Subject is extension of 300 gram bread ration to all occupied Italy. I wish to implement the increased ration to be effective 1 March and shall require your authority not later than 16 February. Unless I receive this authority by this date a further postponement will have to be made with all the bad results political and economic of which you have full knowledge.

m. 06
 2nd
 3rd
 50,000
 PH 1-78

all 170

017
hw

5104

D-R-A-F-T C-A-B-L-E

S-E-C-R-E-T

14 February 1945

FROM : CHIEF COMMISSIONER

TO : AFHQ

SUBJECT: Extension of 300 gram ration area.

1. Subject - Extension of 300 gram ration to all occupied Italy.
2. For planning purposes the import programme for February can now be considered firm.
3. In terms of wheat equivalent a quantity of 127,000 tons of wheat/flour has arrived and/or is enroute to Italian ports. A further 11,000 tons is advised for arrival during the period 15 to 25 February. An aggregate of 138,000 tons.
4. I require 94,000 tons per month to implement a 300 gram ration in the present lower scale ration area and to maintain the present ration of 300 grams in Southern Region, Sicily and Sardinia. February arrivals will therefore enable me to carry forward 44,000 tons.
5. I therefore request approval to inform the Italian Government that the flour ration in the lower ration scale area will be increased from 180 grams of flour to 240 grams of flour effective 1 March.
6. The Italian Government is most desirous of using any opportunity of ration increases to effect adjustments in the price of bread and pasta from a political to an economic level.
7. I recommend that an immediate decision be made for the reasons following:

5102

- 2 -

- (a) honour the promises of the U.S. and U.K. Governments. (165)
- (b) To adjust the ration scale by eliminating anomalies which have been adopted in order to appease one compelling demand after another, in the absence of an overall 300 gram scale.
- (c) To contribute to the urgent needs and allay growing unrest of the population in the devastated and deficient areas such as Livorno.
- (d) To assist the Italian Government in the new responsibilities which it will shortly be called upon to assume.

8. In order to implement the new ration to be effective 1 March I shall require authority not later than 18 February.

5101

4807

File

165B

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Conference held on 13 February 1945.

Food Situation and Basic Ration. COS said we had received no reply from AFHQ and instructed Leon See to send a telegram stating that unless we received final decision on raising the ration to 300 grams by 16 February the ration could not be increased on 1 March.

5103

4807

File

165A

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 30 January 1945.

Food Situation and Basic Ration.

Koon Sec had received a recommendation from Food Sub-Commission for a 240-gram flour ration, which was the equivalent of 300 grams bread. Koon Sec approved this recommendation. Food Sub-Commission suggested we should make it quite clear as to what exactly a 300 gram ration meant. OCS agreed this was a good point.

With regard to the plan submitted by OCS, CC did not approve. It was considered OCS might jump at anything that gave consideration to a reduced ration, and CAO AMHQ shared this view.

AMHQ had rejected the suggestion that the 300 gram ration should start from 15 February and their firm view now was that they would not make any addition to the ration until 1 March and only then if they could get assurance from OCS of firm shipping commitments March through July. They would make no decision or announcement until they got a reply to the telegram sent off asking for such assurance.

OCS stated the price of bread must be increased at the same time as the increase in ration and asked Koon Sec what progress had been made in deciding how much the price increase should be. Koon Sec said the Italian Government was not yet decided on this point, prices of 8, 10 and 12 lire having been discussed. OCS said there was no objection to Koon Sec discussing with the Italian Government what the price would be if the ration was increased providing such discussion was kept secret.

5093

SECRET *4807*

FROM: Col. T. R. Henn

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

25 January 1945
JAN 29 1945

My dear *Mami*:

Subject: 300 Gramme Ration

Thank you for your letter 4807/COS of 24 January 1945. *Imrie* cleared the letter with our supply people, and got it re-concurred as necessary. We have not sent IAC 790.

I attach a paraphrase.

Yours *Truly*

Incl:
as above

Brig. Maurice S. Lush, CB, OBE, MC
Chief of Staff
Headquarters, Allied Commission
A.P.O. 394

SECRET

1 Space Kelly

RE: 4807
W. 29/1
MW

SECRET

162

Paraphrase of NAF 842 dated 26 January 1945.

Subject is Bread Ration for Italy.

Authorization granted by your FAN 478 to issue 300 grams bread daily in all Italy now liberated is appreciated, and I desire to implement that program as soon as may be.

However it is impracticable to order such increase in the near future in view of my present stock holdings and January/February shipment advices. Arrivals for Nov/Dec/Jan have averaged only 70,000 tons per month in contrast with your allocations of 100,000 tons per month. Thus the present ration has been maintained only by very severe drain on indigenous stocks and borrowings from Balkan stockpiles. A continuation of the reduced rate of arrivals plus available indigenous stocks would allow for a ration of only 250 grams in Liberated Italy, Sardinia and Sicily.

Recent advices indicate substantial fulfillment of the 100,000 ton program for February. Provided that shipping will remain available on the same scale through July, the overall 300 gram ration could be established and maintained. But until the certainty of such arrivals is assured, no increase or announcement should be made.

Your paragraph 3 raising the problem of operational maintenance tonnage requirements is covered in NAF 830, paragraph 8. If and when operational shipping tonnages become available for release, they will be notified to you.

It is considered operationally necessary to have immediately available for NW Italy a contingent reserve of 60,000 tons.

It is emphasized that I am most anxious to establish the higher ration; it is not because of any objection on my part that I do not implement your authority forthwith.

SECRET



COPY

4807. ~~27~~

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Tel. Ext. 525

29 Jan 45

JAN 30 1945

Ref: 1/21B/CA

SUBJECT: Visit to AFHQ.

TO : Chief of Staff.

Reference conversation Lush/Upjohn last night, the following matters for the attention of the COS were mentioned to DOOS while he was at Caserta.

- 550/cos.
- (1) ~~G-1 (B) and G-1 (A) have a combined scheme for use of the Grand Hotel, Aquila, as a permanent combined rest camp. DOOS suggested joint use of this hotel by AG and as a rest camp but they did not want to do this. The matter will be put up formally.~~
- 212/cos.
- (2) ~~Col. Henn stated that he thought letter 124/1/1/637 dated 23 Jan 45, signed by Director, E.M.B. & I.P.W. Sub Commission to AFHQ should have been signed by a Staff Officer. The whole question of the place of the Independent Sub Commissions (other than the Service Sub Commissions) in AG appears to require consideration.~~
- 4807/cos.
- (3) ~~E.L.S. telegram re 300 gram ration was delivered by DOOS to Col. Henn at 1230 hrs Saturday. It has gone forward to CAO with a recommendation that no change be made before 1 Mar 45.~~
- (4) ~~Caselli Institute - It will be appreciated if Memo by Maj. Gen. Airey, 389.439/34 (which was handed to Brig. Lush last night) can be returned as soon as possible for action in drafting a reply for AFHQ.~~
- 158

G.E. UPJOHN, Brig.,
VP CA Section,
DOOS AO.

UNMARKED COPY PASSED DIRECT TO COS

FOR PERUSAL (PARTICULARLY REFERENCE POINT 4)

5098

785017

4807

160

File

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 26 January 1945.

JAN 30 1945

Food Situation and Basic Ration.

OCS outlined what had taken place between AFHQ and CC. He said he had put up a scheme for consideration by CC, and read to the meeting the draft of a telegram which recommended the basic bread ration of 200 grams plus a pasta ration of a minimum of 40 grams (equals 50 grams of bread) and a maximum of 80 grams (equals 100 grams of bread). OCS recommended that the Italian Government should be informed that at a date to be decided, possibly 15 February, throughout Italy and the Islands the bread ration would be equalised at 200 grams, and the pasta ration from 15 February to the end of March at 80 grams. Future rations of pasta would be announced when the shipping position was known, and would vary from month to month according to imports. The provision of the maximum pasta ration for this initial period was possible since total imports of wheat and flour for February would be 106,000 tons. Eoon Seo agreed with the recommendation, but not with the actual wording of the telegram. OCS said that CC would no doubt wish to discuss this proposal with VP Eoon Seo and himself.

5098

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

TOP SECRET

158A

All Officers to See

Σ 27/1

Folios 157/158

TOP SECRET**CONTINUING MESSAGE****HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394**

COS (158)

YR 27/1/45

29 Jan

TO: AFHQ (RLS) (2 copies)

S-419

26 Jan 1945

(152)

(136)

1. Since concurrence with your draft reply to PAR 473 we have received notification from you of February shipments wheat and flour up to and including UKS 69 which bring total imports for February to 106,000 tons. With these imports and stocks in hand we could institute an equalized 300 gram ration throughout liberated Italy from February 15 until March 31. In view of the winter months the sooner we can start the better. I realize, however, the wisdom of obtaining the assurance of adequate imports in subsequent months before raising the ration. At the same time, having the supplies in hand for at least 45 days you may wish to act under the authorization of para 2 PAR 473 as soon as physically possible.

