

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

ACC

10000/109/922
(VOL. I)

10000/109/922
(VOL. I)

OLIVE OIL
SEPT. 1944 - FEB. 1945

106

Ref. Minute 105. Dis. bet. has been notified to send copy of work in
comparisons as folio 102 to R.C. Southern Region to keep the
proper people informed. Will contact this in future. JCF
2/3/2

2/2/2

TO: Room, Sect. 1

Reference our 4820/58/008 of 25 Jan 45, please do take action as suggested, or comment as to what other action is intended.

5 Feb 45
Office, Chief of Staff,
Ext. 451.

95
Major.

95.

To. C.O.S.

Ref your 38. Southern Region has been replied to and protest and recommendation for action made to Ministry of Agriculture. *W. W. W.*

96.

C.S.O.: 1) Ref. your folio 58, see minutes 94-95 for information as to action taken. I shall pass for copies of relevant correspondence. *95 1/2*
2) Recommend that Brig. Dwyer or Lt. Hestonson be sent to force the issue with Italian Gov't. authorities in Southern Region. *95 1/2*
3) Another subject: Persian Olive Oil Rationing situation. See folios 97-99. your folio 93 also refer. *95 10/2*

97.

Cor Persian. Pers. Case of 99.

95 10/2.

100.

Decos Est.

To see.

95 10/2.

101.

209

TO: Room, Security

Reference our 4820/58/COS of 25 Jan 45, please do take action as suggested, or comment as to what other action is intended.

5 Feb 45
Office, Chief of Staff,
Ext. 452.

W. J. J.

95.

To. C.O.S.

Ref your 58. Southern Region has been notified and protest and recommendation for action made to Ministry of Agriculture
at Rome

96.

C50: 1) Ref. your folio 58, see minutes 94-95 for information as to action taken. I shall pass for copies of relevant correspondence. Recommend that Brig. Dunlop & Col. Hestonson be urged to force the issue with Italian Gov't. authorities in Southern Region. *9/12*
2) Another subject: Perugia Olive Oil Rationing situation. See folios 97-99. your folio 93 also refer. *9/12*

97.

Col Perugia. Per. Case of 99.

10/12

100.

D COS Est,

To see.

10/12

and protest and recommendation for action made to Ministry
of Agriculture
96.

CSO: 1) Ref. your folio 58, see minutes 94-95 for information as to action taken. Label press for copies of relevant correspondence. Recommend that Mr. Dandoy & Mr. Harselsson be urged to force the issue with Italian Gov't. authorities in Southern Region. 9/21/54
2) Another subject: Penya Olive Oil Rationing situation. See folios 97-99. your folio 93 also refers. 9/21/54

97.

Cor Penya: Rev. Carta of 99.

100.

209

D COS Est.

To see.

DS/1072.

Executive Commissioners.

Deputy Executive Commissioners

has been.

M. Sec.

16 Feb.

104.

CSO: Correspondence asked for in my minute 96 is at folios 102-3 to see for information as to action taken by Ecom. Dist. with Italian Gov't. without olive oil. 9/21/54

→ Mr. Rwy AC S. Regan should take a copy of 102. You must send. Ecom Sec. Near reports informed 9/21/54

H. Throckmorth

~~66.~~
All ~~views~~ to Sec 47 ~~unwashed~~.
EJ 27/1

68

~~68~~
To see 67.

1/1 29/1
7/5/35/1

7/5

~~CSC~~

Adm. Econ. Sec. to let the CC know exactly
figures in D.O. as in the case of Brazil.

1/5/35/1

75.

C 50: Information from PVB (folios 72-73) for COS & CC to see. 7/5/30/1

88

208

C.O.S.

Draft ready at 87 for approval of C.O.

APPROVED BY CC. 7/5

1 Feb 45.

W.S.C.

68
63
To see 67.

29/11 775/5816

76

CSC

Asst. Econ. Sec. to let the CC know exactly
figure on D.O. massive as in the case of Brazil.

175/3570

75.

c 50: Information from PWB (folios 72-73) for COS + CC to see. 775/3011

88

C.O.R.

Draft reply at 87 for approval of C.C.

Approved by CC. 775.

1 Feb 45.

Chief Commissioner.

8

Attached is submitted for your information/signature/approval.
You have already approved the draft.

P.H.G.R.

M. S. LUSH

90

Signed by C.C. 3/2/45
J.A. Dwyer

2/20.

208

TO : COS

31A.

It is suggested that the covering letter include the following

1. When local Govt Officials

1. The Italian Government has full responsibility for the olive oil amassing and all operations in connection therewith.

2. The duties of Allied personnel assigned to assist in the special Italian oil collection will be strictly confined to advisory, planning and organizational matters *to the maximum extent possible*

3. They will not themselves perform or participate in the performance of executive or police acts, duties or functions, i.e. checks of oil presses on private properties; road block operation or other physical controls of olive oil movement; stoppage or search of trains.

16 January 1945

Legal Sub-Commission

Chief Counsel
HAROLD J. GROSSMAN,
Lt. Colonel,
Chief Counsel.

PA/ *See 1311*
P54 Adm. & send to Econ. Sec after checking *See*

Dumblo's previous letter. *MS 12311*

~~D.C.O.S. Economic Section~~

~~20th January 1945~~

~~I am instructed by the COS to pass these details to you for action.~~

SEE FOLIO 54.

P. Russell
PA TO COS.

(bit)

Copy 2 minute - for temporary folder 207

See also file 59063

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16 January 1945

Legal Sub-Commission

Marc J. Grossman
MARC J. GROSSMAN,
Lt. Colonel,
Chief Counsel.

PA/ ^{MS 1311} See 36/57
P 54 Adh. & send to Econ Sec after checking Bue
Dumblo's previous letter. MS 2211

~~D.C.O.S. Economic Section~~
~~I am instructed by the CDS to pass these remarks to you for action.~~
P. Russell
24 JAN 1945
PA TO CDS.

(Lut)
Copy of minute - from temporary Jaeger 207
All officers - O & COS. to see files 59-63
Signed by Russell 25/1

JOSEPH C. RIVELY

PA to A/President.
6/1

47 demands they without go.
Hans 26/1

Seen by M. Wyndham
27/1

434

CSO: (1) Para. 3. Olive Oil Collection Memo (10/13/44) states that 60 officers will be supplied to implement and in enforcement of Station Gov't. program.
(2) Perhaps Pol. Sec. should be consulted on publication in papers of this.

20/15/11

This instruction must be checked with A Section (Legal) as far as Sanction of such Officers are concerned.

20/15/11

Spoke to Deane. He will pass a copy to Legal Sec. tonight so that C.O. can be briefed to tomorrow. I also pointed out amendment in address.

20/15/11

37

S.I. Br. says that some of the 30 officers who are not coming here tonight. Regan arrives on Wednesday 17th. Briefing by Regan. S.I. Br. thinks they out of transport. S.I. Br. thinks they should be proceeding. S.I. Br. - the whole party - by Friday or Saturday.

20/15/11

38

1. This is good news released. But an

206

When the concerned

36

15/11

Spoke to Deane. He will pass a copy to legal &c. tonight so that CTS can be briefed to tomorrow. I also pointed out amendment in address.

15/11

37

S.I. Br. says that some of the 30 officers who are not coming from Vauxhall Regent arrive on Wednesday 17 for briefing by Hqs. He and Saker out of transport. S.I. Br. thinks they should be proceeding Sat - the whole party - by Friday or Saturday.

15/11.

38.

206

1. There is good reason believed. But an immediate follow up should issue definite quite categorically what Allied Officers can & cannot do. CTS should assist.

2. Should like to see S. Rogers local instruction

3. Is not a letter issuing to R.Cs.?

17/11/11

TO: C.O.S.

1. Reference the request from Gullo on the opposite page for the loan of officers to help in the olive oil amassi, I have spoken to Col. Piske on this point. He is, as you know, against our getting involved in any way in the olive oil amassi since he considers that it will be a failure in any case whether we provide the officers or not.

2. Economic Section comments are at 10. Food and Agriculture Sub-Commissions, of course, are naturally anxious that we should give every assistance possible.

3. I feel there is also a political aspect to this problem and in agreement with Col. Piske consider that the matter should be raised at tomorrow's COS meeting in order to produce a clear cut proposal to put up to the Chief Commissioner.

2 Jan 45.
Office, Chief of Staff,
Tel Ext 300.

14

C.S.O.,
To C.O.S.

Ed Ship 15 47

C of S
Concern with
para 9

EW

3/1/45

Folio 13 ref.

205

Meeting in order to produce a clear cut proposal to put up to the Chief Commissioner.

2 Jan 45.
Office, Chief of Staff,
Tel Ext 300.

Ed Shipp LS CN
C.S.O.,
To C.O.S.

LL

14
C of S
Deconan with
para 9
JW
3/1/45
Folio 13 refers.

205

1
JAN 5 1945
JL

Acting Chief Commissioner.

1
Draft - See final copy at 18
Attached is submitted for your information/signature/approval.

the tough but needed.

MS/silas

OK (m)

Incl: 558

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

CJM/LIA

Ref: ES/10.05

20 February 1945

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Collection

TO : Executive Commissioner

Enclosed is copy of letter forwarded by us in response to the complaint by Southern Region on the illicit carriage of olive oil by Italian Government officials.

[Signature]
C.J. MACNAMARA,
Capt. P.C., S.O.III,
Economic Section

Incl:
Ltr. AGR/379.21, 31 Jan 45/

refers to Folio 58 - 40944

204
M.104
T1057106

785017

3 COPY

H.E. PARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

102

Tel. 489081, Ext. 262
AGR/379.21

31 January 1945

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Removal

TO : H.E. the Minister of Agriculture

1. Attached is an excerpt from a report by Lt. Col. H.N. Bright, Zone Commissioner, Foggia, dated 8 January 1945, with copies of supporting documents. This report definitely raises some question as to whether normal rationing and amassing procedures were followed in this instance.

2. Since the responsibility in oil amassing rests in your Ministry, this case is called to your attention for such action as you desire to take.

3. As our Officers are assisting in the olive oil campaign, may we receive a statement as to whether this procedure used by the Inspector of the Ministry of the Treasury to secure olive oil is normal and is approved by your Ministry.

/s/ L. D. Denmore
L. D. DENMORE
Colonel, F. A.
Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
Economic Section

Enclosures:
As above (4)

Distribution:
H.E. the Minister of the Treasury
H.E. Bergami, High Commissioner
of Alimentation
Economic Section
Agriculture Sub-Commission

C
O
P
Y

253

CONFIDENTIAL 820 COS 99

HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION

APO 394

6 FEB 1945

HEADQUARTERS

3th February, 1945

R/6200

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Ration - Perugia

TO : HQ. Allied Commission

FEB 7 1945

92

1. The letter which follows was drafted in accordance with your verbal instructions and prior to the receipt of your 4820/81/COS dated 2 February. It gives a more detailed report on the main "errors of judgement" to which reference was made in the Regional Commissioner's letter R/6171 dated 1 Febr.

2. (a) Pasta Ration.

On 6 November it came to the notice of this HQ that 3000 grms of pasta were being issued in Perugia. Verbal orders were immediately given for the Province to be brought into line, and these orders were passed on to the Provincial Commissioner on 9 November.

There is no doubt that this issue was being made without the knowledge of the Provincial Commissioner, who subsequently claimed that he received no written orders to reduce the scale before 17 December. This HQ cannot accept that statement as the authority for the 600 grms issue was received in Perugia on 13 November and previously authorised scales had also been received on the appropriate dates. It is true that no specific letter was written ordering the correction of so gross an error. However, any assumption that immediate action would be taken was erroneous. No action was started by the Provincial Commissioner until 5 December by which time it was obviously too late to do very much before the end of the year. The Provincial Commissioner then telephoned to express fear as to the consequences of the reduction.

Ultimately written orders were sent on 17 December (after a delay which was in agreement with Food Sub-Commission) and, with further argument on 30 December, the reduction was made during January. The Province is now on the same scale as others, in the Region.

Subsequent investigation revealed that the original

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Ultimately written orders were sent on 17 December (after a delay which was in agreement with Food Sub-Commission) and, with further argument on 30 December, the reduction was made during January. The Province is now on the same scale as others, in the Region.

Subsequent investigation revealed that the original authority for the 3000 grms issue was given during the enemy occupation. The original Supply Officer is much to blame for the fact that it was allowed to continue, but the Provincial Commissioner can hardly escape censure for the lack of energetic action after 9 November.

1 Spm held.

(b) The Advisory Council.

Early in October the attention of this HQ was drawn to the existence of an Advisory Council in Perugia Province. On investigation this was found to be a method of paying Sindaci, who were all members of the Council.

On 10 October a letter was written to the Provincial Commissioner ordering him to disband the Council and pointing out why his action, which cut across the present national policy, was not one which could be allowed.

The December accounts show members of the Council were still receiving salaries up to the end of November, and that after that date many were being paid as 'Directors of Welfare'. The extent to which this was being done is not yet known as Finance Sub-Commission are now auditing the accounts and their report is not yet to hand.

The fact remains that after a letter was written on 10 October, the situation was not corrected before the end of Nov. and then steps were taken to evade the instructions in that letter. These unauthorised payments have now been discontinued.

(c) Olive Oil Ration.

The brief history of the issue of 1000 grms of Olive Oil in Perugia is as follows.

On 5 December the Provincial Commissioner approved of the issue and considered it partly as a compensation for the lack of oil in previous months.

On 6 December Food Sub-Commission authorised an issue of 300 grms.

The earlier decision was made without any reference to this HQ.

(d) Eputation.

The situation created by the way in which the eputation instructions were carried out in Perugia has caused very considerable difficulties. It must be stated that, in the opinion of this HQ, a directive from SCAO Eighth Army is largely responsible. This directive did not agree with that operating elsewhere in the Region. It would probably be admitted that this subject has been very confused in the past and that difficulties should arise is excusable. Nevertheless the dismissal of some 899 persons must have seriously disrupted administration.

The new Provincial Commissioner has converted the dismissals into suspensions, and Civil Affairs Section are helping to get this affair in order.

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The new Provincial Commissioner has converted the dismissals into suspensions, and Civil Affairs Section are helping to get this affair in order.

3. The above were the main points which were in the mind of the Regional Commissioner when he referred to the general position in the Province. The new Provincial Commissioner has already had to reduce the pasta ration and give the appearance of leniency to people with Fascist records by changing the eputation dismissals into suspensions. In addition he has had to cut off payments to Sindaci. It was felt that to force the issue on the Olive Oil issue was too much.

- 3 -

4. No reference has been made to purely internal matters of administration although some of the very unsatisfactory things which have been revealed had repercussions outside the AMG Office.

5. This HQ must, of course, take the responsibility for what happens in the Provinces. It will be noted that action was taken in all instances directly any given situation was known. Three out of the four main "errors" were initiated prior to the Province coming under Regional control, and the Regional Commissioner feels that the failure at this HQ was in that we did not fully realise the independent light in which the Provincial Commissioner regarded instructions from this Headquarters.

6. In conclusion the Regional Commissioner feels that, while he expects censure and blame "internally", Allied Commission and Military Government as a whole is responsible for the actions of its Officers in the eyes of the Italian people. It was partly on this feeling that you were asked to support the unauthorised Provincial Order relating to Olive Oil.

John D. Ames

JOHN D. AMES
Lt. Colonel
Acting Regional Commissioner

785017

93

Ref: 4820/81/002

2 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Ration - PERUGIA.

TO : Acting Regional Commissioner,
LAZIO-UMBRIA Region.

92 see 99

I refer to your letter R/6171 of 1 February, 1945.

1. The proposal of the Provincial Commissioner, PERUGIA, to issue the normal olive oil ration to the inhabitants of PERUGIA Province during current months, notwithstanding the distribution of 1000 grams of oil by his predecessor in December, is approved.

