

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

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34.32- Glass & Related Products  
January 1944

AFHQ ADVANCED ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION  
Military Government Section, Advance  
A.P.O. 400

AMH/al

28 January 1944

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Lt. Colonel RUTHER.

1. I note that a report on Chlorine production has been sent to AFHQ, MSG, and that a supplemental report will follow.

2. I note that a survey of glass container production is being made and that a report will be made to Lt. Col. HENNING.

3. The Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission is making a report on warship accommodations for AFHQ. It is requested that this report when completed be sent directly to the Local Resources Section, AFHQ, Advanced Administrative Echelon.

A. I. HENNING,  
Lt. Col., A.G.S.,  
Chief, MSG Advance

34.32

3897

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
Industrial Planning Staff.

FMR/ln

25 January 1944

SUBJECT: Closure of C.E.C. Matters of Industry Section.

TO : Lt.Col. A.I. Henderson, MGS -AFHQ, Adv. Adm. Ech.

1. Report on several items referred to the Industry Section, C.E.C., upon which final action has not been taken to close them or are on their way, follows:

a. Chlorine production possibilities: Attached correspondence indicates final action to AFHQ-MGS taken by Col. Todd, Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission, to whom the investigation was referred. I visited the Cellulose-Chloro-Soda Plant yesterday with Capt. Mydans, Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission, and found that production of Chlorine from this plant is impracticable, due to extensive destruction.

b. Glass container production for canning: Referred to Industry Section by Lt.Col. Herman. Major Brerton, Industry and Commerce is making survey of this industry. His report will be available shortly. Col. Herman has been advised to maintain liaison with Major Brerton as to requirements, etc. See attached indorsement.

2. Are there any other matters that the Industry Section should complete?

FRED M. REITER  
Lt. Colonel  
Industry Section C.E.C.

2 Incl.

1. Chlorine memo.
2. Container indorsement.

Distribution  
Economic Director  
Industry & Commerce Sub-Comm.

3896

1st Ind.

FMR/ln

Central Economic Committee, 18 January 1944. To: Economic Director, AMG-Hq.

1. Attached request for glass container production for vegetable canning industry ties in closely in with requirements of soda, sand, etc., for Salerno flat glass plant. If bottle plants in Naples-Salerno area could be operated, the production would be simplified.
2. Col. Herman fears cap shortage for the final assembly of containers for canning. Our civilian engineer (Indust. Plan. Staff, AMG-HQ) believes caps will not be difficult, due to present stocks of rubber rings, etc. He knows some of these glass plant engineers personally. This engineer is available to Industry & Commerce Sub-commission at any time and could probably assist in this problem. He speaks some English.
3. The attached penned list of bottle and cap factories and warehouses was compiled by him and is submitted for information.

For the Central Economic Committee

FRED M. REITER  
Lt. Colonel,  
Industry Section.

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HEADQUARTERS PENINSULAR BASE SECTION

23 JANUARY 1944

RESTRICTED

PRIORITY

TO (ACTION) : CG PBS FOR PENCE FOR FARGO  
(INFORMATION) : FLAMBO FOR HENDERSON  
FROM : SIGNED CINC  
DATE TIME SIGNED : 222028A  
DATE TIME REC'D : 231310A  
REF NR : 41710  
CITE : FHMGS

FURTHER TO OUR 40600 OF 20TH JANUARY, RECEIPT OF SPOFFORD LETTER OF 17 JAN INDICATING ESSENTIALITY OF LONG FLAME GAS COAL PRECLUDES USE OF SARDINIAN COAL. ALLOCATION OF DODA ASH THEREFORE WITHDRAWN PENDING ALLOCATION OF SUITABLE COAL AND PORT ACCEPTANCE. YOU WILL COORDINATE THIS WITH QUARTERMASTER AND FLAMBO AND ADVISE THIS HEADQUARTERS.

ACTION - MGS HQS

INFO. - MGS ADV ✓  
QM  
G-4  
TRANS  
SECY  
C.G.

*Duplicate*

RESTRICTED

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34.32 ✓

CENTRAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE  
ROUTING SLIP

1944

TO:

INITIALS

|       |                    |       |
|-------|--------------------|-------|
| _____ | Lt. Col. Henderson | _____ |
| _____ | Lt. Col. Merrill   | _____ |
| _____ | Lt. Col. Legg      | _____ |
| _____ | Lt. Col. Reiter    | _____ |
| _____ | Lt. Col. Herrmann  | _____ |
| _____ | Major Smallwood    | _____ |
| _____ | Major Todd         | _____ |
| _____ | Capt. Plummer      | _____ |
| _____ | Capt. Northland    | _____ |
| _____ | Capt. Curran       | _____ |
| _____ | Capt. Morse        | _____ |
| _____ | Capt. Austin       | _____ |
| _____ | Lt. Shanley        | _____ |

\_\_\_\_\_ Sgt. Collins

FOR:

--- ACTION ---

Coordinate with \_\_\_\_\_

Take ACTION

Info and retain.

