

ACC 10000/146/460

091.4312

GENERAL ORDER 17

NOV. 1943 - JUNE 1944

GENERAL ORDER 17

NOV 1943 - JUNE 1944

G. M. C. Form 205 (Rev. 4-22-40)
Revised July 26, 1948

LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. 091.43111

GENERAL ORDER NO. 17

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM	DATE	TO	SYNOPSIS
1	General Order No. 17			
2	General Order No. 17 - Italian Copy			
3	St. G. Berkman	27-12-43	Hq. A.C.C. Deputy Vice Pres.	Organization of Ital. Labor
4	J. R. Smith	16-1-44	Econ. Admin. Sec. R.C.A.O.	Right of Organization
5	J. R. Smith	20-1-44	Region I R.C.A.O.	General Order No. 17
6	J. R. Smith	21-1-44	Region II	" " " "
7	J. R. Smith	22-1-44	Hq. A.F.I.	" " " "
8	St. G. McCaffrey	25-1-44	CAO R.C.A.O. +	" " " "
9	J. R. Smith	4-2-44	R.C.A.O.'s	" " " "
10	J. T. R. Bain	4-2-44	Col. Spofford	Memo on Gen. Order
11	J. T. R. Bain	10-2-44	Economic Sec.	Extension of Gen. Order #17
12	M. S. Lusk	15-2-44	R.C.A.O. Reg. I	General Order No. 17
13	Labor	15-5-44	Labor	Review of G.O.'s
14	Labor	15-5-44	Econ. Section	Extension of Gen. Order #17
14/1	"	15-5-44	R.C.A.O. Section	" " " "
15	Econ. Section	2-6-44	Executive Committ.	" " " "

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

HEADQUARTERS
ARMED FORCES COMMISSION
ECONOMIC SECTION
APO 394

GSE/naa

2 June 44

NY/143

SUBJECT: Extension of General Order No. 17.

TO : Executive Commissioner.

1. Your attention is called to the comments of the Director of the Labour Sub-commission in the attached letter O91.4312, 18 May 44.

2. It is my opinion that the policy giving employees the right to organize, has already been established by Orders issued in other Regions as evidenced by Regional Order 17 attached.

3. It is quite proper to forward the application for the extension of the Order to Regions IV and V to the Executive Commissioner as there is no legal question or policy involved.

However, if, in the opinion of the Executive Commissioner, a further decision on policy is required, it is requested that the file be forwarded to the Chief Commissioner so that a decision may be reached.

D. S. ADAMS
Colonel, C. E.
Executive Officer
Economic Section

2 Incl:

- 1 - Labour Sub-commission ltr
O91.4512, 18 May 44
- 2 - Regional Order 17.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

JTB/tbw

LAD 091.4312

18 May, 1944

SUBJECT: Extension of General Order No. 17

TO : Executive Officer, Economic Section

1. The attached minute of 16 May, signed by Brigadier Lush, was received here yesterday. I have slept on it, but still cannot understand it; that may, of course, be my fault.

2. As I see it, there are three points, all of real importance, and if I am wrong, I should like to know just where.

a. Approval of the Order came from A.F.H.Q. The Labor Sub-Commission, which inspired it in the first place, is in complete accord. Something must take the place of the destroyed Fascist machine, and we are deeply convinced that it should be left to the freed men to work it out for themselves. The right to meet and organize is fundamental. It is right and proper that the Order should follow liberation.

b. What has the Legal Sub-Commission got to do with this matter? Policy has been declared and a form of words found.

c. This has no beaten, and apparently you are in the same boat, since you passed it on to R.C. & M.C. Section. I have always understood that R.C. & M.C. Section was the authority for Regional Commissioners, especially for those not in King's Italy. If I am wrong, I would like to know where.

J. T. R. BAIN,
Colonel.
Director, Labor Sub-Commission

Incl:
(as mentioned above)

3657

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

JHS/ew

File
4312

LAS 091.4312

15 May 1944

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Extension of General Order #17.

TO: HQ & AG Section (Thru: Economic Section)

This Sub-Commission is informed that General Order #17 (copy herewith attached, both English and Italian versions), which is already operative in Regions I, II and III, has not been promulgated in Regions IV and V. It is recommended that the Order be extended to the last two named regions without delay.

[Signature]
J. T. R. BAIN,
Colonel,
Director, Labor Sub-Commission.

C O P Y

C O P Y

I doubt the wisdom of this. Ask Legal Sub-Commission by telephone. Why does this come to me?

