2222

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

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10000/109/997

DEVASTATED AREAS
OCT. 1944 - AUG. 1945

2224

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BATTLEFIELD AREA

BELLA FRESTON

5207/A

32

CSO: a long report [illegible] ying to folio 28, was sent to the C.C. thru Major Quayle. I have not had a chance to see it. JCB 5/3

Sd 11/3/33

34/3 No action. Discussed with CC. 7

JCB 1/4

53

Ex Comm

Please note folio 52 - particularly paras 6 & 7.

Econ Sect awaiting instructions

ABn 20/8

To: CSO

54

At Executive Commissioner's meeting today, it was decided that supervision of this project should rest with Economic Section, Public Works - Utilities Sub-Commission.

7

ABF

21/8/45

4866

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2225

20

CSO

Ref folio 14 & minutes 15, 16, 17 & 18 draft letter 19 is now submitted for approval.
This draft completes action on minute 1 of the Minutes of a meeting on the subject of devastated areas (folio 13).

19 Dec 44

21.

CoS Will you please approve 19, which is the agreed and slightly increased ration scale proposed for the devastated areas by Econ Sec and CA Sec.

Approved. MS/20/XII

19/12

22.

Major Rivett.

Please see Ec Section, CA Sec informed of your by phone of approval of 19.

23.

CSO informed Ec. Sect. (Major Nash) and C.A. Section (Cripps), Base Area Br. (Col. Craig) of approval by phone. 21/12

24 > Confirm in writing and pa.

21/12

29

CSO

Please see 28

K 7 Feb 45

30

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This draft completes action on minute [illegible] of the Minutes of a meeting on the subject of devastated areas (folio 13).

19 Dec 44

21.

CO. Will you please approve 19, which is the agreed and slightly increased ration scale proposed for the devastated area by Econ Sec and C.A. Sec.

Approved. MS/20/XII

19/12

22.

Major Rowly.

Please see Ec Section, CA Sec are informed at once by phone of approval of 19.

23.

CSO: Informed Ec. Sect. (Major Rowly) and C. A. Section (Cripps), Dom Area Br. (Col. Craig) of approval by phone. 21/12

24 → Confirm in writing and pa.

21/12

29

CSO

Please see 28

4 Feb 45

30

Maj Rowly:

Re folio 28 - follow through, check with Econ Sect. today.

See folio 31.

20 Feb.

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5

Copy of note to COS.

DCOS. CA Section is going to raise the Devasted Area question at tomorrows VPs meeting: you should therefore read the papers on the file. Folios 1-14. — or rather you need only read DCOS letter marked 'A' folio 14.

(DCOS is still addressing himself straight to a/cc)

Signed. Jay Talbot 25/10.
seen & initialed by Col Shepp 25/10

Original minute written on a small piece of scrap paper & destroyed by JT 25/10.

15

Economic Sec.

CoS would like your observations, if any, on folio 14. It is presumed to have been prepared with your concurrence.

E Worden Capt
Office of CoS.

4/11

4865

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2229

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

Ext 451 ABA/el 55

Ref: 5407/55/EC 22 August 45

SUBJECT: North Appenines Battlefield Area

TO : Economic Section

1. Reference your 19.01/ES of 18 August regarding the above subject.

2. At the Executive Commissioner's meeting yesterday it was decided that supervision of this project should rest with the Economic Section (Public Works and Utilities Subcommission).

A. B. ARNOLDY

Chief Staff Officer
To Executive Commissioner

4864

2230

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5407

52

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Economic Section

LDD/sc

Tel: 267

18 August 1945
AUG 19 1945

Ref: 1901/ES

SUBJECT: North Appenines Battle-Field Area

TO : The Executive Commissioner

51 49

1. Reference is made to 6/1.B/CA 27 July 1945 to The Ministry of the Interior and signed by the Executive Commissioner, above subject. See also reference RIX/HQ/I/I/I of 11 July, Emilia Region.

2. On 15 August Col. Thomas, Executive Regional Commissioner, Emilia Region, told Col. Densmore of E/S that by direction of the Executive Commissioner the above matter is to be turned over to the Economic Section for further action. Telephone conversation on 16 August, Densmore to Executive Commissioner, was to the effect that he (the Executive Commissioner) "would think the matter over."

3. It appears that this is a matter upon which the Civil Affairs Section has been working, as reference 6/1.B/CA may be Civil Affairs. What reply or request for advice that may have been received for the Ministry of Interior of 27 July letter is unknown to the Economic Section.

4. The project carried out "last year" referred to in 27 July letter was conducted by Civil Affairs Section.

5. Col. Thomas has left Capt. George Barnes, II(A), at Bologna to organize and conduct any Allied Commission field advice and assistance which may be decided upon. He is waiting in Bologna for instructions.

6. It is suggested that this is a matter for the Italian Government, since the area is in Italian Government territory and that since Civil Affairs Section supervised the "last year" project, it might be well for Civil Affairs Section to take charge of this matter.

7. May Economic Section be informed as to its responsibilities in the matter, if any?

FOR THE ACTING VICE PRESIDENT:

L. D. Densmore

L. D. DENSMORE
Colonel, FA
Chief Staff Officer

cc: Civ. Aff. Sec.

(Capt. Arnold)

See 55

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

5407

Ex Comm

Ref: 6/1.B/CA. 27 July 45.

Subject: North Appenines Battle field Area.

JUL 28 1945

To: The Ministry of the Interior.

1. Enclosed is a report from the Regional Commissioner, Emilia on the area which was devasted during the fighting last winter.

2. There is no doubt that special attention, of the kind given last year to those Provinces covered in the previous winter's fighting, will be necessary. Since it is the intention of Allied Commission to restore Emilia Region to the control of the Italian Government in the very near future, the problem will become one for the Italian Government. The Regional Commissioner's report is therefore forwarded to you for consideration and comment.

3. Any advice which this Commission can give is, of course, available to you.

For the Chief Commissioner:

E. Talbot

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

See 52

Encl - 1.

Copies to: - Econ. Sect.
PRO.
RC, Emilia Region.

282/7

(Mr Kensler)

2232

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5407

HEADQUARTERS EMILIA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

11 July 1945

JUL 27 1945

REFERENCE: RIX/HQ/I/1/1

SUBJECT : Proposal for appointment of "North Appenines Battle-Field Area" Commission

TO : Chief Commissioner, HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION.

1. The reasons for primary urgency in contacting the Italian Government and arranging for the appointment of a civilian commission to supervise temporary relief and permanent rehabilitation of the North Appenines Battle-Field Area are presented in the attached expository material.

2. Plans for early cessation of AC activities require that these problems be handled henceforth by a civil agency from a national level.

FLOYD E. THOMAS,
Colonel, Inf.,
Regional Commissioner

4801

(Capt Beckley)

SECTION I

IDENTIFICATION OF THE AREA

The Battlefield Area includes 35 Communes in four Provinces of Emilia Region located along the 5th and 8th Army fronts, which suffered the worst damage during the Winter defensive and the Spring drive. For the most part these Communes were either wholly or partially occupied by the Germans.

They are Communes in which, because of the rapidity of the Spring drive, there was little opportunity for Army, AMG and American and British Red Cross to extend those forms of aid which each usually gave when the military situation permitted.

These Communes have borne the full brunt of the war and present the greatest needs for materials, supplies and services. Whereas the Communes just South of the Winter line received the maximum of help and assistance from the Allied Military Government and Red Cross organization it can be said of these Communes, more recently liberated, that they comprise a "forgotten" area in the relative amount of help they have received. With the exception of isolated instances of destruction in connection with bombings of transportation or other strategic objectives, the Communes in this area are those on which the final fury of the war in Italy was spent.

Certainly no other area in Northern Italy is faced in the same degree with the problems of rehabilitation which characterize the Battlefield Area. No other sector deserves more consideration in meeting the problems of people. It is the purpose of this statement to outline the nature and extent of these problems.