2. At the same time I must point out that the distribution of the 1000 grams of olive oil is rightly described as an error of judgment, the responsibility for which must be shared by Regional Headquarters whose duty it must be to supervise the work of Provincial Commissioners.

M. B. L. 1194

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

HEL/30.

Copy to: Ezen Sec (2) - for Food and
Agriculture Sub-Comm who are
already in receipt of copy of
R/6171 of 1 Feb 45 referred to
above.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION
APO 394

E/6171

1 February, 1945

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Ration - Perugia

TO : HQ. Allied Commission

1. Provincial Commissioner Perugia reports that the olive oil amassing, which was progressing very well, has suffered a severe check for the following reasons.

2. (a) In December the then Provincial Commissioner, without reference to this HQ, distributed 1000 grms of olive oil and made it retrospective against rations of previous months which had not been delivered.

The now Provincial Commissioner, in accordance with orders from Allied Commission, brought the Province into line with others and gave instructions for the distribution to cover future rations.

The results have been disastrous and instead of being able to look forward to passing the goal with ease, the situation now is that the Provincial Commissioner sees great difficulty in attaining the goal itself.

(b) He also points out that there are other aspects besides the direct result on the olive oil amassing. In consequence of other "errors of judgement" the pasta ration has had to be reduced from 3000 to 600 grms, and "salaries" to Sindaci have had to be stopped. He considers that to force this decision on the olive oil is more than the Province will stand at the moment.

3. The matter has been referred to the Food Sub-Commission who have refused to accept the responsibility of allowing preferential treatment to any one Province. This was anticipated by this HQ.

4. The matter is now put forward on a question of policy

198

- 56 235
56 95
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 3. The matter has been referred to the Food Sub-Commission who have refused to accept the responsibility of allowing preferential treatment to any one Province. This was anticipated by this HQ. 198
 4. The matter is now put forward on a question of policy and is urged very strongly because:
 - (a) It is contended that the concession will produce very much more olive oil to the ammassi.
 - (b) There is no question of continuing to give a different ration to other Provinces. The thing has been done and is in the past. In these circumstances it is considered unwise to overrule the previous order and so fail to support the position of Provincial Commissioner.

(c) It is considered that other "adjustments", pressure from the Military over accommodation, and (in particular) the difficulties in that respect over the University are resulting in too strong a strain being put on the Province, and that we should stand by this error of judgement and pay for it.

5. It will be difficult to differentiate between Perugia and Terni, where a very similar situation exists. In Terni the same distribution was made in order to get over the difficulty created by lack of containers.

John D. Ames
JOHN D. AMES

Lt. Colonel

Acting Regional Commissioner

Copy: Agricultural Sub-Commission
Food Sub-Commission
Economics and Supply
Agriculture

(87)

Ref: 4820/76/COS.

3 February 1945.

Subject: Olive Oil Campaign.

(73)

Dear Mr. Edman,

Thank you for your letter of 29th January enclosing a report from your Bari Unit.

The officers and transport that we are providing for the campaign have now arrived in the South, and I am hopeful that the collection will be accelerated. I hope that you have been able to give Mr. Ellison the required authorisation for the preparation of the special posters.

Thank you so much for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

ELERY W. STONE

ELERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

George W. Edman, Esq.,
Head, FIB (Liberated Italy) HQ.,
FIB Unit No. 12,
US APO 512.

4820

File

87H

Extracts of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 2 February 1945.

.....

Olive Oil in Perugia Province. COS reported that the former PC of Perugia, in addition to issuing pasta, had released quantities of olive oil in the form of retrospective rations. Olive oil was not now being issued, with the consequence that the amassing was going badly and would continue to go badly so long as no olive oil was issued. COS had discussed with RC and Col. Legg yesterday and decided that to avoid a very serious effect upon our olive oil amassing normal rations should be issued during January, February and March and the olive oil issued retrospectively by the PC must be written off.

785017

86

file

Ref: 289

1 February 1945.

Ref: 4820/ /COS

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Campaign.

TO : Economic Section.

85

Attached letter of today's date from Mr. George W. Edman, P.W.D., subject as above, is passed to you for ACTION and preparation of reply for signature of the Chief Commissioner.

J. G. B.
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Incl:
as above

194

COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
PWB UNIT No.12 USAPO 512

1 February 1945

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner
Hq Allied Commission

Dear Ellery:

Some of our people are in the midst of discussing with some of your AO personnel how best we can help the Olive Oil campaign. Together, they have worked up some good poster material and we are also planning support of the campaign (outside of Rome) by press and radio. I gather that the help we are extending is appreciated.

There are two points, however, that are raised frequently. They are the alleged shipment of oil out of Italy, and the alleged use of oil by Allied troops. These are rumors and bear all the marks of enemy "black" propaganda.

I feel that they can be met by a forthright statement from some competent Allied authority, not as an answer to these reports, but a clear statement of fact of how the oil will be used and, incidentally, mentioning that the oil is not going out of Italy, nor will it be used by Allied troops.

If you would raise the question and obtain an answer from AFHQ, I am sure it would help no end. The question could come, logically, from you as Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission.

I assure you that from all I hear from Puglia and elsewhere, the campaign is not going well, and will need all the push we can give it.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ GEORGE W. KIMAN, JR
/t/ GEORGE W. KIMAN, HEAD
PWB (LIBERATED ITALY) HQ.

191

cc. Mr. Russell Barnes

By Hand

COS DIST - 1 FEB 45

ACTION: REAN SEC
INFO: CHIEF COMMR
COS

4820
HQ
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

JHC/cem

Tel. 215
AGR/379.21

30 January 1945

JAN 31 1945

SUBJECT: Olive Oil
TO : Chief of Staff

1. Reference attached correspondence.

2. Prof. Patriisi confirms with Agriculture Sub-Commission conversation with Archbishop Mimmi of Bari and states that in his opinion no good would be done by refusing to recognize that the continued progress of inflation, plus rises in labor costs, has made the official price of olive oil too low. It was represented to him that this did not appear to be a constructive attitude, especially in view of the fact that people have recently stated to the Agriculture Sub-Commission that the price was satisfactory. It was suggested to him that it would be wiser to say that the price had been fixed after full deliberation, was considered a just price, and that, therefore, the Oil Amassing Decree must be obeyed. It is hoped that his conversation with the Archbishop will not receive publicity and Prof. Patriisi agrees that in his more public contacts the attitude suggested by us above would be more suitable.

3. With regard to the points raised by Brigadier Dunlop covering the directives issued, it is felt that the final directive (Economic Section, AGR/379.21-2) clarifies the situation. It has now been distributed to all concerned.

(7)

L. D. Densmore

L. D. DENSMORE
Colonel, F. A.
Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
Economic Section

Enclosures:
DO correspondence
from RC, Southern
Region

COPY.

SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION.
Office of the Regional Commissioner.

22 Jan 45.

Dear Maurice:

Further to my letter to you yesterday on the subject of olive oil, I am sending for your personal information a copy of Prof. PATRISSE's report on his visit to Bari. I have sidelined the part which I referred to in my letter to you yesterday.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd) J.K. DUNLOP.

Brigadier M. Lush, CB, CBE, MC,
Chief of Staff,
Headquarters, Allied Commission,
C.M.F.

Translation

ACCOUNT OF PROF. PATRISSI'S VISIT TO BARI

During my visit to Bari, I had the opportunity of witnessing the activity of Col. Greenwood in the organization for stimulating the bestowal of oil to the 'oleari del popolo'.

On Thursday 18th, a meeting took place in the office of the said Colonel; The prefects of Bari, Brindisi, Lecce, Potenza and Matera were present at this meeting during which Capt. Givé and Prof. Patrissi explained the aim which the action in question intends to reach, as well as the importance which the Government gives to the said action. Italian functionaries who are to do service in the area were present, so that it was possible to introduce them at once to the Prefects.

On Friday 19th, the Italian functionaries appointed in Taranto, Brindisi, Lecce and Bari had already reached their seats.

On Friday 19th, Prof. Patrissi contacted his Ex. Monsignor Misasi, Archbishop of Bari, to obtain his intervention with the parish priests of the Diocese so that they should start a profitable propaganda. At first, His Ex. the Archbishop stated that about a year ago, at the beginning of the 'ammasso' regime, he sent a pastoral letter to the parish priests, saying that it was necessary to encourage the producers to do their duty, if the prices given by the ammasso were equitable and sufficiently remunerative. Prof. Patrissi explained to the Archbishop that the Government authorities acknowledged that the price which is paid at present to those who give their oil is insufficient to cover the cost of the production, but that it is materially impossible for them to raise the official price. The Archbishop was finally convinced of the seriousness of the problem, and pledged himself to make personally an active patriotic propaganda so that the 'oleari del popolo' of the area of his diocese should reach the figures fixed by the central organs.

On Saturday 20th, the Italian functionaries assigned to Foggia and Campobasso were to reach their respective seats.

Therefore, we may take it that within the day, all the provinces of the Adriatic side will have the necessary cadres as far as the Italian functionaries are concerned.

Considering how useful the meeting of the Prefects which took place in Bari was, we wonder whether General Dunlop would consider it opportune to summon in the chief towns of the zone the Prefects of the other provinces to contact them directly.

We also communicate that the Director of U.P.S.E.A. of Brindisi has been telegraphically substituted by Prof. Patrissi for insufficient activity and diligence during the oil campaign; Dr. Biaseo Elia, ex Deputy Director of the U.P.S.E.A. of Lecce has been appointed in his stead, and will immediately assume charge of the office.

During his trip to Bari, Prof. Petrucci visited the municipalities of Cerignola, and of S. Ferdinando di Puglia where he got the impression that the Prefect of the Foggia Province is not showing sufficient activity or energy about the oil campaign which is so important in his province.

Naples, 30 January 1945

9.0.

COPY.

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL.

Brigadier J.K. DUNLOP, OBE, MC, TD,
Regional Commissioner,
Headquarters, Southern Region,
Allied Commission,
C.M.F.

21 January 1945.

Dear Maurice:

In your last letter you mentioned that we were faced with a fairly serious problem in respect of the olive oil collection. You were right.

As far as initial organisation is concerned, we have made good progress. Prof. PATRISSI, the Italian official charged with organising the work, is exceedingly energetic. He has been across to Bari and back, and has now returned to Rome. We are giving him all the assistance we can by the provision of a car and office space. I have put Hershenson in general charge of the organisation and he is showing excellent keenness.

I confess that I am somewhat disappointed with the speed of arrival of the reinforcing officers. On Saturday evening January 20th, as I write this letter, of the 38 officers due to join us, only 6 have so far arrived. All those were agricultural officers. Yet, it was a fortnight since I came up to Rome for the conference which launched the scheme.

I realise all the difficulties due to bad roads and slow communications, but the sad fact is that time is slipping by. With every week that passes, more oil goes underground. Within the last week Hershenson has been visiting a number of frantois in the Salerno Zone. The general impression he gained in that area was that at least half of the crop had already passed through the frantois. Thereafter it had either (a) gone into the Oleario del Popolo, (b) already passed into the black market, (c) gone into hiding. It will be very difficult for the Italian Government to lay hands on (b) and (c).

I have before me Prof. PATRISSI's report of his visit to Bari. I am considerably struck by the fact that in his account of an interview with the Archbishop of Bari, he, on his own showing, agreed with the Archbishop that the price "was not such as to cover the cost of production" but that the Government found it "impossible to increase the official price". I am apprehensive of the effect of such an admission, which will, I fear, receive wide circulation.

I need not tell you that the differences between Economic Section's circular of 14 January and the amending circular of 17 January, go very deep. I had in my mind, from the first, the fact that the whole emphasis should be laid on Italian execution of the scheme.

On the other hand I certainly did not expect to restrict our work within the very narrow ambit of para 4c of your amendment. During the olive oil campaign of the late autumn, the handful of olive oil officers, operating in Bari and Foggia, were the mainspring of the whole enterprise. To go to the other extreme and to limit the employment of Allied Officers to purely office desk advisers will, in my mind, reduce to a very narrow limit the value of our "assistance". If Allied Officers are not to be allowed to "participate" in the operation of road ~~teams~~

-2-

blocks, then these road blocks must be left entirely to Carabinieri and Guardia Finanza. The main advantage of an Allied Officer is that, speaking in general terms, he cannot be bribed or bullied. The two Italian agencies I have mentioned may on occasions be bribed, and they certainly can be bullied. I am afraid that if no Allied Officer is behind the scenes to give moral support, then a great deal of oil will be bluffed through the road blocks.

In fact, I should be inclined to advise the Government that, if Allied Officers are not to be used on road blocks, then the three main road blocks in Southern Region should be put under the immediate and personal charge of an Italian Army Officer not below the grade of Lt. Col.

I quite appreciate that there may be very important legal and political considerations which have led to the issue of the amendment. May I, however, with all deference, submit that there has apparently been a marked change of policy since I received instructions from Rome.

I hesitate to quote the old saying "if the trumpet giveth forth an uncertain sound" etc.....

And I finish up by assuring you that we are all in good heart and anxious to do our best, to help get in the oil.

Yours ever,

(Signed) J.K. DUNLOP.

Brigadier M. Lush, CB, CBE, MC,
Chief of Staff,
Headquarters,
Allied Commission.

4820 19
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

LGW/cem

Tel. 262
AGR/379.21

30 January 1945
JAN 31 1945

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Amassing
TO : Office of the Chief of Staff
Attention: Chief Staff Officer

1. Reference your 4820/4/COS dated 19 December 1944.
2. Because of frequent contacts with Chief of Staff Office and Regional Commissioner, Brigadier Dunlop, detailed reply to this letter is not being prepared.
3. With the recent olive oil amassing program prepared in letter form for Regional Commissioners, the problems presented in Brigadier Dunlop's letter have been answered. (See attached AGR/379.21-2.)

see also folio 4.

L. D. DENBARD

L. D. DENBARD
Colonel, F. A.
Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
Economic Section

Distribution:
Economic Section
Agriculture S/O

Enclosure:
As above

() - R - F - I - D - E - N - T - I - A - L
 HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
 APO 324
 ECONOMIC SECTION

LDD/tem

AGR/379.21-2

20 JANUARY 1945

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Collection and Control Operations Plan
 for Italian Government Territory.

TO: ALL Regional Commissioners in Italian Government
 Territory (excluding Sicily & Sardinia).

1. These instructions supersede and cancel letter AGR/379.21 HQ AC Economic Section, dated 14 January, 1945, above subject. These instructions also supersede and cancel letter ref. 4820/22/COB HQ AC, dated 17 January, 1945 above subject.

2. The Italian Government has requested the Allied Commission to furnish assistance in collecting the 1944-45 Olive Oil production. The Commission has agreed to assist and is making the service of 60 Allied Officers and a number of NCOs available to work with the Italian Officials based upon the consideration that:

a. Allied Military personnel can furnish valuable assistance to Italian Officials in planning, organizing and facilitating the Olive Oil Collection Program.

b. The presence of Allied Military personnel on such assignments in oil producing areas would have a good moral effect and tend to strengthen the legal collection program.

c. The minimum olive oil needs in Italy, as calculated under Plan A by the Food Sub-Commission, A.C., are as follows:

	Ration Card Holders (Thousands)	Monthly Ration (Grams)	Monthly Re- quirement (Tons)	Yearly Re- quirement (Tons)
South and Central Italy				
a) General Issue	15,647	200	3,130	37,560
b) Special classes & Supplementaries	--	As issued	700	8,400
c) Italian Army	--	--	--	4,139
d) Devastated Areas	1,000	100	100	1,200
North Italy				
e) General Issue	17,452	100	1,746	20,952
f) Special classes and Supplementaries	--	As Issued	710	8,520
			TOTAL	80,771

PAGE 2

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

As of January 1, 1945, approximately 10,000 tons of olive oil had been collected. The magnitude of the Oil Collection task remaining to be done is obvious.

3. Plans and Organization by the Italian Government.
(as worked out by the Government)

a. Declaration of Policy.

