

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 1.3/NND No. 785017

ACC

10000/109/910

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

10000/109/910

BLACK MARKET
JUNE 1944 - MAR. 1946

Mr. Dickson - Please ~~see~~ that Coal Sec. gets copy of
or is informed of folios 45-50
Encl 9.0

54

Capt. where
Green See encl
copy of 50 to the
Coal Sec.

noted
Encl.

4 oct 45

folios 56
450 folios for info

folios 57
450 folios for info

sent 11/12/45

sent 11/12/45

Encl

Chief Commissioner. (94-6)

Approved
Attached is submitted for your signature
information

63/ Wanda you in
gladly the copy to note to 778/4/2
the copy ed two

5242

49

63

Discussed 1.3

Good this.

4 Oct 45

10-10-45
950 photos for info 56
10-10-45
950 photos for info 58

noted
Lynn

sent 11/12/45

sent 11/12/45

Enc

Chief Commissioner. (94-4)

Approved
Attached is submitted for your signature
information

63
Thank you. In
glad to be back to TWS/4/2
the effort

5242

47

62

4-8-48

Next Ex Comm meeting 11/16/45
Discussed for 3

C50

for sp. for 35- GA
S. 1/19

37.

Capt Brundage

Am: in hdt for info but
reminiscent action. We are
asked for instructions in

para 5. L. 15/5

40
C50. Folio 39 supplements info given in folio 35.
I will pass it on to EG Sec following up
folio 38, after you have read it.

Emul 24/9

Smulr.

41
Mr. Pickens - Send copy of folio 39 to EG Sec "for
info, supplementing folio 4808/18/EC of 19 Sept."
Copy sent as per instructions. Emul

5240

Capomandry

Mr. i. not to info but
remain active. We are
asked for instructions in

para 5. L 15/5

⁴⁰
CSO - Folio 39 supplements info given in folio 35.
I will pass it on to EG Sec following up
folio 38, after you have read it.

Encl 24/9

St 24/9.

Mr. Pickers - Send copy of folio 39 to EG Sec "for
info, supplementing folio 4808/38/EC of 19 Sept."
Copy sent as per instructions. Encl

Long 24/9/45.

⁴⁴
CSO - Folios 42 & 43 for info

Encl 25/9

⁵¹
St 2/10.

CSO - Folios 45-50 for info. Particularly second para
at folio 45. ~~Has nothing~~ should be sent to Coal
Dept for info after seen by you. Encl 2/10

CSO

CS may want to see 18.

6/12

7/12 Pm.

23.

CSO: for COS to see report (folio 22). JCB 9/2

24

COS

A table Surprising report in March
brought Veterans' in all.

L. 1/2.

25.

Yes - I think the surprise is coming

to the Patriots - I probably a few PAs.

Dr. L. 1/2.

Noted - P.H.G.R.
Pa.

26.

V.D. (AS)

To L. 22 and the above
brought in - in particular is beyond

5233

for COS to see report (folio 22). 9/2

24

COS

A rather surprising report on Black
market transactions in the

11/2.

25.

Tes - I think the surprise is coming

to the Patriots - Perhaps - of the PAs.

18/12/2

Noted - P.H.G.R.
Pa.

26.

5233

V.D. C.A.S.

To W.D. 22 and the above
in winter - in particular in England

to P.H.S.

13/2

→ T.O. COS.

21.

Noted. Your attention is drawn
to the fact that some P.A.s have the
advantage of being dressed in civilian clothes.

13 Feb 45.

14/2.

Spahn

SEEN BY COS 9/11/45

9

C.S.O.

Buy Jones spoke about this. He complained that Reg IV letter meant nothing. He is right. Please see that page 5 is answered promptly and then resubmit. MS/9/12

C.S.O. (OS)

10.

Col Poter's letter on Rome Restaurant is at 8. So you will copy to 10. This house is with in speak like him.

12/11 11.

C.S.O. Please draft letter to RAAC as per Minute 9. of CS meeting: also letter to AAT AFHQ on universal affliction. MS/10/12

12.

COS Letter to
AFHQ
AAI
RAAC

5238

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 964
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref : AG/14,306/RS

26 March 1946

SUBJECT : Placing "Out of Bounds - Off
Limits" of Cafes and Bars.

MAR 28 1946

TO : Allied Forces Headquarters,
G-5 Section, APO 942

With reference to your letters G-5:387.4-2 of 27 February 1946,
and of 14 March 1946, complete information was only available in this
Headquarters after receipt of your G-5:387.4-2 of 4 March which was re-
ceived on March 7. The matter was referred to the Italian Government
on March 14 under this HQ letter AG/14,306/RS (copy enclosed). No reply
has yet been received but the matter will be brought to their attention
again if necessary.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

M. CARR, Major,
VP CA Section

1 Incl.

Copy to : Executive Commissioner ✓

5237

5248

PA
29/3

(CAPT K)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

Tel: 478427

14 March 1945

AC/14306/PS

SUBJECT : Prefectural Decrees.

TO : Ministry of Interior,
Director General of Public Safety.

1. Allied military authorities still find it necessary to place certain business establishments out-of-bounds to Allied troops and, in order to indicate such places to the troops, to post the standard "Out-of-Bounds" sign or symbol.
2. Now that there is no military control over Italian civilians, it has been discovered that proprietors of establishments prohibited to Allied troops are removing such signs and symbols from their premises thus rendering it impossible to exercise proper supervision and control over the troops.
3. Would it be possible for your Government to direct the issuance of prefectural decrees requiring proprietors to display in a conspicuous part of their premises "Out-of-Bounds" signs and symbols where such premises have been declared to be out-of-bounds to Allied troops by Allied military authority and making it an offense against the proprietor for failing to do so?

JAC/aa

JOHN W. CHAPMAN
Colonel, JAGD
Director.

5238

Lee 7-71

69

Ref. : 4803/69/80

20 March 1946.

SUBJECT: Placing "Out of Bounds - Off Limits"
of Cafes and Bars.

TO : CA Section

68

67

1. With reference to G-5 AFHQ's letter G-5:387.4-2 Feb
passed to you for action.

2. The attached copy letter has been received in this
matter and it is requested that you reply direct with a copy to
this office, for our information.

For the Chief Commissioner

A. W. K. [Signature]

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

see 71

5235
10/1/46
13
2

902

4805

68

MAR 15 1946

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 322

G-5: 387.4-2

14 March 1946.

SUBJECT: Placing "Out of Bounds - Off Limits" of Cafes
and Bars.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 324.

64

With reference this Headquarters' letter G-5: 387.4-2
dated 27 February, it is requested that you inform this Headquarters
of what action has been taken in this matter.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

A. L. Hamblen

A. L. HAMBLIN
Brigadier General, GSC
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

See 69

See 7
5232

Ques
(Capt K.)

785017

COPY

COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 387.4-2

4 March 1946

MAR 7 1946

SUBJECT: "Out of Bounds - Off Limits" of Cafes and Bars.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 394

1. Reference your 4808/65/EO dated 2 March 1946.
2. Herewith copy of letter from Chief Liaison Officer, Allied Commission, NAPLES as requested.
3. Omission to attach to this office letter of even reference dated 27 February 1946 is regretted.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

/s/ A. E. Figelberg
Col GS-1

for

F. G. A. PARSONS,
Brigadier
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

Incl: as above dtd 6 Feb 46,
ref PS/5

Original passed to CA Sec

See 69 5233

CONFIDENTIAL

11-4-71

785017

25th February 1946.

REFERENCE : 10/16

SUBJECT : Contravention of Customs Regulations and
Black Market activities in the port of GENOA.TO : Executive Commissioner,
H.Q. Allied Commission.1. A conference was held on Saturday, 23rd February, 1946
which was attended by:-

British Consul General.
 American Consul General.
 Representatives of M.V.N. and American War
 Shipping Administration.
 British Naval Representative.
 U.M.E.R.A.
 DAFM South African Forces.
 Italian Navy Representative.
 Italian Port Officials.
 Guardia di Finanza,
 and others.

2. The object of the meeting was to endeavour to arrange
some effective means of preventing the extensive smuggling of goods through
the port of GENOA, destined for the Black Market.

3. The first phase of these operations is carried out by
small boats which go alongside Allied Merchant Ships lying off the Port,
where they obtain contraband, and come ashore on the coast outside the
port of GENOA. To control this, additional fast motor boats (two at least)
are needed by the Guardia di Finanza.

4. The second phase is Italian civilians proceeding on
board Allied Merchant Vessels carrying out their Black Market activities
on board. Such contraband is later brought ashore by either Italian
civilians or members of the crew of the vessels.

5. The Guardia di Finanza have now agreed to place guards
at the gangways to check Italian civilians, but they are powerless to
deal with Allied Merchant personnel.

