

0591

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

785015

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

785015

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FOOD SITUATION, ROME  
AUG. 1944 - AUG. 1946

Q. M. C. Form 353 (Old No. 400)  
Revised July 20, 1948

# LIST OF PAPERS

4022/CC

Office of the  
Chief Commissioner

File under No. 4022 FOOD SITUATION, ROME

ALLIED COMMISSION

From: 5 Aug 45  
To :

Page 2

H-7738

~~Confidential~~  
~~SECRET~~

| SERIAL<br>NUMBER | FROM—             | DATE      | TO—       | SYNOPSIS                      |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 17               | Ltr Stone         | 16 Aug 45 | Cleveland | Bad bread being baked in Rome |
| 18               | Ltr RESUP/310.1/F | 20 Aug 46 | CC        | Bad bread being baked in Rome |
| 19               | Ltr Stone         | 27 Aug 46 | Giovanni  | Thank-You fr ltr of Aug 46    |

3709

INSTRUCTIONS.—When papers on a subject become numerous they will be numbered serially and brief entries made on this form.

~~Confidential~~

4022/CC

Office of the  
Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

## LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. 4022 FOOD SITUATION, ROME

SECRET

Page 1

| SERIAL<br>NUMBER | FROM—                   | DATE      | TO—                    | SYNOPSIS                                                                    |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1                | Ltr Poletti Reg IV      | 5 Aug 44  | Lush                   | Food for Rome - serious situation                                           |
| 2                | Ltr ES/42 O'Dwyer, Econ | 5 Aug 44  | A/CC                   | Encl report from Poletti fwd'd to F/S                                       |
| 3                | Ltr O'Dwyer             | 13 Aug 44 | Exec Direc<br>Econ Sec | Food for Rome. Summary of facts,<br>problems, & action taken.               |
| 4                | Ltr Food Sub-Comm, Legg | 27 Aug 44 | Min of Int             | Foodstuffs for Rome. Movement normal.                                       |
| x-ref 5          | Memo AFHQ G-5           | 18 Sep 44 | All conc               | Bread ration for Rome: 300 gram is-<br>land in 200 gram see undesirable     |
| 6                | Ltr Stone               | 24 Sep 44 | Bonomi                 | Call your attention to serious food<br>situation in Rome. Flour stocks low. |
| 7                | Ltr 5973/3138 Bonomi    | 25 Sep 44 | Stone                  | Tnx for timely info on Rome. Incls:<br>cables showing action taken.         |
| x-ref 8          | Ltr A/CC 500 Stone      | 26 Sep 44 | Noel Charles           | Re Visconti Venosta's plan to employ<br>schooners to bring food to Rome.    |
| 9                | Ltr A/CC 500 Quayle     | 27 Sep 44 | Hq Reg 4               | Atchd are signals from Bonomi                                               |
| 10               | Ltr A/CC 500 Quayle     | 27 Sep 44 | Econ Sec               | Atchd are signals from Bonomi                                               |
| 3718<br>11       | Ltr Denmore Econ Sec    | 28 Sep 44 | Stone                  | Rome bakeries. Results being had.                                           |
| 12               | Ltr Memo Lush           | 30 Oct 44 | Stone                  | Interview with Doria. He asked help<br>on serious food situation in Rome.   |
| 13               | Cable AFHQ FX 53934     | 17 Nov 44 | AAI etc                | AC reports critical food shortage in<br>Rome. Please ship following.        |
| 14               | Memo 8.06/ES Denmore    | 5 Jan 45  | Stone                  | Food supplies for Rome. Report.<br>INCL: Rpt from Denmore dtd 4 Jan 45      |
| 15               | Memo, Stone             | 19 Apr 45 | A/VP Econ              | Doria reports on poor quality of<br>bread baked in Rome.                    |
| 16               | 4802/72/EC, Stone       | 25 Apr 45 | Doria                  | Report on poor quality of bread bak-<br>ed in Rome.                         |

Confidential

27 August 1946.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter of early August drawing my attention to the bad bread being baked by some bakers in Rome.

I have referred this matter to U.N.R.R.A., who in turn have called it to the attention of the High Commissioner for Food, furnishing him the name of the particular baker concerned and requesting that appropriate action be taken.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLEMY W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

2717

Signor POLASTRI Mario Giovanni,  
Via della Panetteria 45,  
Roma.

See [18]

(19)

4022/a

27 August 1946.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter of early August drawing my attention to the bad bread being baked by some bakers in Rome.

I have referred this matter to U.N.R.R.A., who in turn have called it to the attention of the High Commissioner for Food, furnishing him the name of the particular baker concerned and requesting that appropriate action be taken.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Elery W. Stone

ELERY W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

3708

Signor POLASTRI Mario Giovanni,  
Via della Panetteria 45,  
Rome.

