Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

10000 / 11/9/57

39 pp.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

00/II9/57 29A - Seed Potatoes
Dec. 1943 - March 1944

39 pp.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CIPHER MESSAGE IN

3071
IMPORTANT
TOP SEC

XX TO FATIMA FOR LEGG RPTD FLAMBO

FROM FREEDOM SIGNED CINC CITE FHMGS 13120 23 Mar

SEED POTATOES FOR CONSUMPTION BY ARMY. YOUR 2142 OF 16 MARCH, OUR 67273 OF 20 MARCH AND YOUR 2431 OF 22 MARCH REFER. NOW FINALISED THAT ARMY WILL TAKE OVER FOR CONSUMPTION FOLLOWING CARGOES. FIGURES AMENDED TO BEST AVAILABLE. TABULATE IN 5 COLUMNS: CONVOY, CODE, SHIP, DESTINATION, CARGO.

KMS 45, LL 64, FORT MAISONEAVE, HEEL, 766.
KMS 45, LL 63, OCEAN VALOUR, HEEL, 423.
UNCERTAIN; KK 86, HPEROTAR, ELBOW, 480. XXX
KMS 46, KK 92, THISTLEDALE, ELBOW, 1170.
TOTAL ALL CARGOES 2839

2955

SMC DISTRIBUTION ACTION ACC(LO)
INFO Q QAE G4 ST

CRE/SMCTOR240445A

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

/JAB/ed

SECRET EMBARGO IN

1

SIGS NO 3653
ROUTINE
TO SECRET

MJB
March 4 1944
15:30

TO / FATIMA FOR LEGATE FLAMBO.

FROM /SIGNED CINC CITF FORCE 62668 IG Mar.

SEND PUSATOON IS SUBJECT. SUCH DIFFICULTIES DUE US FOR WHY AS CANNOT BE STOPPED. IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED BY WSC AFHQ THAT SUCH SEED AS CANNOT BE ECONOMICALLY DISTRIBUTED AND PLANTED SHOULD BE MADE OVER TO THE BRITISH ARMY AS PART OF THE NORMAL RATION. REQUEST YOU INVESTIGATE AND REPORT WHAT QUANTITIES WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE. SHOW ELBOW AND FLOWER SEPARATELY.

SEC DISTRIBUTION ACTION G.T
INFO G G.4. ADJ.GEN.

SEC/TOU/110350/A JO2954

29A

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1 1

Rec'd 9 Mar

BRITISH MOST SECRET = U.S. SECRET.

Subject :- Convoy KMS 41 - Italy Portion.

Movements,
HQ. AFHQ. (Adm Ech).
NOV. 5/548/14.

8 Mar 44.

Ref our Mov 5/548/14 22 Feb 44.

"KK 82 CAPE WRATH" is now due Naples 9 Mar 44 for discharge. A total of 1000 tons seed potatoes has been discharged at Cagliari, 235 tons remaining on board for discharge Naples.

Brig.
D.T.M.O. (Movements).

Distn
H. AFHQ (3)
HQ 5 Army (2)
HQ 10 Corps (2)
Mov Naples (3)
FOXTT
DSTO Italy
D.C.O. Tn (U.S.)
P.M.A.
G (AF)
G (SD)
OS (3)
ST (3)
Tn 2
Tn 5 (2)
Coal Sec.
Works (2)
B.A.O.
M.G.S.
Cdn Mov (2)
L.O. MTA. +
Mov L.O. ASC. ACC.
Main HQ. Lequile.
Mov 1
1 File
Files Mov 5/548/14
" " 5/C/39

2933 +

29A

+ with copy of original

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Fee
EB

CIPHER MESSAGE IN

DTGS NO 7110
IMMEDIATE
MOST SECRET

Rec'd
7 Mar

TO : FREEDOM RPTD FLAMBO

FROM : TROOPERS 74849 STG(E) 06 Mar

MOST SECRET. YOUR 60169 4 MAR. REGRET KMS 45 LOADINGS OF SEED
~~NOXX XX~~ POTATOES ALREADY COMPLETED AND CANNOT BE CANCELLED
CONFIDENT YOU WILL MAKE BEST ARRANGEMENTS POSSIBLE

2952

SMC DISTRIBUTION

29A

ACTION
INFM

Q
G4
Q(AE)
ACC LO——
MCV

JD
SMCTOR070155

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MAR. 5 1944
M.I.D.

CIPHER MESSAGE IN

SIGS NO 5056
IMMEDIATE
SECRET

TO : ACTION TROOPERS INFO FLAMBO

FROM: FREEDOM 60169 ? Near

SECRET. 4 MON. 1. ARRIVAL DATE OF KMS 45 NECESSITATES PLANTING OF XXXX XXXX SEED POTATOES IN SPECIAL MOUNTAIN AREAS. TRANSPORTATION FOR WHICH WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT. 2. SITUATION OF PLANNED SHIPMENTS HAS BEEN REVIEWED AND IT IS CONSIDERED THAT PLANNED ARRIVALS UP TO AND INCL KMS 44 WILL BE MAXIMUM THAT CAN BE DISTRIBUTED AND PLANTED WITHOUT UNDUE LOSS AND WASTAGE. 3. REGRET. NECESSARY TO REQUEST SHIPMENTS OF SEED POTATOES FOR ARMY AN MILITARY GOVT ACCOUNT BE CANCELLED WITH EFFECT KMS 45 AGREED MIL GOVT SEC

29A

2951

SMC DISTRIBUTION

ACTION
INFM

Q
G4
Q(AE) ACC LO MOV

WJD
/ SMCTORO50500

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Ive Fab

Red 21 Feb 44

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
ECONOMIC SECTION
APO 394

AGR/JEM/11
18 February 1944

SUBJECT: Production of Potatoes for British Army Use.

TO: F.D.S.T., AFHQ Advance Admin Echelon.

1. Ref is made to your ltr 4703/II/STA. dtd 15 Feb 1944. and two ltrs. AFHQ MGS (ADV). dtd 15 and 16 Feb 1944. above subject.

2. A.F. Local Resources Board Meeting 31 Jan 1944 Minute 10 states'...it was agreed that D.D.S.T., would place at the disposal of ACC 7000 tons potato seed. ACC undertook to set aside for D.D.S.T., in approximately equal instalments from the total crop on the Mainland as a first priority for the use of the troops maintained by D.D.S.T., during the months June/October inclusive two-thirds of 7000 tons multiplied by the average yield of all farms. ACC will arrange the planting of the potatoes.'

3. It is noted that the quantity of seed potatoes involved has been established at 4,000 tons, the British Army to receive eating potatoes as outlined in para 3 of your letter.

4. We hereby confirm the arrangement, as requested in para 2 of your letter, but eating potatoes will have to be made available in accordance with the harvest thereof, for storage facilities are not adequate to assure uniform deliveries September to December. Supplies will have to be drawn during June, July and August, and later deliveries made subject to the then existant storage limitations.

