

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

ACC

10000/109/1610

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

10000/109/1610

BLACK MARKET
FEB - AUG. 1944

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

311/CA

BLACK - MARKET.

(5094 - 5170)

BLACK - MARKET.

5094 - 5170

10000

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THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PERS

IN FEB 1944

Aug 1944

CATALOGUE.

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

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

75
484034

24 August 1944.

Ref/511/75/CA.

SUBJECT: Palmiro Togliatti.

TO : R.C. Region IV. 70

1. I refer to IM/L.1 dated 16 August 1944.
2. The difficulties experienced by Lieut. Lipsius in this matter are fully appreciated. You should however remind him that Sig. Togliatti is first and foremost a Minister of State and as such is entitled to the usual courtesies. Lieut. Lipsius should go to see Sig. Togliatti, not vice versa.

5170

W
NORMAN E. FIERKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.
B.H.

CACB / 74 /
Specs
9 agree regarding specifications

Can of 7.

But with no 7000

4 Reg IV exclusive containers

4 Reg IV

1157

Specs

But with no letter

4 Reg IV ex/active countries

4 Reg IV

12/78

years

5169

18th August 1944.

↓

Executive Commissioner.

1. I have spoken to Colonel Poletti this morning and he has given the following information.
2. Some time ago Colonel Poletti informed Lt. Col. Pollock and Lieut. Lipsius that bands of Communists were going round the shops that were charging high prices and closing them down. The Regional Commissioner would not have any party or group taking the law into their own hands and he gave instructions that a stop must be put to these activities.
3. Lieut. Lipsius tried to make some of the junior officials take action but with no success and at last, after many attempts, he asked Togliatti to come and see him. Togliatti instead asked Lipsius to visit him. Eventually after being unable to see Togliatti he ordered Togliatti to come and see him.
4. I understand that Togliatti did call and that Lieut. Lipsius explained to him the reason for summoning him as the other officials of the Communist Party were unable to stop the illegal action.
5. Colonel Poletti fully approved of the action taken by Lieut. Lipsius.

AJS/JS.

Major.

A/C.C.

Submitted. P.N. Officers go to Mindanao

and vice versa. I will so inform Col. Poletti
 → Mr. [unclear] 12/2/44. Please do!

785017

Burg. hush -
 Pls c me GWS

72

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
 POLITICAL SECTION

HQ ACC, APO 394
 1150 y. Com.
 Recd 17 Aug 1944
 By ORR

PA/ I will speak to H/CC
 but get the dope first. And in future do so

17 August 1944

SUBJECT: Communist Activities in the Black Market.

TO : Captain E. W. Stone, Acting Chief Commissioner, Hq A.C.C.

Dott. Grifone, who introduced himself as the private secretary to Togliatti, called at 6 p.m. on August 15 to say that two military police had called at Togliatti's office for the purpose of conducting him to the Black Market Control Office. They were told that Togliatti was a member of the Government and at that moment occupied in official affairs. They replied that his presence was desired at the Black Market Control Station where he should present himself before noon on the subsequent day or be apprehended by the military police. Grifone went on to say that he thought Lt. Lipsius of the Black Market Control wished to speak to Togliatti concerning illegal communist activities in the black market which Grifone inferred actually were going on. I attempted to communicate until 7 o'clock but unsuccessfully with the offices of Colonel Poletti, Colonel Polluck and Lt. Lipsius.

On the subsequent morning I reported the matter to Brigadier Lush who in turn communicated with Colonel Ames, Poletti's Deputy, to request him to investigate the matter. Later in the morning Dott. Grifone telephoned to me to say that Lt. Lipsius again was in quest of Togliatti. I thereupon telephoned to Lt. Lipsius to enquire into the matter. He said that there were illegal communist activities being carried on in the black market and that all attempts to obtain some information regarding them from minor members of the Communist Party led to no result, and to obtain the information desired he was obliged to appeal to Togliatti. The latter, however, refused either to receive Lipsius or to call upon him. Whereupon Lipsius acting as he says, within the scope of his orders, virtually ordered Togliatti to report to him. Ultimately, he said, Togliatti agreed to call on the morning of August 16, failing which Lipsius agreed to telephone me again before taking further action. *This he has not done.*

Toward noon of August 16, Sig. Winspeare of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs called to discuss this matter regarding Togliatti and I told him what had transpired and that I would report the entire matter to you for what action you deemed appropriate.

*your information in the early part of the matter was
 kept to his attention by the Italian Communist.*

WWS:hatt
 WILLIAM W. SCHOTT

Vice-President, Political Section

0161

CONFIDENTIAL

BM/4.1

1st Ind.

JDA/ech

13 AUG Recd

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT REGION IV APO 324 15 August 1944

TO: Regional Control and Military Government Section Headquarters
Allied Control Commission (Attention: Executive Commissioner)

1. Forwarded.

For The Regional Commissioner:

John D. Ames
JOHN D. AMES
Lt Colonel, A.G.B.
Executive Officer (Rome)

Copy to: Political Section (Attention: Mr. Shott)

Ex Com.

1. Pl. See 68-70. I understand from Lt Col AMES that he has talked to you about this case of TOSLIATI refusing to go and see KTHIPSIOG and that you asked for the facts to be put on paper.
2. In my view it's a case of "the less said the soonest mended" and I cannot see that anything can be gained by doing other than put the file away.

CONFIDENTIAL

G. 18/8.

HEADQUARTERS
17 AUG 1944
A.C.C.

5166

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION IV
APO.394

BM/4.1

SUBJECT : Palmiro Togliatti

TO : Regional Commissioner, Region IV, AMG

1. The political parties in Rome city have formed "Squadre annonarie" for declared purpose of " seeking out Black Market transactions, requisitioning the goods and reporting the fact to the party." The members of one such squad were interviewed by me on 15 July 1944 and they informed me that they " usually report to the Pubblica Sicurezza, who send policemen to accompany them." These men were in this office at my request, because of a confiscation of goods that had been made by them without the aid of policemen.

2. Reports received in this office indicate that these party representatives conduct their operations either without the use of the police or without police authority. These reports also indicate that confiscations are made of items on which there is no control as to either price or distribution, and therefore no justification whatsoever for their actions.

3. After rationed goods have been thus confiscated, these squads seldom turn them in to the proper control office for legal distribution. Instead they sell same on the street, and thereafter report such sale to a police agency. There is no way of determining whether all of the goods confiscated were actually sold, the accuracy of the report or any vital factor.

4. On occasion, they have given orders to merchants to dispose of merchandise in a manner directly contrary to previous orders of an accredited police representative.

5. In general, it may be said, that these people act as legislature, judiciary and executive, as they see fit, and without

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4. On occasion, they have given orders to merchants to dispose of merchandise in a manner directly contrary to previous orders of an accredited police representative.

5. In general, it may be said, that these people act as legislature, judiciary and executive, as they see fit, and without regard for the established law.

6. Attempts by this office to regularize their activities have been of little avail. Attempts have been made to find one man or a small group of men in each of the political parties concerned who had some responsibility but none were found, although many members of the "squadra annonaria" were interviewed. The situation

was getting out of hand, and it was determined necessary to warn the respective interested party leaders of our policy.

7. Accordingly, invitations were sent to the leaders of the Socialist party and of the Communist party to come to this office. Pietro Nenni, head of Socialist party, did come in to the office and a mutually satisfactory understanding was reached.

8. Palmiro Togliatti, the Communist party leader, never had the courtesy to personally reply to my invitation. His secretary informed us in writing that Togliatti was unable to come in to see me at the suggested time. This office attempted to reach Togliatti by phone, and after at least 15 such attempts over a period of 4 hours during which his phone was always busy, abandoned the attempts. This office then sent a letter to Togliatti requesting that he call to arrange an appointment that would be mutually convenient.

9. A secretary of Togliatti again responded in writing that Togliatti was not in, and that if I wanted to speak with him, I could telephone him at a given number.

10. In all of my studies, and instructions received as an officer in Allied Military Government, great stress has been laid upon the fact, that it is necessary, in dealing with citizens of territory under the jurisdiction of AMG, to impress upon them the fact that we are a command. Specifically, I have been taught that we should never visit an Italian official on official business, but should on the contrary always require that he visit us. This is not a hard and fast rule, but rather a matter of policy and expediency. When, as here, it becomes a contest to see who would weaken first, I consider the officer of the Allied Military Government entitled to higher privileges than any Italian official. I accordingly sent two of the enlisted personnel of my office to find Togliatti and invite him over to see me. They had instructions to bring him here under arrest if he refused to come otherwise.

11. Togliatti was not found by them, and pursuant to my orders, left word for him to be in this office by noon today, or he would be arrested and brought in.

12. After the Executive Officer of Region IV, AMG called me this morning and informed me that Brigadier Lush had suggested

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12. After the Executive Officer of Region IV, AMG called me this morning and informed me that Brigadier Lush had suggested that no action be taken in the matter this morning. I so notified my EM. Very shortly thereafter I received a telephone call from Togliatti's secretary, who told me that he was surprised that ACC had not yet taken any action against me for having given the orders that I had. He added that although Togliatti is a very busy man

he would grant me an interview in his office. I refused.

13. Togliatti himself then called and wanted to know why I wanted to see him. I told him that it concerned a matter involving the Communist party, and he informed me that he had nothing to do with local party matters. I then stated that the matter was being taken up with ASC, and that it would be settled in that way. He wanted to know whether I would see him if he came over, and when I said that I would, he offered to visit me to-morrow morning between 0900 and 1000 hours.

14. In my conversations with him and his secretary, the question was raised by them concerning the propriety of sending for a Minister of State, instead of calling upon him. My reply to them was that he was being sent for as the leader of the Communist party, and not as a Minister of State.

15. An individual may choose to hold two positions, one of which entitles him to certain privileges and immunities, and the other of which does not. However, the privileges and immunities of the former are not attached to the latter, and it is my opinion that the leader of the Communist party is not entitled to any of the emoluments of office of a minister of State.

16. It should be noted that I had consulted a Personal Assistant to the Regional Commissioner, Region IV, AMG., as to whether Togliatti, as leader of the Communist party, is a man for whom I send, or whom I visit. It was his opinion that as chief of a division of this region, I should send for him.

HAROLD B. LIPSUS
1st Lt., CMP
Chief, Black Market Control

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Approved by
HAROLD B. LIPSIUS

1st Lt., CMP

Chief, Black Market Control

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
JUN 10 1955

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED, COM. FOR COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

Res/511/67/CA.

3 July 1964.

SUBJECT: Black Market.

TO : R.C. Region III.

Undated letter from Cuzco Ernesto is forwarded to
you for such investigations and action as you consider
necessary.

HUGHAN E. FINE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

JER/RAC.

Ref/311/5/CA 2nd Ind. ACS/esh
R.C. & M.C. SECTION, HQ, ACC, APO 594 6 June 1944

TO: Commanding General, Metropolitan Area, P. B. S.,
APO 782.

1. Correspondence returned in accordance with conversation with Lt. Col. Warner.
2. Penultimate paragraph of basic letter noted.
3. Attention is invited to 2nd Ind.
4. Concur in paragraph 4, 2nd Ind. This headquarters will arrange for attendance of appropriate ACC officers at any time and place satisfactory to the C.G., P.B.S.

For the Chief Commissioner:

ALFRED G. BOWMAN
Lt. Col.
Assistant Director
Civil Affairs Branch.

MA

785017

430 1st Ind. WRM/WFB
HQ. METROPOLITAN AREA, P. B. S., APO 782, 29 May 1944.

TO: Commissioner, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.

For necessary action.

For the Commanding General:

/s/ W. R. Martin
/t/ W. R. MARTIN
Captain, AGC
Asst. Adjutant
GMS/sem

ES/31B 2nd Ind
ECONOMIC SECTION, HQ. ACC, 2 Jun 44

TO : Executive Commissioner

1. Though you may wish to refer this correspondence dealing with Black Market conditions to the Region Commissioner, Region III, I believe that PBS and the PBS Metropolitan Police have a considerable responsibility for the situation to which they ask ACC to attend.

2. Supplies reach the black market through various channels but are mainly the result of thieving which takes place between the docks and the warehouses. The effective policing of the streets of Naples is a PBS rather than an ACC responsibility.

3. Moreover, I am advised that some of the food supplies, formerly sold in shops which have been closed down by PBS, are now being sold on the mobile stalls, the increase of which is referred to by PBS.

4. The respective responsibilities of PBS and Region III in combating the Naples Black Market operations, and preventing any tendency to work in watertight compartments could be clarified at a conference on the subject. I should be glad to send representatives from the Economic Section.

/s/ D. S. Adams
/t/ D. S. ADAMS
Colonel, C.E.
Executive Officer
Economic Section

HEADQUARTERS
METROPOLITAN AREA
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL
APO 782, U.S. Army

27 May 1944

SUBJECT: Change in Food Supply & Prices.

TO : Commanding General, Metropolitan Area, PBS APO 782

The food situation in this area has deteriorated in the past ten (10) days from "fair" to "unsatisfactory" and for that reason this memorandum is written giving information of this change so that interested authorities may make such corrective actions necessary if they so desire.

There are about ten (10) general food marketing districts or localities in this city and in these centers there are hundred of merchants, and their stands consist of wagons, push carts, temporary stands, etc.

Almost any type of food may be purchased here, in addition to hundreds of other items.

These stands do not require ration stamps and evidently there is no control being exercised over them, hence the prices asked are unreasonable (see attached report), yet it is necessary that many thousands of civilians make purchases in these centers because sufficient food is not available in the regular licensed establishments. Some violations are found in the shops of the latter type but they are easily controlled and prices corrected. Care must be taken not to be too severe in correcting prices of the scarcer items as this only tends to drive these goods into "back-room" shops.

Due to the current drive against "Black-markets" very little American candy and cigarettes are being sold openly in these markets, unlike the situation which existed some time ago. Some American canned foods, supposedly rationed in licensed shops, are found being sold in the "Black-market".

Agents are finding a large percentage of authorized licensed shops who complain about the present situation and state they cannot continue to operate much longer in the face of the unfair competition they must meet. This fact appears to warrant close consideration and corrective action at an early date by responsible authorities.

A large part of the black market food seems to be controlled by a few individuals who appear to have an unlimited supply in spite of considerable quantities that have been confiscated and these goods are peddled by "salesmen" in the marketing areas and clandestine shops.

An alarming situation has been found in that these "salesmen" in many cases, are "protected" by men who operate "gangster" style. These gangsters will follow an unfortunate customer who has bought goods at AMG prices, beat him up, and take the goods. Agents of this office find many people who hesitate to purchase goods in certain areas at AMG prices for fear of suffering this fate.