Info and return.

Read and see me.

See me, with all info.

File

Circulate to All.

Prepare reply, my signature.

REMARKS:

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

HEADQUARTERS PENINSULAR BASE SECTION

22 JANUARY 1944

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ROUTINE

TO (ACTION) : CG PBS FOR FARGO, FLAMBO FOR HENDERSON  
(INFORMATION) : NONE  
FROM : SIGNED CINC  
DATE TIME SIGNED : 201910A  
DATE TIME REC'D : 212227A  
REF. NR. : 40600  
CITE : PHMGS

*We do not have this reference L.S.P.*

YOUR FARGO 341 OF 17 JANUARY IS REFERRED. GLASS PRODUCTION IS DESIRABLE. SELINT COAL OR EQUIVALENT NOT AVAILABLE. KOENIG SUGGESTS SARDINIAN COAL. HAVE ENGINEER INSPECT PLANT IMMEDIATELY AND CONFIRM THAT SUCH COAL CAN BE USED FOR PRODUCTION OF THIS INDUSTRIALLY APPLIED GAS AS DISTINGUISHED FROM GAS FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES AND IF SO WHAT SIZE OR SIZES IS REQUIRED. PLACE REQUISITION WITH COAL SECTION DIRECT.

WOULD PROPOSE USING SALERNO FOR SUCH COAL RECEIPTS SUBJECT TO PORT ACCEPTANCE WHICH YOU WILL CLEAR WITH FLAMBO AS TO AMOUNTS AND DATES OF ENTRY AND ADVISE US. 350 TONS SODA ASH COMING TO YOU EX NORTH AFRICA BALANCE FROM STATES IN TIME TO PERMIT UNINTERRUPTED PRODUCTION. ARRANGE PORT ACCEPTANCE AND ADVISE.

ACTION : AMQ HQ  
INFO : MGS ADVANCE  
: TRANS  
: G-4  
: C.G.  
: SECY.

3893

RESTRICTED

① 22

34.32

ALLIED FORCE  
CENTRAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE  
APO 400

17 January 1944

MEMORANDUM:

SUBJECT: Glass for Fruit and Vegetable Canning.

TO : Lt. Colonel REITER.

1. The Italian fruit and vegetable canning industry will need a large number of glass containers during the coming season.
2. What can glass factories make for canning fruits preserves and vegetables i.e. sizes, shapes, and quantities?
3. Can caps be manufactured here or imported to seal these containers?

O. W. HERRMANN  
Lt. Col., A.U.S.

Copy to:  
Lt. Col. HENDERSON

34.32

3892

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
ECONOMIC & ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION  
APO 394

HJB/jcb

16 January 1944

SUBJECT : Resumption of glass production at Salerno

TO : Chief Executive, Central Economic Committee

1. There is attached a report and a recommendation from the Industry & Commerce Sub-Commission, for the resumption of glass production at the VETRERIA RIUNIONATA RIICLANDI & C. SOC. AN. at Salerno.

2. It is believed that the subject is of sufficient interest to be brought to the attention of the Central Economic Committee.

3. I will therefore appreciate your placing the subject on the agenda for the meeting to be held next Thursday, January 20, and circulating copies of the enclosures to the members of the Committee.

~~MR~~ HENRY GRADY  
Deputy Vice President

*Reiter*  
*19*

*34.32*

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*(3)*

*19*

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
INDUSTRY & COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION  
APO 394

JSET/jeb

AMC/5063/IC

16 January 1944

SUBJECT : Glass Factory at Salerno

TO : Economic Directorate

1. Authority is sought from the Economic Directorate for the Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission to initiate a program for the resumption of production at the above named factory.
2. A condensed report is attached to this letter giving a summary of the main problems involved.
3. There are at present no stocks of window glass available for essential civilian needs as all stocks have been requisitioned and removed by the Military.
4. It is submitted that it is desirable that one unit of glass production be restarted in occupied Italy and its products, if necessary, stockpiled against future civilian needs.
5. When the factory begins production, it is suggested that all stocks be frozen for essential civilian needs or emergency military requirements.
6. The Army has already allocated 800 tons of coal at the rate of 400 per month for January and February to glass production, but so far no other steps have been taken to obtain other essential raw materials.
7. It is considered possible that this factory might be enabled to commence production in April and it is suggested that it would be desirable to permit it to continue production for a continuous run day and night of any three months, when an adequate stockpile of window glass should have been accumulated.