- (1) Announcement has been made of the 50% increase in permitted retentions.
- (2) The present legal price of oil will be maintained (no increase).
- (3) A statement will be issued indicating the Government determination to enforce the Olive Oil Decree of 7 September, 1944.
- (4) A Meeting will be called of the heads of the 6 Political Parties and the desirability of publishing a combined statement supporting the Olive Oil Collection Program will be insisted upon.

b. Issuance of Instructions and designation of responsibility.

- (1) A strongly worded circular relating to Olive Oil Collection responsibilities has been sent to all Prefects over the signature of the Prime Minister. This circular requires the complete and efficient discharge of all olive oil collection responsibilities by the Prefect.
- (2) A circular has been sent out to all Provincial Judicial Authorities by the Ministry of Justice. This circular orders that all cases of violation of the Olive Oil Decree be handled promptly and severely and in strict accordance with provisions of the penalty decree.
- (3) Orders have been sent from the respective Ministries to local heads of the three Police Bodies instructing them to designate specified numbers of their forces for enforcement of the Olive Oil Collection Regulations.
- (4) Prefects have been ordered to requisition the required transportation and furnish adequate transportation to all personnel detailed to the Olive Oil Collection Program.

c. Organization of Special Italian Personnel for Overall Direction of the Olive Oil Collection Program.

- (1) Dr. Segni, Under-Secretary of Agriculture has been placed in charge of the Olive Oil Collection Program at the Ministry of Agriculture.
- (2) Prof. Patrissi, present Vice-Commissioner of UNSEA, has been placed in charge of the special Italian Olive Oil Collection Officials in Southern Region.
- (3) Twelve special Italian Olive Oil Collection Officials carrying accredited letters have been nominated to the provinces of Southern Region.

PAGE 3

76

(4) The Ministry of Agriculture & Forests will add additional Officials for Italian Government territory in Regions of Tuscany, Lazio-Umbria and Marche-Abruzzi.

d. Responsibilities of Special Italian Olive Oil Collection Personnel.

(1) Review and improvement of Provincial and Communal Olive Oil Collection plans, organization, and operating procedure will be instituted by special personnel in oil areas. Where a survey reveals that the Collection Program is not successful changes will be made in both provincial and communal operation to insure effective Oil Collection methods.

(2) Oil Press Checks. Spot checks of oil presses will be carried out both by day and by night to ascertain if presses are being properly controlled by local officials. Special attention will be given to large capacity presses. Officials will be accompanied by Italian Police Officers qualified to make the necessary arrests where violations are discovered. Where irregularities or violations are found, the efficiency and honesty of the local olive oil controller will be ascertained at once. Dishonest controllers will be dealt with promptly.

(3) Road Block Operation and Checking. Where road blocks are necessary to control illegal movement of olive oil they will be established on a 24 hour basis. Special Italian Officials will check the operation of road blocks periodically both during daylight and nighttime hours.

(4) Stopping and Searching Civilian Trains. The special olive oil collection personnel will develop plans for stopping and searching civilian trains. This operation can be carried out at strategic points and should be under the command of the Questura assisted by Carabinieri and Finance Guards.

4. Plans and organization by Allied Commission to assist Government in Olive Oil Collection Program.

a. Designation of Responsibility.

The Allied Commission has delegated the technical direction of the Program of the Allied side to the Agriculture Sub-Commission. Major J. R.T. Crawford of the Agriculture Sub-Commission has been placed in technical charge of the Program together with Major G. M. Duncan who will spend full time in the field. The Regional Commissioners are responsible for the operation within their Regions.

b. Provision of Military Personnel and Transportation.

Sixty Allied Officers and a number of NCOs together with transportation are being supplied to assist special Italian Olive Oil collection personnel.

a. Duties of Allied Military Personnel designated to Assist special Italian Olive Oil Collection personnel

(1) Allied Military Personnel will be responsible for furnishing practical assistance to Italian Officials in planning and organizing the Olive Oil Collection Program where it is not now functioning properly. 184

PAGE 4

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

(2) Allied Military Personnel will accompany the special Italian Olive Oil Collection personnel to the extent possible and furnish them advice, and assistance in connection with the responsibilities outlined above under 3, d. (1), (2), (3), (4), it being distinctly understood that the full responsibility of the Olive Oil Amassing and all action in connection therewith is that of the Italian Government and the Italian Officials.

(3) The following paragraphs are in addition, are of great importance, and must be carefully observed:

a. The Italian Government and Italian officials have full responsibility for the olive oil amassing and all operations in connection therewith.

b. The duties of Allied Personnel assigned to assist in the special Italian oil collection will be strictly confined to advisory, planning and organizational matters, and to giving impetus to the campaign, except as provided in para. d. hereof.

c. They will not perform executive or police acts, duties, or functions, i.e., checks of oil presses on private properties; road block operation or other physical controls of olive oil movement; stoppage or search of trains. Their services in such connection will be by way of observation and encouragement.

d. Allied personnel may perform necessary checking operations at road blocks with respect to Allied Military vehicles.

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE:

L.D. Densmore
L.D. DENSMORE
Colonel, F.A., A/DCOS
Economic Section

DISTRIBUTION:

1. R.C., Southern Region (16)
2. R.C., Lazio-Umbria Region (10)
3. R.C., Abruzzi-Marche Region (10)
4. R.C., Tuscany Region (for information) (3)
5. R.C., Emilia Region (for information) (2)
6. Agriculture Sub-Commission (for information) (1)
7. Food Sub-Commission (for information) (3)
8. Public Safety Sub-Commission (for information) (10)
9. Each Allied Officer participating in the Olive Oil Amassing Plan (for information) (1 each - 70)
10. Civil Affairs Section (1)
11. Political Section (1)
12. Legal Sub-Commission (2)
13. Chief of Staff (1)
14. Economic Section (2)
15. File - Spares (15)

4820

File

169

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 30 Jan. 45.

Export of Olive Oil.

Eoon Seo had received a report that no olive oil had been exported from last year's crop and no export was contemplated this year. PRO would consider how this might be handled in the press, but make no promise for the future.

74

Ref. A820/P/OCS.

Tel. 451

30 January 1945

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Amassing.

TO : Economic Section.

You are requested to furnish to this Office weekly figures on olive oil amassing similar to those being furnished on grain collection as the Chief Commissioner wishes to be kept informed on the progress of the olive oil campaign.

JCS
4 Chief Staff Officer,
to the Chief of Staff.

see Minute 71

2

785017

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
P.W.B. UNIT No. 12 U.S.A.P.O. 512

29 January 1945

JAN 30 1945

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, Chief Commissioner
HQ, Allied Commission

Dear Ellery:

Does our picture of the Olive Oil Campaign in
Puglia jibe with yours?

Sincerely yours,

George V. Kimm
GEORGE V. KIMM
HEAD, PWB (LIBERATED ITALY) HQ

enc.

see 76

785017

4120
(COPY) *Cur*

AFHQ
PMB
EWIT no. 9

72
January 23, 1945
JAN 27 1945

To: Mr. George Egan

From: Mr. A. L. Ellison
Deputy Chief Italian Affairs
PMB Unit No. 9- Bari

Subject: Olive Oil Campaign

Captain Garrigue, local AC Agricultural Officer, has presented me with a very dismal picture of the progress of the "Oliari del Popolo" campaign in this region. After more than two months of the campaign and with but one month to go less than 1/3 of the established quota of olive oil has been turned in. Captain Garrigue has turned to PMB in desperation since, for various reasons, the Italian Government has not been of great assistance in this campaign.

It is desired to give the widest possible publicity locally to the objectives of the campaign. Technically, the Italian Government should pay for the costs entailed but, practically, little can be expected in this direction.

Therefore, it would be appreciated if large quantities of all possible campaign material might be sent to this office with the briefest possible delay. Posters, handbills, leaflets and films are especially desired. I do not recall offhand if the PMB oil campaign is in distribution.

This Press Office is prepared to cooperate with AC Agricultural Office in the preparation of special posters, but since about 30,000 posters are required, we cannot proceed unless we have authorization from Rome for the expense of such printing.

A.L. ELLISON

cc: Lt. Col. Munro
Lt. Col. Barbrook
Mr. Stewart

COPY

4820

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
APO 394

26 January 1945
JAN 29 1945
5461 00 147

Dear Chief Commissioner,

Thank you very much indeed for your kind letter of the 22 January and for your good wishes for our share in the olive oil campaign.

I think the most valuable contribution that I have personally made was to rescue Lt. Col. Hershenson from the doctors and put him in general organizational charge of this work in Southern Region. He is showing great enthusiasm and organizing ability.

Please do not set your expectations too high, we promise you we shall do our best, but it is desperately late in the season, and we are short of men and transport.

I propose to pay a personal visit to Taranto, Bari and Foggia early next week to see what progress is being made.

Yours very sincerely,

/s/ John K. Dunlop

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone
United States Naval Reserve,
Chief Commissioner.

COS Distribution

INFO-ACT - Economic Sec

INFO - Chf Comm.

.. Chf S.

179

4820

File

69

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 23 January 1945.

JAN 27 1945

Olive Oil - Amassing.

Grave doubts had been expressed in Toscana Region and elsewhere about the adequacy of the price. PCs in the North thought it should be round about 110 lire instead of 60 lire. Econ Sec said the matter had been carefully considered and the price of 60 lire had been decided upon after taking all aspects into account and in agreement with the Italian Government. CWS told PRO that publicity should not be given to the fact that the Allies would not use olive oil. Econ Sec had set a goal of 80,000 tons and had shown where this would go and CWS suggested that PRO might make use of this information in a publicity campaign. CWS raised the question of officer personnel, RC Southern Region had reported 6 officers had arrived instead of 38. Est Sec mentioned the difficulties that had been encountered and CWS instructed them to ensure the officer personnel arrived.

⁴⁸²⁰
INCOMING MESSAGE
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION.

Originator's Reference: SR/879
Date/Time of Origin: JAN 271643A

Message Centre No: G/9681
Date/Time Recd: JAN 272140A
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: ALCOM SOUTHERN REGION
TO: HQ ALCOM

JAN 28 1945

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Confirming yesterday's conversation LUSH-DUNLOP. Following olive oil reinforcements have arrived at noon today. Officers 24, EM/OR 6 vehicles 4. One officer now being withdrawn. In addition 3 regional agricultural officers working in scheme.

ACTION

Dist

Action - G O S (2)
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
Econ Sec
Agric
G-1 (3)
File (2)
Float

John Cos
4820
RESTRICTED

PJA
HEADQUARTERS
28 JAN 1945

see minute 68

785017

4820
[Signature]

(63)

LDD/es

10.03/ES

22 January 1945
JAN 24 1945

[Handwritten initials]
JAN 29/1

Dear Colonel Kirkwood:

You have doubtless received a copy of the Economic Section's general letter AGR/379.21-2 of 20 January which sets forth the Italian Government Plan for intensive activity with respect to olive oil amassing in Italian Government territory. The vital importance of olive oil has prompted us to comply with the government's request for assistance with the amassing.

The Government is responsible for the amassing in Italian Government territory and our officers will act as advisors and assist with transport, petrol and by their presence indicate that the program has Allied backing. It is requested that you do whatever you can to assist the government in any portion of your Region that is under government control. Amassing in AMG territory is of course our responsibility. While the greater part of available oil will be found in territory which has been turned over to the Italian Government, yet there is a considerable quantity of amassable oil in AMG territory.

A general letter (AGR/379.21-3 of 21 Jan 45) has been sent out by Economic Section with respect to olive oil amassing activities by AMG. Will you please give this matter your personal attention? It is most essential that AMG do the very best possible job of amassing in their territory. I have assured the Italian Government that we will conduct an "all out" effort in AMG and will assist them in every way we can in Italian Government territory.

It is realized that the task is a difficult one made more so by lack of adequate transport facilities and limited officer personnel. I shall watch with interest your progress and am confident that under your excellent guidance the amassing in your Region will produce the desired results.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
ELLERY W. STONE

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

[Handwritten initials]

176

[Handwritten note]
see Minute 64 x 65.

Colonel Robert G. Kirkwood
Regional Commissioner
Toskana Region

785017

10.03/ES

82 Jan 24/1945

JAN 24 1945

Dear Colonel Ames:

You have doubtless received a copy of the Economic Section's general letter AGR/379.21-2 of 20 January which sets forth the Italian Government Plan for intensive activity with respect to olive oil amassing in Italian Government territory. The vital importance of olive oil has prompted me to comply with the government's request for assistance with the amassing.

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It is realized that the task is a difficult one made more so by lack of adequate transport facilities and limited officer personnel. I shall watch with interest your progress and am confident that under your excellent guidance the amassing in your Region will produce the desired results.

Sincerely yours,

Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Lt. Colonel John D. Ames
Acting Regional Commissioner
Lazio-Umbria Region

175

4820
LDD'es

22 January 1945
JAN 24 1945

10.03/ES

Dear Colonel Bowman:

You have doubtless received a copy of the Economic Section's general letter AGR/379.21-2 of 20 January which sets forth the Italian Government Plan for intensive activity with respect to olive oil amassing in Italian Government territory. The vital importance of olive oil has prompted me to comply with the government's request for assistance with the amassing.

The government is responsible for the amassing in Italian Government territory and our officers will act as advisors and assist with transport, petrol and by their presence indicate that the program has Allied backing. It is requested that you do whatever you can to assist the government in any portion of your region that is under government control. Amassing in AMG territory is of course our responsibility. While the greater part of available oil will be found in territory which has been turned over to the Italian Government, yet there is a considerable quantity of amassable oil in AMG territory.

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It is realized that the task is a difficult one made more so by lack of adequate transport facilities and limited officer personnel. I shall watch with interest your progress and am confident that under your excellent guidance the amassing in your Region will produce the desired results.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Colonel A. C. Bowman
Regional Commissioner
Emilia Region

174

785017

LDD/es

22 January 1945

JAN 24 1945

10.03/ES

Dear Colonel French:

You have doubtless received a copy of the Economic Section's general letter AGR/379.21-2 of 20 January which sets forth the Italian Government Plan for intensive activity with respect to olive oil amassing in Italian Government territory. The vital importance of olive oil has prompted me to comply with the government's request for assistance with the amassing.

The government is responsible for the amassing in Italian Government territory and our officers will act as advisors and assist with transport, petrol and by their presence indicate that the program has Allied backing. It is requested that you do whatever you can to assist the government in any portion of your Region that is under government control. Amassing in AMG territory is of course our responsibility. While the greater part of available oil will be found in territory which has been turned over to the Italian Government, yet there is a considerable quantity of amassable oil in AMG territory.

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It is realized that the task is a difficult one made more so by lack of adequate transport facilities and limited officer personnel. I shall watch with interest your progress and am confident that under your excellent guidance the amassing in your Region will produce the desired results.

Sincerely yours,

[s] Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Colonel C. E. French
Regional Commissioner
Marche-Abruzzi Region

173

4820
[Signature]

(59)

LDD/es

[Signature]

10.02/ES

22 January 1945

N/R cos

JAN 24 1945

Dear Brigadier Dunlop:

I have read with interest your R/1418 of 10 January 1945 relative to the program for olive oil collection. You are to be commended for the splendid way in which you are cooperating with the Agriculture Sub-Commission and perfecting plans for providing the assistance requested by the Italian Government in this matter which has such a vital bearing on the food situation.

It is realized that the task is a difficult one, made more so by lack of adequate transport facilities and limited officer personnel.

I shall watch with interest your progress and am confident that under your excellent guidance the amassing in your region will produce the desired results.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature] Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Brigadier J. K. Dunlop
Regional Commissioner
Southern Region

172

785017

Inter Office Memo.

Ref: 4320/52/008.

25 January 1945.

Subject: Olive Oil Amending.

To: DDCS, Economic Section.

Amongst the walter of papers on this subject the enclosed correspondence from the Regional Commissioner, Southern Region, has been slightly overshadowed. However, it calls for an answer, and it would seem that what is required is for you to take the matter up with the Italian Government.