That this situation is more than a mere suspicion is borne out by the fact that one of the civilian agents of this office who happened to be working on the food problem, i.e., correcting prices, was directly threatened by one of these "gangsters" when he happened to be some distance from military agents working with him.

With such limited military personnel available, this certainly is a situation that the Italian civil police, under jurisdiction of AOC, should be forced to control and it is hoped that strong steps will be taken along this line.

The attached report covers the food situation, as observed by the few agents of this office, in the ten principal marketing areas and it can be noted that it is unsatisfactory.

/s/ Michael N. Mikulak,
MICHAEL N. MIKULAK,
Major, C.M.P.,
Provost Marshal.

12

ITEM	FOOD*	SUPPLY	MARKET PRICE (LIRE)	AMG PRICE (LIRE)
1. Bread		scarce**	120-160 kg.	3.6
2. Macaroni		scarce	280-350 kg.	5.0
3. Oil (olive)		scarce	250-300 Litro	28-30
4. Vegetables & Green		plentiful	AMG Prices generally	
5. Fruits		plentiful	" " except figs, oranges	
6. Wine		fair	26-35 litro	26-35
7. Flour		scarce	160 kg.	25-30
8. Milk (incl products)		scarce	AMG prices but cheese etc exorbitant	
9. Meat, Fresh		scarce	220 kg.	110-220
10. Tomatoes (seasoning)		fair	120 can	not listed
11. Meats, cured		fair	400-600 kg.	" "
12. Fish		fair	AMG prices small size, exorbitant	
			prices large size	
13. Vegetable flour		fair	AMG prices	-----

* Food is listed in order of importance

** Very large no. of complaints of poor quality, lack of salt and poorly baked (wet)

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.O. & M.O. SECTION
APO 394

Ref/511/61/GA

5 June 1944

SUBJECT: Black Market Activities.

TO : R.O. Region V.

1. I refer to your 25/53A/5 of 31 May 44.
2. I am in full agreement with you that the Public Safety report of 25 May 44 discloses a serious lack of discipline amongst Allied troops. Most of the incidents however, occurred some months ago.
3. The Army authorities are fully aware of the situation and I believe discipline in this respect to have improved considerably lately as a result of representations from the Army.
4. Unless further serious incidents are reported I do not propose taking further action at this moment.


NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner

5156

To: HQ. A.C.C.

From: HQ. Region 5, A.M.C.

Subject: Black Market Activities.

Ref: R5/514/5.

Date: 27 May 1944.

311 *LD*

31 MAY 1944

CA for

U-9501 *60*

1. I wish to draw your attention to the report on Black Market activities forwarded to the P.C. Sub-Commission under ref. R5/514/5 of 25 May 44.

2. This report discloses a most alarming lack of discipline amongst all Allied Troops, the number of Allied Trucks seized being 47 vide last para of page 2 of the S.F.P.S.O's report.

3. If trucks and drivers can get about the country in this manner, there is obviously little unit supervision, and I urge that the strongest representations be made to the various Army authorities with a view to the tightening up from the unit end of the manners in which Transportation is used.

4. The report discloses a most disgraceful state of affairs, and it is humiliating in the extreme that the C.C.R.P. should be stopping trucks driven by British and American drivers which are carrying contraband.

For Regional Commissioner



[Signature]
C.E.A. FRENCH,
Lt. Col.,
Executive Officer.

CHAS/AD

315,266

311
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Food Sub Commission
A.P.O. 394

WJL/et

ACC/60-1/FOOD

SUBJECT: Food purchases by S.A.S. Meridionale

25 May 1944

TO : Economic Section

su 311/CH.

Reference is Civil Affairs Branch letter 1010/EC/7 dated 6 May 44.

1. Comments on the unofficial letter from the Regional Commissioner Region V have been withheld in expectation that plans under review with the appropriate Ministry of the Italian Government would have been completed. Owing to the absence of the Under Secretary and extreme pressure of administrative work associated with the harvest and collecting programme, a decree to regularize illicit trading has been delayed and is still in draft form. Clandestine and uncontrolled purchases by co-operatives is deprecated and has been denounced by the Food Sub Commission at the Chief Commissioner's conferences and on other opportune occasions. The practice however continues.
2. Most of these purchases are made on the black market and seriously hamper A.C.C. in its efforts to combat the black market and ensure equitable distribution of available supplies. Further, the mis-use of transport required for distribution of controlled supplies is a serious factor.
3. Pending publication by the Italian Government of a decree which has been prepared in consultation with this Sub Commission designed to effect control of all pulse crops and similar basic commodities and to avoid unwitting infringement of prepared policy, it is urged that instructions be issued to Regional Commissioners that no further permits will be granted for purchase or transportation of foodstuffs beyond Regional boundaries.
4. This is especially necessary if rigid control of the 1944 harvest of cereal and pulse crops is to be effective.

W. J. L. 1944
W. J. L. 1944,
Colonel,
Chief, Food Sub Commission.

Copy to:
R. C. & M. C. Section

5154

54

Ex. Cont.

Please see 57.. 49 refers.

Franklin
23/5

Show to CLO - Sam 25 May 64
Pub Safety seen by.

AS 23/5.

SA CIA

5153

785017

SUBJECT: Black Front Operations

31 MAY Recd
BY ALIBED A

IN READY

AAI/5063/12/A(PB)

21 May 44

8454

BY AAI

Reference 311/49/CA of 3 May 44.

1. A report from Officer i/c Cdn Sec GHQ 1 Bch on this matter is attached.
2. As the case against these men has now been tried, with the unfortunate results described in the report, no further action against them is possible.
3. Your action in bringing this case to our attention is appreciated.
4. The point made in para 3 of the attached letter is not regarded as important, because cases of this kind can be adequately handled under Sec 40 AA, for unauthorized use of Government transport.

CMP/PA

C.H. John. Big
Major-General,
Chief Administrative Officer.

Copy: Cdn Sec GHQ 1 Bch

HEADQUARTERS

22 MAY 1944

5152

COPY

CDR 54/21/CHC/1 (DJA)

17 May 44

HQ 341

CANADIAN SOLDIERS - PWs
 C-2555 Sgt ALLEN J W
 E-57093 Cdr HOLOWINKO K

Ref your AAI/5963/18/A(PS) of 5 May 44.

1. A report has been received from 1 CHSGp which states that Cdr Holowinko was tried by POCs on 21 Apr 44, under AA 15(1) for AWL and under AA 43 for being concerned in the improper unauthorized use of a WD vehicle. He pleaded not guilty and was found not guilty by the court. The ADA of Hq 1 CHSGp was the Judge-Advocate at the Court and he states as follows - "It was brought out in evidence at the trial that the driver of the vehicle in question, Cdr Holowinko, was associated with Sgt Allen in the alleged misuse of the vehicle. The Court were of the opinion that Sgt Allen was the party really responsible and accordingly acquitted Cdr Holowinko on both charges".
2. Sgt Allen was charged with three charges on 22 Apr 44, the first for AWL under AA 15(1), the second with being concerned in the improper unauthorized use of a WD vehicle under AA 40 and the third under AA 11 for neglecting to obey a Pt 1 Daily Order of 8 Bn 1 CHSGp prohibiting the carriage of Italian civilians. The court convicted on the first charge and acquitted on the last two charges. The DA of this Hq sat as Judge-Advocate on the trial. In connection with the latter two charges it was necessary to bring home to Sgt Allen knowledge that the use of the vehicle was unauthorized and that civilians were being carried in the vehicle. His evidence was that he got into the vehicle at Monforte and headed for Ferino to return to his unit. Due to excessive drinking during the evening he fell asleep and knew nothing whatsoever about the vehicle being driven along the Arellino-Poggia Road, or having picked up civilians. The only evidence available to bring home guilty knowledge to Sgt Allen was the evidence of the accomplice, Cdr Holowinko, and the court was charged by the DA on the danger of convicting on the uncorroborated evidence of an accomplice, as set out in M.L. at p 85. The Court apparently did not consider it safe in this case to convict on the uncorroborated evidence of Cdr Holowinko and acquitted Sgt Allen on the latter two charges.
3. The ADA at 1 CHSGp consulted the DA of this Hq in connection with the right to lay a charge for black market operations under AA 51 and the DA advised him that no charge could be laid under that Section for a civil offence because any law established by AGC or AGC in this theatre does not constitute part of the "law of England" within the meaning of that Section. The DA of this Hq had an interview with the ADJAG at AAI who shares the same view. For this reason presumably the charges were laid with respect to the misuse of the WD vehicle and with respect to the unauthorized carriage of civilians under AA 40 and AA 11.
4. This Hq shares the view of the GAC that all possible steps must be taken to stamp out black market activities in which military personnel participate and the fullest cooperation is being given in this matter.

5151

Sgd: D D CARRIE, Major.
 for S-G CHCS, Brig.
 O 1/ c-Gds Sec CHQ 1 Bn

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
E.C. & M.G. SECTION
Civil Affairs Branch.

Ref/1313/EC/7.

6 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Food Purchases in Serracapriola
by S.A.A. Meridionale.

TO : Economic Section.

1. A recent unofficial letter from the Regional Commissioner, Region 5, states that:

"I cited in my 'Yoke' Sitrep a violation of rationing of food in Naples by purchases in Serracapriola black market of amassable foods (ground cecei and fava) to provide increased rations to employees of a corporation, involving Signori Furzari and Di Lieto, agent and director respectively of the S. A. E. Meridionale (Southern Electric Co.) of Naples. The scheme aims to give increased rations to some 2000 electric employees and was put into effect apparently without the approval of the ACC Food Sub-Commission. Neither was the plan placed before Region V or Poggia Province for consideration.

Briefly, the scheme provides for purchase of amassable items with funds given to the agents by individuals of the S.A.E. company. Agents purchase direct from producers at black market prices, amassable food to the extent of 35000 kilos of cecei and 10,000 kilos of fava during March, at prices of approximately 3300 Lire and 1700 Lire per quintale, respectively. Food is transported by company transport from Poggia to Naples under permits issued by AMG Naples.

Should ACC approve this scheme, it is believed its privileges should be extended to all workers not so favored in other regions. This shunting practice is only one of several wherein unilateral action is taken without coordination through ACC or without considering the effect on other regions.

785017

Commissioner, Region 3, states that:

"I cited in my 'Yoker' letter a violation of rationing of food in Naples by purchases in Serracapriola black market of amassable foods (ground veal and fava) to provide increased rations to employees of a corporation, involving Signori Furuzzi and Di Lieto, assistant director respectively of the S. A. I. Meridionale (Southern Electric Co.) of Naples. The scheme aims to give increased rations to some 2000 electric employees and was put into effect apparently without the approval of the ACC Food Sub-Commission. Neither was the plan placed before Region V or Reggio Province for consideration.

Briefly, the scheme provides for purchase of amassable items with funds given to the agents by individuals of the S.A.E. company. Agents purchase direct from producers at black market prices, amassable food to the extent of 35000 kilos of veal and 10,000 kilos of fava during March, at prices of approximately 3500 Lire and 1700 Lire per quintale, respectively. Food is transported by company transport from Reggio to Naples under permits issued by AMG Naples.

Should ACC approve this scheme, it is believed its privileges should be extended to all workers not so favored in other regions. This shunting practice is only one of several wherein unilateral action is taken without coordination through ACC or without considering the effect on other regions.

I wish to assure you that Region V is ready to carry out carefully the policies of ACC as rapidly as they are enunciated and I report this shunting as a practice inimical to the best interests of ACC in its policy-fixing and control functions, whereby it watches and regularizes the pulse of the slowly reviving economic body of Italy and prevents unco-ordinated 'shots in the arm' here and there by well-meaning but non-consultative practitioners with a view to producing a minimum of disturbing reaction."

2. Reply is being delayed pending your comment on subject covered by the above quotation.

ALFRED C. BORMAN
Lt. Col.
Asst Director
Civil Affairs Branch.

Copy for file 311/CA.

785017

311
REAR HEADQUARTERS
ARMED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

54
2
May 8, 1944

ACC/14006/25

SUBJECT : Black Market Activities, Region 5

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. I think you should see the attached copy of a report which I have this day received from the AFPO Reg. 5 and which discloses a very regrettable state of affairs.

2. I have asked Reg. 3 for further details of specific cases because I feel that besides being "au fait" with this matter, it is probable that this HQ can take some further action to deal with it.



Alleging.
A. E. YOUNG, Colonel
Deputy Chief, Public Safety
Sub-Commission

ARY/ngd

Exec. Com.

To see.

Si 10/5



Recd 17/4/44

*See also further action
to 10/5*
Butt
Si

SUBJECT : Black Market Activities
 FROM : Lt. Col. E. J. Boller and March
 TO : 2330 Poggio Province.
 DATE : 1 May 1944

1. Following upon our report dated the 26 April 1944 we have continued our investigations in this Province and enquiries disclose the following facts.

(a) It has been found that the agent desirous of purchasing grain and other foodstuffs for persons in Naples and district, either contact the farmer himself or makes arrangements for an ordinary civilian to collect the grain at a central point from where it is later collected. Invariably the collection is made late at night. Several cases have come to our notice where the agent employed by the buyer at Naples, does reside in Poggio or district. He therefore has a good knowledge of the farms and means of supply in this district.

(b) To acquire the necessary vehicles for transportation contact is made either at military centres for drivers or through absentees at Naples.

(c) Large sums of money are paid to:

(1) Drivers who are commonly paid the sum of 50,000 Lire per trip.

(2) Foodstuffs. Cases have arisen where the sum of 4,000 to 5,000 Lire per quintal has been paid for grain. Correspondingly high prices have been paid for Fava and Gecol.

(3) Vehicles. At least one case has come to our knowledge where stolen military vehicles have been acquired and in the case mentioned the sum of 500 dollars was paid at Naples.

(d) Invariably the vehicles with the contraband foodstuffs are used by night, and it is known of late that the main Naples road is being by-passed as much as possible.

(e) Information has been obtained that practically the whole of the grain and foodstuffs illegally obtained in this Province is taken to Naples, but at the moment the method of distribution there is not known to us.

(f) Several cases have come to our notice where large sums

where it is later collected. Invariably the collection is made late at night. Several cases have come to our notice where the agent employed by the buyer at Naples, does reside in Tarentum or district. He therefore has a good knowledge of the farms and means of supply in this district.

(b) To acquire the necessary vehicles for transportation contact is made either at military centres for drivers or through agents at Naples.

(c) Large sums of money are paid to:

(1) Drivers who are commonly paid the sum of 50,000 Lire per trip.