2. Unless there is urgent necessity for publicity in United States or Great Britain I would advise against any public announcement but would recommend that the increase be made unobtrusively as an implementation of previous indications and with due warning to the Italian Government that maintenance in the future will be dependent upon shipping and that any future cuts will apply equally throughout liberated Italy. If announcement must be made because of para 4 PAR 473 then I would most strongly urge that

Chief Commissioner

202

H. M. L. Lush

TOP SECRETH. M. L. Lush
Brigadier
Chief of Staff

H. M. L. Lush

H. M. L. Lush
Brigadier
Chief of Staff

5093

785017

TOP SECRET

157

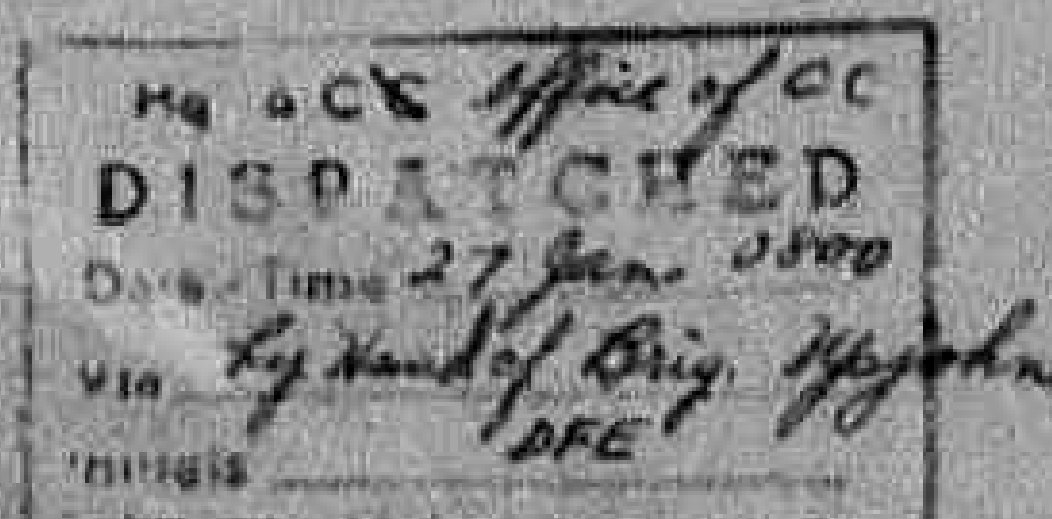
AFHQ (ELB)

3-419

26 Jun 1945

It be clearly limited to the period from February 15th to March 31st.

cc: Hon. Alexander Lusk
Sir Noel Charles
Economic Section
Food SC
COS
A Files



Chief Commissioner

222

M. S. Lusk

M. S. Lusk
Brigadier
Chief of staff

TOP SECRET

M. S. Lusk

M. S. Lusk
Brigadier
Chief of staff

5094

SECRET.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref: 4807/154/008.25 January 1945.Chief Commissioner.

1. You will find on Page 152 a summary of the cereal arrivals for February as confirmed by AFHQ. It is true that 40,00 tons (US 69) represent an estimated amount only but we can reasonably assume that 106,000 tons of wheat and flour will arrive in that month and probably more. This, of course, will alter the accuracy of the draft telegram to be issued by AFHQ but I will see that G-5 is acquainted with the facts. (Done) (ML)
2. Once, however, we are assured that our requirements on a 300 gram basis are being met even only for one month, we must consider how to make use of the increased imports even if we do not put into practice the 300 gram ration scale at once and until we have assurances that the increased imports will run through March into July. For I think we should be in a difficult position vis a vis both our Governments if we had the means, even for only one month, of implementing the President's and the Prime Minister's statement and did not make us of them.
3. Colonel Legg has assured Economic Section that he can implement the 300 gram ration effective February 15 if the decision to do so is made now. But I think we should begin on a slightly different basis and my proposal is as follows:

That we at once inform the Italian Government and the Italian people that from a certain date, possibly February 15, the bread ration will be equalized throughout Italy and the islands at 200 grams. That the pasta ration will be fixed at a minimum of 40 grams per diem and a maximum of 80 grams and that the actual amount of pasta will be decided from month to month in accordance with the allocation of shipping to this theatre. That the allocation now at hand enables the Allied authorities to recommend an issue of 80 grams per diem from February 15 until March 31. That as soon as the allocation of shipping is known for March the next month's ration of pasta will be announced. That the population must fully realize that owing to operations shipping may be short during one month and more abundant during another and that, therefore, the pasta ration scale will vary between the minimum and the maximum limits laid down.

NB. 40 grams pasta = 50 grams bread; 80 grams pasta = 100 grams bread.

4. I think we should be wrong not to take this step immediately. We could not do so beforehand because our grain and flour holdings did not permit us to look forward even for a short time to a 300 gram ration. The advantage of the

as confirmed by AFHQ. It is true that 40,00 tons (US 69) represent an estimated amount only but we can reasonably assume that 106,000 tons of wheat and flour will arrive in that month and probably more. This, of course, will alter the accuracy of the draft telegram to be issued by AFHQ but I will see that C-5 is acquainted with the facts. (Done) (ML)

2. Once, however, we are assured that our requirements on a 300 gram basis are being met even only for one month, we must consider how to make use of the increased imports even if we do not put into practice the 300 gram ration scale at once and until we have assurances that the increased imports will run through March into July. For I think we should be in a difficult position vis a vis both our Governments if we had the means, even for only one month, of implementing the President's and the Prime Minister's statement and did not make us of them.

3. Colonel Legg has assured Economic Section that he can implement the 300 gram ration effective February 15 if the decision to do so is made now. But I think we should begin on a slightly different basis and my proposal is as follows:

That we at once inform the Italian Government and the Italian people that from a certain date, possibly February 15, the bread ration will be equalized throughout Italy and the islands at 200 grams. That the pasta ration will be fixed at a minimum of 40 grams per diem and a maximum of 80 grams and that the actual amount of pasta will be decided from month to month in accordance with the allocation of shipping to this theatre. That the allocation now at hand enables the Allied authorities to recommend an issue of 80 grams per diem from February 15 until March 31. That as soon as the allocation of shipping is known for March the next month's ration of pasta will be announced. That the population must fully realize that owing to operations shipping may be short during one month and more abundant during another and that, therefore, the pasta ration scale will vary between the minimum and the maximum limits laid down.

NB. 40 grams pasta = 50 grams bread: 80 grams pasta = 100 grams bread.

4. I think we should be wrong not to take this step immediately. We could not do so beforehand because our grain and flour holdings did not permit us to look forward even for a short time to a 300 gram ration. The advantage of the scheme outlined above is that having taken the population into our confidence we can vary the ration from month to month and greatest of all, we shall have produced equalization throughout the country beginning with the maximum ration; any cuts in the future will be felt by all instead of only by a part of the population.

5. I believe an early decision is very necessary because of the tension and lack of food in Central Italy, nor have we a leg to stand upon if, with the food available, we do not take advantage of it.

6. Draft to AFHQ attached, cleared with Colonel Legg on behalf of Colonel Denmore.

MSL/JG.

MSL
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

DRAFT TELEGRAM TO AFHQ.

1. Since concurrence with your draft reply to PAN 478 we have received notification from you of February shipments wheat and flour up to and including UGS 69 which bring total imports to 106,000 tons. While we must await assurance of continued and adequate shipments through March ~~and~~ July, in order to implement statements by President and Prime Minister as soon as possible submit following scheme your approval.

(1) That we inform Italian Govt officially with due publicity for the Italian people that from a ~~date to~~

~~be decided, possible February 15, the bread repeat~~
bread ration will ~~be~~ ^{continue equalized} throughout Italy and the

Islands at 200 grams

(2) That ~~from same date, possible February 15,~~
~~bread ration will be~~ ^{a date to be decided, possibly Feb 15,}
~~fixed at minimum of 10 grams per person and maximum of 1~~
~~100 grams per person~~ ^{an additional}

(3) Actual ~~daily~~ ^{additional} ration of ~~peas~~ ^{peas} within these limits to be decided from month to month in accordance with allocation of shipping.

(4) Present allocation enables Allied authorities recommend

~~100 grams per person~~
issue ~~100~~ ¹⁰⁰ grams pasta per person from February 15 up to

March 31

(5) As soon as allocation of shipping is known for March
~~the next month's ration of peas will be announced, and~~
^{additional}
so on.

(6) Population must fully realize that owing operations shipping may be short during one month and adequate during another and that therefore ~~their~~ ^{additional} ration scale

Through the cleared
Italy shipping from
minimum of 50 g of bread
or 40 g of pasta to

[Handwritten signature]

(1) That we inform Italian Govt officially with due publicity for the Italian people that from a date to

be decided, possible February 15, the bread repeat ration will be ~~100g~~ ^{100g} bread ^{an additional} throughout Italy and the

Islands at 200 grams ^{a date to be decided, possibly Feb. 15,} ^{from same date} ^{an additional} ^{100g bread} ^{per person and maximum of}

(2) That from ~~same date~~ ^{100g bread} ^{an additional} ^{100g bread} ^{per person and maximum of} 80 grams per diem ^{an additional} ^{100g bread} ^{per person and maximum of}

(3) Actual ~~ration of pasta~~ ^{an additional} ^{100g bread} ^{per person and maximum of} within these limits to be decided from month to month in accordance with allocation of shipping.