F. Tolbert

Colonel,
Chief Staff Officer.see min. 94-95.
JFRBU 29/1 171
ME

(57)

Ref: 4370/57/008.

24 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Olive Oil.

TO : DCOS, Economic Section.

54 + 46

I am directed by the COS to forward for necessary action, copies of DO correspondence he has received from the Regional Commissioner, Southern Region, on the subject of olive oil amassing.

P. R. RUSSELL

/JL.

PA to Chief of Staff.

170

1320/56/003.

56

24th January 1945.

16
14
Thank you for the follow-up of January 22nd to your letter of January 21st. in which you enclose a copy of Prof. Patrissi's report on his visit to Bari with regard to the massing of olive oil. I note this confirms your statement in your first letter about his conversation with the Archbishop.

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier J.K. Dunlop, OBE, MC, TD.
Regional Commissioner,
Southern Region.

~~40~~
SOUTHERN REGION
ALLIED COMMISSION

OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL COMMISSIONER

22 Jan 45

Dear *Francis*

46 JAN 23 1945

Further to my letter to you yesterday on the subject of olive oil, I am sending for your personal information a copy of Prof. PATRISSI's report on his visit to Bari. I have sidelined the part which I referred to in my letter to you yesterday.

52-53.

Yours *faithfully*

M.
Brigadier M. LUSH, CB, CBE, MC,
Chief of Staff,
Headquarters, Allied Commission,
C.M.F.

JKD/jh

See 4 + 5.

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Translation

53

ACCOUNT OF PROF. PATRISSEI'S VISIT TO BARI

During my visit to Bari, I had the opportunity of witnessing the activity of Col. Orwood in the organization for stimulating the bestowal of oil to the 'oleari del popolo'.

On Thursday 18th, a meeting took place in the office of the said Colonel; The prefects of Bari, Brindisi, Lecce, Potenza and Matera were present at this meeting during which Capt. Givè and Prof. Patrissei explained the aim which the action in question intends to reach, as well as the importance which the Government gives to the said action. Italian functionaries who are to do service in the area were present, so that it was possible to introduce them at once to the Prefects.

On Friday 19th, the Italian functionaries appointed in Taranto, Brindisi, Lecce and Bari had already reached their seats.

On Friday 19th, Prof. Patrissei contacted his Ex. Eminence Mgr. Arch-bishop of Bari, to obtain his intervention with the Parish Priests of the Diocese so that they should start a profitable propaganda. At first, His Ex. the Archbishop stated that about a year ago, at the beginning of the 'ammasso' regime, he sent a pastoral letter to the Parish Priests, saying that it was necessary to encourage the producers to do their duty, if the prices given by the ammassi were equitable and sufficiently remunerative. Prof. Patrissei explained to the Archbishop that the Government authorities acknowledged that the price which is paid at present to those who give their oil is insufficient to cover the cost of the production, but that it is materially impossible for them to raise the official price. The Archbishop was finally convinced of the seriousness of the problem, and pledged himself to make personally an active patriotic propaganda so that the 'oleari del popolo' of the area of his diocese should reach the figures fixed by the central organs.

On Saturday 20th, the Italian functionaries assigned to Puglia and Campobasso were to reach their respective seats.

Therefore, we may take it that within the day, all the provinces of the Adriatic side will have the necessary cadres as far as the Italian functionaries are concerned.

Considering how useful the meeting of the Prefects which took place in Bari was, we wonder whether General Dunlop would consider it opportune to summon in the chief towns of the zone the Prefects of the other provinces to contact them directly.

We also communicate that the Director of U.P.S.E.A. of Brindisi has been telegraphically substituted by Prof. Patrissei for insufficient activity and diligence during the oil campaign; Dr. Niasco Elia, ex Deputy Director of the U.P.S.E.A. of Lecce has been appointed in his stead, and will immediately assume charge of the office.

52
During his trip to Bari, Prof. Patrisci visited the municipalities of Cerignola, and of S. Ferdinando di Puglia where he got the impression that the Prefect of the Foggia Province is not showing sufficient activity or energy about the oil campaign which is so important in his province.

Naples, 20 January 1945

E.O.

RESOCONTO SULLA VISITA A BARI EFFETTUATA DAL PROF. PATRISSI 51

Nel corso della visita a Bari ho avuto modo di constatare l'impegno del Col. Orpwood nella organizzazione relativa all'azione di stimolo del conferimento di olio agli Oleari del popolo.

Giovedì 18 corr. nell'Ufficio del predetto Colonnello ha avuto luogo una riunione cui hanno partecipato i Prefetti di Bari, Brindisi, Lecce, Potenza e Matera, nel corso della quale ad essi, da parte del Capitano Sive e del Prof. Patrissi e' stato spiegato lo scopo che l'azione in oggetto intende raggiungere nonché l'importanza che il Governo attribuisce all'azione stessa. Partecipavano alla riunione i funzionari italiani destinati a prestar servizio nella zona per modo che e' stato possibile effettuare immediatamente la presentazione personale ai Prefetti.

Venerdì 19 corr. i funzionari italiani destinati a Taranto, Brindisi, Lecce e Bari avevano già raggiunto la sede.

Venerdì 19 corr. il Prof. Patrissi ha preso contatto con l'Ecc.mo Mons. Minni, Arcivescovo di Bari, allo scopo di ottenere un suo autorevole intervento presso i Parroci della Arcidiocesi perche' svolgano una proficua azione di propaganda. Sua Ecc. l'Arcivescovo in un primo momento ha dichiarato che all'inizio del regime di ammasso, qualche anno fa, egli invio' ai Parroci una Lettera Pastorale precisando essere necessario stimolare i produttori a fare il loro dovere purché i prezzi corrisposti dagli ammassi fossero equi e sufficientemente remunerativi. Il Prof. Patrissi ha spiegato all'Arcivescovo che le autorità di Governo pur riconoscendo che il prezzo attualmente corrisposto ai conferenti di olio non e' tale da coprire il costo di produzione, si vedono nella materiale impossibilita' di aumentare il prezzo ufficiale. In definitiva l'Arcivescovo si e' convinto della gravita' del problema e si e' impegnato a svolgere personalmente attiva propaganda patriottica perche' gli oleari del popolo nel territorio della Sua Arcidiocesi raggiungano il traguardo che e' stato fissato dagli organi centrali.

Sabato 20 corr. i funzionari italiani destinati a Foggia e Campobasso avrebbero raggiunto le rispettive sedi.

Si può quindi ritenere che entro questa sera tutte le province del versante adriatico siano a posto relativamente ai quadri per quanto riguarda i funzionari italiani.

Considerata l'utilita' della riunione dei Prefetti tenutasi a Bari si sottopone al Sig. Generale Dunlop l'opportunita' di convocare nei capoluoghi di zona i Prefetti delle altre provincie per una presa di contatto diretta.

Si informa inoltre che il Direttore del U.P.S.E.A. di Brindisi e' stato telegraficamente sostituito dal Prof. Patrissi per scarso impegno e poca diligenza durante la campagna olearia e al suo posto e' stato designato il Dr. Biaseo Elio, già Vice Direttore dell'U.P.S.E.A. di Lecce che prendera' immediatamente le consegne dell'Ufficio.

Durante il viaggio per Bari il Prof. Patrissi ha visitato i comuni di Cerignola e di S. Ferdinando di Puglia riportandone l'impressione che il Prefetto della provincia di Foggia non si occupi con sufficiente impegno e con la necessaria energia della campagna olearia così importante nella sua provincia.

Napoli, 20 Gennaio 1945

TRANSLATION AT 53

⁴⁸²⁰
CONFIDENTIAL

50

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

LDD/es

10.03/ES

22 January 1945

Subject: Olive Oil Collection and Control Operations Plan
for Italian Government Territory

To : Regional Commissioner, Southern Region.

1. Reference is made to

a. AGR/379.21-2, HQ AC, Economic Section, dated
20 January 1945, above subject, copy attached as Inclosure
No. 1. This reference supercedes and cancels the following:

1. AGR/379.21 HQ, AC, Economic Section, dated
14 Jan 45, same subject, and

2. Ref: 4820/22/COS, HQ, AC, dated 17 Jan 45,
same subject.

b. AGR/379.21-3, HQ, AC, Economic Section, dated
21 Jan 45, subject: "Olive Oil Amassing in AMG Regions and
Army Areas, copy attached as Inclosure No. 2 for your informa-
tion.

c. Ref: R/1418, HQ, Southern Region, AC, dated
10 Jan 45, subject: "Collection of Olive Oil".

2. The Chief of Staff, HQ, AC, requests that your at-
tention be pointed to para 4 c (3) a, b, c, and d of reference
1 a above and directs that you issue an amendment to para 11
of above reference 1 a to conform with the provisions of para
4 c (3) a, b, c and d.

3. The provisions set forth in para 4 c (3) a, b, c and
d of reference 1 a above were included upon recommendation of
the Legal Sub-Commission and the Civil Affairs Section.

By Command of Admiral STONE:

L. D. Densmore

L. D. DENSMORE
Colonel, P A

Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
Economic Section

2 Incl - m/s

DISTRIBUTION:

COS (1)
Civ. Aff. Sec. (1)
Agr S/C (1)
Legal S/C (1)

CONFIDENTIAL

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

ECONOMIC SECTION

LDD/len

AGR/379.21-3

21 January 1945

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Amassing in AMG Regions and Army Areas.

JAN 22 1945

TO: SCAG's - Armies -
Regional Commissioners - AMG Regions

1. Reference is made for information and guidance, to attached copy, inclosure #1, AGR 379.21-2 HQ AC, Economic Section, Subject: Olive Oil Collection and Control Operations Plan for Italian Government Territory, dated 20 January, 1945

2. Above reference is applicable to Italian Government territory in those Regions, the boundaries of which include both Italian Government and AMG territory.

3. The 1944-45 olive oil amassing program has been equally as ineffective in AMG territory as it has been in Italian Government territory. Paragraph 1 of inclosure #1 indicates the minimum olive oil requirements. A target of 80,771 tons has been established as the minimum amassing objective of which it is estimated that 16,665 tons should be amassed in present AMG and army areas.

4. Attention is particularly directed to paragraph 3 a (1) and (2) of inclosure #1 "Declaration of Policy". Such policy will be effective in AMG and army areas.

5. The importance of a successful olive oil amassing program cannot be over-emphasized. The implications of failure to amass and the serious resulting developments must be understood by all AMG Officers.

6. The Chief Commissioner has assured the Italian Government that an "all out" effort will be made in AMG areas and that the Allied Commission will assist the government in every way that it can in Italian Government territory.

7. The technical direction of the olive oil amassing program in AMG areas is under the Agriculture Sub-Commission, HQ, AC. Major J. H. T. Crawford will be in technical charge of the program. Major G.M. Dunnean, is the field representative. Regional Commissioners and SCAG's Armies are responsible for the amassing operation within their respective regions or areas.

PAGE 2

CONFIDENTIAL

8. It is directed that energetic measures be immediately taken in all AG and Army areas to effect a successful olive oil amassing program and that this matter be considered urgent. Let AG demonstrate that Olive Oil can be amassed.

By command of Rear Admiral Steno:

L. D. Denstone
L.D. DENSTONE
Colonel, F.A., A/DOCS
Bureau of Section

Incl. 1, as per para. 1.

DISTRIBUTION:

1. R.C., Southern Region (16)
2. R.C., Lazio-Umbria Region (10)
3. R.C., Abruzzi-Marche Region (10)
4. R.C. Tuscany Region (~~for information~~) (3)
5. R.C., Emilia Region (~~for information~~) (2)
6. Agriculture Sub-Commission (for information) (1)
7. Food Sub-Commission (for information) (3)
8. Public Safety Sub-Commission (for information) (10)
9. Each Allied Officer participating in the Olive Oil Amassing Plan (for information) (1 each - 70)
10. Civil Affairs Section (3)
11. Political Section (1)
12. Legal Sub-Commission (2)
13. Chief of Staff (1)
14. Economic Section (2)
15. SCAG's Armies (10)
16. File - Spares (5)

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

LHM/RSW

AGR/379.21-2

20 JANUARY 1945
JAN 22 1945

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Collection and Control Operations Plan
for Italian Government Territory.

TO: All Regional Commissioners in Italian Government
Territory (excluding Sicily & Sardinia).

1. These instructions supersede and cancel letter AGR/379.21 HQ AC Economic Section, dated 14 January, 1945, above subject. These instructions also supersede and cancel letter ref. 4820/22/COS HQ AC, dated 17 January, 1945 above subject.

2. The Italian Government has requested the Allied Commission to furnish assistance in collecting the 1944-45 Olive Oil production. The Commission has agreed to assist and is making the service of 60 Allied Officers and a number of NCOs available to work with the Italian Officials based upon the consideration that:

a. Allied Military personnel can furnish valuable assistance to Italian Officials in planning, organizing and facilitating the Olive Oil Collection Program.

b. The presence of Allied Military personnel on such assignments in oil producing areas would have a good moral effect and tend to strengthen the legal collection program.

c. The minimum olive oil needs in Italy, as calculated under Plan A by the Food Sub-Commission, A.C., are as follows:

	Ration Card Holders (Thousands)	Monthly Ration (Grams)	Monthly Re- quirement (Tons)	Yearly Re- quirement (Tons)
South and Central Italy				
a) General Issue	15,647	200	3,130	37,560
b) Special classes & Supplementaries	--	As issued	700	8,400
c) Italian Army	--	--	--	4,139
d) Devastated Areas	1,000	100	100	1,200
North Italy				
e) General Issue	17,452	100	1,746	20,952
f) Special classes and Supplementaries	--	As Issued	710	8,520
			TOTAL	80,771

PAGE 2

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

As of January 1, 1945, approximately 10,000 tons of olive oil had been collected. The magnitude of the Oil Collection task remaining to be done is obvious.

3. Plans and Organization by the Italian Government.
(as worked out by the Government)

a. Declaration of Policy.

(1) Announcement has been made of the 50% increase in permitted retentions.

(2) The present legal price of oil will be maintained (no increase).

(3) A statement will be issued indicating the Government determination to enforce the Olive Oil Decree of 7 September, 1944.

(4) A Meeting will be called of the heads of the 6 Politic Parties and the desirability of publishing a combined statement supporting the Olive Oil Collection Program will be insisted upon.

b. Issuance of Instructions and designation of responsibility.

(1) A strongly worded circular relating to Olive Oil Collection responsibilities has been sent to all Prefects over the signature of the Prime Minister. This circular requires the complete and efficient discharge of all olive oil collection responsibilities by the Prefect.

(2) A circular has been sent out to all Provincial Judicial Authorities by the Ministry of Justice. This circular orders that all cases of violation of the Olive Oil Decree be handled promptly and severely and in strict accordance with provisions of the penalty decree.

(3) Orders have been sent from the respective Ministries to local heads of the three Police Bodies instructing them to designate specified numbers of their forces for enforcement of the Olive Oil Collection Regulations.

(4) Prefects have been ordered to requisition the required transportation and furnish adequate transportation to all personnel detailed to the Olive Oil Collection Program.

c. Organization of Special Italian Personnel for Overall Direction of the Olive Oil Collection Program

(1) Dr. Segni, Under-Secretary of Agriculture has been placed in charge of the Olive Oil Collection Program at the Ministry of Agriculture.

(2) Prof. Patrissi, present Vice-Commissioner of UNSEA, has been placed in charge of the special Italian Olive Oil Collection Officials in Southern Region.

(3) Twelve special Italian Olive Oil Collection Officials carrying accredited letters have been nominated to the provinces of Southern Region.

Exhibit 3

C-O-U-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

(4) The Ministry of Agriculture & Forests will add additional Officials for Italian Government territory in Regions of Tuscany, Lazio-Umbria and Marche-Abruzzi.

1. Responsibilities of Special Italian Olive Oil Collection Personnel.

(1) Review and improvement of Provincial and Communal Olive Oil Collection plans, organization, and operating procedure will be instituted by special personnel in all areas. Where a survey reveals that the Collection Program is not successful changes will be made in both provincial and communal operation to assure effective Oil Collection methods.