*Simple*  
402 2/10

FILMED AS FOUND  
IN COLLECTION

U.O. 1935

UNITED NATIONS  
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION AUG 22 1946  
ITALIAN MISSION  
BUREAU OF REQUIREMENTS AND DISTRIBUTION

Ref. No.

RESUP/310.1/FOOD

20 August 1946.

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR,  
Chief Commissioner,  
Headquarters Allied Commission,  
Rome.

Dear Admiral:

Thank you for your letter of 16 August 1946, drawing my attention to the bad bread being baked by some bakers in Rome. I have drawn the attention of the High Commissioner for Food to this, giving him the name of the particular baker concerned, and requesting that appropriate action should be taken.

Sincerely yours,

*Harlan Cleveland*  
Harlan Cleveland,

DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION AND CHIEF,  
BUREAU OF REQUIREMENTS & DISTRIBUTION.

3705

see (19)

✓

(18)

4022/24

16 August 1946.

My dear Harlan:

I do not know just what attention you are giving to the use of UNRRA flour by the Rome bakers but you may want to have one of your inspectors check into the activities of the writer's baker.

Yours,

  
Inclosure

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

3314  
Mr. Harlan Cleveland,  
UNRRA Italian Mission,  
Rome.

See

18

19

TRANSLATION

To Admiral STONE.

It's in the fear of God that I dare to disturb you, I did not want it, but I feel obliged, you will forgive me, Admiral: this morning I have made a protest in the Republican paper, about things the citizens of Rome ought to know, i.e. the bread we have to eat, it is absolutely uneatable, whose fault is it? I went to see the Chief of the Hygiene Office and gave him a little bread roll as I did with the Editor of "La Voce"; now I am leaving a little bread roll to you and I am sure of your interest. How many tons of white flour do the bakers of Rome get? And where does the good bread go? I am sure that most of it goes to the black market: and the people who do not have the means to buy it there, must they be ill? The undersigned belongs to such people.

The population of Rome is expecting justice from you.

In the name of God

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Polestri Mario Giovanni

Via della Panetteria 45

Rome

The name of my baker is:

Quintiliani  
Via in Arcione 95.

Enclosed: one bread roll,  
musty & blue moulded

(17)

5000

SECRET

Ref: 4302/72/EC.

25 April, 1945.

My dear Prince Doria,

You will remember that at a meeting on 18 April 1945 we discussed the poor quality of bread baked in Rome and the probable causes.

I have now received a report on this matter from my Food Sub Commission who state that the question of bread making has been given most careful thought and consideration for some time, and it is their considered opinion that the poor quality of bread being sold to the public is due to three main causes:

- (a) The poor quality of barley being received.
- (b) Bad milling.
- (c) Bad baking.

With regard to (a) the matter has been taken up with the Combined Civil Affairs Committee in Washington and the new arrivals of barley have been examined, but analyses have not yet been completed. In the meantime, in Rome, the wheat content of bread flour has been altered to 85%, i.e. only 15% being barley flour.

With regard to (b) and (c) experiments were carried out under the supervision of the Istituto di Sanita' at which a representative of my Food Sub Commission was present, from which it was clear that the poor quality of the bread must be attributed largely to bad baking.

An additional cause for the unpalatable quality of bread was the fact that although salt was made available to bakers by the Salt Monopoly, it was discovered that the bulk of this salt was being sold on the black market, and as a result the Monopoly withheld the allocation.

Your excellency will realise that this matter of bad baking is entirely the Italian Government's responsibility. The High Commissioner for Food has been urged to set up a permanent Commission to control bakeries and encourage good bread baking by all possible means, and it has been recommended that regulations on baking should be issued and any infringement severely punished.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

16  
His Excellency P.A. Prince Doria Pamphili,  
Sindaco di Roma,  
Campidoglio,  
ROME.

19 April 1945.

MEMORANDUM TO: Acting Vice President, Economic Section.

1. In a meeting which I had yesterday with Prince Loria, Mayor of Rome, he informed me that a commission appointed to investigate the poor quality of bread baked in Rome has reported -- after sample bakings made under its direct supervision -- that the primary cause for the unsatisfactory bread is the poor quality of barley being mixed with the wheat flour. He is informed, but can not vouch for the accuracy of the report, that barley received from the Mid-East had actually been rejected as being unfit for consumption by animals. He reports that samples of barley taken at Civitavecchia after unloading were reported as worm-eaten and moist.

2. If these statements are correct, it seems to me that corrective steps should be taken at once.

3. Will you please advise me on the facts.

/s/ Elery W. Stone

ELERY W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

3711

cc: Executive Comm'r.

4022/cc

(15)

CC 32  
JAN 5 RECD  
1500ALLIED. [REDACTED] COMMISSION  
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM LDD es

SUBJECT: Food Supplies for Rome

FILE No. B.06/ES

TO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER

5 January 1945

In compliance with your verbal request at yesterday's Vice Presidents' meeting, attached is report on present food situation in Rome.