D. S. ADAMS
Chief Staff Officer
Economic Section

2950

INFORMATION: Copies To
A.F. Local Resources (Italian) Board (Flambo)
AFHQ, MGS, (ADV) ATT: Lt Col Henderson
Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission, ATT: Col Evans

29A

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COPY

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Inter office memo

SUBJECT: Seed Potatoes

TO : Col. Adams 17 February 1944

1. Ref letter 4703/11/ST4 15 Feb 44 from DDST.
2. A.F. Local Resources Board Meeting 31 Jan 44 Minute 10 states... it was agreed that DDST would place at the disposal of ACC 7000 tons potato seed. ACC undertook to set aside for DDST in approximately equal instalments from the total crop on the Mainland as a first priority for the use of the troops maintained by DDST during the months June/October inclusive two-thirds of 7000 tons multiplied by the average yield of all farms. ACC will arange the planting of the potatoes.
3. The 7000 tons proposal has now been reduced to one of 4000 tons though the amount to be returned to the Army is still approximately two-thirds of the yield.
4. Agriculture (Capt Merritt and Mr. Stanley) state that as there are no storage facilities available it would be necessary to make deliveries to the Army during the harvest period (June, July & August) and not during September to December as requested.
5. It would be possible for the Army vary their imports of potatoes accordingly if they have no storage facilities.
6. Do you agree that a reply to DDST should be prepared onthe above lines?

-s-

G. A. Sharp
Major
Economic Sec.

2949

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COLY

Subject: Potatoes.

AFHQ Adv Admin Sec.,
C. M. F.
Tel. Ext. 195
4703/11/ST4

HQ.
Allied Control Commission,
CMF

15 Feb 44.

For the attention of the Hon. Henry Grady.

1. Reference conversation Lt. Col. Henderson - Major White - Major de Gehr.

2. Will you please confirm that provided the British Army import 4,000 tons of Seed potatoes by the 15th March 44, A. C. C. will undertake the necessary planting, and will make available during the period Sept. to December eating potatoes to the British Army.

3. The yield to be handed to the British Army will be based on the method agreed for the original consignments i. e. the return to the Army for the 4,000 tons of Seed imported on Army account will be computed on the average yield per acre taking into account a deduction of 33 1/3% to cover provision for Seed and a small quantity for the farmers themselves.

Brigadier,
D. D. S. T.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ ADVANCED ADMINISTRATIVE ECHELON
Military Government Section, Advance
APO 400

16 February 1944.

SUBJECT: Potatoes

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission
Attn: Deputy Vice President
Economic and Administrative Section

1. Reference is made to my letter to you dated 15 February 1944, subject, Seed Potatoes.

2. The attached letter bearing on this subject from the EDET, AFHQ Adv Admin Echelon, is forwarded for action.

A. I. HENDERSON,
Lt. Col., A. U. S.,
Chief, MGS Advance.

Incl.
Ltr. AFHQ Adv Admin Ech
File 470.3/11/ STA, 15 Feb 44
Subject, Potatoes.

29-7

29 A

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET

AFHQ ADVANCED ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION
Military Government Section, Advance
AFO 400

15 February 1944

29 & 43

SUBJECT: Seed Potatoes

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission
Attn.: Deputy Vice-President
Economic and Administrative Section

1. Confirming conversation by telephone today with Mr. Tirana I advised Major De Geyr that I believed that if the British Army brought in additional seed potatoes before 15 March, an arrangement could be made by MG for handling these potatoes similar to the arrangement now in effect. Major De Geyr said that he had discussed the matter with Region III and that this proposal was acceptable to them provided that the seed potatoes arrived before 15 March. The maximum amount involved is 4,000 tons.

2. I advised Major De Geyr that he should notify MG of the proposal and obtain formal confirmation.

A. I. HENDERSON,
Lt. Col., A. G. S.,
Chief, MGS Advance.

29 A

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CIPHER MESSAGE IN.

SIGS NO:7226.
IMPORTANT.
SECRET.

TO:- FLAMBO FOR CEC FOR HENDERSON.

FROM:- FREEDOM SGD CINC CITE FHMGS. 42564 24.

REF 42311 OF 23 JAN. PERIOD 2-11 MARCH. TONNAGE EX-UK 3000 SEED POTATOES BY PORTS AS FOLLOWS: NAPLES 1500, REGGIO 750, BARI 750. TONNAGE EX-US AS ADVISED BY NYPE 35000 OF WHICH 28000 IS INTENDED FOR MAINLAND CONSUMPTIONS. NO OTHER SHIPMENTS KNOWN AT THIS STAGE AND UNLIKELY WILL ARISE. TOTAL ALL KNOWN SOURCES 31000 FOR MAIN LAND. CONSIDER ALLOCATION TO PORTS IS FOR YOU TO SAY. WOULD EMPHASISE THAT UNLESS 31000 TONS ALLOCATED EXCESS WILL HAVE TO BE DISCHARGED FOR TRANSHIPMENT LATER

29.3

SMC DISTRIBUTION 294 ACTION ACTION CEC. ✓

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ARMY FORM C2136 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Call | Sel. No. | Priority | Transmission Instructions | Register No.

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: FROM FLAGSO FROM MGS ADV

Date-Time of Origin: 23 JAN 1230A

Office Date Stamp

For Action

TO: TO FREEDOM FOR M G S

(W) For Information (INFO)

IMPORTANT
PRIORITY
SECRET

Message Instructions | CR

Originator's No.

MGSA 11778 SECRET X Request information on tonnage destined for mainland for period 2 March to 11 March inclusive X Paren For M G S Signed Henderson Paren X This should be by ports and must include all shipments whether from U S British Empire or North Africa X Essential we receive this information on 26 January as bids must be submitted to Movements here early on 27 Jan X

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS { EXCEPT } WIRELESS

IF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY: IMPORTANT

SIGNED A. I. HENDERSON, LT. COL.

Time 29	System 2 4	Op.
THI or TOR		
Time cleared		

(8 V 326) Wt. 952 194. 2,000,000 Pads 3/43. B. & S Ltd. 51-6745/6.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CIPHER MESSAGE IN.

SIGS NO:7226.
IMPORTANT.
SECRET.

TO:- FLAMBO FOR CEC FOR HENDERSON.

FROM:- FREEDOM SCD GINC CITE FIMES. 42564 24.

REF 42311 OF 23 JAN. PERIOD 2-11 MARCH. TONNAGE EX-UK 3000 SEED POTATOES BY PORTS AS FOLLOWS: NAPLES 1500, REGGIO 750, BARI 750. TONNAGE EX-US AS ADVISED BY NYPE 35000 OF WHICH 28000 IS INTENDED FOR MAINLAND CONSUMPTIONS. NO OTHER SHIPMENTS KNOWN AT THIS STAGE AND UNLIKELY WILL ARISE. TOTAL ALL KNOWN SOURCES 31000 FOR MAIN LAND. CONSIDER ALLOCATION TO PORTS IS FOR YOU TO SAY. WOULD EMPHASISE THAT UNLESS 31000 TONS ALLOCATED EXCESS WILL HAVE TO BE DISCHARGED FOR TRANSHIPMENT LATER

29A

2943

SMC DISTRIBUTION ACTION ACTION CEC.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Agriculture Sub-Commission
APO 394

AD/JHM/11
12 January 1944

SUBJECT: Cancellation of Seed Potato Shipments.

TO : Central Economic Committee, ATT: Lt. Col. Herrmann.
FROM CHANNELS

1. On 29 January Lt. Col. Herrmann of the Central Economic Committee indicated that imports of seed potatoes might be extended over a considerable period, and asked for the latest practicable arrival date - a date beyond which shipments should not be scheduled. 2942

2. Notwithstanding the need for all possible seed potato supplies in the effort to increase food crop production, it is recommended that shipments of seed potatoes which can not be scheduled for arrival prior to March 1st be cancelled, except that the date be extended to March 7th for shipments arriving at Naples. Unless shipments have been discharged by these dates, their use as seed supplies will be impracticable. It is suggested that provisions be made for diversion to food supplies of cargos which, through delay in route arrive after the above mentioned dates.