(2) Oil Press Checks. Spot checks of oil presses will be carried out both by day and by night to ascertain if presses are being properly controlled by local officials. Special attention will be given to large capacity presses. Officials will be accompanied by Italian Police Officers qualified to make the necessary arrests where violations are discovered. Where irregularities or violations are found, the efficiency and honesty of the local olive oil controller will be ascertained at once. Dishonest controllers will be dealt with promptly.

(3) Road Block Operation and Checking. Where road blocks are necessary to control illegal movement of olive oil they will be established on a 24 hour basis. Special Italian Officials will check the operation of road blocks periodically both during daylight and nighttime hours.

(4) Stopping and Searching Civilian Trains. The special olive oil collection personnel will develop plans for stopping and searching civilian trains. This operation can be carried out at strategic points and should be under the command of the Questura assisted by Carabinieri and Finance Guards.

4. Plans and organization by Allied Commission to assist Government in Olive Oil Collection Program.

a. Designation of Responsibility.

The Allied Commission has delegated the technical direction of the Program of the Allied side to the Agriculture Sub-Commission. Major J. R.T. Crawford of the Agriculture Sub-Commission has been placed in technical charge of the Program together with Major G. M. Duncan who will spend full time in the field. The Regional Commissioners are responsible for the operation within their Regions.

b. Provision of Military Personnel and Transportation.

Sixty Allied Officers and a number of NCOs together with transportation are being supplied to assist special Italian Olive Oil collection personnel.

c. Intuse of Allied Military Personnel designated to Assist special Italian Olive Oil Collection personnel

(1) Allied Military Personnel will be responsible for furnishing practical assistance to Italian Officials in planning and organizing the Olive Oil Collection Program where it is not now functioning properly.

PAGE 4

C-C-N-F-I-D-E-R-T-I-A-L

(2) Allied Military Personnel will accompany the special Italian Olive Oil Collection personnel to the extent possible and furnish them advice, and assistance in connection with the responsibilities outlined above under 3, d, (1), (2), (3), (4), it being distinctly understood that the full responsibility of the Olive Oil Amassing and all action in connection therewith is that of the Italian Government and the Italian Officials.

(3) The following paragraphs are in addition, are of great importance, and must be carefully observed:

a. The Italian Government and Italian officials have full responsibility for the olive oil amassing and all operations in connection therewith.

b. The duties of Allied Personnel assigned to assist in the special Italian oil collection will be strictly confined to advisory, planning and organizational matters, and to giving impetus to the campaign, except as provided in para. d. hereof.

c. They will not perform executive or police acts, duties, or functions, i.e., checks of oil presses on private properties; road block operation or other physical controls of olive oil movement; stoppage or search of trains. Their services in such connection will be by way of observation and encouragement.

d. Allied personnel may perform necessary checking operations at road blocks with respect to Allied Military vehicles.

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE:

L.D. Densmore
L.D. DENSMORE
Colonel, F.A., A/DCOS
Economic Section

DISTRIBUTION:

1. R.C., Southern Region (16)
2. R.C., Lazio-Umbria Region (10)
3. R.C., Abruzzi-Marche Region (10)
4. R.C., Tuscany Region (for information) (3)
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11. Political Section (1)
12. Legal Sub-Commission (2)
13. Chief of Staff (1)
14. Economic Section (2)
15. File - Spares (15)

4820
PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

46
Brigadier J. DUNLOP, OBE, MC, TD,
Regional Commissioner,
Headquarters, Southern Region,
Allied Commission,
C.M.F.

21 January 1945

Dear Maurice.

In your last letter you mentioned that we were faced with a fairly serious problem in respect of the olive oil collection. You were right.

As far as initial organisation is concerned, we have made good progress. Prof. PATRISSI, the Italian official charged with organising the work, is exceedingly energetic. He has been across to Bari and back, and has now returned to Rome. We are giving him all the assistance we can by the provision of a car and office space. I have put Hershenson in general charge of the organisation and he is showing excellent keenness.

I confess that I am somewhat disappointed with the speed of arrival of the reinforcing officers. On Saturday evening January 20th, as I write this letter, of the 36 officers due to join us, only 6 have so far arrived. All those were agricultural officers. Yet, it was a fortnight since I came up to Rome for the conference which launched the scheme.

I realise all the difficulties due to bad roads and slow communications, but the sad fact is that time is slipping by. With every week that passes, more oil goes underground. Within the last week Hershenson has been visiting a number of frantois in the Salerno Zone. The general impression he gained in that area was that at least half of the crop had already passed through the frantois. Thereafter it had either (a) gone into the Oleario del Popolo (b) already passed into the black market (c) gone into hiding. It will be very difficult for the Italian Government to lay hands on (b) and (c).

I have before me Prof. PATRISSI's report of his visit to Bari. I am considerably struck by the fact that in his account of an interview with the Archbishop of Bari, he, on his own showing, agreed with the Archbishop that the price "was not such as to cover the cost of production" but that the Government found it "impossible to increase the official price". I am apprehensive of the effect of such an admission, which will, I fear, receive wide circulation.

32 45 39

I need not tell you that the differences between Economic Section's circular of 14 January and the amending circular of 17 January, go very deep. I had in my mind, from the first, the fact that the whole emphasis should be laid on Italian execution of the scheme.

On the other hand I certainly did not expect to restrict our work within the very narrow ambit of para 4c of your amendment. During the olive oil campaign of the late autumn, the handful of olive oil officers, operating in Bari and Foggia, were the main spring of the whole enterprise. To go to the other extreme and to limit the employment of Allied Officers to purely office desk advisers will, to my mind, reduce to a very narrow limit the value of our "assistance". If Allied Officers are not to be allowed to "participate" in the operation of road blocks, then these road blocks must be left entirely to Carabinieri and Guardia Finanza. The main advantage of an Allied Officer is that, speaking in general terms, he cannot be bribed or bullied. The two Italian agencies I have mentioned may on occasions be bribed, and they certainly can be bullied. I am afraid that if no Allied Officer is behind the scenes to give moral support, then a great deal of oil will be bluffed through the road blocks.

In fact, I should be inclined to advise the Government that, if Allied Officers are not to be used on road blocks, then the three main road blocks in Southern Region should be put under the immediate and personal charge of an Italian Army Officer not below the grade of Lt. Col.

I quite appreciate that there may be very important legal and political considerations which have led to the issue of the amendment. May I, however, with all deference, submit that there has apparently been a marked change of policy since I received instructions from Rome.

I hesitate to quote the old saying "if the trumpet giveth forth an uncertain sound" etc...

And I finish up by assuring you that we are all in good heart, and anxious to do our best, to help get in the oil.

JKD/jh

Yours *over*

Brigadier M. LUSH, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.
Chief of Staff,
Headquarters, Allied Commission,
C.M.F.

159

4820

45A

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 16 January 1945.

JAN 18 1945

Olive Oil - Amassing. The progress of the scheme was discussed. DCS Sec was disturbed by the wording of the Econ Sec directive in respect of the powers of Allied officers. DCS directed that a short follow-up should be sent out defining exactly what Allied officers can and cannot do. The publicity was starting off well and DCS directed PRD to give further publicity to the scheme. It was important that AGs in the North understood their responsibilities in the matter and showed the Italian Government what could be done in AG territory.

785017

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
APO 394

R/1440

14 January 1945.

Subject: Olive Oil Collection.

To: H.Q. Allied Commission,
Attn: Chief of Staff.

1. Ref: Chief Commissioner's letter 4820/18/003 of 10 January to the Ministry of Agriculture. 10-12.
2. I forward herewith original letter from Zone Commissioner, Foggia, together with supporting documents, covering a case where olive oil in obvious evasion of the normal rationing procedure, was being brought from Matera in Italian official transport, to an Official Mess in Rome.
3. It is clear that as the olive oil campaign proceeds, black market operators will find it difficult to secure oil and will raise their price. Then, officials, officers and others, who have access to Italian Government Transport will have an even greater inducement to send foraging parties into the South to buy illicit oil. An "official" black market will then be built up unless it is made quite clear that this practice must stop.
4. It would appear to be a test case for the integrity and determination of the Italian Government.

(Sgd.) J.K. DUNLOP

Brigadier,
Regional Commissioner.

Copy to Zone Commissioner FOGGIA
" " Zone Commissioner BARI
" " Legal, Southern Region
" " Public Safety, Southern Region
" " Regional Olive Oil Control Officer, Southern Region.

43
 H.Q. AD-Foggia Zone
 in Lucera

Subject: Inter-Regional Removal of Olive Oil.

To: Regional Commissioner,
 AD-Southern Region

From: Zone Commissioner, Allied Commission, Copy to:
 Foggia Zone.

Ref: FZ/5250

Date: 2/1/1945

- 1) Food Sub Commission - Rome
- 2) Zone Commissioner, Bari Zone

At about 4-30 pm on 6th January 1945 at Bovino, Province of Foggia, Corporal Clavelli, 65 Company CMP (TC) stopped a Fiat motor lorry: Rome 73907 owned by the Ministro del Tesoro, Rome and in charge of Doctor Alberico SANCHIARELLI, Inspector of Ministry of Treasury at Rome; who was accompanied by Maresciallo Cupo Terra FIOCCALMITE of Guardia di Finanza, Rome.

On examination the vehicle was found to be carrying 30 quintals of olive oil and as Corporal Clavelli was not satisfied with the explanations given he brought the vehicle and occupants to this Headquarters for further questioning.

On being questioned here, Doctor Sanchiarelli produced a letter signed by the Prefect of Matera, authorising the transport of 30 quintals of olive oil from Matera to Rome and also a circulation permit from Ministro del Tesoro, Rome in respect of the vehicle. The above mentioned permits are attached as also is an order issued to the Finance Guard giving him instructions to accompany the vehicle.

Doctor Sanchiarelli stated the oil was for use in a mess established by the Ministry at Rome.

When asked where he had obtained the oil, Doctor Sanchiarelli stated he had loaded it at a Prantoi, which had been indicated to him by the Prefect in the vicinity of Matera and had not obtained it through regular Consorzio Agrario channels.

Doctor Sanchiarelli further stated that he had paid 62 lire per litre for the oil but on being asked to produce the receipt stated that he had not bothered to ask for one as the Ministry who had provided the money trusted him.

It will be observed that none of the documents bear the stamp of the Allied Commission and Doctor Sanchiarelli admitted that the authority of Allied Commission at either Matera or Rome had not been obtained. In view of the fact that the oil had been released by the Prefect of Matera the vehicle and (38) were allowed to proceed.

Date: 2/2/1943

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The practice of various Ministries in Rome using their position to improperly obtain rationed goods in this and adjoining zones appears to be on the increase and if not stopped is liable to seriously impair the amassing of controlled commodities, especially olive oil.

s/ A.N. REICHT,
Lt.Col.,

Zone Commissioner,
A.C. Foggia Zone.

COPY

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE DELLA R. GUARDIA DI FINANZA DEL CAMPIDOGLIO.

COMANDO COMPAGNIA COMANDO

FOGLIO di VIA

che accompagna il Maresciallo Capo Terra PICCOLOMINI Pietro il
quale per conto del Ministero delle Finanze (G.I.F.) scorta il
camion targato Roma 73907 che si reca a Matera e Altamura per
prelevamento viveri.

Parte oggi alle ore sette.

Roma, addi' 2 Gennaio 1945.

IL CAPITANO AIUTANTE MAGGIORE IN I

(Achille Pinchera)

/s/

.....

COPY

REGIA PREFETTURA DI MATERA

Div: Gab. Num di prot. 9269

Matera, 22/13/1944.

OGGETTO: Autorizzazione trasporto generi alimentari.

A. S. E. IL MINISTRO DELLE FINANZE

R O M A

In relazione alla sua lettera del 16 corrente N. 3858, con la
presenta autorizzo il trasporto da Matera a Roma di quintali 30 (trenta)
di olio a mezzo dell'autocarro Fiat 634-Targa 73907-Roma.

IL PREFETTO

(G. Tamburro)

/s/ Tamburro

785017

CCFI

MINISTERO DEL TESORO

(Direzione Generale del Tesoro)

ROMA 14 30 Dicembre 1944.

Si dichiara che tutti i viveri e le merci che si trovano a bordo dell'autocarro FIAT 634 targa Roma 73907 munito di permesso di circolazione n. 72313, sono di proprietà del Ministero del Tesoro e sono ad esso destinati.

L'ISPETTORE GENERALE

/s/

.....

It is hereby declared that all foodstuffs and other merchandise on the truck Fiat 634 targa 73907, with regular circulating permit 72313, belong to the Ministero del Tesoro and travel on its behalf.

/s/

.....

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref: 4329/22/008.

17 January 1945.

Subject: Olive Oil Collection and Control Operations
Plan for Italian Government Territory.

To: Regional Commissioner - Southern Region
- Lazio Emilia Region
- Abruzzi Marche Region

1. I refer to MR/379.21 of 14 January issued by DDC, Rome to Section.

2. The words "and Allied officers" will be deleted from the fourth line of para. 2(a)3.

3. The words "with Allied personnel, including the railway transportation officer" will be deleted from the third and fourth lines of para. 2(a)4.

4. The following paragraphs are supplementary, are of great importance and must be carefully observed:

A. The Italian Government and Italian Local Government officials have full responsibility for the olive oil marketing and all operations in connection therewith.

B. The duties of Allied personnel assigned to assist in the special Italian oil collection will be strictly confined to advisory, planning and organizational matters, and to giving impetus to the campaign.

C. They will not themselves perform or participate in the performance of executive or police acts, unless or functions, i.e. checks of oil produced in private properties; road block operation or other physical controls of olive oil movement; stoppage or search of trains.

5. Regional Commissioner, Southern Region, will issue an addendum to para. 11 of his R/1425 of 16 January to conform with paras. 4, 5, B and C above.

Regional Coordinator - Southern Region

- Law to Underpin MoS

Y. Ref. or to 828/379.21 of 14 January issued by ICS, forwarded

2. The words "and Allied countries" will be deleted from the fourth of para. 2(a)3.

3. The words "with Allied personnel, including the railway transportation officers" will be deleted from the third and fourth lines of 2(d).

4. The following information is supplementary, and of interest to persons and must be carefully observed:

4. The Italian Government and Italian Local Government officials have full responsibility for the olive oil marketing and all operations in connection therewith.

B. The duties of Allied personnel assigned to assist in the special Italian oil collection will be strictly confined to advisory, planning and organizational matters, and to giving assistance to the command.

9. They will not themselves perform or participate in the performance of executive or policy acts, either on instructions, i.e. checks of oil products as private transactions; and block operations of other physical controls of oil or oil products; storage or transfer of trucks.

5. Regional Coordinator, Southern Region, will issue an instruction to ser. 11 of his E/1418 of 10 January to conform with paras. 4.4, 4.4.1 and 4.4.2 above.

Disturbances:

A.C. Anthro 30/10/03

Union-Label Motion

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

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Public Safety Sub C

Repub. 300 Ontario 47110M

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33

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

LDD/es

10-03/ES

15 January 1945

JAN 15 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR COL. SHIPP (CHIEF OF STAFF'S OFFICE):

~~32~~

1. Attached is letter we have worked out with respect to olive oil amassing procedure in Italian Government territory. The procedure in AMG territory is in the process of being written up.

32

2. You will note in the attached AGR/379.21, 14 January that para 2 sets forth the part the Italian Government plays, and para 3 the position with respect to Allied officers. Your attention is particularly directed to para 3 c 1 and 2.

3. I would like to release this today. Will you ask the Chief of Staff if I have his approval to release same?

L. D. Dinsmore

L. D. DINSMORE
Colonel, F A
Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
Economic Section

Incl - AGR/379.21

151

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL:

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

AGR/379.21

14 January 1945.

SUBJECT : Olive Oil Collection and Control Operations Plan for Italian Government Territory.