6. The whole problem is a difficult one as much of the
contraband of the port has been loaded in the bombardment and it is

5232

1. A conference was held on Saturday, 23rd February, 1946 which was attended by:-

British Consul General.
American Consul General.
Representatives of I.W.T. and American War Shipping Administration.
British Naval Representative,
U.K.R.R.A.
Dutch South African Forces,
Italian Navy Representative,
Italian Port Officials.
Guardia di Finanza,
and others.

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4. The second phase is Italian civilians proceeding on board Allied Merchant Vessels carrying out their Black Market activities on board. Such contraband is later brought ashore by either Italian civilians or members of the crew of the vessels.

5. The Guardia di Finanza have now agreed to place guards at the gangways to check Italian civilians, but they are powerless to deal with Allied Mercantile personnel.

6. The whole problem is a difficult one as much of the perimeter of the port has been badly damaged by bombardment and it is essential therefore that immediate repairs be put in hand to stop up these "wet holes". Until these repairs have been carried out it is obvious that the Guardia di Finanza is grossly under strength.

7. As the representatives of I.W.T. and A.W.S.A. were in full agreement, they have agreed to put in a report to their Headquarters asking for a clarification of the standing of Allied Mercantile Marine personnel. They also agreed that additional fast motor boats are essential for the Guardia di Finanza.

contd/

Copy for Port of Genoa

M.H.

- 2 -

8. Liaison Public Safety Office has already made a report to H.Q. Alcom on this subject (ref 107/510 of 2.2.46 and 107/529 of 26.2.46).

9. It was arranged that closer cooperation between Liaison Public Safety, South African L.I.S., British Naval Representative, Italian Naval Liaison Officer and Guardia di Finanza will be established.

10. In conclusion, it was decided that in order to assist in stamping out the Black Market operations, and to prevent contravention of Italian Customs and Port regulations, action should be taken as follows:-
a) - If Allied Mercantile Marine personnel still retain their belligerent privileges, a considerable number of additional C.M.'s and Naval Agents are needed. It must be pointed out however, that no Naval Agents or C.M.'s are available owing to the withdrawal of practically all Naval and Military personnel from GENOA.

OR
b) - If ruling given as to whether Allied Mercantile Marine personnel are subject to normal peacetime Italian Port and Customs regulations. Doubt exists as to whether these seamen still retain their belligerent privileges.

c) - Two additional fast motor boats to ensure adequate patrolling are essential for use by the Guardia di Finanza.

11. I beg to suggest that a strong letter be sent to the relevant Italian Minister, urging the grave necessity that exists for the supply of these boats.

12. The British and American Consul Generals, and representatives of U.K.2. and A.S.A. have agreed that the Masters of incoming Allied Merchant vessels will be warned that Customs regulations MUST be observed.

[Signature]
7. THRESH, 7.01.47
Lt. Col.
Chief Liaison Officer.

Distribution.

- Executive Commissioner (3)
- Public Safety Sub-Commission (2)
- British Consul General, GENOA.
- American Consul General, GENOA.
- U.K.2. GENOA.
- A.S.A. GENOA.
- U.S.R.R.A.

2802

785017

of U.S.P. are available only to the witnesses of
eventually all Naval and Military personnel from
CHINA.

OR

b) - A ruling given as to whether Allied Mercantile
Marine personnel are subject to normal protective
Italian Port and Customs regulations. Doubt exists
as to whether these men still retain their
allied privileges.

c) - Two additional fast motor boats to ensure adequate
patrolling are essential for use by the Guardia
di Finanza.

11. I beg to suggest that a strong letter be sent to the
relevant Italian Minister, urging the grave necessity that exists for
the supply of these boats.

12. The British and American Consul Generals, and representatives
of U.S.P. and S. S. S. have agreed that the Masters of incoming Allied
Merchant vessels will be warned that Customs regulations MUST be observed.

W. Turner-Coles
W. TURNER-COLES
Lt. Col.
Chief Liaison Officer.

Distribution.

Executive Commissioner (3)
Public Safety Sub-Commission (2)
British Consul General, GENOA.
American Consul General, GENOA.
U.S.P. GENOA.
A.W.S.A. GENOA.
U.N.R.R.A.

2808

Ref: A303/65/20

2 March 1946

SUBJECTS: "Set of Bounds : Off Limits" of Cafes and Bars.

TO : C-5 AFHQ,

64
Ref your C-5-357.4-2 dated 27 Feb 46.

1. The letter referred to in para 4 was not enclosed with your letter under reference.

2. Could a copy please be sent to this HQ.

For the Chief Commissioner,

G. B. BEVERIDGE

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

See X-67
5231

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 387.4-2

27 February 1946

MAR 2 1946

SUBJECT: Placing "Out of Bounds - Off Limits" of Cafes and Bars.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 394.

1. Instances have recently occurred of cafe proprietors removing "Out of Bounds - Off Limits" signs from their premises, on the pretext that, since Italy is no longer under Military Government, the out of bounds orders no longer apply to their establishments.

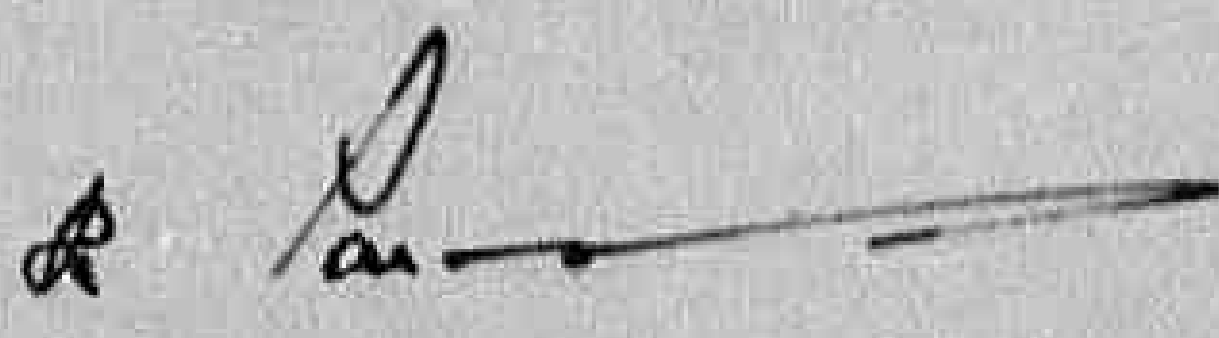
2. It is considered essential that any premises from which the Allied Military Police have reason to exclude troops, should continue to be signed "Out of Bounds - Off Limits", and it is necessary that proprietors continue to respect these signs.

3. It has been suggested that a practical solution to this problem would be for the Prefect of each town to publish a decree, requiring proprietors whose premises are signed "Out of Bounds - Off Limits" to respect this ruling or be liable to civil proceedings. The particulars of the bars, cafes or other establishments in a particular locality which should remain "Out of Bounds" could be furnished by AFMs/DAPMs of Areas/Sub Areas to the local Prefect.

4. Attached is a copy of a letter from the Chief Liaison Officer, Allied Commission, NAPLES, to Headquarters, NAPLES Area which outlines the arrangements made to overcome the difficulty in that area.

5. It is requested that you approach the Italian Government to obtain their agreement and cooperation in effecting similar arrangements throughout Italian Government territory.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:


F. C. A. PARSONS,
Brigadier,
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

Incl:
as above.

Original to CAS See 65

5235

1 page copy

(CAPT O)

785017

COPY

6808 9V

64A

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
LIAISON OFFICE
NAPLES

Ref PS/5

6 Feb 1946

Tel 53296

SUBJECT:- Out of Bounds - Cafes and Bars.

TO:- HQ Naples Area, CEF
(Attn: Major H.D. HARKER, APC)

1. Reference year 1024/Pro dated 2/2/46.

2. It appears that you may be overlooking the fact that this area is now under the control of the Italian Government. "Out of Bounds" notices posted in cafes and bars by order of Commanding Officers of Units, whilst possibly ensuring compliance by troops from a disciplinary point of view, do not impose any necessity on the proprietor to comply with or even to exhibit such notice on his premises.

3. To overcome this, it is proposed to request the Prefect to issue a decree which will place "Out of Bounds" to all Allied personnel all cafes and bars other than 20 already "Approved." The decree would also make it an offence against the proprietor for failing to display the notice in a conspicuous part of the premises.

4. The Questore has been approached and is willing to co-operate. His department will serve notice on all bars that are exclusive of the "Approved" twenty. There are approximately 300 bars to be served with "Out of Bounds" notices. The notices would be stamped and signed by the Questore and the proprietors served with a copy of the decree. Any sale to Allied troops thereafter would be an offence against Italian law and proceedings would be instituted against offenders.

5. If you are in agreement with the above proposals would you please forward to this office 300 "Out of Bounds" notices and the addresses of the bars you wish to remain "Approved." The decree can then be issued and necessary instructions given to the Questore.