The Communes included in the Battlefield Area, giving their normal and present populations and estimated percentage of war destruction, are listed on the following page:

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PROVINCE	COMMUNE	NORMAL POPULATION	PRESENT POPULATION	% ESTIMATED WAR DESTRUCTION
Bologna				
	1. Bazzano	4,852	6,400	40
	2. Casalecchio	10,000	2,500	80 to 100
	3. Casalfiumanese	5,000	4,500	85
	4. Castel d'Aiano	4,300	4,200	75 to 80
	5. Castello di Serravalle	4,900	5,600	10
	6. Castel S.Pietro	15,000	14,000	70
	7. Crespellano	6,366	8,238	35
	8. Dozza	3,800	3,800	25
	9. Fontanelice	3,200	3,500	70
	10. Loiano	6,500	6,500	70
	11. Marzabotto	6,500	3,[illegible]00	80
	12. Monterenzio	4,500	4,500	70
	13. Monte S.Pietro	6,800	6,800	40
	14. Monteveglio	5,000	5,700	10 to 20
	15. Pianoro	10,055	3,500	90
	16. Sasso Bolognese	11,350	9,000	80
	17. Savigno	4,620	4,297	33
	18. Tossignano	3,623	3,200	85
	19. Vergato	7,113	5,567	75
Modena				
	20. Guiglia	5,560	6,920	50
	21. Fanano	5,000	5,000	50
	22. Montese	7,284	7,284	50
	23. Vignola	10,500	12,000	11
	24. Zocca	6,768	5,678	30
Ravenna				
	25. Alfonsine	14,000	12,400	72
	26. Bagnara di Romagna	2,100	2,500	70
	27. Castel Bolognese	6,500	6,500	90
	28. Cotignola	10,000	9,000	80
	29. Fusignano	6,014	5,400	74
	30. Massalombarda	8,000	8,500	70
	31. Roilo dei Bagni	6,000	4,800	85
	32. San Agata	2,450	2,250	90
	33. Solarolo	4,500	4,400	85
Ferrara				
	34. Argenta	29,900	27,360	42
	35. Portamaggiore	27,205	28,445	60
	TOTAL	275,360	252,939	AVERAGE 69

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5. Castello di Serravalle	4,900	5,600		10
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2239

S E C T I O N I I

NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE FOR THE COMING WINTER

1. FOOD:

The problem of feeding the people living in the battlefield area is a complex of many factors. Only partial crops were planted during the past season. Much of the area was later mined. A serious drought has further diminished potential crops. Food reserves were destroyed or consumed by the Germans. About 80% of all live-stock in the areas was destroyed. Little local transport remains for bringing food in from surplus areas. The normal means of distribution of food were disrupted. A survey of the Communes South of the Winter-Line during the Winter in II Corps Area proved the presence of serious undernourishment among children. The findings of the survey would be equally applicable to the other Communes in the battlefield area.

Basic food must be brought into the area from outside, particularly fats, oils, sugar and salt. Flour for bread and pasta must be supplied. Transport must be made available for movement of necessary food supplies between Communes, in the area, as well as between Communes and the Provincial seat. Consideration must be given to essential needs for seed for Summer and Fall planting, for breeding stock for the restoration of herds, for fertilizer and for insecticide sprays.

During the coming Winter distribution of foods may have to be accomplished through collective feeding from Communal Kitchens, particularly in the larger towns and villages.

2. CLOTHING:

Although the Communes in the battlefield area were given a much heavier allocation of American Red Cross clothing than other Communes in the Region, a grave need for additional clothing remains. Many families lost all personal effects when they were forcibly evacuated from the area during the Winter. Clothing has not yet been available for purchase. Much of the area is mountainous and subject to severe Winters, making warm clothing essential.

Any remaining stores of ARC clothing are needed in the area. Consideration should be given to salvage materials from Army sources, particularly for shoes, and leather and rubber from which shoes and soles might be made, and material for clothing, including salvage military apparel.

If only one item is provided per person, on the average, a total of 300,000 garments will be needed. This would require the integrated and cooperating efforts of all sources of supply.

3. SHELTER:

4798

The wide spread destruction of private dwellings constitutes one of the major problems. Many persons have been prevented from returning to the area because their homes have been entirely destroyed and they now contribute to the over-crowding in Bologna, Imola and other peripheral [illegible] Because of the shortage of housing an insufficient number

The problem of feeding the people living in the battlefield area is a complex of many factors. Only partial crops were planted during the past season. Much of the area was later mined. A serious drought has further diminished potential crops. Food reserves were destroyed or consumed by the Communes. About 60% of all live-stock in the areas was destroyed. Little local transport remains for bringing food in from surplus areas. The normal means of distribution of food were disrupted. A survey of the Communes South of the Winter-Line during the Winter in II Corps Area proved the presence of serious undernourishment among children. The findings of the survey would be equally applicable to the other Communes in the battlefield area.

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All Nissen, Alpine or other type shelters no longer needed by the Military are needed to meet the problem of temporary housing. Tents and canvas for partitioning would serve important needs. Since wood is scarce in this area all salvage lumber, particularly beams, frames and doors would find immediate use. Salvage nails and hardware are badly needed and are almost entirely lacking. In addition, there is again the problem of transport for moving such materials when they are made available. The rehabilitation of local brick and lime plants must be facilitated and necessary fuel for their operation provided.

4. FUEL:

Fuel for heating is a critical item. Large numbers of troops exhausted fuel reserves during the past Winter. Due to mines and lack of labor, wood-cutting has almost stopped during the last six months. Charcoal for cooking is scarce and will become worse in the Fall and Winter months. Other kinds of fuel have in the past been imported.

Transport would provide the most immediate solution to the problem of fuel, since there appears to be sufficient wood and charcoal nearby for import. In addition, as labor becomes available in the area, wood-cutting projects should be started immediately, wherever it is safe to do so.

5. MEDICAL CARE:

Of the 11 hospitals in the area not one has escaped major damage. The hospital situation would be critical except for the availability of facilities at Imola, Ravenna and Bologna. Ambulance service in the area is almost entirely lacking. All Communes now have doctors, but many are working under serious handicap because of the lack of transport, equipment and medical supplies. No contagious diseases of epidemic proportions have been reported for the area, but the conditions under which epidemic diseases spread are present. Sufficient serums have not been available for the immunization of the populace against the common epidemic diseases. In addition there are many casualties from mines which require immediate hospitalization and emergency treatment. The lack of local hospital facilities, adequate facilities in the ambulatori, the insufficiency of medicines, surgical equipment and ambulance service have made it impossible to give proper care to mine casualties.

4797

Hospitals have been advised to file projects for their essential reconstruction. The Regional Public Works Division is giving such projects high priority. The solution to the ambulance problem might be found in the allocation of German or other ambulances available through Allied military authorities. Personal transportation must be made available to the Commune doctors if adequate coverage of the medical problems in the area is assured. Ambulatori must be supplied with essential equipment, instruments and medical supplies for administering first aid and, where necessary, assistance must be given in their reconstruction.

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6. HOUSEHOLD NECESSITIES:

The loss of household effects is in considerable excess of the destruction of private dwellings. What was not destroyed was frequently taken out of the area by the Germans. Particularly, there is an acute need for beds, bedding and stoves for both cooking and heating.

Salvage blankets, comforters, canvas and mattresses, cots and stoves are needed from Allied Military Salvage sources. Hemp salvage is needed for mattresses and projects for their manufacture must be started on Provincial and Communal levels. If possible, priorities in purchase from Italian producers of furniture should be given consumers in this area. In addition, some form of financial assistance for the reestablishment of households should be provided. This assistance would need to be in addition to that given for reconstruction of war-damaged dwellings.

SECTION III

EXTENT OF REQUIREMENTS FOR MEETING HUMAN NEEDS

1. HOUSING:

127,195 persons, or more than half of the normal population, have been made homeless through the destruction of private dwellings in the Battlefield area. (See tables "A" and "B" prepared by the Housing Section of the Regional Public Works and Utilities Division).

Obviously there is neither the time nor the materials necessary for the permanent rehousing of homeless persons in the area prior to the Winter months. Neither are the materials for providing temporary housing locally available. The solution to temporary housing must be found from military sources.

One thousand (1,000) Neissen, Alpine or other huts of similar construction are needed to house an estimated 10,000 persons whose homes have been completely destroyed.

10,000 pyramidal tents are required to accomodate an additional 50,000 persons.

Salvage canvas equivalent to 15,000 pyramidal tents is necessary for the partitioning and temporary repair of damaged dwellings providing temporary shelter for another 50,000 persons.

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The remaining homeless persons should be able to repair their dwellings with materials available in the Communes and Provinces. Allocations for such purposes must be given high priority by responsible officials.

