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REGION IV
MAR-JUN 1944

ACF/efh

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Transportation Sub-Commission
APO 394

Our Reference : ACC Tn/216/5
Date : 17 July 44

TO : Food Sub-Commission.
Hq., ACC.

SUBJECT : Food Supplies - Region V.

1. Reference attached copy of signal to your H.Q., Naples.
2. Copy of your reply is requested, in order to deal with questions which may arise at P.O.M. Meeting.


D.S. ADAMS, Colonel, C.E.,
Director, Transportation Sub-Comm.

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HQ ACC FOOD SUB COMMISSION NAPLES

HQ REGION 5 AND CMF

314

JUL 101030

NONE

NONE

NONE

REF ACC/40-8/ FOOD OF 7 JULY STATES WAGONS OF FLOUR SENT TO VAIRANO ON 5 AND 6 JULY. REQUEST REASON WHY. THIS HQ HAS MADE NO RAIL BIDS AND HAS RECEIVED NO ALLOCATIONS FOR SUPPLIES RECEIVABLE AT VAIRANO. EIGHTH ARMY AND REQUESTS RE VAIRANO CEASED ON TWO JULY. REQUEST IMMEDIATE STOPPING OF RAIL SHIPMENTS TO VAIRANO FOR REGION 5 IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONVERSATION MONK-STEWART 2 WEEKS AGO. VAIRANO NOT PRACTICABLE FOR REGION 5

ACC DIST

ACTION	ECON SEC	3
INFO	A/CC	1
	FILE	2
	FLOAT	1

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15 Jul
34

JUL 15

HEADQUARTERS
A.M.C. REGION V
C. M. F.

7 July 1944

Ref. R5/518/132

SUBJECT: General Supply, Transportation and Food Situation - Region V

TO : Regional Control and Military Government Section, AOC.

FOR : Internal Transportation Sub-Commission
Agriculture Sub-Commission
Economic Sub-Commission
Food Sub-Commission
Shipping Sub-Commission

1. General Comment and Flaws in the Supply Plan.

During the last three weeks of the month of June 1944, Region V had hurriedly thrust upon it six additional provinces to feed, administer and rehabilitate. These six included four new provinces - Aquila, Pescara, Teramo and Ascoli-Piceno - which Army AMG released to the Region immediately upon their evacuation by the enemy. There were also two older ones which had been held for a long time (8 months) by Army AMG and which had been denied control by the Region; viz., Campobasso and Chieti. With the breakdown of the Army AMG area to feed the large western area of Aquila Province as a result of interruption of communications lines with AMG stock-piles at Sora, Venebro and Isernia, the Region had thrust upon it the problem of devising an immediate alternate plan and a route west to meet the emergency. The other provinces still had a reserve and could carry on for several days. Aside from the factors of transportation and interrupted routes of communication, our most difficult problem was to effect the transfer of inexperienced provincial supply officers suddenly confronted with a not previously dropped into their hands. The Region has been very pleased with its new supply officer, Major Monk, who is taking hold of the big job with intelligence and energy.

2. Transportation

Needed additional transportation was provided promptly by the Transportation Sub-Commission of AOC and was rushed to the northern area and put to handling supplies. So within a few days (between the 20th and 26th of June) all communications requiring food were cared for and the modified supply system began to work. As a result of this plan has been furnished your sub-commission.

The following listed new provinces will require their complement of provincial transportation as soon as Foggia will be able to release the vehicles from its harvest work. In any event one-half of the quota will be required by 20 July.

TERAMO	6 vehicles	(Now has four)	(Being supplied by Police)
ASCOLI	10	(Now has none)	"
MACERATA	10	"	"
ANCONA	10	"	"

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1. General Comment and Plans in the Supply Plan.

During the last three weeks of the month of June 1944, the Army hurriedly thrust upon it six additional provinces to feed, administer and rehabilitate. These six included four new provinces - Ancona, Pescara, Teramo and Ascoli Piceno - which Army AMG released to the Region immediately upon their evacuation by the enemy. There were also two older ones which had been held for a long time (3 months) by Army AMG and which had been denied control by the Region; viz., Cambrasso and Chieti. With the breakdown of the Army AMG in the feed the large western area of Aquila Province as a result of interruption of communications lines with AMG stock-piles at Sora, Venafro and Isernia, the Region had thrust upon it the problem of devising an immediate alternate plan and a route west to meet the emergency. The other provinces still had a reserve and could carry on for several days. Aside from the factors of transportation and interrupted routes of communication, our most difficult problem was to effect the work of inexperienced provincial supply officers suddenly confronted with a job previously dropped into their hands. The Region has been very pleased with its new staff officer, Major Monk, who is taking hold of the big job with intelligence and energy.