(Sgd) J.A.C. TERRYQUICK
Colonel
Chief Liaison Officer
Allied Commission.

HSK/tp

5223

Original to CEF

2 Feb 46

61

My dear Maurice.

60

A copy herewith of my memorandum
on civilian protestants which I
have given today to Dasher.

Having looked through it he said
that he must accept what I said
fully agreed. ~~I now remain~~

to enforce it a bit more effectively
& that I will think about it.

Incidentally I have it confirmed
that the approach was, as I
suspected, made by Lee.

Yours ever

Alban Wood.

See to 62.63.

WJ
1/2
2

Q

60

MEMORANDUM ON CIVILIAN RESTAURANTS

1. Since the end of 1944 an order issued by AFHQ placed all civilian restaurants and eating houses out of bounds and off limits to all Allied troops. This order was issued after long and careful consideration during which my opinion was asked by the then C.A.O. To the best of my belief the reasons on which this order was based were as follows:

- (a) That it was wrong that men for whom a good and sufficient ration was supplied from Allied sources should encroach on the insufficient food supplies of Italy
- (b) That the Italian authorities were hampered in their attempts to eliminate the Black Market by the fact that in the course of any raid on civilian restaurants they might expect to find Allied officers or other ranks.

As to the first of these arguments it is probably the fact that the amount of food consumed was inconsiderable but there was a psychological and propaganda aspect which made it undesirable that we should be seen to be consuming civilian supplies. The second reason, however, appeared to have a good deal of substance and it was this more than the other which weighed when consideration was made. The present situation has changed a good deal. In some respects the food situation of Italy has improved but in others it is worse than ever, particularly with regard to flour and grain. I understand that the ration of bread and pasta has again been cut to the lowest level yet known, and I believe that the present flour ration in Italy is the lowest in Europe. As regards control of the Black Market, however, if the Italians have made any attempts they have not been evident and certainly success has not been conspicuous.

At first the Order was effectively enforced and infringements were rare; recently however, there has been some laxity and increasing numbers of Allied personnel are to be seen frequenting civilian restaurants; particularly, I suspect, Senior Officers in luxurious restaurants.

2. As I have pointed out above the food situation, particularly in regard to grain is still very serious; we read daily in the Rome Press and in British and American Newspapers of appeals for increased allocations of supplies to UNRRA and it seems that these appeals are based on a real need. In these circumstances the existence in the Capital of Italy of luxurious eating houses in which ~~luxurious~~ meals can be had at fabulous prices is a scandal and a reproach. Representations by the proprietors of restaurants that they are in need of increased patronage are in my opinion fallacious; these places are thronged already and the profits they are making must be colossal.

Excessive There is no doubt that the repeal of the Order would be popular in *expensive* circles but in my opinion it would be undesirable. If the Italians 5228

See 61

PA
8/12

59

- 2 -

Continued from sheet 1

not the guts to clean up their own Black Market that is their concern and we cannot force them to do so, but in my view it would not be right to encourage them in their shiftiness by being seen to participate in it. There is a slightly different aspect of this which is perhaps exclusively British. I conceive that a British wife would not be amused to hear that her husband had purchased, at a cost of 2,000 Lire or so a head, such a meal as she has not seen since 1940.

3. The prices charged in these places are for the most part fantastic and quite beyond the reach of any honest officer or soldier except the most well-to-do. How the Italians contrive to pay them is always a mystery to me. Many officers and soldiers, perhaps particularly officers, are glad of the existence of the order since it gives them an excuse for refusing hospitality which they could not at the existing prices afford to pay. Such ones would regret the repeal of the order. Others, weaker in character, would if the order were cancelled no doubt patronize these houses. There are, unfortunately, enough people in trouble already without adding to existing temptations. On this ground too, therefore, I would not recommend the lifting of the prohibition.

4. There is another consideration which probably carries less weight, but should nevertheless be taken into account. Many Italian writers, some American and at least one British, have made great play in newspaper articles of allegations of the protection of ex-Fascists in virtue shown by Senior Allied Officers to members of the Italian Aristocracy. Whether well or ill founded these allegations have gained considerable currency. It is certain that one of the effects of the repeal of the prohibition would be an increase in the numbers of Allied officers to be seen in public with members of the Aristocracy and wealthy classes. I have no doubt that this would be one of its effects, but express no opinion as to whether or no it would be desirable.

5. It is my conclusion therefore, that the Order should not be cancelled but should remain in force. If it remains, however, it is necessary that it shall be really enforced for all alike, and I have no doubt that this can be done. A further thing which should be undertaken is a review of the eating arrangements for officers and EM/OR to see that there are adequate facilities, both for the men themselves and for a reasonable number of civilian guests.

5227

Ah

Brigadier

1st February 1946

785017

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

4808

Ex-3mm

RJS/jon

57

AG 333.5 GAP-O

9 January 1946

JAN 11 1946

SUBJECT: Illegal Transportation of Controlled Foodstuffs.

TO: All Concerned.

1. It has come to the attention of this command that the Italian Government has at various times alleged that Allied Military trucks are being used to move controlled foodstuffs, such as wheat and olive oil, in order to avoid search and seizure at the road blocks operated by Italian control authorities.

2. All commands will cooperate to the fullest extent with the Italian police in suppressing possible misuse of Allied transport. Existing road blocks and military police patrols will be instructed to check military vehicles to ensure that they are not carrying unauthorized loads on civilian account.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

*Edmund R. Shugart*EDMUND R. SHUGART
Colonel, AGD
Adjutant GeneralDISTRIBUTION:

"C"

See h. 51

5228..

SPH
11/1/46
(NND)

Wide Distribution & Made / Koth

AP
14/1
1946

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24.262

JAN/na

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 394

ECONOMIC SECTION

ACRA : 790

8 December 1945

SUBJECT: Illegal Transportation of Controlled Foodstuffs DEC 10 1945

TO : AFH, G-5 Section

1. The Italian Government has at various times alleged that Allied Military trucks are being used to move controlled foodstuffs, such as wheat and olive oil, in order to avoid search and seizure by Italian control authorities at road blocks.

2. A recent example of the reports received by Allied Commission is quoted below from a telegram to the Prefect of Piacenza from the Minister of Agriculture.

"It is reported that Allied trucks supplied with false documents of competent 'BPM' coming from Apuania, Viareggio, Livorno, and Lucca are withdrawing wheat directly from the farmers of Cortemaggiore and Rovereto di Cadore. The grain taken, which is financed by women, is being paid for at from 2,000 to 3,000 lire per quintal. Up to now about 10,000 quintals of wheat have been carried away. Will you please adopt suitable measures to stop this illegal trade, giving immediate assurance to this Ministry."

3. The matter is brought to your attention because of the urgent need of information upon which to base a statement to the Italian Government. They desire advice as to whether or not Allied Military road blocks can be instructed to prevent the illegal movement of rationed foodstuffs by civilians. In the course of operations designed to prevent transportation of unauthorized Italian civilians by military vehicles.

4. It is requested that appropriate instructions be issued to the various commands in Italy with the object of preventing the alleged practices and that relevant information as to present and future policies be made available to the Allied Commission.

For the Chief Commissioner.

HARLAN CLEVELAND

Acting Vice President

785017

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For the Chief Commissioner.

HASLAN CLEVELAND
Acting Vice President
Economic Section

Distribution
Executive Commissioner
Econ Sec - Sup Div (2)
EC, Piemonte Region
EC, Liguria Region
EC, Lombardia Region
EC, Venezia Region
EC, Veneto Region
EC, Veneto Region
Food & Agr 3/C Officer, EC, Milan
24 Jan (3).

Pa 10 12

2nd October, 1945

It has come to my notice that it is possible to purchase a nice set of British Battlecrews in the market in Camp del Pined close to the French Embassy. Your Provost may care to look into this.

Brigadier Allen Low,
Dep Org Gen,
R.A.S.C.

J. S. Lush
J. S. Lush

522

It has come to my notice that it is possible
to purchase a nice suit of British Battledress in the
market in Campo del Filippi close to the French Embassy.
Your Provost may care to look into this.

*James
J. S. Lush*

Brigadier Adrian Lush,
Dep. Comd. Gen.,
R.A.C.C.

521 1/10

785017

480840
TRANSLATION

GO/ag

COMMAND OF THE R. GUARDIA DI FINANZA
DETACHMENT, ATTACHED TO THE REVICTUALLING
BOARD OF ROME.

Via Carducci 3, telephone 44350

OCT - 1 1945

Note for the Minister of Industry & Commerce
concerning a presumed underhand trade in
coal imported from America.

1°) Premise:

The investigations in question originated from an oral statement, made personally to the Minister of Industry & Commerce, by Maj. Clark of the Allied Commission in Via Veneto, by order of the Allied Commission itself, on September the 12th ult.