1 Incl.

Inspection of V.A.R.C.S.A.  
DATED 10-1-44

H. P. EVANS  
Colonel  
Director, Industry & Commerce  
Sub-Commission

Inspection of VETRERIA MECCANICA NIOGIARDI & C. SOC. AN. on the 7th & 8th Jan.

GENERAL.

1. The above mentioned company is a small glass works manufacturing clear window glass (about 1-1/2 meters wide and anywhere between 1 to 7 mm thick) by the continuous flat sheet process. There is only one kiln and once started, the process is continuous for a period, under normal conditions, of say 5 to 6 months, day and night.

2. It takes approximately three weeks to heat up the kiln and contents from cold and the Manager states that they have already tried and failed to find means of the reducing the output below 100,000 square meters per month.

3. The Manager stated that they neither reduce the size of the kiln by bricking, nor the rate of feeding in the raw materials.

4. RAW MATERIALS. Principal raw materials required are: 700 tons of long flame steam coal (known as splint) which formerly came from Newcastle or Germany; 500 to 600 tons of sand which formerly came from Grosseto and which is now understood to be available at Trapani, Sicily; 150 tons of sodium carbonate  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$  which formerly came from Rosignano Marittimo, near Pisa. (The above are all monthly requirements).

5. The Manager stated that he knew of no source of supply of soda other than England or America and doubted if it could be obtained elsewhere, and the same applied to the coal, as they could not use more than 10% Sardinian coal and ordinary Welsh steam coal was not suitable.

6. Other materials required, all of which are available or could be obtained by V.M.C.S.A. themselves, are: 70 tons of calcium carbonate (limestone)  $\text{CaCO}_3$  obtainable from their own mine at Salerno; 70 tons of magnesium carbonate (dolomite)  $\text{MgCO}_3$ , also obtainable from Salerno; 25 tons of sodium sulphate  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  obtainable from Barletta. (all of the above monthly requirements). In addition they require about 4500 wooden packing crates per month for which they have the materials, including packing, but would need round wire nails sizes 14x45, 16x60, 18x80 in proportion of 4:2:1 which he did not think were available in Italy.

7. PREMISES. The structure of the building is only slightly damaged and repairs are already in progress, the only materials which they cannot obtain being cement. Given materials, completion could be effected in three weeks.

8. POWER SUPPLY. The factory is electrically operated and requires some 60HP by day and 20 HP by night. Their own plant is in good order and needs only minor connections, but the availability of 60 HP at 150/260/450 volts should be confirmed as it is understood that other factories in the valley are being rationed and required to work full capacity at night only. There is a waste heat steam engine and a 12/15 HP Diesel Plant capable of keeping the factory running for short emergency periods but they cannot supply their full requirements. It consumes 1 ton kerosene per month.

- 2 -

9. LABOUR. It is not anticipated that there would be difficulty in obtaining the 300 labourers required.

10. STOCKS. There are no stocks of raw materials and their former stocks of finished product have been requisitioned and removed by the Military. No attempt has been made by the Military to operate the factory.

11. ACCESS. There is railway station on the main Salerno-Naples line near the factory with adequate siding facilities, but V.M.R.C.S.A. have no trucks. They formerly imported coal from England and understand that wharf facilities are still available at Salerno (but under Naval control). They have sufficient storage for three to four months' supply of raw materials and the necessary maintenance of the factory is already laid on.

12. RECOMMENDATION. Since glass making is a process which, when once started cannot be stopped economically under a run of several months and only then with damage and difficulties, and the plant under review does not lend itself to operation below full capacity, it is recommended that it should not be started unless a supply of glass of not more than 100,000 square metres is considered essential, and a regular monthly supply of 700 tons special coal and 150 tons soda from the U.S. or U.K., and 500 tons sand from Trapani, together with the necessary electricity supply, can be guaranteed.

It should further be noted that, whilst there is no reason to believe that this factory is below average efficiency, the manufacture of glass is a process requiring very large supplies of heat, quite apart from requiring a special coal. It requires 250 tons of coal and 3 weeks to bring the kiln and contents to the initial operating temperature, in addition to 700 tons per month for operation.

ASB/jfl

10 Jan 44.

Major A.S. HENDERSON,  
Industry & Commerce

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