*L. D. Densmore*

L. D. DENSMORE  
Colonel, F A  
Acting Deputy Chief of Staff  
Economic Section

3700

Incl - Report on Food Supplies for Rome

(14)

5 Jan 45

4022/00

REPORT ON PRESENT FOOD SITUATION - ROME

4 January 1945

## 1. Present status of essential foodstuffs in Rome.

| (a) <u>Stock Position.</u> | <u>Stocks as of 31 Dec.</u> | <u>No. of days supply</u> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Wheat/Flour                | 9 045                       | 25                        |
| Dried Vegg.                | 815                         | 50                        |
| Dehyd. Soup                | 152                         | 10*                       |
| Sugar                      | -                           | **                        |
| Salt                       | 272                         | 20                        |
| Olive Oil                  | 211                         | 20                        |
| Milk                       | <u>329</u>                  | <u>117</u>                |
|                            | 10 824                      |                           |

\* Ship with 700 tons soup and 800 tons meat now being loaded Tarento for Civita Vecchia.

\*\* Ship with 3 months supply sugar just arrived in Civita Vecchia for Rome.

(b) All rationed items for December issued with exception of sugar.

## 2. Tonnage of food brought into Rome during past two weeks (ending Dec. 31, 1944).

|                                  | <u>Total</u> | <u>Daily Average</u> |
|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Wheat/Flour                      | 10 419       | 744                  |
| Misc. Foods (Rationed)           | 1 320        | 94                   |
| Fruit, Fresh Vegetables, Poultry | 6 406        | 460*                 |
| All Types                        | 18 145       | 1 296                |

\*Exclusive of all small amounts brought in by private individuals, i.e. not going through Central Markets.

L. D. DENSMORE  
Colonel, P A

4022/cc

(14)

**SECRET**

2/11/61

ACTION/ MAIN AIL, INFO HQ AC: DERS ROME.

AFHQ

PA 53934

NOV 17 1915A

OP PRIORITY

CITE PHODQ

92/17

**SECRET.**

Allied Commission report critical wheat shortage in ROME. Understand you have accepted 600 TPD by rail from ANCONA area to ROME but that average actually moving stated to be 100 TPD. There is no reserve of wheat in ROME and minimum daily requirement is 600 TPD. Request you ensure immediately that 600 TPD does move to ROME. All other sources of supply have been examined and move of wheat from other than ANCONA area would <sup>only</sup> create crisis elsewhere. To ensure no repetition this situation essential as early as possible intake to ROME should be 900 TPD until adequate reserve is held. In immediate future this can come only from ANCONA area. Request therefore you allot tonnage your next maint period and ensure movement to ROME of 9 TPD. This can be done either all by rail or 500 by rail 300 outloading by sea from ANCONA. Request you state method you wish adopt. DERS is requested to ensure adequate supply of rolling stock to meet daily commitment.

4022/CC

AC Dist

War Action - IN SC (2)

" " Ford (2)

" " China Commissioned

" " Lion Sac

" " FIVE

" " D.C.

SECRET.

Allied Commission report critical wheat shortage in ROME. Understand you have accepted 500 TPD by rail from ANCONA area to ROME but that average actually moving stated to be 100 TPD. There is no reserve of wheat in ROME and minimum daily requirement is 600 TPD. Request you ensure immediately that 500 TPD does move to ROME. All other sources of supply have been examined and move of wheat from other than ANCONA area would <sup>only</sup> create crisis elsewhere. To ensure no repetition this situation essential as early as possible intake to ROME should be 900 TPD until adequate reserve is held. In immediate future this can come only from ANCONA area. Request therefore you allot tonnage your next maint period and ensure movement to ROME of 9 TPD. This can be done either all by rail or 600 by rail 300 outloading by sea from ANCONA. Request you state method you wish adopt. DARS is requested to ensure adequate supply of rolling stock to meet daily commitment.

4022/CC  
AC 11/15/57  
The Action - 10 SE (2)  
Food (2)  
The Chief Commissioner  
Lion Sae  
P.H.S.  
P.O.S.

(13)  
17 Nov

Confidential

NOV 17 1957

0606

30th October, 1944.