M.S.L.
16/5

226

JRS/vbw

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

15 May 1944

LAS 091.4312

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Extension of General Order No. 17.

TO : R.C. & M.O. Section (THRU: Economic Section)

This Sub-Commission is informed that General Order No. 17 (copy herewith attached, both English and Italian versions), which is already operative in Regions I, II and III, has not been promulgated in Regions IV and V. It is recommended that the Order be extended to the last two named regions without delay.

J. T. R. BAIN.
Colonel,
Director, Labor Sub-Commission.

*I doubt the wisdom of this. Ask legal
Sub-Com by telephone. Why does this
come to me?*

15 May 44

5255

14

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

JTB/ww

LAB 091.431

15 May 1944

SUBJECT : Revision and Consolidation of General Orders

TO : Legal Sub-Commission

1. Confirming statement made at general conference you held Saturday, 13 May 1944, relative to revising proclamations and general orders for use in territories to be occupied in Italy it is the view of the Labor Sub-Commission, that a general order for such purposes shall include the complete text of proclamations and orders previously issued in Occupied Italy on the following subjects:

- a. Wages and price freeze;
- b. Abolition of Fascist Corporative Syndical Institutions;
- c. Establishment of Regional and Provincial Labor Offices, together with rules and regulations governing same;
- d. Declaration of right to organize (see General Order #17).

2. General Order #14 (Sicily), and its counterpart in other areas, dealing with temporary wage adjustments, will not be included in a general order for newly occupied regions, but will be the subject of a special order after occupancy.

J. T. R. BAIN,
Colonel.
Director, Labor Sub-Commission

3654

13

1 HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED GENERAL COMMISSION
APO 334

10 *File*
15 February 1945

SUBJECT: General Order No. 17

TO : R.C.A.O., Region I

1. *I am* We are informed that General Order No. 17 has not been posted in Region I.

2. Will you please state whether or not this information is correct. If the order has not been posted an explanation is required for your action.

851
W. S. LUSH,
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

WFO/33.

(12)

✓
3.1.3

File

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

14 February, 1944

SUBJECT: General Order No. 17

TO : R.C.A.C., Region I

1. We are informed that General Order No. 17 has not been posted in Region I.

2. Reply is requested as to whether or not the information is correct. If the Order has not been posted, submit statement assigning reasons for such failure.

DAM/tbw

W. B. LISK,
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Not Sent

342

14 February, 1944

NOTE:- General Order No. 17 is an effectuation of Order from A.F.H.Q. dated 25 December, 1943, establishing the principle of collective bargaining throughout all Occupied Italy.

Order was properly published in Region II (as per attached), but we are informed by our Labor Officer in Region I, that similar announcement had not been made in Region I. Inquiry is directed as to correctness of this report, and reason for failure of the R.C.A.C. to obey orders.

JM

3-5-44

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

091.431

10 February, 1944

SUBJECT: Extension of General Order No. 17

TO : Economic Section

1. General Order No. 17 became operative in Regions I and II on 18 January, 1944. The Order is based upon instructions received from Combined Chiefs of Staff.

2. It is recommended that the Order be extended to Region III immediately. The extension should be drafted by the Legal Sub-Commission, and provision made for its becoming operative in other Regions upon publication and posting therein.

DAM/tbw

J. T. W. BAIN,
Colonel,
Director, Labor Sub-Commission.

Incl:

1. General Order No. 17
2. Copy letter Combined Chiefs of Staff

3650

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

4 February, 1944

091.431

MEMORANDUM:

TO Colonel C. Spofford

1. Following Orders should be put into effect by the Italian Government in Apulia immediately, and in areas turned over to the Italian Government by the Allied Control Commission:

- a. General Order No. 8 (Sicily) and Rules and Regulations
- b. General Order No. 14 (Sicily)
- c. General Order No. 17 (Sicily)
- d. (a), (b) and (c) above are now in effect in all of Liberated Italy except Apulia. Sicily reference is just for designation.

DAM/tbw

J. T. R. HAIN.
Colonel.
Director, Labor Sub-Commission.

3859

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

4 February, 1944

091.4382

SUBJECT: General Order No. 17

TO : R.C.A.C.'s (Asst. Labor Officer):- Region I
Region III
Region IV
Region V

For your information.

DAM/tbw

JUNIUS R. SMITH.
Lt. Col., A.M.C.,
D/Director, Labor Sub-Commission

Incl:
1 copy G.O. No 17 (Printed form) - Region II

(1)

3-18

31-1-44

The enclosed letter accompanied the English and Italian copies of Gen. Order No. 17 in mimeographed form. Subsequently each province was sent 400 copies of the printed Notice - a sample of which I enclose herewith. By this time they should have been posted throughout the region.