(4) Present allocation enables Allied authorities recommend ^{100g bread} ^{an additional} ^{100g bread} ^{per person and maximum of} issue 180 grams pasta per diem from February 15 up to March 31

(5) As soon as allocation of shipping is known for March ^{an additional} ^{100g bread} ^{per person and maximum of} the next month's ration of ~~pasta~~ ^{an additional} ^{100g bread} ^{per person and maximum of} will be announced, and so on.

(6) Population must fully realize that owing operations shipping may be short during one month and adequate during another and that therefore ~~pasta~~ ^{an additional} ^{100g bread} ^{per person and maximum of} ration scale will vary between minimum and maximum limits ^{of the daily ration}

2. Advantage of above scheme is that equalisation can be made early at maximum rate and that thereafter any cuts will be applicable to whole of liberation Italy instead of only a part. ^{an additional} ^{100g bread} ^{per person and maximum of} If you approve can put ~~200g~~ ^{an additional} ^{100g bread} ^{per person and maximum of} ration into force from February 15 for ~~one month~~ ^{45 days}

3. 40 grams pasta equals 50 grams bread ^{an additional} ^{100g bread} ^{per person and maximum of} 80 grams pasta equals 100 grams bread

throughout liberated Italy rationing from minimum of 50g bread or 40g pasta to

John

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Chief of Staff

25 Jan 45.

Chief of Staff.

Sir,

Colonel Densmore dictated the following note to me at 2.30 pm.

[Handwritten signature]

Brigadier:

1. I conferred with Legg at lunch time. He assures me that we can implement the 300 gram ration effective 15 February.
2. Notwithstanding previous discussions at AFHQ with respect to imports of wheat for Sicily, I take it that we must continue to arrange for the placing of ships into Sicily out of the import supply.
3. If your draft paper on plan for increasing the ration and at the same time establishing a minimum and a maximum ration is not in hand by 4 o'clock, I would appreciate it if you would have it sent direct to Colonel Legg as he is prepared to consider it at once.

DENSMORE.

5091

785017

Sealy-

Confirm southern ship to land

SECRET

INTER OFFICE MEMO

EGL/ml

(152)

Tel: 584

25 January 1945

Ref:

SUBJECT: Cereal Programme - February 1945

FROM : Food Sub-Commission

TO : Economic Section

1. Following is a summary of Cereal arrivals for February 1945 as confirmed by A.F.H.Q.:

MAINT. PERIOD	CONVOY NO.	SHIP	WHEAT	BARLEY	FLOUR	AUTHORITY
24 Jan. 1945 to 4 Feb.	UGS 66	NATHAN HALE	8686			AFHQ cable FX 86870 17/1
	UGS 67	J. QUICK	8755			
	UGS 67	ELISHA OTIS	5059		2764	
	UGS 67	DUDLEY HUGHES	8596			
	UGS 67	ODEE DUNNING	7933			AFHQ cable FX 87617 19 Jan.
	UGS 67	GEORGE HALE		7712		
	UGS 67	SAM REID		7513		
	UGS 67	LOSSYBANK		4145		
	UGS 67	CLAM MACBEAN		3582		
5 Feb. to 9 Feb.	UGS 68	NEWTON BAKER			7944	AFHQ (G-5) Cereal arrival report No. 10 23 Jan. 45
	UGS 68	WILLIAM HUME	8689			
	UGS 68	EDWARD SPARROW	8008 7740		168	
10 Feb. to 14 Feb.	UGS 69	W. WILKIE	8000			AFHQ (G-5) Telephone message Transp. S.G. 24 Jan. 45
	UGS 69	J. CONRAD	8000			
	UGS 69	G. RANDALL	8000			
	UGS 69	BLOTHAM	8000			
	UGS 69	J. PARKER	8000			

Totals 95458 22952 10976

Tonnages in UGS 69 estimated only. All figures in DWL tons.

Total wheat equivalent of above tonnages

126,435 tons

2. No firm information has yet been received for arrival in the last convoy period, but programmed is an amount of 24,000 tons.

5093

W.J. LEOG, Colonel

Director, Food Sub-Commission

Copy to: Chief of Staff

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Chief of Staff

24th January 1945.

To: The Chief Commissioner.

I submit fourth draft of AFHQ telegram together with a covering note to Colonel Henn.

I have cut out from Paragraph 6 the proposal to reduce to 250 and inserted a sentence insisting on equalization, with which I hope you will agree.

You will notice that the technical telegram proposed by AFHQ gives the break-down for a 250 and indeed a 200 gramme ration. We have felt that this telegram is unnecessary and your thoughts on the 250 gramme make it even dangerous.

MSL
Brigadier
Chief of Staff.

5083

SECRET.

(150)

24th January 1945.

Ref: L807/CBS.

SUBJECT: 300 Grain Ration.

TO : 3-5 Section,
Allied Force Headquarters.
Attn: Colonel Henn.

1. Thank you for your letter of 23rd January on the increased bread ration for Italy.

2. The Chief Commissioner has considered the two draft telegrams and is sending Lieut. Colonel Imrie with a fourth draft, after a discussion based on my note to him attached. He does not consider it necessary to send LAC 970 as most of the information contained therein appears to have been covered by LAC 941 and he is anxious not to place before the CMB anything which might be read as a proposal to reduce the ration to 250 or indeed 200 grams. You will, however, note that a sentence has been inserted in the fourth draft pointing out the necessity of equalisation and the disappearance of disparity. If, however, it is decided to send LAC 970, Lieut. Colonel Imrie will be at hand to check the figures.

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

MEL/JG.

Copy to: Econ Sec.

Food Sub-Com.

TAKEN BY HAND OF LT Col. IMRIE
5083

on 24 JAN 45.

JS 20/1

SECRET

This is for _____, read in conjunction with LEO _____ which follows immediately.

1. I appreciate the authority extended in year 1971 to issue 500 grams of bread per person per day in all presently liberated Italy and am anxious to use that authority as early as possible.
2. My present stock position and my schedule of shipments for January and February, which fall far short of the program, make it impracticable to order the increased issue at an early date.
3. The present ration has been reduced only by meat shortages due to an indigenous stock and borrowings from stocks originally intended for Balkan countries. The actual ration for Nov/Dec/Jan have averaged only 65,000 tons monthly as compared with the 100,000 tons monthly which you have assumed. A continuation of this rate of actual (65,000 tons) together with available indigenous stocks would produce an overall organized ration of no more than 230 grams per day throughout liberated Italy, Sicily and Sardinia, including a reduction in the Islands and Southern Italy and a slight increase in Central Italy.
4. February shipments received to date indicate actual supplies will be below assumed programs. Only if the February program of 100,000 tons can be met in full will it be possible to initiate an overall 300 gram ration in early March. No request to increase can be made and consequently no announcement issued until I can be assured that the necessary shipping has been allocated to provide the overall imports of 100,000 tons per month continuously March through July.

474 DCAF

129

2. My present stock position and my wishes of shipments for January and February, which fall far short of the program, make it impossible to order the increased issue at an early date.

3. The present ration has been maintained only by most serious cuts in indigenous stocks and borrowings from stocks originally intended for Italian consumption. The actual ration for Nov/Dec/Jan has averaged only 65,000 tons monthly as compared with the 100,000 tons monthly which you have approved. A continuation of this rate of ration (65,000 tons) together with available indigenous stocks would produce an overall equalized ration of no more than 250 grams per day throughout liberated Italy, Sicily and Sardinia, involving a reduction in the Islands and Southern Italy and a slight increase in Central Italy.

4. February rations revealed to date indicate actual rations will be below approved programs. Only if the February programs of 100,000 tons can be met in full will it be possible to include an overall 300 gram ration in early March. No report on Italian sea tonnage and consequently no announcement issued until I can be assured that the necessary shipping has been allocated to provide for actual reports of 100,000 tons per month continuously March through July. Will such assurance be given?

5. I consider it operationally necessary to have a stockpile of 60,000 tons immediately available for North West Italy. I have only 20,000 tons at present in hand.

2

6. The problem of foreign requirements for operational maintenance referred to in your para 3, was dealt with in para 8, May 1950. If para 2 of your May 1948 is intended to imply that any increase in the problem is dependent on cuts in operational shipping ~~then it follows that the 500 gross tonnage certainly cannot be realized.~~ Regulation throughout the Islands and presently illustrated Italy of a ~~lower maintenance~~ ^{is} ~~is~~ necessary. The present disparity cannot continue.