Acting Chief Commissioner.  
-----

A

1. Prince Doria saw me yesterday.
2. He spoke about the food situation which he said was still serious. There was much comment on the fact that cakes and sweetmeats were available in shops throughout Rome when the bread ration was still 200 grams and the sugar ration negligible. He blamed the Questore for this and said that on 10th November when the city police were to come under the aegis of the Sindaco he would put a stop to it. I told him that experience had shown that most of the corruption took place among the wholesalers, bakers, etc. He asked whether there was any hope of increasing the basic ration and the flow of supplies. "If every man could have one kilo of bread," he said, "we should want no other form of food." I hastened to tell him that a kilo of bread per diem was not only more than double the scale issued over most of the world but that it was likely to be quite inaccessible in Italy for many years to come. He agreed and said he had mentioned the figure merely as a yard stick.
3. I then called Major Imrie down and he explained the general food programme, including raising of pasta ration, issue of a double sugar ration for November, production of 150 tons of potatoes per diem, earmarking of 5000 tons of chestnuts of which some had already arrived and the expected issue of olive oil. Prince Doria said that the situation was better and certainly would be better than he had anticipated. So long as the food arrived in bulk he and the Italian authorities would see that it reached the people who needed it most.
4. He then asked for help in the increasing of bus services in Rome in order to convey the many hundreds of black coat workers from tram and trolley car terminals to their homes. He hoped to extract 12 buses from the American Red Cross (requisitioned for them by RAAC). He asked for help with salvaged vehicles. I asked Director, War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission to explain how to proceed and help may be forthcoming from that direction.
5. The Mayor then mentioned the Santa Croce refugee camp in which, he said, conditions were deplorable. Food, cots and blankets were short and the Commissario had recently been summarily dismissed by Zaniboni. Pasta was no longer issued as the Prefettura had defaulted in payment to the pasta firm. I instructed Deputy Director, Displaced Persons Sub-Com to investigate (he has since reported that the Commissario was useless).
6. Prince Doria spoke with concern of the complete lack of public spirit in Rome. He deplored the selfish attitude of his fellow citizens and foresaw disastrous political results from the ostrich-like position which most of them had adopted.

file  
HSP

-2-

7. He terminated his visit by bringing up the matter of recruitment of patriots for the Italian Army. He said that he realised the technical difficulties but felt he must, among others, put forward a strong plea that some concession should be made whereby the patriots could be absorbed into the Army in units, however small. He said that they were perfectly ready to go through all the procedure of joining the army but that they did ask for some assurance that they would be maintained in units - say, special companies of composite battalions, or as slightly irregular troops such as the Alpini. He viewed the lack of recruitment of partisans for the Italian Army with grave concern and put it down to the rigid enforcement of recruitment of individuals - and the refusal to admit the value of partisans as valuable military units. He foresaw trouble in that direction.

8. Prince Doria struck me as a man filled with the best intentions, disinterested and with no doubts as to the deplorable state of his city and his country - but lacking the drive and dynamism to do more than plan.

MSL/JG.

*MSL*  
Brigadier,  
Chief of Staff.

3596

Copy to: Regional Commissioner, LAZIO Region.  
DCOS, Economic Section.  
DCOS, Civil Affairs Section.

(12)

LDD/es

28 September 1944

SUBJECT: Rome Bakeries.

TO : Captain Stone, Acting Chief Commissioner

HQ A. C. APO 396

412 Sec. y. Gen.

Rec'd 28/9 - 1300

by DFE

1. As a result of unfavorable publicity in the Italian daily press, you asked me to check into the matter of the bakeries. It appears that the complaints were due to the quality of the bread which is being turned out. The Food S/C has informed me that there are two criteria of importance in bread making:

a. The moisture content of the flour (14% laid down by Italian law).

b. The moisture content of the loaf when baked, about 31%.

2. Unless the bakers are very carefully supervised by Italian Government officials, some have a tendency to put more water in the bread than is authorized, thus reducing the quality and increasing the yield which they can sell. For example, if bread can be increased only 5%, it means 5 kilos on each quintal. In a bakery baking say 20 quintals a day, the gain is about 100 kilos on 500 loaves of 200 grams each.

3. ACC has been working with the Government recommending close supervision. Apparently some results are being had, as an item in the Basic News of 27 September reads as follows:

"Rome Bakeries Closed for 30 Days"

"Rome, September 26 -- Eighteen bakers' shops in this city have been closed for 30 days on orders of the Prefect for infraction of regulations governing the making of bread. (UHH)"

*L. D. Densmore*

L. D. DENSMORE  
Col., Sig. C., SGO  
Economic Section

FILED

(11)

28 Sept

Office of the Acting Chief Commissioner

Transport for Distribution of Flour  
Economic Section (Attn: Colonel Densmore)

A/CC 500

27 September

4

I am directed by the Acting Chief Commissioner to pass the attached copies of signals to you for your information.

3 Incls: Cables as above  
Ref: 5973/3138  
Date: 25 Sept. 44

J. A. QUAYLE  
Major, R.A.  
Chief Staff Officer

|                         |
|-------------------------|
| Hq A.C.C. Secy Gen.     |
| DISPATCHED              |
| Date - Time 28 SEP 1944 |
| Via 725/r. 0930         |
| Initials en.            |

FILES (A) B

400-1  
X-500

10

27 Sept

JAG/drr

27 September 1944

A/CC 500

SUBJECT: Transport for Distribution of Flour.

