

Meeting of the Association of Merchants of
Southern Italy and Sicily

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10000/144/ 1444
to. Feb 45

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Transportation Sub-Commission
(Movements Division)

RJS/vb

23rd February, 1945.

Tel. 318

802/1/Tn.3.

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Association of Merchants
of Southern Italy and Sicily.

TO : Port and Warehouse Division,
Transportation S/C.

1. Reference your AC/3.2/6/Tn.6, dated 12th February, 1945, and the attached papers, which are returned herewith.
2. Petrace bridge is now being repaired. Bridging material has now been released from army stocks and the work is actively in hand.
3. It is not possible to allocate at present sufficient railway waggons to increase traffic at the various small ports in Calabria. There is no reason why small craft which are not in use and lying in these various small ports should not be utilised for movement by sea, providing they are able to make the voyage. This, however, is a matter for your Division.
4. The wagon position does not permit of extra crossings of the ferry to be made at present. The flow of empty waggons from Sicily has been stopped and every effort is being made to maintain a correct balance.
5. Arrangements are in hand to institute a regular service from the major Sicilian ports to liberated Italy, but so far it has not been found possible to provide suitable ships.
6. A better use of the present shipping capacity is the responsibility of your Division.
7. Schooners are still on time charter, but merchants now have a freight rate on a ton mile basis.

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The whole question of time charter is being re-examined by MEDBO.

M. J. Sieff

M. J. SIEFF, Col.
Chief, Movements Division.

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