7. I must make it quite clear that the failure to put the higher tonnage into operation, in spite of your authority, is not due to any objection on my part. I am most anxious to do so.

24 January 1950.

operation throughout the House and recently liberated they are

15
a ~~large number~~ will be necessary. The present difficulty cannot

be solved.

7. I must make it quite clear that the failure to put the
higher section into operation, in spite of your authority, is not due
to any objection on my part. I am most anxious to do so.

24 January 1945.

5088

SECRET.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref: 4807/117/OCS.

24 January 1945.

Chief Commissioner.

99, Vd. 1.

1429143

136.

1. In considering AFHQ's draft reply to PAN 478 we must go back to your letter of 12 December and AFHQ's reply thereto. In both these documents the necessity of equalizing the ration was strongly emphasized. It is, in my opinion, still the most important factor in our rationing policy.

2. PAN 478 leads us nowhere. SACRED is authorized to issue up to a maximum of 300 grammes of bread but is not given the shipping to implement this authorization.

3. In view of this and in view of the fact that OCS have hitherto adopted the policy of indecision, I do not think that we can expect any greater help in the way of shipping as a result of "the completion of the current overall examination of the world shipping situation now being conducted in Washington".

4. AFHQ's draft of 22 January, in my opinion, does not attain the forceful tone contained in their previous telegram and which is absolutely necessary if we are to make OCS face facts.

5. As you stated in your letter of 12 December and as AFHQ repeated in their telegram, we cannot plan the feeding of this population with a plan which may be altered from week to week and we must have parity. The OCS have given us no indication that they can assist us to establish either stability or parity on a 500 grammes level and rather than continue these telegraphic requests for assurances which we know cannot be given, I would rather face the music at once and establish parity on what we know is available. I believe that we could establish an equalized ration of 250 grammes. I would like their telegram to read as attached.

MSL/JC.

MSL
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

1. In considering AFHQ's draft reply to FAN 478 we must go back to your letter of 12 December and AFHQ's reply thereto. In both these documents the necessity of equalising the ration was strongly emphasised. It is, in my opinion, still the most important factor in our rationing policy.

2. FAN 478 leads us nowhere. SACRED is authorized to issue up to a maximum of 300 grammes of bread but is not given the shipping to implement this authorisation.

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MSL/30.

MSL

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

5082

DRAFT

This is REF _____, Read in conjunction with LAC _____ which follows immediately.

1. I appreciate the authority contained in your PAN 478 to issue 300 grams of bread per person per day in all presently liberated Italy and am anxious to use that authority as early as possible.
2. My present stock position and my advice of shipments for January and February, which fall far short of the program, make it impracticable to order the increased issue at an early date.
3. The present ration has been maintained only by most serious strain on indigenous stocks and borrowings from stocks originally intended for Italian countries. The actual arrivals for Nov/Dec/Jan have averaged only 55,000 tons monthly as compared with the 100,000 tons monthly which you have allocated. A continuation of this rate of arrival together with available indigenous stocks would produce an overall ration of no more than 250 grams per day throughout liberated Italy, Sicily and Sardinia, involving a reduction in the Islands and Southern Italy and a slight increase in Central Italy.
4. February shipments received to date indicate actual arrivals will be below approved programs. Only if the February programs of 100,000 tons could be met in full would it be possible to initiate an overall 300 grams ration in early March. There can be no question of considering the increase, or the accompanying increase of 100,000 tons.

Completed

100

100

100

of the program, make it impracticable to order the increased issue at an early date.

5. The present ration has been maintained only by most serious drain on indigenous stocks and borrowings from stocks originally intended for Balkan countries. The actual arrivals for Nov/Dec/Jan have averaged only 65,000 tons monthly as compared with the 100,000 tons monthly which you have allocated. A continuation of this rate of arrival together with ^{excluded} available indigenous stocks would produce an overall ration of no more than 250 grams per day throughout liberated Italy, Sicily and Corsica, involving a reduction in the Islands and Southern Italy and a slight increase in Central Italy.

6. February arrivals received to date indicate actual arrivals will be below approved programs. Only if the February programs of 100,000 tons could be met in full would it be possible to initiate an overall 300 grams ration in early March. There can be no question of considering the increase, or the accompanying ^{can be} 000 tons, unless I am assured that actual imports of 100,000 tons per month are forthcoming continuously through July.

7. I consider it operationally necessary to have a contingent reserve of 60,000 tons immediately available for

in Italy.

8. The problems of tonnage requirements for operational maintenance referred to in your para 3, was dealt with in para 8, MAP 830. If para 2 of your PAR 478

1271
is intended to imply that any increase in the ration is dependent on cuts in operational shipping than I fear that the 300 gram ration cannot be realized and it would be better to take the implement decision, with all its consequences, but one that is based on stability, ^{stability} to institute an overall ration of 250 grams throughout liberated Italy, Sicily and

Sardinia.

7. I must make it quite clear that the failure to put the higher ration into operation, in spite of your authority, is not due to any objection on my part. I am most anxious to do so.

7. I must make it quite clear that the failure to put
the higher ration into operation, in spite of your authority,
is not due to any objection on my part. I am most anxious
to do so.

5085

5085

SECRET SECRET & PERSONAL

From: Colonel T.R. Henn
Allied Force Headquarters,
G-5 Section,
APO 512

23 January 1945

Subject: Increased Bread Ration for Italy.

My Dear General:

As I promised you, I am sending you a draft of the proposed reply to the CC/S cable on the 300 gram ration and a supporting LAC signal with statistical background.

The HAF has been completely revised since you saw it as a result of a conference between Generals Robertson and Hasbelen and Mr. McMillan.

I have considered your letter of 12 December 1944. I feel that the proposal recommended in paras 7, 8 and 9 is within the province of the SACMED to decide, without reference to the CC/S, should a ration lower than 300 grams become necessary. I do not see the need for a decision on this point.

The difference between the AC and AFHQ listing of wheat arrivals during January is 8,000 tons. This headquarters has considered as a February arrival the ship anticipated for arrival by AC on 26 Jan. This will explain the discrepancy.

When you have considered the cables may I have your comments and concurrence by phone not later than Wednesday.

T.R. Henn

Brig. Maurice S. Lush, C.B.E., O.B.E., M.C.
Chief of Staff,
Headquarters, Allied Commission,
A.P.O. 394.

SEE

5082

SECRET

SECRET

END DRAFT

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

22 January 1945

This is NAF _____. Read in conjunction with LAC _____ which follows immediately.

1. I appreciate the authority contained in your FAN 478 to issue 300 grams of bread per person per day in all presently liberated Italy and am anxious to use that authority as early as possible.
2. My present stock position and my advices of shipments for January and February make it impracticable to order the increased issue at an early date.
3. The present ration has been maintained only by most serious drain on indigenous stocks and borrowings from stocks originally intended for Balkan countries. The actual arrivals for Nov/Dec/Jan have averaged only 65,000 tons monthly as compared with the 100,000 tons monthly which you have allocated. A continuation of this rate of arrival together with available indigenous stocks would produce an over-all ration of approximately 280 grams per day throughout Liberated Italy, Sicily and Sardinia.
4. February advices received to date indicate actual arrivals will be below approved program. However if February program of 100,000 can be met in full it should be possible to initiate the over-all 300 gram ration in early March. No announcement should be made, nor can the increase be made, until I am assured that actual imports of 100,000 tons per month are forthcoming continuously March through July.
5. I consider it is operationally necessary to have a contingent reserve of 60,000 tons immediately available for NW Italy.
6. The problems of tonnage requirements for operational main-

January and February make it impracticable to order the increased issue at an early date.

3. The present ration has been maintained only by most serious drain on indigenous stocks and borrowings from stocks originally intended for Balkan countries. The actual arrivals for Nov/Dec/Jan have averaged only 65,000 tons monthly as compared with the 100,000 tons monthly which you have allocated. A continuation of this rate of arrival together with available indigenous stocks would produce an over-all ration of approximately 230 grams per day throughout Liberated Italy, Sicily and Sardinia.

4. February advices received to date indicate actual arrivals will be below approved program. However if February program of 100,000 can be met in full it should be possible to initiate the over-all 300 gram ration in early March. No announcement should be made, nor can the increase be made, until I am assured that actual imports of 100,000 tons per month are forthcoming continuously March through July.

5. I consider it is operationally necessary to have a contingent reserve of 60,000 tons immediately available for NW Italy.

6. The problems of tonnage requirements for operational maintenance, referred to in your para 3, was dealt with in ~~5083~~ MAP 830. If para 2 of your FAM 478 is intended to imply that any increase in the ration is dependent on cuts in operational shipping then I fear that the 300 gram ration cannot be realized.

7. I must make it quite clear that the failure to put the higher ration into operation, in spite of your authority, is not due to any objection on my part. I am most anxious to do so.

SECRET

SECRET

FROM: AFHQ

TO : AGWAR for CCS for CCAC

INFO: Central District UK Base Section (London) for
Cabinet Secretariat. ALCOM

LAC 970.