TO : Headquarters Region IV  
(Attn: Colonel Poletti)

I am directed by the Acting Chief Commissioner to pass the  
attached copies of signals to you for your information.

J. A. QUAYLE  
Major, R.A.  
Chief Staff Officer

Incls: 3 cables as above  
Ref: 5973/3138  
Date: 25 Sept. 44

400-1

X-500 10K 4-7

3893

I am directed by the Acting Chief Commissioner to pass the attached copies of signals to you for your information.

J. A. QUAYLE  
Major, R.A.  
Chief Staff Officer

Incls: 3 cables as above  
Ref: 5973/3138  
Date: 25 Sept. 44

400-1  
X-500 108 43

FILES (A-B)

59 368

|          |      |             |      |
|----------|------|-------------|------|
| Hq       | ACC  | Sec'y       | Genl |
| DISPATCH |      |             |      |
| Date     | Time | 28 SEP 1944 |      |
| Via      | AG   | 0910        |      |
| Initials | CH   |             |      |

(97-)

27 Sept

FILE UNDER NO. 400-1 Supplies

**INDEX SHEET**  
**SYNOPSIS**

Ltr A/CC 500 Stone to Sir Noel Charles 26 Sept 44

Will re-review Visconti Venosta's proposal, sent to me by you,  
that sailing vessels be employed to bring food to Rome & to remove  
refugees to the South.

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER NO. 3805/CC 500 Transport

3692

400-1

INSTRUCTIONS - Under «Synopsis» make brief entry showing date of communication and from whom received and synopsis sufficient to identify the papers. When these index sheets become numerous under a subject they will be entered on the consolidated index sheet and then destroyed.

61  
26 Sept

TRANSLATION

5973/5138

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Cabinet

Telegraph and Cipher Office

Rome, 25 September 1944

Admiral HILBERT S. STONE - Chief Commissioner  
Allied Control CommissionR o m e .Thank you timely information situation flour stocks in Rome period

I gave instructions to the Prefect of Rome to stop activity transport agencies and provide by every means that adequate number of vehicles should be ~~destined to~~ <sup>should be</sup> ~~retained for~~ transport of flour period Ministry Agriculture and Forests request to inform Prefects about localities where it is possible to <sup>possible to</sup> take flour to supply the Capital period I disposed that an adequate system of signalations should enable to follow the situation daily period Transmit copy dispositions given today to Prefect of Rome and Minister Agriculture Forest period

PRESIDENT COUNCIL MINISTER INTERIOR

BOROMI

Trans. E.C.

7

25 Sept

400-1  
x-5001  
400-1

TRANSLATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
CABINET

Rome 25 September 1944

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTS

Cabinet

R O M E

5973/3138 period Allied Control Commission habet signaled that flour stocks in Rome so small that in the next few days it will perhaps not be possible to distribute entire bread ration to population period Italian transport agencies responsible of this for having sufficient organization to transport flour needed by Roman population they prefer using it for their own private profit period Have already given instructions Prefect Rome to cope with situation period Will Y.E. kindly communicate everyday to Prefect name of localities where flour needed for Roman population can be taken be taken and see that organs this Ministry give all possible help and collaboration. period Answer would be appreciated period

MINISTER INTERIOR  
BONOMI

Trans.E.C.

(7)

TRANSLATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Rome, 29 September 1944

PREFECT

R O M E

5975/3138 period Referring today's telephone conversations communicate that Allied Control Commission has signalled flour stocks in Rome to be so small that in the next days perhaps impossible distribute entire bread ration to population period Italian agencies entrusted with transport of flour from provinces to mills though having sufficient organization to provide for alimentary needs of the capital prefer using it for private profits thus showing obstructionist mentality and scarce civic sensibility period Government deems essentially important to avoid any reduction of bread ration period Y. E. will therefore use all the means in his power to assure normal bread supply to the population and baffle every manoeuvre of the agencies in question period Every private interest must give way before this essential need period No useful vehicle can be considered to be lawfully circulating if it has not first served to flour transportation period Through agreements or requisitions Y.E. will do what is necessary and keep constant contacts with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests which will indicate places where flour can be taken period Refer measures adopted and communicate daily by phonogram situation flour stocks period Meanwhile provide execution period

MINISTER INTERIOR  
ROMA

3689

Trans.E.C.