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TABLE "A"

HOUSING NEEDED

		PRE-WAR POPULATION	PERCENTAGE DAMAGED BUILDINGS	ROOFLESS PERSONS
	BOLOGNA PROVINCE			
1.	Bazzano	4,900	45%	2,250
2.	Casalecchio	8,400	70%	5,850
3.	Casalfiumanese	4,500	45%	2,020
4.	Castel d'Aiano	4,400	90%	3,950
5.	Castel di Serravallo	4,800	25%	1,200
6.	Castel San Pietro	15,500	35%	5,400
7.	Crespellano	6,400	20%	1,280
8.	Dozza	3,150	35%	1,100
9.	Fontanelice	3,170	65%	2,050
10.	Loiano	4,900	75%	3,700
11.	Marzabotto	6,200	75%	4,650
12.	Monteronzio	4,800	90%	4,300
13.	Monte San Pietro	6,650	30%	2,000
14.	Monteveglio	4,600	30%	1,380
15.	Pianoro	10,100	98%	9,800
16.	Sasso Bolognese	11,350	70%	7,920
17.	Savigno	4,700	35%	1,640
18.	Tossignano	3,700	90%	3,320
19.	Vergato	7,150	85%	6,100
		119,170		69,890
	MODENA PROVINCE			
20.	Guiglia	3,963	20%	793
21.	Fanano	3,947	40%	1,380
22.	Montese	5,951	80%	5,164
23.	Vignola	5,201	40%	2,076
24.	Zocca	5,663	80%	4,542
		24,725		15,955
	RAVENNA PROVINCE			
25.	Alfonsine	11,889	80%	9,500
26.	Bagnara di Romagna	2,031	60%	1,220
27.	Castel Bolognese	5,595	50%	3,000
28.	Cotignola	6,974	95%	6,600
29.	Fusignano	6,054	75%	4,500
30.	Massalombarda	7,541	55%	4,150
31.	Riolo Bagni	5,377	70%	3,760
32.	S.Agata sul Santerno	2,179	70%	1,520
33.	Solarolo	4,089	80%	3,300
		52,109		37,550
	FERRARA PROVINCE			
34.	Argenta	4,000	85%	3,400
35.	Portomaggiore	4,200	60%	2,400
		8,200		5,800
	GRAND TOTAL	204,204		127,195

4715

2242

2.	Castelcovino	8,400	70%	5,850
3.	Casalfiumanese	4,500	45%	2,020
4.	Castel d'Aiano	4,400	94%	3,950
5.	Castel di Serravallo	4,800	25%	1,200
6.	Castel San Pietro	15,300	35%	5,400
7.	Crespellano	6,400	20%	1,280
8.	Dozza	3,150	35%	1,100
9.	Fontanelice	3,170	65%	2,050
10.	Loiano	4,900	75%	3,700
11.	Marzabotto	6,200	75%	4,650
12.	Monterenzio	4,800	90%	4,300
13.	Monte San Pietro	6,650	30%	2,000
14.	Monteveglio	4,600	30%	1,350
15.	Pianoro	10,100	98%	9,800
16.	Sasso Bolognese	11,350	70%	7,920
17.	Savigno	4,700	35%	1,640
18.	Tossignano	3,700	90%	3,320
19.	Vergato	7,150	85%	6,100
		119,170		69,890

MODENA PROVINCE

20.	Guiglia	3,963	20%	793
21.	Fanano	3,947	40%	1,380
22.	Montese	5,951	80%	5,164
23.	Vignola	5,201	40%	2,076
24.	Zocca	5,663	80%	4,542
		24,725		13,955

RAVENNA PROVINCE

25.	Alfonsine	11,889	80%	9,500
26.	Bagnara di Romagna	2,051	60%	1,220
27.	Castel Bolognese	5,995	50%	3,000
28.	Cotignola	6,974	95%	6,600
29.	Fusignano	6,054	75%	4,500
30.	Massalombarda	7,541	55%	4,150
31.	Riolo Bagni	5,377	70%	3,760
32.	S.Agata sul Santerno	2,179	70%	1,520
33.	Solarolo	4,089	80%	3,300
		52,109		37,550

FERRARA PROVINCE

34.	Argenta	4,000	85%	3,400
35.	Portomaggiore	4,200	60%	2,400
		8,200		5,800
	GRAND TOTAL	204,204		127,195

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TABLE "B"

TOTAL MATERIALS, NEW AND SALVAGED, ESTIMATED TO BE NEEDED

PROVINCES	LUMBER (cu.m.)	TILES (No.)	BRICKS (No.)	LIME (ql.)
Bologna	3,180	20,763,600	143,000,000	381,000
Modena	559	3,628,300	25,000,000	67,000
Ravenna	1,500	9,763,000	68,000,000	181,000
Ferrara	1,720	11,271,000	78,000,000	206,000
TOTALS	6,959	45,425,900	314,000,000	835,000

2. MINE CLEARANCE:

Surveys by Regional Mine Clearance Officers, aided by information received from Allied, German and Italian sources, leads to the inevitable conclusion that the Battlefield Area of Emilia Region is the most heavily mined section of Italy. When the Allied Armies made their rapid advance this Spring, only the areas on the axis of advance were cleared. Huge areas were left still heavily mined.

The training program for civilian mine lifters has to this time produced 150 qualified men. The training of 30 more will be completed about 25 July. Two hundred men of the 1st Italian Engineer Battalion are at work in the Region. Another company of Italian Engineers are in training at Pescara and will shortly be moved into the Region. At the end of July there will be in the neighborhood of 500 men engaged in mine clearance in all of Emilia Region.

Those engaged in this work have done a great deal, more than forty thousand mines having been destroyed or deactivated and two thousand aerial bombs neutralized.

However, a careful study of available data reveals that there are approximately two million mines in the Region. This figure is a conservative estimate and is subject to increase as fields are explored and found to be more thickly sown than anticipated. Appendix "A" contains a list of Communes known to be mined, with square metres of mined area where that figure is known.

The Regional Mine Clearance Officers estimate that it will require ten thousand men to clear the Region of mines in the next six months. The task is much too great for the numbers of men presently available. The Local Government Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, has submitted a plan and proposal to Allied Force Headquarters, the general nature of which is contained in Appendix "B" of this section.

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The effects of mining sometimes extend far beyond the immediate area of the mine field. Many of the mines already removed came from areas given priority to permit repair work on the Bologna City water system. In comparison with the Battlefield Communes, the Northern part of Bologna Province suffered little damage, but the Bologna Bonifica which serves these Northern Communes is seriously impeded because necessary repairs cannot be begun at the head waters of the streams. The over-crowding and

Modena	559	3,628,300	[illegible]	[illegible]
Ravenna	1,500	9,763,000	25,000,000	67,000
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			70,000,000	206,000
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unemployment and relief problems of Bologna, Imola, Forli', Ravenna, Modena and Ferrara are in part due to the hundreds of people who dare not return to their mined homes and farms.

APPENDIX "A"

COMMUNES REPORTED MINED UP TO 7 JULY 1945

BOLOGNA PROVINCE

COMMUNE	SURFACE (Sq. Metres)
Anzola dell'Emilia	1,000
Bazzano	3,000
Bentivoglio	20,000
Bologna (Borgo Panigale)	3,500,000
Budrio	60,000
Camugano	270,000
Casalecchio di Reno	150,000
Casalfiumanese	3,000,000
Castel d'Aiano	1,000
Castel di Serravalle	1,000,000
Castel S. Pietro	1,000,000
Castenaso	1,000,000
Castiglione Pepoli	2,000
Dozza	600,000
Fontanelice	60,000
Gaggio Montano	50,000
Grizzana	4,000
Imola	105,000
Marzabotto	3,000,000
Loiano	50,000
Malalbergo	2,000
Medicina	30,000
Minerbio	6,000
Molinella	3,000
Monghidoro	4,000
Montoronzio	50,000
Monte S. Pietro	10,000
Monzuno	10,000
Ozzano Emilia	300,000
Pianoro	3,000,000
Praduro and Sasso	350,000
Sala Bolognese	3,000
San Benedetto Val di Sambro	5,000
San Giovanni in Persiceto	10,000
San Lazzaro di Savena	885,000
San Pietro in Casale	2,000
Savigno	313,000
Tossignano	900,000
Vergato	20,000

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MODENA PROVINCE

Concordia	60
Fanano	6,000
Frassinoro	5,000
Monfestino in Serra Mazzoni	5,000
Montese	2,750,000

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BOLOGNA PROVINCE

COMMUNE	SURFACE (Sq. Metres)
Anzola dell'Emilia	1,000
Bazzano	3,000
Bentivoglio	20,000
Bologna (Borgo Panigale)	3,500,000
Budrio	60,000
Camugano	270,000
Casalecchio di Reno	130,000
Casalfiumanese	3,000,000
Castel d'Aiano	1,000
Castel di Serravalle	1,000,000
Castel S. Pietro	1,000,000
Castenaso	1,000,000
Castiglione Pepoli	2,000
Dozza	600,000
Fontanelice	60,000
Gaggio Montano	50,000
Grizzana	4,000
Imola	105,000
Marzabotto	3,000,000
Loiano	50,000
Malalbergo	2,000
Medicina	30,000
Minerbio	6,000
Molinella	3,000
Monghidoro	4,000
Monterenzio	50,000
Monte S. Pietro	10,000
Monzuno	10,000
Ozzano Emilia	300,000
Pianoro	3,000,000
Praduro and Sasso	350,000
Sala Bolognese	5,000
San Benedetto Val di Sambro	5,000
San Giovanni in Persiceto	10,000
San Lazzaro di Savena	885,000
San Pietro in Casale	2,000
Savigno	313,000
Tossignano	900,000
Vergato	20,000