Wheat for Italy

Read in conjunction with NAP ____ and LAC 911.

All figures in thousands of net metric tons. All ration scales in terms bread equivalent.

1. Stock position 31 Jan. Stocks shown LAC 911 will be reduced to 454. Now consider essential that not less than 60 be earmarked for North. Remaining 394 must be spread to end of July instead of to end of June. Monthly consumption will therefore be 66 Feb thru July.

2. Leaving German occupied Italy out of account there follows a table setting out the monthly feeding requirements on four different ration scales and showing monthly import requirements after deducting stocks in para one.

Area	Present Scale			
	300 gm ration throughout as in LAC 911	225 gms North of Gerigliano 300 gms elsewhere	250 gm ration throughout	200 gm ration throughout
Liberated Mainland	130	117	110	91
Sicily	28	28	24	19
Sardinia	8	8	7	6
Total	166	153	141	116
Fed from Stocks	66	66	66	66
Monthly Import	100	87	75	50

All figures in thousands of net metric tons. All ration

scales in terms bread equivalent.

1. Stock position 31 Jan. Stocks shown LAC 911 will be reduced to 454. Now consider essential that not less than 60 be earmarked for North. Remaining 394 must be spread to end of July instead of to end of June. Monthly consumption will therefore be 66 Feb thru July.

2. Leaving German occupied Italy out of account there follows a table setting out the monthly feeding requirements on four different ration scales and showing monthly import requirements after deducting stocks in para one.

Area	Present Scale			200 gm ration throughout
	300 gm ration throughout as in LAC 911	225 gm North of Gerigliano 300 gm elsewhere	250 gm ration throughout	
Liberated Mainland Sicily Sardinia	130 28 <u>8</u>	117 28 <u>8</u>	110 24 <u>7</u>	91 19 <u>6</u>
Total	166	153	141	116
Fed from Stocks	66	66	66	66
Monthly Import	100	87	75	50

Wheat

3. Approval has been given monthly for the import of 508 Wheat equivalent since November. Actual arrivals in wheat equivalent are as follows:

November	December	January	Total	Average
77	93	41	211	65

The January figure is made up of late Oct/Nov/Dec sailings 31, Barley against Feb 4, Actual January wheat 6. 16 not included has had to be borrowed from Balkans so that actual January arrivals amount to 57.

SECRET

X SECRET X

(140)

90/1
23/1

22nd January 1945.

Ref: 4807/140/COS.

SUBJECT: 300 Gram Ration.

TO : Acting President.

1. I have discussed the COS telegram PAN 478 with my advisers. There are certain discrepancies in shipping figures between those given by G-5 and by my Economic Section. On the latter's figures it would be just possible to provide a 300 gram ration for presently liberated Italy if we gambled on the arrival of some 25,000 tons during February which are not yet firm.
2. I am, however, not prepared to base the ration any further on gambles. Our experience during the last 12 months has taught us to be pessimistic in the extreme. (16) Vol. I
3. In view of PAN 478 I return firmly to the recommendation made in paras. 7, 8 and 9 of my letter 4807/79/COS of 12 December, that is to say, that we equalise on a ration of 250 grams made up of 200 grams of bread and 50 grams of pasta, throughout the Island and Italy. I repeat with great conviction that this is the proper course to take. We know we have the food to fulfill it, we need not count on the unknown.
4. The effect would be to decrease the ration of $11\frac{1}{2}$ millions in Southern Italy and increase the ration of $7\frac{1}{2}$ millions in Central Italy, with the prospect of maintaining this higher ration among 19 millions in Kesselring's Italy after liberation. Sicily has already reduced its ration by the action of the High Commissioner and would remain unaffected.
5. I would urge that no decision be made contrary to this recommendation without further consultation with myself. I would urge that a decision be made promptly in order that the Commission and the population may know what is ahead of them. I understand that SACRED's telegram will be despatched here tomorrow for consideration and I trust that I shall have an opportunity of consulting with you.

18/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

5075

785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APD 394

Office of the Chief of Staff

22nd. January 1945.

Message to: Colonel Henn,
G-5 Section,
Allied Force Headquarters.

1. The Chief Commissioner wishes it to be made perfectly clear at all levels that in view of the telegrams FAN 478 and follow-up from CCS and in view of the fact that we cannot supply a ration of 300 grams, that he reverts to the recommendation made by him with the unanimous consent of all his advisers that the ration must be equalised throughout Italy. On present firm shipping figures we can do this by supplying a bread ration of 200 grams and a pasta ration of 50 grams a day.

2. The Chief Commissioner reiterates this recommendation and insists that he should be consulted before any reply is made recommending any other solution.

3. This equalisation will decrease the ration of 11½ millions in Southern Italy and increase the ration of 7 millions in Central Italy. It is a ration that can be maintained and after the first few impact months can be produced in Kesselring's Italy with a further population of 19 millions.

Phoned to Colonel Henn by Chief of Staff
at 1700 hours on 22 Jan 45.

5078

186

J1/ak

IMPORT WHEAT SITUATION JANUARY & FEBRUARY 1945JANUARY

	WHEAT Tons.	BARLEY Tons	TOTAL WHEAT EQUIVALENT Tons
Jan. 22	(a) 49,368 - ^{Home} 41,000	5,368	
Jan. 16-25	8,000		
Jan. 26	<u>8,000</u> 65,368	4,000	69,368

(a) 10,700 was Dec. arrears

57,000 Home

FEBRUARY

Jan. 31 Jan-4 Feb.	33,000	14,000	
(Firm)			
Feb. 5 - 9	<u>24,000</u>		
(Firm)	57,000	11,000	68,000 Firm
Feb. 10-14	16,000	4,600	
(Planned)			
Feb. 15-19	24,000	7,000	
(Planned)			
Feb. 20-24	<u>24,000</u>		
(Planned)	61,000	8,700	72,700 Planned

140,700 Potential

NOTE: 94,000 tons asked for and called forward as being the imports by sea required to maintain the 300 gram ration throughout liberated Italy.

Copy of Super draft Serial
Can we see

W. J. Lee
W. J. Lee
Colonel

Director, Food Sub-Commission 50977

SECRET 4809

AFHQ MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING MESSAGE

AFSC H 440/18 (137)

FILED: 180003Z
REC'D: 180638A

PRIORITY

FROM: AQUAN FROM WILLIAMS SIGNED MARSHALL

TO: AFHQ TO MCNARNEY

REF. NO. THIS MESSAGE: W 22519

18 January 1945

See paragraph 4 of FAN 478 dated 17 January 1945.

Bread ration for ITALY is subject.

It may be advisable, in view of circumstances, to defer announcement of increased bread ration and to include any public statement concerning this in the press release now being drafted on the political issues under discussion.

Therefore, in view of interests here you should make every reasonable effort to arrange for deferring any announcement on increased ration pending full clearance at WASHINGTON of all details.

NOTE: FAN 478 in Ref WK 22280 MC IN 13114 18/1/45 G-5

ACTION: G-5

MC IN 13298 18 Jan 45 0945A Ref No. W 22519

cc: Econ. Sec.
Food S/C
CAS
CC Files

5078

SECRET

SECRET

AFHQ MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING MESSAGE

VAR

FILED: 172037Z
RECD: 180214A

AFSC M-273/18

MP

PRIORITY

FROM: ADVAR FROM THE COMBINED CHIEFS OF STAFF

TO: ALEXANDER FOR ACTION TO SHAPE VERSAILLES FOR EISENHOWER
AND TO BRITISH JOINT STAFF MISSION TO BRITISH CHIEFS OF
STAFF FOR INFORMATION

REF NO THIS MESSAGE: NY-22280.

17 JANUARY, 1945.

FAN 478.

Critical food situation in presently occupied ITALY and urgency of establishing a basis for supply planning for Northern ITALY is fully appreciated here. However, in view of the extensive shipping commitments involved it will be impossible to give you a reply on your recommendation as to the basic ration to be established in areas now occupied by the Germans until completion of the current overall examination of the world shipping situation now being conducted in WASHINGTON.

Meanwhile you are authorized to establish within that part of ITALY which has not been liberated from German control the maximum basic ration you decide is practicable in light of the currently approved shipping programs up to a maximum of 300 grams of bread (or equivalent) per person per day. When deciding upon this maximum basic ration you should take into account the greatest contribution operationally possible from your other military requirements.

As to German-occupied ITALY, it is recognized that because of limited shipping you may be unable to stockpile reserves of wheat/flour in advance of liberation and that unless additional shipping can be provided you may be unable to establish and maintain in areas now occupied by the Germans a ration on the same scale as that which you authorized to establish in areas now liberated. However, your imports requirements for the mainland North reflected in LAC 911 and your recommendation with respect to the desirability of the establishment of a ration up to 300 grams in areas now occupied by the Germans, once they have been liberated, will be given urgent consideration in the current overall examination of the world shipping situation now being conducted in WASHINGTON. As soon as any decision is reached which will affect the shipping which may be available for supplies for German-occupied ITALY, you will be advised.

