

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

ACC

10000/109/1811

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

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REPORTS, REGION I
MAR. - JULY 1944

Mr Worum

This is only a
copy of a report to
R.C. Region I from
Economics & Supply.

Ek

18/7/44

428

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

SICILY MILITARY HEADQUARTERS

APC 394

SECRET

FILE : HES 119.1/10

SUBJECT : MONTHLY REPORT

TO : Regional Commissioner, Region I, ACC.

A. ADMINISTRATION

The following changes have taken place. Major Chapple and Capt Stubbs have been withdrawn from the accounts branch of I & S Div. and sent of the I & S Div. Capt Laferriere under movement orders has been handed over to Major Sutton who is responsible for Outfits, Siracusa and Ragusa. Capt Bentley has been transferred to the Commissioners Staff. The reduction of the accounts personnel makes it increasingly difficult to prepare the returns to time. Doubtless this situation is appreciated.

B. FOOD

(1) There have been no arrivals during this month. There are, however, held for our account under guard at I.T.D. Dug, Palermo, large stocks of bacon, fish, and other rations.

(2) Under the scheme for transfer of foodstuffs at Regional level to the Civil authorities, this work is proceeding very slowly. All the flour and grain have been loaded over without difficulty. It is estimated that the transfer cannot be completed before the end of July for several reasons.

(a) The unwillingness of the Civil authorities to accept our inventory figures, necessitating a physical count.

(b) Liability of representatives of the High Commissioner and Bank of Sicily to continue uninterrupted.

(c) The same reserve is in very bad condition both for quantity and quality.

428

TO Regional Commissioner, Region I, AGC.

A. ADMINISTRATION

The following changes have taken place. Major Chapple and Capt Stubbs have been withdrawn from the economic branch of R & S Div. and most of the R & S Div. Capt Lafano under movement orders has handed over to Major Sutton who is responsible for Catania, Siracusa and Ragusa. Capt Santly has been transferred to the Commissioners Staff. The reduction of the accounts personnel makes it increasingly difficult to prepare the returns to time. Doubtless this situation is appreciated.

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(2) Under the scheme for transfer of foodstuffs at Regional level to the Civil authorities, this work is proceeding very slowly. All the flour and grain have been handed over without difficulty. It is estimated that the transfer cannot be completed before the end of July for several reasons.

- (a) The unwillingness of the Civil authorities to accept our inventory figures, necessitating a physical count.
- (b) Liability of representatives of the High Commissioner and Bank of Sicilia to continue uninterruptedly.
- (c) The home reserve is in very bad condition both for stocking and quality.
- (d) There is great reluctance to take over goods which cannot be sold at the prices fixed by us. In this connection I refer to circular MS/41 of 22 June para. C. The question of subsidy has been raised with G. Bruschi the representative of the Ministry of Finance. He is entirely without instructions, and since the matter of subsidies is repugnant to the Italian Government, he is rightly unwilling to take any responsibility. Col. Ship was asked to take this matter up in Naples. Can overtures please be made to the Italian

- 2 -

Government to get this vexed question settled? Our information is that our prices are considerably more than those of the black market for similar stolen goods. I fear a stalemate unless something can be done.

(3) (1) The situation in regard to the bread ration had a very unenviable flavour due to the running out of imported stocks earlier than was anticipated and other factors. The temporary tension has been relieved by the arrival of the Geo. J. FITCH carrying approximately 9000 tons of grain. This boat which was diverted to Palermo, could not be handled at this port due to operations, and was therefore despatched to Catania. The writer laid out the organization for handling of the cargo, and the work is proceeding under Italian control very well indeed. Undoubtedly however, this shipment is only a palliative. The grain is coming into the granaries very slowly. There will have to be an enormous improvement in the very near future if an ugly situation is to be avoided. This matter will be dealt with more fully by the Agriculture Sub-Division.

(11) About 170 tons of butter are to come from I.R.S. immediately upon receipt it will be shipped to Naples, failing instructions to the contrary.

(111) Appendix A. shows shipments to provinces up to 20th June 1944 from which date this work became the responsibility of the Italian Authorities.

C. SALFACI

Appendix B. shows list of sales.

D. GALLI & F. G. L.

Appendix C. shows receipts and distribution.

Petrol and gasoil supplies became very short towards the end of the month and U.I.L. reported on 21 June that the month's allocation had been completely issued. The Motorists and a group of bus owners reported that their fuel stocks were exhausted and asked for a supplementary allowance. It was explained to them that instructions from Petroleum Section definitely stated that any application for a supplementary allotment would not be considered. In spite of the statement that the P.O.L.

427

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G. SALVAGE

Appendix B. shows list of sales.

D. CML & P.O.L.

Appendix C. shows receipts and distribution.