In this statement it was pointed out that a certain Geom. Paolo Parise - Piazza Camerino 2, Rome - made a written offer to the ILVA Co. of Rome for 4,000 tons of coke, shortly due from America, at the price of Lit. 14,000 the ton, free at one of the Lazio ports. If the ILVA were to accept the offer, it would have to pay at once the whole amount, informing Parise of the deal, so as to avoid the goods being disposed of otherwise.

Entrusted with the task of investigating the matter, and realizing the importance attached by the Allied Commission to the fact that large quantities of coal, assigned to the reconstruction of Italy, might go onto the black market, I went to the Allied Commission, where - assisted by Comm. Fragali, chief of the legislative office of the Ministry of Industry & Commerce, I conferred with Maj. Clark and, later, with the Allied Colonel - chief of the Safety Division, and reached an agreement with these officers on the plan of action.

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We decided not to approach directly Parise, who, might find some easy justification, thus preventing a further identifying of those chiefly responsible. Instead, the Ilva (which was, by the way, the firm that informed the Allied Authorities of the matter) was to pretend to accept the offer and negotiate the business as if it was to be concluded; the Ilva was supposed even to lodge the required 56 million lire with a bank, in a frozen account, if this should become necessary for identifying the supposed speculators.

All this being fixed, I went in the evening of the same day, September 12, to the Ilva, where I conferred privately with the Concern's Commissary and was given assurance, that the Firm would gladly assist the police in the investigations, by following the instructions.

On the morrow, September 13th, the Ilva rang up Parise, telling him it was agreeable towards settling this business. The latter answered that the offer was not for coke ("carbone coke"), but for Sardinian semicoke ("carbone cotto"); and that it comes not from America, but from Sardinia. As the Ilva showed its resentment for the lack of soundness with which the offer was made and requested Parise to explain the reason of the difference between the two offers, Parise explained that he, likewise, received the offer by telephone and mistook the word "cotto" for "coke"; that the person who made him the offer only joked, while mentioning America as origin of the shipment, but he took it in earnest and wrote "due from America" in good faith. Parise added, that the misunderstanding was explained the day before, under circumstances he did not specify.

Having reached this stage in the investigations; I decided it was of no avail to continue using the Ilva, considering the answer of Parise, and judged it more useful to take action by the available police means, against Parise himself, so as to verify the truth of the facts.

2°) Result of the investigations:

After the necessary warrant was obtained from the Public Prosecutor, a search was made, early in the morning,

at Parise's home. Five drafts of letters, dated 5 September, were found, written by Parise to the Ilva, the Coloniale Siderurgica Co., the Montecatini, the Italcementi and the Soc. Nazionale delle Officine di Savigliano, in which letters he made the offer in question.

Arrested and brought to this Command, Parise mentioned an important detail which explained much of the conversation he had over the telephone with the Ilva.

Indeed, according to information received from the Ministry of Industry & Commerce, on the same 12th of September, while Maj. Clark of the Allied Commission was discussing the matter at the Minister's Private Secretary's Office, Parise was arrested by two non-commissioned officers of the R. Guardia Finanza attached to the Direzione Generale del Commercio Interno in Piazza Dalmazia. These officers were not under my orders, having been entrusted with the matter directly by Comm. Bianchini attached to the Ufficio Carboni. Such action was taken because the Ilva, besides having informed the Allied Commission, notified, also the Ufficio Carboni of the Ministry of Industry & Commerce, requesting it to make appropriate investigations. Comm. Bianchini, who was unaware of the fact that, the A.C. was, at the same time, informed and taking action in the matter, behaved as mentioned above. Parise declared that he made the offer to the Ilva, having received a similar one from a certain Rubini Fortunato.

The same non commissioned officers interrogated also Rubini Fortunato, who gave the above mentioned explanation, affirming that it concerned "Sardinian Coked coal" and not "American coke".

That explains therefore the call by phone occurred the next day September 13th between the Ilva and Parise, a call which was made after the two non commissioned officers had already interrogated Parise. However, I desired to go to the bottom of the matter, and as Parise insisted on the version given to the Ilva by phone, I proceeded successively to the arrest and examination of the persons who took interest in this business and passed the offer from one to another, in the following order:

Rubino Fortunato	: Via dei Salentini N° 20
Laghi Girolamo	: Via Castelfidardo N° 78
Di Dionisio Tito	: Via Ravenna 9/B
Ascone Mario	: Via Ludovico di Savoia N° 21

But all the above mentioned persons stated unanimously that the offer concerned "Sardinian semicoke" and that the said offer has been altered either by mistake or bad faith or ignorance of Paolo Parise, who was the last bidder.

I invited thus these people to justify the existence of the stock of "sardinian semicoke" in question and Ascione confirmed that the stock was property of the S.A. Azienda Carboni Italiani, Via Lucullo.

I executed a descent at the aforesaid firm. After having questioned its managers and checked the relative books, I was able to ascertain that the firm in question, which in Sardinia digs out the Sulcis coal and combines the Società Arsa and the Società Mineraria Carbonifera Sarda - produces in Sardinia also a quality of coal which is called "cotto". It is Sulcis coal, distilled for the production of gasoline, tar and similar oils, the residue of which is called "cotte", known usually as semicokes.

It is produced in the distillery of S. Antioco (Cagliari) and called "carbone cotto in fumo" (coal coked by smoke) having the following characteristics: 4500-5000 calories, 10-14% of gaseified substances, 2.8% of pyritic sulphur, and therefore harmless for the boilers. - The selling price of such a coal in Sardinia is 3000/4000 lire per ton, but including the successive transport expenses by schooners, which charge 7000 lire per ton, said selling price on the mainland amounts to about 11,000 lire each ton. That ought to justify - according to the various above mentioned bidders - the price of 14,000 lire per ton named to the last buyer, considering the various middlemen.

According to the statements of the Azienda Carboni Italiani, the sardinian semicoke is not frozen by the Allied Authorities, but lately - during the offers which are in question in the present report - the Ministry of Industry and Commerce fixed the price of said coal at 3,100 lire per ton on the place of production (Cable N° 426168 of 27 August 45). The Ministry decided also that the

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allotments must be made through the Uffici Provinciali dell'Economia of Rome and Naples. The firm stated that the stock of 4000 tons coal is lying still at S. Antioce and that steps are taken - through the Offices concerned - to allocate said stock of coal to the Società S.C.I.A. (Sviluppo commerciale industriale africano) in Naples.

The same thing was also confirmed by the various mentioned bidders, who lately received notice to disinterest themselves in the matter, because the coal was no more available.

3°) Conclusions

From the above detailed report a conclusion can be drawn that, although the affirmation of Parise seems not very likely, it is not to be excluded that said affirmation is true, if you consider that the stock of 4000 tons of Sardinian semicoke actually exists in Sardinia.

But the contents of the letter written by the same Parise ought to be explained, because they are in contradiction with the results of the investigations. Besides the declarations made by the said person, his action can be justified by his inexperience in the matter, because he is not a business man, but has the rank of Aeronautical Engineers Captain in regular military service. At present he is suspended from the service and has been committed to trial for epuration, because he was "squadrista" and "marcia su Roma" (recently he was punished with 45 days under arrest, for this matter).

It is not to be excluded that Parise was not only inexperienced but also in bad faith, i. e. he wished to defraud the Ilva and the other firms, delivering to them a product different from that offered. Said explanation is also strengthened from the haste with which Parise wished to come into possession of the required amount of 56 million, as per letter written to the firms. By this letter Parise requested - without any commercial soundness - an immediate payment of the amount even before the delivery of the goods or the inspection of the sample. On the other side, such a supposition cannot be excluded, if you consider the

5213

atmosphere in which he was living, his fascist background and considering also that, of the other bidders with whom he was in relationship, Professor Ascione was recently suspended from the appointment as principal of a College at Rovigo, because he was formerly consigliere nazionale and Rubini is now unemployed, owing to the dissolution of the Confederazione degli Agricoltori by which he was working.

It can therefore be concluded that no speculation has happened or could happen on the coal supplied by the Allies for the national rehabilitation. Furthermore it is pointed out that the people involved, considering their present social and economical conditions, had no practical possibility to detract from the prescribed regulations, such a large stock of coal and to trade it on the black market.

I beg to inform you that I will notify directly the present matter to the Allied Commission, according to the agreements made with the private Secretary's Office of the Ministry for Industry and Commerce.

Rome, 24 September 1945

/s/ The Captain Commanding
Tullio Marescalchi.

ES DIST

1 EXEC COMM

1 COAL DIV

1 ES FILE

5218

48089
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

Ref. 11.08/20

23 September 1945

MEMORANDUM:

SEP 25 1945

TO : Executive Commissioner

1. Reference your 4808/38/EC of 19 September 1945.
2. Attached for your information is the copy of the letter to Headquarters Piemonte Region giving instructions as to the disposition of the salt referred to in attachments to your letter.