M.A.V. BICKE
Major
Deputy Director

DISTRIBUTION:

1 - Copy for Industry and Commerce
1 - " " Food Sub-Commission

29A

1st Ind.
CENTRAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE, APO 400, 26 January 1944.
TO: Chief, Headquarters AMG, (Attn.: Deputy Vice President, Economic and Administrative Section, Allied Control Commission.)

For appropriate action.

A. I. HENDERSON,
Lt. Col., A. U. S.,
Chief, MCS Advance.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CIPHER MESSAGE SIGS No. 6123

SECRET

TO FLAMBO FOR CEC

FROM AFHQ CITE FHMGS 29605 16

YOUR CEC 9427 OF 14 AND OUR MEG 16 TO TROOPERS REFER. SEED POTATOES. DISREGARD OUR 28353 OF 14. YOU WILL SEE FROM PHASED ALLOCATION TO ARMY IN OUR MET 16 THAT STRAIN ON HACKLE IN KMS 40 IS RELIEVED SINCE 2000 TONS NOW RECKONED AGAINST SA AND NOT AMG. ALSO POSITION DUKO SIMILARLY RELIEVED KMS 38 AS 3000 TONS NOT NOW FOR AMG. AS TO ARMY SHARE OF SEED WOULD EMPHASIZE POSITION NOW FINAL

SMC DISTRIBUTION ACTION CENTRAL ECON COMM ✓ 2941

29A

SMC TOR 170945A IE 17

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

IMPORTANT CIPHER MESSAGE IN SIGS NO 6081

TO:- ACTION TROOPERS RPTD AGWAR FOR CCSWB OR CPAC RPTD MILSTAFF
PLAMBO FOR CEC

9427

FROM:- FREEDOM W3I4/29537 I6

SIGNED WILSON CITE (9724) OF I4 JAN THIS IS MEG I6

= = = =

Wt. 9553/60587. 10m. (Pds. of 100). 4/43. A.P.L. 8458. Gp. 745/8.

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Large) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No.

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM (A) FROM FLAMBO FROM CENTRAL ECONOMICS COMMITTEE

Originator. | Date-Time of Origin. 14 JAN 1630A | Office Date Stamp

For Action.

TO FREEDOM FOR M G S

IMPORTANT
SECRET

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions. GR

Originator's No. CEC 9427

CEC 9427 SECRET X Shipment H.M.S. Hackle 299 tons seed potatoes received and distributed locally according to previous plan without abnormal wastage X Paren For Freedom for MGS Signed Henderson Cite your FMMGS 27175 dated 11 January Paren X No information on Pustian except some reported loss from pilfering X Distribution plan worked out for Elbow shipments but have bid for tonnage for periods including H.M.S. 40 without knowledge of shipments of potatoes X Can accept limited quantities at expense of other items but this will require arrangements by you to off load and hold supplies ~~XXXXX~~ shut out in Sicily and Sardinia X

Para Consider probable that acceptance of full amounts scheduld for Hackle in H.M.S. 40 would precipitate serious food shortage X Therefore suggest diversion to Elbow of half of total amount scheduled for that convoy X

Para Presume 1500 tons in your message is in error since thisamount would not present problem for port handling and distribution X If figure was intended 15,000 tons cannot predict ability to accept and distribute during month of March because port capacity and allocationshave not been made X Best estimate now would be 3000 tons for heel ports, 3000 for Reggio-Crotone and 6000 for Naples X These tonnages to be spread equally for all ports over the four convoys X Agree-

2833

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 772016

27175 dated 11 January Paren X No information on Pustian except some reported loss from pilfering X Distribution plan worked out for Elbow shipments but have bid for tonnage for periods including P.M.S. 40 without knowledge of shipments of potatoes X Can accept limited quantities at expense of other items but this will require arrangements by you to off load and hold supplies ~~XXXXX~~ shut out in Sicily and Sardinia X

Para Consider probable that acceptance of full amounts scheduled for Hackle in P.M.S. 40 would precipitate serious food shortage X Therefore suggest diversion to Elbow of half of total amount scheduled for that convoy X

Para Presume 1500 tons in your message is in error since thisamount would not present problem for port handling and distribution X If figure was intended 15,000 tons cannot predict ability to accept and distribute during month of March because port capacity and allocationshave not been made X Best estimate now would be 3000 tons for heel ports, 3000 for Reggio-Crotone and 6000 for Naples X These tonnages to be spread equally for all ports over the four convoys X Agreement to accept greater tonnages, especially at Heel ports, depend on securing considerable increase in allocated tonnages and upon tactical developments X Please advise action being taken so that tonnages bids may be made accordingly X Presumed that potatoes for HMS 38 now on water and must be accepted Duke X

Is it possible to divert part of shipment to Reggio-Crotone X

2939

This message may be sent / WRITTEN by any means / kept ..... } WIRELESS.	If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER.	Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority.	Time	System	Op
		IMPORTANT	THI or TOR		
	Signed. A.T. HENDERSON, AT.CH.		Time Cleared		

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 772016

US SECRET INTERIM FORECAST IN EFFECT — SIFC TO 1115

TO FLIMSO FOR CEC

FROM SEC CINC CINC FMCS PHOEN — 27175 — 11

SEND FOLLOWING TO SUBJECT.

1. SEED FOLLOWS HAVE BEEN SKLIFED AS FOLLOWS: ALL IN 1W TONS. (TABULATE). MMS 33 MUSTIAN 968.
MMS 34 HACKER 999.
MMS 35 MUSTIAN 1003.
MMS 36 MUSTIAN 935. FOLLOWING QUANTITIES LOADED OR PROGRAMMED TAKING INTO ACCOUNT ALL MODIFICATIONS OF NON SAILING OR DISPOSITIONS. (TABULATE). MMS AT SEE ON 999.
MMS 38 NIBOT 9353 MUSTIAN 213.
MMS 39 NIBON 275.
MMS 40 HACKER 3389.
MMS 41 HACKER 1830. ZONAL DT ARRIVAL DUE AT IS 10465.
2. REPORT INCREASED SHORTAGE (A)CROSS ASSIGNED HAVE NOT ADEQUATELY DISTRIBUTED AND PLANTED WITHOUT UNDUE HARDSHIP (B)FMCS WILL BE EXTD OF ARRIVALS UP TO MMS 41. (C)FMCS CAN BE ASSURED FOR FUTURE ARRIVALS AS IN 3 BYNON.
3. SUBJECT YOUR APPROVAL PROPOSE TO SHIP A FURTHER 1500 2933 TONS ONLY. SEEKS UPON POINT OF VIEW POST HANDLING AND DISTRIBUTION HOW YOU CAN BEST ACCEPT THIS TONNAGE SPREAD OVER CONVOYS MMS 42 TO 45 INCLUSIVE. PRESENT TOT WILL MAKE ON NECESSARY ADJUSTMENT OF CIVIL SUPPLY ALLOCATION IN YOUR 10 DAY DEMANDS.
4. REQUEST REPLY BY 14 JAN LATEST

SEC DISTRIBUTION — ACTION GENERAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
INFO MOS(ADV)
MOV
EM(A)

SEC/MOS/120750A/CAS

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735014

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 733016

WHS 41 HACKLE 1430. ROMA 84 AMCAN

2. AGREE THE TRIANGLE SECTOR (A)TROOPS ASSIGNED HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY REHEARSED AND PLANNED WITHOUT UNDUE HASTE (B)LIFTS WILL BE MADE OF ARRIVALS UP TO YOKE 41. (C)LIFTS CAN BE ASSURED FOR FUTURE ARRIVALS AS IN 3 BELOW. 2933

3. SUBJECT YOUR APPROVAL PROPOSE TO SHIP A FURTHER 1500 TONS ONEL. STATE UKCM POINT OF VIEW ROAD HANDLING AND DISTRIBUTION YOU CAN BASE ACCEPT LETS TONNAGE SPARED OVER CONVOYS ERC 42 TO 45 INCLUSIVE. PRESUME YOU WILL MAKE ANY NECESSARY ADJUSTMENT OF CIVIL SUPPLY ALLOCATION IN YOUR 10 DAY DEMANDS.