(7)

Mod. 842

*Ministero dell'Interno*

GABINETTO

UFFICIO DEL TELEGAFO E DELLA CIFRA

*Telegramma V.*

(in busta)

Roma, 25 settembre 1944

Ammiraglio ELLERY W. STONE - Commissario Capo  
Commissione Alleata Controllo

R o m a

RingrazioLa tempestiva segnalazione circa situazione  
giacenze farina in Roma punto Ho impartito istruzioni al  
Prefetto di Roma perchè elimini manovre agenzie trasporti  
et con qualsiasi mezzo provveda che sia destinato trasporto  
farina congruo numero veicoli punto Ministero Agricoltura  
Foreste est stato interessato perchè comunichi Prefetto lo-  
calità dove est possibile prelevare farina da destinare con-  
sumo della Capitale punto Ho disposto che un opportuno sistema  
di segnalazioni consenta seguire giornalmente situazione punto  
Trasmetto copia disposizioni oggi impartite at Prefetto Roma  
et Ministro Agricoltura Foreste punto

PRESIDENTE CONSIGLIO MINISTRO INTERNO  
BONOMI

Mod. 842

*Ministero dell'Interno*

GABINETTO

UFFICIO DEL TELEGAFO E DELLA CIFRA

*Telegramma N.*

(in busta)

Roma 25 settembre 1944

PREFETTO R O M A

5973/3138 punto Riferimento odierne conversazioni telefoniche informa-  
3987 che Commissione Alleata Controllo habet segnalato giacenze farina in  
Roma esser così esigue da render forse impossibile prossimi giorni distri-  
buire popolazione intera razione pane punto Agenzie italiane cui est com-  
messo trasporto farina da provincie et mulini pur avendo organizzazione suf-  
ficiente per sopperire esigenze alimentari Capitale preferiscono utilizzar-  
la per lucri privati dimostrando mentalità ostruzionistica e scarsa sensi-  
bilità civica punto Governo amette essenziale importanza a che sia evi-  
tata ogni riduzione razione pane punto V.E. est quindi interessata adopera-  
re tutti i mezzi in suo potere per assicurare normale rifornimento pane at  
popolazione et sventare ogni manovra da parte agenzie interessate punto  
Qualsiasi privata utilità deve cedere il passo a questa necessità essen-  
ziale punto Nessun veicolo utile può considerarsi legittimamente in circola-  
zione se non siasi prima provveduto a soddisfare esigenze trasporto farina  
punto Mediante accordi o requisizioni V.E. provveda a quanto est necessario  
et mantenga continui contatti con Ministero Agricoltura Foreste che indi-  
cherà luoghi dove est possibile prelevare farina punto Riferisca sui prov-  
vedimenti adottati et giornalmente con fonogramma comunichi situazione gia-  
cenze farina punto Frattanto assicuri punto

MINISTRO INTERNO  
BONOMI

P.

Mod. 842

*Ministero dell'Interno*

GABINETTO

UFFICIO DEL TELEGAFO E DELLA CIFRA

*Telegramma N.*

(in busta)

Roma 25 settembre 1944

MINISTERO AGRICOLTURA FORESTE

= Gabinetto =

R O M A

3966 5973/3I38 punto Commissione Alleata Controllo habet segnalato che giacenze farina in Roma sono così scarse che est forse impossibile prossimi giorni distribuire popolazione intera razione pane punto Responsabilità di ciò ricade su agenzie italiane trasporti che pur avendo organizzazione sufficiente per trasportare farine destinate consumo popolazione romana preferiscono adoperarla per loro privati guadagni punto Ho già impartito Prefetto Roma istruzioni perchè provveda fronteggiare situazione punto Prego V.E. voler giornalmente comunicare Prefetto località dove deve esser prelevata farina occorrente popolazione romana et disporre che organi codesto Ministero gli diano massima assistenza et collaborazione punto Gradirò risposta punto

MINISTRO INTERNO

BONOMI

P.

EWS/hjp

24 September 1944

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I must call your immediate attention to the food situation in the city of Rome. I am informed by the Regional Commissioner that stocks of flour are exceedingly low and that it may be impossible to implement the bread ration in a few days time. The Regional Commissioner tells me that a contributory cause to this deplorable state of affairs is the obstruction and lack of cooperation shown by the Italian Transportation agencies in Rome. On them depends the moving of grain from the Provinces to the mills: they have sufficient transport but they lack the civic spirit to use their organization for the good of the citizens of Rome and prefer to employ it for their private gain. It is apparently beyond the power of the Local Government of Rome Governate to induce them to cooperate.

I cannot emphasize too strongly, my dear Prime Minister, the gravity of the situation if food is unavailable in Rome owing to the inability of the local authorities to make these organizations function loyally and effectively.

I must ask you therefore to give your personal attention to the matter and in the interests of the citizens of Rome as well as the good name of your Government to see that steps are taken to bring the food from depots in the Provinces to the city.

Yours very truly,

59 734

|           |                    |            |
|-----------|--------------------|------------|
| Hq        | ACC                | Sec'y Gen. |
| DISPATCH  |                    |            |
| Date-Time | 25 SEP 1944        |            |
| Via       | Ch. Apostolo. 0910 |            |
| Initials  | CH                 |            |

ELLERY W. STONE  
Captain, USNR  
Acting Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi  
President of the Council of Ministers  
Italian Government

FILES (A) B

Delivered by hand of Comdr. Apostolo, 25 Sep 44

29 Sept

400-1  
X-5000

FILE UNDER NO. 100-1 Finance  
✓ 400-2 Agric Program Bread rationing etc  
383.7 Refugees

## INDEX SHEET

### SYNOPSIS

Memo AFHQ G-5 18 Sept to All concerned

Action resulting from conference of the Economic Sub-Committee of the SACMED's Political Committee, held 14 Sept 44.