TO : ALL ROCs in Italian Government Territory (excluding Sicily, and Sardinia).

1. Introduction.

The Italian Government has requested the Allied Commission to furnish assistance in collecting the 1944-45 Olive Oil production. The Commission has agreed to assist and is making the service of 60 Allied Officers and a number of MCCs available to work with the Italian Officials based upon the consideration that:

- Allied Military personnel can furnish valuable assistance to Italian Officials in planning, organizing and facilitating the Olive Oil Collection Program.
- The presence of Allied Military personnel on such assignments in oil producing areas would have a good moral effect and tend to strengthen the local collection program.

The minimum olive oil needs in Italy, as calculated in Plan A by the Food Sub-Commission A.C., are as follows:-

Ration Card Holders (Thousands)	Monthly Ration (Grams)	Monthly Requirement (Tons)	Yearly Requirement (Tons)
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PLAN A.

South and Central Italy

a) General Issue 15,647 200 3,130 37,345

b) Special classes and

Supplementaries

as issued 700 8,400

ALL ROCs in Italian Government Territory (excluding Sicily, and Sardinia).

see folio 22

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PLAN A.

South and Central Italy

a) General Issue	15,647	200	3,130	37,560
b) Special classes and Supplementaries	-	-	-	50

c) Italian Army

d) Devastated Areas	1,000	100	100	8,400
				4,139

North Italy

e) General Issue	17,452	100	1,745	20,952
f) Special classes and Supplementaries	-	-	-	1,200

TOTAL PLAN A

				51,299
				3,520
				29,172
				80,771

- 2 -

As of January 1, 1945, approximately 10,000 tons of olive oil had been collected. The magnitude of the Oil Collection task remaining to be done is obvious.

2. Plans and Organization by the Italian Government.
(as worked out by the Government)

a. Declaration of Policy.

1. Announcement has been made of the 50% increase in permitted retentions.
2. The present legal price of oil will be maintained (no increase).
3. A statement will be issued indicating the Government's determination to enforce the Olive Oil Decree of 7 September, 1944.
4. A Meeting will be called of the heads of the 6 Political Parties and the desirability of publishing a combined statement supporting the Olive Oil Collection Program will be insisted upon.

b. Issuance of Instructions and designation of responsibilities

1. A strongly worded circular relating to Olive Oil Collection responsibilities has been sent to all Prefects over the signature of the Prime Minister. This circular requires the complete and efficient discharge of all olive oil collection responsibilities by the Prefects.
2. A circular has been sent out to all Provincial Judicial Authorities by the Ministry of Justice. This circular orders that all cases of violation of Olive Oil Decree be handled promptly and severely and in strict accordance with provisions of the penalty decrees.
3. Orders have been sent from the respective Ministries to local heads of the three Police Bodies instructing them to designate specified numbers of their forces for enforcement of the Olive Oil Collection Regulations.
4. Prefects have been ordered to requisition the required transportation and furnish adequate transportation to all personnel detailed to the Olive Oil Collection Program.

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c. Organization of Special Italian Personnel for Overall Direction of the Olive Oil Collection Program.

1. Dr. Segni, Under-Secretary of Agriculture has been placed in charge of the Olive Oil Collection Program at the Ministry of Agriculture.
2. Prof. Patrissi, present Vice-Commissioner of UNSEA, has been placed in charge of the special Italian Olive Oil Collection Officials in Southern Region.
3. Twelve special Italian Olive Oil Collection Officials carrying accredited letters have been nominated to the provinces of Southern Region.

- 3 -

- 31
4. The Ministry of Agriculture & Forests will add additional Officials for Italian Government territory in Regions of Tuscany, Lazio-Umbria and Marche-Abuzzi.

d. Responsibilities of Special Italian Olive Oil Collection Personnel.

1. Review and improvement of Provincial and Communal Olive Oil Collection plans, organization, and operating procedures will be instituted by special personnel in all areas. Where a survey reveals that the Collection Program is not successful changes will be made in both provincial and communal operation to assure effective Oil Collection methods.
2. Oil Press checks. Spot checks of oil presses will be carried out both by day and by night to ascertain if presses are being properly controlled by local officials. Special attention will be given to large capacity presses. Officials will be accompanied by Italian Police Officers qualified to make the necessary arrests where violations are discovered. Where irregularities or violations are found, the efficiency and honesty of the local olive oil controller will be ascertained at once. Dishonest controllers will be dealt with promptly.
3. Road block operation and checking. Where road blocks are necessary to control illegal movement of olive oil they will be established on a 24 hour basis. Special Italian Officials and ~~Italian~~ Special Italian Officials will check the operation of road blocks periodically both during daylight and night-time hours.
4. Stopping and Searching Civilian Trains. The special olive oil collection personnel will develop plans for stopping and searching civilian trains with ~~Italian~~ Special Italian personnel, including the railway transportation officer. This operation can be carried out at strategic points and should be under the command of the Questura assisted by Carabinieri and Finance Guards.

3. Plans and organization by Allied Commission to assist Italian Government in Olive Oil Collection Program.

e. Designation of Responsibility.

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Plans and organization by Allied Commission to assist Italian Government in Olive Oil Collection Program.

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Designation of Responsibility.

The Allied Commission has delegated the technical direction of the Program of the Allied side to the Agriculture Subcommittee. Major J.R.T. Crawford of the Agriculture Subcommittee has been placed in technical charge of the Program together with Major G.M. Duncan who will spend full time in the field.

The Regional Commissioners are responsible for the operation within their Regions.

Provision of Military Personnel and Transportation.

Sixty Allied Officers and a number of NCOs together with transportation are being supplied to assist special Italian Olive Oil collection personnel.

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c. Duties of Allied Military Personnel designated to Assist special Italian Olive Oil Collection Personnel.

1. Allied Military Personnel will be responsible for furnishing practical assistance to Italian Officials in planning and organizing the Olive Oil Collection Program where it is not now functioning properly.
2. Allied Military Personnel will accompany the special Italian Olive Oil Collection personnel to the extent possible and furnish them advice, and assistance in connection with the responsibilities outlined above under 2, d, 1, 2, 3, 4, it being distinctly understood that the full responsibility of the Olive Oil Amassing and all action in connection therewith is that of the Italian Government and the Italian Officials.

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE:

L.D. Densmore
 L.D. DENSMORE
 Colonel, F.A.,
 Acting Deputy Chief of Staff
 Economic Section

DISTRIBUTION:

1. R.C., Southern Region (16)
2. R.C., Lazio-Umbria Region (10)
3. R.C., Abruzzi-Marche Region (10)
4. R.C., Tuscany Region (for information) (3)
5. R.C., Emilia Region (for information) (2)
6. Agriculture Sub-Commission (for information) (1)
7. Food Sub-Commission (for information) (3)
8. Public Safety Sub-Commission (for information) (2)
9. Each Allied Officer participating in the Olive Oil Amassing Plan (for information) (1 each)

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2. Allied Military Personnel will accompany the special Italian Olive Oil Collection personnel to the extent possible and furnish them advice, and assistance in connection with the responsibilities outlined above under 2, d, 1, 2, 3, 4, it being distinctly understood that the full responsibility of the Olive Oil Amassing and all action in connection therewith is that of the Italian Government and the Italian Officials.

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6. Agriculture Sub-Commission (for information) (1)
7. Food Sub-Commission (for information) (3)
8. Public Safety Sub-Commission (for information) (2)
9. Each Allied Officer participating in the Olive Oil Amassing Plan (for information) (1 each)

Ref: 4820/27/COS.

Extract from Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting - 12 Jan 45.

Olive Oil Amassing.

Eoon Sec reported that the Head of Agriculture Sub Commission had returned and the operation was commencing satisfactorily.

COS said RC in the South would be left free to take necessary action, subject to general direction from this HQ, but RCs in the North should have definite instructions. These must go out this weekend.

Est Sec had personnel earmarked.

PRO reported that PWB had asked that RC should sign a letter stating that no olive oil was being exported. This should be coordinated with Eoon Sec.

Olive Oil - Amassing. Eoon Sec reported that the Head of Agriculture Sub-Commission had returned and the operation was commencing satisfactorily. COS said RC in the South would be left free to take necessary action, subject to general direction from this HQ, but RCs in the North should have definite instructions. These must go out this week-end. Est Sec had personnel earmarked. PRO reported that PWB had asked that RC should sign a letter stating that no olive oil was being exported. This should be coordinated with Eoon Sec.

JAN 11 1945

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting - 5 January 1945.

Olive Oil - Amassing. COS announced that CO had directed that we should help the Italian Government, and instructions to Sections had been issued. COS said a plan would have to be drawn up whereby the position of Allied officers was safeguarded, and to ensure that the fullest cooperation was forthcoming from the Italian side to make the scheme a success. Sections should discuss and submit a draft to COS.

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting - 9 January 1945.

Olive Oil - Amassing. Leon Sec reported there would be a meeting at Naples tomorrow with officials of the Italian Government, the RC and AC officers to work out in detail the plan of operation. There would be a high ranking Italian Government official in charge on behalf of the Government. He would be established at Naples, and RC would provide him with a car. Comprehensive details of the scheme would not be available until after the Naples meeting. COS stated the Italian Government would form teams, comprising Agricultural inspectors, other Government inspectors, and squads of Carabinieri. Allied officers would be attached to the teams, and the function of these officers was to ensure the teams kept working. It was important that they should keep in the background. In AMG territory, however, the Allied officers would take executive action. COS added that the officers would be drawn from Venezia Region as far as possible. Leon Sec considered that the collection of olive oil in AMG territory would be satisfactory.

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EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF CHIEF OF STAFF'S MEETING - 3 JANUARY .

JAN 10 1945

Olive Oil - Amassing. The Italian Government had put forward a formal request for 100 officers, 100 IM/ORs and some transport to be placed at their disposal for the collection of olive oil. This request had come at a time when we were considering reducing staff in the South, and COS asked for comments. There was considerable discussion, the main body of opinion being that the personnel should not be provided. Eoon Sec said it was difficult to persuade COS to supply shipping for imports when there was olive oil and wheat available in Sicily for collection, and suggested personnel might be obtained from disbanded AA batteries, convalescent personnel and our own officers earmarked for Northern Regions. COS said if it was certain the olive oil would be produced he was in favour of granting the request - in part, at least - but if little or no olive oil was forthcoming we should have vitiated our responsibility and gained nothing. Eoon Sec would let COS know the total quantity to be collected and how much of this would be brought in by the help of Allied personnel. COS would then put the matter up to the Chief Commissioner, and it would be discussed at the VP meeting tomorrow.

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TENTATIVE OLIVE OIL COLLECTION PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION - Whilst it is appreciated that the Decree of 7th September 1944 supported by the later Price Decree and various Ministerial Circulars covers all phases of the technical aspects of the Olive Oil Collection it is felt that the policy governing the implementation of the Decrees has been rather too loose in nature to ensure successful results. There would seem, therefore, to be some need of a more unified control and, as several Ministries are involved it is felt that any proposed plan should be the subject of discussion and decision by the Cabinet as a whole. A public statement could then be made.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF POLICY BY THE GOVERNMENT - This could take the form of a statement to the effect that the Government consider the Olive Oil Collection to be of primary importance, to be non-political, and that it intends to carry out the Decree already in force with all possible energy, and to that end, it has invited the Allied Commission to cooperate with it in as active and close a manner as possible. This announcement would be published simultaneously in all the daily papers, over the radio, and by means of posters.

3. STATEMENT BY THE POLITICAL PARTIES - (Possibly in conjunction with the National Liberation Committees) - Since it would appear that political parties and activities have already entered the Olive Oil picture, it is suggested that the Government should call in the leaders of the six political parties and suggest that they make a statement that they have, individually and collectively, decided that the Olive Oil Collection is of primary importance to Italy at the present moment, that the already difficult food situation can only, insofar as Olive Oil is concerned, be improved by the loyal and wholehearted cooperation of every Italian in the Olive Oil Collection. Therefore, the Olive Oil Collection, is considered by all the political parties signing this manifesto to be an entirely non-political question, since they consider that no political considerations should be allowed to stand in the way of getting as much food as possible to the population of Italy.

4. ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION - The part to be

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4. ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION - The part to be taken by the Italian Government should be, in our opinion, along the following lines, which, as will be seen later, will be paralleled as closely as possible by supporting Allied Commission Officers. An Olive Oil Collection "controller" should be appointed within the Ministry and he should be allowed to choose three "general inspectors" who would work under his orders. They would not be expected to remain static in Rome, but must be provided with transport and be sent out into the country to take action. They should be provided with letters accrediting them as direct repre-

2.

Representatives of the Government authority and should carry with them precise instructions to all prefects. These instructions will be agreed upon in Rome previous to their departure. They should also carry with them copies of all Decrees covering the Olive Oil Collection. On arrival at their many destinations they should contact Allied Commission Agricultural Officers where these exist and work in the closest liaison with them.

Meanwhile, commanding Officers of the Carabinieri, R.G.D.F., and Questura should be interviewed by the Prime Minister, Minister of the Interior and the Minister of Agriculture and a definite plan be agreed upon as to the combined action to be taken by these three bodies and to make sure that the necessary means are provided for the carrying out of plans agreed upon. A special effort should be made to set aside a special squad of 100 chosen from the three bodies with the necessary officer complement.

The UNSEA officials in Rome must be ordered out into the provinces to the maximum possible extent and their duties will be to supervise and help the UPSEA and UCSRA officials in their work, to encourage and stimulate them in every possible way and to make sure that salaries and office expenses are promptly paid through the Consorzio Agrario in the manner already laid down by the Ministry. It is emphasized that they should direct as much of their activity as possible towards the UCSRA officials in the communes, since these men have been attempting to carry out an extremely difficult job with little authority and very little support from higher officials.

It is felt that the Italian Government can make some contribution to the difficult transport problem. Whilst it is agreed that the cars which could be requisitioned will not always be in very good condition both as regards types and general running condition yet they could be of very definite value for the work to be done. It is suggested, therefore, that Prefects be given very definite instructions on this subject through the Ministry of the Interior.

5. GENERAL PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN - Arrangements are already semi-completed with FWE to put on a full-scale publicity campaign and they are ready to start. Full use should be made of press and radio publicity and the services of two loudspeaker vans is asked for, in order that they should tour the country visiting as many communes as possible.

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5. GENERAL PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN - Arrangements are already semi-completed with FNB to put on a full-scale publicity campaign and they are ready to start. Full use should be made of press and radio publicity and the services of two loudspeaker vans is asked for, in order that they should tour the country visiting as many communes as possible. The basic objective of this campaign is to reach the producer since it is felt that mere newspaper and radio propaganda in the towns and cities would have very little effect on the actual collection.

The Olive Oil film is practically ready for exhibition and would form part of the campaign. It is also felt that by attempting to educate public opinion in general the expression of such opinion might have some small effect on the producers.

3.

6. ALLIED COMMISSION ACTIVITIES - It is suggested that a personal letter be sent by Rear Admiral Stone to all Regional Commissioners and, through them, to all Agricultural Officers, stressing the following points:

- a. The ammasso is definitely "on" and will be the primary consideration of Agricultural Officers.
- b. That Regional Commissioners insist before the Provincial Prefects that all possible car transport be requisitioned and that in cases of non-compliance such cases be reported to HQ.AC. for ultimate transmission to the Ministry of Interior for immediate action.

So far as the provision of Allied Officers is concerned, it is suggested that attempts to obtain both officers and equipment be made along the following lines:

- a) Attachment of Officers on temporary duty from other Sub-Commissions and Regions not yet operating. For these Officers Regions would supply transport and the Rome central pool would make a small contribution for over-all officials.
- b) A call for volunteers be made at No. 10 Coalescent Depot (near to Rome).
- c) That A&HQ be asked to supply a minimum of 60 Anti-aircraft Officers and 60 ECO's together with Anti-aircraft transport.
- d) Nomination of one AC officer to be in charge of the AC end of the whole organization, liaising with the Italian "controller" suggested in para 3 above.
- e) That Public Safety be asked to allot two officers to work alongside the Italian Officials and police in order to train them in their duties, and this also applies to other Allied Officers concerned. In any case, specialist Agricultural Officers should seek the help of Public Safety Officers in their regions and/or provinces whenever they see fit, since past experience has shown the utmost willingness and cooperation of the Public Safety Officers.