Frazer
FRAZER,
Region Two

31-1-44

HEADQUARTERS
ARMED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
REGION 2

25 January 1944

TO: All S.C.A.O's and C...O's
SUBJECT: - General Order No 17

1. Enclosed herewith are copies of General Order No 17. It is requested that immediate and widest possible publication and distribution be made of this order. Provincial Labor Directors should be sent copies as soon as possible. Italian translations and printed copies will be made available soon for posting. The enclosed order gives workers the right to organize, hold meetings, and select representatives of their own choosing for purposes of collective bargaining. It implements and clarifies Regional Order No 5.

2. It must be understood by groups wishing to form labor organizations that any meetings held pursuant to General Order No 17 must be solely for the purpose of complying with this order and such meetings are not to be of a political nature.

3. Political meetings are to be permitted in future subject to certain restrictions and after the parties have complied with certain requirements. Information in this regard will be furnished soon. In view of this fact there is no occasion nor excuse for a labor meeting to assume a political nature and this is not to be permitted.

G.H. McGaffrey
Lt. Colonel, Infantry,
R.C.O. - Region two

(8)

3646

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

22 January 1944

SUBJECT: General Order No. 17.

TO : HQ. A.F.I.

1. Enclosed find (5) five copies of General Order No. 17, and Italian translation thereof. Said Order was published and made effective in Region 1 and 2 on 18 January 1944.

2. In the interest of maintaining uniform policy on the mainland with respect to labor it is recommended that said General Order No. 17 be immediately promulgated for Region 3 and extended to Region 4, and forward areas as conditions warrant.

3. The order accords with instruction from Combined Chiefs of Staff.

JAMES R. SMITH
Lt. Col., G.M.G.
Labor Sub-Commission
D/Director

Inc.: Five copies of General Order No. 17
Five copies of translation of G.O. No. 17

⑦

3345 ✓

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

21 January 1944

SUBJECT: General Order No. 17

TO : S.O.A.S., Region II (Att: Labor Officer)

1. Refer to our letter dated 20 January 44, same subject. Enclosed find 50 copies of the Italian translation.

2. It is requested that the Order be printed locally and distributed for posting and publication in the usual manner. The form used in printing should be similar to General Order No. 5, and should be carefully proof-read and checked by the Legal Officer prior to publication.

DAS/tbw

JAMES R. SMITH,
Lt. Col., S.M.C.,
D/Director, Labor Sub-Commission.

Incl:
50 copies GO No 17 (Ital Trans)

(6)

3

4

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

20 January 1944

SUBJECT: General Order No. 17

TO : R.C.A.O., Region I

1. The inclosed Order gives workers the right to organize, hold meetings, and select representatives of their own choosing for purposes of Collective Bargaining. It implements and clarifies General Order No. 8.
2. Fifty copies of the Order are inclosed for immediate distribution to all S.C.A.O.'s, C.A.O.'s, Provincial Labor Offices and the Regional Labor Office.
3. It is requested that the Order be given the widest possible distribution and publication. Italian translations, and printed copies will be made available soon for posting.

DAK/tbw

JUNIUS R. SMITH,
Lt. Col., C.M.C.,
D/Director, Labor Sub-Commission.

Incl:

50 copies General Order No. 17

DISTRIBUTION GENERAL ORDER NO. 17

Distribution "C", plus
Internal Security
Industrial Planning Staff
Hq Region II
Hq Region III
Hq Region IV
Hq Region VI
15th AG Hq
5th Army Hq
Cent. Neon. Comm. Adv. AFHQ
AFHQ
AFHQ, MOS
HATUSA
Pen. Base Section
No 1 Dist Hq
No 2 Dist Hq
AG, Salerno

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LABOR SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

16 January 1944

SUBJECT: Right of Organization

TO : Deputy Vice President, Economic and Administrative Section

1. Attached is final draft of proposed General Order concerning the right of employees to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining. The Order is prepared for Regions I and II, but if approved should issue simultaneously in similar form and substance in Regions III and IV and such other areas where General Order No. 9 (Sicily) has been extended to the Mainland. This draft has been cleared with the Legal Sub-Commission.

2. The Order is essential in the labor program which has been inaugurated in Sicily and the Mainland, and should issue without delay. Efforts to procure approval of the principle established in the Order go back to October, 1943, when a request for advice and instructions were submitted to Regional Chiefs of Staff. Approval was finally received on 27 December, 1943, by letter from A.M.C., copy of which is attached. The balance of the items referred to in said letter will be covered by instructions to be distributed in the field.