Charles W. Walton
for CHARLES W. WALTON
Colonel
Chief, Supply Division

PA

Emuel

(Capt. Walton)

PA 26/9
5217

See M 44

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Economic Sect (42)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
A.P.O. 394
Food Sub - Commission

KJC/am

Tel : 466

16 September 1945

Ref : 70-19/18Q/Feed

SUBJECT : Salt Authorisation for Transit
issued to French Military Personnel

TO : Regional Commissioner Picomte Region

1. Refer your PR/KSQ/091.9 dated 12 September .

2. Salt seized because illegally held or transported should be turned over to the nearest office of the Monopole delle state (Salt Monopoly). A receipt should be taken and delivered to the regional AMG Feed Officer.

By command of Rear Admiral STONE :

FRANK E. TOSQANT
Lt. Col. P.A.
Director, Food - Sub Commission

copies for info to : AMG Picomte Region (Attn : Feed Officer)
" " " " Finance Officer
HQ AG Civil Affairs Section
AC Northern HQ ATTN : Capt. Richert

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488240

EX-100 39

HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

17 September 1945

SEP 22 1945

REFERENCE : PR/ESO/091.9

SUBJECT : Authorization for transit issued to French Military Personnel.

TO : Chief of Staff
HQ Allied Commission.

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1. Adverting to this HQ PR/ESO/091.9 dated 12 Sept. 45.
2. Investigation with A.M.G. and civilian authorities in VERCELLI has failed to reveal any knowledge on their part of the French intention to enter VERCELLI to trade salt for rice.
3. The Regional Legal Officer has advised that it is improbable satisfactory prosecutions could be maintained against the persons arrested in this matter, and the Regional Commissioner has instructed that appropriate disciplinary action be taken against Prefecture employees in lieu of prosecutions.
4. Whilst the Prefect should have exercised more caution, the Regional Commissioner does not believe he was too much at fault, since all parties agree that he did ask if the matter had been cleared with A.M.G. (or words to that effect) and signed after being so assured.
5. Your instructions as to the disposal of the salt brought into this Region by the French Military personnel are awaited please.

By order of COLONEL THOMAS

A. W. Nicklenwright

A. W. NICKLENWRIGHT
Captain
Executive Staff Officer (Br)

5215

TO

Chief of Staff
Hq Allied Commission.

1. Adverting to this Hq PR/RSO/091.9 dated 12 Sept. 45.
2. Investigation with A.M.G. and civilian authorities in VERCELLI has failed to reveal any knowledge on their part of the French intention to enter VERCELLI to trade salt for rice.
3. The Regional Legal Officer has advised that it is improbable satisfactory prosecutions could be maintained against the persons arrested in this matter, and the Regional Commissioner has instructed that appropriate disciplinary action be taken against Prefettura employees in lieu of prosecutions.
4. Whilst the Prefect should have exercised more caution, the Regional Commissioner does not believe he was too much at fault, since all parties agree that he did ask if the matter had been cleared with A.M.G. (or words to that effect) and signed after being so assured.
5. Your instructions as to the disposal of the salt brought into this Region by the French Military personnel are awaited please.

By order of COLONEL THOMAS

[Signature]

5215

A. W. MICKLEWRIGHT
Captain
Executive Staff Officer (Br)

Copy to : Civil Affairs Section Hq AC.
Hq No. 2 District.

See file for info re 4800/22/20/20

(W 2 22)
(W 2 22)

Ref: 4805/38/RC

MEMORANDUM

TO : Economic Section

19 September 1945

1. Enclosed is a letter from Hq Piemonte Region AND ref. PR/MSO/091.9 of 12 September regarding salt seized from the French. Attached are also Public Safety reports with reference to French military personnel discovered selling salt to civilians from their trucks in Turin Province.

2. It was requested by Hq Piemonte Region that instructions be given as to disposal of the salt. This correspondence is passed to your section for appropriate action and it would be appreciated if copy of your reply were sent to the Executive Commissioner's Office.

A. B. ARNOLDY.

Chief Staff Officer
To Executive Commissioner

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B/V
27/9
22/9
20/9

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HEADQUARTERS
PIEMONTE REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

CONFIDENTIAL.

REFERENCE: PR/ESO/091.9
12 September 1945

SUBJECT : Authorisation for transit issued to
French Military Personnel.

TO : Chief of Staff, HQ, Allied Commission.

1. Enclosed herewith are copies of Public Safety Reports in regard to French Military Personnel discovered selling salt to civilians from their trucks in Turin Province.

2. Public Safety Division have arrested Vittorio Drago, the Cuneo Prefettura employee who signed the permit given to the French Officers; Prof. Bessoni, the Secretary to the Cuneo Prefect; and three other civilians involved in conducting the French Officers to the Prefettura.

3. Vittorio Drago is described by the Prefect and referred to in the report of the PPSO Cuneo as Acting Vice Prefect, but AMG approval to this appointment has not been given at any time.

4. The Regional Commissioner interviewed the Prefect of Cuneo on 11 September 1945 and it is possible his resignation will be tendered.

5. It will be observed from the report of the HQ PPSO - Captain Mann - that the salt brought by the French has been "seized" and instructions are requested, please, as to disposal thereof.

6. Police inquiries in the matter continue.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL THOMAS.

A. W. McIlwain
A.W. MCILWRIGHT.
Captain RA.
Exec. Staff Officer (B)

COPIES TO:

Civil Affairs Section, HQ AC.
HQ No. 2 District.
HQ 7 AGRA.

Reports in regard to French Military Personnel discovered selling salt to civilians from their trucks in Turin Province.

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BY ORDER OF COLONEL THOMAS.

A. W. McElenwright

A. W. MCELENWRIGHT.
Captain RA.
Exec. Staff Officer (B)

COPIES TO:

Civil Affairs Section, HQ AC.
HQ No. 2 District.
HQ 7 AGRA.

5213

(Capt. Mansel)

See 36437

See 39

COPY.

FROM : PFSG Aneo Province.
 TO : RPSO, AMS, Piemonte Region.
 REF : PR/CU/PS
 DATE : 11 Sep 45
 SUBJECT : Authorisation for Transit Issued to
 French Officers.

1. Upon receipt of your call yesterday with regard to the case of the two French officers being arrested in TURIN with two truck loads of salt, the acting Vice Prefect, Vittorio DRAGO, was called to my office immediately and questioned on the matter. He at first denied all knowledge of having issued or signed such a permit as was found in the possession of the French Officers. Later, however, he began to remember vaguely about a request of some sort the French had made but could not sufficiently explain what it was without contacting the Secretary to the Prefect, Prof. Bessoni. I immediately ordered this man, Prof. BESSONI, to be brought to my office and at the same time ordered the Questore to go personally to the Prefect's Office and locate the copy of the permit found in the possession of the French Officers.

2. The Questore contacted me very shortly with a copy of the permit he had found in the Prefect's files (Copy attached). The Questore stated that he had no knowledge of such a transaction and could immediately see that it was highly irregular and felt sure that the Prefect could not be involved. He requested that before taking any further action it would be advisable to interrogate the Prefect. This could not be done as the Prefect was in TURIN and could not be located at the time. It was decided to question the Acting Vice Prefect and the Secretary further.

3. They both stated that the two French Officers in question called at the Prefettura on the 31 Aug 45 and asked for a permit to transport salt and oil thru CUNEO Province to VERCELLI Province where a contract had been previously entered into with SERRAVAL there for the exchange of these commodities for Pasta and Rice. The French Officers stated they were supplying their unit stationed near GARNES and could not get these two food items in FRANCE. The question was supposedly put before the Prefect who was busy at the time and did not personally see the two officers. They stated that the Prefect concurred and the permit found in the possession of the French Officers was issued.

4. Because of the weakness of the explanation, they were questioned further and later admitted that negotiations for trade with these officers was gone into. They admitted that they had talked to them about exchange here in CUNEO Province but ⁵²¹³Minute contract had been made. They did admit that in the course of negotiations the FRENCH Officers offered to trade 100 quintals of oil for 500 quintals of Pasta, but the exchange was not satisfactory

called to my office immediately and questioned on the matter. He at first denied all knowledge of having issued or signed such a permit as was found in the possession of the French Officers. Later, however, he began to remember vaguely about a request of some sort the French had made but could not sufficiently explain what it was without contacting the Secretary to the Prefect, Proff. Bessonni. I immediately ordered this man, Prof. Bessonni, to be brought to my office and at the same time ordered the Questore to go personally to the Prefect's Office and locate the copy of the permit found in the possession of the French Officers.