(2) Foodstuffs. Cases have arisen where the sum of 4,000 to 5,000 Lire per quintal has been paid for grain. Correspondingly high prices have been paid for Tare and Cedi.

(3) Vehicles. At least one case has come to our knowledge where stolen military vehicles have been acquired and in the case mentioned the sum of 500 dollars was paid at Naples.

(d) Invariably the vehicles with the contraband foodstuffs are used by night, and it is known of late that the main Naples road is being by-passed as much as possible.

(e) Information has been obtained that practically the whole of the grain and foodstuffs illegally obtained in this province is taken to Naples, but at the moment the method of distribution there is not known to us.

(f) Several cases have come to our notice where large sums of money obtained usually by American drivers have been paid into the American Finance Office and transferred to the drivers account in the United States. So far as we can ascertain there is no Central Bureau in this part of Italy where a check can be made and so long as this transfer of illegally obtained money can be carried out it appears that military personnel will take advantage of it.

2. ACTION TAKEN.

We have continued enquiries as to the source of supply and have visited farms where it was believed illegal transactions had and were taking place. As a result varying quantities of grain and other cereals were found. A number of big farms had approximately the following quantities:

785017

20541	total. 2000-1914.	2.4 quintals	% Spain
		"	"
		500	0.005

STANLEY C. CAZEMATEL, DIRECTOR

• 00000 00000

500	gradations of	500	gradations of
150	"	150	"
50	"	50	"

CHRYSLER (Daimler-Benz) Corporation,
Provincetown, Mass.

Quantity of Grain	"	of Oats.
400		
300		

In each case the responsible authorities were informed the train requested and the necessary action is being taken under Italian law.

Considerable difficulty is experienced in these cases through the lack of transport by the authorities concerned and investigation entails considerable time and travel on account of the area.

Y. CARMELI, REVIEWS.

On the night of the 19/20 April, 1944 two American GVB trucks which were in new condition, were stopped at San Severo by the Military Police. It was then found that they had been driven by American soldiers who had been absentees for several weeks. They were also accompanied by three Italians from Angles who were responsible for buying the grain which the trucks contained. On being stopped the civilians jumped from the trucks and escaped. Two of the soldiers also succeeded in getting away from the police. The drivers were however arrested. The trucks and the grain which they contained were sequestered. The vehicles are stated to have been stolen at Naples.

We subsequently made enquiries which lead us to Naples and arrested an Italian civilian named ROMANO MARCONELLO of Sulmona. His house was also searched and two fully loaded revolvers were found together with the sum of 14,000 Lire. It was known that this man had been previously associated with other men in similar transactions. A search was made of a nearby states where grain had been stored and it was established that a previous load of grain had been delivered there but had since been removed. This man was identified by the drivers of the trucks in question as being one of the men who had accompanied them to Campomarino. He also admitted being an active member in the above mentioned

In each case the responsible authorities were informed the grain requisitioned and the necessary action is being taken under Italian law.

Considerable difficulty is experienced in these cases through the lack of transport by the authorities concerned and investigation entails considerable time and travel on account of the area.

3. GRAIN PURCHASE

On the night of the 19/20 April, 1944 two American 6x6 trucks which were in poor condition, were stopped at San Severo by the Military Police. It was then found that they had been driven by American soldiers who had been absentees for several weeks. They were also accompanied by three Italians from Naples who were responsible for buying the grain which the trucks contained. On being stopped the civilians jumped from the trucks and escaped. Two of the soldiers also succeeded in getting away from the police. The drivers were however arrested. The trucks and the grain which they contained were requisitioned. The vehicles are stated to have been stolen at Naples.

We subsequently made enquiries which lead us to Naples and arrested an Italian civilian named ROMANO MARCHISIO of Palermo. His house was also searched and two fully loaded revolvers were found together with the sum of 14,000 Lire. It was known that this man had been previously associated with other men in similar transactions. A search was made of a nearby stables where grain had been stored and it was established that a previous load of grain had been delivered there but had since been removed. This man was identified by the drivers of the trucks in question as being one of the men who had accompanied them to Campoverde. We also admitted being an active member in the above mentioned transaction.

At the time we made enquiries with a view of tracing the other Italians involved but was unable to do so. A further visit is being arranged to effect the arrest of these men.

The person who made the contact with the farmer in this case is believed to be a man from Ortona which is situated near Foggia. According to some of the witnesses he was seen to be in possession of a large sum of money which was stated to be approximately 62,000 dollars for the purpose of purchasing grain. His name or identity has not yet been established. The American C.I.B. of Foggia district are interested in this case as it is believed that there is a ring of absentees operating many rackets in the docks area at Naples. Our enquiries lead us to believe that there is a definite connection between these absentees and Italian civilians using trucks for transport grain from Foggia into Naples. We will continue our enquiries with this branch of the American Army until the case is complete. They have rendered every possible assistance in all matters affecting us.

54

law.

Considerable difficulty is experienced in these cases through the lack of transport by the authorities concerned and investigation entails considerable time and travel on account of the area.

3. CASES REVEALED.

On the night of the 19/20 April, 1944 two American 6x6 trucks which were in poor condition, were stopped at San Severo by the Military Police. It was then found that they had been driven by American soldiers who had been absentees for several weeks. They were also accompanied by three Italians from Naples who were responsible for buying the grain which the trucks contained. On being stopped the civilians jumped from the trucks and escaped. Two of the soldiers also succeeded in getting away from the police. The drivers were however arrested. The trucks and the grain which they contained were sequestered. The vehicles are stated to have been stolen at Naples.

We subsequently made enquiries which lead us to Naples and arrested an Italian civilian named RAIMONDO MASCOLO of Saline. His house was also searched and two fully loaded revolvers were found together with the sum of 14,000 Lire. It was known that this man had been previously associated with other men in similar transactions. A search was made of a nearby stables where grain had been stored and it was established that a previous load of grain had been delivered there but had since been removed. This man was identified by the drivers of the trucks in question as being one of the men who had accompanied them to Campomarino. He also admitted being an active member in the above mentioned transaction.

At the time we made enquiries with a view of tracing the other Italians involved but was unable to do so. A further visit is being arranged to effect the arrest of these men.

The person who made the contact with the farmer in this case is believed to be a man from Ortone which is situated near Foggia according to some of the witnesses he was seen to be in possession of a large sum of money which was stated to be approximately 82,000 Lira for the purpose of purchasing grain. His name or identity has not yet been established. The American C.I.D. of Foggia District are interested in this case as it is believed that there is a ring of absentees operating many rackets in the docks area at Naples. Our enquiries lead us to believe that there is a definite connection between these absentees and Italian civilians using trucks for transport grain from Foggia into Naples. We will continue our enquiries with this branch of the American Army until the case is complete. They have rendered every possible assistance in all matters affecting us.

514

On the night of the 26 April, 1944 and at night was made by an Italian civilian at Bari to obtain the services of an American driver and truck to fetch a load of grain from Serracapriola. This information came to our notice and through the agency of the American C.I.D., a truck was supplied. This truck went to Serracapriola in accordance with the instructions of the two Italian civilians who came from Molfetta, near Bari. A total of 26 sacks of grain was collected from four houses by these people, and loaded on to the truck. During this operation two members of the Municipal Guard were present, keeping watch and assisting in every possible way the illegal operation. After this lorry was loaded it left Serracapriola, leaving behind one of the Italian civilians for the purpose of purchasing grain for a second truck which was expected to arrive from Bari the following night. The loaded truck was intercepted at Pozzilli and the Italian civilian arrested and the grain sequestered.

The following night the second truck was sent to Serracapriola but before it's mission could be completed military police came on the scene and questioned the driver. It appears that the same two Municipal Guards who were on duty the previous night witnessed this and one immediately went and warned the agent from Bari of this incident. He eventually succeeded in finding the agent and the Municipal Guard, in a house where grain had been collected ready for dispatch. Several other places were visited in the same locality where grain had also been collected ready for dispatch.

Both the Municipal Guards and the Italian civilian were arrested. We will at the earliest possible moment pursue enquiries at Bari to find out if possible who is the brains behind this party. There is good reason to believe that this was not the first occasion on which an expedition had been sent out from Molfetta.

In the field:

Signed

At. E.P.O.

Signed

At. E.P.O.

arrive from Bari the following night. The loaded truck was intercepted at Foggia and the Italian civilian arrested and the grain sequestered.

The following night the second truck was sent to Serracapriola but before it's mission could be completed military police came on the scene and questioned the driver. It appears that the same two Municipal Guards who were on duty the previous night witnessed this and one immediately went and warned the agent from Bari of this incident. We eventually succeeded in finding the agent and the Municipal Guard, in a house where grain had been collected ready for dispatch. Several other places were visited in the same locality where grain had also been collected ready for disposal.

Both the Municipal Guards and the Italian civilian were arrested. We will at the earliest possible moment pursue enquiries at Bari to find out if possible who is the brains behind this party. There is good reason to believe that this was not the first occasion on which an expedition had been sent out from Molfetta.

In the field;

Lt. P.P.O

Signed

Lt. P.P.O

Signed

51.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
APO 394

Ref/311/50/GA

4 May 1944

SUBJECT: Black Market Operations.

TO : R.C. Region V.

Ref. your RS/514/5 dated 28 April 44.

1. Attached is copy of letter sent to Hq. AAI by the Executive Commissioner drawing their attention to this matter. You will be informed of any further action that may be taken.

SL
ROBERT E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner

*Good - P/a
3145
H 4/5*

HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 394

Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Ref: 311/49/GA.

3rd May 1944.

SUBJECT: Black Market Operations.

TO : Headquarters,
Allied Armies in Italy,
(Admin Echelon).

1. Two Canadian soldiers, a Sgt. ALLEN and a Cnr. MOLOWINKO, of 1 Cdn Base Reinforcement Group, were caught driving a 15-cwt truck at 0400 hours on 29 March, loaded with contraband and two Italian civilians, 50 miles off the route given on their trip ticket. Information received indicates that Cnr. MOLOWINKO was acquitted by M.G.C.M. on 21 Apr and Sgt. ALLEN, although found guilty of being absent without leave, was acquitted on the charges of improper and unauthorized use of vehicle and of carrying unauthorized civilian passengers.

2. In view of the fact that these two soldiers were caught carrying goods destined for the Black Market, the Chief Commissioner directs me to bring the matter to your notice.

M.S.L.

MHL/JO.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner,
For Chief Commissioner.

Gen. Sec. 1 a copy
749 answer
referring to 425-15
Sin Please see above
any reply to +8
L 3/5

TO : HQ ACC 1 & HQ SECTION
 FROM : HQ REGION 7 AND
 SUBJECT : BLACK MARKET OPERATIONS
 REF : RS/SIA/5
 DATE : 29 APRIL 44

311/1 *Callahan to Com* 48
 30 APR Recd
 U-5414

1. Reference telephone conversation (Brig. Lush - Lt. Col. Peasey), a copy of the signal to which reference was made is set out below:

"To AMS Region 5.
 From AMS Foggia Prov. FB/1 28
 Our MOLTENKO 1 adn base reinforcement group caught at 0400 hours
 28 March driving 18 cwt truck loaded with contraband and two
 Italians 50 miles off trip ticket route for journey which had been
 cancelled(.) Acquitted 21 Apr by PG/Mavellina Sgt Allen who accompanied
 him being tried 28 Apr (.) Can matter be reported to higher authority
 before second trial."

2. P.O. Foggia reported to-day that Sgt. Allen had been acquitted of
 improper and unauthorized use of vehicle and of carrying unauthorized civilians.
 He was convicted solely on charge of being absent without leave.

3. A full report of the incident has been called for from Foggia. |

Ex Com

To Sec

5/15

For the Regional Commissioner:

G. G. Peasey

G.G. PEASEY
 Lt. Col.
 Executive Officer

3326
 5143

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

785017

TO : HQ AGC P. and H.Q. Section Art 594

FROM : HQ Region 5 A.M.G.

SUBJECT: BOVING Post.

REF : RS/514/22

DATE : 27 April 44

Reference para 2 of your letter 311/42/CA dated 30 March 44, it is pointed out prisoners were tried by the A.M.G. Courts only on the charge of entering the province without a pass, the black market offences were tried in the Italian Courts.

For Regional Commissioner

Stirling
S. FICKERING
Lt Colonel,
R.P.S.O.

SR/12



31 refers. No action
necessary H 1/5 5142
3265

John Shapp

1. 45 is the answer to para 1 of 24. It is not clear as to the reason for asking the question in para 1 of 24.
2. This file, as you see, is filled has one 30 photos having come off.

Si 21/4

3. Re 32 I think all Ray's prints are covered in the new "para" list. I can see no action in this file.

21/4

PIA

3141

TO : THE AGC / ... MB. SECTION, APR 30.

FROM : MR. ROBERT T. AND.

SUBJECT : BOVINO POST REPORT.

REF : 511/22.

DATE : 23 APRIL 1944.

311

CA BV

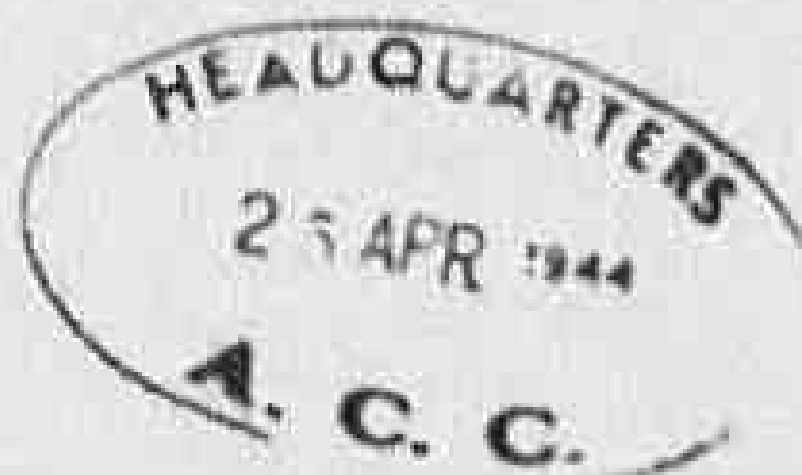
U-5382

45

24

Re: your letter 311/12/CA of 30 March 44.

1. American Military Personnel stopped at the Bovino Post were dealt with first by American G.I.s attached to the Post or by British Officers in the absence of G.I.s, secondly were sent down to G.I. Poles where necessary.
2. British Military Personnel stopped at the Post were dealt with first by members of 10 TC GPF Coy Bovino, or by British Officers and were where necessary sent down to G.I. Poles.
3. French Military Personnel were dealt with by British Officers.
4. Canadian Military Personnel were dealt with by members of 10 TC GPF Coy, Bovino.
5. Italian Military Personnel were dealt with first by British Officers, secondly where necessary by N. Guardia di Finanza or Carabinieri Regia.