Announcement of the increased ration in presently liberated ITALY should be made simultaneously in ROMAN, LONDON and WASHINGTON.

5075

17 JANUARY, 1945.

FAN 478.

Critical food situation in presently occupied ITALY and urgency of establishing a basis for supply planning for Northern ITALY is fully appreciated here. However, in view of the extensive shipping commitments involved it will be impossible to give you a reply on your recommendation as to the basic ration to be established in areas now occupied by the Germans until completion of the current overall examination of the world shipping situation now being conducted in WASHINGTON.

Meanwhile you are authorized to establish within that part of ITALY which has now been liberated from German control the maximum basic ration you decide is practicable in light of the currently approved shipping programs up to a maximum of 300 grams of bread (or equivalent) per person per day. When deciding upon this maximum basic ration you should take into account the greatest contribution operationally possible from your other military requirements.

As to German-occupied ITALY, it is recognized that because of limited shipping you may be unable to stockpile reserves of wheat/flour in advance of liberation and that unless additional shipping can be provided you may be unable to establish and maintain in areas now occupied by the Germans a ration on the same scale as that which you authorized to establish in areas now liberated. However, your imports requirements for the mainland North reflected in LAC 911 and your recommendation with respect to the desirability of the establishment of a ration up to 300 grams in areas now occupied by the Germans, once they have been liberated, will be given urgent consideration in the current overall examination of the world shipping situation now being conducted in WASHINGTON. As soon as any decision is reached which will affect the shipping which may be available for supplies for German-occupied ITALY, you will be advised.

Announcement of the increased ration in presently liberated ITALY should be made simultaneously in ROME, LONDON and WASHINGTON. Suggest this be done on any date you designate at 1600 hours ROME time, in order to permit convenient release hour in WASHINGTON.

Cable reply on paragraph 4 as early as possible reporting your decision under paragraph 2.

FOOTNOTES: LAC 911 is Ref No FX 72600 MC OUT 7832 22/11/44 G-5

ACTION : G-5

SECRET

cc: Economic Sec.
CofS
Brundage
CC Files

See 137

(134)

JEB
23/1

Extract from Pwt B
report
dated Jan 1945

STILL MORE ALLIED PROMISES UNFULFILLED

The much heralded Allied promises concerning American help to the people of invaded Italy have been further denied at the White House in Washington.

Heuter reports that President Roosevelt, at his recent press conference, described as more or less insurmountable the difficulties in connection with the shipment of food to the Italian people. He added that, notwithstanding his very best intentions, nothing could be done so far in fulfillment of the promise to increase the bread ration.

(Fascist Radio - 1300 - Jan 10)

5074

see 5073/135

PAJ 16/1

HQ. A.C. ECONOMIC SECTION

9/1/45
(Date)

From	To
☒ ECONOMIC SECTION <i>(at Kennerly)</i>	
AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMISSION	
COMMERCE	
FINANCE	
FOOD	
INDUSTRY	
LABOR	
P.W. & H.	
SHIPPING	
TRANSPORTATION	
PRIORITY & MOVEMENTS DIV.	
REGISTRATION DIVISION	
SUPPLY & RESOURCES DIV.	
CHIEF COMMISSIONER	
CHIEF OF STAFF	
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF	☒
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION	
ESTABLISHMENT SECTION	
For Appropriate Action	
Remarks/Recommendation	
Investigation & Report	
Information <i>+ file</i>	☒
Noting & Return	
Noting & Retention	
Signature	
Dispatch	
File Copy	
Circulation & Return	
Remarks:	

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4807
48

129

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
FIFTH ARMY
APO 464

30 December 1944

JAN 10 1945

SUBJECT: Shortage of Food
FOR : Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission

128

1. There is enclosed a translation of a notice that was posted in Pistoia on 23 December and has to do with the larger ration allowed to the various police agencies than is received by the civil population.

2. This is sent you to add to your files of background material pertaining to unrest caused by food shortages.

/s/ Edgar Erskine Hume

EDGAR ERSKINE HUME
Brigadier General, CSC
Senior Civil Affairs Officer
Fifth Army

EEH:trn
Enclosure

see Minutes 131 & 133

5072

COPY

LEAFLET POSTED IN PISTOIA ON DEC. 1/44AN INJUSTICE THAT HAS TO STOPCitizens of Pistoia City and Province.

You are informed that the Royal Carabineers, the Financial Guards, the Public Safety Agents, the Prison Guards and the Civic Guards are entitled to the following rations:

Bread	425	grams per day
Pasta	85	" " "
Rice	28	" " "
Vegetables, dried	85	" " "
Meat	100	" " "
Soup, Dely	28	" " "
Sugar	28	" " "
Oil, Olive	28	" " "

In addition the a/m ration also other foodstuff can be issued if available on the market.

The agents entitled to this treatment are exactly 594.-

CITIZENS! Don't you think this is a serious injustice and an insult for all those who are hungry! For those who for months haven't seen a gram of oil, a gram of pasta?

Perhaps a Carabineer has a stomach more capacious than of a labourer or an employee?

Do these "so called" Agents of the order consume more energy for the "heavy work they accomplish"?

Or, rather, their work is of more social utility than that of a laborer?

Are, perhaps, the Carabineers and the P.S. Agents that have initiated, with their work, the reconstruction of our martyred country!

CITIZENS! This wrong has to stop. Remember that the Partisans, fighting in the front line, don't draw even the half of what is drawn by these Agents who peacefully walk up and down the City.

Consider that the majority of these people has been the instrument of the fascist reaction and that a large number of them are purifiable and punishable according to the law for the punishment of crimes committed by the fascists.

CITIZENS! This wrong has to stop! The population that has suffered so much and still suffers, wants that the small quantities of food-stuffs disposable be fairly distributed.

The laborers and the employees are conscious of accomplishing a task useful for the revival of the nation and do not intend by any means to have an economical treatment inferior to that bestowed on the Agents and Carabineers.

785017

SECRET

126

Ref: 4807/126/COM.

8th January 1945.

SUBJECT: Food Rationing in ITALY.

TO : DDCS, Economic Section.
Food Sub-Com (Thru' Econ Sec).

1. The following documents are forwarded herewith in order to complete your file on this subject:

Extract (Minute No.3) from Minutes of SACOMB's
Conference (Political) of 30. Dec. 44. 122 118, 117 110
Telegram MAP 830 of 21. Dec. 44 from AFHQ to DDCS.
Extract (Minute No.3) from Minutes of SACOMB's
Conference (Political) of 19. Dec. 44.

2. The following papers referred to in the papers now forwarded have already been passed to you:

Paper No. PO(44) 152. 98, Vol 1
Paper No. PO(44) 155. 104, Vol 1
Telegram LAG 911 of 22. Dec. 44. 116

Major R. Tabor

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

/JC.

5072 5062

785017

CONFIDENTIAL

#807

005 (123)

123

4/1

P/A

To: AFHQ

S-407

1 JAN 45

JAN - 2 1945

URGENT

CONFIDENTIAL PD

REQUEST INFORMATION BE TELEGRAPHED TO CONFIRM TELEPHONE INFORMATION FROM
PAREN TO AFHQ FOR GEORGE FIVE FROM HQ ALCOM FROM STONE PERSONAL PAREN
COLONEL BUTTERWORTH REGARDING THREE HUNDRED GRAM BREAD RATION

124 + 125

see Minutes 1215122

Chief Commissioner

222

ELLERY H. STONE
Rear Admiral
Chief Commissioner

CONFIDENTIAL

PA

5066

SECRET.

SECRET.

127

Extract from Minutes of Supreme Allied
Commander's Conference (Political) held
on Saturday, 30th December, 1944.

Ref: SAC (P) (44) 37th Meeting dated
30th December 1944 (Original on File 217/COS).

MINUTE No. 8.

8. FOOD RATIONING IN ITALY.

THE CONFERENCE:

Took note of telegram No. NAF 830 of 21 December 1944 to the
Combined Chiefs of Staff, requesting a statement of policy on
the provision of bread for the populations of ITALY, SICILY,
and SARDINIA, and the allocation of shipping to implement that
policy; and of telegram No. LAC 911 of 22 December 1944, to
the Combined Chiefs of Staff, furnishing an estimate of the
stocks and monthly sailings necessary to provide a 300 gramme
basic bread ration for ITALY and SICILY and SARDINIA.

Copy to: Econ Sec } See Form 126
Food S/Com }

121 120
JEP
26/12

Tel: 735

26 December 1944.

Ref: 4807/120/008

SUBJECT: Public Unrest and Food Storage
in Tuscany.

TO : Economic Section.

no reference

1. The attached letter from ASD FIFTH Army dated 16 Dec 44 is passed to you for retention.
2. The Chief Commissioner embodied its contents in a signal to AFHQ dated 18 Dec 44.

