

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

ACC

10000/109/1968

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

0/109/1968

MEDICAL SUPPLIES
APR. 1944

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
(Establishment Branch)

JJA/juv

12 April 1944

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Finance Sub-Commission.

1. Letter from AMO Fifth Army subject: Medical Supplies
Issued in Fifth Army Area contains this paragraph:

"It appears to be assumed that AMOs in the Armies are provided with medical supply officers. This is not the case in AMO 5 Army, where the Public Health Division consists of the Chief of the Division and one officer on the main front, and one other officer at the beachhead. The difficulty of dealing with the accounting regulations in the form as devised for static Regions will therefore be realized and it would be appreciated if an officer of the Finance Sub-Commission dealing with accounts could visit the Army area.

Meanwhile these accounting regulations are being followed as far as possible, and an extract of them is being prepared applicable to conditions in the Army area."

2. Request that you send an Accounting Officer into the AMO Fifth Army Area to study the situation and make recommendation to the Establishment Branch. We do not have available any trained Medical Supply Officers and if you recommend that an additional officer be furnished, please state the qualifications which he should have.

JOHN J. ALRIGHT,
Colonel, Inf.,
Establishment Officer.

1876

Copy to: Col. Farren

10 APR Recd

0 Estab Br

1st Ind.

MEG/cgh

Public Health Sub-Commission, ACC, APO 394, 9 April 1944

TO : Executive Officer, HQ ACC (RC & MG Section)

1. This communication from Brig. Gen. HUME, SCAO AMG 5th Army requires two answers which cannot be furnished by this Sub-Commission.
2. Request is made in Par 3, that a member of the Finance Sub-Commission, ACC, visit the AMG 5th Army Area.
3. Request is made in Par 4 for the assignment of a Medical Supply Officer to AMG 5th Army. This office has attempted for several months to obtain additional Medical Supply Officers and additional trained EM/OR for work with Regions and AMG Army Areas, with no success. Latest request for assignment of Medical Supply Officer was on 5th March 1944 for Region VI, which Region had only one Public Health Officer and no Welfare Officer. This request was refused with instructions to use Italian personnel. A T/5 (A) with medical supply training has been assigned to AMG 5th Army from the staff of this office (a/o 6 March 1944). This Sub-Commission does not have medical supply officers available for assignment to Regions or AMG Army Areas.
4. The undersigned will confer with SAPHO, AMG 5th Army, on 10th April and render such assistance as possible by conference.

For Brigadier PARKINSON:

M. E. Griffin
M. E. GRIFFIN
Colonel, M C
Director, Supply Service

Copy to:

Director, Public Health Sub-Commission, Rear HQS, Salerno

1875

PH Health (PO)
U-3420

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY (FIELD)
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

4 April, 1944.
200/7

SUBJECT: Medical Supplies Issued in Fifth Army Area.

TO : Hq, ACC, Public Health Sub-Commission.

Reference your 1st Indorsement MEG/cgh dated 7 March, the basic communication being HQ/CA/14 dated 3 March, 1944, from Finance Sub-Commission: attached

1. AMG 5 Army warehouse at CALVI RISORTA was opened on 10 Jan 44 for issue of medical supplies. Before that date all stores were obtained from Region 3 medical store and responsibility for primary accounting rested with Region 3.

Since 10 Jan 44 records have been maintained by Chief of Public Health Division, AMG 5 Army, for all receipts and issues to and from CALVI RISORTA warehouse and the books, issue vouchers, and receipts are available for inspection. The reason for the remark by the Chief Accountant regarding lack of records is not clear.

One copy of the first price list of medical stores was only received by AMG 5 Army on 10 Feb 44 and had to be duplicated in this office before it could be distributed to SCAOs of Corps.


2. Application is therefore being made through Senior Finance Officer AMG 5 Army for write-off of charges for medical supplies for the period 10 Jan to 29 Feb 1944. A copy of the statement by Chief of Public Health Division accompanying this application is attached.

3. It appears to be assumed that AMGs in the Armies are provided with medical supply officers. This is not the case in AMG 5 Army, where the Public Health Division consists of the Chief of the Division and one officer on the main front, and one other officer at the beachhead. The difficulty of

dealing with the accounting regulations in the form as devised for static Regions will therefore be realised and it would be appreciated if an officer of the Finance Sub-Commission dealing with accounts could visit the Army area.

Meanwhile these accounting regulations are being followed as far as possible, and an extract of them is being prepared applicable to conditions in the Army area.

4. It is requested that you arrange for the assignment of a medical supply officer to AMG 5 Army.


EDGAR ERSKINE HUME,
Brigadier General, G.S.C.,
SCAO, AMG Fifth Army.

Copy to S.F.O. AMG 5 Army.

" " Finance Officer AMG 5 Army (Field).
" " Finance Sub-Commission

APPENDIX B

Attached to AMG 5 Army (Fld)

No. 200/7 dtd 4 Apr 44.

ISSUES FROM CALVI RISORTA WAREHOUSE

Statement and certificate by Chief of Public Health Division AMG 5 Army.

1. During the period in question 10 Jan to 29 Feb, no medici provinciali or E.C.A. were in existence in any of the communes affected.

2. No pharmacist was functioning except latterly in VENAFRO and payments for stores issued to him has been received.

3. All SCAOs of Corps, their supply and Red Cross officers are unanimous that it would be entirely impracticable to collect payment for medicines and medical supplies under the conditions existing in the forward areas, except in such isolated cases as the towns as SESSA AURUNCA, TEANO or VENAFRO. It should be noted, however that development of long range artillery fire or bombing, may at any time alter the state of affairs in these towns.

4. Only in special cases (such as hospitals) and under special conditions is it possible to deliver small supplies of specific medicines to communes. It has therefore been necessary in most cases to issue bulk selections of medicines to the communes. The distribution has to be done by the local doctor who would find it almost impossible to maintain detailed accounts for them, particularly as most of them serve more than one commune.

None of the smaller communes have pharmacies.

5. Particularly in the forward areas many individuals would be unable to pay for the medicines and in many cases the amount charged for drugs is so high that communes cannot pay for bulk issues.

6. It is therefore certified that the issues made during the period, 10 Jan to 29 Feb, for which payment has not been

1872

obtained, were distributed in emergency or for charitable purposes where no organised local government unit existed, and write-off is accordingly requested.

T. Parr

T. PARR,
Lt Col, RAMC,
Chief of Public Health Div,
AMG 5 Army.

4 April, 1944.

0 7 6 6