For the Regional Commissioner:

G. C. Feary
 G. C. FEARY,
 Lt. Col.,
 Executive Officer.

3110
 3024

785017

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.O. & M.O. Section
APO 394

111

Ref: 511/63/01.

21 April 1944.

SUBJECT: Black Market.

TO : R.O.'s. Regions II, III, V, VI, & VII.

103

1. Copy of cable from H.Q. Island Base Section No. 3 9630 dated 18 April 1944 is enclosed for your information.

2. It is suggested that you consider taking similar action in your Region.

STURGEON W. PIERCE
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copy to: R.O. Region IV.

5138

311 TK
3 AMK HOD

7462 43
CABK

HEADQUARTERS PENINSULAR BASE SECTION

8-3220
UNCLASSIFIED
ROUTINE
INS

AFZ180307E
AFH180034E
S 9630
WIKS

ACTION OF FERRAGE

UNCLASSIFIED NEWS RELEASES FALSHING. HIS DRIVE AGAINST BLACK MARKET HAS
ANNOUNCED TODAY IN STATEMENT ISSUED BY OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR SICILY, MUROTTO. 1,250 TONS OF OLIVE OIL, THAT WERE SENT FOR
SALE ON BLACK MARKET, HAVE BEEN SEIZED BY POLICE AND WILL BE DESTROYED.
THE TO POPULATION UNDER DIRECT CONTROL OF ALTO COMMISSARIATO, IT HAS
DISCLOSED. STATEMENT ADDED THAT ALL LICENSING AND BRING TAKEN AWAY
FROM WHOLESALE AND RETAIL MERCHANTS, WHO HAVE HIDDEN FOOD ITEMS AND
CAUSED SHORTAGE OF BASE PRODUCE. ALL CAR LICENSES HAVE BEEN TAKEN AWAY
FROM BASE PEOPLE, TO AVOID ILLEGAL CIRCULATION OF FOOD PRODUCTS FOR
BLACK MARKET PURPOSES FURTHER.

AGE DIST

INFO: SEC GEN
DAB
FROM SEC
ADM SEC
C A BR
P SAFETY
INFO BR
FILE
FLOAT

See 44

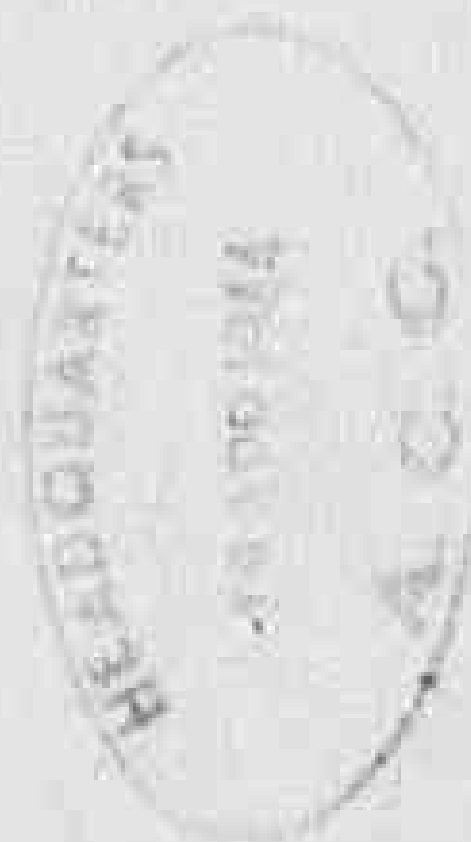
HEADQUARTERS
74 70 004
A.C.C.

UNCLASSIFIED 2000 RELEASE PALERMO. HAS GIVEN ALL THE BLANK MARKET HAS
 ANNOUNCED THAT IF SEATED IN OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
 FOR SICILY, MURPHY. 1,250 QUINZALS OF OLIVE OIL, THAT WERE SENT FOR
 SALE ON BLACK MARKET, HAVE BEEN STOLEN BY POLICE AND WILL BE DISTRI-
 BUTED TO POPULATION UNDER DIRECT CONTROL OF ALTO COMMISSIONARIO, IT HAS
 DISCLOSED. SEVENTH AND THAT ALL LICHENS ARE BEING TAKEN AWAY
 FROM SEVERAL AND RETAIL MERCHANTS, WHO HAVE HIDDEN FOOD STUFFS AND
 CAUSE SHORTAGE OF BAKED PRODUCTS. ALL CAN PERHAPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN AWAY
 FROM SOME PEOPLE, TO AVOID ILLEGAL CIRCULATION OF FOOD PRODUCTS FOR
 BLACK MARKET PURPOSES ITEM.

ADD DIST

INFO: 353 GNR	1
DOO	1
WON 353	1
ALR 353	1
G A NR	1
P SAFETY	1
INFO M	1
FILE	1
PROAT	1

See 44.



5134

0 8 42
TO: Capt. Talbot.

1. R.C. Region V letter folio 47 raises many points of principle. In para.6 he also wants to tell the world that nobody is to go into FOGGIA at all. I think that most of the points raised will be covered by the new instructions for the control of movement which Public Safety Sub-Commission are now drafting as a result of discussions at the recent H.C.'s Conference.
2. Please get in touch with Col. Young before sending anything out to Regions. Meanwhile draft an interim reply to Region V.
3. How did the Bovino Post first arise? There seems no record of it in the file.

18.April.44.

G.W.I.SHIPP,
Lt.Col.

5137

Lt Col Shupp

33-39 are the Borwin Port reports. The
~~28-58~~ * the Borwin Port reports. The
first report is at ~~51~~. See also ~~28~~
in Ref. I Comments. 35.

11/4.

To : H.Q., A.C.C., F.O. 394.

From : H.Q., Region 5, A.M.G.

Subject : Bovino Post Report.

Reference : R5/514/22.

Date : 13 Apr 44.

Reference your 311/48/CA dated 6 Apr 44.

The Bovino Post reports are forwarded herewith. The poor typing is regretted; but is in accordance with the Chief Commissioner's advice to officers of this region that we must get Italians and "keep them slugging away" when no skilled typists are available.

for Regional Commissioner.

G. G. Feasey

G.G. FEASEY,
Lieut. Colonel,
Executive Officer.

GGF/BM.

53
5435

SUBJECT : A.M.N. 2nd Bovino Railway Station

TO : S.C.A.O. Foggia Province

FROM : C.A.P.O. Foggia Province

29 February 44

1. In accordance with your instructions I have since 1800 on 21 February operated a road and rail block at Bovino Railway Station and General Campaign Against the Black Market in the triangle of country bounded roughly by Bovino, Trosia and Ascoli Satriano. In your instructions the block was raised for 24 hours from 1800 hours on 25 February in order to rest personnel, otherwise it has been kept for 24 hours a day. Herewith report for the first week, but details cannot yet be supplied in final form.

2. At first a very large number of persons and vehicles were found to be moving illegally and to be carrying contraband on the main via 59, the Foggia-Feyles Road and in the first week in all over 1000 persons were detained and nearly 100 tons of contraband were seized and consigned to the museum at Bovino. About half the contraband was carried on Allied Military trucks, 1/2 of which were detained at my HQ. The Military Police have preferred about 100 charges against Allied drivers of all ranks these Military personnel suspected, of carrying contraband knowingly in quantity for the black market were handed over to the appropriate IP detachments in Foggia.

3. In the last two days there have been hardly any military of fenders and no military truck has been seized on the main road. By day the road from Foggia to the provincial boundary has been swept clean of civilians, and no more than ten were seen between this HQ and the outskirts of Foggia yesterday in spite of the fact that the weather was excellent. Military drivers have stated that they hardly recognize the road. By night also this part of the road has been found clear, and in the last two nights only four civilian vehicles carrying contraband have been held at the main road block.

4. I have therefore decided that for the time being the main road from the outskirts of Foggia to the boundary has been virtually cleaned. Checks yesterday showed however, that the situation in Foggia and outskirts is still far from good and that the CC HQ block at the entry to the town was purely ornamental. I myself reviewed within twenty yards of this block two girls who had appeared at the Bovino Court three days before and had again visited Foggia without a permit, they are now going thirty days in prison without the option.

5. As a result it has become possible to begin the execution of the second part of your instructions with the main road as a base for operations in the Foggia colonial military style. In the first twelve hours of the new week information elicited from prisoners led to a raid on a laager in the Bovino Camp and two night raids on the Orsara commune, which were highly successful, producing nearly 20 tons of contraband one captured Allied Military truck, and seven Metropolitan contrabandiers of some standing. Further information is to hand which offers scope for many other fruitful operations on the other side of the main road fortified.

2. At first a very large number of persons and vehicles were found to be traveling illegally and to be carrying contraband on the main via 50, the Foggia-Bari Road and in the first week in all over 1000 persons were detained and nearly 100 tons of contraband were seized and consigned to the arsenals at Foggia. About half the contraband was carried on Allied military trucks, 1/2 of which were retained at my HQ. The military police have processed about 100 charges against Allied drivers of all ranks. These military personnel suspected, of carrying contraband knowingly in quantity for the black market were handed over to the appropriate IG detachments in Foggia.
3. In the last two days there have been hardly any military offenders and no military truck has been noticed on the main road. By day the road from Foggia to the provincial boundary has been swept clean of civilians, and no more than ten were seen between this HQ and the outskirts of Foggia yesterday in spite of the fact that the weather was excellent. Military drivers have stated that they hardly recognize the road. By night when this part of the road has been found clean, and in the last two nights only four civilian vehicles carrying contraband have been held at the main road block.
4. I have therefore decided that for the time being the main road from the outskirts of Foggia to the boundary has been virtually cleansed. Since yesterday almost however, that the situation in Foggia and outskirts is still far from good and that the 50 km block at the entry to the town was purely ornamental. I myself reentered within twenty yards of this block two girls who had appeared at the Bovino Court three days before and had again visited Foggia without a permit, they are now doing thirty days in prison without the option.
5. As a result it has become possible to begin the execution of the second part of your instructions with the main road as a base for operations in the French colonial military style. In the first twelve hours of the new week information elicited from informers led to a raid on a house in the Bovino Commune and two night raids on the Orsara commune, which were highly successful, producing nearly 20 tons of contraband one captured Allied military truck, and seven Neapolitan contrabandier of some standing. Further information is to hand which offers scope for any other fruitful raids and the gradual increase of the area on either side of the main road purified.
6. Of the 1000 persons arrested over 300 have been convicted in the Summary Military Court, about 200 are now due to appear in the Italian Courts, and nearly fifty are due to appear in Military Courts. The remainder were warned, or expiated their aims with hardwork or simple loan of contraband goods, all were turned out of the province after the conclusion of legal proceedings or are now in prison at Bovino.
7. The huge drop in trivial offenders has greatly relieved the strain on the court and on the personnel of the post, and all are now eager to make the next stride in defeating the black market and illegal movement.
8. One other main road is suspected as a result of information received that running from Lucera and Castelnuovo through Volturara to Benevento and Campobasso and I suggest that a short block from dusk to dawn one night on the road just East of Volturara would settle this question. If this could be done with the aid of CC ME and 7. Guardia di Finanza and the information obtained forwarded to this Post a great help would be given.

5134

38
The present situation is ideal for the centre of the campaign and I urge that at least another two weeks be spent in this district followed by a visit to the Cerrigulla area. If this work can be carried on regularly I am sure that we can defeat the big black market as far as this province is concerned, and that the results generally are useful to our armed forces. I myself would be most glad to carry on this work with the personnel at present being used. I feel that having dealt with the tricks of the trade now for some weeks I and Lt. Greenhill are possessed of information which makes the work quicker and easier and surer than it might be for others.

10. It seems clear to me as a result of very many interrogations and hearing every case in the court that there are at least five available causes contributing to offences by citizens of good intentions who are found in the province without permission or carrying goods without the proper documents.

(a) Sindaco's or Comandante's promiscuously issued alleged permits without regard to confirmation by C.A.C., notably in Avellino Province. It is possible that they intend these permits to be confirmed at C.A.C. offices, but it is clear that by issuing permits at all they only confuse and mislead their citizens.

(b) Sindaco di Muroletta and Napoli, who issue papers for rationed goods to be brought into their provinces but do not make clear to their citizens that similar approval is required from the exporting province before loading the goods, and that only after such papers have been obtained can the goods be bought at the correct price.

(c) C.A.C.'s who cheerfully sign permits allowing persons to rationed goods in other provinces and apparently are not aware or do not make clear to the holders that these permits are only for the actual journey and cannot be permits for the actual purchase which must be made in accordance with Italian law and the provisions of Proclamation VIII of the Military Governor. In general far more care should be taken with permits.

(d) C.A.C.'s who do not make sure that proclamations and orders are kept posted in every commune, particularly all orders relating to travel.

(e) Commanding officers and adjutants who issue permits of a sort apparently without proper check of the individual concerned and without knowledge of the restrictions on travel and of the rationing laws.

(f) Agreement complete lack of any attempt on the part of authorities in Naples Province to enforce the provisions of Italian law, which are being enforced in Foggia Province to a considerable and growing extent with resultant benefit to both military and civilian interests.

Major
CAPS, FOGGIA PROVINCE

intended these permits to be confined at A.S.C. offices, but it is clear that by issuing permits at all they only confuse and mislead their citizens.

(b) Sezione di Alimentazione di Avellino and Napoli, who issue papers for rationed goods to be brought into their provinces but do not make clear to their citizens that similar approval is required from the exporting provinces before loading the goods, and that only after such papers have been obtained can the goods be bought at the current price.

(c) S.A.C.'s who cheerfully sign papers allowing persons to rationed goods in other provinces and apparently are not aware or do not make clear to the holders that these papers are only for the actual journey and cannot be permits for the actual purchase which must be made in accordance with Italian law and the provisions of Proclamation VIII of the Military Governor. In general far more care should be taken with passes.

(d) S.A.C.'s who do not make sure that proclamations and orders are kept posted in every commune, particularly all orders relating to travel.

(e) Commanding officers and adjutants who issue passes of a sort apparently without proper check of the individual concerned and without knowledge of the restrictions on travel and of the rationing laws.

(f) Apparent complete lack of any attempt on the part of authorities in Naples Province to enforce the provisions of Italian law, which are being enforced in Foggia Province to a considerable and growing extent with resultant benefit to both military and civilian interests.

