

Regional Sitreps

10000/148/1453

Mar 45

Tel: 558

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ECONOMIC SECTION

CWA/bih

SECRET

Ref: ES/1.26

20 March 1945

SUBJECT: MUSTER Sitrep No. 50 of 18th March 45.

TO : Transportation Sub-Commission

1. The following extracts from the above Sitrep is forwarded for information:

"LIGURIA (13th March). From GENOA our B.L.O. has had the following report:

The light house LANTERNA was lately put out of action by an internal explosion, the cause of which is unknown. SAVONA port, which was blocked with sunk ships in September 1944 has now been further blocked by the recent demolition of the breakwater. ONEGLIA port has been blocked with sunk ships, but small vessels can still enter. SAN REMO and MAURIZIO are also blocked."

"(13th March). The C.L.N. of VOGHERA (K/0613) has worked consistently since September 1943, but is now about to transfer into the neighbouring mountains, as VOGHERA has become impossible to work in. They have been paying special attention to the problem of supplies. A meeting of fifteen communes took place lately to fix prices under the aegis of the C.L.N. They hope to use the PO for transport after the liberation.

"With this end in view they have hidden river vessels and are building 20 motor vessels, which are being left uncompleted to meet the risk of the Germans taking them away. Each has a capacity of about 20 tons and can navigate up to TURIN. The C.L.N. is also making reserves of timber for the repair of small bridges. They have about 100 lorries of various sizes.

"Through our B.L.O. the VOGHERA C.L.N. is in touch with the GENOA C.L.N. on the question of food supplies in LIGURIA. (Source: Senior B.L.O. for LIGURIA).

"(7th March). Encouraging reports of a similar nature come from our B.L.O. in Western LIGURIA, who informs us that the SAN REMO C.L.N. works well and exists also in all the towns of the province and in the larger mountain centres."

SECRET

C.W. Atkins
C.W. ATKINS, Capt. R.A.
S.O.III, (C.A.),
Economic Section

SECRET

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

MJS/vb

Tel: Ext. 318

12th March, 1945.

272/226/Tn.3.

SUBJECT: Weekly Sitrep, No. 29 to AFHQ, 8th March, 1945.

TO : Economic Section.

1. Reference your ES/1.10, dated 10th March, 1945.
2. Below is an extract of Transportation Sub-Commission's letter 272/226/Tn.3, dated 9th March, to the Regional Commissioner, Lazio Umbria Region, regarding the supply of grain to Rome. A copy of this letter was sent to Economic Section.
 - "1. Reference your Sitrep No. 3087, dated 7th March, 1945.
 - "2. There was a decrease in the quantity of grain imported into Rome during February, as it was necessary to impose cuts on the movement of grain due to high military priorities; however, the grain and pasta position has recently improved, and according to the returns sent to us through the Food Sub-Commission the grain stock on the 6th March was 21 days, and pasta stock 23 days. It is anticipated that the grain position should improve during March."
3. There will be some reduction in the amount of grain that it is required to move to Rome from the Ancona Region in the coming week, as the replacement of a bridge means that the line south of Ancona will be out of action for four days, and military and civil traffic will have to accept cuts. Movements Central Italy are permitting us to load an additional quantity of grain at Fabriano to make up part of this cut, and the maximum amount that can be brought to rail head is being moved from the Arezzo area.
4. It is not anticipated that there will be any further difficulties during March; ~~and before~~ the decrease in the grain stocks at Rome has been stressed with G-4 (Mov & Tn) AFHQ.
5. With regard to the difficulties in distributing the bread ration in the Abruzzi Marche Region, steps have been taken

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- (a) to put the civilian truck pools on a 24 hour working basis;
- (b) to increase the amount of civilian transport in this area; and
- (c) to transfer a QM Truck Company from the north-west, where it is engaged on lower priority work, to this area.

6. Every effort is being made to direct a greater proportion of civilian transport on to this type of high priority work, otherwise increased difficulties will be met when it is necessary to withdraw certain G.T. and C.A. units for work in the north, when this area is liberated.

W. E. H. W.
for HENRIET H. TAYLOR,
Director,
Transportation Sub-Commission.

Copy to: Food Sub-Commission.
Roads Section, movements Division.
Roads Division.