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3. They both stated that the two French Officers in question called at the Prefettura on the 31 Aug 45 and asked for a permit to transport salt and oil thru CUNEO Province to VERCELLI Province where a contract had been previously entered into with SEMPAI there for the exchange of these commodities for Pasta and Rice. The French Officers stated they were supplying their unit stationed near CANINE and could not get these two food items in BRANCO. The question was supposedly put before the Prefect who was busy at the time and did not personally see the two officers. They stated that the Prefect concurred and the permit found in the possession of the French Officers was issued.

4. Because of the weakness of the explanation, they were questioned further and later admitted that negotiations for trade with these officers was gone into. They admitted that they had talked to them about exchange here in CUNEO Province but the definite contract had been made. They did admit that in the course of negotiations the FRENCH Officers offered to trade 100 quintals of oil for 500 quintals of Pasta, but the exchange was not satisfactory so the deal was dropped. They then, in good faith, as they put it, issued the permit for transport only, of the commodities mentioned, thru the Province to VERCELLI Province.

5. It was decided to place these two men, DRAGO and BISSONI, under arrest in a hotel until the return of the Prefect. They were turned over to the Questore who carried this out.

6. The Prefect was located in CUNEO later in the evening by the Questore who brought him immediately to see me. The Prefect immediately assumed all responsibility for the entire affair and asked that DRAGO and BISSONI be released immediately, with the threat of resigning himself if they were not released. He further stated that when the French Officers came to his office he was very busy and could not see them. They were authorized to enter into negotiations, whatever they were, on his authority. His only excuse for authorizing such a transaction was that he was assured by

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- 2 -
his secretary, BISSONI, that the French Officer had presented all the necessary documents from AMG here in CUNEO and from SEPRAL at VERCELLI, to prove that they were in order. He asked that he be permitted to present himself to the Regional Commissioner, if necessary, to explain his position in the matter. I informed him that these arrangements would be made and he was to meet Major GARLINER in the Regional Public Safety Officer's Office at 1400 hrs 11 Sep 45.

7. In the course of DRAGO and BISSONI conversing in my office, my interpreter picked up the information that an escort furnished by the Economic Police on the order of the Prefect had been furnished for the French. Lt. SACCHETTI of the Economic Police was contacted and furnished the information that on 6 Sep 45, at 0900 hrs, he was called by BISSONI and told he was to furnish an escort for some food trucks coming in from FRANCE. This Lieutenant stated that he could not do it unless he had a written order from the Prefect. BISSONI stated that this would be issued. At 1500 hrs the Lieut was called to the Prefettura where he met the two French officers and another civilian. The Order for the Guard was delivered to him and he was assured that everything was in order. The Agent was taken by the French Officers in a Jeep across the French Border at COLLE DI MALLINIA. At a small town about 3 kms from the border in FRANCE they met a convoy of 3 trucks heavily laden and guarded by French soldiers. The two Officers turned around and led the convoy of three trucks across the Border again back through VIMADIC and SAN LALLAZZO. They entered CUNEO at approximately 2200 hrs with the three trucks still guarded by French soldiers. They were sent to the old Railroad Station on the Southern side of the City where the Agent was told to leave the convoy as he was no longer needed. This Agent was unable to state what was on the trucks as they were covered with tarpaulins. He stated that while en route they told him he was required for passing the CORR road blocks. This Agent did not have a copy of the Order issued by the Prefect but remembered the wording (Copy attached).

8. It is the observation of this Officer that this incident is the beginning of a Black Market trade on a Provincial level (and requires a complete investigation from all angles. There is no doubt in my mind that although the Prefect explains that the permit he issued was issued in good faith, but betrayed by the French officers, he, as well as the acting Vice Prefect and the Secretary, are involved in the case from the Black Market angle and the Prefect's explanation should not be credited in any way. There is the possibility that the Prefect was not involved and has taken full responsibility because of political pressure.

9. The investigation will be continued, especially to locate what disposition was made of the three truckloads of food brought into CUNEO on the night of 6 Sep 45.

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/s/ D.W. Miller, Capt.
/t/ D.W. Miller
Capt.

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/s/ D.W. Miller, Capt.
/t/ D.W. Miller

Capt.

P.F.S.O.

AMC CUNEO Province.

DWM/RP

5212

COPI. OF TRANSLATION.

SUBJECT :- AUTHORISATION FOR TRANSIT

1289 3/31-8-945

Lieutenant PALLIERE and Lieutenant DIDON of the II Regiment of the Hussard stationed at CANNES/mer, charged of the supply of their unit, provide to this by exchange of rice and pasta, ~~acquired~~ through Sepral of Vercelli and Cuneo, against salt and oil imported from France.

I authorise the transit within the Province of a compressive load of twelve tons of the above mentioned commodities.

The convoy will be in transit on the.....

FOR THE PREFECT
(Avv. Guido Verzone)

Sgd. Vittorio Drago.

Prefettura
di
Cuneo
CABINETTO.

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COPY.

FROM : Captain W. Mann, Public Safety Officer.
 TO : RPSO, Piemonte Region
 SUBJECT : French Soldiers elling Salt in Italy.
 DATE : 11 September 1945.

On 10 September 1945, at Carmagnola, Province of Turin, agents of the Questura attached to SEPRAL saw two French Military Trucks Nos. 250338 and 2506210 (Words), stationary, and French soldiers were selling salt to civilians.

They brought them to the office of SEPRAL in Turin and there I saw two French Officers, Lt. Jean DUDON and Lt. Michel PELLIERE, of 2nd Regiments of Hussards, who had been accompanying the trucks.

Lt. Dudon said, "We are stationed at Cannes. On 31 Aug 45 we went to the Prefect of Cuneo and he gave us this permit (attached) authorizing us to exchange goods in Cuneo and Vercelli Provinces, and said that he was going to have a meeting with all the Prefects in Piemonte and arrange for exchanges of goods between France and Piemonte." (It will be noticed that the permit is signed by Vittorio IRAGO 'for the Prefect'). "We crossed the border into Italy again on 3 September 45, at S. Dalmazzo di Tenda with two trucks. On the way to Vercelli the population asked us to sell them salt, which we had brought from France to exchange, and as they seemed very short of salt we sold them some. Here are our permits to come into Italy". (These were produced and copies are attached).

I then went with the officers to the Alleanza Co-operativa, where SEPRAL had sent the trucks to be detained, and there saw the vehicles and the drivers, Driver DUCAU and Driver BARADE, both of 2nd Regiment di Hussards, who produced permits to cross the frontier with the vehicles. (Copies attached).

On the vehicles were 55,94 Qli. of Salt.

I brought the Officers to Regional Headquarters, where, on directions from RPSO ordered SEPRAL to take possession of the salt and keep it at the disposal of AMG.

The vehicles were returned to the French Officers and they were told to return direct to France, and not to buy or sell anything in Italy, on the way.

/s/ W. Mann. Capt.
 /t/ W. Mann. Captain
 Public Safety Officer.

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I then went with the officers to the Alleanza Co-operativa, where SEPRAI had sent the trucks to be detained, and there saw the vehicles and the drivers, Driver LUCAU and Driver BARALB, both of 2nd Regiment di Hussards, who produced permits to cross the frontier with the vehicles. (Copies attached).

On the vehicles were 55,94 Qli. of Salt.

I brought the Officers to Regional Headquarters, where, on directions from RPSO ordered SEPRAI to take possession of the salt and keep it at the disposal of AMG.

The vehicles were returned to the French Officers and they were told to return direct to France, and not to buy or sell anything in Italy, on the way.

/s/ W. Mann. Capt.
/t/ W. Mann. Captain
Public Safety Officer.

5203

COPY.

36th DIVISION D'INFANTERIE

ETAT MAJOR 5th BUREAU

No 2192/5

P.C. le 5/9 1945

LAISSEZ-PASSER TEMPORAIRE
(Frontiere)

TEMPORARY
(Frontier) PASS

Le chauffeur DUREAU vehicule No. 2503210

Unité du Service 1 2nd Regt. Hussards
Unit or Service :

Porteur de l'ordre de mission No.....
Bearer of the order of mission Nbr.....

EST AUTORISE A FRANCHIR LA FRONTIERE au Col de l'ARCHE.
FRANCO ITALIENNE A

Is permitted to cross the franco-Italian
frontier a Col de l'ARCHE.

Valable du 6 Septembre retour mission terminée
Valid from the 6 Sept 45

POUR UN SEUL FRANCHISSEMENT ALLER ET RETOUR
For one Journey only way on and way back

Le General de Division CAZAUD
Commandant la 36eme D.I.

PO Le Chief d'Etat-Major

5208

COPI.

36th DIVISION D'INFANTERIE

P.C 10 5/9 1945

ETAT MAJOR 5th BUREAU

LAISSEZ-PASSER TEMPORAIRES
(frontiere)
TEMPORARY PASS
(frontier)

Les Lieutenant LUDON et PAILLIERE

Unité ou Service : 2 Rgt Hussards
Unit or Service : 2 Rgt Hussards

Porteur de l'ordre de mission no.....
Bearer of the ordre of mission no.....