Major
CICP, Foggia Province

SUBJECT : Second report on second week's work at Bovino Post.
TO : S.S.A.O. Puglia Province
FROM : CATO, Puglia Province

Ref. 100/5130
5 March 1944

37

1. Herewith preliminary report on second week's work at Bovino Post, ending 4/5/44.
2. The main block at the Bovino-Bovino-Puglia road junction was lifted at 1230 on 3 March 1944 in order to devote all strength to patrols and raids as the surviving contrabandiers have clearly taken to the hills and mountain roads. These patrols always include at least one British officer, one American S.F. one P. Guardia di Finanza, one Hon-Brigade, and one or more CC BS so that the patrol is able to deal with any situation, meanwhile the British BS hold the fort at the main road junction.
3. The drop in the number of military offenders has continued and in the week only one French and two American trucks have been seized, but I have sound information of others still operating. As a result of information supplied by an Italian we took prisoner on an American ambulance about halfway of the Foggia G.I. was able to arrest one officer and five enlisted men at Mignano del Gardinale Avellino Province, all of whom were AFM and who were running black market activities; they included lane and services who were in the badly wanted list. One American truck got away on the Orsere road in the small hours one night under not fire from one officer and a Vice-Brigade returning from patrol. The truck was heavily laden and travelling at great speed down hill from a notorious centre of black market supply.
4. Requests to Allied drivers to pass on to their friends information as to the attitude and perceptions of the offences of carrying civilians and contraband have clearly borne fruit, and two Neapolitan girls who used to ride Military trucks regularly complained bitterly on arrest that no one will give them a lift nowadays except our patrol truck and that takes them to prison, both are now in prison for 60 days being third timers.
5. Patrols in the area bounded by Foggia-Bovino, Bovino-Mottoli-Ortanova-Ortanova-Castelluccio del Gauri District have been fruitless and this district appears to be very quiet. On the other hand the area including Belluno, Aquila, S. Agata, Savierno, Orsere-Montegutro-Castelluccio-Valterice, Orsere and Tris are still bad though we are beginning to get on top of them. An expedition consisting of two British officers, 2 American S.F., 2 S.F. di Finanza and 6 CC BS in two trucks against the Orsere trade resulted in the following convoy returning to the station at midnight 1) Jerry in charge; 2) American truck fully loaded with two tons wheat, 3) A.M.F. truck loaded with two tons seized contraband; 4) civilian car with person having no permits 5) Three civilian trucks carrying eight tons seized contraband; 6) A.M.F. truck loaded with four tons seized contraband. All the persons captured in the vehicles appear and before the Summary Court or are due to appear before the Italian Courts-including one busload contrabandiers who tried to bribe the Carabinieri in my office in front of me by passing him under the table 3,000 lire, this of course led to his immediate incarceration at Bovino.

3. The drop in the number of military offenders has continued and in the week only one French and two American trucks have been seized, but I have sound information of others still operating. As a result of information supplied by an Italian we took prisoner on an American ambulance sent to assist of the Foglia C.I.D. was able to arrest one officer and five enlisted men at Mugano del Cardinale Avellino Province, all of whom were AWOL and who were running black market activities; they included lane and berries who were in the badly wanted list. One American truck got away on the Orsa road in the small hours one night under hot fire from one officer and a Vice-Major returning from patrol. The truck was heavily laden and travelling at great speed down hill from a notorious centre of black market supply.

4. Requests to Allied drivers to pass on to their friends information as to the stupidity and seriousness of the offences of carrying civilians and contraband have clearly borne fruit, and two Benolitan girls who used to ride Military trucks regularly complained bitterly on arrest that those will give them a lift nowadays except our patrol truck and that takes them to prison, both are now in prison for 60 days being third timers.

5. Patrols in the area bounded by Foglia-Berino, Ravino-Sacoli-Ortanova-Castelluccio del Sauri District have been fruitless and this district appears to be very quiet. On the other hand the area including Belicchio, Arcadia, S. Agata, Savigliano, Grogli-Montegrotto-Pasto-Castelluccio-Valtoriano, Orsara and Treia are still bad though we are beginning to get on top of them. An expedition consisting of two British officers, 2 American MPs, 2 R.S. di Pienza and 6 C.I.D. in two trucks against the German trade resulted in the following convoy returning to the station at midnight 1) Jeep in charge; 2) American truck fully loaded with two tons wheat, 3) A.M.S. truck loaded with two tons seized contraband; 4) Divilian car with person having no permits 5) Three civilian trucks carrying eight tons seized contraband; 6) A.M.S. truck loaded with four tons seized contraband. All the persons captured in the vehicles appeared before the Summary Court or are due to appear before the Italian Courts-including one known contrabandier who tried to bribe the Carabinieri in my office in front of me by passing him under the table 5,000 Lire, this of course led to his immediate imprisonment at Berino.

6. Patrols on the main road to Foglia have resulted in the arrest of about forty persons, including six former girl offenders who are now serving sentences of 30-60 days in Berino Prison.

7. In accordance with instructions received from Lt. Col. Briggs. I am giving all Italian personnel 3 days leave from 1200 on 5 March 1944 but with your permission I wish to stay here with one officer, the two MPs, the Carabinieri to clear up reports and to make occasional patrols to prevent the contrabandieri from blocking good times have returned again.

Major
OC Post.

Subject: Third week at Bovino AMG Post
To : PC7 HQ. ASD. Foggia Province
From: PFC HQVAND Foggia Province

Ref. FF/5150
14 March 1944

1. The Third week at the AMG Bovino Post has been very quiet, as during the first three days the Italian personnel apart from three were on leave, the next two days no transport was available, and on the last two days only one truck and no Jeep was available.
2. During this period two Italian Military trucks were seized one was clearly stolen from the Italian Regia Aeronautica by the two occupants, both suspected deserters, and was handed over to the Italian R.A. through Captain Parente of the Foggia CC. RP. also five deserters from the Regia Marina were handed over to the CC RN of Bovino.
3. Expeditions to the Montegute comune based on information from the Sindaco were successful and in 12 hours 32 cartloads of contraband were intercepted. News was obtained of very heavy traffic on the road from Troia to Grassano via Castelluccio Valmaggiore and Fasto and of armed American trucks operating in Fasto, time did not permit direct action but PFC Ariano undertook to look into the alleged activity of Allied trucks and Provost Marshall at Foggia also was informed.
4. The post was closed down at 1200 on 12 March 1944 in accordance with your verbal orders to my self. Final report and figures follow.

In the field

Major
CC Post.

Subject: Pined Prison, Bovino Post.

To: Provincial Commander, Bari Foggia Province

From: SPO ALB. Foggia Province.

8/5150
19 March 1944

1. Herewith final report on the work of the ALB. Bovino post which was in action during the period 1930 on 21 February 1944 to 1930 on 12 March 1944, under command.

2. The total goods requisitioned were 1665 quintals of this total 1356 quintals were seized by the A. S. in the Province of Foggia, and 309 quintals from military trucks by ALB. All grain, oils, and dried vegetables were handed in to the Consorzio Agrario branches at Bovino, Grotto di Puglia, and Montemarte, and collection for the goods seized by A.M.C. have been handed in to the Finance Department so that the money due may be placed to the credit of the Allied Military Government (likely to be about 200,000 lire). Full list of daily amounts annexed is attached as appendix A.

3. American military clothing recovered was handed over to LT LOM, the officer in charge of the American Railway Company running the railroad between Foggia and Benevento, in the nearest American unit. British clothing recovered was handed over to Capt. Williamson, ALB Foggia Province. Allied petrol recovered was not in great quantity and was used in the post's own vehicles, the nearest supply being 30 km away at Foggia, emptied were handed over to LT Sergeant at ALB. Foggia Province.

4. Approximately 20 lbs of Allied frozen meat was handed over to Sgt SLES of 63 SIS, Foggia for removal to HQ. Three lamps left unclaimed were sold at Bovino to a local farmer. A quantity of sacks from Allied vehicles were sold to the Consorzio Agrario at Lucera. Three small buses unclaimed and about 100 lbs of pasta were used to supplement rations as from time to time a considerable number of civilian prisoners had to be fed. A small quantity of military soap recovered was used for cleaning the toilet and for the personal hygiene of the Italian military staff who were unprovided. Three small bundles of personal property left unclaimed by prisoners are to be handed over to the C. E. C. Caserta at Lucera. One motor car left by an escaped prisoner is at present in the motor pool at Lt. ALB. Foggia Province at Lucera (separate report forwarded).

5. The total monies received were 474,150 lire, against expenses of 4,605 lire in wages to cook and labourers. This income was made up as follows.

Pipes	220,000
Left by two escaped prisoners	146,500
Sale of sacks	20,350
Sale of lamps	300
Ball forfeited	5,000
Black market price handed over by person person involved.	100,000
	474,150

All monies have been handed over with appropriate vouchers to the Finance Division and full accounts have been submitted.

6. Prisoners were few but choice in the last week and the final return is as follows.

Failed	5
Pined	272
Not Guilty	35
Minor sentences	51
Received	3

Capt. Willoughby, AME Foggia Province. Allied petrol recovered was not in great quantity and was used in the post's own vehicles, the nearest supply being 10 km away at Foggia, empties were handed over to Lt. Sergeant at AME. HQ. Foggia Province. Approximately 30 lbs of Allied frozen meat was handed over to Sgt. Miller of 63 SIS, Foggia for removal to BIR. Three lambs left unclassified were sold at Sorino to a local farmer. A quantity of sacks from killed vehicles were sold to the Comandante Agrario at Lucera. Three small hams unclassified and about 100 lbs of pasta were used to supplement rations as from time to time a considerable number of civilian prisoners had to be fed. A small quantity of military soap recovered was used for cleaning the billet and for the personal hygiene of the Italian military staff who were unprovided. Three small bundles of personal property left unclassified by prisoners are to be handed over to the 22nd SS Cavalry at Lucera. One motor car left by an escaped prisoner is at present in the motor pool at Lt. AME. Foggia Province at Lucera (separate report forwarded).

4. The total monies received were 474,150 Lira, against expenses of 4,605 Lira in wages to cook and labourers. This income was made up as follows.

Given	220,000
Left by two escaped prisoners	118,500
Sale of sacks	30,350
Sale of lambs	300
Sale forfeited	5,000
Black market price handed over by person person involved.	100,000
	<u>474,150</u>

All monies have been handed over with appropriate vouchers to the Finance Division and full accounts have been submitted.

5. Prisoners were few but choices in the last week and the final return is as follows.

Beiled	5	
Fined	272	
Not fully	35	
Minor sentences	91	
Escaped	3	
5 days or more	43	
Warred but not tried	800	(approx)
Due to be dealt with in Italian courts	360	(approx)
Total Civilians	<u>1609</u>	(approx)

6. Some previously reported fines failed to pay and went to jail. Others are wrongly classified as fined also went to prison and are reclassified under one head only.

6. In all 19 military trucks were seized and these were with total load in quintals as follows, in almost every case a court martial in pending, in one American case the two soldiers involved have already been sentenced to four and six months' labour respectively.

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Date	Nat	Load	Result for 5 months
21 Feb.	American	16.00	Taken to CIP Foglia
22 "	American	45.01	" " " "
22 "	Canadian	34.27	" " " "
23 "	American	34.75	" " " "
23 "	French	26.90	" " " "
24 "	French	25.00	Released after unloading
24 "	American	11.77	Taken to CIP Foglia
24 "	American	45.90	Taken to CIP Foglia
25 "	British	51.32	Taken to unit at Troia
26 "	American	40.23	Taken to CIP Foglia
26 "	French	26.40	Reported to French command
26 "	American	5.00	Taken to CIP Foglia
26 "	British	45.71	Taken to CIP Foglia
26 "	French	21.26	Released after unloading
26 "	French	27.36	Reported to French command
26 "	American	16.00	Taken to CIP Foglia
26 "	American	20.00	Reported to unit Commander
26 "	Italian	31.85	Reported to Military Tribunal Bari
27 "	Italian	26.11	Reported to Military Tribunal Bari

7. In cooperation CIP, Foglia and the Post arrested 6 Allied MOIs, including one officer, and 7 Italian deserters.

8. One major racket in the Province of Naples seems to have been uncovered. The person suspected of being the big chief is CILIBERTO, ALESSANDRO, of Torre Annunziata, who works in a pasta factory at that town. In one night we took two of his chief agents with loads which had come from the Messeria Curato, near Ischia. Suspecting from information gleaned that this man was using bean flour to produce pasta fraudulently and that he was hiding this trade under a cover of being the sole purveyor of fruit and vegetables to two Allied hospitals, I sent vice-squadriers 1250 of the CC BB near to Torre Annunziata to acquaint the local CC BB with our suspicions the news confirmed their own suspicions and they are investigating Celeste and the other pasta revolutionaries of the town. It is notable that most of the big bean contrabandists all come from Torre Annunziata and that every day carts come from there. At this and the lieutenant of the 3. Guardia di Finanza at Lucania has investigated and as a result he has taken legal proceedings against Celeste (purchaser in Chief), Alessandrini and Bertini (agents) and Curato (seller of over 200 quintals of Celeste). Santinello another agent is already in jail for thirty days, having been caught in the province without a pass twice in a fortnight.

9. One of the most notable features of the period was the continued impenetrability of the town boundaries but more often extended in hope that we also were ignorant of the actual laws shown by contrabandist contrabanders from the West, and having by letters received in the last few days from Section III, the painful ignorance shown by Allied officers of the national laws.

10. One major case involving Foglia Province persons is ready to go to an Allied Military Court at Benignola, involving one prominent miller and two other citizens. The Guardia di Finanza are checking other mills in the neighbourhood.

11 Easy lessons to be drawn are.

(a) CIP patrols are essential on the main highways of the Province to keep military personnel from encouraging illegal transport of goods and civilians. Capt. Orr of the Front Battalion is essential.

F. In cooperation with, Russia and the East recruited 3 Allied troops, including one Soviet and 7 Italian soldiers.

6. One of the most notable features of the period was the continuing almost sensitive but more often overt in tone that was also more important of the appeal from about a somewhat gentleman from the Post, and looking by letters received in the last of May from Berlin III, the faithful importance shown by Allied Operations of the Nationalist Government.

10. One major case involving four a province persons in 1993, Military Court at Bangalore, involving one respondent seller and two other citizens. The Criminal Finance are checking other mills in the neighbourhood.