2. Transportation

Needed additional transportation was provided promptly by the Transportation Sub-Commission of ADC and was rushed to the northern area and put to hauling supplies. So within a few days (between the 20th and 26th of June) all communities requiring food were cared for and the modified supply system began to work. A lot of this plan has been furnished your sub-commission.

The following listed new provinces will require their complement of provincial transportation as soon as Foggia will be able to release the vehicles from its harvest work. In any event one-half of the quota will be required by 20 July.

	6 vehicles	(Now has four)	
TERAMO	10	(Now has none)	(Being supplied by Poles 6623)
ASCOLI	10	"	"
MACERATA	10	"	"
ANCONA	10	"	"
PESARO	10	"	(Still held by enemy)
TOTAL	46	"	

The platoon of the 1001 GT company now operating under Polcevera has been of great assistance in meeting the supply needs of the above five provinces. It is contemplated that this platoon will move out about July 15-20, so that the above vehicles will be required immediately.

In the event the transportation sub-commission cannot meet this additional requirement by June 20, Foggia will have to be called upon to discharge the transportation which is essential to the proper amassing of the grain now ready for harvesting in these northern provinces.

13 Jul 80

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The present Army AMZ system of civilian supply is a make-shift and requires revamping. In order to prevent a recurrence of the ineffective supply problem and to better meet the needs of the situation. It is my opinion that regions should be consulted in the preparation by Army AMZ of plans for supply and for transportation and distribution of the goods within their territory.

3. The Plan of Distribution and Accounting as instituted by Army AMZ is the sale of supplies assembled at various stockpiles set up in the area to the Bank of Italy and the resale by the bank of the supplies to communal distributing agencies, the bank making the charges and the accounting. This system is to be changed in Region V. Although it is appreciated that the system has an appeal in that the Bank of Italy is forced to do the administration and the supply accounting, thus relieving the AMZ of this burden of work, it is not believed that the system should be continued, as it cannot be operated on a permanent basis. The plan of Region V is based on using existing machinery in the provinces to do the work. It provides that AMZ supplies be sold to the appropriate recognized provincial organizations such as the Consorzio Agrario. These are prepared to receive the supplies, store them in their warehouses and distribute the supplies within their area under the supervision of the Sezione Alimentazione of the province. It is therefore our plan to make the Italians, through their own existing organizations, get into the picture of economic supply and stay there. The Provincial Supply Officers will furnish the needed transportation, make inspections and see that AMZ policies and regulations are carried out in respect to these Italian institutions. The money transaction can be handled by the Consorzio's borrowing line from the bank to pay AMZ for the supplies and making repayment to the bank weekly as the supplies are sold, with the bank having a lien on the supplies as security. Or, better, a monthly settlement basis could be provided by the Finance Section of AMZ.

4. Supply Situation in respect of Each Province of the Region.

- (1) Foggia - As previously reported, Foggia had an adequate supply of grain to carry it through June and partially through July.
- (2) Canino - This province was on a closer margin and grain had to be brought in to meet needs until the harvest is collected. The failure of the railroad to deliver supplies to Terni for the first two weeks of June caused some difficulty.
- (3) Chieti has sufficient supplies of grain and certain other foods to meet requirements until the harvest is collected, but needs gas, oil and lubricants for harvesting.
- (4) Aquila was the principal problem since supply was very low at the time of our entry into the province and demands for food in the larger communities were made on us upon our entry. There was sufficient grain at Avezzano, but there were no operating mills in the town to grind it. All the mills of this area are electrically driven and are out of commission. I have sent an engineer of the Region to get these in operation promptly. The great grain basin around Avezzano will give on 80 per cent yield this year - estimated at 80,000 quintali for the 50,000 acres under cultivation. (for month of June)