EST AUTORISE A FRANCHIR LA FRONTIERE
FRANCO ITALIENNE au... Col. de Tende.
Is permitted to cross the Franco-Italian
frontier at Col de TENDE

Valable du 5 Septembre mission terminée
Valid from the 5 Sept to the mission terminée

POUR UN SEUL FRANCHISSEMENT ALLER ET RETOUR
for one journey only way on and way back.

Le General de Division CAZAUD
Commandant la 36eme D.I.

P.O Le Chief d'Etat-Major

CCFY.

36th DIVISION D'INFANTERIE

P.C le 5/9 1945

MAJOR 5th BUREAU
No. 219/5

LAISSEZ PASSER TEMPORAIRE
(Frontiers)
TEMPORARY PASS
(Frontier)

Le chauffeur HERADE vehicule No. 2506335

Unité de Service : 2 Rgt Hussards
Unit of Service

Porteur de l'ordre de mission No.....
Bearer of the order of mission No.....

EST AUTORISE A FRANCHIR LA FRONTIERE
FRANCO ITALIENNE au... Col de l'ARCHE.
Is permitted to cross the Franco-Italian
frontier at

Valable du 6 Septembre retour mission terminée
Valid from the to the

POUR UN SEUL FRANCHISSEMENT ALLER ET RETOUR
For one journey only way on and way back.

Le General de Division CAZAUD
Commandant la 36 D.I.

P.O le Chief d'Etat-Major

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION
APO 394

R/6217

7th February, 1945

SUBJECT: Black Market Restaurants.

FEB 8

TO : HQ. Allied Commission.

Reference your 4808/21/COS dated 2 February.

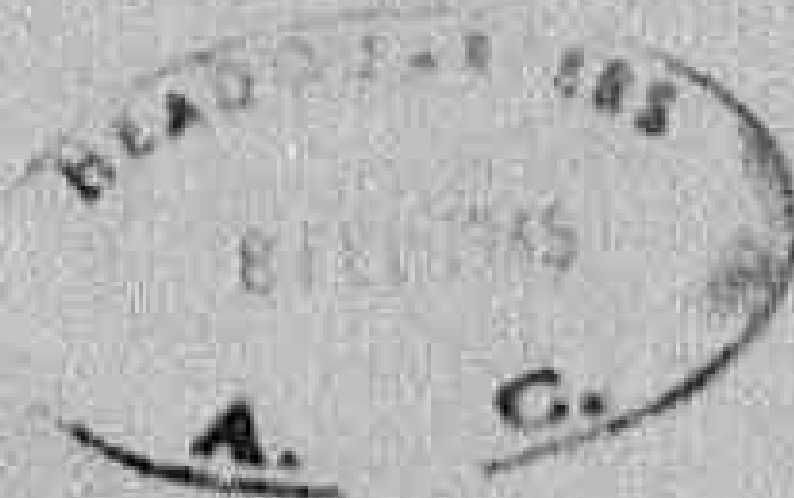
Reports on the effect of placing civilian restaurants in Rome out of bounds to Allied Troops are very satisfactory. Restaurants are covered by patrols twice daily. These patrols do not always go over the same ground.

It is understood that during the last period of about a month only very few Officers have been found in these restaurants and even fewer EM/OR.

The most effective measure in this matter of soldiers in restaurants, hotels, etc, has been the Italian order forbidding the civilian proprietors to serve the Military.

For the Regional Commissioner:

A.D. Bonham-Carter
A.D. BONHAM-CARTER
Lt. Colonel
Ex. Officer



5203
25726
TA 14

(21)

Ref. 438730

2 February 1945.

Ref. 438730/21/45.

Subject: Black Listed Restaurants.

To: Regional Commissioner,
Lazio Italian Region.

I am directed by the Chief of Staff to request you to forward to this HQ a report as to the effect of the recent order placing civilian restaurants in black out of bounds to Allied troops.

R.T.

Colonel,
Chief Staff Officer.

Copy for Records Section.

File
22

BU 9/2
3200

11
1/14

4808 & 3604

(28)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

Tel: 498134

Ref 14006/PS

7 Dec 44
-8 DEC 1944

SUBJECT : Black Market Control.

TO : The Regional Commissioner
Lazio Region.

- 1 My attention has been drawn to the fact that the Black Market Control Section in your Headquarters operates as a separate organisation and is not governed by any corresponding Sub-Commission in this Headquarters. This leads to difficulties in connection with its functions and responsibilities.
- 2 It is considered that it should be put under the Public Safety Division in your Headquarters and so keep in contact with the Public Safety Sub-Commission in this Commission through the normal channels. You will therefore arrange accordingly.

M. S. Lush

M. S. LUSH, Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copy to:

Public Safety Sub-Commission.

*Copy also filed on 3604/COS -
P.S. Info file*

1 copy file
5:00
12

785017

360H
14508

18

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref. AC/14006/9/VE

2nd December, 1944.

SUBJECT: Release of French Military Lorry,
Contents and Occupants.

6 DEC 1944

TO : Regional Commissioner,
Abruzzi-Marche Region.
(Attn: R.P.S.C.)

1. The attention of the Chief of Staff has been drawn by Brig. General de Sevin of the French Mission with Allied Commission to an incident which occurred on the 25th November in Macerata, in which a French military lorry driven by a French W.C.O. accompanied by two Italian civilian employees of the French Military Command, and carrying 2,000 kgs. of meat, 5,000 eggs and 400 kgs. of pasta for the French Hospital and Mess in Rome, was taken into custody, the food seized, the civilians arrested and the French W.C.O. disarmed.
2. Brig. General de Sevin gave an assurance that such purchases would not be repeated. In the circumstances the Chief of Staff agreed that the goods would be released, and any persons detained in connection with the matter would also be allowed to proceed to their destination.
3. Will you therefore please take the necessary action to put his agreement into effect.
4. It is, of course, clearly appreciated that the action taken by your Police Officers was perfectly proper, and that any further marauding expeditions of this kind will be the subject of normal law enforcement.

By Command of Commodore Stone:

Copy to:

Chief of Staff.
Food Sub-Commission.

G. R. Upjohn, Brig.
VI CA Section 5203
DOOR. 5

Extract from General Routine Orders

Serial No. 43

27 October 44

869. Civilian Restaurants - Out of Bounds

1. To remove any misunderstanding regarding the purchase of meals in restaurants, the following will be brought to the notice of all ranks.
2. ^{stuff}wing to the shortage of food in occupied Italy, all restaurants and eating houses are out of bounds to all officers and men and followers of the Allied Forces with the following exceptions:
 - (a) Clubs, restaurants, etc., organized and controlled by the Allied Forces themselves.
 - (b) Cafes, etc., where no food stuffs are sold.

CR/4367/G1(Mr)

5202

4808-14

C O S O 1581
16

SUBJECT: Civilian Restaurants -
Use by Allied Personnel.

HQ ALLIED ARMY IN ITALY
Tel: FILBOT 24
5067/25/A(PS)
14 Oct 44

ATTN.

Copy to: AG
HQ AGC.

28 OCT Recd

1. Attached is copy of a letter received from HQ AGC in regard to the placing out of bounds, to all Allied personnel, of civilian restaurants, both in Rome and in other large towns. (4808/12/008 of 17 Oct 44.)
2. It is felt that this matter requires to be dealt with on a general basis, covering the whole of ITALY. It has been the policy of the C-in-C, AAI to place out of bounds to Allied personnel all civilian restaurants except those with whom a special arrangement has been made to supply meals drawn from rations for transit and leave personnel.
3. This HQ would be agreeable to the publication of an AFHQ order placing all civilian restaurants out of bounds, with the exception of those specially required by AFHQ or this HQ to cater with rations for service requirements.

002/3D



Robertson
General,
Commander-in-Chief.

5201

*Ministero delle Corporazioni*DIREZIONE GENERALE DEL SEGRETARIATO
DEL CONSIGLIO NAZIONALE DELLE CORPORAZIONI
DEGLI AFFARI GENERALI E DEL PERSONALEC.S.O.

23 OCT Recd

Ref: Closing of Black Market Restaurants
to Allied Troops.

The C.O.S. told me he had asked
Gen. Clark verbally to explain the
reason for this to the Troops & Gen. Clark
had ~~given~~ agreed to do so. Should this
not be recorded somewhere?

P.R.

P.A. to C.O.S.

23/10

5203

P.A.
23/4

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CMF
Office of the Chief of Staff

14

Ref : 4303/14/008

17 October 1944

SUBJECT : Civilian Restaurants.

TO : Commanding General,
Rome Allied Area Command.