[Signature]
Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

Incl:
as above

5067
21/12

[Handwritten mark]

CSO

To see for Humis letter at 2.
Its enclosure, GRC, is an appeal to the
people of Florence to give material assistance
to patriots. To be passed back to CA Sec.

22 Dec 44

Sh

5068

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

5068

119

Folio 119

Forwarded to
Econ. Sec - See
Folio 119 121

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

4807 ✓

118

Chief Commissioner.

Attached is submitted for your information/signature/approval.

Brought up by CD Hean. G.S.

5005

→ H.S. (22/11/11)

785017

SECRET
 AFHQ MESSAGE CENTER
OUTGOING MESSAGE
 URGENT

TO FOR ACTION: AGWAR FOR COMBINED CHIEFS OF STAFF AND TO
 CENTRAL DISTRICT U.K. BASE SECTION (LONDON) F
 BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF

INFORMATION: SHARP.

REF NO: FX 72384

SIGNED: ALEXANDER

CITE: PHCOS

23 DEC 1944

117
 SPARE

THIS IS NAF 830.

1. This is an earnest and urgent request to you for a firm statement of the policy of our 2 Governments on the provision of bread for the population of ITALY SICILY and SARDINIA together with a request that steps may be taken to provide means to implement that policy. This request has the complete support of my economic and political advisers.

2. The past policy of the Combined Chiefs of Staff is understood to have 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 Northwest 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 reach 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 can not hope within measureable time to correct it. It is therefore unprofitable to discuss further the use of grain which for controlled distribution in support of a ration scale is non-existent. Nor is it more useful to pass the responsibility to the Italian Government for a problem which they cannot solve.

MC OUT 7699 Cont'd.

-1-

SECRET

COPY No. 31

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. Here the combination of under-nourishment and winter and operational conditions are causing great distress and resentment which have already led to disorders. My Army Commanders have again made forcible representations to me on the matter. The necessity for preventing militarily serious disorders in and near the combat zone is patent.

5. There is no doubt that the Italian people regard the statements 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. Moreover 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 77000 tons only are expected to arrive in this country in January as against previously planned and advised shipments of 95000 tons of wheat equivalent. It is impossible to plan the feeding of the population of 25000000 people (and later 45000000) with a plan which from past experience has shown may be upset from week to week. 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 march to meet in the densely populated areas of North ITALY.

MC OUT 7690 Cont'

785017

SECRET

AFH. MESSAGE CENTER

OUTGOING MESSAGE

7. To assure a ration of 300 grams of bread in all ITALY SICILY and SARDINIA we estimate that it will be necessary for you to ship so as to arrive in ITALY during the period January through June 1945 a total of 1021000 tons of wheat. The manner in which shipments should be phased and an estimate of the shipping involved are being submitted to you separately in my LAC 911.

8. A careful examination has been made to see whether we can offer some reduction in shipping allotted for operational maintenance. As regards UNITED STATES tonnages there have been as you know considerable reductions already. Authorized stock levels have been reduced but additional commitments have arisen and any further cut in imports will cause reductions below authorized stock levels. As regards British tonnages cuts have also recently been imposed. A back-log has already accumulated. Authorized stock levels have been reduced but even the reduced levels are not being maintained in certain items. The effect of further reductions in British tonnages would be to prejudice firstly maintenance of stock levels particularly of supplies (rations) and secondly current operational demands for items such as bridging vehicles etc. To summarize UNITED STATES and BRITISH positions we will continue to scrutinize our demands most carefully to ensure that we ask only for what is absolutely necessary. If you find it impossible when you make your monthly allocations of shipping to meet the request put forward herein for additional wheat without some contribution from or deferment of operational maintenance we will undertake to make the necessary contribution at the expense of military requirements if operationally possible to do so. We can only do this period by period after receiving from you the firm allocation for military imports during the period involved.

9. 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 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 provided with the means to do so. The alternative is an ITALY embittered by unfulfilled promises by hunger and distress. This I believe would be a grave handicap to our immediate war effort and a lamentable example to other nations of the justice of Allied dealing.

ORIGINATOR: C/S

AUTH: J G SWEETMAN MAJ

INFO: SOS

IS&PS

G-2 G-3

G-4

MATH

G-5

US POLAD

MR MACMILLAN

CINO MED

USN

MAAF

MC OUT

7699

21 Dec 44

1928A

Ref No

FK 72384

s/B/GB

-SECRET

COPY No.

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FI 72500

DEC 22 1222A

C/5109

DEC 22 1927A
PRIORITY

From: AFHQ SIGNED ALEXANDER CITE PHGEG, PHGDS, PHCAO, PHGEM, PHTEPH
 To: AGWAR FOR OCS FOR CCAC AND BILLING FOR SPOFFORD INFO: CENTRAL
 DISTRICT U K BASE SECTION (LONDON) FOR BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF,
 TROOPERS, ALCON

28 DEC 1944

SECRET.FOR INFORMATION ONLY

This is LAC 911.

Wheat for ITALY. CAL 1040 refers. All figures in thousands of
 net metric tons.

1. Changed conditions and course of operations have necessitated
 revision of all previous estimates. New estimates, basis of calculation
 and assumptions made are set out in detail below.

2. Basic feeding requirements. Feeding requirements are 309 per
 month for whole of Italian territory. This is 143 north of present
 line, 130 liberated mainland, 28 SICILY, 8 SARDINIA. Basis is:

- a. 300 gram basic bread ration.
- b. Overall allowance of 8 percent for supplemental feeding.
- c. Ration card population 35300000 which is 78 percent of
 total population.

3. Stock position 31 December. Total stocks 554, of which 50
 flour saved out of November/December shipments and specially placed
 as stockpile for emergency movement north.

4. Assumptions as to the north.

- a. No indigenous stocks as of 1 March.
- B. 50 stockpile should take care of January and February
 developments in the north. 100 will be limit which
 can be accepted and distributed in March. April, May

28 DEC 1944

SECRET.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

This is LAC 911.

Wheat for ITALY. CAL 1040 refers. All figures in thousands of
net metric tons.

1. Changed conditions and course of operations have necessitated
revision of all previous estimates. New estimates, basis of calculation
and assumptions made are set out in detail below.

2. Basic feeding requirements. Feeding requirements are 109 per
month for whole of Italian territory. This is 143 north of present
line, 130 liberated mainland, 28 SICILY, 8 SARDINIA. Basis is:

- a. 300 gram basic bread ration.
- b. Overall allowance of 8 percent for supplemental feeding.
- c. Ration card population 35300000 which is 78 percent of
total population.

j. Stock position 31 December. Total stocks 554, of which 50
flour saved out of November/December shipments and specially placed
as stockpile for emergency movement north.

4. Assumptions as to the north.

- a. No indigenous stocks as of 1 March.
- B. 50 stockpile should take care of January and February
developments in the north. 100 will be limit which
can be accepted and distributed in March. April, May

5000.

- 1 -

HEADQUARTERS
28 DEC 1944

SECRET

3062

Copy on Food Imports file

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114

CONTINUATION PAGE 2

SECRET.

and June will require 119 each and consider this can be handled. Balance of 24 each April, May, June, will move north from stocks in para three.

Reductions will be made at once March thru June if assumption (A) is proved incorrect, or if entry BO No PIC is delayed beyond phasing shown para 6.

5. Revised estimates. Based on paras 1 and 3. Tabulate in eight columns:

AREA	JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTAL
Mainland north	-	50	100	143	143	143	579
Mainland south	130	130	130	130	130	130	780
Sicily	28	28	28	28	28	28	168
Sardinia	8	8	8	8	8	8	48
Total	166	216	266	309	309	309	1575
Fed from							
stocks	72	122	72	96	96	96	554
Imports	94	94	194	213	213	213	1021

Stocks shown para two are not very fluid(V). Inland

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HEADQUARTERS
 5055M
 A. 5062

- 3 -

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and Coastal transportation is serious limiting factor by maximum consumption these stocks will be at rate shown, the greater part being set off against present liberated mainland in special plans made to move extra 50 in February. Discrepancy revealed your para 1 therefore artificial.