4. REQUEST REPLY BY 14 JAN LATEST

SHC DISTRIBUTION - ACTION GENERAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE.
INFO MGS(ADV)
NOV
EM(A)

SHC/TOR/120750A/CRC

Elbow — West Coast Italy
Hackle — East " "
Fustian — Sicily

23-12

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

IMPORTANT CYPHER MESSAGE IN SIGS NO 6081

TO:- ACTION TROOPERS RPTD AGWAR FOR CGSWB OR CFAC R PTD MILSTAFF
FLAMBO FOR CIC

FROM:- FIREDOM W314/29537 I6

SIGNED WILSON CITE 9724 OF I4 JAN THIS IS MEG I6

SECRET. SEED POTATOES IS SUBJECT. PARA I. IN REPLY YOUR GEN IO PORT HANDLING DIFFICULTIES EXIST. PAST WASTAGE NOT EXCESSIVE BUT CAN ACCEPT CONSIDERABLE REDUCTION . POSITION IS THAT BY ARRIVAL KMS 41,16488 TONS WILL HAVE BEEN SHIPPED. THIS LEAVES 24532 OUTSTANDING ON DEMAND OF 41000 . PREPARED TO REDUCE BY 10532 LEAVING 14000 TO BE SHIPPED AS FOLLWS

A CONVOY	B ELBOW	C REGGIO	D HACKLE	E REMARKS.
KMS 42	1500	750	750	NIL
KMS 43	1500	750	2750	2000 FOR BRITISH ARMY
KMS 44	1500	750	750	NIL
KMS 45	1500	750	750	NIL

PARA 2. INSTEAD OF ANY PLANTING ALL SEED AND LATER SHARING CROP WITH BRITISH ARMY NOW AGREED ARMY SHALL TAKE TOTAL OF 7000 TONS FOR PLANTING PLACED AS FOLLOWS. KMS 43 HACKLE 2000.* THIRD AND IF POSSIBLE SECOND CONSIGNMENTS SHOULD BE MARKED AND CONSIGNED ARMY NOT ANY.
PARA 3. SUMMARY OF WHOLE POSITION BY ARRIVAL KMS 45. POTATOES ON 2943
ACCOUNT 23468 . POTATOES ON ARMY ACCOUNT 7000. TOTAL ALL CONVOYS 30468

SMC DISTRIBUTION ACTION SHIPPING INT
* KMS 40 HACKLE 2000
KMS 38 ELBOW 3000
SMC/TOR/I7I200/JPM.

017

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CENTRAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
ROUTING SLIP

1/15 1944

TO: INITIALS

	Lt.Col.Henderson	
	Lt.Col. Merrell	
	Lt.Col. Legg	
	Lt.Col. Reiter	
6	Lt.Col. Herrmann	Ow N
	Major Smallwood	
	Major Todd	
	Capt. Plummer	
	Capt. Northland	
	Capt. Curran	
	Capt. Morse	
	Capt. Austin	
	Lt. Shirley	
	Sgt. Collins	

FOR:

___ --- Action ---
___ Coordinate with ___
___ & Take Action
___ Info and retain.
2 Info and return Please
___ Read and see me.
___ See me, with all info.
___ File
___ Circulate to All.
___ Prepare reply, my signature.

REMARKS:

Chief Clerk

29A Initials ___

Wt. 9583/60587. 10m. (Pds. of 100). 4/43. A P.L. 8458. Gp. 745/8.

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Large)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM (A) Originator. FROM FLAMBO /FOR CENTRAL ECONOMICS COMMITTEE

Date-Time of Origin. 14 JAN 1630A

Office Date Stamp

For Action.

TO FREEDOM FOR M G 2

IMPORTANT
SECRET

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions.

GR

Originator's No. CEC 9427

SECRET X Shipment H.M.S. Heckle 299 tons seed potatoes received and distributed locally according to previous plan without abnormal wastage X Paren For Freedom for MGS Signed Henderson Cite your FREDO 27175 dated 11 January Paren X No information on Pustian except some reported loss from pilfering X Distribution plan worked out for Elbow shipments but have bid for tonnage for periods including H.M.S. 40 without knowledge of shipments of potatoes X Can accept limited quantities at expense of other items but this will require arrangements by you to off l ad and hold supplies ~~MXXXXX~~ shut out in Sicily and Sardinia X

Para Consider probable that acceptance of full amounts scheduled for Heckle in H.M.S. 40 would precipitate serious food shortage X Therefore suggest diversion to Elbow of half of total amount scheduled for that convoy X

Para Presume 1500 tons in your message is in error since this amount would not present problem for port handling and distribution X If figure was intended 15,000 tons cannot predict ability to accept and distribute during month of March because port capacity and allocations have not been made X Best estimate now would be 3000 tons for Naval ports, 3000 for Reggio-Crotone and 6000 for Naples X

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 123016

abnormal wastage X Paren For Freedom for XXX Signed Henderson Cite your number 27173 dated 12 January Paren X No information on Fustian except some reported loss from pilfering X Distribution plan worked out for Elbow shipments but have bid for tonnage for period including K.M.G. 40 without knowledge of shipments of potatoes X Can accept limited quantities at expense of other items but this will require arrangements by you to off load and hold supplies XXXXX shut out in Sicily and Sardinia X

Para Consider probable that acceptance of full amounts scheduled for Heckle in K.M.G. 40 would precipitate serious food shortage X Therefore suggest diversion to Elbow of half of total amount scheduled for that convoy X

Para Presume 1500 tons in your message is in error since this amount would not present problem for port handling and distribution X If figure was intended 15,000 tons cannot predict ability to accept and distribute during month of March because port capacity and allocations have not been made X Best estimate now would be 3000 tons for Heel ports, 3000 for Reggio-Crotone and 6000 for Naples X These tonnages to be spread equally for all ports over the four convoys X Agreement to accept greater tonnages, especially at Heel ports, depend on security considerable increase in allocated tonnages and upon tactical developments X Please advise action being taken so that tonnages bids may be made accordingly X

Presumed that potatoes for KMG 38 now on water and must be accepted Duke X

Is it possible to divert part of shipment to Reggio-Crotone X

29A

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except ..... WIRELESS.	If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER.	Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority.
Signed.	Signed. A.I. HENDERSON, LT.C.I.	IMPORTANT

	Time	System	Op
THI or TOR			
Time Cleared			

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DE SECRET EXPEDITER MESSAGE TO CINCMED NR 1215

TO NIACC WCH CEC

FROM SCD CINC CMED MEDS FNGH. 27175 11 Jan

SUBJ POSITIONS IN CONVOYS.