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MODENA PROVINCE

Concordia	60
Fanano	6,000
Frassinoro	5,000
Monfestino in Serra Mazzoni	5,000
Montese	2,750,000
Pavullo nel Frignano	15,000
San Possidonio	450
Sestola	1,000
Zocca	10,000
Vignola (suspected mined)	

APPENDIX "A" (Continued)

COMMUNES REPORTED MINED UP TO 7 JULY 1945 (Continued)

RAVENNA PROVINCE

COMMUNE	COMMUNE
Alfonsine	Fusignano
Bagnacavallo	Lugo
Brisighella	Marradi Imbarda
Casola Valsenio	Ravenna
Castelbolognese	Riolo Bagni
Cervia	Russi
Cotignola	Solarolo
Faenza	

FORLI' PROVINCE

Bertinoro	Modigliana
Borghi	Montescudo
Cattolica	Montiano
Cesena	Riccione
Cesenatico	Rimini
Civitella di Romagna	Rocca San Casciano
Coriano	Saludecio
Forlimpopoli	S. Mauro di Romagna
Galeata	S.Arcangelo di Romagna
Gambettola	Santa Sofia
Gatteo	Savignano di Romagna
Gemmano	Sogliano al Rubicone
Longiano	Torriana gia' Scorticata
Meldola	Tredozio
Mercato Saraceno	

FERRARA PROVINCE

Argenta	Migliarino
Cento	Ostellato
Comacchio	Portomaggiore
Ferrara	Ro
Formignana	Mesola

In the Province the entire South bank of the Po is mined and also the Salt Lake banks in Comacchio.

APPENDIX "B"

OUTLINE OF MINE CLEARANCE PROPOSAL BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB-COMM. TO AFHQ

1. A plan has been submitted to AFHQ for the employment of 10,000 German POW to clear the mined areas throughout Italy. It has not yet been approved.

2. Stores, equipment and transport required for ~~600~~ 100 men i.e. an approximately Battalion level are estimated to be:

Transport:

15 cwt. Trucks.....10
2 ton trucks..... 4
Willis or Jeeps..... 4

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Bagnacavallo
Brisighella
Casola Valsenio
Castelbolognese
Cervia
Cotignola
Faenza
Lugo
Massa Lombarda
Ravenna
Riolo Bagni
Russi
Solarolo

FORLI' PROVINCE

Bertinoro
Borghi
Cattolica
Cesena
Cesenatico
Civitella di Romagna
Coriano
Forlimpopoli
Galeata
Gambettola
Gatteo
Gemmano
Longiano
Meldola
Mercato Saraceno
Modigliana
Montescudo
Montiano
Riccione
Rimini
Rocca San Casciano
Saludecio
S. Mauro di Romagna
S. Arcangelo di Romagna
Santa Sofia
Savignano di Romagna
Sogliano al Rubicone
Torriana gia' Scorticata
Trodozio

FERRARA PROVINCE

Argenta
Cento
Comacchio
Ferrara
Formignana
Migliarino
Ostellato
Portomaggiore
Ro
Mesola

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A P P E N D I X "B"

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2. Stores, equipment and transport required for ~~600~~ 100 men i.e. on approximately Battalion level are estimated to be:

Transport:

15 cwt. Trucks.....10
2 ton trucks..... 4
P.U's or Jeeps..... 4
Motorcycles..... 4
Bicycles..... 8

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Mine Clearance Stores:

Mine Detectors..... 60
(with spare batteries)
Prodders.....200
Marking Tape.....1000 yds

Billeting:

Tontago or Neisson Huts in accordance with normal POW requirements.

Other Items:

On approximately G.1098 scale as supplied to British Engineer Units.

3. Detachments of this size would be administered by Allied Officers with Italian Officer Staff. Guards supplied by Italian Army.

3. BRIDGE, ROAD AND UTILITY REPAIR:

Modena Province, in the area covered by this report, 14 bridges were destroyed; 4 of which are now under construction. The water and sewage installations suffered considerable damage but repair work is in progress using primarily local material. The roads are in poor condition, needing primarily bitumen for essential repair. Total estimated cost for public work repair of the Modena area is 65,000,000 L.

Bologna Province:

The battlefield area suffered very heavy destruction. Together with the housing damage, 150 bridges have been destroyed at an estimated cost of L. 390,000,000 to replace, of which 20 major bridges are being rebuilt at a cost of L. 75,000,000. The estimated damage to roads and retaining walls is L. 300,000,000 of which L. 16,000,000 has been initiated to date. Debris clearing at an estimated cost of 76,000,000 remains to be done. There are 4 hospitals and 34 schools to be rebuilt at an estimated cost of L. 76,000,000 and 13 water supply and sewerage systems that need reconstructing at a cost of L. 28,000,000.

In the Ravenna-Ferrara battlefield area a total of 620 bridges were destroyed. Most of these now have Bailey bridges in place, but which will have to be replaced at an estimated cost of L. 350,000,000

Repair work on some major bridges has been initiated, but considerable work in preparing estimates remains to be done. The State Highways in this area are in fairly good condition, but severe damage was done to the 400 Km. Communal and Provincial roads, which will cost L. 275,000,000 to repair.

Requirements:

While the Regional Public Works Division has given high priority to the reconstruction needs of this particular area and the Italian Public Works agency, the Genio Civile, has prepared a considerable number of projects for approval by AMG in the short time the Region has been active, a large amount of Public Works projects need yet to be prepared to cover the entire battlefield area. The total estimated cost to rehabilitate the Public Works and utility installations in the area, not including

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Tentage or Neiseen Huts in accordance with normal POW requirements.

Other Items:

On approximately G.1098 scale as supplied to British Engineer Units.

3. Detachments of this size would be administered by Allied Officers with Italian Officer Staff. Guards supplied by Italian Army.

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and Acetylene 1500 tanks and Bitumen 2500 tons. To execute this rather large reconstruction program, besides the construction materials needed, it is absolutely necessary that adequate transportation and POL be provided for the Italian Public Works agency. The transport made available at present by Autotrasporti for reconstruction purposes is practically nil. At least 200 trucks are required and these should be assigned to the Genio Civile for full time.

4. ALLOCATION OF SALVAGE MATERIALS:

Great quantities of many kinds of former military equipment now discarded in salvage dumps would prove invaluable to the people of the area. Some have been indicated in other sections of this report. Tents and canvas sheeting would provide or help repair housing. Canvas, together with hemp salvage, would provide mattresses. Unusable and discarded items of military clothing could be remade into warm and serviceable garments. Shoes and leather for their repair, with scraps of tire casings to make soles, are needed against the snows of the mountain Winter. Oil drums can be made into stoves. Tools of all kinds, shovels, picks, wheel-barrows, are in demand. Cots are needed badly.

In most instances salvage material must be processed and reworked into articles needed by the civilians. This would require the organization of work projects in those towns where industries formerly existed. If the materials can be made available and the work organized, two ends would thus be served -- the provision of employment, chiefly to women whose families are in part dependent on such income, as well as the creation of articles urgently needed for personal or family living.

The quantities of the various materials needed can be properly estimated only in relation to a plan for their processing and repair. If such a project were attacked with vigor, insight and enthusiasm the amounts required would be limited only by the supply available.

Certain agencies, Allied and Italian, already have access to salvage materials on the basis of priorities established under conditions prevailing in earlier months. It might now be appropriate to review previous priority commitments in view of the needs of the battlefield area, looking to the inclusion of its needs in the scale of priorities at a high enough level to insure that its requirements will be met.

5. Labor:

The people whose homes were in the battlefield area are accustomed to hard work. Given access to materials and a reasonable degree of security from mines and they will comprise a labor force of considerable size. Naturally, their first concern must be the repair of their own dwellings and the cultivation of their land.

The amount of labor required for the work outlined in the first four headings of this section cannot be found in the normal population of the area. Least of all can it be found in those Communes in which extensive mining and destruction have combined to prevent the return of the people from the city to which they were evacuated.

With respect to Mine Clearance a need for a labor force of ten thousand men for six months has been estimated. The use of German POW has been suggested, together with sufficient units of the Italian Army to provide guards, administration, etc.