- x-100-1 a. Wages: desirable to raise wages for civilians (ITAL) working for Allies, but should be held up & coordinated with Ital wage proposals.
- x-400-2 b. Bread Ration for Rome: 300-gram island in 200-gram sea undesirable. Possibility of advancing 300-gram line should be looked into. Control should be exercised over bakeries in Rome. c. Draft of cable for bread ration scheme for coming year.
- x-383.7 d. Refugees: Undesirable to move refugees from Rome to places where there are no accommodations. AFHQ to provide It personnel (mil) to help. ACC to bid for railway capacity. AFHQ to seek advice.
- e. Black market: ACC undertaking to submit report.

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER NO. ~~100-1~~ AFHQ Pol Comm Reports.  
1002-1/cc

3884

400-2

INSTRUCTIONS - Under «Synopsis» make brief entry showing date of communication and from whom received and synopsis sufficient to identify the papers. When these index sheets become numerous under a subject they will be entered on the consolidated index sheet and then destroyed.

(5) 18 Sept

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
Food Sub Commission  
A.P.O. 394

WJL/et

27 Aug 44

ACC/92-1/FOOD

A 38  
28 AUG 1944

HQ ACC, APO 394  
952 Sec'y Gen.  
Rec'd 28 Aug 1944  
By BMR

SUBJECT: Foodstuffs for ROME

TO : H.E. The Minister of Interior.

Reference your telegram 8252 Nr 3453 dated 22 Aug 44.

The prohibition on movement of non rationed foodstuffs has  
been revoked. Normal movement is now proceeding.

BY ORDER OF CAPTAIN STONE (USMR),

*William Stewart*  
(Sgd) W. NINIAN STEWART  
Lt. Col.

W.J. LEGG,  
Colonel,  
Director, Food Sub Commission

COPY TO: Acting Chief Commissioner.

3583

4  
27 Aug.

File (A)  
P.L.

400 supplies

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
ECONOMIC SECTION  
APO 394

WC/ml

A 6  
**25 AUG 1944**  
13 August 1944

SUBJECT: Food for Rome.

TO : Executive Director, Economic Section

HO ACC, APO 394  
605 Army Gen.  
Rec'd 13 Aug 1944  
By WCR

Yesterday's meeting with Region IV Supply Officers and ACC  
Sub-Commissions brought out the following:

1. The proposed 40,000 tons per month supply for Rome seems inadequate.  
50,000
2. Rome would be glad to receive 40,000 tons a month. Total for July was 32,397 tons.
3. There are no trustworthy records either in ACC Economic Section or Region IV to show the actual tonnage delivered.
4. Region IV has had idle trucks in the midst of transportation shortage.
5. Region IV has delayed for over a month complying with Economic Section plan to pool all trucking.
6. 30% of Region IV trucking sent out on order do not go to indicated destination or report back. Inadequate control.
7. Once trucks enter Gates of Rome they are free to go where they like unless caught with the produce by a roving policeman.
8. All Sub-Commissions of Economic Section are worried about Transportation to the detriment of their own problems.

The food supply methods in Rome seem to be in a chaotic condition both in the Economic Section and Region IV.

So that we can tighten this matter up will you please see that the following plan is promptly adopted.

1. Agriculture produces the food - indicate commodity location and amounts available (including charcoal supply) at frequently stated intervals.
2. Food Sub-Commission analyzes needs - allocates and submits to Transportation tonnage required and location.

- 2 -

## 3. Transportation provides transportation

- (a) Should help be needed, you and I will take it up to higher authority.
- (b) Transportation responsible for actual delivery to Region IV. Receipt to be signed by Region IV and returned to Transportation Sub-Commission.
- (c) Trucks should move in convoy in charge of sergeant or officer.

## 4. Region IV should report immediately coming shortages of vital foods.

Please arrange to let me have a daily report from Region IV of previous days deliveries showing commodity - tonnage - mileage and consumption of Military Gasoline by truck and total.

Who obliged?

There has been too much bickering between Economic Section and Region IV in the matter of feeding Rome. After last night's meeting I am convinced that each side is wrong and that means that ACC is at fault. A bureau of statistics and analysis begins to operate tomorrow (Monday) under Capt. A. Kamarek. It is hoped that the Economic Section will be not obliged to grope in the dark any longer. Each Sub-Commission must be held down to its own responsibility. Region IV must accept responsibility once the Economic Section has delivered the produce and obtained its receipt. This plan must be established at once.