(a) The patrol is assisting on the main highways of the Province to keep moving the personnel from encouraging illegal transport of goods and civilians. Capt. Oct of the Provincial office in Bogota informs us that the PC is starting the patrol at once, and that they also will arrest any civilians they find entering the Province without prov. without

(b) The U.S. 21 F. and the CC 38 desperately need small "unabated trucks to convert

peralt. I have drafted for you a sug-

gested letter to the Prefect, telling him that all trials found running contraven-
should be concentrated in accordance with Italian law and in the interval between
segregation and trial should be regulated for the use of the police and the well-known
segregating the Italians will then be in a position to patrol the well-known
smuggler routes such as Cerignola-Sanora-Cerignola-Candel-Cerignola-Lavello-Bellonte
Ascedia-Monte Leone-Savignano, Gioia Quarna-Sireci-Syola-Casara Monteguto-Sireci-Troia
Castelluccio-Villamare-Pasto-Sireci and Albornoz-Monte-Castelluccio-Sireci.

[illegible]

- 3 -

2. With your approval I am instructing Lt. T. A. Greenhill to take special charge of the supervision of the Italian police's work against illegal movement and contraband from this Office. The R. Guardia have already detached Maresciallo Rovaris as liaison officer to the Public Safety Division, where his knowledge of Italian law is particularly valuable, and have put two finanzieri permanently at his disposal. The Major commanding the CC RE Gruppo also has volunteered to detach a Brigadiere we know well and two men to complete a flying column for special jobs as soon as Italian transport has been secured. All these six men are fully capable of prosecuting a case in front of both Italian and A.M.C. courts.

13. Much useful knowledge regarding side routes and suppliers was obtained by the Guardia and assaults by them on hideouts of the contrabbandieri in Orsara, Faeto and Troia are well under way. Yesterday they seized as a result over 250 quintals of grain and over 300 quintals of other goods and a considerable amount of Allied Military property in Orsara and Troia.

14. Points of interest which arose regarding the giving of passes were described in my earlier reports and were confirmed by later experience.

Major
CC Post.

5128

311 TH APR Recd

12 APR 1944

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

32

AGO/14018/PS.

11 April 1944.

SUBJECT : Civilian Passes.

TO : Deputy Executive Commissioner.

30

Ref. your letter dated 7 April (Ref/311/45/CA.).

1. The question of civilian passes has lately been under consideration and memoranda bearing on this subject is in course of preparation. Moreover, a standard form of pass has been adopted which will replace the "general" and "special" passes now in use.

2. The points raised by Regional Commissioner, Region V, will be covered in the memoranda which will be submitted for approval to RC. and MC. Section within the next few days.

Paul G. Kirk

PAUL G. KIRK,
Colonel Inf.,
Chief Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

WCB/vf.

By 20/4 ref pass
above 14/4
5127

311

CA Rv

J-3456

31

6 Apr Recd

HEAD HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Legal Subcommittee
APO 394

GRT/gmf

ACC/ACBO/1/L

5 April 1944

SUBJECT: Rovino Post Report.

TO : Deputy Executive Commissioner

1. Ref your 311/42/CA dated 30 March 44. I have investigated the matter and find your criticisms are unfounded as in practically none of the cases referred to in para. 4 of the Report were the offenders charged with black market offences.

2. The Rovino Post Court merely deals with cases of entry into Foggia without permit or analogous offences and if the evidence disclosed a suspected case of black market activities it was handed over to the Italian authorities for trial in pursuance of the general policy operating outside the Naples area in case of all but the biggest cases of black market offences.

3. It is confirmed (ref conversation Brig. Lash - Col. Upjohn on this matter) instructions with regard to severity of sentences will, in common with other legal matters, normally be handled through this Subcommittee.

G. R. Upjohn
G. R. UPJOHN, Colonel
Chief Legal Officer

Copy: RC Reg 5 (Attn. PLO)

Pa

5426

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.O. & M.A. SECTION
APO 394

19 30

Ref/311/49/DA

7 April 1944

SUBJECT: Civilian Passes.

TO : V.P. Admin. Section (for Public Safety Sub-Commission)

1. Enclosed herewith is a copy of a letter received from Hq. Region
V. The copy of reports mentioned in para 1 were not received.

2. We would like for you to consider this matter of civilian passes,
and give us an expression of your views on the matter. Query: Is the ques-
tion of civilian passes has continuously caused "headaches", would you suggest
an order on the subject?

FYP

MERRIAM E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner

file 28

HEADQUARTERS,
ARMED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 39.

209

Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Ref: MI/AS/CA.

6th April 1944.

SUBJECT: Davina Post Report.

TO : Regional Commissioner,
Region V.

180

Ref your letter MI/51A/22 of 2 Apr 44.

1. The weekly and final report of Major Montague mentioned in para.1 have not been received.
2. The matter of civilian process is being taken up with the Public Safety Sub-Commission.

240

NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel, Deputy
Executive Commissioner.

5124

To: HQ, A.G.C. (for RC & MIS).

From: HQ, Region 5, A.M.G.

Subject: Bovino Post Report.

Ref: RS/514/22.

Date: 2 April 1944.

4 APR 1944
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U-2436

28

omitted from
this letter.

1. Copy of the weekly reports and final report by Major Montague on the working of the Bovino Post are forwarded herewith.

2. Action has been taken locally on the various points raised with regard to AGC passes and similar matters. It is, however, desired to draw attention to the unsatisfactory way in which passes are issued. In particular the following irregularities are frequently encountered:-

(a) Passes issued without precise definition of the purpose of the journey.

Such passes lend themselves to use on the Black Market. It is requested that the purpose of the journey should be clearly defined, and if it includes transport of goods of any kind, the exact nature and quantity of the goods should be entered in ink on the pass. All important figures should be written out in words as well.

(b) Passes issued without a time limit or for long periods.

Passes are often issued for one journey; but the period of validity may be anything from a week to two months. The pass is then used a number of times, all except one of the journeys really being unauthorized. The period of the pass should be limited to the actual dates of the journey and no more, or if this is not possible to the bare minimum.

(c) Passes filled out in pencil.

This, of course, is an invitation to break the law. The recipient merely rubs out the pencil and inserts any nefarious purpose he likes. Such passes are a grave discredit to the issuing officer.

3. It is earnestly requested that orders are published that no passes are to be issued except for essential public services. Private reasons, no matter how urgent should be disregarded.

4. No passes should be issued for the purchase of amased food stuffs until the applicant has produced the authority of the local Sezione Alimentazione and even then, the pass should simply give the applicant authority to proceed to purchase for interview with the Sezione Alimentazione, Foggia Province. When other provinces come into operation this procedure to be followed.

5. Giniaci and CO. RR. should be told that they are NOT authorized to issue passes into Foggia Province.

6. The British Navy and 5th Army, the Italian Navy, Army and Air Force should be advised that they are not authorized to issue passes into Foggia Province for anything except essential naval and military purposes, and that they are not

all 29 430
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authorized to send into that province for food stuffs without the authority of AGO, Food Sub-Commission. If the Services send in to purchase food there is the danger of this actually supporting the Black Market, which is being fought so strenuously here. The only course that can be followed, if the B.M. is to be broken, is to seize the food stuffs, impound the vehicles and make all personnel concerned subject to disciplinary action by the various service authorities concerned. Italian personnel will be made subject to the normal processes of the Italian law.

7. Authorization forms are being printed for the use of provincial supply officers, and foodstuffs will not be supplied without one of these being produced. A journey authorization standard form is also in course of production, and the PMS, Safety Sub-Commission has been informed.

For Regional Commissioner

C. G. Yeary
C. G. YEARY,
Lt. Col.,
Executive Officer.

CGS/AD

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
APO 394

Ref: 307/32/CA.

30 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Black Market Region V.

TO : Military Government Section,
A.R.R.C.

1. Reference your 59303 of 16 March 1944 and our 2583 of 28 March 1944.
2. Attached is copy of report on the subject this day received from Region V.
3. The letter accompanying the report advised five more Allied Government trucks had been apprehended, since the capture on which the report is based.
4. Request has been made as to the disposition of the military personnel offenders.
5. The Regional Commissioner of Region V has advised that such court sentences, as reflected by the report, are wholly inadequate and has been requested to so advise the R.L.C. The Legal Sub-Commission has also been advised of our views on the subject.

M.S. LUSH
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

5121/A

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.I. SECTION
APO 394

25

Ref/511/43/CA.

30 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Publications of Court Martial Sentences for Black Market Offenders.

TO : CG AAI (For Admin. Rep).

22

Ref. your letter AAI/5063/18/A (RS) of 28 March.

1. We are pleased to note the terms of a proposed order to be published by you relative to the Black Market.
2. The Black Market situation appears to be growing even more serious and we feel every effort should be used to stop it.

26

79/15
NORMAN E. PINKER
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.L. SECTION
APO 394

Ref/311/12/CA.

30 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Bovino Post Report.

TO : R.C. Region V.

Ref. your letter RS/514/22 of 24 March 1944.

1. Can you advise us which Military Police Unit handled the Military personnel involved?

2. The punishment meted out by the Summary Court, as given in the report, is considered not commensurate with the offense. It is suggested that Legal Officers should be impressed with the fact that responsibility of their office requires much more severe sentences, especially as they are handling a problem which is of the utmost gravity to the civil population as the military.

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner

Copy to:

Legal Sub-Commission.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. SECTION
APO 394

23/

29 March 1944

Ref/311/41

SUBJECT: Black Market Prosecutions.

TO : V.P. Admin. Section (for Legal Sub-Commission)

1. Attached is copy of letter addressed to R.C. of Region V, also copy of report on certain Black Market activities in that Region.

2. Your particular attention is invited to par. 4 of the report. We believe you will concur in our view, that Black Market operations cannot be stopped, or even hindered, when sentences such as shown given, are meted out to offenders. The Black Market situation has assumed serious proportions and unless these offenders are sentenced in accordance with the seriousness of their offense, efforts to stop the Black Market are hopeless.

F. J. P.
NORMAN E. PIERCE
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner

28 MAR Read 311

CABR

SUBJECT :- Publications of Court Martial Sentences
for Black Market Offences.

23

HQ, AAI (ADM ECH),
CMF.
AAI/5063/18/A(PB).
28 Mar '44.

Executive Commissioner,
A.C.C.

Ref 311/23/CA of 21 Mar '44.

16 U-2397
Col Fisher K
See 725

1. An AAI Routine Order, in the following terms is about
to be published :-

"DISCIPLINE - BLACK MARKET OFFENCES.

8/4

1. It has come to notice that civilians conducting black
market operations and other illegal activities are
receiving assistance from military transport.

2. All Formations and Units will take immediate steps to
ensure that transport is not misused in this manner.

3. Any individual who is charged with an offence in regard
to Black Market activities will be tried by court martial".

4. Steps will be taken to publish particulars of sentences
awarded in the case of any members of the Allied Forces
convicted of offences in connection with the black market.

25/11
see 11

C.M. Talwar

Brigadier,
D.A.G. 117

CMF/AH.

Copy to : Legal.

TO : HQ, ACC, R.C. and M.G. Section
FROM : HQ, Region 5, A.M.G.
SUBJECT : Bovino Post Report
REF : R5/514/22
DATE : 24 March 1944

1. The report on the working of the Bovino Post is attached.
2. With regard to paras 1 and 2 no military personnel were dealt with by the Summary Court, but were taken in charge by the M.P. for action by the Military Authorities.
3. Since receipt of this report, two more American and one French truck have been caught and handed over to the Military Police.

For Regional Commissioner:

G. G. Feasey

G.G. FEASEY,
Lt. Col.,
Executive Officer

JRG/HSS

242

1629

5118

20

GOVERNMENT REPORT

MILITARY TRAFFIC

A total of 40 military trucks were brought westward for the Black Forest as follows:-

1000 Trucks		7
French "		4
English "		2
Canadian "		1

Trucks were accompanied and Allied personnel handed over to the Military Police at Berlin.

It was stated that the post was in operation for some 12 days before operations in March by 1200 hrs. 22 Feb. or 10 hours after it was started. The following trucks therefore are only the unlikely ones who were not brought off about the post. No doubt numerous other military vehicles were turned and left for provision by other units.

It is suggested that the scale on which this illicit trade is being run shows disastrous alacrity and the efficiency in the control of Allied transport, by a large number of units.

It is possible that the bulk of Black Forest goods is being carried in Allied military vehicles.

On 22 and 23 March trucks are reported to have been seen in the area. However, the day to follow with the Black Forest still in complete transport blockade.

2. Traffic Reports

Trucks against 64 British and 13 German were processed by Military Police for traffic offences - chiefly carrying divisions without permission.

3. Comments

22 tons of contraband food-stuffs were seized, not including the contents of military vehicles which were also seized in March with 1000 tons - possibly another 15 tons.

4. Summary Military Report

This Court sat for long periods with the following results:-
During the period 21-25 Feb. 44, the activities were as follows:-

- (a) 1 court's adjournment 4 cases
- (b) September 1st of contraband goods and the day's
operation of work 219 "
- (c) 1st trial (mostly military personnel at home & abroad) 212 "
- (d) September 1st of contraband goods 210 "

5115

311 8-850
SUBJECT :- Black Market Offences.

SECRET.

HQ. AAI (ADM ECH),
CMF.
AAI/5063/18/A(PB).
12 Mar '44.

23 MAR 1944
A.C.C.
Executive Commissioner,
A.C.C.

Ref 311/17/CA of 13 Mar '44.

1. The points raised in your letter of 13 Mar '44 are noted.
2. A Routine Order is about to be issued drawing attention to misuse of military transport, and that any individual charged with offences in regard to Black Market activities will be tried by court martial.
3. The recent combined action in the BCUING Area on the part of AMG and British and US Military Police exposed the circumstances under which the traffic is being conducted. Instructions have been issued to the British Military Police to continue such action on as extensive a scale as is practicable.

CMF/AR.

C. J. P. B. B. B.
Major-General,
Chief Administrative Officer

314
CONFIDENTIAL

18

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

Ref/65/42/CA.

22 March 1944

SUBJECT: Black Market Prosecution.

7615

TO : Admin. Section (For Attention Legal Sub-Commission)

1. Reference this Hq. memorandum N° 55/41/CA of 16 March 1944 and attached extract from Region V report for the month of February 1944.

2. The Chief Commissioner considers that this case should have been prosecuted without regard to the extent to which an individual member of the Allied Control Commission might become involved. He desires your advice as to whether this case could be prosecuted successfully if reopened now.

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Copy to: Region V

For Information

The Legal Sub-Commission will deal with your Hq. direct with reference to the last sentence of above memorandum.

Original in 65

22 MAR Recd

311

17

HEADQUARTERS
REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394, US ARMY

20 March 1944

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Brig. General M. S. LUSH - Executive Commissioner
Regional Control & Allied Military Government Section - ACC HQ.