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22522

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The labor requirements for housing; road, bridge and utility repair, and for the processing of salvage materials are rather more difficult to estimate since they would be governed by the amounts and delivery schedules of required materials, tools and transport. It is possible at this time only to suggest possible sources of labor and methods of organization.

In addition to their use in mine clearance, an additional ten thousand German POW could be used in clearing rubble, salvaging brick and other such projects.

Thousands of Italian youth are idle in the cities of the North. They constitute both an immediate and pressing problem and Italy's greatest hope for the future. Allowed to drift and to come under the spell of another political adventurer, as their fathers did, means ruin for Italy's present hopes of a democratic future. Bold, imaginative and convincing leadership could enlist them in a citizen army of re-builders and their youthful vigor directed through their present dilemmas and difficulties to a future of greater promise. When the unemployment of youth was a problem in the United States such leadership conceived and developed the Civilian Conservation Corps. Italy could profit from that example, now.

6. TRANSPORTATION:

The lack of transportation presents perhaps the most pervasive problem in meeting the needs of the battlefield area. Every proposal includes a demand for it. It has been pointed out that 200 trucks are required at this time for the necessary transport of materials and labor on road and bridge construction. The need for trucks and other forms of transport for mine clearance have been indicated in that section of the report. Additional transport is needed for food and traffic in other essentials of life. Transportation must be provided at the Provincial levels for conveying materials originating from the Provincial Centers. Equally essential, however, is the need for transportation within and between Communes. At this time, there is no transport in many Communes in this area and in no Commune is there sufficient transport to meet the immediate needs for public works and essential public conveyance.

A minimum of 10 tons of heavy transport is needed by each Commune in the area. Some work animals have been allocated to the area, but many more are needed when and as available.

There is immediate need for a minimum of at least one civilian car in each Commune for use by the Communal doctor and Communal officials. In the entire area there is only one ambulance. An additional 34 are needed to provide essential service among the Communes. As with other requirements, the needs for transportation can only be met through allocations from sources outside the area. Particularly should the needs of these Communes be considered when captured transport is released for use by civilians.

This discussion on transport necessarily implies the reciprocal need for POL to fuel the trucks. Some methane would be available locally, but a great part of the battlefield area is in mountainous country where methane-operated vehicles cannot be used.

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SECTION IV

ORGANIZATION

The Battlefield Area of Emilia Region is a national problem. It is futile to regard it simply in its Communal or even its Provincial aspects. The area of destruction is so vast and the work of Communal administration so beset by difficulty that the officials of local government are powerless to deal adequately with the problems which confront them. Provincial officials, likewise, cannot give the Communes of the area lying within their respective Provinces anywhere near the attention required. Only action on the highest levels of the Italian National Government will prevent mass suffering and as tragic a Winter as even Italy has ever known.

It is therefore suggested that the Italian National Government appoint, within the framework of its governmental structure, a separate Commission for what might appropriately be called "The North Appenines Battlefield Area". Precedent for such action will be found in the procedures adopted with respect to the Cassino-Minturno area, previously considered the most seriously devastated area in Italy.

The Commission would need to be empowered to act with vigor, firthrightness and speed. Having its own budget and staff of employees, it should nevertheless have access to the resources of such other agencies of the Italian National Government as the requirements of its work demands.

It is hoped also that such a Commission would not lack assistance from Allied sources. Within the natural limits imposed by military requirements, Allied Force Headquarters might give very material aid. The United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration is empowered to extend certain forms of assistance in Italy which are most urgently needed in this area. The American Red Cross has demonstrated its desire and ability to help, as has American Relief for Italy, Inc., through its Italian counterpart, L'Ente Nazionale per Distribuzione dei Soccorsi in Italia. With all these organizations the Commission should maintain constant liaison and work in closest cooperation.

When Allied Military Government comes to an end in Emilia Region the people of this area, who of all Italians have suffered the most severely, ought to find in their new democratically conceived Government the sympathetic and vigorous action their plight requires.

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4788

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

2258

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

ALLIED [redacted] COMMISSION

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM TAB/arr

SUBJECT: Letter on Italian Housing Program addressed to C/C.

File No. ES/7.03

TO : Colonel N. E. Fiske
A/Executive Commissioner

1 April 1945

APR 3 1945

The records of the Economic Section Message Center clearly indicate that the letter dated 27 Feb., file 7.03/ES, addressed to the Chief Commissioner, on the subject: Italian Housing Program, was dispatched on 1 Mar 45.

L. D. Densmore
L. D. DENSMORE,
Colonel, F.A.
Chief Staff Officer
Economic Section

4786

2259

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

31

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Tel. 451

Ref: 5407/31/EC

2 March 1945

SUBJECT: Devastated Areas - General O'Dwyer's Comments.

TO : V.P., Economic Section.

Reference memorandum from Chief Commissioner of 16 Feb 45, copy attached, may we have the statement of facts as expeditiously as possible.

Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

4765

Incl.

B/U S/B. Noted

see M32933

2260

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

52074 (1) (29)

16 February 1945.

MEMORANDUM TO: Colonel Densmore, Chief Staff Officer. FEB 17 1945

1. In an article by Sumner Welles entitled "Italian Outlook" which appeared in the Washington Post of 31 January, the following sentence appears:

> "Some of the most elementary measures to provide housing in devastated areas, framed by the Italian Government, earnestly supported by General O'Dwyer, have been vetoed by the Allied Control Commission."

2. Can you give me a statement of the facts of this situation. If any such proposals were rejected by the Commission, I assume it would have been by the Economic Section. If so, did such rejection occur while General O'Dwyer was here or while he was absent, and why were they rejected?

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

cc: Ex. Com.
CC files

1784

Report on this is sent Col. Densmore since 20/2 JCB

see M 29+30
+ Tab 31.

2261

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

5207

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

- -

Committee for Collection of Money and Blankets for Devastated Areas.

GA Sec reported that PWB had a collection among their own officers and it had been suggested by Lt. Col. Andrews that the officers of AC might like to contribute to the fund. There was some discussion on this and CCS approved GA Sec's suggestion that Lt. Col. Andrews be asked to make an appeal to AC for money and old clothes. It was undesirable to open subscription lists.

IPW Sub-Commission raised the question of clothing for POWs and GA Sec agreed to ask Lt. Col. Andrews to include IPOWs in their appeal.

2262

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

5407

C-S (26)

Translation

National Committee for Collecting
Italian help for Devastated Areas.

Rome, 22 January 1945

JAN 24 1945

To Admiral Stone
Allied Commission
R o m e

In today's meeting, this Committee asked me to express its gratitude for the efficient and generous assistance given by Col Paul Schipman Andrews, of the American Army, for the devastated Areas, to which he gives the comfort of his presence, of his work and of his valuable advice.

The support and assistance of Col. Andrews greatly facilitate the action of this Committee, and it is a real satisfaction to me to ask you to transmit this message to Col. Andrews.

The President of the
Executive Council

s. Luigi Gasperotto

C-S Hist - 23 Jan 45

4702

Action: C A Sec

INFO: Chief Comm

C-S.

O.O.

2263

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

5407

25

4 January 1945.

Extract from P.W.B. Consolidated Report on Conditions in Liberated Italy No.49

" Re-Housing.

According to a statement issued on 22 December 1944 by the Ministry of Public Works, the sum of 2000 million lire is to be spent on urgent repair work on houses damaged by the war throughout Italy. 1000 million lire will be spent directly by the Ministry. The other half will be available as loans to private owners to assist such owners in meeting mortgage payments, according as the cost of repairs is less or more than L. 150,000. A decree is being prepared concerning the setting up of Communal Committees to allocate surplus housing made available in this way to homeless persons. "

4761

2264

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

24

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

Tel. 451

Ref. 5407/24/COS

22 December 1944

SUBJECT: Additional Food For Devastated Areas in Provinces of Frosinone, Littoria, Aquila, Chieti, Pescara and Campobasso.

TO : DCOS, Economic Section.

1. Reference your draft letter 90-9/ 19 /Food undated addressed to the Regional Commissioners of Abruzzi-Marche and Lazio-Umbria Regions this will confirm approval by the Chief of Staff of the issue of miscellaneous commodities and additional pasta for devastated areas.

2. Please issue.

A Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

see Minute 23

Copy to: DCOS, Civil Affairs Section
Civil Affairs Section (Devastated Areas Branch).

4790

DRAFT:

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

AJP/sl

19

Tel: 515

Date_____

Ref: 90-9/ /FOOD

SUBJECT: Additional Food For Devastated Areas in Provinces of Frosinone, Littoria, Aquila, Chieti, Pescara and Campobasso

TO : Regional Commissioner, Abruzzi-Marche Region
Lazio-Umbria Region

1. In order to assist the populations of communes in the above mentioned provinces which have been subject to excessive devastation, it has been agreed to reintroduce the old scale of miscellaneous commodities with an addition of pasta.

