

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

ACC

10000/109/1716

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ASSIMILATION OF EX-REFUGEES  
APR., MAY 1944



Memo:

Note on para 2(i)

To locate evacuated refugees near the place from which they have been evacuated (for good & sufficient reasons) ~~the~~ because it is nearest their homes is just asking for trouble.

The obvious result would be that the refugees would try to get home and cause endless nuisance to security personnel. Surely the policy should be the reverse.

lul  
3437<sup>15/5</sup>

lul Bristol agrees. lul 24/5 p.a.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No.

785017

WDW/RAC.

DISTRIBUTION:

"A"

*Norman E. Fiske*  
for  
NORMAN E. FISKE,  
Colonel,  
Deputy Executive  
Commissioner.



107  
13 MAY 1944  
HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
ECONOMIC SECTION  
APO 394

68  
GMS/ml  
2

ES/10

13 May 1944

SUBJECT : Refugees.

TO : R.C. & M.G. Section.

1. Reference Regional Commissioners Conference minutes 15 April para 5g.

2. In order to make the best use of refugees who are farmers or agricultural labourers the following recommendations are made:-

- i. That they be located as near as possible to their former homes or, if this is impracticable, that they be located in agricultural labour deficit provinces, e.g., Campobasso, Foggia and Matera.
- ii. That consideration be given to the establishment of Refugee camps in such areas.
- iii. That as soon as the military situation permits, refugees in Southern camps be given priority to return to their former homes to carry on farming.

*D. S. Adams*

D. S. ADAMS  
Colonel, C.E.  
Executive Officer  
Economic Section

Copy to:

Agriculture Sub-Commission  
Labour Sub-Commission

*Matter discussed  
at Staff meeting  
by Lt Col Bonadio  
p.m. 17/5*

*CC.*

*Make copy for IRB.  
I will ensure it doesn't go out.*

*Copy sent to IRB with  
note on para 2(i).*

3:36

*Call 17/5*

*BU for Wed 17/5  
Staff meeting*



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

Ref/408/3/CA.

7 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Assimilation and Utilization of Ex-Refugees.

TO : Economic Section.

1. The attached slip reflects what was probably a mistaken attempt to handle the matter in issue by informal oral reference.
2. Attention is invited to sub-par. g, item 4, Minutes of Regional Commissioners Conference of 15 April 1944.
3. The Executive Commissioner has directed this branch to request your section to submit as soon as possible a report of the findings and recommendations of the Agriculture and Labor Sub-Commissions on this matter.
4. The subject is deemed to be basically economic in nature and therefore primarily the responsibility of your section. It relates to persons whose status as refugees has terminated by assimilation (though incomplete) into new Italian communities.
5. However, if information as to numbers and locations of former refugees is necessary to facilitate effective solution of the problem, the Italian Refugee Branch may of course be called upon for, and will be expected promptly to furnish, such data.

ALFRED C. BOWMAN  
Lt. Col.  
Asst. Director  
Civil Affairs Branch. 3:35

Answered by SMS/MI.

ES/10 137as  
Refugees.

C O P Y (fr Ms. )

408/2/CA.

2

Major Sharp.

Memo from Civil Affairs Branch  
Asst. Directors Office.

Reference Minutes of Chief  
Commissioner's Meetin , 16th April.

Para 46, Item 4, Sub-para E.

Agriculture and Labor  
Sub-Commissions to submit  
comments on subject matter.

/s/ Washer.

Lt. Col. Bowman 7/5/44

No information received from  
Italian Refugees as to the nature of (and details)  
the problem -- Lt. Col. Hulls has  
not contacted this Section.

/s/ Capt W. Washer.

3:34



(n) On the question of price to be paid to farmer the policy was to announce this before May 15th. The average of Regional Commissioners' suggestions for price was given and ranged from 900 to 1500 lire per quintal, average 1130 lire as compared with the landed cost of imported wheat 1135 lire.

(o) Col. Adams further stated that:

Econ.  
Section.

- (i) A food ration increase was unlikely.
- (ii) The recommendation of all regional commissioners was that only wheat, barley and olive oil should be compulsorily rationed.
- (iii) Price for wheat would be announced on or before May 15th, and suggestions for one price for all Italy would be considered.

Item No.4 - Refugees, Disposal and Feeding.

(a) Lt.Col.Hulls, Refugee Branch, stated that refugees could not be sent overseas and must be accommodated within Italy, Sicily and Sardinia. He suggested that it be done by house to house billeting as done in England.

(b) Among many objections were transportation, the different scales of rations and the hunger of refugees.



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ACTION

(c) It was suggested that communal feeding be instituted, giving one hot meal per day.

(d) This was an important problem and he emphasized the point that the Italian Government must take a bigger interest in refugees.

(e) Col. Poletti (Region III) desired an officer under his command who would deal with the refugee problem and keep him informed. He explained his difficulties in placing refugees and stated he was placing a few in Avellino and South Naples, none in Benevento and filling up Salerno.

(f) Region II had received from No.2 District a list of designated communes for the reception of refugees.

Agric. &  
Labour  
Sub-Coms.

(g) Col. Fiske gave his experiences and said that in his opinion refugees were not fitting into the life of the country; proper distribution or re-distribution was necessary, and that Allied Control Commission should get the needs brought home to the Italian Government. It might be advantageous for Agriculture and Labour Sub-Commissions to study the problem.

Refugee  
Branch.

(h) Lt. Col. Cousens suggested that the problem should be dealt with at a high level and that the Church should be asked to take an interest in it. He suggested that one Italian military officer might be allocated to each commune to deal with the refugee problem.

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