Petrol and gasoil supplies became very short towards the end of the month and C.I.L. reported on 21 June that the month's allocation had been completely issued. The Motorizzazioni and a group of big owners reported that their fuel stocks were exhausted and asked for a supplementary allowance. It was explained to them that instructions from Petroleum Section definitely stated that any application for a supplementary allotment would not be favourably considered. In spite of the statement that the P.O.L. for buses had been completely used the buses continued to run until the end of the month which indicated that either the position had been exaggerated or that they held reserve stocks. Several instances came to light where the Motorizzazioni had issued petrol in excess of the amount available. When questioned it was gathered that the Motorizzazioni shunned the responsibility of saying to the applicants that there was not enough fuel as the motorists were inclined to blame them, and to get rid of them they issued coupons well knowing that the C.I.L. would be unable to honour them. It is obvious that the present allotment of petrol and gasoil to Sicily is insufficient to meet the needs of all present holders of motor car circulation permits, and it

- 3 -

is necessary for another drastic cut to be made in the number of persons to whom these permits are issued so that essential users such as those employed in food and grain distribution can obtain sufficient for their needs. This is a matter for Public Safety however, who have been acquainted with the facts.

A. BACKGROUND

A local scheme has been devised, based on U.S. Directive (Ref. A.C.C. Shipping Memorandum No. 1). The routine work in this connection has been handed over to the Chamber of Commerce. The movement by schooner will be seriously hampered by the fuel situation with which it is obviously indissolubly linked. If Inter-regional trade is to develop, early consideration will have to be given a special allotment for this purpose. As a collateral problem, there is the importation of timber for packing cases for the export of citrus fruits to the U.S. whose programme reaches 2,000,000 cases involving some 25/30,000 tons of timber. The bulk of this, if not the whole must be moved by schooner. Again the question of fuel is one of the main springs.

F. INTER-REGIONAL TRADE

Based on the previous year's production, this Island should have had a large exportable surplus of vegetables. The quantities have not been **seen** however, this year. Perishable goods do not afford the desired scope for black market racketeering. There should however be a few thousand tons of potatoes surplus to local requirements. It is suggested that no time should be lost in sending schooners to collect. The army have no further interest in Carab Banns. This commodity has been placed on the export list having been released by the A.F.L.P. (M.H. Vermont and Mexico have been freed for export by arrangement with Col. Lopez to all regions except No. 2, where it is understood that there is a large exportable surplus of local production.

G. GENERAL. TIMBER MARKET

This situation is a serious one. Nothing is yet known as to whether the Italian Government is prepared to shoulder the subsidy. In the meantime the transfer of stocks is being hampered and the goods are rapidly deteriorating. The price list which was circulated (vide P. 2 (d) of this report) shows an

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2. GENERAL FINANCIAL POSITION

This situation is a serious one. Nothing is yet known as to whether the Italian Government is prepared to shoulder the subsidy. In the meantime the transfer of stocks is being hampered and the goods are rapidly deteriorating. The price list which accompanied your circular (vide 2 2 (d) of this report) shows an increase in some commodities on the prices already complained by of. This matter demands further and urgent consideration.

H. DING

H. DING,
Major
Director, Economics
and Supply Division.

ADDRESS "A"

ECONOMIC AND SUPPLY DIVISION

A. DELIVERIES FROM PALERMO

PROVINCE	VEHICLE	FLIGHT	RATIONS	PAID
TRAPANI	NIL	236.3	67.11	NIL
CATANIA	NIL	193.8	55.2	14.71
ENNA	13.03	300	201.25	NIL
MAGUSA	NIL	436.0	151.15	.33
SIRACUSA	NIL	556.7	136.15	NIL
CATANZARUZZA	NIL	201.56	72.5	NIL
AGRICULTURE	NIL	403.2	300.84	NIL
MESSINA	NIL	306.05	NIL	NIL

Appendix "A" Economics and Supply Division Region 1 Monthly Report June 1944

M L BELMONT FROM TALINGO (AIDING THE SOUTH OF JUNE)

PROVINCE	WHEAT	YIELD	RATIONS	FAIR	CORNER BELMONT
TRAPANI	NIL	236.3	67.11	NIL	43.5
CATANIA	NIL	153.8	55.2	14.71	NIL
MESA	13.55	300	201.25	NIL	3.75
RAGUSA	NIL	436.8	151.15	.35	NIL
SIRACUSA	NIL	556.7	136.15	NIL	NIL
CAHTANIDETTA	NIL	201.56	79.5	NIL	NIL
AGRICULTO	NIL	403.2	300.24	NIL	10.92
MESINA	NIL	306.65	NIL	NIL	NIL

Appendix "B" Economics and Supply Division Region 1 Monthly Report JuneTHE FOLLOWING SALES OF SALVAGE HAVE BEEN MADE IN JUNE