1. SUBJ POSITIONS HAVE BEEN SHIFTED AS FOLLOWS: ARE IN EX HOMS. (TABULATE). MKS 33 PUSTAN 968.
MKS 34 HACKLE 299.
MKS 35 PUSTAN 1503.
MKS 36 PUSTAN 935. FOREGOING DIMENSIONS LOADED OR PROGRAMMED MAKING NINE AVOIDED ARE MODIFICATIONS OF NON SAILING OR NONWORKERS. (TABULATE). MKS 37 WIDOW 998.
MKS 38 WIDOW 9355 PUSTAN 913.
MKS 39 ELBOW 279.
MKS 40 HARDY 3382.
MKS 41 HACKLE 1839. TO BE BY ARRIVAL PLS 41 IS 16468.
2. REPORT IMMEDIATELY WHETHER (A)THOSE ASSIGNED HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY DISTRIBUTED AND PLACED WITHOUT UNDUE WASTAGE (B)THIS WILL BE TRUE ON ARRIVALS UP TO MKS 41. (C)THIS CAN BE ASSURED FOR FUTURE ARRIVALS AS IN 3 BELOW.
3. SUBJECT YOUR APPROVAL PROPOSE TO SHIP A FURTHER 1500 TONS ONLY. SEATO PROV POINT OF VIEW POOL HANDLING AND DISTRIBUTION HOW YOU CAN BEST ACCEPT THIS TONNAGE SPREAD OVER CONVOYS MKS 42 TO 45 INCLUSIVE. PRESUME YOU WILL MAKE SUCH NECESSARY ADJUSTMENT OF CIVIL SUPPLY ALLOCATION IN YOUR 10 DAY DEMANDS.
4. REQUEST REPLY BY 14 JAN LATEST

SIC DISTRIBUTION - ACTION CENTRAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
INFO MCS(ADV)
NCV
EN(A)

2936

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MMS 41 EACHES 1830. DOLAS IN ARRIVAL MMS 41 IS 16468.
2. REPORT IF FOLLOWING VERSION (A)MOST RECENTLY HAVE BEEN ADEQUATELY DISTRIBUTED AND PLANTED WITHOUT UNDUE WASTAGE (B)WHEN WILL BE CLEAR OF ARRIVALS UP TO MMS 41. (C)THIS CAN BE ASSURED FOR FUTURE ARRIVALS AS IN 3 BELOW.
3. SUBJECT YOUR APPROVAL PROPOSE TO SHIP A FURTHER 1500 TONS ONLY. STATE FROM POINT OF VIEW DOCK HANDLING AND DISTRIBUTION HOW YOU CAN BEST ACCORE THIS TONNAGE SPREAD OVER CONVOYS MMS 42 TO 45 INCLUSIVE. PRESUME YOU WILL MAKE THE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS OF CIVIL SUPPLY ALLOCATION IN YOUR 10 DAY DEMANDS.
4. ACQUOTE REPEAT BT 14 JAN DATOST

SNC DISTRIBUTION - ACHIEVE CENTRAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE
INFO MGS(ADV)
MOV
EE(A)

2935

SNC/EOR/120730A/CRC

29A

23-12

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Wt. 9533/60587. 10m. (Pds. of 100). 4/43. A.P.L. 8458. Gp. 745/8.

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Large)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions
			5-14

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM (A) FEN ELAMO FROM CENTRAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Originator. | Date-Time of Origin. 11 JAN 1000 A

Office Date Stamp 85

For Action.

TO TO FLIMSY FOR M G S

(W) For Information (INFO) SECRET

NTO PILOT FOR A M G IMMEDIATE

Message Instructions. GR

Originator's No. C E C 8494

SECRET X Ministry War Transport Naples

has received message from N W F London which states that your L A C Seven Five and Eight Zero request Two Five Zero Zero Zero tons seed potatoes for mainland during period Fifteenth February to end of March X Paren For M G S Signed Henderson Paren X Request advice as to ports of entry you desire and whether your planning Figures have included these shipments X Under anticipated allocations at Flamo tonnage restricts such a movement not believed possible X Considered possible however to accept smaller quantities at Naples and Reggio Black Orotave X Reggio Black Orotave acceptances would require special loadings X

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has received message from M W T London which states that your L A C Seven Five and Eight Zero request Two Five Zero Zero Zero tons seed potatoes for mainland during period fifteenth February to end of March X Pause For M G S Sigend Henderson Tuesn X Request advice as to ports of entry you desire and whether your planning figures have included these shipments X Under anticipated allocations at Naples tonnage position such a program not believed possible X Considered possible however to accept smaller quantities at Naples and Reggio Slash Crotone X Reggio Slash Crotone acceptances would require special loadings X

1st

29A

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except ..... WIRELESS. Signed.	If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER. Signed. A. T. HENDERSON, M. GEN.	Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority. IMMEDIATE	Time	System	Op
			THI or TOR		
			Time Cleared		

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783016

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CIPHER MESSAGE IN | IMPORTANT | SIGS: 1215

Col. Hewitt

TO:- ACTION FLAMBO ST INFO Q (HAIST)

FROM:- FLAMBO ST SUS/2966

NT

REF YOUR 1003 DATED 5 JAN. POSITION REGARDING SEED POTATOES UNDER DISCUSSION WITH NOS. ESSENTIAL HOWEVER TO AVOID DELAYS YOU MAKE ALL ARRANGEMENTS FOR PLANTING 2000 TONS SEED POTATOES IMPORTED FOR BRITISH ARMY BY 15TH ARMY GP. YOUR 4703/11/S24 DATED 29 NOV 43 REFERS. OTTO THGDI

AMG

N.T.

IMPORTANT

SIG DISTRIBUTION ACTION ST
INFO "Q" NOS(ADV) ✓
SIC 121600A - L.H.

AWT = No Trace

Col Merrill says
Action req'd
2933 13 Jan 44

2-13

re Army gets 2,000

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REG. SUPPLY OFFICER
BRINDISI

SUP/R/6
Jan.7th 1943

Subject: Seed Potatoes

To : Central Economic Committee
M.G.S. Adv.
A.F.H.Q. Adv.Adm.Echelon

Reference your signal CEC 7111 dated 4th Jan.

1. Failing receipt of answer to our signal of Dec.25th 1943 and owing to condition in which the consignment of potatoes arrived it was necessary to distribute these immediately to parts of Apulia.

The sacks containing the potatoes were damp and rotting, and breaking apart as they were being off-loaded. Considerable trouble was experienced in handling this cargo and in order to save as much of it as possible immediate distribution was essential.

2. Information was also obtained from Agric. Sub-Commission representative at BARI that these potatoes were meant for APULIA and copy of his letter is attached.

Distribution has taken place in accordance with figures quoted in his letter.

E B Marsh
Lt.Col.
for C.L.C.
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Advanced Command Post

2932

29. A

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

3 Jan. 1944

To:Capt. Imrie
Allied Control Commission
Civilian Supply Sub Commission
Brindisi

Subject: Distribution of seed potatoes

I) In accordance with my verbal promise to you of 31 Dec the data on the desired distribution of 299 tons of seed potatoes is submitted.