2. The normal consumer scale for those areas will be, therefore:

Bread	200 grams per day
Pasta or Flour	60 grams per day
Meat or M & V	400 grams per month
Dried Vegetables	400 grams per month
Dehydrated Soup	250 grams per month
Sugar	125 grams per month
Olive Oil	300 grams per month

3. Powdered Milk will be issued on the basis of 50 grams per day for 10% of the population in the areas, instead of 2½%.

Approved Milk (Food) SC. 16 Dec

4. Communes which are considered to be in the above category will be determined by Allied Commission Civil Affairs Section, Devastated Areas Branch, in conjunction with Food Sub-Commission and Regional Commissioners. Supplies will be allocated by Food Sub-Commission on the basis of the information supplied by Civil Affairs Section.

5. This instruction will be put into effect immediately.

For the Chief Commissioner:

4779

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

Copies to:

Civils Affairs Section (Devasted areas Branch)
Ministry of Agriculture & Forests

see Minute 23

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

2265

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

To: Regional Commissioner, Abruzzi-Marche Region
Lazio-Umbria Region

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Approval Welf Food SC. Mr Mac

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For the Chief Commissioner:

4779

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

Copies to:

Civils Affairs Section (Devasted areas Branch)
Ministry of Agriculture & Forests

see Minute 23

2298

2267

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

Tel : 735

6 December 1944

Ref/5407/—/COS.

SUBJECT : Report from PWB.

TO : Civil Affairs Section.

The attached report from PWB and comments by PRO are passed to you for any action considered necessary.

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

4778

2268

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

5407

(14)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref: 4/37.5/CA

Tel: 525

2 Dec 44.

3 DEC 1944

SUBJECT: Devastated Areas.

TO: Chief of Staff.

(13)

1 Attached is a copy of the minutes of a meeting held by the Economic Section on Wednesday, 29 Nov 44. Your attention is invited to Minute 1. In this connection the following points are made:

(a) My view is that a large proportion of the inhabitants of these areas are in a similier position to refugees in operational areas or in transit: these are granted a higher scale of rations.

(b) The Food Sub-Commission state that it is possible to increase the ration in certain selected Communes in the Provinces of Frosinone, Littoria, Aquila, Chieti, Pescara and Campobasso, the position at present being:

(i) that as regards milk, meat and dried vegetables, sufficient stocks are available.

(ii) as regards wheat products the additional ration of 30 grams of pasta per diem could be issued, provided that the over-all ration for the whole country be reduced to 1 kilo per fortnight. This involves in fact a reduction of 15 grams per week (a very small amount in fact).

2 Your authorisation is therefore requested for the reduction set out in para 1 (b)(ii) and also your concurrence with the following proposals which will constitute measures of special feeding for the persons in devastated areas.

3 (a) The present normal monthly ration of 400 grams of Meat, 400 grams of Dried Vegetables, and 250 grams of Soup which is at present applicable only to towns of 50,000 persons or above be extended to all persons in the devastated areas.

(b) The ration of milk, at present issued at the rate of 50 grams of Powdered Milk daily to 2½% of the population be extended to 10% of the population.

(c) That in addition to the normal ration for the area concerned a minimum of 30 grams of pasta per diem should be issued.

R Upjohn

G.R. UPJOHN, Brig.
VP CA Section,
DCOS. AC.

5392

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

C.O.S. (13)

[illegible]

[illegible]

Wednesday, 23rd December, 1942.

[illegible]

1. [illegible]

[illegible] Public stated that this matter had been put before this and by [illegible] the situation, but so far as certain [illegible] of people [illegible] the strength of mind and [illegible] enough to allow the consideration of additional reasons. With regard to where to develop the [illegible] the raising of the [illegible] to 300 [illegible] north of the [illegible] River east of the people concerned would be provided, a better option to which that [illegible] are not obtained. If, as is [illegible], the inhabitants of the [illegible] areas should receive [illegible] Board's [illegible] of the [illegible] provided this could be accomplished if the overall post [illegible] cut to 1 bile per cent light, this [illegible] available sufficient for an increase of up to 30 [illegible] of [illegible].

[illegible]:

[illegible] to [illegible] to a [illegible] which are likely to become [illegible] [illegible]. The work programme [illegible] in addition. The [illegible] to be [illegible] to [illegible] work on a priority [illegible].

3. HOUSING:

The [illegible] must be urged to pass the draft [illegible] providing subsidies for private [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] minimum. It was [illegible] that [illegible] building cannot effectively be [illegible] this [illegible].

4. [illegible]:

The production of [illegible] was essential. It [illegible] to hold up [illegible] due to lack of suitable [illegible] fuel.

[illegible] to investigate the possibility of producing suitable [illegible] fuel.

5. [illegible]:

[illegible] is urgently required. The production [illegible] to be carried out [illegible] should [illegible].

[illegible] in Section [illegible] report [illegible].

4776

6. CLOTHING:

[illegible] of Commerce [illegible] (70/15) [illegible] of [illegible] low [illegible] in [illegible]. The [illegible] of land forces in this respect [illegible] in Chief Commissioner.

The question of providing [illegible] as a [illegible] factor [illegible] the [illegible] position. [illegible] very [illegible] need.

[illegible] Commissioner's [illegible] to provide a 700 [illegible] of clothing for the [illegible] troops. It was considered that this would be [illegible].

Decision [illegible] to [illegible] to the Indian Government [illegible] at present in [illegible], and to ascertain whether the

2296

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

2270

[illegible]	[illegible]
Col [illegible]	Major J. [illegible]
Col [illegible]	Mr [illegible]
[illegible]	Mr [illegible]

4 [illegible]

[illegible] that this matter has been put before him and be [illegible] making investigations, but so far as certain categories of people [illegible] it was considered the stocks of meat and milk were large enough to allow the consideration of additional rations. With regard to wheat he pointed out that in the [illegible] the raising of the ration to 300 grams north of the [illegible] river [illegible] the people [illegible] would be [illegible] a better ration [illegible]. If, as [illegible], the [illegible] should receive [illegible] additional ration of [illegible] this could be accomplished in the overall [illegible] out to 1 kilo per fortnight, thus making available sufficient for an increase of up to 50 grams of bread per head.

[illegible]:

[illegible] is in hand to [illegible] in those [illegible] which are likely to become [illegible]. The [illegible] in [illegible]. The new [illegible] to be [illegible] will undertake this work as a priority task.

5 HOUSING:

The [illegible] Government must be urged to pass the [illegible] providing subsidies for private [illegible] of houses as a most urgent measure. It is considered that major repairs to demolished buildings cannot [illegible] be completed this winter.

4 [illegible] GLASS:

The production of glass [illegible] essential. It is being held up [illegible] due to lack of suitable coal [illegible].

[illegible] Section to investigate the possibility of producing suitable [illegible] coal.

[illegible]

[illegible] is urgently required. Its production can be carried out provided coal [illegible] can be produced.

[illegible] Section will investigate.

4776

6 CLOTHING:

See [illegible] of [illegible] Sub-Commission ([illegible]) [illegible] of 29 Nov) particularly recommendations in para 4. The position of Land Forces in this respect to be raised with the Chief Commissioner.

The question of providing [illegible] to be investigated by the Economic Section. [illegible] in great need.

[illegible] is providing 700 tons of clothing for the [illegible]. It was considered that this would be sufficient.

Economic Section to point out to the Italian Government that clothing was at present in [illegible], and to enquire whether the Government wished to reconsider the position and place clothing in [illegible].

Copy to [illegible]

5392

2271

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

5407

(12)

Ref. 1/31/GA

29th November, 1944.

1 DEC Recd

My dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your letter of the 21st November with regard to problems in the devastated areas.

I must first state that this problem is the responsibility of the Italian Government and I am disappointed at the progress which has been made by the Committee set up by you to handle this problem. My officers who attend the meetings in order to assist have reported to me that it is much too large as an operating committee, that it frequently discusses problems unconnected with the particular areas which have been devastated, that it seldom comes to a decision or formulates a plan except in the broadest outline, that its meetings are too infrequent (once a week), and of these many are cancelled at the last moment.

In view of the seriousness of the situation I have appointed two whole time liaison officers at this Headquarters to coordinate the provision of help and supplies, and there are a certain number of additional officers on temporary duty in the devastated areas to deal with local problems.

Provision by the Allies out of their military supplies on a large scale is out of the question; it will be impossible for instance to supply 75,000 blankets, though I am hopeful that some provision in this respect may be made.