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

SJS/vb

Tel: Ext. 318

9th March, 1945.

272/223/Tn.3.

X SUBJECT: Transport of Grain.

TO The Regional Commissioner,
M.C. Lazio Umbria Region.

1. Reference your Sitrap No. 3087, dated 7th March 1945.

2. There was a decrease in the quantity of grain imported into Rome during February, as it was necessary to impose cuts on the movement of grain due to high military priorities; however, the grain and pasta position has recently improved, and according to the returns sent to us through the Food Sub-Commission the grain stock on the 6th March was 21 days, and pasta stock 23 days. It is anticipated that the grain position should improve during March. X

3. The amount of fruit and vegetables accepted by AFHQ for movement to Rome from Naples and the South for the week 26th February to 4th March was approximately 3,500 tons, an average of 500 tons per day. The acceptance of these bids over military lines does not necessarily mean that the traffic moves, because shortage of railway waggons may necessitate a cut. So far this Sub-Commission has been unable to get any accurate figures for movement of stores by rail, though steps have been taken as a result of which this information will become available weekly. (Rail Memorandum No. 4, dated 23rd February, 1945, refers, copy of which was sent to you.) We shall be grateful if you can tell us from where you obtained the firm figure of 240 tons daily for fruit and vegetable imports.

4. You will see from the Shipping Information Programmes, dated 27th February and 4th March respectively, Ref. AC/620/1 Tn.3, and AC/600/2/Tn.3, that both wine and salt shipments are set up for import through Civitavecchia. Some of these ships are already discharging. Your statement therefore that there are still no signs of the March salt is not clear. The inaccuracies of the arrival dates of ships, and the changes made, are regrettable but

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it is hoped that this will improve as soon as the instructions contained in Shipping Memorandums Nos. 5 and 6 are more effectively carried out.

5. This Sub-Commission will be very pleased to give you any information possible on future arrivals, but you will find that a great deal of this information is now being circulated in the programmes which are being issued to your Headquarters.

By command of Rear Admiral Stone:



Jr MERRITT H. TAYLOR,
Director,
Transportation Sub-Commission.

Copy to: Economic Section.

FILE 289/TN3

" 620/TN3

" 600/TN3.

" 818/TN3. ✓

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

MJS/vb
818/3
823/2

Tel. Ext. 318

6th March, 1945.

818/3/Tn.3.

SUBJECT: Loss of Wheat in Avezzano (Pesaro?) Province.

TO : Economic Section.

1. Reference your 15.60/SS dated 2nd March, 1945, and Abruzzi Marcho Sitrep message, 540, dated 26th February, 1945.

2. The first intimation that the Food Sub-Commission received that grain was going bad in the Pesaro area was in early February. Instructions were immediately issued that, so far as transportation capacity existed, grain for Rome should be moved from the Pesaro area in preference to the Macerata and Ancona area, as the latter grain was in better condition. The total moved so far from the Pesaro area is 1,035 tons; this has been railed to Rome for immediate milling.

3. The amount declared unfit for human consumption in the Pesaro area is likely to exceed 1,000 tons but this does not mean that it is unsuitable for other uses. The reason for the poor condition of this grain is due to operations which took place in the Autumn. Owing to the fighting in that area threshing was delayed several weeks and the grain was soaked by the rain before it could be warehoused. The Consorzio Agrario, who are responsible for warehousing, gave orders for all grain to be warehoused, including this grain with a high water content. This is the grain which is unfit for human consumption. The grain heated in the bins.

4. Of the total amount of 7,600 tons bid on AFMC for rail movement from the north-east area during February, approximately 5,000 tons was accepted for movement, and moved. The cuts imposed on the original bids were due to higher priority military operational movement.

5. With regard to the missing waggon of sugar and the stolen caustic soda, your letter is the first intimation of the

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loss of these supplies. The matter is being taken up with Abruzzi Marche Region to find out what action they took other than including these broad details in a report. It is not possible for this Sub-Commission to take effective action without further information.

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for MERRITT H. TAYLOR,
Director,
Transportation Sub-Commission.

Copy to:

Food Sub-Commission
Agriculture Sub-Commission
Abruzzi Marche Region

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