1. I refer to recent conversations I have had with Brigadier Love on the question of civilian restaurants in Rome.

2. Having made a careful study of this question, I find that I am in agreement with you that civilian restaurants in Rome should be placed out of bounds to all Allied personnel always provided that the prohibition can be effectively enforced. This proviso I regard as most important, since without really effective enforcement there is a distinct danger that the restaurants now catering for Allied personnel, as a result of being placed out of bounds, will merely be driven to a lower and more hidden level.

3. I am writing to A.P.H. and to A.A.I. and proposing to them that a similar procedure should be adopted in large towns throughout Italy.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

MSL

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copy to: R. C. Lazio-Umbria Region.

1
see 8

5193

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CMF
Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref : 4808/13/COB

17 October 1944

SUBJECT : Civilian Restaurants

TO : Allied Force Headquarters, G-5 Section.

1. I enclose a copy of a letter I have written to Rome Allied Area Command from which you will see that I am in favour of placing civilian restaurants in Rome out of bounds to all Allied personnel providing that the prohibition can be effectively enforced.

2. You will also see that I consider a similar procedure should be adopted in large towns throughout Italy. I should be obliged if you would consider this question and let me have your views.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

MSL

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

1 Incl.

1944

B/U
VAV
10/11/44
5193

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Chief of Staff

12

Ref: 4808/12/008

17 October 1944

SUBJECT: Civilian Restaurants

TO: Headquarters Allied Armies in Italy

1. I enclose a copy of a letter I have written to Rome Allied Area Command from which you will see that I am in favour of placing civilian restaurants in Rome out of bounds to all Allied personnel providing that the prohibition can be effectively enforced.

2. You will also see that I consider a similar procedure should be adopted in large towns throughout Italy. I should be obliged if you would consider this question and let me have your views.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

MSL.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

1 Incl.

aut
12/12

5195

8

*4808
COS. L 205 sent
0.66278*

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION
APO 324

R/3191

9 October 1944
11 OCT Recd

SUBJECT: Civilian Restaurants.
TO : Headquarters
Allied Central Commission
Chief of Staff

1. Reference your letter 4808/5/COS dated 5 October 1944 on the above subject, in which you ask for an opinion as to which of the three possible courses of action would be most acceptable from our point of view.

2. We are of the opinion that the matter is of debatable consequence as to whether the restaurants are to be put "Off Limits" to all military personnel or whether the situation continues as it is now. In Naples it was found that when the restaurants were put "Off Limits" to military personnel it merely drove the same activities to a lower and more hidden level. On the other hand, there is food consumed by military personnel in Rome at these restaurants, yet the amount involved is not an important factor in the overall problem of feeding the civilians.

HEADQUARTERS
11 OCT 1944
A. C. C.

Charles Poletti
CHARLES POLETTI
Colonel AUS
Regional Commissioner

RESTRICTED

See 14
5193

785017

0 4808 / 603 0 7

HEADQUARTERS REGION 4
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
A. P. O. 394

5 October 1944.

7 OCT Recd

Dear *Minut* 6.

I understand that the Brigadier wishes to see a copy of the attached.

This letter was sent direct to RAAC - and not through RC and MG - because it was really part of a Conference called by Brigadier Low. I attended on behalf of the Regional Commissioner, and this question of Troops in civilian restaurants was raised. Some doubt was expressed as to whether I was giving the true views of Colonel Poletti so I undertook to send in a brief note about it.

Yours sincerely

Norman Benham-Larkin

MA to the Chief of Staff,
HQ Allied Control Commission.

Major Stewart

*I don't know if he has
seen this. Can you
carry on? 8/10*

See 14

5195

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO UMBRIA REGION
APO 394

29 Sept. 1944

R/5448

SUBJECT : Military Personnel eating in Civilian Restaurants in Rome.

TO : HQ. R.A.M.C.

1. The feelings of this HQ on the above subject are that in general it is desirable to stop Military Personnel from eating in civilian restaurants as, undoubtedly, the demand thus created forms a large share of the Black Market.

2. On the other hand it is not considered desirable to do what was attempted in Naples, where an order was issued prohibiting Military Personnel from eating in these places. It was not possible to enforce the order and no sufficient alternative was provided.

3. It is thought that the soldiers' desire to take a guest must be recognised, particularly as it is permitted in some leave hotels.

4. Therefore, unless sufficient restaurants to prevent waiting for a meal can be made available and also some allowance be made to permit civilian guests, it is thought better to take no action.

For the Regional Commissioner :

A.D. BUEHAM-CARTER
Lt. Colonel
Executive Officer (Provinces)

Copy : R.P.S.O.

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394.

Ref: 4806/5/cos.

To: Regional Commissioner,
Lazio Region.

5th October 1944.

I enclose a Memorandum shown to me today by Brigadier Low on the subject of Black Markets and the civilian restaurants. I should be glad of your views on this question.

My own opinion is that, while sympathising with the young officers who come back from the front to Rome on leave and want a chance of taking out a girl to a restaurant in the evening, to leave matters as they now stand would be giving official A.C.C. sanction to Black Market restaurants. I feel bound, with great reluctance to agree to the third alternative put forward by Brigadier Low.

M. S. Low

Brigadier.
Chief of Staff.
~~Per Acting Chief Commissioner.~~

Copy to: Gen Sec

5193

P/A.

785017

H.R. A.H.C.

3 Sept 44

My dear Lush

Herewith a copy of my memorandum
on Black Markets & Civilian Restaurants.

It merely states the situation & poses the
problem. It does not make any
recommendation. It may perhaps
indicate what my personal feelings are.

Shelton which I saw today, the first
time from Report IV signed by B-C on
29 Sep was this R/5448. ~~Noted~~
I don't quite know what it means

Yours ever

A.H.

See 124

5192

DRAFT MEMORANDUM

3

SUBJECT: The Black Market and Civilian Restaurants.

1. At present there is no prohibition on the use by Allied troops of civilian restaurants in Rome. There are certain restrictions on the purchase of certain products, e.g., milk etc, but nothing more general. In actual fact, it is thought that the quantity of civilian food consumed by members of the Allied Forces is not very considerable and, such as it is, is mainly consumed by officers, often of senior rank, who take meals at certain of the more select eating houses.
2. In the early days of the occupation of Rome it was proposed that civilian restaurants should be divided into four classes (see AAI letter 5008/LA dated 17 Jan 44).
 - (a) Restaurants etc, run exclusively for the Allied Forces.
 - (b) Civilian restaurants assisted by the Allied Forces with supplies of rations and operated on some kind of coupon system.
 - (c) Restaurants open to all, without restriction.
 - (d) Restaurants out of bounds (off limits) to Allied troops.
3. In a later letter (NO. AM/5098/A(Ps) dated 28 Jan 44), it was proposed that class (c), "free for all", should be dropped, leaving only classes (a), (b) and (d).
4. Since those early days, the numbers of restaurants operated exclusively for members of the Allied Forces have been considerably developed and it can confidently be said that there are ^{an} ample places at which officers and other ranks (enlisted men) can obtain meals if they require them.
5. The step, however, has not yet been taken of establishing assisted restaurants, and for this there is a variety of reasons. First, there is the obvious difficulty in establishing an effective system of control and it has always been feared that such a scheme would throw the door open

to black market dealings in Government rations. And, there is the fact that so far as the British Army is concerned, AGI 485 dated 1944 specifically forbids the issue of Government rations in places where civilians can obtain meals. On (date) 4 Sep 44 application was made to Headquarters, AAI for authority to issue rations to certain selected civilian restaurants on a coupon system to be devised. R.A.A.C. No. AG 1802. No reply has however been received from Headquarters AAI and it is understood that the application has been passed to AFHQ. The fact, however, is that any member of the Allied Forces wishing to entertain Italian civilians can only do so in civilian restaurants, thereby in fact patronising the black market.

6. Three courses appear open.

- (a) To initiate a system of assisting civilian restaurants by the issue of Government rations. The objections to this have already been explained in para 5 above.
- (b) To leave matters as they now stand. It is felt that there are serious objections to this. First, it is a fact that some inroads are made into the civilian food supplies, though the quantities involved may not be very considerable. Second, it must hamper the operations of the black market squad, since, when it is well known that highly placed officers are always to be found in certain select and expensive restaurants, it is obvious that no police officer will raid such a place. More, since there must not be one law for the rich and another for the poor, the police will hesitate to raid any restaurant where Allied personnel are likely to be found. In other words, black market control is inoperative. Third, there is no doubt that there is a good deal of resentment among the population of ROME at officers and their civilian friends being seen enjoying good living when so many of the people of ROME are hungry.

- (e) The third alternative appears to be to put all civilian eating places and food shops out of bounds (off limits) to all ranks of the Allied Forces. The only objection to this course appears to be that, unless a system of assisted restaurants is started, there will be no possibility of members of the Allied Forces entertaining civilian friends.

It may be found that, taking all factors into consideration, the third is the most satisfactory solution, providing that it is effectively enforced for all.

5183