Furthermore, there is no Allied Relief Agency which can undertake constructional work; this must be the responsibility of the Italian Government.

The situation is, I agree, most serious and I must urge on your Government a more energetic approach to this problem. Blankets can be requisitioned by Italian authorities in large towns, and relief committees for the collection of clothing could be set up in Rome, Naples and other large cities, and other efforts in this direction could be made by the Government.

In particular it is my opinion that much good would be done if the Council of Ministers would without further delay publish the decree which was before them on the 7th November making provision for individual repair to war damaged houses.

1775

PA

2272

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

(11)

I must reiterate the principle, my dear Prime Minister, that the responsibility is that of the Italian Government. When the Allied Commission knows exactly what is the plan of the Government and how they propose to carry it out, we shall be prepared to assist in its execution, but I must reiterate that large supplies from military sources are not to be expected.

Yours very truly,

EILEEN W. STONE,
Commodore, USNR.
Chief Commissioner.

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi,
The President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
Rome.

4774

2273

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

5407

COS 2630

10

HEADQUARTERS
8 NOV 1944
A. C. C.

HEADQUARTERS VENEZIA REGION
Allied Commission
APO 394

9

2 November 1944

8 NOV Recd

OPERATION INSTRUCTION No. 4

1. In order to assist Abruzzi-Marche Region in work on the devastated areas in South Abruzzi, Provincial teams of Fiume and Trieste, with reinforcements from Regional Headquarters, will be placed under operational control Regional Commissioner of Abruzzi Marche Region with effect 2359 hours, 1 November 1944.

2. Detailed composition of this party is shown in Appendix "A" attached hereto.

3. Lt.Col. F. Craig, OBE, AC, will be in general operational command of all Venezia Region personnel taking part in this work. He will advise HQ. Venezia Region of the locality selected by him for his HQ. Officer reinforcements from HQ. Venezia Region, as listed in Appendix "A", will report for duty to Lt.Col. Craig only on specific orders from this HQ.

4. Administrative arrangements for all Venezia Region personnel will continue to be through HQ. Venezia Region.

Regional Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION:

Lists "A", "B" & "C"
HQ AC
HQ A.C. 8th Army
HQ Abruzzi-Marche Reg.
Each officer listed in Appendix "A".

Copy to Estab. Sec.
(2 Copies received)

1113

2274

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

Appendix "A" to Operation Instruction No. 4

Trieste Province Team

Lt.Col. F. Craig, OBE, MC
Lt.Col. G.A.T. Ainslie
Lt.Col. F.H. Fletcher, TD
Major T.F. Henforth
Major J.H. Henshaw
Major E.H. Kinsella

Fiume Province Team

Lt.Col. F.J. Armstrong
Major V.F.J.C. Snee
Major R.D.F. White, MC
1st Lt. J. Milich

Additional Officers

Col. T.H. Pope
Lt.Col. P.S. Andrews
Major R. Kenny
Major A.C. Worster
Capt. B. Merriott
Capt. R.A. Cobb

2275

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

5407. 8

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

1 copy handed to CDO. Major D.W. discussed with CA. See on file & pa 8 27/10

Memorandum:

SUBJECT: Tents for Cassino Commune.

Preliminary

1. Out of a normal population of 20,000 in Cassino commune which has been totally destroyed by the effects of the war, more than 13,000 people have returned. These people are homeless and without semblance of shelter. With the approach of coming winter the problem of providing shelter for these homeless people in this devastated area becomes acute.

2. Plans are underway by the Public Works and Utilities Sub-commission for a housing project consisting of some two hundred small apartments which at the most can house not more than 1000 or 1500 people. However, location of necessary materials and their transportation to the project site make it highly improbable that any dwellings can be made ready for occupancy prior to February 1945.

3. The rainy season commences in October in this area and winter begins to set in soon after. It is imperative, therefore, that some shelter must be provided to avoid spread of disease and death. A partial immediate solution to the problem of improvising these unfortunates with some degree of shelter is the utilization of tents.

Discussion

1. There are some inconsistencies in letter and requisition that require to be reconciled.

a) Requisition asks for 2000 tents with stove complete.
b) Letter says stoves not required as constituting fire risk.
c) "Salvage" indicates "used". Would these be serviceable if issued as such?

2. Accessories asked for are not compatible with population figures quoted.

5000 cots. If for use in tents represents 5 cots per 2 tents.

21 29/x

2276

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

10000blankets. = 2 per cot.

13000homeless: 8000 do not get a cot but if tents take 6-7 persons each they would get shelter. Blankets would not go round but are perhaps intended to eke out & prevent hardship.

3. Allowing that the requisition is the result of a considered plan, how will the tents be used? Letter states that population of 13000 must be accommodated because agricultural livelihood demands their presence. They live now in "caves and unroofed hovels in the ruins" (vide E & S Div. note).

Are the tents to be erected as

a) organised camps of say 100 tents each, requiring 20 sites;

b) in smaller groups over the whole of the agricultural area that requires the attention of the population;

c) as a tented city in the Cassino plain.

All the above arrangements will involve sanitary and hygiene commitments.

4. Maintenance. Disciplined personnel using tents contribute largely to maintenance. This contribution will be lacking and inexperience in handling erection etc will mean a maintenance staff being trained and employed. Otherwise the wear and tear during the winter will be extremely high and there will be constant demands for replacements.

5. Responsibility is that of Italian Authorities assisted, if necessary, by ACC.

ACC is apprantly giving assistance by the provision, if they get them, of tents, cots and blankets.

Is ACC satisfied that the Italian Authorities starting with the Communal Authorities and going up through Provincial to Central Govt authorities, have a plan for the use of the stores?

Is a competent officer of ACC to supervise, advise and assist? If there is such an officer he should meet us here and explain the scheme.

6. Need. Given the need for something in the way of shelter NOW, is it absolutely necessary that 13000 persons should remain in that devastated area?

No information on the extent of the agricultural area concerned can be obtained at the time of writing, but 1/5 of the

2277

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

population of t s type of area is usually ployed in agriculture.

Population is given as 20000 normal. Which means that 4000 are, on the average figure, employed on the land.

If this is a low estimate doubling it takes 8000. The other 5000 are not necessary to the area and should not be allowed to remain either in tents, caves or unroofed hovels in the ruins.

7. Recommendations

a) We should help to meet the established need in the interests of the land and peoples' livelihood.

b) We should insist that the appropriate persons shoulder the responsibility.

c) We should be sure that there is a properly worked out plan for utilising any equipment before issuing it.

d) Call a meeting of:

i) rep. from E & S.

ii) Rep from Displaced Persons with special reference to welfare.

iii) Rep. Italy planning.

iv) Rep. ACC Disper.

(No. iv should have details of plan as in (c) above).

Notes: 1. No mention of the use of a Voluntary Society has been made above because it is felt that the shifting of responsibility would be made too easy.

It would probably be possible to obtain the services of a Voluntary Society team, which would work under ACC/UNRRA but every effort should be made to avoid the creation of a precedent by which the Italian authorities could more easily evade their responsibilities.

2. Cassino is in Frosinone Province, Lazio, [redacted] Region.

4769

W. DRIFFIELD-WHITE
Major

2278

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

A 4

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 394

Ref:- A/31.a/C2 25 Oct '44

SUBJECT:- Devastated Areas.

TO:- A/CC
Copy to COS
VP Econ.Sec.
VP Pol. Sec.

1. I attach hereto notes of a meeting held on 24 Oct at the Ministry of the Interior and presided over by the Under-Secretary of the Interior to consider the situation in the devastated areas and action to be taken thereon. You will observe that the Prefects of Frosinone and Littoria did not speak, but Col. Cripps informs me that they may have been present as there were a very large number of Italian representatives present.

2. The meeting came to no decision except to appoint a Committee of exaggerated size to consider the action to be taken. You will observe that ACC are invited to send 5 representatives and I presume that you will accept such an invitation and will send representatives. Col.Cripps suggests that It would be better to send 2 officers only, one from the Civil Affairs Section and one from the Economic Section, and I agree with him.

3. I propose as a matter of policy to raise at the VP's meeting tomorrow the question as to how far ACC should interest itself in this matter of the devastated areas. There appear to be two alternative:-

a) ACC can be satisfied with representation on the committee supplemented by such work in the field as is possible by the Regional staffs of Regions IV & V., or
b) In view of the great importance of this matter you may consider it possible in the present circumstances and very desirable, to withdraw say 2 provincial teams from Northern Regions and put them under one officer who will be responsible for assisting the Italian Government in work in the field and to supplement the work of sub-commissions in providing glass, cement and other materials.