James P. Smith
JAMES P. SMITH,
Lt. Col., G.M.C.,
Director, Labor Sub-Commission.

Colonel Spefford:

This looks all right to me. I understand that you take the necessary action.

Henry F. Grady
Henry F. Grady

0021

0021

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENTGENERAL ORDER NO. 17LABOR RELATIONS

Whereas in Sicily by General Order No. 8 and in Calabria, Lucania and the Province of Salerno by Regional Order No. 5, the Fascist Corporative Syndicate System was dissolved and a method provided for reestablishing and assuring freedom of labor organization;

Now, therefore, in furtherance of the objectives of said General and Regional Orders, I, CHARLES M. SPURGEON, Colonel, G.S.C., Deputy Chief Civil Affairs Officer, hereby order as follows:

ARTICLE IRight of Organization

Employees shall have the right to organize, hold meetings, and select representatives of their own choosing for the purpose of collective bargaining with respect to all matters pertaining to or connected with their employment, including such matters as concern hours, wages, working conditions, grievances, disputes and mutual social and economic assistance.

ARTICLE IIEffective Date

This Order shall become operative in Sicily, Calabria, Lucania and the Province of Salerno on the date hereof.

Dated: 18 January 1944.

CHARLES M. SPURGEON,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Deputy Chief Civil Affairs Officer.

3941

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

ORDINE GENERALE No. 17

ORGANIZZAZIONE DEL LAVORO

Visto che in Sicilia sulla disposizione del Ordine Generale No. 8 e in CALABRIA, BASILICATA e la Provincia di CATANZARO degli provvedimenti del Ordine Generale No. 5, il Sistema Sindacale Corporativo Fascista e' stato disciolto e una nuova organizzazione costituita per assicurare il ripristino e la liberta' del lavoro.

Ora, quindi, per eseguire i fini degli ordini suddetti, io Charles H. Spofford, Colonnello, G.C.C., Sotto Capo degli affari civili, con il presente, ordino quanto segue:

ARTICOLO I

Lavoratori avranno il diritto di organizzare e di tenere riunioni, e anche di scegliere i loro proprii rappresentanti a fine di azione collettiva in materia di lavoro, ore di lavoro, stipendi, condizioni di lavoro, malattie, controversie e problemi di altro soccorso, sia a scopo sociale sia a scopo economico.

ARTICOLO II

Quest'ordine entrera' in vigore in SICILIA, BASILICATA, CATANZARO e la Provincia di CATANZARO, alla data apposta all'ordine stesso.

DATA 18 Gennaio 1944

CHARLES H. SPOFFORD,
Colonnello, G.C.C.
Sotto Capo Ufficiale
degli Affari civili

33-0

SECRET

SECRET

U.S. CONFIDENTIAL
(Excludes British CONFIDENTIAL)

HQS 091.4-1

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

HE/DS/3

27 December 1945

SUBJECT: Organization of Italian labor.

TO : HQ, Allied Control Commission
HQ, Allied Military Government, ICG

1. Reference is made to a message originated by HQ, AMG, Sicily, number 1-663 of 16 October, in which instructions were requested as to whether or not employees in Sicily should be granted the right to organize and select representatives for the purpose of collective bargaining.

2. It was considered that the matter was one which should be decided not as affecting Sicily alone, but as one requiring the definition of a policy which would extend throughout the Kingdom of Italy. This was felt to be desirable, particularly in view of the procedure approved by the Anglo-Italian Commission on 2 September.

3. Approval has now been given by the Combined Chief of Staff to permit, on a strictly voluntary and democratic basis,

a. The election of shop stewards, who are to be unpaid workshop representatives of non-Fascist labor unions, and

b. Employees to organize and to select representatives for the purpose of collective bargaining.

The foregoing will be subject at all times to the authority of the Deputy President, Allied Control Commission, to approve or disapprove any agreements which may be entered into.

4. Only in case of doubt need reference be made to this Headquarters, but it is desired to stress the importance of maintaining trade union responsibility in carrying out the above policy.

For the Chief of Section:

HENRY PARKMAN, JR.
Lt. Colonel, U.S.A.

Copy to:

HQ AMG 15 Army Group
The Office of the American Minister
The Office of the British Resident Minister
PGB
HROU.S. CONFIDENTIAL
(Excludes British CONFIDENTIAL)

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