Region V. Although it is appreciated that the system has an appeal in that the Bank of Italy is forced to do the administration and the supply accounting, thus relieving the ASZ of this burden of work, it is not believed that the system should be continued, as it cannot be operated on a permanent basis. The plan of Region V is based on using existing machinery in the provinces to do the work. It provides that ASZ supplies be sold to the appropriate recognized provincial organizations such as the Consorzio Agrario. These are prepared to receive the supplies, store them in their warehouses and distribute the supplies within their area under the supervision of the Sezione Alimentazione of the province. It is therefore our plan to make the Italians, through their own existing organizations, get into the picture of economic supply and stay there. The Provincial Supply Officers will furnish the needed transportation, make inspections and see that ASZ policies and regulations are carried out in respect to these Italian institutions. The money transaction can be handled by the Consorzio's borrowing line from the bank to pay ASZ for the supplies and making repayment to the bank weekly as the supplies are sold, with the bank having a lien on the supplies as security. Or, better, a monthly settlement basis could be provided by the Finance Section of ASZ.

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- (2) Cannebrese - This province was on a closer margin and grain had to be brought in to meet needs until the harvest is collected. The failure of the railroad to deliver supplies to Termoli for the first two weeks of June caused some difficulty.
- (3) Chieti has sufficient supplies of grain and certain other foods to meet requirements until the harvest is collected, but needs gas, oil and lubricants for harvesting.
- (4) Aquila was the principal problem since supply was very low at the time of our entry into the province and demands for food in the larger communities were made on us upon our entry. There was sufficient grain at Avezzano, but there were no operating mills in the town to grind it. All the mills of this area are electrically driven and are out of commission. I have sent an engineer of the Region to get these in operation promptly. The great grain basin around Avezzano will give an 80 per cent yield this year - estimated at 80,000 quintali for the 50,000 acres under cultivation. (See report of Regional Commissioner, 2 July, for month of June) Naptha, petrol and oil are needed to operate the harvesting machines. This province, like the other forward provinces, calls for two items only--flour and salt. Accordingly, Region V sent from Margherita 60 tons of salt to the Lanciano distribution point to supply these provinces and efforts are being made for an automatic supply of these vital items to all forward areas.
- (5) Teramo has sufficient food and grain to last it through the harvest, but is short of salt and oil, which will be furnished it. This province, like Chieti, Pescara, Ascoli and Macerata is completely out of naptha, petrol, diesel oil and lubricants which are required for the harvesting machines.

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(6) Ascoli-Piceno - Same as Teramo.

Other supplies distributed to the new provinces were soap, sugar, milk, meat and meat and vegetable compound. Arrangements were made to keep up a regular flow of these items.

5. Railheads and Warehousing.

The railhead and warehouse at Ortona which had been used by Army AMG was taken over and will be operated as the Regional Civil Supply depot, under the control of the Supply Officer of Regional Headquarters. It will serve all forward provinces. Supplies will be delivered as required from the railhead to truckhead points, where provincial supply officers will take over for delivery to distribution points within their provinces. The Vairano railhead will be discontinued as no longer of consequence to Region V. Lack of personnel to operate it also precludes its further use.

Foggia will continue to be supplied by rail from Bari.

Campobasso will be supplied by rail through Foggia to the railhead at Termoli.

Orieti will continue to use the Vasto railhead for a small amount of supplies for the southern part of the province will use the Ortona railhead for the northern portion.

6. Prices.

The Regional Supply Officer has prepared a directive on prices, fixing initial AMG prices and providing for the Italians to prepare a scale within a maximum spread of 25 per cent advance in the price to consumer. Loss and shrinkage and deterioration will be borne by the Italian government.

7. Ration cards.

Owing to the long delay in receiving the new ration cards printed in Sicily, Foggia was unable to issue cards for the quarterly period beginning 1 July. Campobasso and Orieti had their cards printed locally and issued them as required. No cards were printed for Aquila and Pescara, this being an Army AMG matter which missed fire. Other new provinces will be issued cards as soon as requests are received. The Sicily supply of cards will be called on for these, on the basis of total population, since all persons will require cards for certain items such as sugar, oil, etc., not produced in their provinces.

8. Ration Scales.

These scales, as published by the ACC Food Sub-Commission, are considered too numerous and differences in the allowances between ACC provinces and AMG provinces require clarification. It is recommended that only one scale be fixed for a region, as the administration of a variable scale will cause difficulty and will be the basis for complaints of discrimination.