7. LIAISON WITH THE VATICAN - It is suggested that the highest AC Officers consider a discussion of Olive Oil Collection with the Vatican authorities in order to enlist the wholehearted cooperation of the ecclesiastical authorities under the conditions

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- a) Attachment of Officers on temporary duty from other Sub-Commissions and Regions not yet operating. For these Officers Regions would supply transport and the Rome central pool would make a small contribution for over-all officials.
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- d) Nomination of one AC officer to be in charge of the AC end of the whole organization, liaising with the Italian "controller" suggested in para 3 above.
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7. LIAISON WITH THE VATICAN - It is suggested that the highest AC Officers consider a discussion of Olive Oil Collection with the Vatican authorities in order to enlist the wholehearted cooperation of the ecclesiastical authorities under the conditions of the Olive Oil Collection Decree.

8. PRICE OF OLIVE OIL - The opinion of this Sub-Commission is that any rise in price should be done in such a way as to be an incentive to the producers to bring their oil to the collection centers, i.e., while the price of 6,000 lire would remain the basic price, any increase would be given as and when target figures assigned to the different communes were obtained and would then be

4. 24
made retroactive in favor of all the producers of the commune concerned. It is felt that some such method would be far better than a straight rise in price, which, at the present moment, would be merely helping on the inflationary process. An addition at a later date would not have that effect, since it would merely be in line with the inflationary stage which may by then be attained.

9. SUMMARY - The idea behind the plan put forward in previous paragraphs is to set up an active, hard working, Italian organization paralleled by a similar Allied Commission organization. The two bodies should work in the closest cooperation with each other, not only in order that a successful Oil Collection be obtained, but also in order that this work should serve as a training school for Italian officials who would be aided in carrying out their own suggestions and ideas, as well as those put forward by the Allied Officers themselves.

In that way, we should be preparing for future operations and with that idea in mind, it is suggested that the Italian Government be encouraged to set up immediately a committee to study the problem of the 1945 wheat collection.

Appendix "A"

73.

SUGGESTED LETTER TO REGIONAL COMMISSIONERS

FROM READ-ADMIRAL STONE.

SUBJECT. Olive Oil Collection

My dear Regional Commissioner,

The lack of response on the part of the producers shown by the figures of the oil collection to date has become a matter of grave anxiety to me.

The important place which Olive Oil holds in the Italian dietary is, of course, well known to you and I think we should do as much as possible to secure a reasonable ration for the non-producing public. In fact, the Italian Government has asked for our help in this important problem, and with this object in view, AC is providing a number of Allied Officers and NCO's who will work on lines already known to you. As much transport as possible has been provided by AFHQ and I am leaving it to you to provide extra cars from Regional resources. Any failure by Prefects to comply with your suggestions should be brought to my notice. For their part the Italian Government is providing a special squad of police together with the necessary officers.

Will you please bring the contents of this letter to the notice of your agricultural officers. I feel that it would be well for them to devote the major part of their activities during the next two months to ensuring the success of the collection and in doing all possible to secure a good production of sassa oils.

I shall greatly appreciate my assistance you may be able to give in this matter which I consider will prove of importance during the coming months.

My dear Regional Commissioner,

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The important place which Olive Oil holds in the Italian dietary is, of course, well known to you and I think we should do as much as possible to secure a reasonable ration for the non-producing public. In fact, the Italian Government has asked for our help in this important problem, and with this object in view, AG is providing a number of Allied Officers and NCO's who will work on lines already known to you. As much transport as possible has been provided by AFHQ and I am leaving it to you to provide extra cars from Regional resources. Any failure by Prefects to comply with your suggestions should be brought to my notice. For their part the Italian Government is providing a special squad of police together with the necessary officers.

Will you please bring the contents of this letter to the notice of your agricultural officers. I feel that it would be well for them to devote the major part of their activities during the next two months to ensuring the success of the collection and in doing all possible to secure a good production of samsa oils.

I shall greatly appreciate my assistance you may be able to give in this matter which I consider will prove of importance during the coming months.

Appendix B

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TENTATIVE OLIVE OIL COLLECTION PLAN
SUMMARY OF OFFICERS AND EQUIPMENT

Area	Officer Concerned	Duties	Transport & Equipment
Whole area	A.G. Officer 1/C	General Control	1 Car from Rome
"	Italian "Controller"	"	1 " "
Puglie	" General Inspect	Area Control	1 " "
Remainder of	"	"	1 " "
Southern Region	"	"	1 " "
Including Sicily	"	"	1 " "
Other Italian	"	"	1 " "
Government Territory	"	"	1 " "
Sicily	5 AC Officers	Provincial Cont	2AAA utilities
	5 " HGO's	"	2AAA 15 cwt's
	20 Italian Police	"	4x Regional cars
	W. Officers	"	1x3 - Ton truck
Calabria	10 AC Officers	"	4 AA utilities
(3 Provinces)	10 " HGO's	"	4 " 15 cwt's
	25 Italian Police	"	6 Regional cars
	W. Officers	"	1x3 - Ton truck
Puglia & Lucania	15 AC Officers	"	6 AA utilities
(inc. Foggia)	15 " HGO's	"	6 " 15 cwt's
7 Provinces	25 Italian Police	"	8 Regional cars
	W. Officers	"	2x3 - Ton truck
Campania	8 AC Officers	"	2 AA utilities
4 Provinces	8 " HGO's	"	2 " 15 cwt's
	15 Italian Police	"	4 Regional cars

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Region	Province	Italian "Controlles"	General Inspect Area Control	Provincial Cont	2xAA utilities	2xAA 15 cwt	4x Regional cars	1x3 - Ton truck
Puglia		"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Remainder of Southern Region Including Sicily		"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Other Italian Government Territory		"	"	"	"	"	"	"
Sicily		5 AC Officers		Provincial Cont	2xAA utilities	2xAA 15 cwt	4x Regional cars	1x3 - Ton truck
		5 " HCO's		"	"	"	"	"
		20 Italian Police		"	"	"	"	"
		W. Officers		"	"	"	"	"
Calabria (3 Provinces)		10 AC Officers		"	4 AA utilities	4 " 15 cwt	6 Regional cars	1x3 - Ton truck
		10 " HCO's		"	"	"	"	"
		25 Italian Police		"	"	"	"	"
		W. Officers		"	"	"	"	"
Puglia & Lucania (inc. Puglia) 7 Provinces		15 AC Officers		"	6 AA utilities	6 " 15 cwt	8 Regional cars	2x3 - Ton truck
		15 " HCO's		"	"	"	"	"
		25 Italian Police		"	"	"	"	"
		W. Officers		"	"	"	"	"
Campania 4 Provinces		8 AC Officers		"	2 AA utilities	2 " 15 cwt	4 Regional cars	1x3 - Ton truck
		8 " HCO's		"	"	"	"	"
		15 Italian Police		"	"	"	"	"
		W. Officers		"	"	"	"	"
Abruzzi Marche 9 Provinces		9 AC Officers		"	3 AA utilities	3 " 15 cwt	3 Regional cars	
		9 " HCO's		"	"	"	"	"
		15 Italian Police		"	"	"	"	"
		W. Officers		"	"	"	"	"
Lazio Umbria 7 Provinces		7 AC Officers		"	3 AA utilities	3 " 15 cwt	5 Regional cars	
		7 " HCO's		"	"	"	"	"
		15 Italian Police		"	"	"	"	"
		W. Officers		"	"	"	"	"
Tuscany 5 Provinces		6 AC Officers		"	3 AA utilities	3 " 15 cwt	4 Regional cars	
		6 " HCO's		"	"	"	"	"

AUTHORIZATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

A. Authorization

Each Italian and AF officer will carry as a credential a letter signed both by the Minister of the Interior and the Minister of Agriculture accrediting him as the agent of the Government in the olive oil collection. This will be the only document issued to individuals.

B. Instructions

The Minister of the Interior has forwarded to all Provincial Prefects a very strongly worded circular stating that the Government is determined to bring the olive oil collection to a successful conclusion. The Prefects are instructed to give every help in their power and to see that the suggestions and orders given by the Italian officials are carried out.

The Minister of Justice has also addressed a circular supported by a following telegram to all procuratori del re stating that they must help in the olive oil collection by applying unsparingly the penalties laid down for infractions in the corresponding Government Decree. They are instructed to use the "per direttissima" method. They are advised against adopting the attitude prevalent during the wheat campaign which was that the penalties were too severe for the nature of the crime and therefore were not applied. This, of course, applies to infractions on a large scale.

sequestration In regard to the confiscation of contraband oil and the requisition of vehicles, it has been decided by the Government that they will issue a decree (Ministry of Interior) which will allow the ~~confiscation~~ of all transport carrying over 10 litres of oil; in the case of lesser quantities only the oil will be confiscated.

The Italian police authorities in the Provinces will also receive instructions to cooperate in the olive oil campaign and are being told the numbers that they should place at our disposal in each area.

BASIC PROCEDURE FOR TEAMS IN THE FIELD

a. All teams will be combined, that is Allied officers and/or NCO's will be accompanied by Italian officials and police.

b. As regards the olive presses, the teams in each area will have sub-areas allotted to them and will be responsible for visiting the mills in those sub-areas. Here inspection of books and premises will be carried out and the necessary steps taken in the case of contrabands, viz. the drawing up of the charge sheet and the arrest of the person concerned, all of which will be carried out by the Italian authorities.

c. Road blocks and train searches will be carried out under the direction of the Italian officials in conjunction with Allied Public Safety Officers and Allied railway authorities. At the road blocks care will be taken to see that military traffic is moved along without delay, and the scrutiny of these vehicles will be the responsibility of the Allied personnel present. The Italian authorities will look after Italian civilian transport.

d. As it is probable that a considerable quantity of oil has already found its way into the hands of large-scale black market operators, it may become necessary to take some action against these people. Here the source of information will be the Gestapo, and they will carry out such domiciliary searches as the law permits in accordance with their own regulations and in conjunction with the other police bodies.

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Ref: 4820/19/008.

10 January 1945.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I spoke to you the other day on the question of the collection of olive oil and of my willingness to provide the assistance asked for by your Minister of Agriculture. I enclose a letter which I have addressed to R.E. Avvocato Fausto Galle in reply to his formal request.

N

Yours very truly,

/s/ ELLERY W. STONE

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi,
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
R O M A.

Ref: 4820/18/CRS

SUBJECT: OLIVE OIL.

TO : E. B. Avo. Pusto Gallo,
Minister of Agriculture,
Italian Government.

10 January 1945.

1. I have to acknowledge your letter of 31 December 1944 in which I regret to note that the present arrangements for the saving of olive oil are proceeding in such an unsatisfactory manner that you predict a complete failure. The Italian Government is responsible for the saving of the oil which is needed for the elementary needs of the population. Failure of this operation, therefore, because the prevention of disease and unrest in an Allied military concern, affects the Allied war effort and increases the obligation of the Italian Government to achieve success. I note that in your opinion the drastic measures which you intend to take in order to meet the necessary amount of oil cannot be successfully carried out without the assistance of Allied Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and vehicles and that you have made formal application for the provision of such assistance by the Allied Commission.

2. I am prepared to provide assistance in the form of 60 Allied Officers, 60 Non-Commissioned Officers and the necessary vehicles. My Economic Section advise that this should be adequate provision. But I must make it perfectly plain that the provision of this assistance does not relieve the Italian Government of its full obligation to execute its own laws and to provide from the resources of the country sufficient oil for the needs of the population. I must also warn you that military operations may necessitate the removal of these officers at short notice.

3. 12 officers with necessary transport will be made available at once and I suggest that you should organize 12 teams to set to work within the next week, not later than 9 January. Instructions have been given for the provision of the additional 48 officers and I trust that you will make immediate and definite plans for making available sufficient Italian personnel to work in conjunction with them.

4. The six points mentioned in paragraph 7 of your letter are all extremely important steps in preparation for your active programme and I trust that you will confer with the Agriculture Sub-Commission in order to work out an agreed and concrete plan of action. I also hope that you will impress upon the officials concerned with this extremely important matter that in order to make the best use of the help given by the Allied Commission it is essential that every one of them should exert himself to the utmost in cooperation with this Commission and the officers provided by it.

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/s/ E. B. Avo. Pusto Gallo

MILITARY SECRETARY

Minister of Agriculture,
Italian Government.

1. I have to acknowledge your letter of 31 December 1944 in which I regret to note that the present arrangements for the raising of olive oil are proceeding in such an unsatisfactory manner that you predict a complete failure. The Italian Government is responsible for the raising of the oil which is needed for the elementary needs of the population. Failure of this operation, therefore, because the prevention of disease and unrest is an Allied military concern, affects the Allied war effort and increases the obligation of the Italian Government to achieve success. I note that in your opinion the drastic measures which you intend to take in order to secure the necessary amount of oil cannot be successfully carried out without the assistance of Allied Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and vehicles and that you have made formal application for the provision of such assistance by the Allied Commission.
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/s/ ELLERY W. STONE

WILLIAM W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

16
Ext. 300

Inter Office Memo.

Ref: 1220/023.

8 January 1965.

Subject: Elbow Oil Processing.

For: Establishment Section.

Copy to: Economic Section
Agriculture Sub-Commission
Regional Commissioners, Southern Region.

In continuation of yesterday's meeting and the instructions which I gave verbally to Lt. MINIST, will you please arrange to have the following officers available on temporary duty in connection with above oil processing as soon as possible, not later than 13 January.

- (a) For the Southern Region 13 officers of the Venezuela Force. If Venezuela Region officers are not available other officers may be taken, but every effort should be made to produce Venezuela Region personnel.
- (b) 13 officers for Latin-America, Alameda-Caracas and Economic Region.

Detailed instructions as to where these officers should report will follow.

Transport is required with each officer.

Length of temporary duty is provisionally till 30 April 65.

L. E.
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

785017

Ref: 4820/15/CCS

15
4th January 1945.

SUBJECT: Amassing of Olive Oil.

TO : DCCS, Econ Sec
DCCS, Int Sec
DCCS, CA Sec

1. At the Vice Presidents' meeting this morning the Chief Commissioner decided that the Allied Commission should grant the request of the Italian Government, in part, to provide officers, NCO's and vehicles for the collection of olive oil.

2. Will you please take action forthwith to implement this decision. As the greater part of the oil is amassed in Southern Region I suggest that the Allied teams should be found from Venezia Region and that Brigadier Dunlop should be called here immediately to discuss plans with yourselves and the Italian Government.

3. The Chief Commissioner has also directed that the greatest pressure should be brought upon the Italian Government and specially the Minister of Agriculture, to ensure that the Italian Government play their part to the full in implementing the plans.

4. Public Safety Sub-Commission should, of course, be brought into the consultations.

5. At the same time definite instructions should be sent to Regional Commissioners in ASG territory to take intensive measures for the collection of oil, particularly in Tuscan, where presumably the same organisation is being used as that for the south.

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

MSL/JS.

Copy to: DCCAS, CA Sec, 15 Army Group (with copy of memorandum discussed at Vice Presidents' Meeting).

785017

13

Ref: 4820/13/000.

3rd January 1944.

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Amassing.

TO : Chief Commissioner.

1. The Italian Government, in the person of the Minister of Agriculture and Forests, has addressed a letter to you stating that it is feared that the amassing of olive oil will be a complete failure unless further action is taken by the Italian Government with the help of the Allied authorities, which is considered indispensable, to arrange for more vigorous police control.