6. Discharge areas for imports. Tabulate in eight columns:

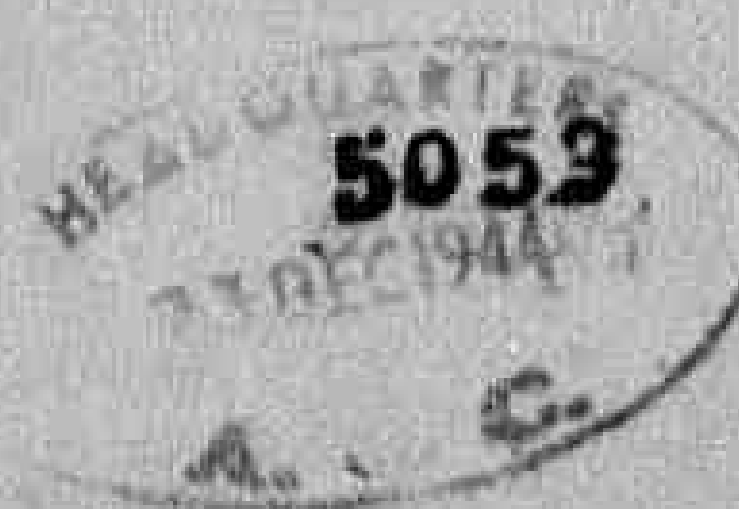
<u>AREA</u>	<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>APRIL</u>	<u>MAY</u>	<u>JUNE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Mainland north	-	-	100	119	119	119	457
Mainland south	58	58	58	58	58	58	348
SICILY	28	28	28	28	28	28	168
SARDINIA	8	8	8	8	8	8	48
TOTAL:	<u>94</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>213</u>	<u>213</u>	<u>213</u>	
				GRANDTOTAL	1021		

7. Consider your para 3 covered above.

Dist

Info-Action - Econ Sec (4)
 Info - Chief Commissioner
 C o S (2)
 File

INFO COPY ON FILE 4804/ear
 ACTION COPY ON FILE 4805/cas

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

4807

CPS.

III

AFHQ

8-395

18 DEC 44

PRIORITY

18 DEC 1944

CONFIDENTIAL PD

SUBJECT IS THREE HUNDRED GRAM RATION FOR CENTRAL AND NORTHERN ITALY PD
PAID TO AFHQ PERSONAL FOR BAKED CMA UNCLE SUGAR POLIO AND BOTTEN BREAD
FROM HQ ALSO FROM SOME PERSONAL PAID

CENTRAL NINE FIFTH ARMY AND REPORTS TODAY SIGNS HAVE APPEARED IN FLORENCE
READING SUBSTANTIALLY AS FOLLOWS JAMES ROOSEVELT CMA WHEAT IS THAT BREAD
YOU PROVIDED US (JERRY DID EU MEAN WHAT EU SAID QUERTY WE ARE HUNGRY DASH
HOW DO WE EAT QUERTY HIS QUOTE

DESTINATION:

Sir Noel Charles
Hon. Alexander Kirk
Economic Section
Food Subcommission
Political Section
Chief of Staff -
CC Files

Chief Commissioner

222

see Minute 112

HENRY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

CONFIDENTIAL

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SECRET.

110

Ext. act from Minutes of Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political) held on 19th December 1944.
Ref: SAC (P) (44) 36th Meeting dated 19th Dec 1944
(Original on File 217/COS).

MINUTE No. 3.

3. FOOD RATIONING IN ITALY.

98, 121

red, 121

(Papers Nos. PC (44) 152 and SAC (P) (44) 155).

THE CONFERENCE had before them two papers, the first being a record of a meeting held by the Chief Administrative Officer on the subject of food rationing in ITALY at which it had been decided to prepare for the approval of the Supreme Allied Commander a telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff, requesting the establishment of a 300 grams ration throughout the liberated area of ITALY: and the second attaching a draft of such a telegram and recommending that in the event of an unfavourable reply, a further telegram proposing a reduced ~~maxi~~ uniform ration should be despatched.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROBERTSON said that previous discussions at the Political Committee in regard to food rationing had been confined to the situation in SICILY, which was somewhat different from the rest of the country in that there was at least a strong suspicion that a considerable quantity of local wheat existed in the island, though it could not be brought forward for assessment. The preparation of a telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff, as directed at Conclusion 3(c) of PC (44) 35th Meeting had commenced but before agreement could be reached two occurrences caused the whole situation to be reviewed. The first event was the receipt of a letter from the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, urging the establishment, by importation of the necessary wheat of a 300 grams ration throughout liberated ITALY, or, alternatively, if that could not be done, the establishment of a parity ration throughout the area on a reduced scale. The second factor was a telegram from Commanding General, Fifth Army, expressing the view that, unless further supplies were made available in forward areas, militarily serious unrest was likely to result. The former Chief Administrative Officer had, therefore, held a meeting and as a result had directed that a telegram should be drawn up, putting a strong case for the establishment of a 300 grams ration to the Combined Chiefs of Staff for their decision. A draft of this telegram was now before the meeting. Meanwhile, the Allied Commission had that morning reported (cable No. S 395 - MC IN 14636 of 18 December) that notices and posters demanding more food had appeared in FLORENCE. This was a further indication of the seriousness of the situation.

MR. KIRK thought it very necessary to lay a final statement before the Combined Chiefs of Staff, and especially before the Prime Minister and the President, so that they could realise the consequences of a failure to provide this food. He considered that the phraseology of the draft telegram was impressive.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE, in reply to a question by the Supreme Allied Commander, confirmed that the necessary food to implement the ration did not exist in the country, except possibly in SICILY. There the assessment had reached 66 per cent and it was his opinion and that of his advisers that the present government would not be any more successful than its predecessor in obtaining any appreciable

meeting held by the Chief Administrative Officer on the subject of food rationing in ITALY at which it had been decided to prepare for the approval of the Supreme Allied Commander a telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff, requesting the establishment of a 300 grams ration throughout the liberated area of ITALY: and the second attaching a draft of such a telegram and recommending that in the event of an unfavourable reply, a further telegram proposing a reduced ~~and~~ uniform ration should be despatched.

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LIEUTENANT GENERAL MONAGNEY considered that portions of the telegram as at present drafted were most ill advised. Paragraph 1 in effect asked the Combined Chiefs of Staff for a blank cheque against future operations. The Chiefs of Staff would require an estimate of the impact on future operations of shipping the tonnage of wheat required. He was doubtful of the truth of the statement at paragraph 6 of the draft that the shipping allotted to the theatre ~~was~~ for operations maintenance would not permit any further reduction and urged that an immediate examination should be made to determine what additional shipments were required to meet the 300 grams ration and what proportion of these could be met from allocations already made to the theatre. The telegram should be redrafted to include this information and the Combined Chiefs of Staff should be asked to provide the balance of the shipping necessary. A contribution by the Theatre from normal sailings would assist in securing a favourable reply.

-2-

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER accepted General McFarley's views as to how the case should be presented to the Combined Chiefs of Staff. He was disturbed by the lack of food which he considered would sooner or later lead to unrest and disorders to the detriment of operations. He considered that definite promises to the Italians had been made and felt that action must be taken to implement them.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROBERTSON, in reply to a query by the Supreme Allied Commander, stated that owing to the machinery by which previous cuts in the theatre allocation of shipping had been effected these reductions had been made mainly at the expense of US military maintenance.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

(a) Directed that the Chief Administrative Officer establish:

(1) What monthly sailings of wheat, additional to those at present programmed, would be required to ensure the maintenance of a 300 gramme ration throughout ITALY during the period until the next harvest became available for consumption.

(11) What contribution, if any in terms of sailings per month, could be made by the Mediterranean Theatre from the existing operational shipping programme without serious prejudice to military operations in the theatre.

(b) Directed that the Chief Administrative Officer, in consultation with the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander, redraft those portions of the draft telegram circulated under paper No. SAC (P) (44) 155 to which the latter had taken exception, in such a way as to put the matter in the best possible light to the Combined Chiefs of Staff, adding a statement of the results of the examination carried out under (a) above.

(c) Directed that for the present no action be taken on recommendation 3(b) of paper No. SAC (P) (44) 155 pending a reply from the Combined Chiefs of Staff in respect of the 300 gramme ration.

(d) Directed that the Chief Administrative Officer arrange for the drawing up of plans for further wheat shipments to SICILY after 10 January 1945 but that action to implement such plans be deferred pending a reply from the Combined Chiefs of Staff in respect of the 300 gramme ration.

(e) Directed that Conclusion 3(b) of PC (44) 35th Meeting be regarded as cancelled.

5058

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

(a) Directed that the Chief Administrative Officer establish:

(1) What monthly sailings of wheat, additional to those at present programmed, would be required to ensure the maintenance of a 300 gramma ration throughout ITALY during the period until the next harvest became available for consumption.

(11) What contribution, if any in terms of sailings per month, could be made by the Mediterranean Theatre from the existing operational shipping programs without serious prejudice to military operations in the theatre.

(b) Directed that the Chief Administrative Officer, in consultation with the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander, redraft those portions of the draft telegram circulated under paper No. SAC (P) (44) 155 to which the latter had taken exception, in such a way as to put the matter in the best possible light to the Combined Chiefs of Staff, adding a statement of the results of the examination carried out under (a) above.

(c) Directed that for the present no action be taken on recommendation X(b) of paper No. SAC (P) (44) 155 pending a reply from the Combined Chiefs of Staff in respect of the 300 gramma ration.

(d) Directed that the Chief Administrative Officer arrange for the drawing up of plans for further wheat shipments to SICILY after 10 January 1945 but that action to implement such plans be deferred pending a reply from the Combined Chiefs of Staff in respect of the 300 gramma ration.

(e) Directed that Conclusion 3(b) of PC (44) 35th Meeting be regarded as cancelled.

5058

Copy to: Econ SEC } See Folio 126
Food S/C }
K7