2) The following distribution is desired by the Ministry of Agriculture:

a. Bari	100	tons
b. Brindisi	59	"
c. Lecce	70	"
d. Taranto	70	"
Total	299	tons

3) Potatoes to be turned over to Consorzio Agrario in above towns.

4) The Ispettorato Agrario Provinciale in each province will aloccate quantities to be received by each grower and will sb advise Consorzio Agrario Official.

5) No data has been received by this office on prices to be charged growers or Consorzio.

6) I have been informed another 2000 tons are due for Apulia in near future however do not have port of discharge or,other particulars. A distribution plan will be mailed you in a few days covering this lot if it arrives.

Signed:
Capt. W. R. Schreiber
Agric. Sub. Commission
A-C.C

2931

15/11

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ARMY FORM C2128. (Pads of 100).

MESSAGE FORM

SIGS NO. 5477

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	No. of Groups.	Serial No. / Office Date Stamp
IN IMMEDIATE & SECRET CIPHER MESSAGE IN OUT	GR.	

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO HQ TROOPERS FOR BRITISH CHIEFS OF STAFF AGWAR FOR CCS FOR CCAC RPTD FLAMBO FOR MGS ADV FOR CCAO REGION II NEPHEW EAGLE (FOR GARRISON COMD)

FROM FREEDOM CITE FNGDQ | Originator's Number: W9089/22343 | Date: 01 | In Reply to Number:

SECRET. MEG 7. YOUR 53404 CA 15 SEM 2 R 30 DEC. 7
SHIP SEED POTATOES FOR FED DELIVERY AS FOLLOWS A 4000 TONS ELBOW
B 2000 TONS NORTH AFRICA FOR ONWARD SHIPMENT TO SARDINIA. CONSIGN
AMG. FOLLOWING DISTINCTIVE MARKINGS BOTH CONSIGNMENTS. TOP AND
WHITE CROSS WITH GREEN DISCS.

SMC/DIST/ACTION — MGS(ADV)(3) — 2930

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS {EXCEPT / WIRELESS.}*

THIS MESSAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHER IF LIABLE TO INTERCEPTION OR TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS.

SIGNED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY: IMMEDIATE & SECRET.

TIME OF ORIGIN: T.H.I.

SIGNED

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

SYSTEM IN	TIME IN	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER	SYSTEM OUT	TIME OUT	READER	SENDER
		29	A								

T.O.R. SMC/020245/HH

Page 2

*Originator may delete "except" and insert "including."

W. 10598/864. 300M Pads. 6/42. P.I. T. 51-4880.

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CENTRAL ECONOMICS COMMITTEE
ROUTING SLIP

1944

TO:		INITIALS
	Lt. Col. HENDERSON	
	Lt. Col. MERRILL	
	Capt. FULLER	
	Capt. MORTELMAND	
1	Lt. Col. HERRIMAN	
	Capt. AUSTIN	
	Capt. CURRAN	
	Major SOUTHWOOD	
	Major TODD	
	Lt. SHANLEY	
	Sgt. Collins	

FOR:

_____ Read in turn and pass on
_____ Dispatch
_____ Explanation
_____ Information
_____ Signature and return
(1) Necessary action
_____ See Me
_____ File

Initials _____

To Col Herriman

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

824

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL
Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

223

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Military Government Section JEB/CHR/jm

31 December 1943

SUBJECT: Seed Potato Requirements - Italy

TO : HQ ACC for C.E.C.

1. Herewith for information and necessary action copy of Report on Seed Potato situation in Sicily and S. Italy, prepared by Ministry of Food (U.K.) Representative following his recent survey of the area.

2. This Report has been forwarded to C.C.S. in our cable of 31 Dec '43 requesting 25,200 tons seed potatoes for delivery by end March. This is in addition to 15,800 tons previously requisitioned and confirmed.

3. Chart marked "B" indicates the screened amounts approved by this H.Q. subject to procurement being possible.

J. E. BUTTERWORTH
Colonel, Infantry
Economics & Supply Division

3 copies of report enclosed.

2928

S/142. ere 223 NDS 12 Jan 44 No 16

No action Req'd Annex Antigua quotations Ques

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL
Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM CONFIDENTIAL

TO:- Colonel Butterworth,
Allied Military Government,
A.F.H.Q.

FROM:- H. P. Elder, Ministry of Food,
British Economic Mission,
N.A.E.B.

SUBJECT:- Seed Potato Situation in Sicily and Southern Italy

1. In accordance with instructions received from A.M.G., A.F.H.Q., I left Algiers on 3rd December, 1943, on a temporary mission to Sicily and Southern Italy, and returned to Algiers on 23rd December, 1943.

Terms of Reference

2. My terms of reference were to enquire generally into the seed potato situation in Sicily and Southern Italy and to advise the A.M.G. officers in the field on technical matters in connection with the handling and distribution of seed potatoes and to report back to A.M.G. Algiers.

Places visited and persons contacted

3. Place — Persons Contacted

Palermo — Col. Evans, Lt.Col. Hayes (Industry and Commerce), Majors Hartman, Dickie, Watts and other officers of Agricultural Sub-Commission H.Q. Palermo
Major Chayton, Agriculture, Region I.
Dr. Fois and other Sicilian agricultural officials.

Catania — Major Monk, C.S.O., Catania Province, also Capt. Guerny and Lt. Jarmond; Sicilian officials of Consorzio Agrario and Inspetterata Agrario and Chamber of Commerce.

Siracusa — Major Giles, S.C.A.O., Major Sutton, C.S.O., and Sicilian Agricultural official.

2627

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Reference

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Siracusa	Major Giles, S.C.A.O., Major Sutton, C.S.O., and Sicilian Agricultural official.
Bari	Lt.Col. Middleton, Liaison Officer, A.C.C., Capt. Schreiber, Agricultural Liaison Officer, A.C.C., Lt. Merrill Shepherd, C.S.O., Bari Province; various officials of Italian Ministry of Agriculture.
Brindisi	Col. Mayne, Liaison Officer, A.C.C.; (Capt. Imrie who I wanted to see was away at Lecce).
Matera	Col. Ruck, Capt. Morgan, Lt. Brinzi, Region II, H.Q.
Naples	Col. Henderson; Lt.Col. Herman; Lt.Col. Merral (15th Army Group A.M.G.); Major Dickie (Agricultural Sub-Commission); Major Kennedy and Major White (Agriculture, Region III); Capt. Case (Agriculture Region IV - Lt. Col. Wood was away); various Italian Agricutural Officials.
Algiers	Reported to Col. Butterworth and Major Ruf.

2827

/4.

Rec. 12 Jan No 16

29A

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Seed Requirements Position

4. (a) The attached table purports to give in rough outline the overall picture of requirements for the coming planting season. The information given in columns 2, 3 and 4 I obtained from the Regions during the course of my tour. In column 5 I have indicated to what extent I consider these requirements should be screened. These screened requirements represent in my opinion a reasonable planting programme having regard to all the relevant circumstances at present obtaining, but it is, of course, quite conceivable and in fact highly probable, that the carrying out of this programme is incapable of physical performance within the limited time now available, even assuming that the requisite shipping space could be allotted. I am not unmindful of the many factors involved which can militate against the supplying and handling of this rather formidable tonnage, and I have therefore in column 7 attempted to give some indication of the degree of priority which I consider should be accorded to the various Regions in the matter of allocating such supplies as can be provided in reasonable time for planting.