Gas 5 Gall	68,261
Class "D" Shoes	2,505
Leather findings	31,755 pounds
Mosquito bars	18,800 kilos
Iron Tanks) 3000 litres)	29
Scrap Aluminium	5,738 kilos
Raincoats	10,720
Drums	174
Wire Cable	11,729 kilos
Cans mixed	46,507 tons
Batteries	445,000
Blankets	267
Lamps L-M-35	9,859
Canvas Covers	717
1 lot scrap batteries	
2 lots scrap wood	
Cans of Mannite	504
Stove Cabinets	117
Cases, Water Heater	196
Pails (14 qt)	41
1 lot of Tubing light ferrous	

Appendix "G" Economics and Supply Division Region 1 Monthly Report

The following amounts of coal were imported into Sicily at the ports indicated :-

Sicilian Coal

Palermo	5022	}	6872 long tons
Messina	1850		

This was allocated as follows:-

Railroads	5890	}	6872 long tons
Industry	1022		

Sardinian Coal

Palermo	7450	}	7900 metric tons
Messina	450		

This was allocated as follows:-

Industry	5650	}	7900 metric tons
Power Plant	1800		
Gas Works	450		

Total coal imported during month — 14772 tons

P.O.L.

The following amounts of P.O.L. were allocated for civilian use during the month:-

Petrol	8070	Barrels
Gas Oil	10040	Barrels
Kerosene	4283	Barrels
LUB. Oil	882	Barrels
Grease	2550	pounds

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(please pass quickly) 71

From: Information Division

TO

Seen &
Initialed
by

Chief Commissioner

Deputy Chief Commissioner

V. Pres. Admin. Section

V. Pres. Economic Section

✓ Executive Commissioner

✓ Deputy Executive Commissioner

Director Political Section

Security Branch

Public Relations Officer

Sub Commission

Region

SEE:

FOR: - Information & retention
Appropriate Action

422

REMARKS

pm

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ALLIED FORCES HQ
Mil. Govt. Section

22 MAR Re

Copies also to: Ex. Com
Region 12

MSG 319.1

SUBJECT: Gen. Summary Italian Reports -
Conditions of Sicilian Peasants

TO : JMS

Source : Summary of a report of 7 pages which report was prepared by a
member of the Partito Massione in Palermo, Sicily. The
author is an anti-fascist and a member of the BarFrom the above explanation, it appears quite clear that Sicily's
progress is handicapped by:

- 1) Excessive taxes and lack of wealth,
- 2) Distrust of public authority by people
- 3) No sense of solidarity in Sicilians who are highly individualistic,
- 4) Scarcity of means of communications, little water, and no drainage,
- 5) Low standard of living and illiteracy
- 6) Large property ownership.

Therefore, it is necessary:

- 1) To drain Italy both materially and morally,
- 2) To prevent the growth of delinquency,
- 3) To oblige the authorities from the prefect to the P.S. agent to do their
duty with the utmost impartiality,
- 4) To control the administration in order to avoid abuse,
- 5) To assure the people that the law includes everybody and they must be
observed equally by all,
- 6) To raise the standard of living, both by improving the sanitary conditions
and by eliminating illiteracy,
- 7) To promote facilities for communications by the construction of roads,
railways (fascists built few new roads in 20 years; it simply improved
those already existing)
- 8) To wipe out malaria,
- 9) To eliminate large property by the formation of small, individual
properties which respond to the character, customs, and aspirations
of Sicilian peasants.

Sicilian country is not fertile and only the peasant's hard labor can
effectuate intensive cultivation.

421

Good results can be obtained only by obliging proprietors to rent
their lands to peasants, to improve conditions, to construct houses for
the tenants and their families. The expenses are to be paid in advance
by the Bank Corporation with interest charged to the government to be
paid by the peasant on installments for a period of 60 years. But not
all proprietors are susceptible to land division and improvement. These
lands will be taken over by cooperatives which will manage them according
to local economic exigencies.

It is not to be forgotten that the individualistic spirit of the present
and his extreme poverty are to be remedied. It is for this reason that the
Partito Massione has already begun the vast work of organization of coopera-
tives and leagues.

6 The leagues for the assistance and defense of the peasant in his relations with the employer, will elevate his economic and moral conditions and determine a radical change in his mode of living. The co-operatives will accomplish all this, providing they are directed by trustworthy, capable people.

Thus, with the aid of the Allied Governments, which can afford all necessary public works for the redemption of Sicily, it will be possible to transform the conditions of the peasants who constitute the majority of the Sicilian population.

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REPORTS - REGION I

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REPORTS - REGION I.

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1928-1929

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THIS FOLDER CONTAINS PAPERS	
FROM	June 1924
TO	July 1924
CATALOGUE -	

1438