I am returning, as requested, report on Black Market activities,
reference 311/19/CA.

17

Charles Poletti
CHARLES POLETTI
Lt. Colonel
Regional Commissioner

Incl. 1
Black Market Activities
16 March 1944 Ref: 311/19/CA

M 24/3

Returned to Sec Gen for file
2/3 file

511/17A

16

HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 596

Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Ref: 311/23/CA.

21st March 1944.

SUBJECT: Publication of Court Martial Sentences
for Black Market Offences.

TO : Headquarters,
Allied Armies in Italy.

A drive is being made to deal with the black market.
One of the methods is to publish in the press details of sentences
of civilians in black market cases. Regrettably, members of the
Allied forces are also concerned and charged with black market
offences. It would assist in the education of public opinion
if sentences of courts martial on the members of the Allied forces
concerned with these offences could be published. Can this be done?

WEL/JS.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Copy to: Public Relations Branch.

2

5111

12 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Comments on the attached report on conditions in Naples City.

TO : Lt. General N. M. MacFarlane.

1. Black Market. The black market flourishes. There is no use deceiving ourselves. It can be reduced in volume but not eliminated. There is much confusion in the use of the term "black market". Black market technically means trading in goods which by Italian law are only to be handled through Sopral and distributed on the basis of ration cards. All other goods can be legally traded in by private concerns and citizens. But with respect to them, the wholesale and retail prices are very high. They are higher than the unrealistic theoretical price put out by AMG.

Recommendations:

(a) A pasta ration of 50 grams a day should be given immediately. This will do more to destroy black market than anything else.

(b) The olive oil ration given by AMG is far too low. None has been distributed for months and finally this month we are giving 500 grams. In Salerno, which is under the Italian Government 200 grams are being given.

(c) The Agenti di Pubblica Sicurezza should be given a ration comparable to that received by the CC, RE, and the Guardia di Finanza. There is much bitter feeling among the Agenti. The present situation should be corrected at once.

(d) Continue the speedy trials of civilians found with Army goods. Two weeks ago special courts were set up by us and they are very fruitful and effective.

(e) Continue the special squad of 100 plain clothes investigators who are directing their efforts against the big racketeers. This squad went to work three weeks ago. Progress is being made but it takes time.

311 MAR 24 1944

King - Dept. of War

2000

Subject: Comments on the attached report on conditions in Naples City.

TO : Lt. General H. M. MacFarlane.

1. Black Market. The black market flourishes. There is no use deceiving ourselves. It can be reduced in volume but not eliminated. There is much confusion in the use of the term "black market". Black market technically means trading in goods which by Italian law are only to be handled through Seppel and distributed on the basis of ration cards. All other goods can be legally traded in by private citizens and citizens. But with respect to them, the wholesale and retail prices are very high. They are higher than the unrealistic theoretical price put out by AMG.

Recommendations:

(a) A pasta ration of 50 grams a day should be given immediately. This will do more to destroy black market than anything else.

(b) The olive oil ration given by AMG is far too low. None has been distributed for months and finally this month we are giving 300 grams. In Salerno, which is under the Italian Government 300 grams are being given.

(c) The Agenti di Pubblica Sicurezza should be given a ration comparable to that received by the CC, RS, and the Guardia di Finanza. There is much bitter feeling among the Agenti. The present situation should be corrected at once.

(d) Continue the speedy trials of civilians found with Army goods. Two weeks ago special courts were set up by me and they are very fruitful and effective.

(e) Continue the special squad of 100 plain clothes investigators who are directing their efforts against the big racketeers. This squad went to work three weeks ago. Progress is being made but it takes time to catch the "big shots".

(f) Price lists should be put out by the Mayor of

CRB
2014 Feb

continue - page 2-

840. Commune in collaboration with the Giunta Comunale and these price lists should be restricted to goods, the prices of which can be reasonably controlled. We must not attempt to enforce something we know in advance will never be respected. We must avoid the impairment of our authority as a government.

(2) The Army must protect more effectively its own leakage of supplies of all kinds. Its personnel is cooperating in large scale thefts. A figure of 80% loss has been cited to us, but we cannot vouch for its accuracy.

(3) More Army transport needed, automotive and rail. For instance, the price of charcoal in Naples City is very high. There are supplies of charcoal and wood which Naples Consorzio has under contract at a price which permits resale in Naples at one fifth of existing price. How can we get the charcoal and wood up from Potenza. We'll continue of course to do our best. And we realize that if trucks and railroad cars are needed for the troops, they must rightly be devoted to military ends.

(4) ASC should authorize Region 3 to do what has been done in Sicily, namely to give an extra ration of bread in the amount of 100 or 150 grams to all heavy workers. This special ration is contemplated in a directive sent through by AFHQ six weeks or two months ago. Some action ought to be taken in Region 3 now.

5. Restoration of Fascists in Power. Far too many Fascists are still in public positions. After several conferences with the Committee of Liberation, an order has been prepared and will be issued soon. The order calls for a clean up within 30 days but contains ample safeguards so that it is equitable and just. A right of appeal to a Commission is provided and I am now ready to appoint such Commission.

The interpreters of AMI are not Fascists. Every civilian employee is thoroughly vetted by our G-2.

I intend to appoint a new Prefect of Naples Province, a new Mayor of Naples City and a new Custodian of Naples Province, a new head of administration of the Province and a new director of Naples Province labor office. And many others too.

It is difficult to find competent experienced anti-Fascists. But they will be found as they were in Sicily.

age of supplies of all kinds. Its personnel is cooperating in large scale thefts. A figure of 50% loss has been cited to us, but we cannot vouch for its accuracy.

(a) More Army transport needed, automotive and rail. For instance, the price of charcoal in Naples City is very high. There are supplies of charcoal and wood which Naples Consorzio has under contract at a price which permits resale in Naples at one fifth of existing price. How can we get the charcoal and wood up from Potenza. We'll continue of course to do our best. And we realize that if trucks and railroad cars are needed for the troops, they must rightly be devoted to military ends.

(1) ACC should authorize Region 3 to do what has been done in Sicily, namely to give an extra ration of bread in the amount of 100 or 150 grams to all heavy workers. This special ration is contemplated in a directive sent through by AFHQ six weeks or two months ago. Some action ought to be taken in Region 3 now.

2. Retention of Fascists in Power. Far too many Fascists are still in public positions. After several conferences with the Committee of Liberation, an order has been prepared and will be issued soon. The order calls for a clean up within 30 days but contains ample safeguards so that it is equitable and just. A right of appeal to a Commission is provided and I am now ready to appoint such Commission.

The interpreters of AMG are not Fascists. Every civilian employee is thoroughly vetted by our G-2.

I intend to appoint a new Prefect of Naples Province, a new Mayor of Naples City and a new Questore of Naples Province, a new head of Alimentation of the Province and a new director of Naples Province labor office. And many others too.

It is difficult to find competent experienced anti-Fascists. But they will be found as they were in Sicily.

1 incl.
report.
CPLT

Charles Poletti
CHARLES POLETTI
Lt. Colonel
Regional Commissioner.

3109

785017

3H

R11/16

16 MAR 1944

3315 C. A. B.

150930A

GR 125 FIL BT

TO.....PATINA

FROM.....HQ AND REGION 5



RR/5/23 BLACK MARKET WHEAT PRICE YOUR REF 1722 MAGFARIAN. IN LIRA PER QUINTAL BOGGIA PROVINCE NOVEMBER 3000 DECEMBER 3500 JANUARY 3000. PRESENT 4000 5000. CAMPOBASSO PROVINCE DECEMBER 600 TO 1000 JANUARY 1000 TO 2500 FEBRUARY 3000. PRESENT 4000 FARMERS RECEIVING 100 TO 1000 LESS THAN ABOVE. LABOR UP 100 PER CENT. FUEL BLACK MARKET UP 700 PER CENT. ITALIAN OFFICIAL STATE UNLESS BINDERWINE RECEIVED BY MAY 15 BLACK MARKET PRICE UP PROBABLY 700 PER CENT. PRESENT SUPPLY SUFFICIENT FOR SMALL FRACTION OF ESTIMATED HARVEST. WHEAT PRICES TO FARMERS SUGGESTED BETWEEN 600 TO 800 LIRA PER QUINTAL OR NOT MORE THAN WORLD PRICE. CONTROL OF PACKS AND TRANSPORT FARM TO MILLS SHOULD CURB BLACK MARKET PRICE.

BT 150910

SENT RR 2 16/0454A

RECD RR 2 16/0454A

ADD DISTRIBUTION:

Action.....Recon Sec.....1
 Info.....Dep C O.....1
 C A Br.....1
 File.....1
 Float.....1

5:00

SECRET

FATIMA 2265

15 March 44

Vapour 165-10050-Flake

FATIMA (Civil Affairs Branch)

SECRET

ROUTINE

CAMPORASSO

YOUR SITREP ADVISED ONE FOUR ABLE MIKE TRUCKS CAUGHT
IN BLACK MARKET OPERATIONS FOR PERIOD ONE TO SEVEN MARCH PD
PAREN TO CAMPORASSO FOR ANG REGION FIVE PREFETURRA FROM FATIMA
SIGNED MACFARLANE PAREN PD REQUEST DETAILED REPORT AS TO
PERSONNEL OF TRUCKS DRIVERS NAMES UNITS DISPOSITION AND
WHAT CHARGES PREFERRED ALSO DETAILED REPORT ON CIVILIANS
INVOLVED AND THEIR DISPOSITION.

L. T. MONTANT
Adjutant

SECRET

5107

Ref: 311/19/01.

16th March 1944.

SUBJECT: Black Market Activities.

TO : Chief Camillefort.

1. I discussed the black market with Lt. Col. Polenti and Lieut. Curon who has an organization of some 100 Italian and Allied personnel carrying on a campaign in Naples directed against the black market.
2. Our discussion elicited the opinion from Col. Polenti that 29% of all military supplies distributed at Naples find their way into the black market; that this is the work of gangs but that in practically every case military personnel are implicated. In fact, without this complicity and without what must be universal carelessness on the part of guards, etc., this leakage could not go on.
3. These military supplies form the bulk of the black market in Naples. The rest is made up of flour and oil and other necessities brought in from outside provinces, generally in military lorries.
4. Lieut. Curon is producing about 100 cases before a special Summary Courts per diem. He has not yet got hold of a ring leader. He has, however, several of his staff working with the gangs and hopes to get one of the big slots who are unknown even to the ring leaders, in due course.
5. Colonel Polenti recommends that an immediate issue of a ration of 50 grams per day and the release of olive oil on the free market, that is to say the abolition of the Limesco system together with the provision of more civil transportation, would reduce black market in civil supplies to negligible proportions.
6. Military co-operation and the enforcement of military discipline is necessary to reduce the amount of military supplies finding their way to the black market.
7. We all agreed that publicity was necessary with regard to convictions and I have told Lieut. Curon that if he can succeed in getting one or two of the big slots I will see that the heaviest sentences compatible with law is imposed.
8. There is not for the extensive theft of military goods

2. Our discussion elicited the opinion from Col. Paletti that 20% of all military supplies distributed at Naples first find their way into the black market; that this is the work of gangs but that in practically every case military personnel are implicated. In fact, without this complicity and without what must be universal carelessness on the part of guards, etc., this leakage could not go on.
3. These military supplies form the bulk of the black market in Naples. The rest is made up of flour and oil and other commodities brought in from outside provinces, generally in military lorries.
4. Lieut. Caron is proposing about 100 cases before a special Summary Courts per diem. He has not yet got hold of a ring leader. To him, however, several of his staff working with the gangs and hopes to get one of the big slots who are unknown even to the ring leaders. In due course.
5. Colonel Paletti recommends that an immediate issue of a pasta ration of 50 grams per day and the release of olive oil on the free market, that is to say the abolition of the license system together with the provision of more civil transportation, would reduce black market in civil supplies to negligible proportions.
6. Military co-operation and the enforcement of military discipline is necessary to reduce the amount of military supplies finding their way to the black market.
7. He all agreed that publicity was necessary with regard to convictions and I have told Lieut. Caron that if he can succeed in getting one or two of the big slots I will see that the heaviest sentences compatible with law is imposed.
8. There is not for the extensive theft of military goods which have reached a really incredible figure, I should without any complicity say that the black market in Naples was about normal. Even six months after occupation the black market flourishes in inverse proportion to the food imported. To have not been able to import sufficient food to give an adequate ration. It is therefore necessary for the people to buy on what is called the black market but what in fact is the open market. The law of supply and demand forces prices up and inflation occurs. It is practically impossible in my experience to check that inflation by legislation. It can only be checked by increasing supplies both from without and within the country. I would go so far as to say that without the so-called black market in ordinary commodities the more people in Naples would have gone hungry and perhaps starved. This is not to say that I am tolerant of existing conditions, particularly with regard to military stores, but I do believe that all that can be done to check black marketeers is being done at the moment and I am hopeful that the next week will see some results on a high level.

Trigodas,
Executive Co-ordinator.

27/5.

785017

HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 394.

EXHIBIT.

11

Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Ref: 311/10/CM

13th March 1944.

Subject: Black Market.

To : Regional Commissioners,
Regions I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VIII, IX.
S.C.A.O., AF, 5 Army.
S.C.A.O., AB, 8 Army.

1. The black market continues to flourish and criticisms, mostly unfounded, are levelled against the A.C.C. both in the United States and in the United Kingdom and in the Press of this country, for its continuance.
2. Much has been done by Regional staffs to check this practice. The collusion of members of Allied troops in the black market adds to administrative difficulties. Enclosed is a copy of a letter addressed to H.Q., A.C.C.P. on this subject.
3. The Chief Commissioner wishes Regional Commissioners to increase their efforts to check the black market. In his opinion one of the best ways to do this is to secure conviction of one of the main leaders in any Region. Probably the only method of doing this is to induct agents into the black market organization. No expense should be spared in a concentrated effort to secure conviction of leading black marketers in the near future. Regional Commissioners with their Public Safety staffs should turn their attention to this matter without delay.

10

ESL/JG.

MS/Am
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Copy to: Main Section.
Domestic Section.

5405

HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

SECRET

10

Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Ref: 311/7/CA.

13th March 1944.

Subject: Black Market Operations.

To : Headquarters, A.C.M.F.