4. No doubt you will desire that Region IV & V should be consulted before any plan is worked out in detail, but it seems essential that a decision on policy should first be made. AFHQ have expressed an interest in our treatment of Devastated Areas by reason

cc PM

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of the fact that an indent for a large number of tents was put in by RegionIV and they are willing to assist us as far as possible in the provision of materials. The appointment of a senior officer to control provincial teams as suggested in para.2(b) above will no doubt facilitate also the coordination of indents on AFHQ.

G.R. UPJOHN, Brig.
VP CA Sec.
Dep. C.o.S.

GRU/ymb.

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NOTES ON MEETING HELD IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR 24 Oct '44.

Present:- R.E. Canevari, Under-secretary of State Ministry of Interior (Chair).

ITALIAN
R.E. Sollimena, Director of Public Health
Marquis Theodile (I.R.C).
Under-secretary of State Finance.
Chief Medical Officer Ministry of Interior.
Representatives of Ministry of War.
Representatives of Ministry of Public Works.
Prefects of Chieti, Pescara, Aquila, Teramo, V
Viterbo, Rieti.

ALLIED
Representative Admin. Sec.
Food sub-commission (2)
Public Health " (3)
Medical supplies, hospital, Welfare.
Public Works sub-commission
Region 5
Region 4
Italian Refugees & displaced persons sub-commission.
Mr. Barr (A.R.C)
Mr. Crawley (A.R.C).

1. The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the representatives from the Allied Control Commission, and stated that he proposed to call upon the various Prefects present to explain the situation in their various Provinces. He proposed to examine the whole matter at this meeting with a view to deciding what action should be taken. The Prefects then proceeded to describe conditions in their various Provinces. This speech was not translated, but the following remarks were translated in short by the Marquis Theodile.

2. The Prefect of CHIETI made an impassioned speech impressing the gravity and size of the problem in his Province. He is extremely short of every type of material for rehousing, and in particular glass and cement. He asked for the bread ration to be raised from 200 to 300 grams. There existed a high proportion of communicable disease. Public Safety was satisfactory but he felt that it might not remain so.

3. The Prefect of PESCARA gave a somewhat similar picture to that of the previous speaker. He also demanded higher ration scales and mentioned the urgent need for soup and fats and enquired whether it was possible to transport glass from Lecci where he understood there exists considerable quantities. He asked that more attention be paid to the opening of industrial works, particularly those making cement. The Chairman intervened and stated that he had recently visited this region and that he had seen women collecting grass to eat for which they had no fats. He felt there was a crying need to open the cement works at Bomba which is apparently idle through lack of coal. He appealed to the Allies to assist in this matter and suggested that we might bring coal from Sardinia for this purpose.

4. The Prefect of AQUILA stated that the destruction in his Province was extremely great. He stated that the position of food, and the destruction of communications particularly bridges was similar to that described by his colleagues who had spoken previously. He found that the inhabitants would not leave their land and were living under deplorable conditions, in fact some were living underground. Landmines are causing considerable casualties. This region is very mountainous and he expects snow within the next two weeks. A hutting plan for homeless persons had been commenced but it had been stopped; he was not clear of the reasons but believed it was financial. He also stressed the need for window-glass and cement.

5. The Prefect of TERAMO said that the position in his Province was not as bad as those previously described. His big problem was the rebuilding of bridges. A

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5. The Prefect of TERAMO said that the position in his Province was not as bad as those previously described. His big problem was the rebuilding of bridges. A plan for this had been submitted but had not yet been approved by the Ministry of Public Works. His main difficulty with transportatinn was lack of tyres and petrol. There was also a lack of fuel, particularly charcoal, and he asked that supplies now frozen in Chieti be unfrozen. On mineclearance, a special squad had been working and very satisfactory progress had been made. He did not consider the 200 gram ration was sufficient, there was also at the present moment an insufficiency of olive oil, but he considered that this would be remedied to some degree when the new crop is harvested, his Province being a good olive oil producing area. He anticipated difficulties with this, however,

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as many of the grushing mills had been irremedially destroyed by the Germans; furthermore his peasant population were extremely short of clothing and in dire need of shoes.

6. The Prefect of VITERBO stated his Province was not as bad as any of the others previously described. 28 towns out of 58 in his Province were badly damaged and he had a housing scheme under consideration. There was great shortage of glass and he inquired whether it would be possible to requisition this material from Florence where he understood there existed large quantities. He inquired about the possibility of returning refugees to their homes, particularly to the area of Civitavecchia whence many of them had come originally. (The Chairman interposed had he seen Civitavecchia, whereupon a great outburst of talking took place which it was quite impossible to follow).

7. The Prefect of RIETI gave quite a reasonable picture of his Province which appeared to be in very much better condition than any of the others. He stated that re-building was proceeding and that he only had a 1,000 homeless families. He considered that if the railway through his Province could be opened it would solve many of his problems. Refugees were being returned.

8. The Prefect of CHIETI again spoke and stated that he had a very large number of homeless in Chieti town itself, 19,000 was the figure mentioned. He stated that there were 1,000 rooms at present requisitioned by the military, but not occupied, could the Allies derequisition?

9. Representatives of the Ministry of War spoke at length on the question of mine clearance describing the work done since the original landings in Calabria, giving an outline of their plans for the future, discoursing at length on the rates of pay and insurance scheme which they stated was at present under consideration by the Ministry of Finance. They pointed out the necessity for Prefects to be placed at their disposal of local mineclearance squads in order that they may be on the same rates of pay as the men working in his service.
They then made the point that in view of the difficulty of transportation of glass the Allied authorities should consider the importation of a substitute of glass which could be more easily packed or rolled (they presumably were referring to what is known in England as blitz glass).
They further considered that the matter of derequisitioning buildings not in use by the Allied authorities should be given immediate consideration and asked whether there was no possibility of transport being imported for the civilian population.

10 Col.R.R. Cripps pointed out that the requests upon the Allies were numerous and would require a good deal of investigation in many cases. Various Ministries of the Italian Government were aware of the situation in connection with food, transportation, re-building and fuel. He considered that the matters being discussed this morning divided themselves into two parts:-

a) The immediate problem of dealing with the population at present in the really badly devastated areas of Chieti, Pescara and Aquila.

b) The more long-term rehabilitation of the whole of the war devastated areas. He suggested that a very much smaller committee be formed, or if that had already been done by the Italian Government it could deal with this matter and Allied Control Commission would be prepared to be represented.

11 The Italian representative of the Ministry of Public Works then spoke. He stated that they were tackling the problem in two parts:- 1106

a) that of dealing with repairable houses, and

b) the building of new small houses.

His main difficulty was the lack of cement of which large quantities, together with other building materials were at present frozen by the Allies. He suggested

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His main difficulty was the lack of cement of which large quantities, together with other building materials were at present frozen by the Allies. He suggested that the quantities of cement at present in the south might be freed as he felt that now the theatre of operations was so far in the North the problem of their transportation might preclude their use by the Army.
He felt that there was some red tape which caused delays in small building projects due to the fact that those costing over 5 million lire , or requiring the use of certain war material, needed to be authorised by the Allied military authorities before they could be proceeded with,

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12. Col. Thompson stated that he did not agree with the last speaker in that projects up to 5 million lire could be sanctioned by the Genii Civile and that Allied Military Government regional engineers were authorised to sanction projects up to 1 million lire. There was no restriction on the number of projects costing up to this amount that can be carried out in a province. That all engineering officers had been instructed to give their assistance in the matter of housing and bridge building, furthermore their bridge building programme was not entirely being confined to military highways, and he stressed the case of Higiway 78 on which 25 bridges were at present under construction, this highway not being of military importance. He considered that very much more could be done locally both by Sindaco and Prefecti. The housing decree of the devastated areas was still under consideration by the Italian Government and was not held up in Allied Control Commission Headquarters.

13. The Chairman then announced that he proposed a committee to be formed of the Ministry of Interior with representatives from Finance, Public Works, Ministry of War, others whose names are unknown at present. He asked that Allied Control Commission be represented in the Public Works, Transportation, Relief, Finance and Food.

14. Col. Gripps replied that he agreed with the formation of the Committee and would inform H.E. of the exact representation of the Commission by Thursday.

15. Food sub-commission gave an outline of the whole feeding position in Italy and stressed the importance of the Italian Government realising that we have a shippang problem and that local resources must be used to the utmost. The rest of the remarks were made in Italian and not translated.

16. H.E. Canavari concluded by thanking Allied officers for attending the meeting, and he stated that he realised from what they had said during the morning that the ACC was sympathetic to the needs of the devastated areas.

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R.R. GRIPPS. Col.
CSO CA Sec.

25.10.44.

RRG/ymb.

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