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tion of the Supply Officer of regional headquarters. It will serve all forward provinces. Supplies will be delivered as required from the railroad to truckhead points, where provincial supply officers will take over for delivery to distribution points within their provinces. The Vadrano railroad will be discontinued as no longer of consequence to Region V. Lack of personnel to operate it also precludes its further use.

Foggia will continue to be supplied by rail from Bari.

Campobasso will be supplied by rail through Foggia to the railroad at Termoli.

Chieti will continue to use the Vasto railroad for a small amount of supplies for the southern part of the province will use the Ortona railroad for the northern portion.

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9. Petrol, Oil and Lubricants.

The supply of these items to northern provinces is cause for anxiety. Army cannot meet our full requirements and an independent set-up has not been provided. It is recommended that these items be shipped to the Region on an automatic basis, maintaining a specific level of supply for each item at the port or railroad. As this commodity can well be shipped by schooner, it is recommended that Region V's level of POL supply be sent by schooner regularly to PESCARA or to SAN BENEDETTO. The Pescara harbor is to be opened shortly by the removal of a dredge sunk at the channel entrance. San Benedetto has been swept of mines and is available for the use of the Region, as Navy will not require it.

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-4-

10. The Consiglio dell'Economia (Alimentazione Sezione) and the Consortio Agrario are being continued in all provinces where they are still in operation and provincial supply officers have been instructed to reorganize these wherever they are not operating and set them to work. The Provincial Supply Officer's functions are set out in Paragraph 3 above.

11. Personnel.

Due to the rapid expansion of Region V from two provinces to nine and with the tenth in the offing, two officers will be required for Regional Supply Work at Regional headquarters and at least one with each province in the initial stages of the take-over - 12 in all. The supply and transportation problem of Region V is the most difficult of any Region in Italy. Picture 10 provinces strung out from south to north, with no operating shipping lines and one broken rail line serving only three of the ten provinces and with 70 per cent of its tonnage allocated to the Army, and with no operating trans-mountain rail or road supply line to the west, with the main supply artery seriously damaged by enemy and allied bombing and all supplies having to be moved from points at the extreme south end of the rail line to northern points. This is the supply picture confronting Region V. It is not, however, insurmountable and the supply section will meet all reasonable demands and will deliver the supplies.

H. L. Whitley

F. L. WHITLEY,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Regional Commissioner.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Transportation Sub-Commission
APO 394

CG/grh

716/2

Our Reference : ACC Tn/10/38

Date : 4 June 44

TO : Major E.H. Kinselle,
Tn. Sub-Commission, ACC,
H.Q., ACC. - APO 394.

SUBJECT : Move of Personnel.

1. You are hereby authorised to proceed by W.D. transport to duty station at AMG, H.Q., Foggia, where you will report to Capt. Hills.
2. Capt. Hills will direct you to the office of Major V.P. Bowers at Foggia.
3. It should be noted that AMG, H.Q., building is not sign directed. For your information it is located opposite Carrison Headquarters at Foggia.

L.E. VINING,
Lieut-Colonel,
Director, Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.

Copy to:- Economic Section, H.Q., ACC.
H.Q., Commandant, H.Q., ACC.

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ACP/rg

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Transportation Sub-Commission
APO 394

Our reference : ACC Ta/ 216/1.

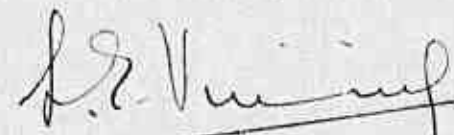
Date : 31 May 44.

TO : Regional Commissioner,
Region V.

SUBJECT : Functions of Transportation Sub-Commission Officers.

1. The increase of liberated territory, coupled with plans for the handing over of extended portions of the railways to the Italian State Railways for operation under advisory control makes it necessary for me to request the recall of Major V.R. Bowers (B), at present attached to Movements, Foggia, for technical duties with this Sub-Commission.

2. I regret that at the moment I am not able to offer an immediate replacement, but if considerable inconvenience will be caused by the withdrawal, every effort will be made to send you an officer as quickly as possible.



L.E. VINING,
Lieut-Colonel,
Director, Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.

Copy to :- Major V.R. Bowers,
(who is requested to report
to this HQ. within five days of
receipt of this communication.)

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