

1 4 0 0

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

ACC

10000/132/118

345
Egypt
Feb. 1944. Mar. 1945

10000/132/118

345
Egypt
Feb. 1944. Mar. 1945

ALLIED ~~CONTROL~~ COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM
(copy of manuscript memo)

SUBJECT: Remittances from Egypt.

FILE No. P/345/385

TO : Marchese Cittadini

3rd March 1945

The Ministry's memo. no. 6/1332/573 of Dec. 20th. 1945.

The position is not as stated by the International Red Cross Committee. Italian Ps of W. in Egypt may make remittances to Italy only by authorising the Italian authorities to pay to their families in Italy such sums as may be specified by the Ps of W. from pay accumulated in Italy. There is no transmission of money from Egypt to Italy. Therefore Italian civilians in Egypt cannot yet make remittances to Italy.

/s/ A.S. Halford

(A.S. HALFORD)
Asst. Political Adviser
Political Section

4006

145/385

PAOLO VITTORELLI &
STEFANO TERRA
IN EGYPT.

See File:
505-VITTORELLI

345/385

4005

*Italian Interests in
Egypt*

521/3/44

D.H.C.,

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs have replied to our note verbale, at page 2, that as a matter of principle they cannot be held responsible for the expenditure incurred by the Egyptian Government in connection with the evacuation of these refugees from Cyrenaica to Egypt in 1941. They claim that the Italian Government knew nothing of the agreement reached between the Egyptian authorities and the British Consul-General at Alexandria and that moreover there seems to be no precedent of international law whereby they can be expected to re-imburse the expenditure in question.

2. The Italian Government are however prepared to consider the Embassy's request sympathetically as soon as the competent authorities are in a position to examine the question on the spot.

3. We shall have to go carefully in this matter. It seems fairly clear from the concluding paragraph of the Ministry's note that this request on our part may be used in support of the Government's desire to send a representative to Egypt. Personally I think that the Italian request is justified and it is now up to the Foreign Office and the Embassy at Cairo to choose between pressing this claim and yielding to the Italian Government on the question of admitting a representative to Egypt.

521/3/44

Mr. Walford

4.12.44

Copy for Political Section

4004

R. MINISTERO
AFFARI ESTERI
--0--

N° 579

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
-Political Section-

1° - With their Memorandum n. 446 of November 30th, the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, submitted the request that the Allied Governments should be so good as to convey to the Egyptian Government the earnest hope of the Italian Government that, in consideration of the new situation arisen from the conclusion of the armistice and the present Italian status of co-belligerency, it would have been found possible to suspend all executive measures involving possessions of Italian subject in Egypt and to adjourn to the moment when normal diplomatic relations shall be happily restored, the solution of all problems that had caused the above mentioned measures.

The Italian Government shall be very grateful to be kindly informed what steps in this connection the Allied Governments have deemed it possible and fit to take, in order to represent the above request to the Egyptian Government, and what attitude the latter have taken on the matter.

2° - The Italian Government shall also be grateful if the Allied Governments can see their way to expressing to the Egyptian Government our confidence that the various other measures of a personal character taken against Italian subjects in Egypt can progressively be suppressed. Reports have been received concerning the very painful situation of Italian internees. The principal cause for the security measures taken against the latter having come to cease, it appears reasonable to expect that all such persons against whom there are no grounds for a different treatment, be restored to their normal life and activities.

Rome, February 12th, 1941

/s/ R.P.

4003

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED AIR CONTROL COMMISSION
AFS 374

Reference #345/385

17 February 1944

In December 1943, before you left Brindisi for Cairo, I gave you the translation of a memorandum from the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs enquiring whether the statement issued by Rome radio was true that the Egyptian authorities were still taking action against the property of Italian nationals and asking that, if so, the Egyptian Government could be requested to suspend such measures reserving these questions for discussion when diplomatic relations were resumed.

I now enclose a further memorandum on the subject. Could you very kindly let me know whether there is anything I can say in reply.

Roger Watkins, Esq., C.M.G.

345/385

4002

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

AFC 394

Reference 224

12 February 1944

I regret to say that my arts of persuasion were not sufficient to get the Italian Government to agree to the proposal of which you wrote in your letter 11/5/0 of 7 February that we should take over the empty Italian Legation building in Cairo.

Apart from the embarrassment that they would feel in granting us something in Egypt which they had refused to the Americans in London, the reasons quoted are the effect such action would have in Egypt and in liberated Italy and in German occupied Italy. In Egypt and in liberated Italy it would be interpreted as an indication that the resumption of relations with Egypt was to be excluded for an indefinite period in the future. As the Italian colony in Egypt was large, amounting to about 70,000, this would be ascribed to lack of Allied confidence in the good faith of the Italian Government and to an express Allied intention to humiliate Italy in defeat. In German occupied Italy such action would also be used by Fascist and German propagandists to discredit the Royal Government and might well be made the excuse for the occupation of the British Embassy premises as a reprisal.

I naturally pressed to find if there was not some way round these prestige arguments, for instance by an agreement on our side to vacate immediately the Egyptian Government had decided to resume relations. But it was no good. "Face" was involved and where that comes in, the light of reason is apt to go out. Would you let me know if I should return to the charge and if so with what arguments.

Roger Makins, Esq., C.M.G.

4001

CFF/gd'a

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION SUB-COMMISSION

DIR/1-4/ADM

Tel. 489081 Ext 392

24 December 1944

SUBJECT : Supplementary Bread Cards for Egyptian Subjects.

TO : Lazio Region
(attention Capt. Di Giacomo).

1. The attached copy of Political Section's letter 345.1 dated 20 December 1944 is forwarded herewith.

2. Would you kindly state if the supplementary bread cards have been withdrawn? If they have been would you take the necessary steps regarding re-issue. As you know thirteen out of the 20 Egyptian nationals are drawing medical comforts in kind and it would appear that any cancellation is due to an oversight.

3. Kindly forward your comments as soon as possible.

For the Director.

C.F. Fothergill
C.F. FOTHERGILL
Lt. Colonel
Deputy Director

4000
345.1

Copy to : - Political Section. ✓

Ref: 345.1

20 December 1944.

SUBJECT : Supplementary Bread Cards for Egyptian Subjects.

TO : Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission.

1. The Egyptian Government have received a report from their Legation at Bern that the Allied Government has recently cancelled the supplementary bread cards held by 20 Egyptian nationals, resident in Rome, on the grounds that Egypt is a neutral country. The Egyptian Government state that these cards were issued to nationals of countries who were at war or who had broken off diplomatic relations with Italy and claim that in view of the fact that the Egyptian Government have broken off diplomatic relations with Italy, these Egyptian nationals should be included in the latter category. In view of the hardship caused by the loss of these bread cards, the Egyptian Government would be grateful if the Commission's decision could be reversed.

2. The British Embassy has asked the Political Section to investigate this matter and the latter would be grateful for material for a reply.

H. L. d'A. HOPKINSON
Acting Vice President, Political Section.

Copy to: British Embassy.

3999

0410