2. The Italian Government propose to form a group of inspectors to exercise a stimulant on the provincial authorities and they have asked that the Commission should put at the disposal of the Italian Government 100 Allied officers, 100 M.C.O's, 40 cars and 40 lorries, with the necessary fuel and oil, for a period of 4 months ending 30th April.

3. The Italian Government conclude their letter by describing further measures which they intend to take such as propaganda, appeals to the political parties, direction to the Prefects, speeding up of judicial procedure, financial measures and extra police.

4. This letter was discussed at your Chief of Staff's meeting this morning. The Economic Section are naturally most anxious that we should give every assistance possible and made a very good case for overcoming political, administrative and establishment objections in order to save shipping. The amount required in order to provide an adequate olive oil ration for the whole of Italy is 69,000 tons, which is divided into 18,000 tons for Italian Government territory, 27,000 tons for presently occupied territory, and 24,000 tons for Kesselring's Italy. Unless this can be provided, either the population will go without oil, producing a disease and unrest problem, or extra shipping will have to be provided to bring fats and oils in substitution. Colonel Denmore would not commit himself to say that the provision of these officers would effect 100 per cent success but he thought that it would go far to prevent a complete failure which the Italian Government predict.

5. The consensus of the rest of your Vice Presidents was against such assistance being provided. It was pointed out that it would be contrary to the policy of the Allied Nations which is to remove Allied officers from Italian Government territory and place full responsibility on the Italian Government, and that it would be ridiculous to remove 100 officers with one hand and implant 100 officers with the other. It was argued that unless

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Allied officers could employ force the value of their presence would be much discounted and in fact their bluff would be called. Officers also felt that unless a very large measure of success was absolutely ensured it would be unwise for the Allied Commission to be involved. For the odium of failure would then undoubtedly rest upon the Commission. It was pointed out that the presence of special Allied amassing officers in Sicily, which is also involved in the olive oil amassing, has not achieved full success.

6. This is a very difficult problem. On the one hand we have the absolute necessity of producing the oil if it is humanly possible to do so. Not merely for the Italian Government but in order to feed the Italians who will be under our administrative control for many months. The Italian Government has asked for help. We want the oil. Your economic advisers think that this proposal will produce at any rate a part of the amount required. There are precedents, as Mr. Hopkinson pointed out, for Allied help in this matter, not only in this country but in Persia, an independent state, and Syria. We have an example of the efficacy of organized Allied control in Foggia and Matera where the wheat amassing has been surprisingly good.

7. Are we to place the economic necessity of getting every litre of oil into our hands against the very grave difficulty of violating the accepted policy of the Allied Nations?

8. If the Economic Section and the Italian Government can convince you that the provision of a number of Allied officers, with vehicles (I will put the figure at nearer 50 than 100), will materially increase the olive oil to be amassed, and if they can submit a reasonable proposal for the organization of this amassing assistance, then I think we should be wise to give favourable consideration to the proposal.

9. You may wish to discuss this matter with the Acting President and at your Vice Presidents' meeting tomorrow and if you agree I will circulate copies of this memorandum to Vice Presidents.

SEE Para 14.

MSL/JG.

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Chief of Staff

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Here is copy & translation
of request of government
for officers etc to help
in Olive Oil Ammassi

I feel that the AC should
help in every way we
can -

Cd Denmore
31/12-44

See 13

785017

TRADUZIONE:

Roma, 31 December, 1944.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE &
FORESTS
Gabinetto

TO: CHIEF OF THE ALLIED COMMISSION,
ROME
and for knowledge:
Economic Section
Agriculture Sub-Commission
Food Sub-Commission, R O M E .

No. 10639

SUBJECT : Delivery of Oil to the "Oleari del Popolo".

As this Commission is aware, the operations regarding the delivery of oil to the Ammassi is proceeding in quite an unsatisfactory manner, and if real drastic measures are not taken, it is feared that the Oleari del Popolo will be a complete failure, together with the very serious consequence of not being able to satisfy the minimum alimentary needs of the population.

Therefore, according to this Ministry, it is necessary to act urgently, and with that aim in view - integrating what already is in course and the further interventions of the Italian Government - the concern and help of the Allied Authorities is considered indispensable so as to be able to arrange immediately for a more rigorous police service.

For this reason, it is considered necessary that a group of Inspectors dependent from this Ministry exercise an immediate stimulant action on the provincial authorities, soliciting from them all necessary intervention so as to grant to the organs instructed for the recovery of the oil an energetic, timely and concrete action.

It is therefore considered indispensable that such Inspectors be coupled in their work by so many more Allied Officers so as to be able to obtain a more efficacious and authoritative action.

Practically, to be able to carry out such a program this Commission is asked to put at disposal:-

- a) No. 100 Officers.
- b) No. 100 Non-commissioned Officers.
- c) No. 40 Cars.
- d) No. 40 Lorries.
- e) Fuel and Oil in sufficient quantity for above mentioned vehicles.

The aforesaid officers and vehicles will have to be destined for the control service at least until the 30th of April, 45.

See 18

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(8)

In the meantime, the Italian Government, with the aim of increasing the delivery of oil and of facilitating the control work - intends calling immediately a Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture, Interni and Justice & Treasury, presided by the Prime Minister, so as to come to some necessary agreement for mutual action, within their respective powers, so as to:-

- 1) Issue a communique to the Press reminding producers of their obligation to respect the discipline regarding the amassing of oil, and of the urgent necessity to comply;
- 2) Immediately invite the Political Parties to carry out an intensive action towards all adherents;
- 3) Furnish all Inspectors aforementioned of credential letters signed both by the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of the Interno, so as to confer upon them the necessary prestige before the Prefects and the other provincial authorities;
- 4) Issue a circular to the Prefects from the Minister of the Interno pledging them to carry out every and all intensive activity and vigilance for the success of the "Oleari del Popolo".
- 5) Issue a circular to the Judicial Authorities concerned from the Minister of Grazia and Justice for a more severe application of the law against the infringers of the Ammasse, and so that the product confiscated be in all cases delivered to the Ammasse and the means of transport requisitioned.
- 6) The Minister of Treasury shall see immediately to setting at disposal of the UNSEA, as an advance on the Budget of the State, the financial means needed to cover the expenses incurred in carrying out the present plan. This also in consideration of the fact that it is right that the travelling expenses be met for the Agents and Officials engaged in the control service, so that they can better face the difficult times.

So far as regards the Technical Inspectors, this Ministry can dispose of them, and regarding the Police Forces, it will request at the aforesaid Meeting of Ministers

0 - 3 - 0 9
that 150 Carabinieri and Guardie di Finanza be placed at disposal with the necessary establishment of officers.

We are awaiting the decisions of this Allied Commission on the matter.

SD. THE MINISTER

FAUSTO GULLO.

M. G. M.

Roma 31 C 1944 19



Ministero

dell'Agricoltura e delle Foreste

GABINETTO

Dir. N. 10639 Roma

ASIG. CAPO DELLA COMMISSIONE

ALLEATA ROMA

e p.c.:

Alla Sezione Economica

Alla Sottocommissione dell'Agricoltura

Alla Sottocommissione per l'alimenta-

zione ROMA

Risposta al foglio del

Dir. N. 10639

Oggetto Conferimenti olio agli oleari del popolo.

Come è noto a codesta Commissione le operazioni di consegna dell'olio agli ammassi procedono in maniera del tutto insoddisfacenti, per cui si teme - se non si prenderanno le misure più drastiche - un completo insuccesso degli "oleari del popolo" con la gravissima conseguenza di non potere soddisfare le esigenze minime alimentari della popolazione.

Pertanto, a parere di questo Ministero, occorre provvedere urgentemente ad a tale scopo - ad integrazione di quanto già in atto e degli ulteriori interventi del Governo italiano - si reputa indispensabile l'interessamento e l'aiuto delle autorità alleate per potere immediatamente predisporre un rafforzamento del servizio di vigilanza.

A tal fine si ravvisa la necessità che un nucleo di ispettori tecnici dipendenti da questo Ministero eserciti un'immediata azione di stimolo sulle autorità provinciali, sollecitando da esse tutti quegli interventi necessari al fine di consentire agli organi preposti al reperimento dell'olio un'azione energica, passiva e concreta.

Si ritiene quindi indispensabile che tali ispettori siano affidati a personale di trattamento ufficiali alleati, così

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e p.c.:

Alla Sezione Economica

Alla Sottocommissione dell'Agricoltura

Alla Sottocommissione per l'alimenta-

zione

ROMA

Risposta al. Teleg. del

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Si ritiene quindi indispensabile che tali ispettori siano affiancati nel loro lavoro da altrettanti ufficiali alleati, così da raggiungere un'efficace e più autorevole azione.

Praticamente, per svolgere tale programma, si richiede a code

sta Commissione di mettere a disposizione:

- a) Ufficiali n.100
- b) Sottufficiali n.100
- c) Automobili n.40
- d) Camion n.40

e) Carburante ed olio in quantità sufficiente per i suddetti veicoli.

I predetti Ufficiali e veicoli dovranno essere esibiti a questo Servizio di controllo almeno fino al 30 aprile pv/-

Nel frattempo il Governo italiano - allo scopo di incrementare il conferimento dell'olio e di facilitare l'azione di controllo - si propone di indire immediatamente una riunione dei Ministri dell'Agricoltura, degli Interni, della Grazia e Giustizia e del Tesoro, presieduta dal Capo del Governo, allo scopo di prendere gli accordi necessari per un'azione comune, nell'ambito delle rispettive competenze, così da:

- 1) Diramare un comunicato alla stampa, richiamando i produttori all'obbligo del rispetto della disciplina di ammasso dell'olio e della urgente necessità di ottemperarvi;
- 2) Invitare immediatamente i partiti politici a svolgere intensa azione concorde verso tutti i loro aderenti;
- 3) Munire gli ispettori tecnici di che innanzi di lettera credenziale a firma congiunta del Ministro di Agricoltura e del Ministro dell'Interno, per conferire loro il necessario prestigio nei confronti dei Prefetti e delle altre Autorità provinciali;
- 4) Diramare una circolare ai Prefetti da parte del Ministro dell'Interno, impegnandoli a svolgere ogni più intensa e vigile attività per il buon fine degli "oleari del popolo";

- 5) Diramare una circolare alle dipendenti autorità giudiziarie, da

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- 5) Diramare una circolare alle dipendenti autorità giudiziarie, da parte del Ministro di Grazia e Giustizia, per la più severa applicazione della legge contro i trasgressori dell'ammasso, e perchè il prodotto sequestrato venga sempre versato all'ammasso e l'automezzo requisito.
- 6) Provvedere immediatamente, da parte del Ministro del Tesoro,



Ministro
dell'Agricoltura e delle Foreste

GABINETTO

Port. N.º

Tor.

Risposta al Foglio del
Dir. N.º

OGGETTO

.2.

a mettere a disposizione dell'Unsea, sotto forma di anticipazione sul bilancio dello Stato, i mezzi finanziari occorrenti alla copertura delle spese che comporta l'attuazione del presente piano. Ciò anche in considerazione che si rende opportuno di integrare le indennità di trasferta agli agenti ed ai funzionari addetti al servizio del controllo, per meglio fronteggiare le difficoltà dei tempi.

Per quanto riguarda gli Ispettori tecnici questo Ministero ne ha la disponibilità e per le forze di polizia richiederà nella predetta riunione dei Ministri che siano messi a disposizione n. 150 carabinieri e guardie di finanza con il dovuto accompagnamento di ufficiali.

Si resta in attesa delle determinazioni che codesta Commissione Alleata crederà di adottare in proposito.

IL MINISTRO

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GABINETTO

Prot. N.°

Tav.

Riferito al. Foglio del
G. U.

OGGETTO

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IL MINISTRO



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785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

Tel. 451

19 December 1944

Ref. 4820/1/008

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Amassing.

TO : Economic Section.

1. This office has just received a letter from the Regional Commissioner, Southern Region discussing the prospects and problems involved in amassing this season's crop of olive oil. Copy of letter attached.

2. Your letter to the Food and Agricultural Sub Commissions, file 10.03/ES of 17 Dec sets out the agreement reached with the Italian ministers at a meeting on 16 Dec. It is noted that you anticipate the Italian Government to present a consolidated plan on olive oil amassing in the very near future.

3. Since the olive oil production season is now well under way, your serious attention is directed to the realistic problems set forth in the Southern Regional Commissioner's letter. It would seem that additional officers with specialist qualifications are necessary to amass the maximum possible quantity of olive oil.

4. You are directed to keep the Chief of Staff informed of the progress of the consolidated amassing plan and in the meantime to prepare a reply for the Chief of Staff's signature to the various problems presented in the Regional Commissioner's attached letter.

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

Encl.

4820
HEADQUARTERS
SOUTHERN REGION, ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

JKD/AM

R/1297

17 December 1944

19 DEC 1944

SUBJECT: Olive Oil Crop

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission
ATTN: Chief of Staff (2 Copies)

1. I wish to bring to your notice the present position in respect of the collection of olive oil.
2. On 6 November, a very clear memorandum was produced by the Executive Director, Economic Section, based on a conference held in Mr. Antolini's office on 5 December.

3. In the light of that memorandum, it appeared to me that a definite line of policy was envisaged and that I should receive further instructions.

4. I gather however, that this implication was not clear to the Agricultural Sub-Commission, for in the course of a conversation with Rome on 14 December last on the subject of 13 officers who had arrived from the Convalescent Depot we were told (Lt. Col. WATTS - Major RIDDELL) that Southern Region "should make up their minds" whether they should have olive oil collection officers or not.

5. I am attaching herewith a table showing the present position in respect of the amassing of olive oil.

It is apparent that where "olive oil" officers have been available, the collection of oil has been relatively high. But the more important, if unpalatable, fact is that it is nothing like high enough.

After some five weeks work with eight officers, the total figures are very low.

6. When Colonel Temperley first launched his scheme in October, he asked for twenty officers with ten cars for olive oil collection. He was given eight officers who did, at least, an opportunity of learning their work before the olive oil season began.

7. The economic situation has since deteriorated rapidly. Major Stuart's estimate of officers required was 42 with 21 interpreters. In conference in Rome, I said that if we were to put our hand to this task, we should do it with fifty officers. I am offered thirteen, untrained, with no chance of even learning from the former eight, for

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8. In the meantime, the oil is going underground in large quantities. It is being held as a non perishable commodity asset. In face of its value in this direction, it is very unlikely that it will be brought in at the price of Lire sixty.

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1 spare copy

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In my view, there are just three courses of action:-

- (a) To follow the policy expressed in Mr. Cleveland's memorandum.
- (b) To accept as an Allied Commission responsibility, the collection of olive oil, and then do the job really thoroughly. Fifty officers, and a real drive.
- (c) To try to do the job with insufficient means and give the Italian Government the priceless opportunity for passing the inevitable failure onto our shoulders.

10. I shall carry out your instructions and if, you tell me to put these thirteen untrained officers on to the job, I shall do my best. But, I feel that we are embarking on course (c).

11. I do ask for some plain, hard, factual thinking on this very tough problem.


Regional Commissioner, Brigadier

(1)

OLIVE OIL AMASSING			
CONSORZI	AMASSED 8/12/44 Edible	Lampante	TOTAL AMASSED 42/43
AVELLINO	None	None	----- ^o
* BARI	28.976	4.527	294.882
BENEVENTO	28	1	11.612
BRINDISI	2.680	92	201.600
CAMPOBASSO	50	NONE	20.000
CATANZARO	706	70	28.000
COSENZA	1.090	NONE	79.854
* FOGGIA	4.814	732	----- ^o
LECCE	330	25	176.980
MATERA	359	18	19.545
NAPOLI	216	NONE	7.500
POTENZA	327	32	13.059
REGGIO CALABRIA	32	80	59.736
SALERNO	380	10	36.527
* TARANTO	1.192	72	46.283
TOTALI	41.180	4759	1.065.156

* Note - Four O.O.C.O. in Bari, three in Foggia and one in Taranto since 1 November.

^o No records for Avellino and Foggia 1942/43