(b) As far as I can ascertain, planting of potatoes in the Regions concerned, with the exception of Sicily, which specialises in the production of early potatoes, can be carried out up to about 2926 end of April without unduly prejudicing the chances of reasonably good yields. The end of March should be regarded as the latest arrival date so as to allow reasonable time for transit from the ports of entry and distribution to the

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5. The following notes on the individual requirements of the Regions are intended to amplify the information given in the attached table.

(a) Region I - Sicily

The main potato producing area in Sicily is situated in the coastal belt of the Catania/Ionia districts where reasonable yields may be expected provided adequate supplies of fertilizers and sulphate of copper (the latter being for fungicidal purposes) can be made available. It is very difficult to obtain accurate information as to yields - reports are so conflicting - but for purposes of comparison I think it may be said the yields in Sicily would be about 5/1 against a 10 to 1 yield in say Campania, Region of the Mainland.

/Whilst

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Whilst the 5,000 tons approved of for Sicily and which is in course of delivery could undoubtedly be utilised in the island to good purpose, I am inclined to the view that 2,000 tons of this quantity should be diverted to the mainland if diversion at this stage is possible. Sicily, I admit, has need of the full 5,000 tons but the needs of the mainland are, I think, of even greater urgency and planting in, say, Campania, would offer better investment in that the yield would be higher and moreover part of the resultant crop could to some extent be earmarked for seed purposes, whereas in Sicily environmental conditions are not conducive to the production of crops from which seed can with any degree of safety from a pathological standpoint be saved.

(b) Region II - Lucania and Calabria

The Regional indent of 2,700 tons, which appears to be a very reasonable request, is for planting in Reggio, Matera and Potenza districts. Seed is also required for Cosenza and Catanzara Districts, but Col. Buck, rightly I think, decided not to order for these two districts in view of the smallness and inaccessability of the growing units in the mountains and the difficulties which would be presented in the matter of transport, etc., rendering commercialization measures exceedingly difficult of enforcement, In any case it is reasonable to assume that some of part of the planting requirements of the mountain farms will be met from stocks retained on the farms from the preceeding crop for seed.

2925

The figure of 2,700 tons does not include the requirements of that part of Solerno Province recently transferred from Region III

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(b) Region II - Lucania and Calabria

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2925

The figure of 2,700 tons does not include the requirements of that part of Solerno Province recently transferred from Region III to Region II. The Solerno requirements amount to 5,000 tons and are included in the Naples bid.

(c) Puglie - Crown Province

I understand an indent for 4,000 tons has been received from Puglie for arrival in January but I was informed by Capt. Schreiber, Agricultural Liaison Officer, A.C.C. Bari, that a further 10,000 tons is required for later planting, making a total of 14,000 tons which quantity he considers is the irreducible minimum. Information I obtained from a different source as to provincial estimates of seed requirements varies from Capt. Schreiber's figure but I give it hereunder as it provides some idea of the breakdown by districts.

/Bari

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Bari	4,500 tons
Brindisi	5,000 tons
Taranto	1,000 tons
Lecce	1,500 tons
	12,000 tons

The figure of 14,000 tons given by Capt. Schreiber and also the Italian Ministry of Agriculture at Bari represents a very substantial proportion of the total planting requirements of Puglie; the general concensus of opinion is that no seedis available locally.

Whilst Puglie is an important potato producing area, and I agree it is desirable from a production standpoint that as much seed as possible be allocated to this area, I rather think the indent of 14,000 tons is on the high side having regard to the general position of seed supplies and I would accordingly suggest screening it to at least 10,000 tons.

(d) Region III - Campania

6,800 tons for Naples have, I understand, been approved and are in course of transit. This tonnage is for early planting and includes 2,000 tons for that part of Salerno Province which now comes within Region II.

I was informed by Major Kennedy that a further 16,000 tons have been ordered for later planting which figure includes 3,000 tons for Salerno (Region II). Major Kennedy also mentioned an additional quantity of 2,000 tons which is required by the Army for planting some 1,000 hectares of agricultural land in Naples Province which they have taken over for cropping. The full requirements position is therefore as follows:-

6,800 tons for early planting (including

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supplies and I would accordingly suggest screening it to at least 10,000 tons.

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6,800 tons	for early planting (including 2,000 tons for Salerno)
16,000 tons	for later planting (including 3,000 tons for Salerno)
2,000 tons	for Army planting
24,800 tons	

2924

The above requirements I consider are very reasonable and should be met as far as is possible.

Campania is without doubt the most fertile and productive region in Italy in so far as potatoes are concerned and always in the past produc an exportable surplus of this commodity. Potatoes are grown largely on a commercial basis and therefore the question of control of the harvest is relatively easier, whereas in other mountainous regions while potato

/production

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 730016

production is by no means inconsiderable in terms of total area planted it is to a much greater extent on a subsistence basis.

I am not suggesting here that Campania is ideally suitable for specialised seed production or is comparable in this respect with, say, the High Adige district in Northern Italy, but I do contend that the rate of degeneration of potato stocks through the incidence of virus diseases is not so marked in Campania as in the rest of Southern Italy or in Sicily and it should be feasible to earmark a proportion of the crop in Campania derived from U.K. seed to meet at least in part next year's planting requirements of the regions further south.

From every point of view - yielding capacity, density and proximity of urban population, commercialisation of the crop for consumption and for seed purposes - it seems clearly desirable that production of potatoes should, within reasonable limits, be concentrated in Campania. I therefore suggest that as high a proportion as possible of such supplies of U.K. seed as can be made available this season be allocated to this region.

(e) Region IV - Lucania and Abruzzi E Molise

The indent of 21,200 tons for Region IV represents approximately 10 per cent. of the potential planting requirements of the whole of Lucania and Abruzzi and that part of Puglie which comes under Region IV. This indent might be regarded as being of modest proportions providing all the districts for which the seed is destined were in Allied hands. In light, however, of the present tactical situation

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775016

population, commercialication of the crop for consumption and [illegible] it seems clearly desirable that production of potatoes should, within reasonable limits, be concentrated in Campania. I therefore suggest that as high a proportion as possible of such supplies of U.K. seed as can be made available this season be allocated to this region.

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2923

Abruzzie particularly, is a region where potatoes are produced by small growers in the mountains and by reason of altitude and climatic conditions stocks do not deteriorate in health to any appreciable degree and it is therefore reasonable to assume that in the event of Allied occupation before the planting season, requirements may be met to a fairly large extent from suitable stocks retained on the farms from the preceeding crop unless, of course, all stocks have been sequestered by the retreating army. Potatoe tubers, however, are rather difficult to destroy and are bulky goods to transport.

/(f)

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(f) Region VI - Sardinia

I understand the requirements of seed for Sardinia amount to 2,000 tons. I did not visit this island and am not therefore conversant with conditions existing there but from an examination of statistics of its potato production in relation to Sicily and Southern Italy I would be inclined to suggest screening this indent to 1,0 tons.

Shipment of seed at Siracusa

6. While at Siracusa I witnessed the completion of the discharging of a cargo of seed potatoes from U.K. and for information I attach hereto copy of report on this subject which I sent to Major Chayton at Palermo.