1. It is well known that the black market flourishes in Italy and constant references are made to its evils in the United States, the United Kingdom and in the Press of this country. Very naturally, those responsible for civil administration bear the brunt of the criticisms in connection with this evil.
2. Steps have been taken to combat this black market since the occupation. They have been intensified recently. The objective is to discover some of the principal actors in this theatre and see that they are rigorously punished.
3. Although the prime movers are civilians there is not the slightest doubt that troops play a very heavy part in the operations of the black market. In one day no less than 14 military lorries, some British, some American, were stopped on the roads emanating from Foggia and were found to contain civilian foodstuffs. These were being taken from Foggia and the neighbourhood in the direction of Naples and other towns. The fee is 25,000 lire and as often as not a woman is thrown in.
4. If the transportation of black market produce by military transport could be stopped a very large percentage of the black market would drop away. The temptation to the troops is immense and the malpractice, which is very common, could, it would appear, only be stopped by drastic steps on the part of the military police and rigorous punishment of offenders when caught.
5. The Chief Commissioner would be grateful if action could be taken on these lines and if unit commanders could be told of the evil effects, not only on the civil population but on the troops themselves, of these practices and they could be instructed to impose very heavy sentences on offenders.

HSL/JG.

M. S. Clark
Inspector,
Executive Commissioner.

510,

Report promised at
Once

BU 16/3 5103
N/A

1 2 ~~MAP~~ INFORMATION SLIP
Please pass file QUICKLY

FROM	OFFICER	TO
	Brig. M. S. Lush	
	Col. N. E. Fluke	
	Lt. Col. T. Farley Smith	
✓	Major Driffield-White	✓
	Major Van Dusen	
	Capt. Talbot	
	Capt. Carr	
	Capt. Stewart	
✗	Registry	✓

REMARKS

Initial HERE and POLIO referred.

B/u at 16

I report does not
arrive before midday
13/3 I will ask for
it by phone - rearrange me
please ... (3/13)

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

Ref/311/16/GA

SUBJECT: Black Market

6 March 1944.

TO : Regional Commissioner, Region III

1. Herewith copies of reports on Black Market in Naples by JICA, AFHQ.
2. It is requested that a short report be immediately submitted indicating the steps that are being taken to stop abuses known to exist as well as those abuses alleged in the attached if they do in fact exist.

NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel, Cavalry,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Incl
Above Report.

3/11
5/12
[Signature]

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL
Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

TBI/05

3

WCS 400.8

27 February 1944.

SUBJECT: Black Market Activity in Naples Area.

TO : HQ AGC

1. Forwarded herewith is Military Intelligence Division WDCS (IG No 4220 of 15 February) received for information in this Section.

2. It is requested that a short report be forwarded on the matter and that it be indicated what steps are being taken to stop such abuses as are alleged if it be felt that they do in fact exist.

For the Acting Chief of Section:

T. B. Jackman
T. B. JACKMAN
Major

Incl:
as above.

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL
Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

5096

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

Ref/311/15/GA

6 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Black Market

TO : Economic Section

Herewith copies of reports on Black Market in
Naples by JICA, AFHQ, for your information.

Incl
Report in duplicate

NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel, Cavalry,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

8/

4-66

5101

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL
Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Military Government Section

311
Recd

TBJ/eg

S-145

72

MGS 400.8

27 February 1944.

SUBJECT: Black Market Activity in Naples Area.

TO : HQ ACC

3-6

1. Forwarded herewith is Military Intelligence Division WDGS (IG No 4220 of 15 February) received for information in this Section.

2. It is requested that a short report be forwarded on the matter and that it be indicated what steps are being taken to stop such abuses as are alleged if it be felt that they do in fact exist.

For the Acting Chief of Section:

T. B. Jackman
T. B. JACKMAN
Major

Incl:
as above.

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL
Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

5100

IX XXXXXX

CONFIDENTIAL

Enclosures

Copy No.

(File Number, section, page)

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION W. D. G. S.

Military Attache Report

STAFF

Subject Black Market Activity in the Naples Area I. G. No. 4200

From M. ALEX JICALLA Report No. 7656 Date 15 February 1944

Source and degree of reliability:

Highly educated Italian civil engineer, confirmed by interviews with other Neapolitans.

Summary.—Here enter careful summary of report, containing substance succinctly stated; include important facts, names, places, dates, etc.

Black Market activity remains predominant in the Naples area at the time of this report. All the necessities of life, including American flour and cigarettes may be found on the Black Market at exorbitant prices often sold publicly and without effective control. Reports are heard which indicate that at least a sizeable portion of the Black Market merchandise finds its way into the Black Market through negro soldiers who handle foodstuffs and who are there fore in a position to have free access to them. In part, also, the Black Market is blamed on the scarcity of transportation available for bringing in food from the outlying provinces. Inasmuch as curfew regulations are not rigorously enforced such of the clandestine commercial activity takes place at night. Suggestion is made that the collection and distribution of potatoes and chestnuts, both of which abound in the Naples area, be controlled by honest and capable personnel.

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332A, AFPM
Naples Detachment
APO 400

1 February 1944

Report on the Black Market conditions in Naples as of 1 February 1944.

1. The sources for the following paragraphs is a highly educated Italian civil engineer, who appears definitely anti-fascist and pro-Allied. The views expressed in the following paragraphs reflect also closely those of a cross-section of the Neapolitan population according to the experience of the reporting officer.

2. From a general observation of the available quantities of cigarettes, there is immediately evident the abundance on the Black Market of cigarettes made in the U.S.A. Almost the entire population, including women and children, smoke these cigarettes. Since there is no controlled distribution of these, obviously their source must be due to large scale robbery.

3. The same applies to flour. The flour for the daily ration of 125 grams of bread comes from the Allied Command, but it is fairly easy to find bread, paste, pastries and other similar concoctions which are made from the same type of flour. The flour for these extra-ration purposes may be bought at 150 lire per kilogram. Outside of a limited regular distribution of oil, there is an abundance of oil on the Black Market at exorbitant prices. The same applies to spaghetti, rice, beans, "cereals", and fats in general. All these are sold publicly at very high prices and without any effective control. All the necessities of life may easily be found on the Black Market. Only sufficient money is necessary. This state of affairs has been stimulated even in the prices of secondary goods.

4. Potatoes, which are considered very necessary in the ordinary diet of the population, are considerably rising in price from day to day. At present the price is 40 lire per kilogram.

5. A question naturally arises as to how all these goods appear daily on the market. Since supplies may not be obtained during the daylight hours due to the strong likelihood of being arrested for any illegal transaction, these supplies are obtained during the night--during the curfew hours. But as happens in many things, those for whom the law is made appear to escape finally, while some who have legitimate reasons for violating the curfew regulations are arrested. A proper of this the informant relates the following anecdote. Several nights ago, a Mr. X with his son was in the neighborhood of his home at 1030 (curfew hour is at 1000). They were about to enter their home when they were challenged by two policemen and an Italian agent. The man's son spoke English and proved their right to be at the particular place. He and his father were about to be sent released when the Italian agent asked Mr. X what work he was engaged in. The latter stated that he was a "regimentiere di commercio". The agent evidently perceived something nefarious in those words and he winked at the two policemen, said "OK", and persuaded them to lead these two unfortunate to the luncheon. Father and son would have remained in the Guard House until the following morning, if

was their digestion. Since there is no doubt obviously their shares must be due to large scale robbery.

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4. Potatoes, which are considered very secondary in the ordinary diet of the population, are constantly rising in prices from day to day. At present the price is 40 lire per kilogram.

5. A question naturally arises as to how all these goods appear daily on the market. Since supplies may not be obtained during the daylight hours due to the strong likelihood of being arrested for any illegal transaction, these supplies are obtained during the night—during the curfew hours. But as happens in many things, those for whom the law is made appear to escape freely, while those who have legitimate reasons for violating the curfew regulations are arrested. A proposal of this the informant relates the following anecdote. Several nights ago, a Mr. X with his son was in the neighborhood of his house at 1890 (curfew hour is at 1900). They were about to enter their house when they were challenged by two policemen and an Italian agent. The man's son spoke English and proved their right to be at the particular place. He and his father were about to be released when the Italian agent asked Mr. X what work he was engaged in. The latter stated that he was a "regionalista di commercio". The agent evidently perceived something suspicious in these words and he winked at the two policemen, said "OK", and persuaded them to lead these two unfortunates to the warehouse. Father and son would have remained in the Guard House until the following morning, if they had not succeeded in getting out by simple strategy. They left behind an informant Mr. X, who was leaving the Guard House, and arrived safely home after walking several kilometers at 2130. During this time they were never challenged or molested.

6. There are definitely groups resembling the Al Capone gang, whose leaders it is most difficult to ascertain or contact. The informant further stated that a friend of his, charged with the task of obtaining two tires for his company, had to contact a long line of various individuals before he was able to see, not to buy the goods in question.

7. The informant suggests that the Black Market could be avoided at least in part. Mules and the Provencos produce huge quantities of potatoes and chestnuts and do not export them. Still the Neapolitan population is compelled to buy these items at exorbitant prices. The informant suggests that the provencos produce these items at exorbitant prices. The informant and hermet personal with principal buyers of these items be supervised by vigilantes and hermet personal with principal object of controlling, collecting and distributing the potatoes and chestnuts to the population on a ration basis. A person certain of obtaining an alternative quantity weekly or monthly could not have recourse to the Black Market. The lack of would diminish considerably, because it would then be subject to the law of supply

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and demand. This method might very well be applied to the other necessities of life.

8. In all discussions of Black Market action is made of the transportation difficulties. However, many goods which are not produced in the city are still to be found on the Black Market. The implication clearly is that transportation does exist but it is clandestine.

9. The informant points out that almost all the city of Naples is inadequately supplied with the goods mentioned in previous paragraphs except on the Black Market. The regulations controlling the entrance and exit from the port are very strict with respect to civilians. Hence, it is easy to deduce that strict vigilance is not maintained over those directly responsible for the Black Market. From a knowledge of numerous actual cases the informant is convinced that American colored soldiers at least in part are responsible. These colored soldiers, in fact, themselves suggest the sale of flour, cigarettes, canned goods, etc., in no small quantities but often times entire truck loads. They then often report the transaction immediately to colored police, who in turn resell the same goods and thus achieve a double profit.

10. Borgo San Antonio in Naples has a public Black Market where all foodstuffs are sold at exorbitant prices. MP's with carabinieri circulate freely throughout this market without a single order or act of protest or control of prices.

11. Informant points out that the above information is based on popularly known facts and deductions.

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Chairman, JECANA

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16 FEB Recd

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
APO 394

Ref/311/1/CA

16 February 1944

Lt. Col. Charles Poletti
Regional Control Commissioner
Region III

Dear Col. Poletti:

1st Lt. Corea has organized a black market squad in anticipation of the occupation of Rome. The Rome party is now standing on 7 days notice and it has been suggested that Lt. Corea's squad be employed in the meantime to supplement the work of Region III in black market control.

Please give me your views as early as you can on this. 1st Lt. Corea's work will be temporary and designed to assist and supplement the regular Region III set up.

Sincerely yours,

NORMAN A. FISKE
Colonel, Cavalry
Deputy Executive Commissioner

10 FEB 1944

35738

404 MG Dec 1

MEMORANDUM

TO: SAC, NEW YORK

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: Black Market Control Unit

5 February 1944.

SUBJECT: Establishment of the Black Market Control Unit for Rome:

1. The basic task of this unit is to ensure the adequate food and other essential supplies are made available to the population on a fair and equitable basis. The successful accomplishment of this task is not only an objective in itself but also a means to a more desirable way towards solving the many other problems of Military Government. This task, however, cannot be successfully accomplished if black market activity is rampant.

2. Successful control of the black market depends upon the efforts of every branch of the Army, and it is the duty of the organized skill and organization to co-ordinate the activities of the other Division, to establish the required preventive and to root out existing black market activities. In order to accomplish this objective there is hereby established the Black Market Control Unit for Rome.

3. The personnel of this Unit will consist of: Director, a special squad of 10 men in investigating force and such other allied personnel as may be required from time to time. There will be established within the legal Division an Allied Military Court, with exclusive jurisdiction of cases presented by the Unit.

4. The Unit will be directly responsible to the SAC, 5th Army. The duties and responsibilities of the Unit will include:

- a. Establishing general policy for control of black market activity.
- b. Establishing measures and standards to prevent hoarding of black market activity, to safeguard supplies while being stored, to reported supplies utilized and to ensure the flow of supplies only into regular markets.
- c. Inspection to assure maintenance of standards and measures established.
- d. Establishing measures and standards to prevent

and other essential supplies are made available to the population on a fair and equitable basis. The successful accomplishment of this task is not only an objective in itself but also will go a considerable way towards solving the many other problems of Military Government. This task, however, cannot be successfully accomplished in black market activity as rampant.

2. Successful control of the black market depends upon the efforts of every branch of AML, and at the same time requires specialized skill and organization to coordinate the activities of the Major Divisions, to establish the required preventive and to root out existing black market activities. In order to accomplish this objective there is hereby established the Black Market Control Unit for Rome.

3. The personnel of this Unit will consist of: Director, a special squad of Italian investigators and such other Allied personnel as may be required from time to time. There will be established within the Legal Division an Allied Military Court, with exclusive jurisdiction of cases presented by the Unit.

4. The Unit will be directly responsible to the GMD, 5th Army. The duties and responsibilities of the Unit will include:

- a. Determining general policy for control of black market activity.
- b. Establishing measures and standards to prevent losses in black market activity, to safeguard supplies while being stored, to inspect and distribute and to ensure the flow of supplies only into regular markets.
- c. Inspection to assure maintenance of standards and measures established.
- d. Establishing measures and standards to prevent issues of outstanding ration cards and to safeguard the issue of new ration cards.
- e. Vetting of personnel of Italian supply organizations.

ACC-DIST

ADM-SEC.

ECON-SEC

EX-OFFRS

ADJUTANT 5094

785017

f. Maintaining close liaison with the Warrenton, C.I.C., and prevent removal of the army, with the objective of obtaining their cooperation in effecting the control program, of assisting them in safeguarding army supplies from loss by theft, or otherwise and of co-operating in other matters of mutual interest.

g. Investigation of black market activity.

h. Development the prosecution of black market cases.

5. The initial efforts of the Unit will be directed toward control of critical and important supplies, including grain, flour, bread, pasta, olive oil, milk, sugar, cheese, soap, petroleum products, and miscellaneous supplies which are in short supply, such as biscuits, soups, canned meats, etc. As soon as it is deemed feasible, control will be extended to include other essential items.

6. The fullest co-operation of all other divisions is essential to the success of the Control Program. Accordingly, all information of activity affecting the Control Program will be immediately brought to the attention of the Unit; and in all matters affecting black market activity, the other divisions will be guided by the policies established by the Unit.

Edward Andrew Hilde
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
8000 ASD, Fifth Army

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