WILLIAM O'DWYER  
Brigadier General, AUS.  
Vice President  
Economic Section

3681

(3)

Tel: 590

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
ECONOMIC SECTION  
APO 394

JLM/ml

A 2281

24 AUG 1944

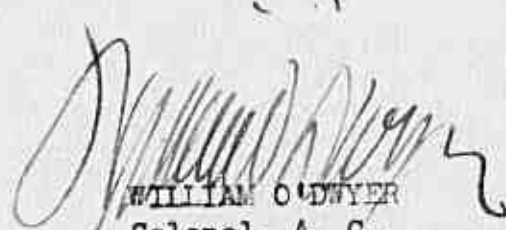
5 August 1944

ES/42

SUBJECT: Food for Rome.

TO : Acting Chief Commissioner

1. A copy of a letter dated 5 August 44 on the above subject addressed by Colonel Charles Poletti, Regional Commissioner, to the Executive Commissioner, Headquarters Allied Control Commission, has been forwarded to Colonel Legg, Director of the Food Sub-Commission, for study and report.

  
WILLIAM O'DWYER  
Colonel, A. C.  
Vice President  
Economic Section

3080

②  
ES/42  
5 Aug

400

*Col O'Leary -*

*This is serious.*

*Please see me.*

COPY

*File A. B*

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
REGION IV  
APO 394

*EW S*  
*(original sent to all by*  
*on 6/12/44)*

R/2144

*(Capt Stone has*  
*seen original letter)*

5 August 1944

SUBJECT: Food for Rome

TO : Executive Commissioner  
Headquarters, Allied Control Commission

*A 2054*  
*68 AUG 1944*

1. The last minute decision on the part of the Economics Section of ACC HQ to rescind the authorization previously given to Rome Region to make two special distributions of pasta to Rome City has created uneasiness among the population of Rome. In order to carry out plans for pasta distribution, a good many public officials had already been notified of the pasta distribution. And the word spread very rapidly.

2. Rome City has had very limited foodstuffs from the Food Sub-Commission. There has been little olive oil, little meat, little meat and vegetable stew, and little sugar. There has been practically no salt. The amounts of these products distributed in the period of two months are appallingly meagre. This is not a criticism, but a mere statement of fact.

3. Rome City has been handicapped in obtaining fresh foodstuffs from other Regions, for instance from Naples area and from the Ascoli Piceno and Macerata area. The bureaucratic procedures imposed by Food Sub-Commission are stifling. This is not a criticism, but a mere statement of fact.

4. Rome City, the Capital City, is in much worse condition with respect both to domestic foodstuffs and to products imported by ACC than other large cities. This Regional Headquarters is doing its utmost to improve conditions in Rome, but the most substantial improvements can only be achieved with the approval and assistance of Economics Section of ACC HQ.

3678 5. The Economics Section of ACC HQ can help this Regional Headquarters its efforts to improve the food situation in Rome City by:

- a. Obtaining more gas and oil for civilian trucks to transport local foodstuffs, vegetables and fruits. Many trucks are now immobilized.
- b. Assigning more military transport to this Region. There is no point of taking away such transport to plan for some Region that may not be occupied for months
- c. Permitting this Region to bring in more foodstuffs from other regions.

*1*

1  
COPY

*files AHB/700*

*400 Supplying Bureau*

- 00
- 00
- d. Authorizing a pasta ration to Rome City. The pasta is ready, awaiting merely an authorization to distribute.
  - e. Bringing in more sugar, olive oil, meat, vegetable stew, dried vegetables and salt.
  - f. Obtaining the use of coastal schooners which somehow or other are never available. Something must be shamefully wrong with the handling of schooners.
  - g. Obtaining from AAI the daily transport of 200 tons of coal from Naples which would enable Rome City the use of 1½ or two hours of gas a day in order to give the people cooked food.

6. The Mayor of the City of Rome on his own initiative spoke to me this afternoon of the growing and threatening discontent among the people and of the growing and threatening impairment of the health of the people. I agree wholeheartedly with the Mayor.

7. In case ACC desires more particulars or a conference, this Regional Headquarters awaits orders.

/s/ Charles Poletti  
/t/ CHARLES POLETTI  
Colonel  
Regional Commissioner

3573

(1)

COPY

Q. M. C. Form 353 (Old No. 450)  
Revised July 26, 1918

561/CC  
DSG AGG

## LIST OF PAPERS

Office of the  
Chief Commissioner

File under No. 321 - REPORTS MISCELLANEOUS

**SECRET**

| SERIAL<br>NUMBER | FROM— | DATE | TO— | SYNOPSIS |
|------------------|-------|------|-----|----------|
|                  |       |      |     |          |

INSTRUCTIONS.—When papers on a subject become numerous they will be numbered serially and brief entries made on this form.