Distribution of seed and control of harvest

7. (a) The system of distribution employed in Sicily is briefly that the Consorzio Agrario perform the physical distribution of the seed on the advice of the Inspettorator Agrario to growers selected by the latter who are likely to make the best possible use of it. The distribution is supervised by the Chamber of Commerce and A.M.G. The growers receiving the seed are required to enter into a contract with the Consorzio Agrario whereby they undertake to deliver to the Consorzio the entire produce of the crop derived from the seed. The Consorzio in turn will place the produce at the disposal of the Chamber of Commerce which body acting as the instrument of A.M.G. will give directions as to ultimate disposal, prices, etc.

(b) At the time of my visit to the mainland no seed from U.K. had arrived but I rather gathered that the system of distribution and control envisaged by the various Regions follows very closely the pattern of

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the advice of the Inspetterato Agrario to growers selected by the latter who are likely to make the best possible use of it. The distribution is supervised by the Chamber of Commerce and A.M.G. The growers receiving the seed are required to enter into a contract with the Consorzio Agrario whereby they undertake to deliver to the Consorzio the entire produce of the crop derived from the seed. The Consorzio in turn will place the produce at the disposal of the Chamber of Commerce which body acting as the instrument of A.M.G. will give directions as to ultimate disposal, prices, etc.

(b) At the time of my visit to the mainland no seed from U.K. had arrived but I rather gathered that the system of distribution and control envisaged by the various Regions follows very closely the pattern of that adopted by Region I.

(c) It is difficult to assess the risk of imported seed finding its way through black market channels into human consumption instead of being planted but that this risk does exist is generally accepted. I personally feel that the instinct which is inherent in all men born of the the soil to cultivate and produce crops from the land which is their heritage is traditionally strong in all parts of the world and the risk of diversion of seed into improper channels is perhaps not so great as is imagined. It is, however, of paramount importance that A.M.G. should watch this position very carefully. The Inspetterato Agrario should be required to furnish lists of all growers to whom seed has been supplied together with the quantities thereof and should be made responsible under A.M.G.supervision for ensuring by periodical spot

/checks

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checks or other means that the seed is actually planted and that the produce at time of harvest is not disposed of other than through proper channels.

Selling price of seed

8. The Regional Officers do not appear to have received any directive on the matter of the price at which seed potatoes should be sold or any indication of landed cost. For example, the seed at present being distributed in Sicily is being charged out to the Consorzio Agrario at the rate of £10 per ton while Region III are contemplating charging a price somewhere about £75 per tone. I am not aware of what price arrangements, if any, exist in regard to seed potatoes but it does seem desirable that there should be some uniformity in selling price. I do not know the actual landed cost of these potatoes but it will be somewhere between £20 and £27 per ton. London will no doubt be able to furnish exact information on this point.

Artificial fertiliser position in relation to potato production

9. I did not examine the fertiliser position in Sicily and Southern Italy as obviously it did not come within the scope of my enquiry but in considering potato production generally one cannot help but take into account the possibilities of supplies, as maximum potato production is so dependent upon the adequate provision of the elements necessary for plant growth. I rather gathered during my tour that the supply position present and prospective is distinctly tight and I would venture here to put in a strong plea that a high degree of priority of allocation of supplies be given to the potato crop. No other crop receives so much artificial fertiliser or responds so well as the potato, which of all crops is the most efficient converter of artificial fertiliser into human food. The need for fertiliser in order to

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/I/ H. P. E.

26th December, 1943.

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POSITION OF ALLOCATED REQUIREMENTS OF SICILY, CALABRIA AND SOUTH [illegible]

Col. 1	Col. 2	Col. 3	Col. 4	Co
Region	Regional indent	Date required by	Ports	Sup scr
(Sicily)	5,000 tons	December/early January	Catania Siracusa	5,00
II (Calabria-Lucania)	2,700 tons	End January	Bari (2,400 tons) Reggio (300 tons)	2,40 30 2,70
(Puglie) (King's Italy)	4,000 tons 10,000 tons 14,000 tons	Early January From 1st Feb. onwards	Bari (b) Brindisi (b)	4,00 6,00 10,00
III (Campania)	6,800 tons (c) 16,000 tons (d) 2,000 tons (Army) 24,800	End December/ early January End January onwards End January onwards	Naples (b) Salerno (b)	6,80 16,00 2,00 24,80
IV (Lazio-Abruzzi)	21,200 tons	1st February onwards	Termoli (10,000 tons) Pescara (4,000 tons) Gaeta (3,600 tons) Civitaveecchia (3,600 tons)	55
VI (Sardinia)	2,000 tons	?	?	1,00
	69,700 tons			44,05

(a) In course of delivery; suggest diversion of 2,000 tons of this quantity t mainland if possible.
(b) No information as to breakdown of quantities by ports
(c) In course of transit. Includes 2,000 tons for planting in that part of Sa
(d) Includes 3,000 tons for planting in that part of Salerno province transfer

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C REQUIREMENTS OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND SHIPPING IN THE 1944 CYCLE

Col. 3	Col. 4	Col. 5	Col. 6
Date required by	Ports	Suggested screening	Proposed allocation of such supplies as can be shipped
December/early January	Catania Siracusa	5,000 tons(a)	-
End January	Bari (2,400 tons) Reggio (300 tons)	2,400 tons 300 tons 2,700 tons	5 per cent
Early January From 1st Feb. onwards	Bari(b) Brindisi(b)	4,000 tons 6,000 tons 10,000 tons	25 per cent
End December/ early January End January onwards	Naples(b) Salerno(b)	6,800 tons(c) 16,000 tons(d) 2,000 tons	
End January onwards		24,800 tons	65 per cent
1st February onwards	Termoli (10,000 tons) Pescara (4,000 tons) Gaeta (3,600 tons) Civitaveecchia(3,600 tons)	550 tons for Foggia	-
?	?	1,000 tons	5 per cent
		44,050 tons	

suggest diversion of 2,000 tons of this quantity to
le.
eakdown of quantities by ports
Includes 2,000 tons for planting in that part of Salerno province transferred to Region II
planting in that part of Salerno province transferred to Region II

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POTATOES

1 (Area)	2 (Requirement)	3 (Date Required)	4 (Ports)	5 (Amts Approved)
Sicily	5,000	Dec/ Jan	Catania Siracusa	5,000
Calabria) Lucania)	2,700	Jan.	Bari (2,400) Reggio (300)	1,700 300
Apulia	4,000 10,000 14,000	Jan Feb/Mar	Bari Brindisi	4,000 5,500 9,500
Campania	6,800 16,000 22,800	Dec/Jan Jan/Mar " "	Naples Salerno	7,000 16,000 23,000
Lazio) Abruzzi)	21,200	Feb/Mar		500 (for Foggia)
Sardinia	2,000		Cagliari	1,000
	67,700			41,000

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CHART B

POTATOES

...uired)	4 (Ports)	5 (Amts Approved)	6 (Excl Sicily & available total)	7 (On Order)	8 (En route
	Catania Siracusa	5,000	--	5,000	4,086
	Bari (2400) Reggio (300)	1,700 300	5 (2,000)	*4,000	--
	Bari Brindisi	4,000 5,500 9,500	25 (9,500)	4,000	
	Naples Salerno	7,000 16,000 23,000	65 (23,000)	6,800	6,657
		500 (for Foggia)	500		--
	Cagliari	1,000	5 (1,000)	*2,000	--
		41,000	100% (36,000)		10,743

* Forwarded to but not yet approved by C.C.S.

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